MEDICINE

ANTHROPOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF THE MATERIAL DISCOVERED IN THE TUMULAR CEMETERY FROM GURA SECULUI – NEMŢIŞOR, NEAMT DISTRICT (IVth CENTURY)

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The cemetery at Gura Secului was attributed to the Culture of Carpathian Tumulus (CCT). The CCT monuments provide only scarce information, which cannot support chronological specifications. The present study analyzes the buried bone remains, of human origin, discovered in the 9 tumuli of Gura Secului – Nemţişor (Neamţ district). Out of the total number of 9 tumuli discovered in the necropolis of Gura Secului, only 5 contain rests of human origin. The minimum number of individuals is 11 (maximum number – 18 individuals); 6 are children who died in the *infans I* age interval (54.54%), and 5 died at ages belonging to the *adultus* or young *maturus* category (20–35 years), which means a percent ratio of 45.45%. Out of the 6 children with the decease age within the *infans I* interval (0–7 years), 4 are newborn babies (66.67%), while only 2 exceeded this critical *postpartum* threshold, attaining ages of 5–7 years (33.33%). Out of the 5 individuals who exceeded the critical threshold of childhood and reached an adult age, in only 3 cases the gender could be determined (2 females and 1 male).

Key words: tumular cemetery, Gura Secului, incineration, human remains

1. INTRODUCTION

The necropolis from Gura Secului is situated on the territory of the Nemţişor village (Vânători-Neamţ, Neamţ district), on the secondary terrace of the Ozana river. In the vicinity of the site of our investigation, on the territory of the Leghin village, the Secu brook flows into Ozana, which explains the toponymic term of Gura Secului. The land was fallow, not affected by agricultural works, which was an important advantage for the research.

The antic cemetery was constituted of 9 tumuli, in which traces of some funerary ceremonies were discovered. The burial rite was incineration on the spot (*bustum*), the rests of the stake, of the deceased ones' burning and of the offerings (defined as *complexes*) being still present on the same surface or buried in the soil [11–13].

The cemetery at Gura Secului was attributed to the Culture of Carpathian Tumulus (CCT), which occupied a geographical region of mountains and plateaus from West Ukraine, East Slovakia and North Romania, that is on both slopes of the

Northern and Eastern Carpathians, delimited in its North-East part by rivers Strei and Nistru, to South-East by river Ozana, to South-West by river Someş and to the West by the brook Bodrog or even by Torysa. Generally, the territory is characterized by barren soils, forests and pastures which permit animal breeding.

The CCT monuments provide only scarce information, which cannot support chronological specifications, most of them belonging to the $C_{1a} - D_1$ period. The end of CCT – to which the discovery at Gura Secului also belongs – may be closely correlated with the events produced in East Europe in the last quarter of the IVth century A.D., when the Hunnish invasion also occurred (D_1 or C_3/D , according to K. Godlowski) [13].

Up to now, the problem of CCT origin has not been satisfactorily solved, even if some of the identifications made can be entirely accepted, such as: the unquestionable presence of the Dacian element, to which one should add vestiges of the Przeworsk-type, a culture attributed to the German tribes of Vandals, mainly Taifals [9–13].

2. MATERIALS AND METHOD

The present study analyzes the buried bone remains, of human origin, discovered in the 9 tumuli of Gura Secului (Vânători-Neamţ village, district of Neamţ). Unfortunately, their conservation state is very poor, the fragmentation degree is considerable, so that the bone rests could not be re-established, which permitted no paleopathological observations.

That is why, in the case of children and adolescents, the age at decease was established through analysis of the epiphysis ossification degree and sizes of the appendicular skeleton fragments, all observations and measurements made being included in the corresponding categories of age, as established by M.M. Maresh [6], P. Jeanty [5], J.I. McKinley & Ch. Roberts [8], S. Mays [7], L. Scheuer & S. Black [15], M. Schaefer *et al.* [14].

Determination of the age at death and of gender in individuals older than 20 years (*adultus* and *maturus* people) was made with the methods and techniques recommended by S. Mays [7], T.D. White & P.A. Folkens [19], J.I. McKinley & Ch. Roberts [8], while both estimation of bone part sizes and taking over of data and observations from each bone fragment in part have been based on the procedures proposed by J.I. McKinley & Ch. Roberts [8], L. Bondioli *et al.* (1), S. Mays [7], M. Brickley & J.I. McKinley [2], D.H. Ubelaker [17], J.B. Devlin & N.P. Herrmann [3], S.I. Fairgrieve [4].

