

## **TUMULAR NECROPOLEIS DISCOVERED IN GORJ COUNTY**

**Gheorghe CALOTOIU**

At Alimpești, Gorj County, archaeological researches were made at the place named "Jariște". As a result, a necropolis dated for 6<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> centuries BD was discovered. Six tumuli were found quite well preserved. Beneath the earthen mantle 3 - 4 ranges of river heavy stones were unveiled. In the central part of the tumulus, before the raising of the mantle, rectangular pits (about 2 x 2 m) were arranged, bounded of burnt heavy stones. In these pits the greatest part of the funeral remains were laid - coal, burnt bones, vases and offerings. All these things were put on the ancient soil. It is to remark the discovery of several iron horse mouth pieces.

The necropolis from Telești - Drăgoiești belongs to the unitary funeral rite, the incineration being in use in all tombs discovered here.

The tumuli investigated in the necropolis from Telești - Drăgoiești were made, most of them, of earthen mantles and, in some cases, it was used the heavy stones mantle.

The ritual of the interment was developed under different aspects: the most frequent type consists in laying the funeral remains on the ancient soil; in some cases the remains were put in urns. In other cases, the burnt bones were laid in a small pit at various depth. Around these bones, river heavy stones were put in the purpose of marking the proper tomb. Sometimes, the burnt bones, coal, ashes and offerings were put in the center of a ring of river heavy stones.

The funeral inventory from Telești - Drăgoiești necropolis consists of flared in rim dishes, with ring-shaped or pedestal-shaped basis. Some pieces have grooves on the rim. In this necropolis we also found jugs with one or two over-raised ears, as well as miniature vases, which had a well determined role in the libation. The metallic inventory consists of curved-blade poniards with rivets on the both sides of the hilt, riveted swords, pieces of harness and an iron mouth piece.

In tumulus 26 a bracelet with nodosities and a miniature bell-shaped pendant were found.

The necropolis from Telești - Drăgoiești is dated for the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC.

In October 1996 et Ciuperceni, Gorj County, a necropolis was discovered. It has about 20 tumuli which will be investigated in the future archaeological campaigns.