MONUMENTS OF THE LATE ROMAN PERIOD – EARLY GREAT MIGRATION PERIOD IN THE DNIEPER-DONETS FOREST-STEPPE: MAIN RESULTS AND METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES

Abstract: The subject of publication was to assess the level of research of monuments of different cultural groups and to define main studying problems of the region of the Late Roman Period - early Great Migration Period. Two main concepts of ethno-cultural development of the region at this time. According to first Chernyakhov Culture here appears in a mid-3rd century AD, and there before early 5th century AD. According to another in the middle of the 3rd – early 4th centuries. AD in the region existed early-slavic monuments (“horizon Boromlya”) and Chernyakhiv Culture - in the second quarter of the 4th – early 5th centuries AD. Recently, the most convincing is the second hypothesis: the Roman coin finds in the region support this thesis.

Keywords: Dnieper-Donets forest-steppe, horizon Boromlya, Chernyakhov Culture, ancient coins

The forest-steppe region between the Dnieper and Seversky Donets forms a fairly large geographical area in Eastern Europe. In the mid 1 – middle V century BC this area was a part of Barbaricum in the conditions of existence of the Roman Empire and its contacts with the local barbaric population (Fig. 1).

For us this area in this period is in the “early history” stage (Frühgeschichte): scanty information about it is preserved in the works of ancient authors, but there are quite extensive archaeological sources.

1. History of the study of monuments

Monuments of mid 3rd - early 4th centuries. The case is about settlements (burials and burial grounds of this time aren’t known) that existed in the period from the final postzarubinets horizon (about the first half – mid-3rd century) until “classical” Chernyakhov Culture (early - the first quarter of the 4th century) (Fig. 2). These monuments form a cultural and chronological horizon (“horizon of Boromlia” according to M.B. Shukin and M.V. Liubichev)1 with such chronological indicators as: fibulae with high receiver of group VII Almgren, bow fibulae Almgren 157, light-coloured clay amphorae Shelov D (“Tanais” tip), with absolute predominance of moulded ceramics and minor

1 SHUKIN 2005, 133; LIUBICHEV 2008a, 51.
amount of pottery, the presence of depressed constructions in the settlements (Figs. 2-5). Quite often such settlements are covered by settlements of “classical” Chernyakhov Culture.

In 1949, E.V. Makhno explored Besedovka settlement, where the remains of above-ground wattle and daub constructions of Chernyakhov Culture located in the layer above the fragments of pottery. Here the narrow-necked light-coloured amphora Shelov D was discovered\(^2\). In 1978-1979, in the settlement of Bukreevka 2 E.A. Symonovich studied the remains of nine buildings\(^3\).

In 1982, in the settlement of Mamroi 2 E.N. Petrenko found a depression constructed and a pit. Moulded ceramics concentrated near the floor of the construction, pottery got found a depressed construction and a pit. Moulded ceramics by us to the horizon of Boromlia\(^7\). In 1988-1989 A.M. Oblomskiy studied the remains of nine buildings\(^3\).

1979, in the settlement of Bukreevka 2 E.A. Symonovich Culture\(^11\) (Figs. 4, 5). In 2007-2008 K.V. Myzgin studied the settlement, covered with the horizon of Chernyakhov Culture\(^6\).

1987-1991, A.N. Nekrasova and R.V. Terpilovskiy studied the settlement of Boromlia 2 (Nekrasova, 2006) (Fig.3), where four buildings of early horizon were referred by us to the horizon of Boromlia\(^3\). In 1988-1989 A.M. Oblomskiy studied the settlement of Golovino 1\(^8\), where he also observed the presence of the horizon of Boromlia and “classical” Chernyakhov Culture. In 1990, A.I. Zhurko in the Peschanoe settlement (Psiol) studied, among other things, objects of the horizon of Boromlia, including those covered with the remains of above-ground wattle and daub structure of Chernyakhov Culture\(^9\). In 1994, in the 10th of October settlement, A.M. Oblomskiy opened two depressed structures with moulded ceramics and pottery, fragments of amphorae Shelov D. In the layer there were also findings of stage C3 items\(^10\).

Since 2004 Germanic-Slavonic archaeological expedition of V.N. Karazin Kharkiv National University has been conducting excavations of archaeological complex Voytenki 1. Conditionally closed complexes, findings in the layer and lifted material relating to the steps C1b, C2 (horizon of Boromlia) are present only in the area “A” of the settlement, covered with the horizon of Chernyakhov Culture\(^11\) (Figs. 4, 5). In 2007-2008 K.V. Myzgin studied Ogul’tsy settlement with the findings dated to the stages C1b, C2 and distinctive moulded ceramics (horizon of Boromlia), along with findings specific to closed complexes of stages C3 and C3/D1 (Chernyakhov Culture)\(^12\).

It the settlement of Gochevo 1 that was studied by N.A. Tikhomirov, R.V. Terpilovskiy in 1986-1987 one building is referred to mid 3rd - early 4th centuries\(^13\), and two buildings in the settlement of Gochevo 2\(^14\). Yu.A. Lipking pitting Novosiolovka settlement (Sudzha River) found fragments of molded ceramics and pottery, and also the fibula of group VII O. Almgren\(^15\).

Thus, we now know more than a dozen settlements of that time, where excavations were held. Chernyakhov Culture. Monuments of Chernyakhov Culture have the longest history of studying (Fig. 6). Since 19th-20th centuries until the 20’s of the 20th century occurred: a) admission of separate things from the surface of Chernyakhiv monuments and destroyed burials to museums (Kursk gubernia, Grechaniki, Belotserkovtsy, Savinki, Konstantinograd, Proni, Shyshaki); b) search for analogies of things from Late Sarmatian undermounded burials among eponymous collection of Chernyakhiv and Romaskh burial grounds; c) fixing the traces of settlements on the places where hoards of Roman coins were found (Gridasovka)\(^16\).

The 20’s-30’s of the 20th century were the time of introduction of the region’s material to the areal of “burial ground” culture, conducting exploration, excavations of monuments and constructing first archaeological maps. To this time refer the opening of Chernyakhiv monuments by explorations of L. Soloviov (Vorskla, Udy revers)\(^17\), E.N. Antonovich-Mel’nik (Orel River)\(^18\), N.D. Renskiy (Sula River)\(^19\), A.S. Fedorovskiy, I.N. Lutskevich (Mzha, Lopan’, Kharkiv, Severskiy Donets rivers)\(^20\). During this period a few excavations of Cherniakhiv monuments were conducted: Gurbincy burial ground\(^21\), Peresechnaya settlement and burial ground\(^22\), the burial at Vodiane (A.V. Dobrovol’skiy)\(^23\), Svinkovka burial ground\(^24\), Novosiolovka burial ground (N.A. Stan, N.D. Sych)\(^25\). By 1941, I.N. Lutskevich had prepared a set of Cherniakhiv monuments and some Late Sarmatian undermounded burials in the upper reaches of the Vorskla and the Seversky Donets, which was published in succinct format in 1948\(^26\).

After 1945 a new stage of the study begins, characterized by dramatically increasing volume of field work, number of monuments opened by exploration and studied by excavations, publications, appearance of conceptual developments. Since the mid-20th century appeared cartographic catalogues of Chernyakhiv monuments of the whole region\(^27\) or its parts\(^28\). Given the amount of sources, the history of research of Chernyakhiv monuments at this time it is reasonable to consider six selected for main rivers’

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\(^{2}\) MAKHNO 1955, 82, 84, ris. 5: 9.
\(^{3}\) SYMONOVICH 1990.
\(^{5}\) BASHKATOV/DEGTIAR’/LIUBICHEV 1997.
\(^{6}\) OBLOMSKIY 2002, 33-34; PAMYATNIKI... 2007, 91-93.
\(^{7}\) LIUBICHEV 2013, 14.
\(^{8}\) OBLOMSKIY 2001-2002.
\(^{10}\) OBLOMSKIY 2002, 37-38.
\(^{11}\) LIUBICHEV 2006, 2008b; LIUBICHEV 2006.
\(^{12}\) MYZGIN 2011b.
In the area of "Dnieper, the coastal part of the left bank" by excavations studied such settlements as Barbara, Gradizhsk (Kruha stow), Zhovnin (Vasilenki stow), Erkovtsy, Meksimovka, Novolipovskoe, Radutskovka, Sosnova, Khlopkov, burial grounds of Gradizhsk (Kruha stow), Zhovnin (Bilenkoy burty, Nosnen, Pritsan' stows)37, Kompanihts, Pereyaslav-Khmen'ntsiky39, Sosnova40.

