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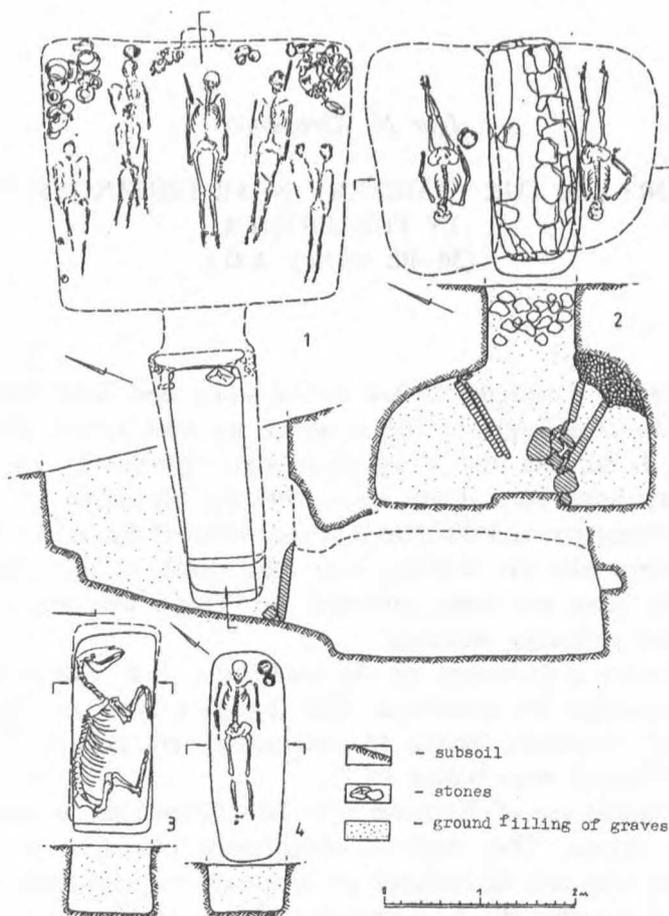
**A RAPPORT ON THE CEMETERY NEAR DRUZHNOYE VILLAGE  
IN THE CRIMEA  
(3d-4th century A.D.)**

The cemetery is situated 20 km to the south-west from Simferopol in the mountains at a height of 500 m above sea-level. It was discovered in 1984 by A. I. Aibabin and V. A. Sydorenko. Systematic explorations of this cemetery have been doing since 1990 by expedition of Simferopol University. Numerous and different materials received during the excavations of the cemetery now are working over. The results of the exploration of this cemetery have not been published yet. That's why report has only anticipate and reviewing character.

The cemetery is excavated on the area more than 5000 sq.m. and 78 grave constructions are discovered. The following types are distinguished among them: 19 ground vaults, 32 undermining graves and 27 burials in ground pits (horses were buried in 13).

Ground vaults are of the same type with differencies in their size and in separate details. They consists of entrance pit, dromos and burial chamber, the long axis of entrance pit is always perpendicular to the long axis of burial chamber (Pl. I 1). Entrance pits are rectangular in plan. They usually gain in breadth in the direction of dromos (not over 1,3 m). Their mean quantity is 2,3-2,8 × 0,65-0,85 m. Narrow (0,6-0,8 m) and short (0,2-0,4 m) dromoses have semicircular arch 0,6-0,7 m heigh. Entrance to burial chamber was closed with flat flagstones. There was a step 0,15-0,3 m heigh between dromos and burial chamber. Burial chambers were trapeziform. Their mean quantity is 2,5-2,8 × 2,9-4,1 m. Chambers had arched ceiling not over 1,2 m heigh. In the back part of chamber under the ceiling usually was made a niche.

Plans and sections of funeral constructions of Druznoye cemetery  
 1 - vault N 66, 2 - undermining grave N 67, 3, 4 - ground graves NN 74,65



In Druznoye was registered a custom, never noted as far as we know in any other cemetery. Here sometimes underminings were dug in the walls of entrance pits. Underminings were separated from entrance pits by powerful flagstones served as cenotaphs.

