

Anthropological Types in Bulgarian Population around 1940 – Regional and Local Level

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The largest anthropological survey in Bulgaria has been organized by M. Popov in 1938-1943. Its materials include individual data of 5725 men. Only this study gives a possibility to analyze complex individual anthropological characteristics on regional and local level. The data of the distribution of six anthropological types collected in this survey are analyzed by regions and by counties and an anthropological map of Bulgaria has been made. The analysis shows that recent Bulgarian population is highly heterogeneous. Brachycephalic Dinaric and Alpine types dominate in North and especially in Northwest Bulgaria. Mesocephalic Pontian and Mediterranean types dominate in South and especially in Southeast Bulgaria. However, there are bands of mesocephalic population in North Bulgaria (along the Black Sea coast and along the Danube river) and islands of brachycephalic population in South Bulgaria (in the Rhodopes and in Eastern Thrace). The anthropological composition of Northwest Bulgaria is similar to the Central European one.

Key words: anthropological types, ethnic anthropology, modern Bulgarians, regional anthropological characteristics, local anthropological characteristics.