


CHRONOLOGY OF UKRAINIAN NATIONHOOD

7th millennium BC

TRYPILLIAN CULTURE



10th century BC

CIMMERIANS



GREAT SCYTHIA



SARMATIAN TRIBAL UNION



HUNS TRIBAL UNION



7th century BC

3rd-2nd centuries BC

ANTES TRIBAL UNION



DULEBS UNION



RUS




4th century

6th century

7th century

9th century

KIPCHAK-POLOVTSIAN UNION



11th century

PRINCIPALITY OF GALICIA AND VOLHYNIA



GRAND DUCHY OF LITHUANIA AND RUTHENIA



PRINCIPALITIES OF RUTHENIA, KYIV, VOLHYNIA



PRINCIPALITY OF OSTROZKYIS



13th century

14th century

1432

1449

1471

1475

1493

16th century

1662

1668

1675

1687

1714

1772

1783

1918

1920

1941

1954

1991

PRINCIPALITY OF OLEKSA (THEODORO)



ZAPORIZHIAN HOST



TRANS-DANUBIAN SICH, BUG AND AZOV HOST



HETMANATE OF BOHDAN KHMELNYTSKYI



COSSACK STATE OF DOROSHENKO



NADDNIPRIANSHCHYNA OF MAZEPA AND ORLYK



KINGDOM OF GALICIA AND LODOMERIA



UPR AND UKRAINIAN STATE



UUA UNDERGROUND UKRAINIAN STATE



CRIMEAN KHANATE



BLACK SEA AND KUBAN HOST



UKRAINIAN SOVIET REPUBLIC (USSR)



UPR GOVERNMENT IN EXILE



UKRAINE





People have always been interested in the historical past. Monk Nestor, for instance, studied records of his predecessors and wrote *The Tale of Bygone Years*. Archimandrite Petro Mohyla excavated the ruins of the Church of the Dime. History and archaeology always go side by side, presenting us with knowledge of how and what our ancestors lived and fought for, what they dreamt of. It helps us to find an answer to the question what we live for. Modernity grows from the past. The same is with us, as we continue to live in the following generations.

History is not just a set of facts and dates. It is a continuous process that does not stop even for a moment. The one who understands it can make the right choice today. For this purpose, basing on the works of giants of Ukrainian history, archaeology and ethnography, we built this unified chain of past events that finally resulted in the emergence of independent state on the map of the world. This country is called Ukraine. Our Motherland.

If you cannot state Ukrainian history briefly, you are ignorant of it. But in case you manage to cover the whole history, from the Scythians to nowadays, it will make you feel like a part of this land, this nation. Learn to be proud of your forefathers, and descendants will be proud of you. As the Ukrainian is not a person whose grandfathers were Ukrainians, but whose children will be Ukrainians.



Mykhailo Oleksandrovych Maksymovych (1804–1873) was a distinguished Ukrainian ethnographer, historian, scholar, poet, the first translator of *The Tale of Ibor's Campaign*.



Mykola Ivanovych Kostomarov (1817–1885) was a distinguished Ukrainian historian, poet, educator, public figure. He was the author of *Book of the Genesis of the Ukrainian People* and a founder of Cyril and Methodius Brotherhood.



Volodymyr Bonifatiliovych Antonovych (1834–1908) was a distinguished Ukrainian historian, archaeologist, ethnographer, co-founder of *Hromada* of Kyiv. He was the author of more than 300 scientific works on history, archaeology and ethnography of Ukraine.



Mykhailo Serhiiiovych Hrushevskiy (1866–1934) was a distinguished Ukrainian historian, politician, the head of Central Rada, the author of more than 2000 scientific works and his fundamental book *History of Ukraine Rus*. He was the Czech Academy student of Volodymyr Antonovych and a full member of Czech Academy of Sciences (1914), Ukrainian Academy of Sciences (1923) and USSR Academy of Sciences (1929). He initiated establishment of the Czech Academy and was an author of Constitution of the Ukrainian National Republic.



