

THE EXPANSION OF EURASIAN CATTLE-BREEDING STEPPE TRIBES INTO NORTHERN BACTRIAN TERRITORIES

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ANNOTATION

It is known that the Bronze Age began with many innovations in human history. The interrelationships of the various tribes have intensified. During the Bronze Age, Northern Bactria became an area where cattle and peasant communities lived together. They are reflected in the findings from ancient cemeteries belonging to this period.

Keywords: Northern Bactria, farmer, herdsman, Bronze Age, steppe tribes, funeral, cemetery, find, monument.

АННОТАЦИЯ

Известно, что бронзовый век начался с множества новшеств в истории человечества. Взаимоотношения различных племен усилились. В эпоху бронзы Северная Бактрия стала районом совместного проживания скотоводческих и крестьянских общин. Они отражены в находках с древних кладбищ, относящихся к этому периоду.

Ключевые слова: Северная Бактрия, земледelec, пастух, эпоха бронзы, степные племена, похороны, кладбище, находка, памятник.

INTRODUCTION

According to the analysis of archeological sources, the influx of Eurasian steppe tribes into Central Asia dates back to BC. It happened in the XIV-XIII centuries. The consequences of the southern migration of the Andronovo cattle-breeding tribes were reflected in the burials of the Bronze Age communities of Northern Bactria. The cremation of the corpse is observed in the Molali and Boston stages of the Sopolli culture. Given that this was due to the migration of the Andronovo tribes to the south, they entered the territory of Bactria in BC. Entered during the XIII - IX centuries.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The first Tulkhor cemetery. The Surkhandarya-Kofarnigon river range is the Beshkent valley, where many ancient burial mounds are located. About 80 First Tulkhor tombs have been identified and 75 graves have been excavated between these burial mounds. During the excavation of the First Tulkhor Cemetery in A.M.Mandelstam, there were four different methods (the skeletons were cremated, cremated, the bones were removed from the flesh and buried in the kenotaf) [5].

He divided the internal structure of the tombs into four types. The first type of tombs are lahad and awning, and the entrance awning to the lahad is oval, sometimes rectangular, with one and two steps. The entrance to the porch is filled with stones, sometimes stones are piled in the entrance to the tomb, the depth of the tomb does not exceed 1 meter. The author calls this type of tombs stairwells (Figure 1).

There were 44 of them, and in most of them (33 of them) one person was buried. 7 double-skeletal graves (Fig. 2), 4 children's graves were identified. The tomb awning - dromos was dug perpendicular to the lahad. The heads of most of the skeletons in them (9) are oriented to the west and east (6), north (2), south-east (1), south-west (3), northeast (1). This is probably due to the burial of the deceased and the deceased along the solar circle.

In the graves of older people, of course, there is material evidence. There are no signs of class stratification among them. Tomb finds consist mainly of ceramic vessels, bronze or copper knives, bronze daggers, bronze or copper mirrors, and pins, beads (Fig. 3). Of course, in every grave there are ribs and legs of the sacrificial animal, dwarf hearths.

Dwarf kilns were also found, square in the men's tomb and circular in the women's tomb. Grave finds are usually found near the human skull, and burials are found in front of the entrance to the porch.

In a number of tombs, a piece of raw clay is painted near the paw bones of the human skeleton, the top of which is painted red. Traces of red ocher are also found on the paw bones of the skeleton. Near the paw bones are ovoid stones, which are also painted red. Beneath the skeletons are rotten traces of reeds or felt.

This means that the floor of the tomb is covered with a mat or felt and the body is laid on it. In one of the lone graves, the human skull was in a stone hollow, surrounded by 60 hand bones. In another tomb lies a skeleton on a skeleton, in another tomb the pottery vessel lay on the side of her waist, not near the woman's skull. A similar situation can be found in solitary skeletal tombs.

Children's graves are not in the adult graveyard area, they are located in the southern part of a separate cemetery. Up to 20 bodies are placed in each children's grave, which is observed to have a chaotic, repetitive burial character.

Grave objects are not found in children's graves, however, red-painted egg shells are common. Between the tombs, skeletons were found in four cases in a stone box and in three cases in slab boxes. The top of the boxes is covered with reeds. Such tombs have neither stone hearths nor tomb finds.

In the first Tulkhor cemetery, there are also graves dug deeper south of the lahad chamber. They are clearly visible from the tombstone device, unlike the stairwells.

