

Re: bronze age weapons

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Well, Mallory, "In Search of the Indo-Europeans" says there aint much evidence of warfare until the late bronze age. And Campbell suggests that these early agrarian cultures, which had vastly more people than the patriarchic hunting tribes, were matriarchic.

Gimbutas shows us lots of arsenic bronze artifacts from the Chalcolithic era in Slavic Europe, (8000-4000 BCE) **none** of which are weapons. So a very skilled degree of metalurgy existed prior to the manufacture of the bronze weapons you refer to, and it was, as you say, a very valuable commodity. And typical for precious objects, more for ceremonial uses.

The "Chieftan" skeleton at Varna is also instructive because of the notorious gold "penis sheath". I read that what we actually have here is a transvestite dyke. This is supported by the fact that in the Balkans, not that far away, there are **still** transvestite dyke chieftans.

Seems that in the chronic blood feuds that hill tribes are known for, nobody would assassinate a woman. Of course, since she'd just be replaced by another woman.

The spears buried with the body are instructive as well, with metal points that are way to long and slender for military use. I expect fishing. Varna is on the West coast of the Black Sea. Then too, there are the double headed axes.

And again, not weapons. They are made of gold foil with handles thinner than my pinky. I dont think you could behead a mouse with one. They are, as Gimbutas says, **not** double bitted axes, but magic wands, the shape actually representing butterflies.

Of course, as patriarchy took over, it was morphed into the labyrinth.

Thanx for the tip about short sword handles.

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