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ABSTRACTS

A SKULL WITH A POSSIBLE SWORD STROKE FROM TROAPEUM TRAIANI

ANDREI DORIAN SOFICARU

The skull was discovered in 1972 at the Tropaeum Traiani, a Late Roman Empire city from eastern Romania (Adamclisi village, Constanta County). This was found in D sector, D3 edifice, in the level NV at the 1 m depth. The end of that level is connected by archaeologists with the invasion of Avars in 586. The skull has got a hit in the right cheek, temporal and maxilla. It is very sure that mandibular condyle and coronal process were affected. Anatomically, the sharp object meets the masseteric muscle, facial artery, parotid duct, and the temporal muscle, after cut resulting hemorrhage and bony splits. I suppose that the hit was coming from the lateral right, from up to down in angle of 15°, with a sharp object on length of 100 mm : 30 mm breadth, possible sword or axe.

SOME PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS ON THE SOUTH-MOLDAVIA MEDIAEVAL ROMANIAN VILLAGE (THE XVIth CENTURY MIDDLE AGE NECROPOLIS OF VANATORI-GALATI)

GEORGETA MIU, DAN BOTEZATU

The study provides some preliminary anthropological data concerning a series of skeletons, unburied from the mediaeval (XVIth century) village of Vanatori - the district of Galati. The above-mentioned series formed of 53 skeletons, 28 of which belonging to the 0-14 year old children. Such a high mortality among children, accompanied by a low frequency of the older than 60 years deceased ones, explains the reduced longevity of this population. Thus, the average age of decease for the whole community is of only 18.9 years and, respectively, of 34.9 years for the 20+ year old individuals. Typologically, the mediaeval community of Vanatori occurs as a Mediterranean-Dinaro-Alpine anthropological complex, within which the characters of the Mediterranean type play a significant part. The characters of this type are most frequently met mixed with other structural elements, exclusively Europoid ones, which leads to some half-breed forms, such as Mediterranean-Dinaric, Mediterranean-Alpine or Northern-Mediterranean ones.

ANTHROPOLOGY APPLIED TO DESIGN IN THE ROMANIAN LIGHT INDUSTRY

ELENA RADU, CRISTIANA GLAVCE, LUMINITA CIOTARU, ALEXANDRA MACOVEI,

CAMELIA SANDRU

Ergonomic anthropology became a priority of applied anthropology, thus introducing anthropology in the circuit of the sciences involved in industrial production processes.

The big development of the ready-made clothes industry is connected to the concerns of anthropology to create "order" in the huge individual and population variability, particularly by its methodology and anthropometrical technique. A series of variability types are to be found in populations that leave their mark upon this anthropological structure, as follows:

1) *Anthropological variability in time*: populations are subject to microevolutionary type changes (secular trend) of a higher or lower significance. In this sense, in our paper we analyzed the microevolutionary changes of body mass in the population studied in the year 2004, in comparison with the one studied in 1980. These microevolutionary changes are generated by the acceleration phenomenon reflected in the increase of vertical dimensions from a generation to another and produce changes in the individual, hence population dimensional ratios. These changes lead to alterations of constitution typology, which are reflected in clothes sizes, a fact that requires periodical reviews of the measures that constitute their basis.

2) *Anthropological variability by space*, i.e., geographical variability. In our paper we analyzed not only geographical variability indices in the present population (2004), but also the geographical variability in time, comparing the data collected in 1980.

3) *Sex-related anthropological variability*.

4) *Age-related anthropological variability*, both in time (comparing the populations studied 2004 and 1980) and in space (as regards the population studied in 2004). The ontogenetic changes involve a decrease of subject's vertical body dimensions (stature, leg length), after the age of 40, due to the subsidence of vertebral column and collapse of the foot vault. An increase of the weight and circumferences, occurred at this age due to physiological changes, is also noticed. At the same time, we were concerned with the (BMI) of the body mass index, Quetelet variability in time and space, according to age and sex.