In the central part of the device are placed 7 stones, the largest and the longest of which are mounted on the tomb porch in the remaining 6 stone enclosures. The top of them came to the surface and was surrounded by fire. The Lahad camera is not that big and deep. However, it is deeper than the stairwell.

The skeletal chamber and others, the lahad, is a small and shallow pit in the southern part of the lahad, dug perpendicular to the dromos from south to north, its top is covered with slab stones or a single large flat stone. The inside of the pit was filled with fragments of slave and

burnt human bones. To the north of it is a sign of a swastika made of slab stones or a stone wheel. No objects are found in the tombs. But on the floor of the tomb there are dusty ceramic particles. It must have been some kind of burial custom.

Catacomb-type tombs are also found in the first Tulkhor cemetery. Catacomb tombs consist of two parts. The first part consists of a long, entrance porch, which can be called a dromos.

The second part is the skeletal chamber, i.e. the lahad, whose ceiling is arched. The dromos is excavated perpendicular to the lahad. That is why it is a catacomb. If it were dug parallel to the lahad, the grave would be a lahad with a porch. The porch usually has two steps, the first step is 40 cm deep and the second is 50 cm long. Lahad size is 110-140 cm.

The ceiling of Lahad was domed, and all but one of the tombs collapsed. The Lahad door is covered with wooden or stone slabs. The entrance porch to the cell is filled with stone. These stones protruded to the surface and were surrounded by soil from the tomb, forming an oval, square, circular device on the tomb.

In the tombs, the limbs are bent, the women with the left shoulder, the men with the right shoulder, there are skeletons with the head facing north, north-west, and the face facing the lahad hole.

RESULT

In each tomb there are ceramic vessels (on the side of the head), in the tomb of the women beads, of course, the ribs of the sheep, the hind leg of the sacrificial sheep on the side of the skeletal foot. On the second rung of each tomb porch, pieces of slave and coal were found on a stone slab.

In the first Tulkhor cemetery, pit graves are also found in stone caves.

The tombstones of this type of tombs are damaged. In some tombs, the skeletal chamber was square in shape. In the corners of the square stone caves, large and elongated stones are erected vertically, which are more elongated from south to north or from southeast to north.

Inside the stone cave there is a carcass with a depth of not less than 1 m, where the skeletons are buried in a hollow position with the head facing north-east. Pottery, copper glass, and the ribs of a sacrificial lamb are found in the tombs. A headless lamb skeleton was found in one grave (№34). In the cemetery, cremation was observed in 9 graves, two of which (graves 63 and graves 64) had swastika marks (Fig. 4).

In three tombs, according to the tradition of the people of Andronovo, the tradition of burying bodies in stone coffins was observed. However, for some reason the tombstones with stone boxes were not placed with burial utensils along with the skeleton.

The first Aruktov cemetery. There are 13 Bronze Age graves in Aruktov Cemetery. They can be divided into 2 types. The first is a stone tomb, the second is a tomb under a castle. Most of the graves are first type graves. They consisted of round or square-shaped stone piles (Fig. 5), in some of which the earth was not excavated, the body was laid on the ground, and stones were piled up around the skeleton, thus forming a stone fortress.

No thief fell into such graves. Only solitary graves were found in Aruktov cemetery. The skeletons are usually buried in a hollow position with the right side, with the head facing east

or northeast. Grave items include pottery, bronze sickles, and jewelry. In each tomb the ribs and hind legs of the sacrificial lamb are found.

There is only one tomb under the castle in Aruktov. The tomb chamber is rectangular in shape, extending from west to east. The skeleton of a young girl was found in the grave. He is buried in a hollow position with his left side, his head facing east. In the tomb, ceramic vessels were found in front of the skull, bronze bracelets on the bones of the hand, and bronze bracelets in the ear cavity.

A.M.Mandelstam made a scientific analysis of the materials of both cemeteries and made a large-scale comparative analysis with other monuments, calling this complex of monuments the Beshkent culture of cattle-breeding tribes and dating them to the XIII-XI centuries BC [5]. The historical roots of the population of Beshkent culture are connected with the Zamonbobo culture of the Zarafshan valley, in general, with the northern steppe tribes.

Among the tombstones of the Tandyryol cemetery are Andronovo pottery. The pottery is a series of embroidered vessels [9] along the circumference of the flange, which belong to the Fyodorov stage of the Andronovo culture. In the Tandyryol cemetery, even the Andronovo tomb (tomb 25) was found [9.]. In the tomb chamber, the woman kept her limbs bent, but the skeletal bones were moved from their place. The facial side of the skull is severely damaged, with traces of red ocher on the back of the skull.