Osman Nuri-Asan Akchokrakly, Osman Nuri-Asanoğlu Ağçoğraçlı (1878–1938) was a distinguished Crimean Tatar historian, archaeologist, explorer of Crimea, lecturer of Crimean history, Kyiv and Kharkiv universities.



Usein Abdurefiliovych Bodaninskyi, Usein Abdurefilioğlu Bodaninskiy (1877–1938) was a distinguished Crimean Tatar ethnographer, historian, painter, the first director of the museum in the Khan's Palace in Bakhchisarai.



Dmytro Ivanovych Yavornytskyi (1855–1940) was a distinguished Ukrainian historian, archaeologist, ethnographer, writer, explorer of the Zaporizhian Cossacks. He created a collection, consisting of 7500 exhibits items from the Cossack lands.



Vikentii Viacheslavovych Khvoika (1850–1914) was a distinguished Ukrainian archaeologist, discoverer of the Trypillian culture, explorer of Paleolithic sites in Kyiv, Scythian graves, Rus artifacts.



- ① Zakarpattia
- ② Bukovyna
- ③ Kholmshchyna
- ④ Podliashhia
- ⑤ Beresheishchyna



CIMMERIAN FIGHTER

The lands spreading to the north of the Black Sea are considered to be a cradle of the world's civilization. People have been living in the territory of Ukraine since the Stone Age. Traces of their sites are spread from Zakarpattia (Transcarpathia) to Crimea and Podniprovya. The oldest known site of the ancient people that is situated near Koroleve village in Zakarpattia goes back to million years BC. In science this period is called the **Old Stone Age** or the **Paleolithic age**.

Those people who lived in the **early Paleolithic age** are called *homo erectus*. They used stones as tools, but did not hunt. They gathered fruits, esculent roots and ate meat of dead animals.

In the period of the **late Paleolithic** (the 30th–10th millennia BC) there were over 800 encampments of the ancient hunters in the territory of Ukraine. The most famous of them are situated in Radomyshl in the Zhytomyr region, Mizyn in the Chernihiv region and just in the centre of Kyiv near St. Cyril's Church. These people were *homo sapiens*, modern human. They made knives, pikes for spears and harpoons of stone. Needles for sewing and fishing hooks were made of bones. A lot of paintings on the walls and

THE BEGINNING OF HISTORY. TRYPILLIANS AND CIMMERIANS

BEFORE THE 12TH CENTURY BC

roofs of the caves and even carvings and engravings on the bones were left by these people.

Archeological finds of Smiach encampments in the Chernihiv region prove the existence of culture in the **Mesolithic period** or the **Middle Stone Age** (the 12th–7th millennia BC). People of that period improved the art of arms making and were very skilful hunters and fishermen.

The **New Stone Age** or the **Neolithic** (about the 9th–3rd millennia BC) is known for archeological artifacts, covering the large territory – predominantly these are remains of **Dniiper-Donets** and **Bug-Dniester** cultures with cattle-breeding features. People of that period were involved not only with gathering and hunting, but also with animal husbandry. They also learnt to polish stone skilfully, pierce it and make elaborated tools. The famous Stone Grave, which is located in the Zaporizhzhia region, also belongs to this period. It is a stone hill with caves covered with thousands of cave paintings that served as ancient chance.

The most famous culture of the **Eneolithic** or **Copper Age** (the 3rd–4th millennia BC) was Trypillian culture that had already developed animal husbandry and agriculture. Remains of large Trypillian settlements, ceramics with elaborate patterns, cultic figures and house wares are found in the territory that spreads from the Dniiper to

Zakarpattia. The Trypillians had copper tools.

They had a well-ordered way of life and well-developed

trades, especially pottery. It was the period when the wheel was invented. Trypillian dwelling is a building which



is suitable for living even of modern human. The population of some settlements went beyond 15 thousand people. Settled way of life takes its roots just from this period.