In the area of "Desna-Seim" were studied cemeteries of BeloPo'le 41, Desiatyi Oktyabr' 42, Kolosovka 43, Lipovka 44, near Kantemirovka91 (Fig. 16: II). Until 1940 was found an undermounded burial near Irzhevo, documentation of the mound 6 near Vorontsovka 90. In 1924, M. Ya. Rudinskiy conducted excavations of three undermounded burials - parts of the burial grounds – were discovered by accident88. Only one burial ground is covered with excavations - Peny 47.

In the area of "Sula" were studied excavations such settlements: Artiukhovka 144, Besedovka, Korovintsy46, Gnidincy 6, Dubina 1, Savenkov Yar 1, Grabarovka 1, Davydovka 50, burial grounds of Volchek51, Voskresenskoe 1, Dubina 1, Savenkov Yar 1, Grabarovka 1, Davydovka 50, burial grounds of Vasilenki 455, Velikiy Bobrik, Kosovshina 1, Kosovshina 2, Krasnopol'e 1, Peschanoe 56, Gochevo 3 Gochevo 457, Golovino 1 76, Kolesniki, Storozhevoe) or even in the forest-steppe (Irzhevo). Another part is located outside the areal of culture, in the steppe zone (Kantemirovka, Sarmatians and Chernyakhov Culture. Some of these complexes are located in the areal of Chernyakhov Culture, in the zone of steppe – forest-steppe border (Kantemirovka, Storozheve) or even in the forest-steppe (Irzhevo). Another part is located outside the areal of culture, in the steppe zone (Mechebelovo, Vorontsovka, Dmukhailovka, Mospinskaia).

At the beginning of the 20th century, V.A. Gorodtsov investigated burial ground 1 of the mound near Mechebelovo89, and E. N. Mel'nik - burial in the mound 6 near Vorontsovka90. In 1924, M. Ya. Rudinskiy conducted excavations of three undermounded burials near Kantemirovka4 (Fig. 16: II). Until 1940 was found an undermounded burial near Irzhevo, documentation of the excavations is not preserved92.

In the 70's-80's, burials were investigated in the mound 13 near Dmukhailovka93 and in the mound 1 near Mospinskaia94. Since 2007 archaeologists of Poltava local
history museum began studying mound burial of the Great Migration era near Storozhnevoe95. In 2009 was investigated the inlet burial 5 of mound 2 near Lavrikovka96 (Fig.16: I).

Monuments of Kame­novo 2 - Komarovka 2 type. This group is represented only by settlements that were investigated in the 60 – 70ties of the last century. Yu.A. Lipking found villages of Vorobevka 2, Komarovka 2 E.A. Symonovich and O.N. Melnikova - settlements of Kame­novo 2 and Tazovo. EA Gorin­nov discovered and studied village of Peschanoe (1978-1979 gg.)97. E.A. Symonovich conducted excavations in the settlements of Vorobevka 2 (1970)98, Komarovka 2 (1972)99, Kame­novo 2 (1978)100, Tazovo (1979)101.

2. Main problem of cultural development

History of formation of cultural development concepts of the region during the studied period may be divided into two periods depending on the sources condition.

The first period is conventionally limited by 1927-1980, the time when developed issues almost exclusively associated with Chernyakhov Culture (monuments mapping and determination of the areal boundary, attempts to determine the regional characteristics and ethnicity). In the late 1920’s A.S. Fedorovskiy and A.A. Spitsyn on the basis of exploration data, admission of certain items to museums, presence of Sarmatian burials with Chernyakhiv items came to the conclusion that the area of forest-steppe from the Dnieper to the Severskiy Donets is a part of the “culture of burial grounds” (Chernyakhov Culture was called so at that time)102. I.I. Liapushkin first mapped all known monuments of Chernyakhov Culture region103. They are also placed in the catalog and on the general map of Chernyakhov Culture monuments in Ukraine, performed by E.V. Makhno104. In the works of E.A. Smonovich was defined the border of the area of the culture in the north, in the basin of the Desna and the Sejm105.

Poor state of exploration of Chernyakhiv monuments in the 50’s and the 70’s of the last century produced opinion about their location here as “separate” islands106 or about the “zone of rare occurrence of Chernyakhiv monuments” in the area of the Left Bank to the upper reaches of the Seim and the Severskiy Donets, unlike the main territory of the culture from the Prut to Dnieper left bank107. E.V. Makhon drew a conclusion about the presence of Seim-Donets group of Chernyakhov Culture, adjoined to the core of the culture - to the Middle Dnieper region108. V.D. Baran singled out in Chernyakhov Culture a group of “forest-steppe zone of Ukraine”, which is characterized by: a) preponderance of small and medium-sized settlements, depressed dwellings; b) equal proportions of cremations and burials at the burial grounds; c) absence of burial pits with lining; g) a small amount of pits with shoulders and crouched skeletons; d) moulded pots of slender proportions; e) absence of Scythian-Sarmatian forms of moulded vessels; g) small amount of imported antique ceramics; h) small part of moulded ceramics in above-ground dwellings109. It should be noted that the analysis of the sources, received over the last thirty years, indicates that this theoretical construct does not correspond to archaeological realities or need correction.

A.A. Spitsyn in the 20’s of the XX century, given monuments of Kantemirovka and Vorontsovka type and adding them to a special group, believed that the burial rite and items of Chernyakhov Culture may be considered Late Sarmatian110. According to I.I. Liapushkin the ethnic composition of cultural monuments carrires in the region is composed of two elements: the Sarmatian (undermounded burials of Kantemirovka and Vorontsovka) and Slavonic (“burials close to the left bank sides”)111.

The second period began in the 80’s. It is associated with increasing amount of studied monuments of Chernyakhov Culture itself, allocation of other cultural groups in the region, which preceded and were synchronous to Chernyakhov Culture. Great importance has increasing number of investigated monuments in all parts of Chernyakhov Culture areal/Santana de Mures Culture112, allocation of group of Chernyakhov monuments of Demianov-Cherepin type in the Upper Dniester113. All this enabled with the necessary base of sources to solve the problem of occurrence of Chernyakhov Culture to the east of the Dnieper, to the problem of its contacts with other groups in this region.

In the early 1980’s was allocated Kiev Culture of late 2nd – early 5th centuries for the Middle Dnieper and the Podesenie114. E.A. Symonovich was one of the first who drew attention to the close cooperation between Kiev and Chernyakhov Cultures, referred a number of settlements with prevailing moulded ceramics in Poseyme to Chernyakhiv, expressed the opinion about the appearance of Chernyakhov Culture in the northern part of the Dnieper-Donets forest-steppe as a result of population movement from areas of the steppe and forest-steppe in the south from the time of “Scythian wars” in the 3rd century115.

In the early 90’s monuments in the Dnieper-Donets watersheds were included in the Seim-Donetsk variant of Kiev culture116 and was allocated the line of cultural development of the Roman period - beginning of early Middle Ages, segments of which became Late Zarubinets horizon - Kiev Culture - Pen’kovka/Kolochin Cultures117.

