

vations on the Hudson's Bay Company, Inuit family life, the raising of children, shamanism, and death. His observations are interesting and detailed. However, his wife, Winifred, in editing the volume, merely adds to a propensity to force-fit traditional culture with late-Victorian expectations. A section on male/female relations is entitled "The Imperative of Marriage." However, the content of this section makes it clear that the Inuit had no such concept, that men and women lived together (and practiced polygamy) and were free to change partners if things didn't work out. On the contemporary streets of Regina, Toronto or Vancouver, this is otherwise known as "shacking-up."

At \$22.95 in hard cover, given the content, this is an expensive book. It will undoubtedly find appeal among those of an older generation who still choose to see Inuit as children and the Arctic as a frozen wasteland. It will further interest some anthropologists and those who wish to understand more of the world view that affected arctic administration during this period.

We should be kind to Donald Marsh — who merely carried the world view and expectations of his generation and class — for this is a minimal historical and anthropological record that says as much about the origins of contemporary British culture as it does about the culture of the Inuit.

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GRABFUNDE DER SKYTHENZEIT AUS TUVA, SUEDESIBIRIEN. By ROMAN KENK. Muenchen: Verlag C.H. Beck, 1986. Kommission fuer Allgemeine und Vergleichende Archäologie des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts Bonn, Materialien zur Allgemeinen und Vergleichenden Archäologie. Vol. 24. Softbound. 154 p. plus tables.

This is a book for the specialist on prehistory of Asia, specifically the region on the border between Mongolia and the U.S.S.R. The focus is narrow, both in terms of the geographic region and the time span the book encompasses: Skythian occupation dated ca. 700-200 B.C. The analysis, conducted by means of a standard methodological approach employed by Kenk in other work, is based on the finds published in 1980 by A.D. Grach (Grac) under the title *Drevnie kochevniki v centre Azii* (Ancient nomads in the centre of Asia, no publication data given).

The book consists of an "introduction" in which the ecology of the geographic area and the locations of Skythian sites are discussed. Pertinent publications by Soviet scholars and fieldworkers are briefly reviewed. Kenk establishes that there is no uniform terminology as yet for dealing with the period and that various scholars differ in interpretation of relative chronology. While there is a general agreement on the duration of the Skythian period in this area, the periodization or stages are interpreted differently: Grach and Mannaj-ool define three stages (though they name the stages differently), Vainshtain has four stages, and Kyzlasov two. Kenk prefers the approach defined by Kyzlasov, who divides the period into an early one (700-500 B.C.) and late one (500-200 B.C.). A list of

Skythian finds (burial mounds, the kurgany, and burial grounds) in Tuva follows. The investigators and publication of data on each are indicated. Kenk concludes that in Tuva Skythian remains fall into a regional form of cultural expression, the "Skytho-Siberian," one that encompasses, besides Tuva, the high mountain region of the Altai (Majemir and the subsequent Pazyrik cultures) and the region along the middle Yenisey basin (Minusinsk and Krasnoirsk areas), with stronger links to the Altai than to the Middle Yenisey (p. 41). But complete cultural homogeneity is not to be assumed. Differences are reflected in burial practices. Specifically, wooden burial chambers are absent or very rare in eastern Tuva, where, instead of stone mounds, earthen mounds appear. There is also a lack of the so-called stone pillows characteristic for the rest of Tuva (p. 41-42). Kenk cites Soviet authors' conclusions (based on rather small samples) that the Skythian population was Europoid but points out that exact determination of their biological affinities and ethnic identity is not possible at this time. The late-Skythian (Uiuk) culture is replaced (ca. 200) as a result of the growth and expansion of the Hunns by the "Shurmak" culture.

In the next chapter, Kenk discusses the variability of burial mound and grave forms, followed by a chapter on burial practices and their variability. Next, also in a separate chapter, grave goods are discussed. As in the original work on which Kenk bases his analysis the sex and age of the skeleton and the exact location of specific items in relation to the remains are not indicated, the analyses must remain somewhat sketchy.

In the next chapter, the specific problems of chronology are discussed in detail. Absolute and relative chronologies of specific grave mounds are discussed. The former, due to lack of data in the original publication, is rather tentative.

The next chapters, beginning on p. 97, deal with interpretation on the basis of Grach's data of economic relations and subsistence, art (p. 102-103), and religion (p. 104-105). The rest of the book consists of "documentation": reproduction of recovered artifacts and systematic listing by burial mound, grave, and individual burials.

Kenk synthesizes a lot of material in Russian language sources, often published in provincial centers in the U.S.S.R. and hard to obtain. Thus, his contribution is of value to scholars who specialize in prehistory of Mongolia and the eastern U.S.S.R. The shortcomings are twofold: insufficient data for analysis (for which, of course, Kenk cannot be faulted) and shortcomings on illustrative material — the pages are too crowded, measurements are not indicated (though obviously the artifacts have been represented in proportion to each other's size) and are hard to understand without constant reference to the accompanying lists. The book lacks a comprehensive list of literature, so one must consult the footnotes. However, the format of the presentation is the standard adopted by the newly established Commission for General and Comparative Archaeology (AVA, part of the Institute of Archaeology, Bonn), and the author does not have the freedom to alter it. In spite of these shortcomings, the book will be welcomed, as already stated, by specialists in the field.

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