Bronze beads on the wrist at the wrist of his arm, a hemispherical ceramic vessel near the face of the skull, a pattern of grooves on his shoulder, the skull of the skeleton had bronze bracelets reminiscent of the number eight. Such bronze jewelry is widely found in the monuments of the Fyodorov stage of the Andronovo culture of Kazakhstan and Central Asia [1].

Traces of the Andronovo tribes in the south-western part of Tajikistan were found in the Qumsay-Gissar valley, in the settlement of the Kirov state farm, in Kurgan-Tube, in the Tuyun cemetery in the Khavolin district, and in the Eastern Pamirs.

Qumsay Cemetery is located in the foothills of the Gissar Valley, in the hills on the left, in the Tursunzoda region. Archaeological excavations in this area were carried out by the Archaeological Expedition of Southern Tajikistan for 2 years (1987-1988) [4]. As a result of excavations, 21 graves and 1 cenotaph were discovered.

The tombs are mainly in the structure of a pitched lahad, the entrance to which is covered with large stones. Among the graves studied, the graves of older men are absolutely unheard of. Only 1 (№13) grave belonging to a woman aged 35–45 years was found. If part of the tomb contains skeletons belonging to 18-22 year old boys,

most of the rest are graves belonging to infants, young children. The position of the body in the tombs is buried according to the custom of the Bronze Age, depending on the sex, with the arms and legs bent to the right or left. Various vessels were found around the deceased, and bronze beads were found in the girls.

However, graves belonging to infants and young children were almost devoid of burial mounds [7]. A similar situation is observed in the owners of the Bronze Age farming culture of Northern Bactria.

This suggests that there was an interaction between pastoral and peasant cultures. No traces of fire or coal were found in the graves. Anthropologically studying the burials, T.P. Kiyatkina

determined that the bodies belonged to the eastern Mediterranean type of the Europoid race [12]. The vessels found in the tombs are reddish-brown in color, with white angob thinly rubbed on top of them. Such vessels are found in the cemeteries of the Sopolian culture in Molali, Boston VI and Jarqkuton 4s, and the Tandiryol Cemetery, a monument of agricultural culture in southern Tajikistan. Qumsoy cemetery pottery is made on two different traditional bases. One is reminiscent of the Andronovo monuments of the steppe, while the other is reminiscent of the traditions of agricultural culture.

Archaeological finds of the Qumsay cemetery are reminiscent of the Dashti-Qazi cemetery [11], which belongs to the series of monuments of the Andronovo culture in the Zarafshan valley (Fig. 6).

Physical evidence found in the tombs, patterned vessels near the head of the deceased, bronze earrings, mirrors, bracelets and beads were found in the relevant parts of the deceased's skeleton. These items are also characteristic of the Andronovo monuments of the Zarafshan valley - the monuments of Muminabad and Gujayli. I.G.Ravich's research on metal objects found in Qumsoy revealed that bronze objects, especially bronze bracelets and beads, were similar to the Andronovo-type monuments: Chaka, Kokcha 3, 16 and Dashti-Qazi [10].

Knot Cemetery. During the 1997 archeological excavations, the first cemetery belonging to the Andronovo culture was found in the Red Sea basin.

This ancient cemetery is located near the village of Kuyi Tuyun in the Hovalin district of southern Tajikistan. A total of 2 graves were excavated. One of them was found by locals. The tomb is catacombous, its catacomb-awning (1x0.8 m., Depth 0.6 m.) Was identified by stones protruding from the surface. In the south-eastern part of the porch there is a lahad, its size is 1.6x1 m, its bottom is 0.2 m. The porch was below the floor.

The skeleton of a teenage girl lying on her left side was found in Lahad's cell. His face was laid facing the lahad hole.

Bronze earrings in the ear cavity, paste beads, biconical bronze beads on the feet, pottery and all tomb objects belong to the Fyodorov stage of the Tuyun cemetery andronova culture, the ceramic vessel on the front side of the skull is decorated with triangular-shaped patterns in a smoky manner around its shoulders and neck.

Pottery and all other tomb finds testify to the fact that the Tuyun cemetery belongs to the Fyodorov stage of the Andronovo culture. Bronze items belong to the materials of Qumsay cemetery[7]. This cemetery, like the Qumsay cemetery, is reminiscent of the Zarafshan variant of the Andronovo culture. The burial ceremonies and anthropological type of the steppe tribes of the Zarafshan valley differ from those of the Andronovo people in Kazakhstan and southern Siberia. The steppe tribes of Central Asia are anthropologically closer to the farming tribes of the more southern regions.

