

BURIAL RITE OF CRIMEAN POPULATION DURING EARLY BRONZE EPOCH

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The first monuments of early metal epoch on the territory of Crimean peninsula were discovered in the end of 19th century. The main quantity of data was got during the excavations of expeditions in 1963-1997. Concerning nowadays, the data of more than 150 burial mounds with more than 450 complexes of Yamnaya culture are known by published materials. Their majority is situated in the steppe zone of Crimea. It is possible to subdivide them into 3 rite groups with flexed on the back, flexed on the back with turn and flexed on the side skeletons. The most spreading orientation among them is investigated in the eastern sector. The complexes of the first group are most numerous; appearing the majority of burial mounds is connected with them.

Stone constructions in embankments are rare in Crimea steppe and more spread in other zones. Various pottery, bronze, stone and bone objects are represented in inventory. Sometimes arrows and only in one complex (Dolinka village) the remains of chariot were founded. The analysis of burial rites shows, that immigration of tribes of Yamnaya culture to Crimean territories included few stages. First of all, the furtive lands were colonized. In the result of symbiosis of local and immigrated population under influence of Caucasus new historic community was created in Crimea, known by monuments of Kemi-Obinskiy type. During the late stage different groups of population of Yamnaya and Catacomnaya culture coexisted.