UPDATE OF THE ROMANIAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE LIGHT INDUSTRY AREA

**CRISTIANA GLAVCE, ELENA RADU, CLAUDIA NICULESCU, EMILIA VISILEANU, LIGIA
APAVALOAI, LUMINITA OANA CIOTARU,
ALEXANDRA MACOVEI, CAMELIA SANDRU**

The anthropometrical dimensions of a population display a time-related variability along many generations. This variability is due both to the changes of the same individual during his life (ontogenetic changes) and to the microevolution process from a generation to another. The ontogenetic changes involve the decrease of the individual vertical body dimensions (stature, leg length), after the age of 40, due to subsidence of vertebral column and collapse of the foot vault. The microevolutionary changes are generated by the acceleration phenomenon reflected in the increase of the vertical dimensions from one generation to another and produce changes in the individual, hence population dimensional ratios. These changes lead to alterations of the constitution typology, which are reflected in the clothes sizes, a fact that requires periodical

reviews of the measures that constitute their basis.

ASPECTS DE LA STRUCTURE ANTHROPOLOGIQUE CHEZ LES POPULATIONS ANCIENNES DE TRANSYLVANIE

CORNELIU VULPE, IOANA POPOVICI-BADARAU, MARIA VLADESCU

Aspects of the anthropological structure in ancient populations of Transylvania. This synthesis presents discoveries in the field of paleoanthropology while pointing out some structural modifications undergone by the inhabitants of this historical province during the ages. The first proofs, rather scarce, of the human presence in the Transylvanian space belong to the Palaeolithic. If the osteological material dating back to remote periods, such as the Neolithic, comes from some isolated tombs, starting with the Bronze Age osteological evidence appears to be visibly better represented due to the skeletons found also in some small necropolises. As one approaches the modern epoch, the discovered skeletons are more numerous, coming especially from ever larger necropolises and very seldom from isolated tombs. As far as the anthropological structure is concerned, it can be noticed that, from the dolichocephalous populations, shorter and more gracile, met with during the Neolithic, in our days the inhabitants of this territory have become taller, more robust and with a cranial index predominantly brachycephalous.

EVOLUTION OF LONGEVITY ALONG THE XXth CENTURY IN THE POPULATION OF RACHITENI AND MIRCESTI (IASI COUNTY)

MARIA STIRBU, ANGELA SIMALCSIK, ROBERT SIMALCSIK, MONALISA STUPU

Starting from the data provided by the civil status files from the archives of the Mircesti village, there has been calculated, at the level of each decade of the XXth century, the average decrease age, as well as mortality - on groups of age -, both separately, on sexes, at for both sexes, considered together. The results obtained show that longevity increased from the first up to the last decade of the XXth century. The increase ratio differs slightly from one locality to another and from one sex to another, as well. However, in both places, and for both sexes, the ratio is considerably higher for the 0-x year cohort (as a result of both reduced mortality in younger generations and the increased mortality in older ones), comparatively with the 20-x year one (which results exclusively from the higher mortality in older generations).

THE HUMAN BIOELECTRICAL REACTIVITY TO THE INFLUENCE OF THE SOUNDS

ADINA BACIU, CORNELIA GUJA

Our research synthesizes the results of certain studies of physiological anthropology, carried out in

