

was found about 100 m southwest, near the foot of two smaller pyramids, one of which was also investigated.

For the interpretation of the mutual relationship of the mastabas, it proved to be of principal importance that skeletal remains of historical persons of the 5th Dynasty, for whom the mastabas were built, survived and could be thoroughly studied. A skeleton of a robust male who died aged 35—45 years, was identified in the mastaba of the chief scribe and tutor of royal children Idu. A strikingly gracile skeleton of a juvenile female, deceased with 19—20 years, originated from the mastaba of the princess Hedjetnebu. In mastaba L, where no inscription bearing the name of the original owner has been preserved, a medium robust woman who lived up to 50—60 years was buried. In the fourth mastaba, whose owner was another princess called Nebtyemneferes and which was built about 50 years sooner than the other tombs, remains of a gracile woman, buried in her 30—40 years, were determined.

Using a set of metric, descriptive, epigenetic and radiologically ascertainable features, we were able to detect that the princess Hedjetnebu and the woman from mastaba L are connected by several identical or similar features, and that both resemble the princess Khekeretneby. Their close kinship seems therefore very probable. This anthropological hypothesis is supported by an epigraphic evidence, stating both with princesses Hedjetnebu and Khekeretneby that they were daughters of the king Djedkare Isesi "of his own body".

The hypothesis of mutual kinship of the mentioned persons is being currently tested by means of blood group study by professors J. Tesař and P. Klír of the Institute of Legal Medicine of the Charles University in Prague. It has been possible to take into account also the blood group of their supposed father, king Djedkare Isesi. His alleged remains, which were found in the burial chamber of his pyramid at South Saqqara in 1945, were recently re-examined. To acquire the complete family, however, it would be necessary to find also the remains of the queen-mother. Her pyramid stands in the vicinity of the king's one, but according to our knowledge was not yet scientifically investigated.

The mastabas mentioned as well as the extensive pyramid temple of the king Raneferef, investigated during three previous seasons by the Czechoslovak expedition, were used for secondary burials in the periods following the decline of their primary function—the maintenance of the cult of the deceased persons of the 5th Dynasty. Wooden coffins containing bodies were laying in sand fillings of the then abandoned rooms or into cuts in the partially ruined walls of sun-dried bricks. Most of these burials were dated Late Period (664—332 B.C.), but sporadically also other periods are represented. About fifty skeletons of this series have been studied. In comparison with similarly dated burials, examined some years ago in the ruined mastaba of Ptahshepses or in the temple of queen Khentkaus, the new series revealed three important differences. Firstly, a large portion of the deceased were embalmed and several of them showed evidence of the most complicated and expensive procedure performed—of the brain removal and its substitution by pouring liquid resin which stiffened with a typically horizontal level. Secondly, in the demographic structure males (61.5 %) dominate females and children (19.2 % respectively), whose shares are anomalously low. Thirdly, the mean age at death was 37.5 years for males and 32.4 years for females, this being above the averages of the previously examined series from the areas of Abusir and Saqqara. The difference found in favour of males is a well known fact established in studies of prehistoric and early historic series. It has been usually explained by greater life risks of females in connection with their child-bearing function. It may be supposed that in the newly investigated areas burials of socially higher ranking males were preferred.

In the palaeopathological picture of the mentioned series there were inborn anomalies, degenerative-productive changes (arthritis, osteophytosis of the spine etc.), rare inflammations, a few benign tumours, some traces of anaemia, orthopaedic changes, tooth diseases and various traumatic changes. Among them a rare case of tuberculosis of the five lower thoracic and first lumbar vertebrae was found. It was healed

by complete merging of their bodies into a wedge-shaped mass, while the spinous processes formed a strongly arched curvature comprising an angle about 130°. The hunchback, a male who died between 45—55 years of his age, was obliged to move with an almost horizontally placed thoracic spine. This state was compensated by enormous lumbar and cervical lordoses and other adaptive changes.

Eugen Strouhal

POPULATIONSENTWICKLUNG DER BÖHMISCHEN LÄNDER

Die Kommission für historische Demographie beim Kollegium für Historie der Tschechoslowakischen Akademie der Wissenschaften hat in Zusammenarbeit mit der Fachgruppe für historische Demographie der Tschechoslowakischen demographischen Gesellschaft den 14. und 15. April 1987 in Prag eine wissenschaftliche Tagung „Populationsentwicklung der Böhmisches Länder /bis zum Jahre 1914/“ veranstaltet. In vier Sitzungen wurden diese Beiträge vorgetragen:

I. Die Bevölkerung der Böhmisches Länder in der Vorzeit;
M. Buchvaldek, Zur demographischen Entwicklung in der Vorzeit Böhmens,

M. Stloukal, Demographische Charakteristik der altslawischen Populationen,

J. Kudrnáč, Entwicklung der altslawischen Besiedlung in der Gegend von Prag und Český Brod im 6. bis 10. Jahrhundert,

II. Bevölkerung der Böhmisches Länder im Früh- und Hochmittelalter;

Z. Boháč, Besiedlungsentwicklung bis zur Hälfte des 14. Jahrhunderts,

J. Čechura, Grundzüge der demographischen Entwicklung bis zum Ende des 15. Jahrhunderts,

V. Nekuda, Ursachen und Folgen des Untergangs der mittelalterlichen Ortschaften.

III. Bevölkerung der Böhmisches Länder im späten Feudalismus;

P. Jančárek, Populationsentwicklung der Böhmisches Länder in der Zeit vor der Schlacht am Weissen Berge und die Studiumsproblematik,

E. Maur, Populationsfolgen des Dreissigjährigen Krieges,
E. Čáňová, Populationsentwicklung von der Hälfte des 17. bis zum Ende des 18. Jahrhunderts,

J. Krivka, Beitrag der in den Jahren 1654—1848 neu entstandenen Ortschaften zum Populationszuwachs der Bevölkerung in Böhmen,

IV. Bevölkerung der Böhmisches Länder seit dem Anfang der Industrierevolution bis zur Entstehung der Tschechoslowakei;

L. Fialová, Heirats- und Fruchtbarkeitsentwicklung der Bevölkerung in den Böhmisches Ländern im 19. Jahrhundert,

L. Dokoupil, L. Nesládková, Charakterzüge der Sterblichkeitsentwicklung,

P. Horská, Beziehung der sozialen und geographischen Mobilität in der Geschichte der Bevölkerung der Böhmisches Länder.

Die Titel einzelner Beiträge geben einen guten Beweis, dass die Frage der Populationsentwicklung in der ganzen Zeitspanne zwischen der Vorzeit und dem 20. Jahrhundert besprochen wurde. Es wird immer mehr betont, dass die Erkenntnis der demographischen Verhältnisse in der Vergangenheit zum Verständnis historischer Ereignisse und Entwicklung in manchen Fällen unentbehrlich ist und oft auch zur Lösung aktueller Fragen beiträgt. Deshalb hat auch diese Tagung in den Mittelpunkt der Aufmerksamkeit vieler Wissenschaftler gerückt, neben Demographen haben auch Historiker, Anthropologen, Soziologen und Ärzte teilgenommen. Die Vorgetragenen Referate werden in einem selbständigen Band der Zeitschrift *Historická demografie* veröffentlicht.

Milan Stloukal