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# ANTHROPOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION OF THE LATE-AENEOLITHIC NECROPOLIS AT DEMIR BABA TEKE IN SBORYANOVO

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(S u m m a r y)

The investigation embraces the remains of ten individuals — 7 children and 3 adults (one female and two males) from the Late-aeneolithic necropolis at Demir Baba teke, excavated in 1989-1991. Impressing is the high percentage of the Infant I individuals, while the high mortality-rate is typical in all historical periods. Probably, due to specific rituals, the children have been buried outside the traditional necropolis.

The bones of the female are graceful, with low relief, while the male are massive, with high relief. The height of the males is middle or under the average, while the female is above the average. Some bones of the skeleton from grave No 64 have traces from fire, but they have been only partly burned — probably as a purifying ritual post-mortem.

The three adults have similar skull characteristics — brachycranial, with some differences in the jaw, front and back bones. They belong to the European race type, with prevailing Mediterranean characteristics and some Dinars' and Alpine elements. The palaeopathological analysis shows spondilo-artrosis (grave 6) and osteoporosis (the child from grave 3). There is considerable high rate of caries, starting from early infant age.

Specific for the region in the Late Aeneolithic period is the high rank of the brachycranial type. The presence of the Dinars' characteristics in Sboryanovo, as well as in other sites in the region, supports the suggestion that the Dinars' race had appeared firstly in the Balkans and later it had spread to the Near East and Western Europe.