The incineration degree and the maximum temperature applied were established with the coloristic RGB (Red-Green-Blue) scale recommended by Ph. L. Walker *et al.* [18], and also with the pattern of bone wall fissuring described by D.H. Ubelaker [16], S. Mays [7], J.I. McKinley & Ch. Roberts [8], and Th.R. White [20].

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Tumulus no. 1 (Tl/1978). The funeral complex (no. 1) includes an intensely burnt surface, on which ash, coal, calcinated bones, incompletely burnt ceramic fragments and rests of metallic objects, also incinerated, were present. Complex 1 included a pit (Gr. 1) containing a wheel-manufactured tureen, filled with spongy, clayey soil, a small amount of coal and some calcinated bones. The pit may be identified with the grave of the hillock.

The osteological inventory of the tureen discovered in pit 1 is represented by 21 calcinated bone fragments of small and medium sizes (8 g), all of human origin. They belonged to a foetus or, at most, to a newborn baby. Thus, 17 brown-red brick coloured cranial fragments, weakly incinerated (at about 200°C), porous in aspect and with advanced fragility were identified. 4 pieces are very small fragments from the diaphyses of some long bones of the child, which, unlike the fragments from the cranial segment, were calcinated (at cc 800°C).

The osteological inventory of the funeral complex, with a total weight of 738 g, is represented by 1138 fragments of variable sizes. Among them, rests of animal origin were mainly identified, as well as some pieces with possible human origin. Thus, out of the total number of 1138 fragments, 40 were identified as having human origin: 15 of them show signs of incineration at temperatures around 600°C, whereas the other 25 were calcinated at 800–1000°C. All these pieces might have belonged to the diaphyses and epiphyses of some long bones of the superior and/or inferior members. The insufficient characters, the advanced fragmentation and the absence of some evident marks on the anatomical human bone structure make the authors still cautious as to the human origin of these traces.

Tumulus no. 2 (T2/1980). This hillock also contains traces of the funeral stake (Complex no. 1), namely burnt red- and black-coloured soil, calcinated bones, coal, ash and incompletely-burnt ceramic fragments. A total number of 7 pits were discovered. The osteological inventory of pit 1 (6 g) is represented by 3 fragments of calcinated, not human bones (800–1000°C). The osteological inventory of pile 2 is represented by 12 bone fragments, with a total weight of 1.5 g, the colour of the bone layer indicating a burning temperature of about 800–1000°C (calcination). All pieces, undeterminable, are very small and their possible human origin is doubtful.

The osteological inventory of pit no. 3. In this case, a common analysis of the bone material was performed, including both the bones taken over from inside the vessel discovered in pit 3, and the bones found outside the vessel (one-handle jug), the explanation being that the rests from both places belong to the same individuals (an adult and a child). The total weight of the bone remains is of 162 g, here included being both the calcinated bones (incinerated at 800–1000°C), and those incinerated at temperatures of about 100–200°C. The calcinated pieces have characteristic deep cross fissures, while those incinerated at lower temperatures, only longitudinal, surface fissures. The human bone pieces belonged to 2 individuals: a

child dead at about 6–7 years (*infans I*) and an *adultus* (20–30 years). Mention should be made of the fact the adult's rests are all calcinated, with no exception, while those of the child are only weakly incinerated (100–200°C).

The child with the death age of cc 6-7 years (*infans I*) is represented by 22, small and medium sized weakly incinerated fragments. There have been identified: 3 parietal fragments; 1 fragment of the temporal (squamous part); 1 occipital fragment $(35 \times 29 \text{ mm})$; 2 coxal fragments and 7 fragments belonging to the diaphyses of some long bones.

The *adultus* (20–30 years) is represented by about 200 fragments of calcinated bones: 5 rib fragments; 4 vertebra fragments; 2 coxal fragments; 1 fragment (9 g; 48×16 mm) from the diaphysis of a right humerus; 1 fragment from the diaphysis of a cubitus and other cc 20 fragments of diaphyses.

