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**IU. A. VINOGRADOV, V.A. GORONCHAROVSKII,
VOENNAĪA ISTORIĪA I VOENNOĪE DELO BOSPORA
KIMMERIĪSKOGO (VI V. DO N.E. – SEREDINA III V. N.E.)
[MILITARY HISTORY AND WARFARE
OF THE CIMMERIAN BOSPOROS (6TH CENTURY BC –
MID-3RD CENTURY AD)], ST. PETERSBURG:
ST. PETERSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY, FACULTY OF
PHILOLOGY AND ARTS, NESTOR-HISTORY, 2009
(RUSSIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES. INSTITUTE OF THE
HISTORY OF MATERIAL CULTURE, PROCEEDINGS,
VOL. XXV; SERIES HISTORIA MILITARIS)**

The Bosporan kingdom comprised of the territories located in eastern Crimea (now Ukraine) and the Taman Peninsula (Russia), both regions divided (or connected) by the Strait of Kerch (the Cimmerian Bosporos). Both authors, Iu.A. Vinogradov (not to be confused with the epigraphist Iu.G. Vinogradov) and V.A. Goroncharovskii have themselves been active in research in this region for several decades. Both have been engaged in research abroad, Vinogradov in Yemen (see his contribution in this volume), and Goroncharovskii in Cyprus. In view of the fact that the Bosporos lay along the border with territories inhabited by steppe-land nomads, an account of the region's military arts calls for a comprehensive discussion of the military affairs of the steppe peoples (chiefly Scythian and Sarmatian tribes).

The book under review consist of two parts. Part I is by Vinogradov and relates to the period of Greek colonisation towards the close of the reign of Mithradates VI Eupator (ca. 600–63 BC). Goroncharovskii is the author of Part II, which covers the period from Pharnakes to the Gothic invasions (63 BC – ca. AD 280), i.e. the period of Roman domination. The key components contributing to

the development of military affairs in the Bosporan kingdom were the Greek element and – as of the first century BC – the Roman influence. Moreover, Scythian and Sarmatian factors are to be mentioned. Due to their geographical location the cities along the Bosporos were prone to attacks by steppe peoples and the settled neighbours including Maiotians and Sindoi.

Vinogradov's part of the book is composed of five chapters. His principal concern is with the political and military history, but he gives only fragmented and cursory attention to weaponry. In Chapter 1 he sets out to describe the Bosporos in the period of Greek colonisation. However, its actual content does not fully comply with this heading, and presents a subchapter on Scythian warfare (pp. 17ff.), which deserves a separate chapter of its own. The next subchapter is headed "Greeks in the Bosporos: first steps" (pp. 26ff.) and deals with several issues relating to the Greek art of war. In Chapter 2, "The Bosporos in the fight against Scythian aggression" (pp. 46ff.) Vinogradov gives an account of the period from ca. 500 to 438 BC. Contrary to what we might expect on the basis of the chapter's title, one of the subchapters is devoted to the warfare of the Maiotians and Sindoi, who were not Scythian peoples. Chapter 3 describes the Bosporos under the early Spartokids (pp. 71ff.), with a separate section on the Spartokid army alongside an account of the political history. Chapter 4 discusses the Bosporos between the Scythians and Sarmatians (pp. 100ff.). This is the phase when the Celts appear in the area of the Black Sea; Vinogradov mentions them in the text, but no reference is made to Celts in the heading of either the chapter or its sections. Chapter 5 (pp. 129ff.) presents the Bosporos under Mithradates VI Eupator. This is the least substantial part: the written sources have been given insufficient coverage although for this period they are exceptionally abundant; and the archaeological material has been handled more as an illustration of the political history rather than as the foundation for a discussion of the weaponry.

Part II (pp. 149ff.), on the period of Roman domination, makes copious reference to the archaeological materials and has a well-defined structure. Goroncharovskii discusses the organisation of the army and its system of recruitment. He treats the cavalry and infantry separately. He also analyses the arms and armor used. The next chapter discusses the campaigns conducted by the Bosporan army (pp. 207ff.). One of its sections addresses the subject of battle scenes in the Bosporan painting. The next chapter describes the kingdom's system of defence. Goroncharovskii gives prominence to the part played by the fortress at Iluraton, where he spent many years on research. The two following chapters relate the history of the wars from Pharnakes to the close of the third century (pp. 242–288). The map on p. 285 contains some errors, including the false location of Trapezus.

The book contains over 130 illustrations, but many of them are of poor quality and need to be improved. The diagrams and maps are often not very clear, either. Recently some studies have been published which supplement the book under review and should be taken into consideration. These are: M. Treister, 'Weaponry in the Bosporos in the 1st–2nd c. AD', in *Drevnosti Bospora* 14, Moscow 2010, 484–561; A.S. Simonenko, *Rimskii import u sarmatov Severnogo Prichernomor'ia*, Sankt-Petersburg 2011; Idem, *Sarmatskie vsadniki Severnogo Prichernomor'ia*, Sankt-Petersburg 2010; A.V. Simonenko / I. I. Marčenko / N. Ju. Limberis, *Römische Importe in sarmatischen und mäiotischen Gräbern zwischen Unterer Donau und Kuban*, Mainz 2008.

To sum up, the book under review is an essential overview of Bosporan warfare and military history. Some chapters call for amendment, a different structure and supplementation to give a more coherent account of the military history and weapons. By and large, however, the book is a very successful combination of written evidence and archaeological data, which culminate in a profound research.