

## **Burials of noble Macedonians in Thrace?**

The marches of Philip of Macedon 342-340 and Alexander 335 in Thrace involved great parts of Thrace into formation of that universe we know today as Hellenistic koiné. Building or recovery of strongholds, establishments or reorganization of Thracian settlements and towns, colonization of a Greeks in some of them was part of the structural changes in Thrace pointed above.

The information of the ancient sources is too scanty for the people who came as administrative officers or commanders of the garrisons, except the names of some strategoi, epistates etc. like Memnon, Zopyrion and Adaios. It was supposed that Berenice the spouse of Seuthes III and regent of his sons after his death was Macedonian princess. The ancient sources keep silent about the name of Lysimachus' daughter who was given wife to his conqueror Dromichaetes, king of the Getae.

Several tombs in North-East Thrace as well as tombs and graves in South-East Thrace from the period between the last decades of the 4<sup>th</sup> and first half of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century B.C. could be related to that process. In the paper are to be presented analysis and discussion of the information about four cases of burials in South-East Thrace of different levels of splendor where persons of Macedonian descent could have been rest. By chronological order these are: - a warrior's tomb in a mound nearby a stronghold on the peak of Vishegrad in the Sakar mountains (third quarter or second half of the 4<sup>th</sup> c. B.C.); - tumular pyre-grave of a noble cavalryman from the necropolis of the town of Kabyle (end of the third or the beginning of the fourth quarter of the 4<sup>th</sup> c. B.C.); - the famous Mal-tepe tomb at Mezek (last decades of the 4<sup>th</sup> and first half of the 3<sup>rd</sup> c. B.C.) and a warrior cist grave from Arzos at the lower Hebros valley (end of the 4<sup>th</sup> – beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> c. B.C.).

Peculiarities of the burial rite, some artefacts of the inventory and other details of the complexes in question give ground to discuss the possibility of non-Thracian background of the deceased.

Totko Stoyanov