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**Burial vaults in the old Christian cemetery in Mykolaiv:**  
**problems of research and safekeeping**

The article examines the question of importance of the burial vaults in the old Christian cemetery in Mykolaiv for the first time in regional literature. This type of burial is a part of a system, which studies the local history and history of our country. Nowadays necropolis study as a science is only auxiliary historical discipline like biography study, epigraphy, genealogy etc. Examining necropolis of Mykolaiv makes it possible to make a conclusion about concrete scheme of burial (“father-son”, “parents-children”). Burial vaults represent those strata of the local population, which were high in the social scale. These are: representatives of military, cultural, governmental and religious elite. The process of creation of these burial vaults is very interesting from the architectural, biographical and sacral side. In consideration of young age of the city (225) and those fact, that burial vaults were built between 1790 and 1917 is obviously, that there no ancient relationships. The main type of burials in Mykolaiv cemetery is of concrete scheme “grandfather”-“father”-“son”. It can be explained by that fact that a lot of burial vaults were destroyed. This theme becomes topical as it can be studied in different ways in prosopography, necropolis studies, genealogy, biography studies and local history. The problem of safety of these cultural conserves is the main one for researcher and for appropriate instances.

Cemeterial memorials in Mykolaiv can not only give material for necropolis studies; there is possibility to discover geographical (place of birth), religious, genealogical (that means to be part of any family), epistolary (different epitaphs etc.) peculiarities and marital status (virgin, spinster, widow, widower etc.). Moreover on these monuments is kept a lot of information (like name of manufacturer, place of creation etc.), that is one more possibility for scientific research.