

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL-ANTHROPOLOGICAL- ARCHAEZOLOGICAL STUDY REGARDING THE SKELETON IN BURIAL NO. 3 FROM RADOVANU-GORGANA ÎNTÂI, BELONGING TO THE EARLY BRONZE AGE

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Abstract: the paper refers to the excavations from Radovanu. In the Eneolithic *tell*, beneath the Getic defensive wall, it was found the Burial no. 3, containing a skeleton assigned to the Yamnaya culture, which belonged to a man, aged about 25-30 years. The individual was buried together with nine animal bones, which, according to the archaeozoological study, have been assigned to the following taxa: pig, sheep, goat, dog, hen and a freshwater fish species, most probably carp. Of these, just the sheep tibia seems to have been used as an offering, the remaining bones being without food value.

Cuvinte cheie: Bronz Timpuriu, Radovanu-Gorgana *întâi*, mormânt, antropologie, arheozoologie.

Rezumat: lucrarea se referă la săpăturile arheologice de la Radovanu. În *tell*-ul eneolitic, sub valul de apărare getic, a fost descoperit Mormântul nr. 3, ce conținea un schelet atribuit culturii Yamnaya, aparținând unui bărbat, cu vârsta între 25-30 de ani. Individul a fost înmormântat împreună cu nouă oase de animale care, conform studiului arheozoologic, au fost atribuite următorilor taxoni: porc, oaie, capră, câine, găină și o specie de pește de apă dulce, probabil crap. Dintre acestea, doar tibia de oaie pare să fi servit drept ofrandă, restul fiind fără valoare nutritivă.

General aspects

Initiated in 2007¹, the excavations in the Eneolithic *tell* from Radovanu have been continued in 2011². Subsequently the *tell* it was used by the Getae for raising a *dava* (fig. 1). Beneath the Getic defensive wall³, **Burial no. 1** has been excavated in 2008 and published by us⁴. **Burial no. 3**, discovered in this campaign, was found in the same place⁵. The complex was detected 4.30 m east from **Burial no. 1**, on the southern profile of the magistral trench (S.1). **Burial no. 3** was found on a depth of 0.90 m inside the cross-section, cutting through the layer of the Cernavodă I and that of the Gumelnița cultures.

¹ Șerbănescu *et alii* 2012a, 105 ff.

² Șerbănescu *et alii* 2012b, 112 ff.

³ Șerbănescu *et alii* 2012a, figs. 15-16.

⁴ Comșa *et alii* 2012.

⁵ The investigations carried out in 2012 have resulted in the discovery of other funerary monuments, but these belong to other epochs. See Șerbănescu *et alii* 2013, 112.

For the investigation of this funerary find, a square of 1.50 x 1.50 m has been opened and crossed the Getic defensive earthen wall.

Stratigrafically, the pit (of a rectangular shape) has been dug beneath the northern base of the wall. The legs of the deceased have been destroyed by the Getic complex (**Pit no. 19/Burial no. 4**)⁶. The skeleton, with a south-north orientation was supine, with the head fallen aside on the right, to the east (figs. 2, 3).

Description of the Burial no. 3 made during the field research

The skeleton is supine, with the head to the south and legs to the north. The right side was lower than the left one, the body being inclined towards that part.

In our opinion the bottom of the pit was not flat, or the body had been wrapped into a textile which was decomposed.

⁶ Șerbănescu *et alii* 2012b, 112.