

STAROSEL TEMPLE-TOMB

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Breaking news

The greatest discovery of the Thracian archaeology was yesterday *succeeded by one rich grave discovered (unplundered) in the neighbor tumulus*. In a stone grave construction covered there were unearthed *a gold ring (with Rider-Hunter), gold wreath, two knee-caps, a chainmail- armour, red-figure Greek pottery etc., without any traces of inhumation or cremation in*. As far as I know, this is the richest Thracian royal “grave” (the so-called cenotaph) discovered up to now, confirming the Starosel Temple-Tomb had belonged to an Odrysian king. It is not a primary grave, but located in the eastern past of the tumulus (on or close to the surface level), on the side and only c. 50 m from the temple-tomb.

In the top interview of Dr. Kitov that I have taken for Sofia media today, he believes the graves dates from the end of the fifth – earlier 4th BC but the gold ring was earlier. Isn't it Teres or Sitalk's ring? Is it cenotaph or a ritual of the social power known already from the Copper Age Varna cemetery?

News from the Temple-Tomb of Starosel

- On August 20 the first chamber is still not cleaned. It is a hard work to carry out the big stone blocks from the vault and entry that had fell in the chamber. A special group with a wooden strut structure is working there in a very dangerous situation because of a possibility of a landslide.
- Dr. Kitov said 50-60 visitors had been coming every day to see the temple-tomb. Some of them were businessmen who had supported the excavations. According to media's news, Ralitsa Vasileva from SNN is preparing a film for the *possibly greatest discovery of the year in the world*.
- The Mayer of Starosel has promised to help to better the black road for the Thracological Congress or at least for the coming International Symposium “Starosel Temple-Tomb” in January in Karlovo.



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**The team at
Starosel needs
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finish the
excavations!**