In the period of the **Bronze Age** (the 3rd–1st millennia BC) a lot of settlements and burial mounds of many cultures, in particular the Catacomb's culture, were found throughout the whole territory of Ukraine. It was a period when tools were made of bronze, which was a product of copper and stannum fusing. Moreover, such complicated mechanisms as, for example, loom appeared. People began to live in lineage groups. During this period cattle breeders detached themselves from plowmen: the first group led a nomadic way of life, while the second one – settled in places, where they tilled the ground.

The Cimmerians were the most ancient people of our land, who were mentioned in the records. They lived in the **Iron Age** (the 1st millennium BC), when people could make iron tools and arms. The Cimmerians were nomads. They were involved with animal husbandry and had developed trades.

The Cimmerians were mentioned in Assyrian and Greek records of the 8th century BC as skilful fighters, who made military campaigns to Asia Minor. The Cimmerians, in the main, were splendid riders, skilled archers and were able to shoot straight to any side, sitting in the saddle. In Ukrainian chronicles they are named *tsymbrias*. Assyrian chroniclers made men-

tion of Cimmerian incursions to such Asia Minor countries as Lydia, Cappadocia and Assyria.

Greek historians even mentioned the great Cimmerian Kingdom that spanned the whole northern part of the Black Sea coastal area, both shores of the Kerch Strait and had its capital Kimmerikon. Greek poet Homer writes about them in such

a way: "There lie the land and city of the Cimmerians covered in mist and cloud: never does the bright sun look down upon them with his rays."

And the legendary Book of Veles runs, "They were the same Kimmorians, as our fathers, and they shook the Romans and Greeks, swept them like frightened pigs!"



Neolithic
Trypillian Culture
Cimmerian Kingdom



A SCYTHIAN FROM THE PECTORAL

Scythia is the most ancient state in the territory of Ukraine, the records on which have been preserved up to our days. Scythia was a kingdom that integrated culturally related tribes that lived in our territory in the middle of the 1st millennium BC. As the Scythians (or Scyth) left no own records, we can learn about the way of their life mainly from the works of Greek and Roman authors. However, they left huge graves – burial sites of honourable people, which give historians rich materials for research: weapons, tools, artworks, in particular gold jewellery. Big stone sculptures, famous Kurgan stelae (or 'stone babas'), had been crowning steppe burial mounds at times right up till the 20th century.

The Royal Scythians were considered to be the main Scythian tribes and the region where they lived, Tauria, was called their capital area. The Royal Scythians led a half-nomad way of life. Other union tribes that wandered in the north were called the Scythian herdsmen. The related settled tribes of the upper right bank of the Dnieper were called Scythian ploughmen. The Royal Scythians called themselves 'Sciothi' and took their roots from three

GREAT SCYTHIA. SCYTHIAN PLOUGHMEN AND SCYTHIAN HERDSMEN

12th – 3rd CENTURIES BC

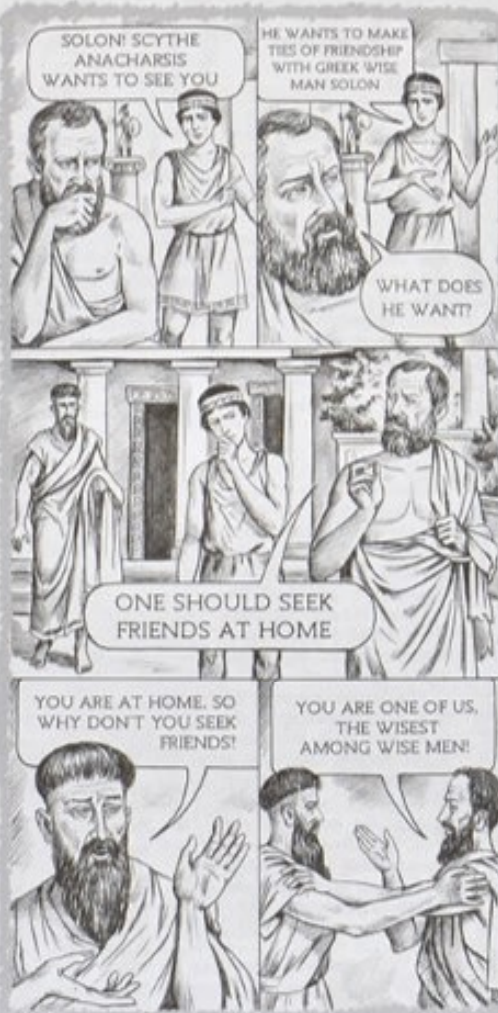
sons of the King Targiteas. A plough, a yoke, an axe and a bowl fell from heaven upon them. These sacraments were kept by Scythian kings as the symbol of power.