Vaults probably served as burials of relatives. In the vaults were discovered burials of 6-10 men. In one vault was discovered burial of horse, probably dismembered before the burying and than laid together from pieces in burial chamber. Burials were made in outstretched position on the back, heads were oriented as a rule to the north-east, rarely to the

south-west. In one vault the remains were laying on the stratum containing coal and ashes. Funeral equipment, discovered in the vaults, is extremely varied. These are ceramic and glass vessels, decorations, weapons and tools. Vessels were located behind the heads of buried from one or two to some dozens, located in some rows and tiers. More rarely they were placed near the legs, one glass vessel was located in the niche. Bones of animals, fish, birds, eggshell and kernel of a walnut, found in fashioned and red lacquer vessels witnesses, that the pottery had contained funeral food. Short swords laid on the heads or shoulders of buried warriors. Fibulas were located one at a time on place of the chest, earrings and temple pendants in pairs on skull, bracelets on hands. Belts and footwear straps were buckled. Big beads were used as a necklace, clothes were embroidered with small ones.

Undermining graves were oriented from the south-west to the north-east and consisted of rectangular in plan entrance pit (mean quantity is  $1,3-2,5 \times 0,5-0,8$  m) and one or two large underminings made in their long walls. (Pl. I 2). Undermining was separated from the entrance pit by means of flagstones. Floor of undermining was located at a depth of  $0,15-0,4$  m under the level of the entrance pit bottom. In undermining only one man was usually buried, but in some cases there were numerous three-tiers burials. All the buried were laid down on their back in outstretched position. Sometimes the elbows were bent, the hands were placed on the pelvis and the shins were crossed. North-eastern orientation of buried predominates, but south-western is found too. The order of placing and set of equipment in general are the same as in the vaults.

Simple ground pits are rectangular in plan, their quantities are  $1,6-2,3 \times 0,6-1,2$  m. They are oriented from the south-west to the north-east and were used for burying of people or horses. The first were usually made at a depth of  $0,5-0,8$  m (Pl. I 4). The buried were laid down on the back in outstretched position, the heads were oriented to the north-east. The furniture was very poor: one or two fashioned vessels, knife in man and spindle load in woman burial. Horse burials were located on the considerable depth (not over  $1,6$  m) (Pl. I 3). Skeletons of horses laid on the side, their legs were greatly bent, the heads were oriented to the north-east. This burials had no furniture.

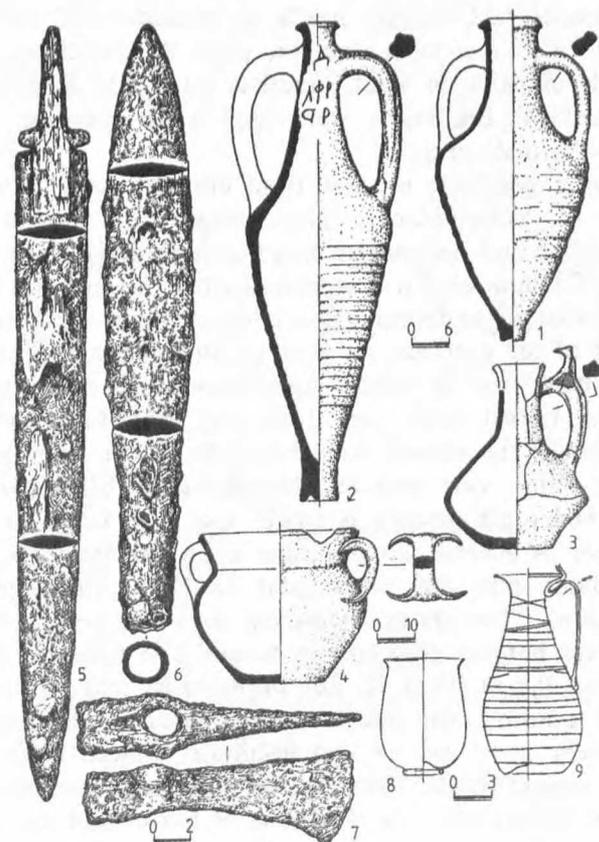
Among the hundreds of vessels found during the excavation of the cemetery about  $3/4$  are fashioned and  $1/4$  are from red laquer. In some burials were found amphoras of two types (Pl. II 1, 2). The most part the red laquer vessels are tureens, there are also cups, goblets, dishes and jugs. Fashioned ceramics are represented here by pots (without knobs, with one or two knobs), mugs, jugs, tureens. Many knobs have zoomorphic decorations (Pl. II 3). Some vessels are ornamented. The most popular type

