

## Burial Customs by G.G.E. Mylonas

Cremation was the (only) mode employed by the Homeric heroes, whereas inhumation was the only mode employed by the prehistoric people in the mainland of Greece (p.486)

The two references to cremation in the poems cannot prove definitely the existence of the custom of cremation in the mainland during the period represented by the poems (p.487)

Prof. Blegen has proved that the inhabitants of Troy VI practised cremation (p.487)

The similarities of burial customs existing between the Mycenaean and the Homeric world are many and weighty and the main difference i.e. the contrast of inhumation practiced in the former and of cremation held in the latter, can be reconciled in a satisfactory manner. The burial customs of the Late Bronze Age provided the tradition which was followed by the poet(s) of the Iliad and the Odyssey, says Mylonas (p. 488).

## Houses and Palaces by A. J. B. Wace

The early-19th century commentators on Homer assumed that in Homeric lands the houses never had more than one storey and that men and women occupied separate quarters . . . p. 490

In both the Iliad and the Odyssey there are many references to ascents to an upper storey or descents to basement rooms. This agrees with what we know of Mycenaean houses and palaces. The palaces of Mycenae, Tiryns, and Pylos all had more than one floor. . . The evidence of the excavations of Mycenaean houses and that of Homer agree. (p.490)

## Dress, by H. P. and A. J. B. Wace

Lack of agreement among commentators.

No women's dress in the Homeric poems seems as yet to have any suggestion of Mycenaean dress as far as we can tell. . . . We must think of ancient Greek garments, Homeric or classical, Mycenaean or post-Mycenaean, as composed of material basically narrow with all that that involves.

We thus see that the dress of women in Homer has little likeness to the elaborate dress of Mycenaean women as shown in the frescoes, ivories, and other works of art. Almost the only Mycenaean women whose dress might be regarded as at all resembling the Homeric are those of the Warrior Vase. (p. 502)

So far then as we can tell from our present knowledge, Homeric dress is unrepresented in Greek art, Mycenaean or post-Mycenaean, and there is little profit in trying to identify Homeric dress in the representations we possess until we can fix with more certainty the date of the composition of the Iliad and of the Odyssey.