

ANCIENT CULTURES OF THE NORTH CAUCASUS: PROBLEMS OF ORIGIN AND ETHNOGENETIC RELATIONSHIPS

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The article is devoted to the complex problems of the origin of the oldest mass archaeological cultures in the North Caucasus. In the process of research, a historical-genetic analysis of the origin of ancient cultures-Meshoko – Darqueti (pearl-ringed ceramics), Maikop and Novosvobodenskaya is carried out. The latest chronological framework of the emergence of these cultures allow us to reject the Central Asian concept of their origin. However, there is a close relationship with the cultures of the Balkan-Carpathian region. Despite the significant influence of this region on the North Caucasus, the Balkan theory of the origin of cultures - Meshoko-Darqueti, Maikop and Novosvobodenskaya-is also rejected. Important in the study are the data of paleogenetics of ancient cultures. They show the decisive importance of the distribution of haplogroup G2A carriers in connection with the emergence of Neolithic cultures of Europe, the Eneolithic and early bronze age on the territory of the Caucasus and the Middle East. The data of archeology, linguistics and paleogenetics allow to conclude that the related population on the territory of Old Europe, the Caucasus and the Middle East.

Keywords: Maikop culture, Meshoko-Darqueti, Novosvobodenskoye, Balkan-Carpathian metallurgical region, Neolithic Europe, "Fertile Crescent", haplogroup G2a, Pontic type, Dene-Caucasian macrofamily.

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