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ABSTRACTS

La necropole feudale de hudum (departement de botoSani), XIIIe-XIVe siecles. Analyse demographique
Georgeta Miu, Robert Simalcsik, Monalisa Stupu

The XIIIth-XIVth centuries feudal necropolis from Huddum (Botosani county) -A demographic analysis. Starting from a rich human osteological material (631 skeletons), exhumed from the mediaeval necropolis of Hudum, the author has reconstituted the demographic structure of the population having lived there. The main demographic indices considered in the study are the following: frequency of diseases on groups of age and sexes, life expectance both at birth and at age of 20, for both men and women, average age of death, estimation of the population's volume. Worth mentioning is the high frequency of deceases among children, 40-60 years old men and 20-45 years old women, the fewer deceases recorded after the age of 60, and a very reduced average life duration. Estimation of the population's volume assumes an extended settlement, considering the period (i.e., about 80-90 inhabitants) and a high devilling density. A comparative analysis of the data collected at Hudum with those collected for other early mediaeval series of Moldavia (Trifesti, Doina), evidences some common demographic realities, which reflect similar socio-economic living conditions in the North-Eastern part of Moldavia of those pre-statal time.

Analysis of human skeletal remains from a Hellenistic grave
Andrei Dorian Soficaru

This study presents the analysis of the human remains found in a grave discovered in 1999 at Mangalia (ancient Callatis) by Mr. Al. Avram, an archaeologist from “V. Parvan” Archaeology Institute of Bucharest. The skeletons found there were situated in a stone cist in the outskirts of city, and it was dated as belonging to the Hellenistic period (the information regarding the discovery was offered by Mr. R. Constantin from Mangalia Museum – personal communication). Together with some animal bones, this grave contained the skeletal remains of three individuals: a woman and two new – born children. Due to the rarity of such occurrence it was considered that the analysis of the recovered osteological material must receive a maximum of attention and performed at our Institute in order to insure the accuracy of the analysis and data gathering.

Le dimorphisme sexuel secondaire des populations de Transylvanie (Roumanie)
Maria VIAdescu, Cristiana Glavce, Ruxandra BAldescu, Elena Radu

Secondary sexual dimorphism in Transylvanian populations (Romania). The study presents the results of an analysis on secondary sexual dimorphism regarding Transylvania’s inhabitants. Along with Romanian populations from 73 communities, 9 villages with ethnical minorities represented by Hungarians, Germans and Rrudars (Gypsies) are also investigated. The subjects’ number was higher than 12,000. Following the analysis of the anthropometrical values, approached with a various methodology, several important aspects came out: 1. there are no differences imposed by the ethnical barriers with regard to dimorphic energy (D.E.): even if this has not the same values from one population to another, in all the cases it forms a hierarchical system in progressive order – cephalic calotte, facial massif, body constitution; 2. on the other hand, the specific differences are expressed by the taxonomic morphograms, which, for every population, reflect the affiliation to a certain typological structure and the specific dimorphic aspects (obvious separation between brachycephalic forms and those with a tendency to mesocephalism, more leptomorphic or lower face and nose, broader or narrower bizigomatic and bigonial distances); 3. In the factors analysis (conducted only on Romanian population), the differences regarding the extent of correlations and features influencing the genetic development are not large enough to annul the sex specific taxonomic nature of entire population.

ASPECTS CONCERNANT LE DEVELOPPEMENT STATURO-PONDERAL DES
ENFANTS ECOLIERS SOURDS-MUETS
ELEONORA LUCA, C.VULPE, M.RADU, LACRAMIOARA MURESAN,
N.LEASEVICI, MONICA PETRESCU

Aspects about the weight-height development of deaf-and-dumb children. This paper is part of a larger anthropological research developed in 2002-2003 on a sample of 165 deaf-and-dumb children including aged between 7 and 17 years from a special school in Bucharest. The estimation of the weight-height development was made comparing the

values of the deaf-and-dumb children with the national levels elaborated by the Public Health Institute in Bucharest in relation with age and sex. The results illustrate on the average a good weight-height development of the deaf-and-dumb children. The phenotypes of the researched characters (height, weight and Rohrer index) varied between “< M-2s” and “> M+2s”, but most are situated within the limits of variability “M ± s”.

Comportements alimentaires et surpoids des enfants (l'exemple particulier des enfants maghrebins pour un probleme general de sante publique)

F. Roville-Sausse, CRISTIANA Glavce

Food behaviours and overweight in children (particular example of Maghreb children for a general problem of public health). Food behaviors changed over the last century mainly due to new food processing technologies, cross-cultural dynamics and globalisation processes. Food problems in adults and children occurred, which include an increase in the numbers of overweight individuals. Childhood obesity is a material issue on account of subsequent health disorders and psychological discomfort. Investigations on different populations with respect to feeding behaviours are aimed at highlighting improper conduct. Health strategies are thus given a better basis for future implementation. The following is a case study of change in food behaviours with emphasis on child obesity. Data describe a Maghreb population living in France for over 20 years.