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development of the region in the Dnieper-Donets forest-steppe in the Late Roman Period - in the early era of the Great Migration. The first group of issues concerns the time line determined by approximately mid-3rd - early 4th centuries. Now there are two main concepts of cultural development in the region at this time. First got the most complete expression in the works of A.M. Oblomskiy, some of its constituents are presented in the works of A.N. Nekrasova, R.V. Terpilovskiy, V.D. Baran, B.V. Magomedov. The main points:

1. Cultural groups. Monuments of Seim-Donetsk variant of Kiev Culture are divided into two groups (two stages of development): Bukreevka 2 - Tazovo (mid-3rd - early 4th centuries) and Kamenevo 2 - Komarovka 2 (4th-early 5th centuries). Group Bukreevka 2 - Tazovo is genetically connected with previous Late Zarubinets monuments and Early Kiev monuments of Shyshyno 5 – Shmyriyo type, is synchronous with the first phase of development of Chernyakhiv burial grounds in Ukrainian forest-steppe in the system of E.L. Gorokhovsky (about AD 230-270). Compared with the antiquities of Shyshyno 5 – Shmyriyo type, on the monuments Bukreevka 2 - Tazovo type can be seen the emergence of new traits (set of moulded utensils, dwelling construction, household equipment) as a result of influence of Chernyakhiv Culture.

Chernyakhiv monuments are also divided into two chronological groups, synchronous to two mentioned groups of Kiev Culture: 1) so-called Chernyakhiv "bases of colonization" and "elements" in the mid-3rd - early 4th centuries; 2) "classical" Chernyakhiv Culture of the 4th - early 5th century (or monuments of Snagost 2 - Khokhlovo 2 type). At one of such "bases" – settlement of Golovino 1 in the Upper Dnieper the time of direct contacts is steady distribution by majority of objects on a par with Kiev monuments (Bukreevka 2 – Tazovo types) Chernyakhiv import and "other signs contacts" appear.

V.D. Baran unequivocally identifies the monuments of Demianov-Cherepin type with Chernyakhiv Culture and appearance of their elements in the Dnieper-Donets forest-steppe attributes to the penetration of Chernyakhiv Culture at such an early period. R.V. Terpilovskiy opposes the hypotheses about the migration of Upper Dniester population to the east in the middle of the 3rd century and its blending with local Kiev population, but notes that on the west-east line occurred constant micromigrations of small population groups both “early Chernyakhiv groups” and part of “Upper Dniester population”, related to local Kiev tribes. According to him, the monuments of Cherepin and Boromilia 2 type are related phenomena.

If A.N. Nekrasova, B.V. Magomedov talk about the penetration of Chernyakhiv Culture elements and traditions, then A.M. Oblomskiy writes about the emergence of “points with Chernyakhiv cultural context”, “monuments of Chernyakhiv type” or Chernyakhiv “bases of colonization” (settlements of Golovino 1, Novosiolovka, Peschano, Khokhlovo 2, Khlopkov 1, Radutskovka), penetration of groups of Chernyakhiv population and its steady inclusion in the composition of Kiev communities in the mid-3rd c. without the formation of isolated complexes, but with the steady distribution by majority of objects on a par with Kiev ones. At one of such “bases” – settlement of Golovino 1 in the Upper Reaches of the Severskii Donets presented mixed in the ethnic composition population, but ethnicity of most groups was Chernyakhiv, and this period corresponded to the nearby Chernyakhiv burial ground.

Chernyakhiv Culture in the region at an early stage looks quite specific: there are no funeral complexes of this time at Chernyakhiv burial grounds and early appearance of Chernyakhiv Culture on the left bank of the Dniepro is fixed only indirectly - by some chronological indicators (fibulae, amphorae).

A.M. Oblomskiy attributes movement of the east carriers of Chernyakhiv Culture and Chernyakhiv elements to the earlier time - the mid-second half of the 3rd century and synchronizes this phenomenon with the first (Ruzhychanka phase) phase of development of Chernyakhiv burial grounds in the Ukrainian steppe. He suggests that then there operated pottery centers with furnaces, because it is difficult to imagine a wide export of pottery to the Dnieper-Donets watershed from the Middle Dnieper - Nadporozhie.

3. Kiev-Chernyakhiv contacts. On the materials of the Left Bank of the Dniepro the time of direct contacts is subdivided by R.V. Terpilovskiy into three stages. The first stage (mid-3rd -early 4th centuries) is characterized by the movement of Chernyakhiv population groups of different origin with biritual funeral rite, distinctive pottery, a specific
set of items. They move up to the Severskiy Donets in the east, in AD 230-270 appear "seats of Chernyakhiv colonization" (Boš'haia Danilovka, Golovino 1, Novosiolovka). Simultaneously, carriers of monuments of Bukreevka 2 - Tazovo type obtain the same chronological indicators as Chernyakhiv population has (fibulae Almgren VII, horn combs Thomas I, light-coloured clay amphorae of Shelov D type)\(^{137}\). There is no sharp breaking of traditions complex, but there appear new features in all areas of archaeological culture. M.B. Shukin considers it is unlikely that the descendants of the inhabitants of short and scattered Late Zarubinets settlements composed general population of Chernyakhov Culture in the region. These descendants entered Kiev Culture structurally rather different from Chernyakhov Culture and in Chernyakhiv settlements inhabited only representatives of Kiev culture\(^{138}\).

Another concept of the cultural process is reflected in the works of V.M. Gorjunova, G. A. Romanova, O.A. Sheglova\(^{139}\), M.B. Shukin\(^{140}\), M.V. Liubichev\(^{141}\).

1. Cultural groups. Around in the middle (probably the last quarter) of the 3rd - first quarter of the 4th centuries in the region existed so-called monuments of the "horizon of Boromlia". M.B. Shukin understood by it the monuments of the Dnieper left bank containing ceramics of Wielbark or Przeworsk look, as well as ceramics of Demianove-Cherepin type\(^{142}\). M.V. Liubichev expanded the scope of the term assuming that the horizon of Boromlia represents a group of settlements emerged as a consequence of migration of the part of carriers of monuments of Demianov-Cherepin type from Upper Dniester, including some elements of Chernyakhov Culture, but weren’t Chernyakhov Culture themselves. The horizon of Boromlia represents one of the areas of so-called "Proto-Slavic" culture province of the Late Roman Period along with other areas in the forest-steppe zone of the Upper Dniester to the Upper Don: monuments of Demianov-Cherepin type, Kiev Culture of the Middle Dnieper and Podesenie, monuments of Sedelki-Kashyrka type\(^{143}\).

The horizon of Boromlia is not the next step in the evolutionary development of Shlyshyno 5 - Shmyriovo group under Chernyakhiv influence (although these groups have some similarities in depressed constructions in the settlements and ceramic complex). The emergence of a complex of innovations in all spheres of material culture from the mid-3rd century is connected not with the “influence of the Chernyakhiv”, but with the arrival of a group of population (carriers of monuments of Demianov-Cherepin type) with already established morphology of material culture in which included Chernyakhiv elements.

The thesis was proposed that there is so-called "fibula chain" between the "Trans-Dniester" and "Dnieper-Donetsk" concentration areas of fibulae with high receiver of group VII O. Almgren, which indicates the path of migration of part of the carriers of monuments of Demianov-Cherepin type to their "relatives" in "Proto-Slavonic" cultural province and monuments carriers of post Zarubinets horizon in the Dnieper-Donets forest-steppe\(^{144}\).

2. Emergence of Chernyakhov Culture in the mid-3rd - early 4th centuries If middle and final phases of Chernyakhov Culture (4th - early 5th) are represented by a significant number of settlements and burial grounds, the early phase (second half of the 3rd-early 4th centuries) in the region is marked only by certain forms of pottery and certain items specific to Chernyakhov Culture (fibulae of group Almgren VII, horn combs with low semicircular back, amphorae Shelov D) in the monuments of the horizon of Boromlia. There is no known Chernyakhiv burial ground in the Dnieper-Donets forest-steppe for the stages of C1b-C2. Chernyakhiv “bases of colonization” (above all Golovino 1) are nothing more than villages of the Late Roman Period with two horizons: Pre-Chernyakhiv (horizon of Boromlia) and Chernyakhiv. In most cases, on the places of villages of the Pre-Chernyakhiv horizon then appeared settlements of "classical" Chernyakhov Culture, but this overlap is not always fixed stratigraphically. Cases of such overlap are fixed in Boromlia 2, Gochero 3, Gochero 4, Voytenki 1 (segment “A”)\(^{145}\).