Osteological inventory of the urn (one-handle jug) discovered in pit 4. The osteological material has a total weight of 766 g. The pieces, around up to 1000 in all, have variable sizes and a large range of colour shades, which indicates incineration temperatures from 200°C up to 1000°C (calcination). All bone rests – both the incinerated and the calcinated ones – are of human origin, belonging to 4 individuals (2 children and 2 adults): a newborn baby; a child dead at an age of about 5–6 years (infans I); an adultus (20–30 year-old, probably male) and another adultus or a young maturus (25–35 year-old, probably female). Special mention should be made of the fact that the rests from the newborn baby and from the cc 5–6 year-old child are only incinerated (cc 200–500°C), without having reached the calcination stage, while the rests from the two adults are wholly calcinated (800–1000°C).

The newborn baby shows the following inventory: more than 30 randomly fissured (network of fissures) fragments from the cranial parietal, frontal, occipital and temporal bones, 2 lumbar vertebral bodies, fragmented sacral vertebras, fragments of ribs, 1 fragment, 20 mm in length, from the diaphysis of a femur, 1 fragment from the diaphysis of a tibia, 1 fragment from a metatarsian bone and other 22 fragments from the epiphyses and diaphyses of some long, non-determinable bones.

The child with the decease age around 5–6 years (*infans I*) offers only fragments from the post-cranial skeleton, namely: 1 fragment of a thoracic vertebra, cc 1/3 of the proximal epiphysis of a humerus, 1 fragmented sacral vertebra, 1 fragment from the iliac region of a coxal bone and 1 fragment from the diaphysis of a fibula (42×10 mm). All these rests, incinerated at a maximum temperature of 500°C, evidence intimate adherences, coming from the stake.

The *adultus* (20–30 year-old), probably male, is represented by cc 200 calcinated fragments. From the cranial segment, 20 robust fragments may be identified, with a visible *diploe* layer. The exo-cranial bone plate is randomly fissured, forming a fissure network characteristic to the calcinated cranial bone. One fragment from the frontal bone and one fragment (4 g and 42×29 mm), belonging to a left parietal

bone were also identified in the latter, the region of coronary suture (*pars temporalis*), with no obliteration signs, being present. From the postcranial segments there were identified fragments of ribs, shoulder (scapula) and coxal (from the iliac crest region) bones, of thoracic vertebrae, portions of the epiphysis proximal to a humerus, and of the diaphysis of the right cubitus, of a phalange of the inferior member, and about 20 fragments of the diaphyses of some long bones (probably cubitus, radius and humerus).

The person with the decease age of about 25–35 years (*adultus*, young or grown up person), probably female, is represented by more than 400 calcinated fragments, among which numerous randomly fissured cranial pieces belonging to the parietal (5 fragments) and sphenoid (1 fragment) bones. Worth mentioning is the presence, in one of the parietal fragments, of the sagittal suture, namely the *pars obelica* segment, evidencing an incipient obliteration. Unlike the above-described male *adultus*, in the case of the female *adultus*, the *diploe* layer is much thinner. From the postcranial segment, mention should be made of the fragments of ribs, clavicle, vertebrae, as well as of the long bones, namely: 1 fragment of the epiphysis proximal to a radius; 2 fragments of the diaphysis of the right cubitus and 1 fragment from the diaphysis of a splint bone.

The osteological inventory of pit 5 (8.5 g in weight) is represented by a mixture of incinerated and calcinated bones. Only one fragment, with sizes of 17×7 mm, seemed not to have been put into fire – if considering both the bone colour (light brown towards brick-red) and the absence of fissures (either longitudinal or transversal), and the absence of any clogging or contortion signs. This last fragment seems to be part of the diaphysis of a long human bone belonging to an infantile person (probably an *infans I*), nevertheless, the lack of other clues makes the authors cautious on the matter.

The osteological inventory contained in the vessel discovered in pit 7, with a total weight of 111 g (more than 390 calcinated fragments), contains rests from two individuals: a child (probably, a newborn one) and an *adultus* (20–30 years).

The child (or newborn) is represented by pieces from the distal third of a femur diaphysis, proximal epiphysis of a femur or humerus, proximal epiphysis of a tibia, parts from the diaphyses of some long and cranial bones. The 7 cranial fragments show the *diploe* layer, as well as the external and internal cranial bone plates.

The *adultus* (of undeterminable gender) is represented by 22 pieces from the (parietal and frontal) skull, 4 of them evidencing traces of non-obliterated sutures. Also, mention should be made of 2 fragments of vertebral apophyses, 1 fragment with a deep transversal fissure from the diaphysis of a humerus and other 27 fragments from the diaphysis of some transversally-fissured long bones.