Laboratory of the individual's anthropology, on the impact sonorous vibratory phenomena have upon human body. Sounds and their qualities are one of the fundamental factors of adaptation and evolution the living world, from the cell to the organism as a whole. With man sonorous perception has reached performing cultural level, man having an ultra-specialized organ on a narrow range of natural sonorous sounds. With its oral language system the human being has become a source (by means of the sound production apparatus) and a receiver (the ear), highly specialized in articulated sounds by which he communicates verbally, specifically, with his fellow beings at a level unknown to other beings. Our object was experimentally research the answering modality to various categories of sounds, at the level of the whole human body, with children, teen-agers, healthy and sick adults, as well as with persons having hearing deficiencies. We carried out an interdisciplinary bio-psycho-social-cultural study on a witness lot of 100 healthy subjects of both sexes, compared to a lot of 55 persons with various deafness degrees from a special school. In our study of sonorous perception we used Electrography, a method of recording bioelectric signals at palm skin level. As a source to produce musical sonorous frequencies at the level of the whole body (mattress type) we used Therasound system. The results confirmed our hypothesis that sonorous perception takes place at the level of the whole body surface. It follows that the impact of sonorous vibrations upon the whole body through the skin surpasses the auditory sphere, having direct effects upon all the functions of the human organism. We objectified these effects electrographically on radiological film.

VULNERABILITY TO OVERWEIGHT IN THE ROMANIAN POPULATION

ELENA RADU, LUMINITA CIOTARU, CAMELIA SANDRU

In recent years, the anthropological aspects of overweight in the Romanian population have preoccupied the Department of Medical Anthropology from the Anthropological Researches Center of the Romanian Academy. This study analyses the critical ages from where overweight and obesity become predominant in the body mass measures of the population, a warning sign considering the involvement of obesity in the determinism of some chronic degenerative diseases which occupy the top positions in the morbidity and mortality of the population. We examined these ages within populations differentiated by sex, residence and socio-professional status, in order to identify when the body mass values start to engage upon the slope of overweight and obesity.

ASPECTS CONCERNANT LE DEVELOPPEMENT PHYSIQUE DES ENFANTS ECOLIERS SOURDS-MUETS

**ELEONORA LUCA, C. VULPE, MONICA PETRESCU, M. RADU,
N. LEASEVICI, LACRAMIOARA MURESAN**

Aspects about the physical development of deaf-and-dumb school children. This paper is a part of anthropological research developed in 2002-2003 on deaf-and-dumb children from a special school in Bucharest. The estimation of the somatic development was made comparing the values of the deaf-and-dumb children with those of the hearing children.

children with the mean values of normal children in relation with age and sex. The results illustrate on average a good trunk development of the deaf-and-dumb children. Most phenotypes of the research characters (biacromial breadth, bicrystal breadth, chest circumference and abdominal circumference) situated within the limits of variability " $M \pm s$ ". The deaf-and-dumb girls have a better trunk development

NUTRITIONAL BEHAVIOR OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

ALEXANDRA MACOVEI, ELENA RADU, LUMINITA CIOTARU, MIHAELA PAVEL

The paper summarizes the results of a pilot-study carried out on a sample of children and adolescents from Bucharest school units in order to approach the topic of their health status in the light of those behaviors that lead later to nutrition disorders like obesity, a main risk factor in many diseases and health conditions: hypertension, type 2 diabetes, coronary heart disease, stroke, gallbladder disease, osteoarthritis or some cancers like endometrial, breast, and colon – diseases which occupy top positions in the morbidity and mortality of the population. While it deals generally with their food habits and physical activity in order to determine which behaviours should be modified and reinforced, the survey highlights some theoretical and practical difficulties raised by such an enquiry, compared with similar ones, done in western countries.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF DERMATOGLYPHICS TO THE PREDICTION OF TYPE 1– DIABETES MELLITUS (T1DM)