of ornament – bow-shaped reliefs, decorated vessels in the place of attachment of knobs (Pl. II 4).

## Plate II

## Funeral equipment from Druznoye cemetery

1, 2 – amphoras, 3, 4 – fashioned vessels, 5 – iron sword, 6 – iron spear tip, 7 – iron ax, 8, 9 – glass vessels



Glass vessels are more rare than ceramic. Among them colourless glasses (Pl. II 8), jugs (Pl. II 9), light-green goblet, decorated with rows of polished ovals (Pl. IV 1).

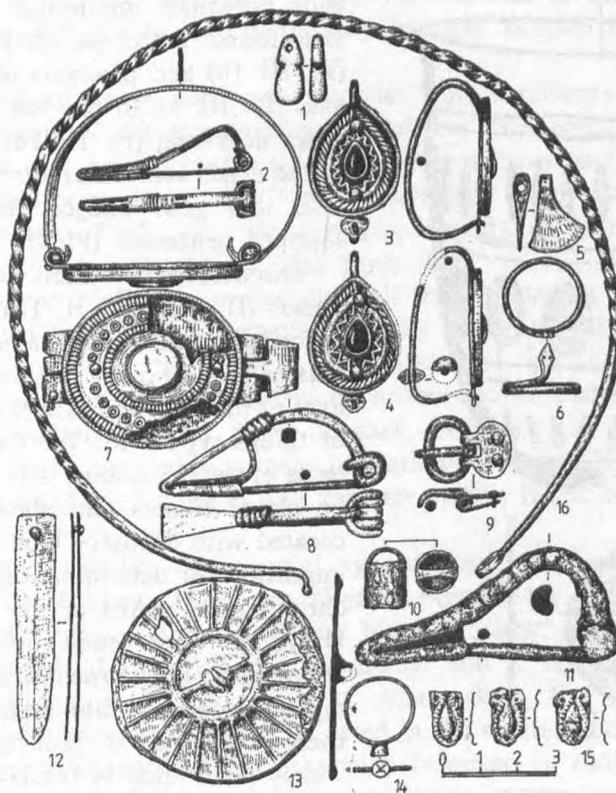
Among the tools especially numerous are iron knives, which are present in the most of burials. Women burials are usually accompanied by iron awls and ceramic spindle loads. In one vault was found set of blacksmith's instruments, consists of pair of tongs, hammer and two oilstones.

Arms is presented here by iron double-edged swords and daggers which have side-cuts near the abutment of the blade (Pl. II 5). Judging by conserved on they remainders of wood they were put to scabbards. There were also found: iron three-blade sarmathian arrow-heads, spear-tips (Pl. II 6) and fighting axe (Pl. II 7). Among the horseharness objects were found only iron bit with rings hung up to the ends.

## Plate III

## Funeral equipment from Druznoye cemetery

1 - amber mushroom-shaped pendant, 2 - silver bow-shaped dagged fibula, 3, 4 - silver plated with gold temple pendants, decorated with semi-precious stones, 5 - silver pendant, 6 - silver ring, 7 - silver bracelet plated with gold and decorated with cornelian, 8 - silver tied up bow-shaped fibula, 9 - silver buckle, 10 - iron pendant, 11 - iron "military" fibula, 12 - silver strap-end, 13 - silver mirror, 14 - silver seal-ring, 15 - gold badges, 16 - silver neck-ring



