

Post-Meroitic/Christian cemetery

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At Kadero cemetery, besides the Neolithic and Meroitic burials, four objects most probably dating back to the Post-Meroitic or Christian periods were also registered. As no equipment was found, exact dating was impossible. The only feature which made it possible to define the chronology was the position of the body as well as the shape of grave.

In the graves 132, 151 and 161 the deceased were positioned on their right sides with their arms along the bodies (graves 132, 151) (Fig. 2 and 3) or with their hands near their face (grave 161) (Fig. 4). The grave 132 was partially destroyed. There were remnants of cloth on the bones which might have been pieces of a shroud in which the dead had been wrapped. All these objects had very clearly marked grave pits.

In the grave 43 (Fig. 1), the dead was positioned on his back, arms along the body. There were pieces of wood in the grave as well. These must have been remains of a wooden ceiling of the grave chamber (Krzyżaniak 1979a: 66-69).

All the graves were located close to each other in two northern elevations of the site (Fig.). At the same time, this was where most stones were found on the surface of the site. These stones might have been the tumuli covering the graves. They seem to be mostly fragments of Neolithic quern stones but it is not unusual that as the material was at hand, it was later used for constructing the graves.

GRAVE 43

Depth of the burial: 90 – 150 cm below the surface of the ground

Grave pit: oval

Orientation: NE – SW (Fig. 1)

Dimension: 105 x 60 cm

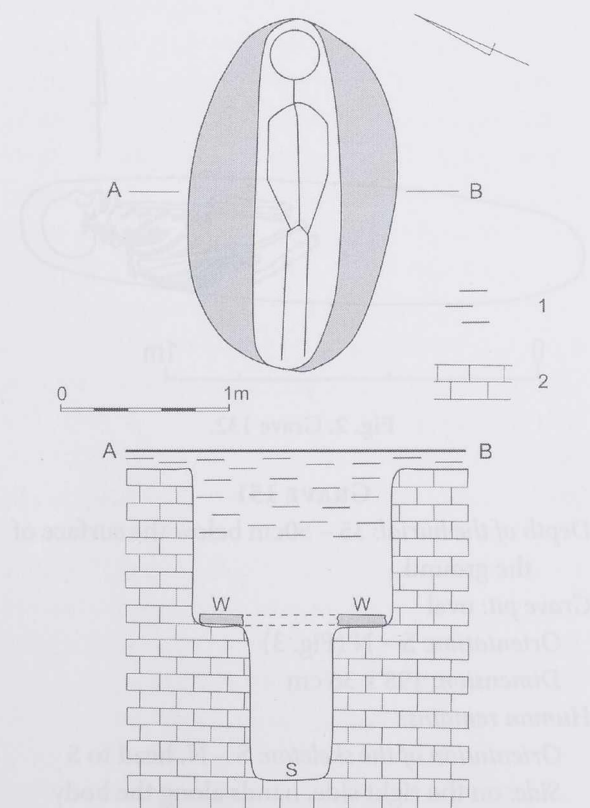
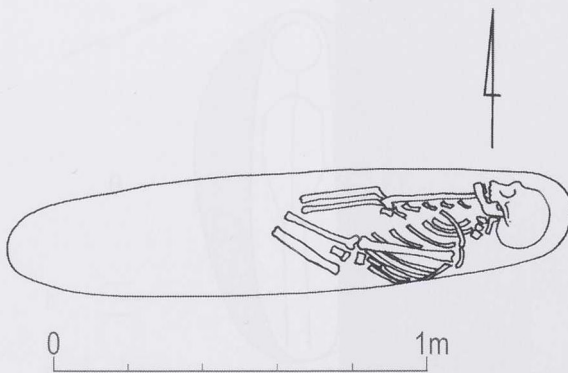
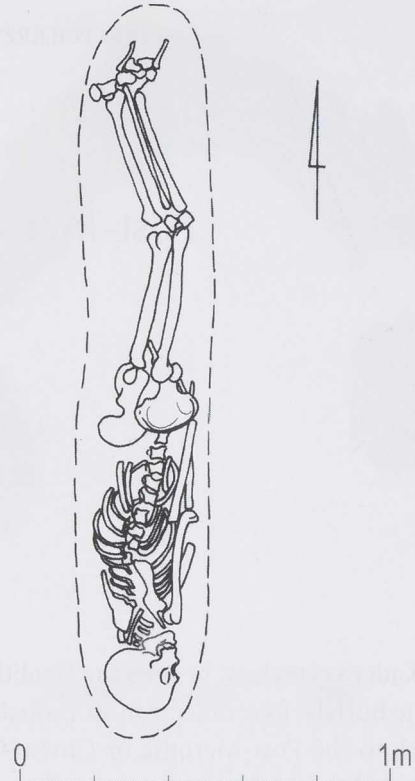
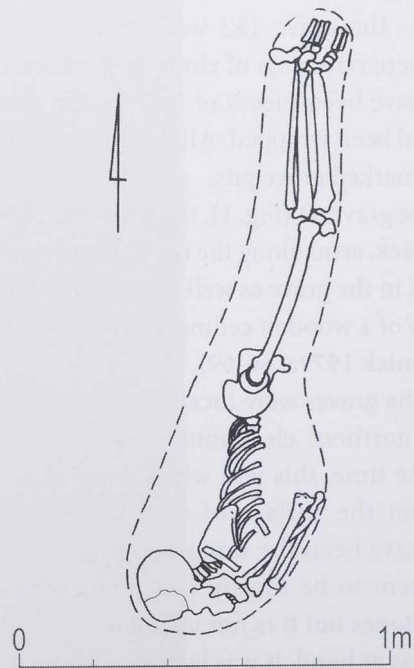


Fig. 1. Grave 43.

(1 - fragments of neolithic grindstones, 2 - compact alluvial silt, W - remains of wooden roofing of the chamber, S - location of the skeleton)

Human remains:*Orientation:* NE – SW, head to NE*Side:* on the back*Sex:* male*Age at death:* 25-28 years*Number of finds:* 1

1. Fragment of neolithic grindstone. No further information available.

GRAVE 132*Depth of the burial:* 10 – 105 cm below the surface of the ground*Grave pit:* oval*Orientation:* E – W (Fig. 2)*Dimension:* 152 x 34 cm*Human remains:**Orientation:* E – W, head to E*Side:* on the right side, hands along the body*Sex:* female*Age at death:* 30-40 years*Number of finds:* 0**Fig. 2.** Grave 132.**GRAVE 151***Depth of the burial:* 35 – 50cm below the surface of the ground*Grave pit:* oval*Orientation:* S – N (Fig. 3)*Dimension:* 198 x 36 cm*Human remains:**Orientation of the skeleton:* S – N, head to S*Side:* on the right side, hands along the body*Sex:* female*Age at death:* 20-30 years*Number of finds:* 0**Fig. 3.** Grave 151.**GRAVE 161***Depth of the burial:* 90 – 115 cm below the surface of the ground*Grave pit:* oval*Orientation:* S – N (Fig. 4)*Dimension:* 178 x 44 cm**Fig. 4.** Grave 161.

Human remains:

Orientation of the skeleton: S – N, head to S
Side: on the right side, with very contracted hands
Sex: female
Age at death: 17-23 years
Number of finds: 0

GRAVE 194 – grave of the dog

Depth of the burial: 10 – 25 cm below the surface of the ground
Grave pit: not visible
Orientation of the skeleton: S – N, head to S
Side: left side; head twisted and deformed
Sex: not identified
Age at death: not identified
Number of finds: 0