

© *Yulia Rashkovskaya, Elizaveta Veselovskaya, Alexander Karushev*

THE SIYA MONASTERY OF ST. ANTONIUS CLERGY: AN ANTHROPOLOGICAL STUDY OF THE REMAINS

The article is dedicated to the study of the remains of the clergy from the Siya Monastery of St. Antonius in the Arkhangelsk region. The monastery was founded in 1520 by the hieromonk Antonius of Siya. During restoration in 2022, the remains of clergymen were discovered in the tomb of the Trinity Cathedral. Anthropological study was conducted in July 2024 at the monastery complex. Seven male skeletons of varying preservation conditions were examined using standard anthropological protocols. Photogrammetry was performed on the preserved skulls of four individuals, anthropological reconstruction of appearance was made based on the acquired 3D models. The postcranial skeleton was analyzed to estimate the height and body constitution, the identified pathologies and injuries were recorded. The analysis revealed several possible trauma and markers of experienced stress, which may indicate a deficiency of vitamins in their diet. In most cases, the men lived to an old age. Current archival information about the buried individuals does not yet allow for personal identification. Thus, the final results of the study will be published after a thorough examination of archival sources, should they be found.

Keywords: *anthropological reconstruction, cranial study, osteological examination, The Siya Monastery of St. Antonius*

Authors Info: **Rashkovskaya, Yulia V.** — Trainee Researcher, the Russian Academy of Sciences N. N. Miklouho-Maklay Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology (Moscow, Russian Federation). E-mail: j.pelenitsyna@gmail.com ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3378-9151>

Veselovskaya, Elizaveta V. — Doctor of Historical Sciences, Professor, the Russian State University for the Humanities (Moscow, Russian Federation); Chief Researcher, the Russian Academy of Sciences N. N. Miklouho-Maklay Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology (Moscow, Russian Federation). E-mail: veselovskaya.e.v@yandex.ru ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2932-9884>

Karushev, Alexander Yu. — Assistant to the Vicar of the Siya Monastery of St. Antonius, Head of the Monastery's Church and Archaeological Office (Kholmogorsky district, Arkhangelsk Region, Russian Federation). E-mail: karushew@yandex.ru

For citation: Rashkovskaya, Yu. V., E. V. Veselovskaya, and A. Yu. Karushev. 2025. The Siya Monastery of St. Antonius Clergy: An Anthropological Study of the Remains. *Herald of Anthropology (Vestnik Antropologii)* 1: 369–388.

Funding: The study was supported by the Russian Science Foundation, grant No 24-28-00819.

References

Alekseev, V. P. 1966. *Osteometriia. Metodika antropologicheskikh issledovaniy* [Osteometry. Meth-

- odology of Anthropological Research]. Moscow: Nauka. 250 p.
- Alekseev, V. P., and G. F. Debets. 1964. *Kraniometriia. Metodika antropologicheskikh issledovaniï* [Cranio-metry. Methodology of Anthropological Research]. Moscow: Nauka. 250 p.
- Balueva, T. S., and E. V. Veselovskaia. 2004. Novye razrabotki v oblasti vosstanovleniia vneshnego oblika cheloveka po kraniologicheskim dannym [New Developments in the Field of Restoring Human Appearance Based on Craniological Data]. *Arkheologiia, etnografiia i antropologiia Evrazii* 1: 143–150.
- Bunak, V. V. 1941. *Antropometriia* [Anthropometry]. Moscow: Uchpedgiz. 368 p.
- Fedosova, V. N. 1986. Obshchaia otsenka razvitiia komponenta mezomorfii po osteologicheskim dannym (osteologicheskaiia metodika) [General Assessment of the Development of the Mesomorphy Component According to Osteological Data (Osteological Methodology)]. *Voprosy antropologii* 76: 104–116.
- Gerasimov, M. M. 1955. *Vosstanovlenie litsa po cherepu (sovremennyi i iskopaemyi chelovek)* [Reconstruction of the Face on the Skull (Modern and Fossilized Person)]. Moscow: USSR Academiaiia Nauk. 585 p.
- Khrisanfova, E. N. 1978. *Evoliutsionnaia morfologiia skeleta cheloveka* [Evolutionary Morphology of the Human Skeleton]. Moscow: Izdatel'stvo Moskovskogo universiteta. 216 p.
- Kirillov, A. V. 1895. Podvizhniki blagochestiia, pochivaiushchie v usypal'nitse Antonievo-Siiskogo monastyria [Ascetics of Piety Resting in the Tomb of the Antonievo-Siisky Monastery]. *Arkhangel'skie eparkhial'nye vedomosti* 17: 469–474.
- Kozlov, N. V. 1865. Antoniev Sijiskij monastyr' [The Siya Monastery of St. Antonius]. In *Materialy dlia geografii i statistiki Rossii, sobrannye ofitserami General'nogo shtaba. Arkhangel'skaia guberniia* [The Materials for Geography and Statistics of Russia, Collected by Officers of the General Staff. Arkhangel'sk Province], ed. by N. V. Kozlov. Saint Petersburg: Tipografiia E. Veimara. 339–340.
- Lebedinskaia, G. V. 1998. *Rekonstruktsiia litsa po cherepu (metodicheskoe rukovodstvo)* [Facial Reconstruction Based on the Skull: Methodological Guidelines]. Moscow: Saryi sad. 125 p.
- Pashkova, V. I. 1963. *Ocherki sudebno-medicinskoj osteologii. Opredelenie pola, vozrasta i rosta po kostjam skeleta cheloveka* [Essays on Forensic Osteology. Determination of Sex, Age and Height from Human Skeletal Bones]. Moscow: Medgiz, 1963. 156 p.
- Roginskii, Ya. Ya., and M. G. Levin. 1978. *Antropologiia* [Anthropology]. Moscow: Vysshaya shkola. 501 p.
- Nikanor. 1895. *Inok Paisii, ktitor Siiskogo monastyria i ego trudy: (k predstoiashchemu 200-letnemu yubileiu pamiati O. Paisiia)* [Monk Paisius, Rector of the Siya Monastery and His Writings: (on the Upcoming 200th Anniversary of the Memory of Paisius)]. Saint Petersburg: Sinodal'naia tipografiia. 10 p.
- Tikhonov, A. G. 1997. *Fizicheskii tip srednevekovogo naseleniia Evrazii po dannym osteologii* [Physical Type of Medieval Eurasian Population According to the Osteology Data]. Ph.D. diss. abstract, Russian Academy of Sciences. 36 p.
- Veselovskaya, E. V. 2018. «Algoritm vneshnosti» — kompleksnaia programma antropologicheskoi rekonstruktsii [“The Algorithm of Appearance” — A Comprehensive Program of Anthropological Reconstruction]. *Vestnik Moskovskogo universiteta. Seriia 23: Antropologiia* 2: 38–54. <https://doi.org/10.32521/2074-8132.2018.2.038-054>