The osteological inventory of the funeral complex is very rich (almost 2000 fragments, of variable sizes). The total weight of the bone material – including both fragments of human and of animal origin – is of 1630 g. Some pieces are

calcinated (800–1000°C), others are incinerated at lower (cc 200–400°C) or higher (cc 500–700°C) temperatures. Fissures' typology is also variable, as actually expected; the fragments incinerated at lower temperatures have mainly longitudinal, surface fissures, not clogged, a reverse situation to that of the calcinated fragments, which are contracted and transversally and curvilinearly fissured.

The incinerated bone fragments, attributed to the child (*infans I*), belong to ribs and to the diaphyses of the long bones, indicating a stake temperature of maximum 400°C.

The incinerated bone fragments attributed to some adults (20–30 years) and/or young *maturus* persons (30–40 years) belong to the skull; they had been incinerated at a temperature of mostly 400–500°C, showing adherences of ash and coal; the biggest piece, belonging to a parietal bone, is 2 g in weight, with sizes of 13×10 mm.

The calcinated fragments attributed to some adults (20–30 years) and/or young *maturus* persons (30–40 years) belong to parietal bones, mandible, ribs, as well as to the diaphyses of some long bones with a robust bone wall (fibula, cubitus, humerus, radius, metatarsus, and phalange). Some of the cranial pieces show non-obliterated sutures.

Tumulus no. 3 (T3/1983). This hillock is also a funeral complex (C1), including a pit (Gr. 1) with reddish burns, coal and a vessel containing soil and calcinated bones.

The osteological inventory of pit 1, with a total weight of 995 g, contains especially fragments of human origin, and also a few of animal origin. The pieces are intensely fragmented, permitting no restoration, however the sufficiently big sizes of some of them permitted to determine the approximate age of death, as well as – in the case of the adult one – of gender, too. The total number of bone fragments of human origin, exceeding 1000, belongs to two individuals, as follows: 55 pieces came from a child with an approximate decease age of 6–8 months (1 year at most), while the other 90 fragments – to an adultus female (between 20 and 30 years). As to the incineration degree, mention should be made of the presence of both weakly-incinerated bones (brown-red brick in colour and black – 200–300°C), and of bones incinerated at temperatures around 400–500°C (beige-grey or brown with grey shades, with adherences to the stake), as well as of calcinated bones; in the last case, the light beige or white grey colour, along with the typology of fissures (deep, transversal, curvilinear) indicate a stake temperature of cc 800–1000°C.

The child with the decease age of cc 6–8 months (12 months at most), provides the following cranial pieces: 1 fragment of the frontal bone (crest and frontal sinus), 7 fragments of parietal bones, 1 fragment (25 \times 23 mm) of the left temporal bone (basal region of the zygomatic apophysis) and the condyle of the right mandibular branch (27 \times 11.5 mm). The postcranial segment is represented by a vertebral body from the thoracic region (20 \times 13 mm) and by numerous costal and diaphysis fragments.

The *adultus* female (20–30 year-old) is represented by both cranial and post-cranial pieces. Parietal, black and brown-grey fragments (incinerated at cc 300–400°C) were identified from the cranial bones. The postcranial portion is represented by 17 vertebral fragments, 11 rib fragments, and 39 fragments from the diaphyses of the long bones (humerus, tibia, femur, fibula, and phalange). The biggest fragment (47 × 15 mm) is from the diaphysis of a gracile humerus. Another large-sized fragment (17 g; 57×49 mm) is from the proximal epiphysis of the right tibia, which evidences complete ossification with the diaphysis. The tibial plateau is low-sized, so that it may reasonably be part of a gracile bone.

The osteological inventory of the funeral complex formed of incinerated and calcinated bones provided only few indications. The bone rests of human origin (9 g) belong to the iliac wing of a coxal bone, from vertebrae and ribs. They were not calcinated, yet they evidence textures and coloristic shades which indicate incineration temperatures between 300 and 600°C. The only calcinated pieces of human origin present in the funeral complex are 15 fragments from the diaphyses of some long bones. Their advanced fragmentation, as well the scarcity of the material permits only one observation, namely that they come from an adult.

Tumulus no. 4 (T4/1983). Complex no. 1, also present in this tumulus, had a large-sized pit (Gr. 1) in middle position, containing yellow soil, red burns, coal and a few calcinated bones. The osteological inventory of the funeral complex includes both calcinated and incinerated bones. The 647 bone fragments, mixed with granules of soil and ash, could not be restored, neither did they offer indications on their possible human origin.