ANA TARCA

The present study is devoted to the pathology of dermatoglyphics on a group of 133 subjects (58 males and 75 females) affected by T1DM, of which 58 are children and teen-agers (33 boys and 25 girls) with ages between 4 and 18 years, in whom the disease started between 2 and 17 years, while 75 are adults and older people (25 men and 50 women) with ages between 24 and 79 years, in whom the malady started between 20 and 76 years, respectively. In about 75% of the cases, the diabetes is primarily insulin-dependent, the other patients being insulin-requirers or only secondly insulin-dependent ones; at the level of the whole batch, 1000 palmary prints have been collected. A first observation was that both the primarily insulin-dependent and insulin-requiring patients evidence in their palmary print - regardless of the age at which the malady occurred, or of the presence of another affection in the spectrum of their clinical picture - multiple distortions or anomalies bearing deep clinical significance which, at the level of the whole group, attain percent values by which the diabetes-affected ones are significantly different from those recorded in normal population being nevertheless quite close to the behaviour of the severe CVD and OD - affected ones. Present both in the masculine and in the feminine series, and on both palms of the affected ones, having, to a considerable extent, a bilateral disposition in the carriers, the distortions put into evidence demonstrate that the intervention of the factors responsible for the self-immune process of β insulenic cells' destruction manifesting as early as the intrauterine life, when the papillary ridges are being formed, which supports

idea of their possible utilization as “markers” in predicting the persons with diabetogeneous risk.

BODY MASS INDEX AND BLOOD PRESSURE IN OVO-LACTO-VEGETARIANS

LACRAMIOARA MURESAN, ELEONORA LUCA

The purpose of the present paper is to examine the nutritional status and blood pressure values of an ovo-lacto-vegetarian sample. Our case-control study surveyed 90 confirmed adult ovo-lacto-vegetarians who have followed an ovo-lacto-vegetarian diet for at least 2 years against a control group of 102 non-vegetarians living in the same urban environment. Subjects' weight, height and blood pressure were measured and the mean BMI and blood pressure values of ovo-lacto-vegetarians and non-vegetarians were compared. We found that BMI mean value was lower in ovo-lacto-vegetarians (22.51 kg/m^2) than in non-vegetarians (24.33 kg/m^2). The average blood pressure was 115.7/67.6 mm Hg for the ovo-lacto-vegetarians and 123.5/72.2 for the control group, difference that is statistically significant for $p < 0.01$. Our results support the fact that vegetarian diet improves the nutritional status (according to BMI) and blood pressure values.

SERUM PROTEIN POLYMORPHISMS IN PATIENTS WITH PROSTATIC CANCER

SOENKE ARPS, ALEXANDER RODEWALD, GEORGETA CARDOS

The distribution of phenotypes of Hp, Tf, Pi and Gc was determined in 109 patients with prostatic cancer. The statistical analysis of our findings in comparison with healthy control groups revealed no associations between particular Tf and Gc phenotypes and the disease. On the other hand, significant associations were found in Hp and Pi. Our study showed a significant decrease of Hp2-2 and increase of Hp2-1 phenotypes in the patient group. Furthermore, a significant increase of the M1-Z and decrease of the M1-1 phenotype in Pi was found in the patients.

RELIGION, SOCIAL DESCENT, AND CULTURAL MEMORY IN A VILLAGE FROM MARAMURES

MARIN CONSTANTIN

The paper examines the relation between the religious membership, the social rank-descent, and the cultural memory in the village community of Lapus (the Maramures county). The author argues the heuristic importance in correlation of some socio-cultural aspects apparently isolated from one another, yet relevant to their interdependence for understanding the cultural patterns among the villagers of Lapus. Identifying links between the above ethnographic aspects reflects a methodological approach which is representative of cultural anthropology, namely holism.

A socio-cultural dynamics in transition. Sociability and de-ritualization. The present day Romanian society suffers from a more and more deepening, socio-cognitive differentiation, whereby “educational cast constitute at an extremely reduced “communicability” coefficient. An elitist culture separates from a popular culture, and from a mass culture of a formidable implosive potential; a mass culture violently promoted the whole media, at a rhythm and unparalleled diversity, if one takes into account its precariousness and resonance it raises up. The modalities of sociability of a certain community take part significantly into making of the economic, social, moral, etc., context, even though the active agents do not accomplish their role and function. In its different modalities, the sociability suggests “models” to which groups and persons relate to, “models” to be “automatically” propagated, but through automatisms equally “cultural”, in models endowed with meanings, functions and roles.