A.I. Zhurko on the example of several studied settlements of the Late Roman Period near the city of Sumy was one of the first who came to the thoughts about the heterogeneity of Chernyakhiv settlements, which is explained by us by the phenomenon of overlap in some cases of villages of the horizon of Boromlia by the villages of "classical" Chernyakhov Culture. He assumes that moulded ceramics in Peschanoe village distinguishes this monument from Chernyakhiv settlements of the microregion (Kosovshyna, Krasnopoli, Velikiy Bobrik) and indicates of the coexistence in the Dnieper-Donets forest-steppe at least two groups of monuments of Chernyakhov Culture: "monuments of one group contain only pottery in the cultural layer and objects, monuments of another group represent both pottery and moulded utensils"\(^{146}\).

3. Kiev-Chernyakhiv contacts. Presence of the horizon of Boromlia with Chernyakhiv elements creates the picture of Kiev-Chernyakhiv contact zone in the middle of the 3rd – early 4th century, which disappears from the second quarter of the 4th century, when the region appears so-called “classical” Chernyakhov Culture with different morphological characteristics. There is no symbiosis between carriers of Kiev and Chernyakhov Culture.

The second group of problems is connected with the period from the early-first quarter of the 4th to the first quarter of the mid-V century: residence time of the "classical" Chernyakhov Culture in the region, undermounded burials with Chernyakhiv items, groups of monuments of Kamenevo 2-Komarovka 2 type (Fig. 17). On the final stretch of this period Chernyakhov Culture ceases to exist, new cultural groups appear.
1. Cultural situation in the region in the 4th - early 5th century. According B.V. Magomedov at the stage of “Stabilization of Chernyakhov Culture” (in about AD 270-330) Chernyakhov population occupies a strip along the left bank of the Dnieper, burial grounds of Sosnova, Pereiaslav, Gradzhskh, Kompaniyyts appear. Then, in the “era of Germanic” (in about AD 330-375) occurs mass distribution of Chernyakhov monuments in the forest-steppe zone of Eastern Ukraine, which before belonged to the region of the Seim-Donets group of Kiev Culture. Repressed population goes to the north and east, increasing population density of Desna Group of Kiev Culture in the forest zone (Fig. 17). According to the researcher, these events are reflected in the story Iordan about the campaign of Germanic against herules and venetes. At the stage of “Invasion of hunnes and final of Chernyakhov Culture” (from 375) after the collapse of the “power of Germanic” Vittim Group is localized in eastern Ukraine. After the death of Vitimir Alateus ans Safrax take away the Goths and the Alans to the Danube. Appear Kantemirovka undermounded burials, then Slavic population returns to the deserted land: on the Psel and the Sula appear postkiev settlements.

2. Correction of boundaries of Chernyakhov Culture areal. V.V. Kropotkin and A.V. Kropotkin considered that on the Left Bank of the Dnieper northern border of the spread of amphorae approximately coincided with the northern boundary of Chernyakhov Culture areal and only in individual cases fragments of light-coloured clay narrow-necked amphorae are found at the Kiev-Postzarubinet settlements. A.M. Oblomskiy and A.V. Kropotkin marked northern-eastern section of the area of culture (monuments of Snagost’ 2 - Khokhlovo 2 type) along the watershed of Tuskar’ and Rogozna, the Psel-Seim interfluve, Tuurovets valley, lower and middle reaches of the Peny, upper reaches of the Vorskla, to the north of Belgorod, at the mouth of the Plot’ to the confluence of the Nezhegol’ into the Severskiy Donets. O.A. Radiush specified the border of Chernyakhov Culture areal in Kursk Poseyemie. M.V. Liubichev and K.V. Mzyns specified southern section of the border of culture areal and now it passes through: the mouth, right bank of the Orel – right bank of the Berestovaya-Gomolsha Rivers.

3. Kiev-Chernyakh contacts of the 4th - early 5th centuries. Since the second quarter of the 4th century, according to R.V. Terpilovskiy, begins the second stage of these contacts, characterized by mass Chernyakhiv colonization, exclusion of Kiev tribes from the forest-steppe, which is proved by cases of overlapping of Kiev horizons by Chernyakhiv ones (Gochevo 4, Boromlia 2). Instead of “marginal zone”, typical for the first period of contacts, Kiev monuments of the 4th century are known exclusively outside the territory of Chernyakhov Culture: to the north (right bank of the Seim) and east of its area. The third stage (second half of the 4th – early 5th century) is marked by close contacts in the final phases of development of both cultures, which is identified with the wars of “antes of Bozes” and “goths of Vinitarius” according to Iordan. Since the turn of the 4th – 5th centuries Kiev population again enters the pool of the Sula and Psel rivers.

4. Cultural (ethnocultural) components of Chernyakhov Culture in the region. In Chernyakhov Culture of the region researchers identify three cultural (sometimes they are called “ethnic”) traditions: Wielbark, Scythian-Sarmatian, Kiev, though a conclusion was drawn about the absence of the territory in Chernyakhov Culture areal of the region, dominated by antiquities of a single ethnocultural tradition and about separate existence of Wielbark and Scythian-Sarmatian population within the culture.

To the complexes of Scythian-Sarmatian tradition in the region refer burials containing skeletons with bent and crossed lower limbs, deformed skulls, and specific moulded ceramics. It was noted that in the settlements this tradition is less allocated than in the burials: it is possible to attribute rounside moulded pots with ochreat whisk. Based on the placement of undermounded burials with Chernyakhiv items it was concluded that left bank Sarmatians monuments (unlike the Lower Danube) are located outside Chernyakhov Culture areal, i.e. eastern Sarmatians were not a part of the power of Germanic.

B.V. Magomedov considers that in Chernyakhov Culture areal are virtually unknown synchronous to it burials of nomadic Sarmatians. Only individual burials of ground burial and Chernyakhiv items in some catacombs of the Lower Don region indicate of relations of Chernyakhiv population and nomadic Sarmatians until AD 375.

Concerning the Late Scythian element B.V. Magomedov supposes that around the turn of the 3rd - 4th centuries part of the late Scythians moves to the area of Eastern Ukraine. With the Late Scythian element he associates pits with shoulders. But A.M. Oblomskiy believes that we have no opportunity to subdivide Scythian and Sarmatian components in the Sarmatian time, and we can talk only about the Scythian-Sarmatian traditions.

To Kiev tradition refer monuments with the predominance of grey-coloured clay pottery, but with moulded utensils similar Kiev utensils. Kiev tradition is allocated by A.M. Oblomskiy only on the basis of settlements materials (Peshanoe, Veliliky Bobrik, Mamroi 2, Khlopkov 1). In the settlements of Radutskovka, Maksimovka, Khlopkov 1, Novolipovskoe were defined complexes with “Early Slavic” moulded ceramics. Important role in solving the problem of presence of Kiev element on the monuments of Chernyakhov Culture in the region is played by materials of the settlement of Khlopkov 1, the evaluation of which is highly controversial. O.M. Prikhodniuk believes that the
most representative samples of moulded dishes come from the cultural layer. These include: 45% of biconical pots, 20% of “grain dishes”, 8% of rounded pots. In his opinion, there are two layers in the ancient settlement: Chernyakhiv and Pen’kovka. A.M. Oblomskiy considers that presence of both moulded ceramics of Kiev-Penkovsky look and Chernyakhiv pottery in some conventionally closed complexes (dwelling 4, pit 8, 13), presence of moulded ceramics together with pottery in the filling of dwellings 1, 2, 3, pits 14, 15, 20, 33 indicates that this moulded ceramics was a part of the whole ceramic complex of Chernyakhiv settlement. Consequently, in this case we can talk about the settlement as a monument of Kiev tradition in Chernyakhiv Culture in the region.