Tumulus no. 5 (T5/1983). Complex no. 1 seems to have been disturbed, then covered again. In its center, pit no. 1, containing only filling soil, was identified. The osteological inventory of the funeral complex, represented by 56 calcinated, intensely fragmented bone pieces, evidences no clue on their possible human nature.

Tumulus no. 6 (T6/1987) is a small-sized place, containing complex no. 1, as well as 3 pits, of which only pits no. 2 and no. 3 contained bone rests. The osteological inventory of pit 2 does not contain fragments of human source.

The osteological inventory of pit 3 contains human bone rests of two individuals: an adultus (20-30 year-old) and a child (probably newborn or died at an age around 3–6 months). The pieces have variable sizes, their total number being of cc 350–400, while total weight is of 164 g. The bone fragments are intensely calcinated, the surface of the bone wall evidencing both curvilinear transversal and deep longitudinal fissures. If considering bone colour (white-grey-beige), one may estimate an approximate stake temperature around 800–1000°C.

The *adultus* (indeterminable gender) is represented exclusively by postcranial pieces: 80 fragments from the diaphyses of some long bones, such as femur, tibia or humerus; 20 rib fragments and other 300 undeterminable fragments, belonging, probably, to the same adult.

The baby (newborn or at most 3-6 month-old) has the following cranial and postcranial inventory: 6 fragments of the frontal bone (2 coming from the upper part of the orbits), 4 fragments from the proximal femoral epiphyses, 3 fragments from the proximal humeral epiphyses, 7 fragments of vertebrae, 20 fragments from the diaphyses of some long bones, 5 rib fragments and about 50 very small fragments, anatomically non-identifiable, yet belonging to the same child.

The osteological inventory of the funeral complex, with a weight of 281 g and a total number of 275 fragments of variable sizes, contains no piece of human origin.

Tumulus no. 7 (T7/1987). The hillock contains the usual funeral complex (C 1), as well as 2 pits containing calcinated bones. The osteological inventory of pit 1, with a total weight of 28 g, contains no bone fragment of human origin, while the osteological inventory of pit 2, poorer than the first one, and much more fragmented, is only 1.5 g in weight, containing 6 bones, calcinated, small and very small fragments, which did not permit their determination, so that the conclusion on their origin – human or animal? – remains unclear. The osteological inventory of the funeral complex represented by 181 fragments of variable size could not be restored. No piece offers exact clues on their possible human nature.

Tumulus no. 8 (T8/1987). The funeral complex no. 1 (C 1), accompanied by a pit (Gr. 1), was identified. The osteological inventory of pit 1 contains 8 calcinated bone fragments, which do not offer conclusive indications on the anatomical – human or animal - region to which they might belong. Neither the osteological inventory from the funeral complex contains bone fragments of human origin.

Tumulus no. 9 (T9/1988). This hillock contains a funeral complex (C 1) and a pit (Gr. 1) with numerous calcinated bones.

The osteological inventory of pit 1 indicates the presence of human bone rests from two individuals: an adultus and a child (probably, a newborn one). The sample is represented by cc 300 calcinated fragments of variable size, with a total weight of 152 g. The bone wall is white, with grey-beige shades, transversally-curvilinearly fissured, on touching, the pieces making a metallic noise characteristic to calcination, which permits the estimation of a burning temperature around 900–1000°C. Only 59 fragments offered details for their possible identification, being attributed especially to the long postcranial bones (diaphyses and epiphyses – 56 fragments), but also to the cranial skeleton (3 fragments). The sizes of the bone pieces from the adultus are very small, which made difficult age determination and rendered impossible gender determination. The biggest fragment (3 g; 36×15 mm) is from the diaphysis of a long bone. The following piece, in decreasing order of size and weight (1 g; 47×11 mm), is a fragment of a rib from the same adult. 33 fragments from the diaphyses of some long bones, 5 rib fragments and 12 fragments from the epiphyses of the long bones were also identified.

The second individual buried in pit 1 (probably, a newborn one) is represented by only 9 bone fragments (2 g); 6 of them come from the diaphyses of some long bones (probably, femur or tibia), while the other 3 may be attributed to the cranial

segment, as due to the presence of the *diploe* layer and of the two (external and internal) bone plates. One of the 3 cranial fragments of the newborn baby belongs to the frontal supra-orbital region, evidencing both the *glabella* region and the upper margin of the right orbital.