DISCUSSIONS

The method of burial of cattle-breeding tribes in southern Tajikistan is similar to the burial ceremonies of the Jarkotan [2] and Boston VI [1] cemeteries of the Sopolli farming culture [7]. This type of tomb structure is distinguished by its proximity to the tombs of Tandiryol in the

Gissar Valley. The findings of the Qumsay culture show that the pottery is a monument of the peasant culture - the period of the Molali stage of the Sopolli culture [8].

Thus, the Qumsay cemetery is an important monument in the study of the culture of the Bronze Age steppe tribes. The structure of the tomb, the method of burial, according to the burial utensils, are two close traditions: the northern part of the Zarafshan oasis (Chaka, Muminabad, Dashti-Kazi) - within Andronovo, the materials of the southern part can be said to have merged with the Sopolli - Dashli agricultural cultures.

The next settlement of the Andronovo culture in southern Tajikistan was found on the territory of the Kirov state farm. The monument is located in the upper reaches of the Vakhsh River, 12 km from Qurghonteppa.

Its total area is 130 sq.m., from which 6 graves were opened. The surface of the pottery found in the tombs consists of comb-shaped patterns, and this type of pottery belongs to the Fyodorov stage of Andronovo culture.

The upper part of the vessels also has triangular, elongated curved patterns (Fig. 7), such patterns are also found in the vessels of the Andronovo culture at the Kangurtut location.

The pottery fragments found in the upper layer of the settlement are reminiscent of pottery from the Spring I culture. Based on these findings, the settlement periodically belongs to two periods, ie the lower horizon belongs to the Bronze Age, the upper horizon to the period of Spring I (early Iron Age) [7].

CONCLUSION

Traces of material culture of cattle-breeding steppe tribes have also been found in the Eastern Pamirs. The findings show that the migration of the Andronovo culture to the east, to the Eastern Pamirs, is observed. The tombs are in the structure of a fortress, under the castle a stone pit was opened, and inside the cave the deceased was placed in a stone box. However, the castle was stolen. The skeleton in this castle belonged to a young child and was very poorly preserved. Inside the stone cave were found the horse's skull, in the center was a bonfire, animal bones and pieces of patterned pottery.

One of these pieces of pottery is decorated with comb-printed patterns, which is characteristic of the Fyodorov stage of Andronovo culture [13].

The Andronovo culture originated in the region from the Gissar valley to the Eastern Pamirs. Andronovo cemeteries (Kumsay, Tuyun), where the cattle-breeding tradition and the tradition of farmers are combined, according to the structure of the burial structure, burial condition and burial equipment, they can be said to have combined the traditions of two similar ethnic communities: the northern - Andronovo culture and the southern - local indigenous farming traditions [7].

The lower epoch boundary of the Andronovo culture, inhabited in southwestern Tajikistan, is defined by the "agricultural" pottery of the Kumsay cemetery.

These vessels are typical of the Molali period, the periodicity of which dates back to mil.avv. It is bordered by the second half of the second millennium. The upper periodic limit is determined by the discovery of pottery (found in the savkhoz named after Kirov), which is characteristic of the vessels of Yaz I.

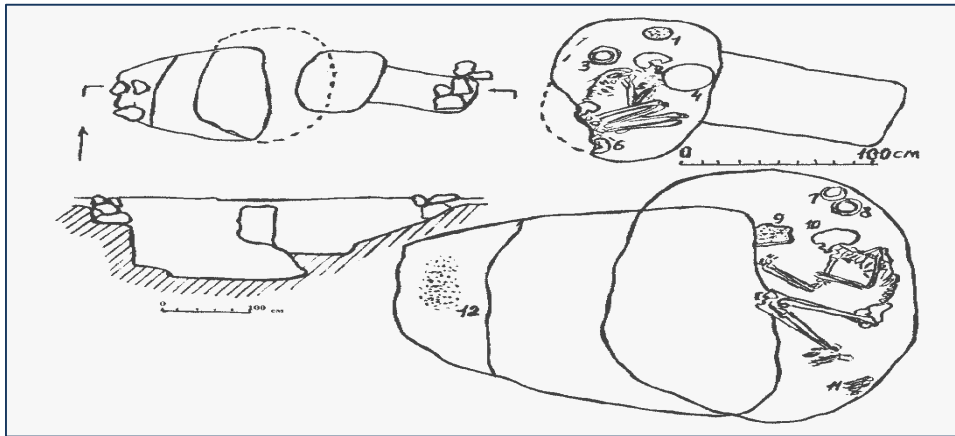


Figure 1. The first Tulkhor. Drawings of tombs 18-19 (M. Mandelstam, 1968)

