9 THE BALTS AND KIEVAN RUS'. NEW BALTIC CEMETERY OF THE 11TH CENTURY IN UKRAINE.

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Presentation Format: Oral

Two years ago Ukrainian scientists found an early medieval cemetery, which will soon become one of the most important archaeological finds in post-soviet Ukrainian history.

Ostriv-1 cemetery is located on the low terrace of Ros' river approximately 100 km. south of Kiev. During 2017-2018 excavations of V.Ivakin and V.Baranov on 1000 square m. 53 inhumation graves with head orientation to the north were found. This kind of burial rite is untypical to the Christian Kievan Rus'. On the other hand, inhumations with the north orientation were characteristic first of all to the Baltic tribes of Semigallians, Selonians, Latgallians, Samogitians as well as to the Curonianas (till the 11th century) and Prussians (since the 11th century). This type of burial rite is typical for some Gotlandic 11th century cemeteries and the early Piast Poland. Sambian peninsula Prussians inhumations with north orientation appear within the typical cremation cemeteries area, some of them with Kievan Rus' imported goods. It is important to stress that Sambian peninsula of the 11-12th centuries was the region of the huge Old Ruthenian imported goods concentration.

The most of grave goods of Ostriv-1 belong to the 11th century and are characteristic to the Prussians, Curonians, Scalvians and Semigallians. The penannular brooches from Ostriv-1 are unknown for Kiev Rus', but identic to these, found at Kaliningrad region and West Lithuanian cemeteries.

According to O. Kozak anthropological analysis, the first results of the skeletal remains study demonstrated that the paleopopulation of Ostriv-1 was young and had a low adaptation level, what could be characteristic for the first wave incomers.

At the initial stage of research, we can stress that population of Ostriv-1 consisted of East Baltic region incomers connected to the Jaroslaw the Wise migration and defence politics of the first half of the 11th century, mentioned in Nestor's Chronicle.

10 NORMANITAS IN SICILY

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Presentation Format: Oral

The objective of this short paper is to review the impact of the Norman period in Sicily in terms of urban development, rural settlement, agriculture, trade - and demography as indicated by the cemeteries. The 'Norman period' may be defined as running from the first incursions of the Hautevilles in 1061/68, to the occupation of Palermo in 1091, to the creation of the kingdom of Roger II in 1130, to his death in 1154, to the death of Tancred in 1194. At this point Sicily became a dominion of the Hohenstaufen/Swabian regime. During the 150 years in question, the mid 11th to the late 12th century, the character of society and the economy changed in a set of subterranean rhythms that suggest that the policies of successive rulers were not necessarily the prime movers.

The project 'sictransit' sets out to assess the Norman impact on the Greek, Arab and Roman peoples of the island and the consequent achievements of the farmers, merchants and their families of mixed origins whose agency is suspected of being determinant. This paper will ask how far we can identify archaeological correlates that could be described as Normanitas and if so how they were modified by the conquered peoples.

Sictransit is an ERC project of the Universities of York, Rome Tor Vergata and Lecce

http://sicilyintransition.org

11 THE LANDSCAPE OF SKYE AND THE WESTERN ISLES IN THE VIKING AGE AND LATE NORSE PERIODS

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Presentation Format: Oral

The Norse period of Skye and the Western Isles of Scotland began in the late 8th century AD with the first Viking raids, and ends in the mid-13th century with the annexation of the islands from the Norwegian crown to the Scottish crown. This Norse period has traditionally been divided into the Viking Age (790-1087 AD) and the Late Norse period (1087-1266 AD), on the basis of the historical evidence that shows the creation of the Kingdom of the Isles from 1087 AD. The archaeological material of the period between 950-1150 AD shows dramatic changes: the foundations of Norse longhouses go from post and turf build to stone built, Norse pagan burials cease, and many of the pre-Norse monumental structures of the islands were likely reoccupied. Moreover, the islands themselves were integrated into the Kingdom of the Isles, shifting their geopolitical influence from the Jarldom of Orkney to the Isle of Man in the Irish Sea region, and Skye became the seat of the Skeabost diocese, under the authority of the archbishop of Trondheim. In this paper, I will examine the changes that occur in this period through a survey of the archaeological evidence, and take into consideration the role of religion and ethnicity within a landscape context. In in this paper, I argue that ethnic, religion and social forces affected the landscape of Skye and the Western Isles during the Norse Period, with an emphasis on the mid-10th to mid-12th centuries.