The osteological inventory of the funeral complex contains a highly fragmented material. The almost 1000 unburied pieces have variable sizes (very small, small, medium and big), indicating various burning stages, starting from 200°C up to cc 1000°C. No fragment contains indications on its possible human origin.

 $\begin{tabular}{l} \it Table 1 \\ \it Centralization of the osteological remains from the tumular cemetery of Gura Secului \\ \it Centralization of the osteological remains from the tumular cemetery of Gura Secului \\ \it Centralization of the osteological remains from the tumular cemetery of Gura Secului \\ \it Centralization of the osteological remains from the tumular cemetery of Gura Secului \\ \it Centralization of the osteological remains from the tumular cemetery of Gura Secului \\ \it Centralization of the osteological remains from the tumular cemetery of Gura Secului \\ \it Centralization of the osteological remains from the tumular cemetery of Gura Secului \\ \it Centralization of the osteological remains from the tumular cemetery of Gura Secului \\ \it Centralization of the osteological remains from the tumular cemetery of Gura Secului \\ \it Centralization of the osteological remains from the tumular cemetery of Gura Secului \\ \it Centralization of the osteological remains from the tumular cemetery of Gura Secului \\ \it Centralization of the osteological remains from the tumular cemetery of Gura Secului \\ \it Centralization of the osteological remains from the tumular cemetery of the osteological remains from t$

Tumulus	The osteological human inventory
T 1 (1978)	Foetus or newborn (Pit no. 1)
T 2 (1980)	Newborn (Pit no. 4)
	Newborn (Pit no. 7)
	Infans I, 6–7 year-old (Pit no. 3)
	Infans I, 5–6 year-old (Pit no. 4)
	Male, adultus, 20–30 year-old (Pit no. 4)
	Adultus, 20–30 year-old, undeterminable gender (Pit no. 3)
	Female, <i>adultus</i> – young <i>maturus</i> , 25–35 year-old (Pit no. 4)
	Adultus, undeterminable gender, 20–30 year-old (Pit no. 7)
T 3 (1983)	<i>Infans I</i> , 6 months – 1 year-old (Pit no. 1)
	Female, adultus, 20–30 year-old (Pit no. 1)
T 4 (1983)	_
T 5 (1983)	_
T 6 (1987)	Newborn or 3-6 month-old (Pit no. 3)
	Adultus, undeterminable gender, 20–30 year-old (Pit no. 3)
T 7 (1987)	_
T 8 (1987)	_
T 9 (1988)	Newborn (Pit no. 1)
	Adultus, undeterminable gender, 20–30 year-old (Pit no. 1)

4. CONCLUSIONS

Out of the total number of 9 tumuli discovered in the necropolis of Gura Secului – Nemţişor (Neamţ district), only 5 contain rests of human origin: Tumulus no. 1-1 individual (child), Tumulus no. 2-4 individuals (2 child and 2 adults), Tumulus no. 3-2 individuals (1 child and 1 adult), Tumulus no. 6-2 individuals (1 child and 1 adult), Tumulus no. 9-2 individuals (1 child and 1 adult). The "richest" in this respect is Tumulus no. 2 (2 children and 2 adults), in which, actually, the highest number (7) of pits had been found. The general demographic image of the tumular cemetery of Gura Secului is the following:

• On the whole, a minimum number of 11 individuals was discovered (maximum number – 18 individuals).

- Out of the total number of 11 identified individuals, 6 are children who died in the *infans I* age interval that is they did not reached the age of 7 years (54.54%).
- Out of the 6 children with the decease age within the *infans I* interval (0–7 years), 4 are newborn babies (66.67%), while only 2 exceeded this critical *postpartum* threshold, attaining ages of 5–7 years (33.33%).
- The ratio of infantile mortality is extremely high, especially in the first 6 months after birth.
- Thus, out of a total number of 11 individuals, 5 died at ages belonging to the *adultus* or young *maturus* category (20–35 years), which means a percent ratio of 45.45%.
- Out of the 5 individuals who exceeded the critical threshold of childhood and reached an adult age, in only 3 cases the gender could be determined (2 female and 1 male). The other 2 individuals provided insufficient indices on their sexual dimorphism.

Authors contributions: Angela Simalcsik (first author) – 70%; Robert-Daniel Simalcsik (second author) – 30%.

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