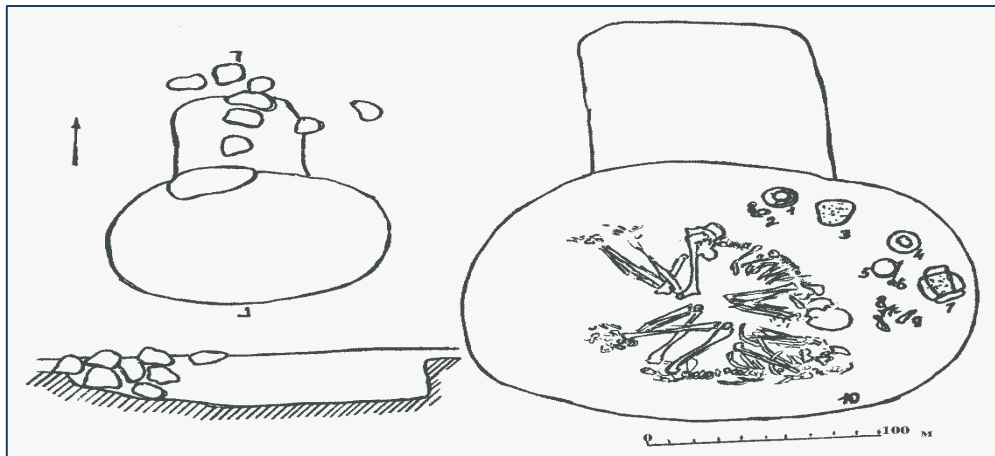


Figure 2. The first Tulkhor. Drawing of the 6th tomb (M. Mandelstam, 1968)

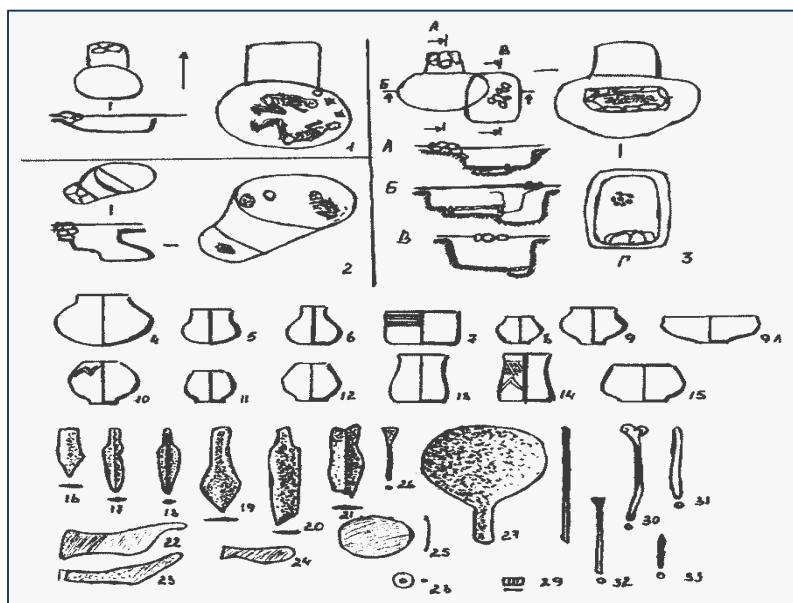


Figure 3. Drawings of tombs of the first Tulkhor culture and artifacts found in tombs (M. Mandelstam, 1968)