The Greeks, who lived in the neighbourhood, thought that Scythians originated from Heracles and his half-woman and half-snake, whom he met in Hilela (modern Tavria). She gave birth to three sons, the youngest of them got the name Scythes. He turned out to be the strongest and inherited his father's relics.

Whether it is true or not, but still Kurgan stelae are often covered with pictures of this legends' sacrament – a bowl in the form of horn. Scythians' ruler, tsar, headed the army, took the role of supreme judge, but his power was not absolute. Folkmoot, a Scythians' council, took into consideration the most important issues of the state and even could determine the ruler's fate.

Pleasant land gave the hardworking Scythians pasture grounds for cattle and rich grain gather. Therefore, they sold grain and other agricultural products to the neighbours, providing with food not only Ancient Greece, but also other peoples. The upper Black Sea regions were extensively inhabited by the Greeks, there they built their city-states, such as Olbia (near modern Ochakiv), Feodosia, Chersonese (within the bounds of modern Sevastopol). On

the banks of the Kerch Strait they even established the whole Greek state. Bosphoran Kingdom. Besides trading, the Greeks and the Scythians borrowed from each other handicrafts, traditions and culture. Greek and



Scythian marriages were not rare even among honourable families.

The Scythians were skilled fighters. They made campaigns to Asia Minor, Palestine and Egypt. However, they had rather peaceful temper. When in 514 BC King Darius I of Persia led 700,000 army against Scythians, they just turned away to steppe. The question 'why?' they answered by saying that they did not like to make wars. But the Scythians also warned the Persians not to touch their graves or else something bad would happen to them. The Persians did not take that into consideration and, as a result, were defeated by Scythians who used skilful guerrilla tactics: they scorched the steppe in front of the conquerors in order to leave their horses without fodder, they also smashed carts with supplies and small enemies' forces. Darius had to retreat.

In 331 BC the army of Alexander of Macedon tried to conquer the Scythians. However the far-famed fighters, who later reached India, were defeated by the Scythians. In the 1st century

AD Christian St. Andrew the Apostle travelled along the Dnieper to preach the Scythians. The chronicle runs that St. Andrew gave his blessing to the hills above the Dnieper and told that a great city would be there and many churches would be upraised by God in it. Later Kyiv appeared on those hills.

Scientific thought and art of the Scythians left a great

mark in the European history. Scythian philosopher Anacharsis stood at the origins of Greek philosophy and was considered to be one of the Seven Sages of Greece. Delicate gold pieces of jewellery, in particular pectorals, belong to art collections of the whole world.

In addition, the Ukrainians inherited from the

Scythians the solemn rite of sword brotherhood, consolidated by symbolic mingling of each other's blood; the tradition of drinking sincere wine and very strong aspire of justice, the feature that was distinguished in the Scythians by Greek historians. And the Greeks are still living in Ukraine today.





AMAGE
A SARMATIAN QUEEN

In the 3rd century BC the Royal Scythians, who were exhausted by wars with Greek city-states and Rome, yielded union precession to the nomadic Sarmatian tribes, that were descendants of the Scythian herdsmen tribes.

The Greeks considered the Sarmatians to be children of alliance of Scythian men with mythical Amazons, bellicose women who lived in the Northern Black Sea coastal area. The reason for such consideration was the fact that Sarmatian nomadic women took part in wars on an equal footing with men. Young girls could enter into marriage only after killing the first enemy.