At the burial grounds to the manifestation of Kiev tradition refer the presence of biconical urn pot in the cremation burial 1 of Rodnoi Krai and weak-shaped rounded pot from so-called burial 5 of Uspenka. In Kompaniyltsy specific burials with distinctive moulded ceramics and fibulae of circle of “pitted enamel” are associated with Kiev element. E.V. Makhno found analogies to cremations with broken crockery in Kompaniyltsy in the Przeworsk environment. According to the authors of excavations - A.N. Nekrasova and R.V. Terpilovskiy, abrupt change of ceramic complex refers the presence of both Wielbark ceramics or only pottery is presented.

The viewpoint of I.V. Zin’kovich stands somewhat apart. Recognizing the multiethnic character of carriers of culture in the region, she concludes about the changing of ethnicity of the population over the lifetime of Chernyakhiv Culture and the presence of two cultural and chronological traditions on the funeral monuments: in the last third of the 3rd-4th centuries there are extensive Kompaniyltsy, Uspenka, Pereyaslav-Khmelnitsky necropolises, left by multiethnic conglomerate (Goths-Gepids, Sarmanians, Slavs), then in the middle of the 4th century appear small biritual burial grounds of Goths-Gepids.

This viewpoint finds no support in archaeological sources. Different cultural traditions are demonstrated not only by mentioned burial grounds, but also by the other, which burials can be dated back to the mid-second half of the 4th century: Voytenki, Boromlia, Rodnoi Krai 1, Sumy-Sad, Kantemirovka. Concerning the size “reduction” of burial grounds one can notice that in Kompaniyltsy, Uspenka, Pereyaslav-Khmelnitsky were investigated respectively 111, 34, 42 burials. By 2013 in Voytenki 190 burials had been studied. 48 burials were opened on the partially destroyed burial ground of Boromlia.

5. Role of materials of Boromlia 2 settlement in the construction of the cultural development concept. Initially, even during the excavations of the monument, the thesis was proposed about the presence of “two chronological horizons” and absence of chronological gap between them. According to the authors of excavations - A.N. Nekrasova and R.V. Terpilovskiy, abrupt change of ceramic complex suggests the emergence in the early 4th century of the new population, which makes extensive use of pottery.

Then, was drawn the conclusion about three horizons in the ancient settlement: 1 - with objects (constructions 1, 6, 10, dwelling 3, hearth 2) filled with 70-90% of moulded ceramics and also pottery, mainly polished ceramics; 2 - with objects (dwellings 7, 8, construction 5, presumably “above-ground construction” with hearth number 1, probably hearths 3, 4), containing 34-60% of moulded ceramics, including the north-western tradition; 3 - objects (household buildings 2, 4, 9, furnaces 1, 2, pits 1-10, “working platform”), containing 90-100% of pottery. It is believed that the objects of the first horizon fix the appearance of new ethnocultural elements through the emergence of Chernyakhiv pottery among local tribes of Kiev culture in the second half of the 3rd - the turn of the 3rd-4th centuries. Objects of the second horizon reflect population coming from the west in the first half of the 4th century, objects of the third horizon already represent fully developed Chernyakhiv Culture of the second half of the 4th century.

6. Place of Kamenevo 2 - Komarovka 2 group in the cultural process. Apart from Chernyakhiv Culture during
this period in the area of the Dnieper-Donets forest-steppe existed and other associations. As foreign phenomenon in the area of Chernyakhiv settlements and burial grounds, as well as monuments of the Seim-Donets variant of Kiev culture A.M. Oblomskiy considers six ancient settlements: Kamenevo 2, Peschanoe Komarovka, Besedovka (Late Kiev period of the settlement), Kurgan-Azak, Sencha185. Ceramic complex structure distinguishes these monuments from the settlements of “Kiev tradition in Chernyakhov Culture” (Golovino - Mamroi - Khlopkov) and from Kiev-Donetsk ancient settlements of the Seim-Donets variant of Bukreevka – Tazovo type186. Researcher finds their proximity to the monuments of Kiev Culture of Podesenya «Ulianovka circle» and concludes about the appearance of the Desna population in the forest-steppe under the impact of Chernyakhov Culture. The conclusion was drawn about the presence of «Ulianovka circle» monuments in the forest-steppe zone and in the areal of Chernyakhov Culture (Kurgan-Azak, Sencha, Besedovka) and in the areal of the Seim-Donets variant of Kiev Culture (Komarovka, Kamenevo, Peschanoe), that indicates of the penetration of “Desna protokolochinskiy population” to the eastern part of the region - to the upper reaches of the Seim and Psel rivers187.

7. Determination of chronology of Chernyakhov Culture in the region. Burial ground materials of the region served as sources for the development of chronologival systems of Chernyakhov Culture in the Ukrainian forest-steppe, in its areal on the territory of modern Ukraine and Moldova in general and the Middle Dnieper in particular. By the method of chronological horizons isolation of similar complexes on the materials of a large part of the culture areal the scheme E.L. Gorokhovskiy was created188. The scientist have identified five phases of burial grounds development in the area of forest-steppe on both sides of the Dnieper, synchronized with all-European phases in the K. Godlowski - J. Tejral system: 1) Ruzhchanka (stage C1b, early segment C2, about 230-270); 2) Berezhanka (late segment C2, about 270-330) 3) Kosanov (stage C3, about 330-380); 4) Maslov (late segment C3 - early D1; around 350 - 400) 5) Zhuravka (stage D1; about 375/380-420/430) phases. To the phases 2 - 5 linked with all-European phases in the K. Godlowski - J. Tejral system: 1) Ruzhchanka (stage C1b, early segment C2, about 230-270); 2) Berezhanka (late segment C2, about 270-330) 3) Kosanov (stage C3, about 330-380); 4) Maslov (late segment C3 - early D1; around 350 - 400) 5) Zhuravka (stage D1; about 375/380-420/430) phases. To the phases 2 - 5 linked complexes from burial grounds of Kosanov, Kompani, Kompani, Sumy-Sad, Usenka, Pereyaslav-Khmel’nitskiy, Zhovnin, Lakhtova, Rodnoi Krai 1, Kamtenirovka (undermounded burials), and separate burial at Grechanki189.

Composing the chronology of Chernyakhiv burial grounds by O.A. Gei and I.A. Bazhan by applying the correlation method has become an integral part of attempts to create a chronological scale for Eastern Europe and the correlation method has become an integral part of attempts to create a chronological scale for Eastern Europe and the Black Sea coast of the Caucasus of the I-VI centuries. For this were used materials, including Kompani, burial ground, enclosed into so-called “Middle Dnieper block” of burial grounds190. Such development periods of Chernyakhov Culture were defined: 1) about 230/240-270/280 (including Kompani, burial 171); 2) about 270/280-310/320 (including Kompani, burial 1, 8, 130); 3) about 310/320-350/355; 4) about 350/355-375; 5) about 375-400/410191.

The chronology scheme of Chernyakhov monuments of the Middle Dnieper by O.V. Petrauskas - R.G. Shishkin is “tied” to the European chronological system. It contains phases C1b (first half of the 3rd century), C2 (second half of the 3rd century), C3 (first half of the 4th century) (burials 2, 5 of Pereyaslav-Khmel’nitskiy), D1 (end of the 4th - early 5th century) (burials 1 of Zhovnin/Bilenkovy Burty, 71 and 118 of Kompani, 26 of Zhovnin/Pristan’), D1-D2 (first half of the 5th century) (Kloko Letokov, settlement materials from Gradizhsk, burials 388 of Sofnova, 69 of Kompani, 192).

8. Final of Chernyakhov Culture and cultural development of the region in the early era of the Great Migration. A.M. Oblomskiy first identified the Hun Period for the Dnieper-Donets forest-steppe, which he associates with the emergence of the Huns, the defeat of the power of Germanic, massive population movement, destruction of archaeological communities system of the Late Romen Period193.

