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METHODOLOGICAL NOTES ON THE INVESTIGATIONS OF LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL CONTACTS BETWEEN ASIA AND AMERICA IN PRE-COLUMBIAN ERA

1. It seems that in the investigations of relationships between the cultures of Asia and America in the pre-Columbian era, both in reference to the accepted northern way of penetration of whole cultures and peoples and to the discussed transpacific way of penetration of particular elements of culture, complex and highly specialized studies are most effective.

2. The linguistics analyzes different kinds of relationships between all the languages of the world. A linguistic family contains all the dialects derived from the same parent language reconstructed on the basis of comparison of all its members. This kind of relationship has not been proved to exist between the Asiatic and American languages. The linguistics examines the secondary relationships between the languages, as well. These relationships result from mutual influence of languages belonging to the same linguistic area. The relationships of this kind seem to exist between some Asiatic and American languages. The structural similarities between them prove that they belonged formerly to the same linguistic area.

The population of the pre-Columbian America was extremely differentiated from the linguistic point of view, because these peoples were descendants of different tribes pushed out of Asia to Alaska across the Bering Straits in the course of many millenia. The aim of our research was to isolate these different strata of the population succeeding one another. On the basis of linguistic evidence the isolation of two main strata seems to be possible at present. The older stratum occupied the territories more distant from the Bering Straits, i. e. almost the whole area of South America and the eastern section of North America. The languages of the newer stratum predominated on the territories less distant

from the Bering Straits: on the Pacific Coast of North America and in a part of Canada, Mexico, Central America and in the Andes. The languages of the older stratum penetrated into America in such a remote antiquity that their relationship with the Asiatic languages could not be proved. On the other hand many structural similarities between the American languages belonging to the newer stratum and the languages spoken in the extreme north-eastern Asia (Chukchi-Kamchadal family) and in Caucasus (North and South Caucasian families) suggest that all these languages belonged formerly to the same linguistic area. This problem was discussed in the preceding paper of T. Milewski: *Typological Similarities Between Caucasian and American Indian Languages*.

3. The present prevalent point of view is that although the American aboriginal high cultures have arisen independently from the foundation transplanted through the northern way, some particular items could eventually have penetrated thanks to the sporadic transpacific contacts with the Asiatic centres of high cultures without changing the originality of the American cultures.

It seems that in the investigation of these contacts the research in which the data of highly specialized natural sciences are confronted with the data of diverse humanistic branches may be more fruitful than the research of the complex of similar items. The investigations for which the gemmological and phytogeographical data are the starting point — in connection with the archeological, ethnographical, historical and linguistic data — seem to be most promising. The preceding papers: Jan Kinle *The Jadeit — its Importance for the Problems of Asia-America Pre-Columbian Relationships* and Tomasz Marszewski *The Age of Maize Cultivation in Asia (A Review of Hypotheses and New Ethnographical, Linguistic and Historical Data)* are examples of this kind of researches.

Similarly, investigations based on purely linguistic problems, e. g. the comparative studies of the structure of the whole linguistic systems as well as the studies of their particular elements, can also offer very valuable results. In the field of onomastics this type of studies is exemplified by the paper of Tadeusz Milewski: *La comparaison des systèmes anthroponymique aztèques et indo-européens*, „Onomastica“, V/1, 1959, p. 119—175.

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К ВОПРОСУ ОБ ОБРАЩЕНИИ ПОЛЬСКИХ МОНЕТ В ГРУЗИИ

В 1453 году, после завоевания турками-османами Константинополя, Грузия оказалась в окружении мусульманских государств. Внутренние распри и неблагоприятное внешнеполитическое положение вынуждали грузинских царей искать союзников среди христианских государств. Этим и объясняется их повышенный интерес к Западу и стремления завязать с западными государствами политические и экономические связи.

Первая такая попытка имела место в 1460 году, — грузинское правительство с готовностью откликнулось на призыв папы римского Пия II к крестовому походу против турок и направило послов в Рим и Францию.

Следующая попытка завязать дипломатические сношения с Западной Европой относится к 1495 году. Царь Картлийский Константин, с целью учреждения коалиции против турок, направил своего наставника Корнелия в Испанию и Рим через Польшу.

Можно привести еще немало фактов взаимоотношений Грузии с Европейскими государствами, как например: переписка царя Теймураза I с римским папой, дипломатическая миссия Сулхана-Саба Орбелиани в Европу, письма царя Вахтанга VI к римскому папе и австрийскому императору. Таким образом, несмотря на полную изоляцию, Грузия всячески старалась не терять связей с европейскими государствами.

Но все эти переговоры ни к чему не привели и реальной помощи Грузия от Европы не получала. Дело в том, что Западная Европа вела против-османскую пропаганду лишь с целью усиления католицизма и упрочения своих торгово-экономических позиций на Ближнем Востоке и, естественно, не стремилась оказать сколько-нибудь реальной помощи Грузии.