Moreover, Sarmatian women occupied high positions and even ruled the state. The most famous Queen was Amage who took reins from her drunkard husband and successfully governed the state, leading military campaigns and setting her own garrisons in the occupied settlements.

Sarmatian women had equal rights in religious issues too. They could perform the role of priestess and ministered on equality with men.

When it comes to their way of life, it was similar to that which the Cimmerians and the Scythian herdsmen had: they nomadized together with their cattle and lived in camper carts covered with tents of wool. Hunting and

SARMATIAN UNION AND WENDS

3rd CENTURY BC – 9th CENTURY AD

fishing were very important sources of their living.

Besides cattle breeding, the Sarmatians also had a developed craftsmanship. But in truth, the quality of their products stood in no comparison with the level of semi-settled Scythian tribes products.

Nomadic way of life contributed to the wide trade development: the Sarmatians traded with Greek and Roman towns in the Black Sea coastal area and brought goods from the eastern regions, Caucasus and even China.

In contrast to the Scythians, the Sarmatians had a large profit from wars, both from the spoils and from the mercenary activities. All Sarmatian men and women were fighters and skilful riders. The arming consisted of bow, sword and spear. The body was protected with brigandine of bend-leather and iron splints.

The Sarmatian Kingdom was not a state in its modern form. It consisted of temporary alliances of the related tribes. At one point they protected their common interests together, but after some time could make wars between each other.

For the first time Christianity took its roots in the Ukrainian lands in Sarmatian times. New religion spread very widely. As a result, in the 3rd century AD separate Scythians and Bosphoran apaches were created in the Constantinopolitan patriarchy.

Tribes that lived in the territory of the Scythian plough-

men were called the Wends, the Antes or the Slaveni. They were farmers with well-developed handicrafts:

farmery, pottery, weaving, weapon production, etc. We know about them from the ancient Srubna culture (also



known as Timber-grave culture).

The Wends lived in ancient settlements and had a clan system. They established cooperation and wide-ranging goods exchange with their neighbours, the Sarmatians. The Sarmatian fighters protected their neighbours farmers from invaders, laying them under the tribute at the same time.

Sarmatian tribes of the Yazges (or the Royal Sarmatians) and the Aorsi nomadised in the south of modern Ukraine between the Danube and Dnieper. Moving to the West, the Yazges reached the Danube territories of the Roman Empire. They devastated towns, taking prisoners and loots. Finally, Rome agreed to pay tribute to the Sarmatians.

Over time, Yazges troops, allies or mercenaries, fought as a part of Roman army even in Britain. Their tribes settled near Roman lands – territories of modern Romania, Hungary, all the way to France and Italy. Some historians are convinced that they were Sarmatian fighters who together with King Arthur formed the legendary Knights Circle of the Round Table.

Roman poet Ovid, who was exiled to Sarmatian

lands, described the local population in his poems as follows: "There's not one among them who doesn't carry bow, quiver, and arrows pale yellow with viper's gall." And, "Over newly formed bridges, under which the water still glides, Sarmatian oxen draw barbarian carts." He even confesses, "I, who am a poet of Rome (pardon me, ye Muses), am compelled to say ma-

ny things in the Sarmatian language."

Other Sarmatian tribes, the Roxolani, which lived between the Dnieper and the Don, developed the northern territories and later, after the Yazges, the Danube regions.

Eventually, the name of these tribes, the Roxolani, became one of the names denoting the Ukrainians.

Moreover, we owe Sarmatian roots for the force and

belicosity of our women, as well as for high position which they traditionally occupy in Ukrainian family and society.

Just at that time the Karaites and Jews appeared in Crimea. They left burial places with inscriptions in Hebrew and Greek. The Karaites and Jews have been constantly living in Ukraine since that time.



Roxolani
Yazges
Sarmatian
Union
Wends