

There were also reports on the results of some methodical studies, e.g. the estimation of different calculations of percentile graphs of various anthropometric features for the estimation of obese patients, etc. From the point of view of clinical anthropology, the relationship between pulmonary functions and the index thoracicus in patients with some types of respiratory diseases seems to represent an interesting question.

The second day was closed by reports relating to the growth and development trends in chest circumference and braincase circumference of Czech and Slovak children and youth; in some cases, they were based on data gathered from several thousands probands during field research.

Like the first part of the symposium, also the second one was followed by an extensive discussion, pointing out the wide possibilities of the use of anthropometry in various medical disciplines and stressing its practical use in ergonomics.

Although the number of presented papers was smaller than in the four previous meetings, the symposium was highly appreciated by the participants. That is why it was agreed that the organization of these meetings will be continued in the future.

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PALAEOANTHROPOLOGICAL AND PALAEOPATHOLOGICAL RESEARCH DURING THE EES-LEIDEN MUSEUM MISSION AT SAQQARA 1994

Activities of the season involved (1) continuation of the systematic investigation of the human remains found in the tomb of Maya and Meryt and (2) excavation of the human remains in and around the superstructure of the newly found double tomb of Pay and Raia.

1. Human skeletal remains from Shaft complex XIV, dated by shabtis and pottery from the end of the Late Period to the beginning of the Ptolemaic Period (Schneider 1991: 12, 14), were studied.

Also in this shaft complex human bones of different individuals were scattered throughout the main room and mostly broken by the activities of grave robbers. Only two skeletons, found in superposition, preserved their position *in situ*. Less scattered and better preserved were the remains in the four niches of the main chamber, but several bones were lacking there also, being either displaced into the main chamber or totally smashed by the robbers.

In coping with this situation anatomical method had to be used in reconstruction of the number of buried individuals and their basic demographic characteristics. Reconstruction of individuals was possible only from the remains of children and juveniles. A total of 66 individuals were determined, 36 of them occupying the space of 13.95 m² of the main chamber and 20 the area of 11.25 m² of the sum of the four niches (measurements by Schneider 1991: 12).

From the total 10 (15.15 %) were immatures and 56 (84.85 %) adults. Immatures comprised 1 new-born, 4 small children (2–6 year-old), 2 bigger children (6–8 year-old) and 3 juveniles (14–18 year-old). Adults could be divided into 29 (51.8 %) males and 27 (48.2 %) females. While immatures were clearly under-represented, both sexes approached the expected equilibrium.

Morphologically, the buried persons belonged to the local Memphite Egyptian population without any evidence for foreign immigrants. Their anthropometric and descriptive features were recorded to be elaborated together with material from other shafts and areas of the tomb respecting their dating.

Social state of the buried can be assessed by the frequency of brain removal, the most demanding part of the embalming process. Among adults, from the total of 40 preserved skulls, 7 (17.5 %) showed evidence for brain removal, in 6 (15.0 %) structures in the nasal cavity were found intact, and 27 (67.5 %) were impossible to be evaluated.

As observed in previous shaft complexes, also in the present one some rarely occurring epigenetic features were present in a higher frequency than usually. For shaft complex XIV we may quote metopism, present in 5 (12.5 %) skulls, absent in 24 (60.0 %) skulls, and not evaluable in 11 (27.5 %) skulls. The individuals with metopism were 2 males and 3 females.

The palaeopathological picture of this population sample was dominated by degenerative-productive diseases (arthrosis of large joints; osteophytosis, osteoarthrosis and osteochondrosis of the spine; and general osteophytosis, DISH). Besides two benign tumours, another one which could be malignant was disclosed. Traumatism and inflammation were rare, but there was a quite rare case of a pseudoarthrosis at the distal end of the femoral neck. An isolated osteomyelitis of the greater trochanter brought most probably the first evidence for the occurrence of tuberculosis in this population. In dental pathology sequelae of heavy abrasion and paradentosis caused more damage than the relatively rarer caries. For further study of palaeopathology the X-ray examination of selected cases in the field laboratory of the National Research Centre on the premises of the EAO at Giza proved to be of the utmost importance.

2. Since the season's excavations were limited only to the superstructure of the double tomb of Pay and Raia, mostly scattered bone fragments were found. Their importance can be assessed only by future excavation of the substructure to ascertain whether they were parts of the burials of the original tomb owners.

Moreover, eight more or less complete secondary burials were found in the superstructure or outside it. These were remnants of two children and of an adult mummy (courtyard of Pay), two well preserved mummified feet (east of NE corner of Raia) and four undisturbed burials in or on reed mats placed in the marl layer just south of the superstructure of the double tomb. Three children's and one adult skeletons, dated by pottery and jewelry to late New Kingdom, were unearthed.

The newly excavated human remains were put at the end of the season into the north depository of Horemheb, while the studied material from the tomb of Maya and Meryt was stored in the south depository of Maya.

REFERENCE

Schneider H. D., The excavations, seasons 1990–1. In: Schneider H. D. et al., The Tomb of Maya and Meryt: Preliminary Report on the Saqqara Excavations, 1990–1. *Journal of Egypt. Archaeol.* 77 – 1991: 7–16.

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