Numerous are silver and bronze buckles with bulges in front of the frame and trunk-shaped tongue, step-like cut behind (Pl. III 9). Straps were

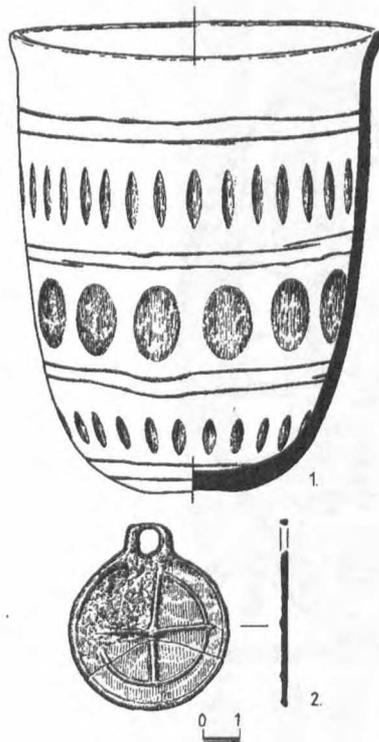
supplied with silver or bronze ends (Pl. III 12). Fibulas were made from bronze, silver or iron. Their are of three types: tied up bow-shaped (Pl. III 8), sagged and tied up (Pl. III 2) and "military" (Pl. III 11).

Silver mirrors with side (Pl. IV 2) or central (Pl. III 13) eyes are often found. Their reverse sides are decorated with relief ornament. In the cemetery were found several thousands glass beads of different forms and colours making up the majority, the others were made from blue egypt faience, jet, amber and cornelian. In some burials were found amber mushroom-shaped pendants (Pl. III 1).

Plate IV

Funeral equipment from Druznoye cemetery

1 - glass goblet, 2 - silver mirror



Temple pendants (Pl. III 3, 4), rings (Pl. III 6), seal-rings (Pl. III 14), bracelets (Pl. III 7) were used as decorations. They were usually made from silver, rarely from gold or bronze. Some temple pendants and bracelets were decorated with cornelian mountings. There were also found some pail-shaped pendants (Pl. III 10) and pendants in the form of axes (Pl. III 5). In one burial was found silver neck-ring (Pl. III 16). The clothes of the deads sometimes were embroidered with thin gold badges decorated with stamped ornament (Pl. III 15).

Discovered in burials coins of Gordianus III, Philippus II, Traianus Decius, Valerianus Gallienus, Maximianus, Licinius help us to make more exact chronology of the cemetery. There is an absence of things typical for the Crimean cemeteries of the 5th century AD. For example be plated fibulas and glass vessels, decorated with drops of blue glass, is very important for determination of the latest chronological limits of the cemetery. In Druznoye were found gold and silver wares with big cornelian mountings of typical provincial late-antique style, but there is absence of polichromian thigs, widely distributed in the Hunian Period.

Thus the analysis of the funeral equipment witnesses, that Druznoye cemetery should be dated the second half of the 3rd-4th centuries AD. (Phases C<sub>1b</sub> - C<sub>2</sub> - C<sub>3</sub> of european chronological system).

For determination of ethnic belonging of the people who had left this cemetery the most important should be construction of the funeral structures and types of the fashioned vessels. Vaults similar to Druzhnoye ones appeared in the North Caucasus not after 1-st century AD. (Lower Dzulat and Podkumsky cemeteries, barrow-cemetery in Chegem). That was the time when there, according to the written sources, apportionment of Alans from the general mass of Sarmathian tribes had already begun. In that cemeteries are founded analogues and prototypes of fashioned ceramics from Druzhnoye. Vessels from the early medieval North-Caucasus cemeteries on their forms and methods of ornamentation repeat Druzhnoye's vessels in many cases, but in contrast to the Crimean ones they were usually made by means of potter's wheel. All the above mentioned notices permit us to conclude, that Druzhnoye cemetery was left by Alans, who had come to the Crimea from the North Caucasus. Taking into account the chronology of the cemetery, this event may be compared with campaigns of Goths. Thanks to the written sources it is well known, that in the middle of the 3rd century AD. Goths had practically brought Bospor Kingdom under their power.

