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## **ВІД ПАЛЕОЛІТУ ДО КОЗАЦЬКОЇ УКРАЇНИ**

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## **FROM PALAEOLITHIC TO COSSACK UKRAINE**



Анотації Міжнародної конференції  
до століття Дмитра Яковича Телегіна

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## **MEDIEVAL POPULATION OF POLOTSK ACCORDING TO ANTHROPOLOGICAL DATA**

During the archaeological excavations in 2014 on the territory of Lower Castle in Polotsk burials dated to the 13<sup>th</sup> — 14<sup>th</sup> centuries were first revealed. A comprehensive anthropological study of these materials provides an answer to a number of important questions: to trace the peculiarities of the formation of the population of Polotsk in the Middle Ages; to determine the nature of the relationships between urban and rural populations; to characterize the living conditions and overall health status of the population of Polotsk in the 13<sup>th</sup> — 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. According to most characteristics of cerebral cranium, the population from Polotsk of the 13<sup>th</sup> — 14<sup>th</sup> centuries reveals similarities with the medieval rural population of the Polotsk Land. The differences relate to features characterizing the structure of the facial skeleton, which indicates that an alien component was involved in the formation of the medieval population of Polotsk. Body length of a men from Polotsk varies within 162—175 cm and averages 169,5 cm, body length of women varies within 147—159 cm and averages 156 cm. Average age at death of adults (without child mortality) in the studied group made 35,1 years. Average age at death and average life expectancy of women was for 3 years more low, than at men. The group of the medieval population of Polotsk is characterized by relatively high frequencies of occurrence of *cribra orbitalia*. Among adults, *cribra orbitalia* is present in 32.2% of cases, among children — in 55.5% of cases. Compared with the rural population of the 11<sup>th</sup> — 13<sup>th</sup> centuries urban population of Polotsk of 13<sup>th</sup> — 14<sup>th</sup> centuries had higher mortality rates and increased incidence of *cribra orbitalia*. The most likely reasons for this phenomenon were, on the one hand, negative factors of urbanization, on the other

hand, the cooling of the climate that began in Europe at the beginning of the 14<sup>th</sup> century.

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## **ANCIENT PALEOLITHIC OF AZERBAIJAN — THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISCOVERY**

The Paleolithic period has been studied for more than 60 years in Azerbaijan. The first Paleolithic dwelling was discovered in 1953. So far, more than 40 Paleolithic dwellings, finding places have been discovered and studied, due to all periods of Paleolithic (From Oldovan to upper paleolithic). 9 of them are the caves, the rest ones are open-type Paleolithic camps and finding places First the early Paleolithic sites open in Azerbaijan this is the cave of Azykh was discovered in 1960. Three Paleolithic cultures (Oldovan, old and middle Acheulian and Mousterian) were recorded in 10 layers with a thickness of more than 14 meters. In other caves, stone tools belonging to different stages of the Mousterian cultures were found.

At the open-type camps and Paleolithic sites stone tools have been found belonging to different stages of the Acheulian and Mousterian. The richest open-type camp of Paleolithic is Garaja paleolithic dwelling found in 2012. In addition to fauna remains, stone tools were revealed due to Old and Middle Acheulian.

Possibly, the lower layer of Garaca Paleolithic site is the oldest one in the Caucasus, according to the typology and fauna.

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