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Burial practices and human mobility in Early Iron Age Thessaly

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Burial practices underwent a significant transformation during the Early Iron Age in Greece, after the disintegration of the Mycenaean civilization. Multiple burials in tholoi and chamber tombs gave way to single burial in cists and pits, while cremation was also introduced during this period. These transformations have been interpreted as the result of population movements. My research so far has shown that there was substantial variation in burial practices in EIA, and that non-locals were buried alongside local individuals.

In this talk I focus on the diversity of the burial practices of Thessaly and neighboring regions. I attempt to detect the distribution and diffusion of burial practices. Thessaly is a crucial region because of its position at the northern frontier of the Mycenaean civilization on important maritime and overland routes between southern Greece and Macedonia.