A.M. Oblomskiy marks historical processes of the Hun times in the form of several vectors: 1) outflow of Chernyakhov Culture population, movement of its groups to the west, as well as migration to the Upper Don region; 2) movement of population groups from the Middle Dnieper to Podesenye; 3) movement of population from Podesenye and adjacent Poseymin to the east and south; 4) movement of the carriers of the Seim-Donets variant of Kiev Culture to the Don region; 5) appearance of monuments of “steppe circle” traditions in the southern part of Chernyakhov Culture areal or near its borders194.

According M.B. Shukin, for a given period we don’t known archaeological cultures in the usual content of this term. The main body of the finds is grouped into a number of different short-term cultural groups on a restricted area – “horizons of one style finds”195. Elements of a new subculture originate within the preceding stage196. The concepts of «Late Chernyakhov Culture» and «Late Chernyakhov population» are introduced197.

Most experts believe that at the beginning of the Hun era on the large part of the region Chernyakhov population continued to exist198. Chernyakhov groupings in great numbers leave the region a little later, and in this period the distribution of some elements of material culture (fibulae and certain types of glass vessels) gives the impression of some of its isolation from the other parts of Chernyakhov Culture area199. According E.L. Gorokhovskiy, Kamtenirovka mounds are the evidence of preservation of Chernyakhov Culture material complex in the first third of the V century200. M.B. Shukin believed that after the Hunnes invasion receded Chernyakhov population stayed on the former territory and

186 OBLOMSKII 2002, 70.
188 GOROKHOVSKIY 1988.
189 GOROKHOVSKIY 1988, 45-46.
192 PETRAUSKAS/SHISHKIN 2010.
195 SHUKIN 1979, 18.
196 SHUKIN/SHAROV 2000, 376.
197 KAZANSKIY/MASTYKOVA 2009, 226, 234.
continued to use their settlements and cemeteries, to keep old traditions. Therefore goths of Germanic are difficult to distinguish from goths of Vinitarius\textsuperscript{204}.

M.M. Kazanskiy admits the possibility of the arrival of new groups of barbaric population at Chernyakhiv areal under the control of the Huns, from the territory of present-day Poland, in favor of which indicates not only Late Przeworsk ceramics of Dobrodzen type in the upper layers of Bashmachka in Nadporozhke and Kompaniytsy burial 86, referring to the stage D1\textsuperscript{202}.

9. Issue about cultural and ethnic attribution of undermounded burials with Chernyakhiv items. Among researchers firmly established opinion about their Sarmatian, Sarmatian-Alan belonging\textsuperscript{205}. Later dates of the left bank undermounded burials are evidence that the composition of this culture in the mid-second half of the 4th century included some nomadic groups\textsuperscript{204}. The nearest analogies of the mounds of Kantemirovka type A.V. Simonenko finds in the antiquities in the Lower Don region. According to him, they originate from the North Caucasus and have alanes roots\textsuperscript{206}.

Chernyakhov Culture split Sarmatian world into two parts. In the Pre-Azov-Don steppe separate burials of the final phase of Late Sarmatian culture tend to the circle of the Lower Don, they border on Chernyakhov Culture areal, sometimes getting into it. Sarmatians (alanes-tanaites) weren’t a part of the Gothic association\textsuperscript{206}. It seems that Alan-Sarmatians settled on the Dnieper only in the final phase of Chernyakhov Culture, after the defeat in 375 AD by the Huns and Alans of Ostrogothic Union of Germanic\textsuperscript{207}. Late Sarmatian monuments in the eastern Ukraine clearly indicate of territorial (and political?) independence of their carriers with respect to the Gothic association\textsuperscript{206}. Alano-Sarmatian monuments (Kantemirovka, Novo-Podkriazh, Dmukhailovka), as well as monuments with the North Caucasian ceramics (Kapulovka) wedged between this group and the Goths Gesimundes (Chernyakhiv monuments in the Black Sea steppe: Ranzhevoe, Kamenka-Anchekra, Gavrilovka, Bisiukov monastery, Lugovoe). They divide Gothic population of the Hun Empire\textsuperscript{209}.

10. Attempts to identify historical events from the written sources with archaeological realities. Some dualism is observed identifying archaeological phenomena of the final of the Late Roman Period - beginning of the Great Migration era with historical events,drawn from the written sources. On the one hand, researchers believe that it would be imprudent to look for in the gothic folklore (gothic songs recorded by Iordan) description of real events, to try to locate them in time and space, or believe in the actual existence of absolutely all the characters mentioned there\textsuperscript{210}. And on the other hand, archaeological phenomena are almost unequivocally identified with historical events and even accurately localize political associations of that time\textsuperscript{211}.

M.M. Kazanskiy and A.V. Mastykova assume that by the ethnonym of «alanes-sarmates» Marcian (or Pseudo-Marcian) one should understand all Iranian-speaking and non-Iranian-speaking tribes of the steppe and adjacent regions, descendants of the ancient Sarmatians and Alans\textsuperscript{212}. A.V. Simonenko admits that Ammianus Marcellinus meant by Alanes-Tanaites generally Late Sarmatian tribes of the Northern Black Sea, and by greitunges - population of Chernyakhov Culture\textsuperscript{213}.

M.M. Kazanskiy and A.V. Mastykova connect Late Chernyakhiv monuments of periods D1 (AD 360/370-400/410) - the beginning of D2 (AD 380/400-440/450) (forest-steppe burial grounds including our region: Sumy-Sad, Kompaniytsy), «prince» hoards with the East Germanic jewelry of the Untersibenbrunn D2 horizon (Nezhyv, Kryglitsa (Porshyno), Zhygailovo, Bol’shoy Kamnents, Oboyan’ district) with the Ostrogoths of Vinitarius, Gunimand-Thorismund\textsuperscript{214}. Iordan narrative about coming of the hunnes, Germanaric death and reign of his heirs are treated as the emergence of a few ostrogoths-greitunges enough independent power centers\textsuperscript{215}.

It is believed that at the times of the Vinitarius (the 70’s – 80’s of the 4th century) Ostrogoths neighbors to the south and south-east were hunnes of Balamber, and in the north – the Antes of king of Boz. These «Antes» are the heirs of Veneti, carriers of Kiev Culture\textsuperscript{216}. As the center of the Vinitarius kingdom and its heirs was determined the Dnieper left bank, the northern part of Chernyakhov Culture areal, between the upper reaches of the Voprska and Psel rivers, where the hoards near Zhygailovka, Nezhyv, Reblivka, “princely” graves near Bol’shoy Kamnet in 1918-1919 and 1927 were found\textsuperscript{217}.

3. Cultural situation in the region in the light of finds of ancient coins

After fragments of amphorae, Roman coins are one of the most common categories of finds of ancient import on Chernyakhov Culture monuments of the Dnieper left bank forest-steppe. Condition of source base gives doesn’t allow to judge of a more or less exact number of the finds (both published and unpublished). Currently we have information on at least 208 finds points of Roman coins: single finds (including finds from the territories of monuments, in complexes or without context, as well as coins with holes) and hoards. Their total number is not less than 8150 copies (no less than 390 individual finds and not less than 7760 coins in hoards). A total mass of finds from the territory of Chernyakhov Culture it is about 30% or about 17% of the finds points on the territory of the culture\textsuperscript{218}. Not all findings have complete information about the context and the circumstances of their discovery, and general description

\textsuperscript{202} SHUKIN/SHAROV 2000, 375.
\textsuperscript{203} KAZANSKIY 1997 182; KAZANSKIY/MASTYKOVA 2009, 230.
\textsuperscript{204} IL’YUPSCHIK 1961, 155; KAZANSKIY/MASTYKOVA 1999, 119; SIMONENKO 2012, 230.
\textsuperscript{205} OBLOMSKII 2002, 83.
\textsuperscript{206} SIMONENKO 2001, 50.
\textsuperscript{207} SIMONENKO 2001, 90.
\textsuperscript{208} KAZANSKIY/MASTYKOVA 1999, 125.
\textsuperscript{209} SIMONENKO 2012, 233.
\textsuperscript{210} KAZANSKIY/MASTYKOVA 1999, 128.
\textsuperscript{211} KAZANSKIY/MASTYKOVA 2009, 227.

