

## CEMETERIES FROM MOESIA INFERIOR IN I ST - III RD CENTURIES A.D.

### (ABSTRACT)

The author tries to systematize the types of cemeteries from Moesia Inferior, dated I st-III rd centuries A.D. The attempt to define the categories of cemeteries is based on a few criteria with general value: the types of cemeteries – flat, tumular or combined; the main funerary rites and rituals; the funerary inventory.

The five categories are:

- I. cemeteries belonging to Roman fortifications and/or to civil settlements rising around these fortifications (Dinogetia, Salsovia, Beroe, Sexaginta Prista, Capidavam Carsium, Barboși).
- II. cemeteries belonging to *municipia* (Novae, Durostorum, Troesmis, Axiopolis, Noviodunum, Tropaeum Traiani, Montana) and *colonia* (oescus)
- III. cemeteries belonging to rural communities
- III.A. cemeteries with prevailing Roman character (Neptun, Mamaia, Sibioara, Pavlikeni, Butovo, Strahilovo, Samovodene, Târgoviște, Niculițel, Făgărașu Nou, Kardam, Hadjidimitrovo, Pietreni, Vardim, probably Urluchioi and, if is indeed a necropolis, Gura Canliei)

The author doubts about the funerary character of the discoveries from Horia (pits resulting from household activities), Măcin (treasure) and Nalnant (re-use of Roman objects as funerary inventory in early Middle Age).

- III.B. cemeteries (graves) with prevailing autochthonous features, divided in two groups: flat graves (Enisala, Aliman, Hamcearca, Visterna) and tumular graves (Pecineaga, Independența, Bărăganu, Doi Moi, Gen. Toșevo)

The two sub-categories do not represent a strict ethnical division of rural population from Moesia Inferior: these sub-categories reveal different degrees of Romanisation of the rural population. As arguments to support these affirmation can be enumerated: the non-roman funerary features that occur in graves types III A and typical Roman inventories or Roman funerary influences in graves type III.B.

- IV. cemeteries belonging to Greek cities (Niciopolis ad Istrum, Marcianopolis, Histria, Tomis, Callatis, Odessos)
- V. six secondary graves in an ancient barrow from Baia, probably belonging to a group of Sarmatians arrived in the IIIrd century A.D. in northern Dobruja.