Undermining graves similar to the ones from Druzhnoye are one of the typical elements of the late-Sarmathian culture. This could be said about some wares that belong to the total Sarmathian types and are known on the vast territories from the Urals (sometimes even eastwards) to the Central Europe. Such are, for example, objects of arms, bow-shaped fibulas, mirrors, bracelets neck- and finger-rings.

North-western influence in the materials from Druzhnoye cemetery should be mentioned too. It is apparent especially in details of clothes and in personal decorations. Such are sagged and tied up fibulas, "military" fibulas, many types of beads, amber mushroom-shaped and iron pail-shaped pendants, pendants in the form of axes, buckles. All this objects are considered to be an "ethnographic indications" or the Chernyakhov and the Sintana de Muresh cultures and they are usually found in the Przeworsk and the Wielbark graves.

Cemeteries, similar and partial synchronous to Druzhnoye are well known in the Crimea. These are Neyzac, Perevalnoye, Luchistoye, Ozer-noye III, Inkerman, Chernaya River. Most of them are located on the northern slopes of the Crimean Mountains and it is possible that they mark the direction of movement of Alan tribes. On the other hand cemeteries with cremation burials, situated in the south coast of the Crimea, such as Chatyrdag and Kharax, probably belonged to Goths at the time. In the environs of Hersones this two migration streams merged and that was reflected in the materials of cemeteries on the Chernaya River and in Sovkhoz N10 where rites of cremation and inhumation were combined.

In the Crimea, settlements connected with the cemeteries mentioned above are not known. Two hypothetic explanations of this strange fact could be done:

1. People who had left the cemeteries were leading mobile mode of life and had not buildings of long duration, which could be explored by archeologists.

2. Settlements were located lower than the cemeteries in valleys, at present ploughed up and density covered with buildings, where they were destroyed by contemporary economic activities. By the way: to this day Ossets, in ethnogenesis of whom Alans played an important role, cemeteries are necessarily located on the slopes of a hill or mountain higher, when the settlement.

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#### SPRAWOZDANIE Z BADAŃ CMENTARZYSKA W DRUZOJE NA KRYMIE

Artykuł stanowi prezentację wstępnych wyników badań prowadzonych na cmentarzysku w Druznoje. Stanowisko odkryte w 1984 r. i badane od 1990 przez ekipę Uniwersytetu w Symferopolu, położone jest około 20 km na południowy zachód od tego miasta, w górach na wysokości 500 m n.p.m. W trakcie prac eksplorowano obszar o powierzchni 5000 m<sup>2</sup>, rejestrując 78 grobów. Autor analizuje poszczególne formy pochówków oraz towarzyszące im wyposażenie. Obecność w zespołach grobowych monet (egzemplarzy Gordianusa III, Filippusa II, Trajana Decjusza i inne), złotych i srebrnych wyrobów z bogatą oprawą w typowym późnoantycznym stylu, przy jednoczesnym braku zabytków charakteryzujących cmentarzyska krymskie z V w. pozwala datować omawiane stanowisko na fazy C<sub>1b</sub> – C<sub>2</sub> – C<sub>3</sub> w europejskim systemie chronologicznym, zatem na 2 połowę III i IV w. n.e. Znalezione w trakcie prac zabytki oraz analiza źródeł pisanych umożliwia także określenie etnikum pochowanych na cmentarzysku osób, które autor identyfikuje z Alanami. Stanowisko w Druznoje posiada liczne analogie na Krymie (cmentarzyska w Neżak, Perewalnoje, Luchistoje itp.), których rozprzestrzenienie wskazywać może kierunek ruchów plemion alańskich. Brak elementów stałego osadnictwa towarzyszących cmentarzyskom informuje o koczowniczym charakterze życia tych plemion, albo też jest efektem niszczenia tych elementów przez późniejsze osadnictwo (orka, współczesna zabudowa).