\textsuperscript{212} KAZANSKIY 1997; KAZANSKYI/MASTYKOVA 2009.
\textsuperscript{213} KAZANSKIY/MASTYKOVA 1999, 119.
\textsuperscript{214} SIMONENKO 2012, 233.
\textsuperscript{215} KAZANSKIY 1997, 182; KAZANSKIY/MASTYKOVA 1999, 127, ris. 1.
\textsuperscript{216} KAZANSKIY/MASTYKOVA 2009, 245.
\textsuperscript{217} KAZANSKIY 1997, 181.
\textsuperscript{218} KAZANSKIY 1997; KAZANSKYI/MASTYKOVA 2009, 246.
\textsuperscript{219} M.YUZGIN 2013a, 356.
of some cast doubt on the authenticity. Therefore, one of the actual tasks of further research of Roman coins in the region is the verification of the available data, based primarily on archival work.

Finds of Republican denarii in the region is rather an exception than the regularity. There is information only about two such coins, but the reliability of information needs to be tested. Prevailing category Roman coins finds is Roman denarii of the I-II centuries, issued mainly between the reigns of Traian and Septimius Severus (98-211 years.). Besides, they predominate both among individual finds (77.9%) and among the hoards of coins (92.6%)\textsuperscript{219}. In recent years, the problem of their penetration to the territory of Chernyakhov Culture, including the territory of the region, has gained significant currency. Until the mid-1980s researchers considered the appearance of these coins as a result of trade between the barbarians and the Roman Empire\textsuperscript{220}. Since the mid-1980s - until early 2010s among the scientists the most prevalent was the idea of their penetration to the barbaric environment as a result of plunder of Roman provincial towns during the Gothic war\textsuperscript{221}. However, lately the penetration of Roman denarii in Eastern Europe has been associated with the migration of Gothic people from Central Europe in early 3rd century\textsuperscript{222}. The last thesis is well illustrated by the results of the analysis of denarii hoards. All seven authentic denarii hoards (Sevenken, Priamicyno, Chutove, Kriachkovka, Lukishina, Rogintsy, Starye Valki/2013), though different in composition, but have a similar chronological structure with different groups of hoards from Central Europe, from the territory of Przeworsk and Wielbark cultures\textsuperscript{223}.

Subaeratae denarii compose the second largest group of finds of coins of Early Roman Period. They attracted the researchers’ attention not so long ago, but now it has been noticed that mostly these coins had a hole, that is they were considered the appearance of these coins as a result of trade between the barbarians and the Roman Empire\textsuperscript{220}. Since the mid-1980s - until early 2010s among the scientists the most prevalent was the idea of their penetration to the barbaric environment as a result of plunder of Roman provincial towns during the Gothic war\textsuperscript{221}. However, lately the penetration of Roman denarii in Eastern Europe has been associated with the migration of Gothic people from Central Europe in early 3rd century\textsuperscript{222}. The last thesis is well illustrated by the results of the analysis of denarii hoards. All seven authentic denarii hoards (Sevenken, Priamicyno, Chutove, Kriachkovka, Lukishina, Rogintsy, Starye Valki/2013), though different in composition, but have a similar chronological structure with different groups of hoards from Central Europe, from the territory of Przeworsk and Wielbark cultures\textsuperscript{223}.

Antoniniani finds in the region are also rare (0.8%), in contrast to the bronze coins of provincial coinage of the 3\textsuperscript{rd} century\textsuperscript{225}. Special study of finds of these coins in Chernyakhov Culture area, held by G. Beidin, showed that on the Left Bank of the Dnieper the finds of coins of provincially-Roman coinage from the cities of Asia Minor (Trapezos, Sinope, Cessarea Cappadocia) compose prevailing number of them (85%), while on the Right Bank of the Dnieper and in Moldova the number is only 30% (there are predominant finds of coins of Balkan provincial-Roman cities). Perhaps such correlation illustrates the area of settlement of sea voyages participants to Asia Minor in the middle of the 3\textsuperscript{rd} century\textsuperscript{226}. Another feature of the coins in the region of this time is almost complete absence of aurei of the 3\textsuperscript{rd} century, typical for the regions of the Middle Dnieper and Dniestre\textsuperscript{227}.

Coins of the 4\textsuperscript{th} – early 5\textsuperscript{th} centuries aren’t typical for the Dnieper left bank. It is all about nine reliable finds of bronze coins (2.4%) and one siliqua (0.25%)\textsuperscript{228}. Quite apart is a hoard, discovered in 1891 near Rubliovka village (Poltava oblast). The hoard consisted of 201 solidi of the end of the 4\textsuperscript{th} – early 5\textsuperscript{th} centuries\textsuperscript{229}. Besides, single finds of solidi are known in the region (0.8%). This phenomenon a number of researchers associate with the existence of the Postchernyakhiv horizon on the Left Bank of the Dnieper forest-steppe in the first half of the 5\textsuperscript{th} century\textsuperscript{230}.

One cannot but touch a very interesting group of finds in the region - the barbaric coins imitations. Until recently, their finds were considered a rarity on the Left Bank of the Dnieper\textsuperscript{231}. However, lately, information about their new finds has started intensely accumulating\textsuperscript{232}. According to recent data, one can talk about 41 finds of denarii imitations (6.3% of the total amount) and 12 gold coins imitations (6.3% of total amount) (barbarous-imitations.narod2.ru). Subject of barbaric imitations on the territory of Barbaricum is today one of the most promising for development\textsuperscript{233}.

Another feature of numismatic finds of the Late Roman Period in the region is wide spreading of Bosporan coins. This issue has been actively studied only recently\textsuperscript{234}. Most Bosporan coins, found on the left bank of the Dnieper, were minted in the mid/second half of the 3\textsuperscript{rd} – early 4\textsuperscript{th} centuries. Apparently, if the coins of mid/second half of the 3\textsuperscript{rd} century (Pharsanzes, Ininthimaeus and Rhescuporis V) came to the region as a result of the German presence in the Bosporus, then the coin of the end of the 3\textsuperscript{rd} – early 4\textsuperscript{th} centuries (Thothorses, Teiranes and Rhescuporis VI) were already the result of some economic ties\textsuperscript{235}. However, the question of the causes of the influx of Bosporan coins in the region should be considered open.

Thus, the spread of ancient coins on the territory of the Dnieper Left Bank has a number of features that distinguish this region from others. Namely: significant distribution of coins of the 3\textsuperscript{rd} century of autonomous minting cities of Asia Minor cities; absence of gold coins finds minted in the 3\textsuperscript{rd} century; a small amount of coins minted in the 4\textsuperscript{th} – first half of the 5\textsuperscript{th} century; availability of solidi of the end of the 4\textsuperscript{th} – early 5\textsuperscript{th} centuries; widespread of Bosporan coins. At the same time, in the region, in general, common throughout the whole territory of Chernyakhov Culture elements of spreading of Roman coins are preserved, that is a predominance of denarii of the 1\textsuperscript{st} - 2\textsuperscript{nd} centuries coinage both among single finds and among coins of hoards. Such features of coins distributing can be attributed to several factors. First, the region is most distant from the centers of culture formation and Roman Limes. The latter, in particular, since the 4\textsuperscript{th} century has been the source of a constant influx of coins in the territory to...
the west of the Dniester. In contrast, geographical proximity of the area under consideration to the Bosporos enabled influx of import from its territory. Second, distribution of coins in the region was closely associated with the spread of Chernyakhov Culture itself, which took place, according to archaeological evidence, rather late – from the second third of the 4th century. Finally, the third, no less important reason was geographical position of the region, namely the presence of powerful obstacle such as the Dnieper that prevented the rapid spread of new elements here.