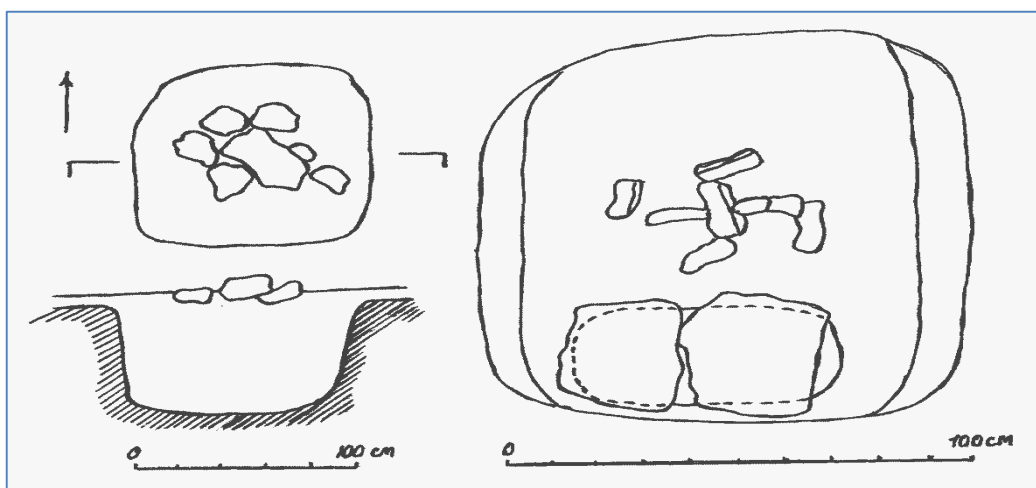


Figure 4. The first Tulkhor cemetery. Drawing of the 64th tomb (M. Mandelstam, 1968)

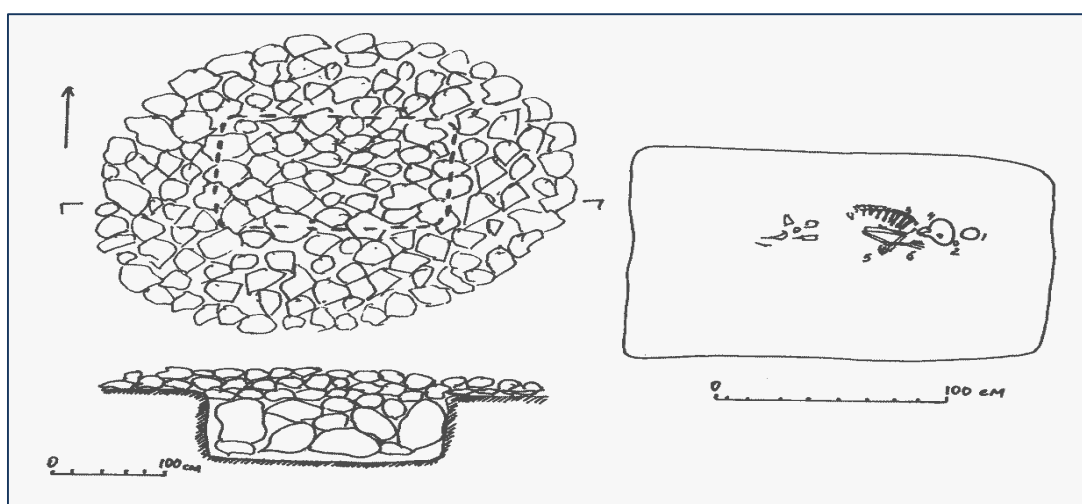


Figure 5. Drawing of Arkutau XIX Fortress (M. Mandelstam, 1968)



Figure 6. Archaeological sites found in Tajikistan. Cemeteries: 1-3, 15-18, 24, 27-Kumsoy; 4-14, 20, 22, 23, 26-Dashti-Kozi 19, 21, 25, (E. Kuzmina, 1972)

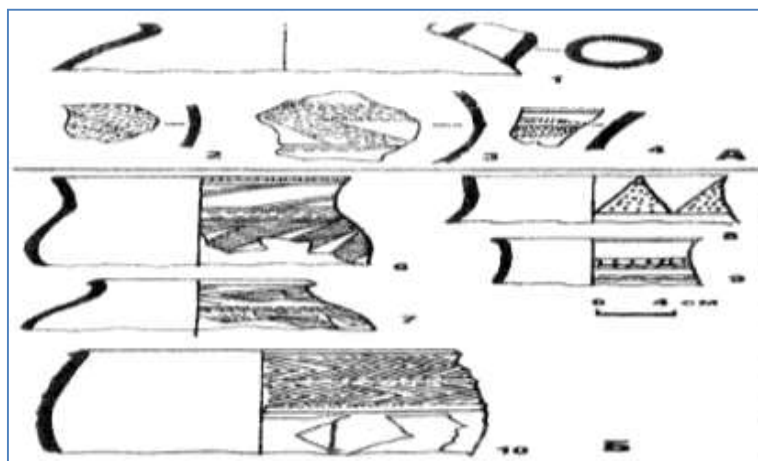


Figure 7. Pieces of pottery found at the site of the Kirov savkhoz (N. Vinogradova, 2004)

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