DonNEes concernant la dynamique du processus d'accElERation de la croissance et du developpement des adolescents et des jeunes

Maria Stirbu, georgeta miu, angela simalcsik

On the dynamics of the process of teenagers' and young ones' accelerated growth and development. The present study analyzes the dynamics of the accelerated growth and development of teenagers and young people in the last decades of the XXth century, considering that the literature of the field indicates a significant variability (i.e., continuation, stopping or even deceleration) of such processes from one population to another. The material subjected to the study, taken over in 1998 includes 1,600 subjects, of both sexes, with between 11 and 18, born and living in the city of Iasi. A comparison between the authors' data and those obtained by Gh. Banu and. M. Derevici in 1931-1934, as well as with those recorded by the Iasi Research Group in 1964 and 1985, evidences that, in some cases, the acceleration process has been continuous from 1931

until now, although the acceleration rates have different intensities from both ones stage to another and one character to another. The higher acceleration rates for the vertical dimensions, comparatively with the horizontal ones, explain the more pronounced longiline aspects of the youths (i.e., taller, more macroskelic, with a lower stature-weight ratio), comparatively with the ones of older generations.

Body mass indices in Romanian population

ELENA RADU, LUMINITA CIOTARU

The paper analyses the age-related variability by sex and environmental origin of some body mass indices at the population level. The data analysis indicates an unequal predisposition to obesity in rural and urban areas, males and females and age groups. Thus, according to our results, the age of 35 may be considered to be the beginning of the involuntional changes in body measures and conformation that put subjects at risk of those pathological values of weight-scale represented by obesity. The study meets the requests of NCHS/WHO for a pragmatic introduction of the anthropological research into national health programmes and policies.

Geographical variability of some body mass indices

Luminita ciotaru, elena radu, cristiana glavce

Our survey investigates the rural population in Romania, aged between 17 years and over 55 years, the data being obtained from 6190 subjects from four large geographical areas: Moldova, Dobrogea, Banat and Transilvania. The study highlights overweight variability according to age, sex and geographical area, established by means of the Quetelet index and some body mass measures that are able to predict both the nutritional status of the population and the pathological tendencies to obesity, one of the main risk factor of cardiovascular, cerebrovascular, nutrition-based and metabolic diseases, which burden the nutritional health status of the population as it ages.

the predictive value of dermatoglyphics in the diagnosis of infantile autism

ana TarcA

The paper develops a dermatoglyphic study on a group of 137 patients (67 boys and 70 girls), suffering from infantile autism, coming from Moldavia, from which 274 dermatoglyphic files have been collected. An important observation is that the advanced degree of the patients' neuropsychic and physiological degeneration is correlated with a large range of anomalies or distortions present in their palmar image, the frequency of which makes them, on the one hand, significantly different from the normal population and, on the other, quite similar with the persons affected by other severe congenital maladies. Occurring in both boys and girls, also on both palms of the subjects - yet prevailing on the left ones -, the distortions put into evidence contribute to a precocious diagnosis of this autistic syndrome, studied now for the first time in Romania from a dermatoglyphic perspective.

INVESTIGATIONS SUR L'OREILLE EXTERNE CHEZ UN ECHANTILLON D'ENFANTS ECOLIERS SOURDS-MUETS

CORNELIU VULPE, ELEONORA LUCA, M. RADU, LACRAMIOARA MURESAN,
MONICA PETRESCU

Investigations of external ear to schooler childrens with hearing deficiency. For the anthropological characterization of some children with hearing deficiencies several aspects were tackled, such as: performance of skull, face and body anthropometric measurements, dermatoglyphic aspects, external ear morphology, pedigree elaboration as well as establishment of a pathological picture of each studied subject. In this paper we treat only one of these aspects namely the specific structural features of the external ear. In order to realize this investigation we used a record in which we wrote down 37 characters and for each of them we estimated three variants, sometimes four or five. The

observations were made on a sample of deaf children and for comparison we also used a control sample made up of healthy children.

considerations concerning the variability of blood pressure in some populations from moldavia

maria istrate

The author studies the variability of the mean blood pressure values and the frequency of hypertensive subjects according to age and sex, in a number of 842 subjects (362 men and 480 women) coming from four communities from the Moldavian Central Plateau. The average values of blood pressure increase progressively with age, the situation being more linear and larger in women than in men. Due to this fact, even if young men have higher averages of blood pressure than women, in the 50-59 years decade, women overcome men. The frequency of hypertensive subjects is higher in men until the age of 50. After this age, the frequency of women with moderate and severe hypertension increases severely compared with men, mainly in what concerns diastolic hypertension.

Prepositions as subject matter in contemporary sculpture

MATEI STIRCEA-CRACIUN

The present essay examines a major motif in the work of sculptor Paul Neagu from the perspective of symbolic anthropology. With Neagu, who ranks as probably the most important sculptor in the Romanian diaspora, prepositions (e.g. over, across) and graphic signs (e.g. hyphen, full stop) convert into subject matter for a visual research on the determinants of shape and the potential of materials to generate and condition cultural value.

Analyser la transhumance selon les études roumaines: perspective monographique et valeur référentielle

MARIN CONSTANTIN

Pastoral transhumance in Romanian ethnographic, folkloristic, and historical literature. Two constants are eventually identified, namely the monographic perspective on the pastoral way of life, and especially on transhumance, and the referential value ascribed by Romanian social scientists to transhumance. The two paradigms are not mutually exclusive, but rather completing each other when methodologically relating the mythical narratives (such as the ballad Miorita) to historical evidences of the genealogical records.