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Fig. 1. Location of the "Dnieper-Donets forest-steppe" in the area of Chernyakhiv Culture.
Fig. 2. Settlements of mid II-first half of IV century in the Dnieper-Donets forest-steppe:

I – exposed to excavations: 1 – Besedovka; 2 – Bukreevka 2; 3 – Rodnoi Kral 3; 4 – Gachevo 1; 5 – Gachevo 2 (construction 1, 2); 6 – Gachevo 3; 7 – Gachevo 4; 8 – Boromila 2; 9 – Peschanoe; 10 – Desiatyi Oktiabr'; 11 – Vogenki 1 (участок A); 12 – Ogul’tsy; 13 – Golovino 1; 14 – Mamroi;

II – famous for exploration with findings of stages C1b – C2: 1 – Bolshaya Danilovka; 2 – Rjabukhino; 3 – Khalimonovka; 4 – Baranovo; 5 – Starye Valki; 6 – Paseki; 7 – Novoselovka; 8 – Shevchenki 1; 9 – Vasil’evka 3; 10 – Matiasheva Yar 3.
Fig. 3. Horizon of Boromlia: construction 1 of settlement of Boromlia 2 (1) and its findings:

2, 3 – bronze fibulae; 4 – fragment of bone comb; 5 – bone comb; 6 – bone "stylus"; 7 – iron awl; 8 – strickle;
9 – fragment of iron knife; 11, 12 – glass clay amphorae; 10, 13 – 20 – pottery; 21 – 40 – moulded ceramics
(NEKRASOVA, 2006, ris. 20, 21).
Fig. 4. Horizon of Boromila: materials from the settlement of Voytenki 1, area “A”:

I – construction 2/2 (1) and its findings: 2 – bronze fibula; 3 – 7 – pottery; 8 – 16 – moulded ceramics;

II – construction 4 and its findings: 2, 3 – fragments of glass clay amphorae; 4 – 9 – pottery; 10 – 23 – moulded ceramics;

III – construction 11 (1) and its findings: fragment of moulded pot (2), fragment of amphora’s side (2);

IV – construction 17 (1) and fragment of moulded pot (2);

V – construction 21 (1).
Fig. 5. Horizon of Boromilia: depressed construction 2/2 on the area “A” in the settlement of Voytenki.
Fig.6. Areal of Chernyakhiv Culture in the area of the Dnieper-Donets forest-scrub with indication of monuments studied by excavations (numbers of monuments on the map correspond to the numbers in special catalogue).

1 - settlements:
District 1 "Dnieper, coastal part of the left bank": 13 - Gradizhsk (stow Krucha); 20 - Zhozovno (stow Vasilenko); 29 - Malisimova; 36 - Novolopaskoe; 40 - Raduckova; 79 - Zosnova; 104 - Erivitsi; 142 - Khlopkov; 1 - District 2 «Desna – Sem»: 4 - Lipovka 1; 53 - Beispole 1; 89 - Pery 1; 2; 88 - Koslovka; 91 - Desiatyi Oktyabr; 93 - Dnagov; 2 - District 3 «Sula»: 31 - Besedovka; 38 - Artashkovka 1; 39 - Dubina 1; 44 - Zvenkov Yar; 50 - Korovintsi; 71 - Voskresensko; 74 - Gridino; 104 - Grabarivko; 106 - Davydovka; District 4 «Pakol»: 6 - Gortsevo 3; 7 - Gortsevo 4; 9 - Dmitrov 3; 26 - Velikiy Boryk; 72 - Manroli 2; 79 - Peschanoe; 87 - Vasilenko 4; 102, 103, 104 - Kosovskina 1, 2; 106 - Krasnopole 1; District 5 «Vorosla - Orel»: 13 - Voznesensky 1; 17 - Golovchino; 65 - Staro Sargarno (Roshchini);

2 - burial grounds: District 1 "Dnieper, coastal part of the left bank": 14 - Gradizhsk (stow Krucha); 17 - Zhozovno (stow Blenkory Byty); 18 - Zhozovno (stow Noskeni); 19 - Zhozovno (stow Pritsi); 22 - Kazanik; 25 - Kompanovka; 73 - Sosnova; 120 - Pereaslav-Kromlinskyy; District 2 «Desna – Sem»: 69 - Pery 3; District 3 «Sula»: 5 - Volchek; 27 - Novolopaskoe; 40 - Dubina 1; 89 - Lispenka; 72 - Voskresensko; 84 - Gorynya; District 4 «Pakol»: 73 - Suny-Sad; 91 - Suny; 92 - Zamoskovska Duna; District 5 «Vorosla - Orel»: 74 - Boromlia 1; 113 - Novolopaskoe; 121 - Karaimovka; 136 - Pavlyukovka; 140 - Vositenko 1; 175 - Piesherska; District 5 «Siverskii Donec»: 62 - Sokolovo 2; 96 - Golovchino 1; 116 - Perevne; 118 - Rodnoi Krei 1; 145 - Glubokoe;

3 - unrecorded burials: District 1 "Dnieper, coastal part of the left bank": 26 - Lavrikovka; 31 - Pakov 3 «Sula»: 106 - Izchevko; District 5 «Vorosla - Orel»: 100 - Storozhevoe; 122 - Karaimovka; District 5 «Siverskii Donec»: 10 - Mechebeli; 89 - Voronovka;

4 - conventional border between districts;

5 - border of Chernyakhiv Culture area.
Fig. 7. View of Voytenki 1 archaeological complex.
Fig. 8. Chernyakhiv Culture: hearth in the above-ground framed wattle and daub construction (1), depressed construction (2). Settlement of Voytenki 1, area “A”.
Fig. 9. Chernyakhiv Culture: kiln (object 7, parcel A, area “B” of Voytenki 1 settlement).
Fig. 10. Chernyakhiv Culture: Voytenki burial ground:

I – burial 86/1 of Voytenki burial ground (1, 2), its inventory (5 - 24);
II – burial 86/2 of Voytenki burial ground (1, 2), its inventory (3 - 5);
III – burial 93: inventory;
IV – burial 92: inventory;
V – burial 94: inventory.
Fig. 11. Chernyakhiv Culture: glass beaker from the burial 86/1 of Voytenki burial ground.
Fig. 12. Chernyakhiv Culture: Voytenki burial ground:

I – burial 32: inventory;
II – burial 41 and its inventory;
III – burial 52: inventory;
IV – burial 54 and its inventory.
Fig. 13. Chernyakhiv Culture: burial 41 of Voytenki burial ground.
Fig. 14. Chernyakhiv Culture: burial 23 of Voytenki burial ground (1) and its beads (2).
Fig. 15. Chernyakhiv Culture: glass playing tokens (1) and Rome bronze scalpel (2) from cremation burial ground
Fig. 16. Undermounded burials with Chernyakhiv items:


II - mound 1 Kantemirovka (RUDINSKYI 1930, tabl. I, ris. 4 – 7; tabl. II, ris. 8; OLOMSKIY 2002, ris. 91).
Fig. 18. Distribution of finds of Roman coins on the territory of the Dnieper forest-steppe left bank area in the areal of Chernyakhiv Culture.

1 – single finds of coins I-II AD; 2 – single finds of coins III AD; 3 – single finds of coins IV – beginning V AD; 4 – hoards of Roman coins; 5 – hoard of solidi end IV – beginning V AD near Rublovka; 6 – distribution borders of Chernyakhiv Culture monuments in the region.
Fig. 19. Some finds of Roman coins of autonomic coinage cities of Asia Minor on the territory of the Dnieper forest-steppe left bank area:

1 – Khvorostovo, Kharkov oblast’ (Septimius Sever for Julia Domna, Sinope); 2 – Ustimenki, Poltava oblast’ (Gordian III, Trapezos); 3 – Khrushovsya Nikitovka, Kharkov oblast’ (Gordian III, Trapezos).
Fig.20. Some finds of Bosporan coins on the territory of the Dnieper forest-steppe left bank area:

1 – Khvorostovo, Kharkov oblast’ (Pharsanes); 2 – Baranovo, Kharkov oblast’ (Cotys III); 3 – Dementeevka, Kharkov oblast’ (Rhescuporis V); 4 – Khvorostovo, Kharkov oblast’ (Rhescuporis V).