

Dienes István

Dienes, István. **THE HUNGARIANS CROSS THE CARPATHIANS.** Budapest: Corvina Press, 1972. 94 pp. plus 73 plates. 60.00 forints. Paperback.

Archaeologist Dienes presents a balanced picture of the Hungarians in the 10th century, based on a variety of contemporary sources and archaeological finds. Dienes uses a cultural-historical approach discussing social organization, the belief system, art, interaction with other European peoples, and tries to present archaeological evidence to support his hypotheses. Chapter topics: From the banks of the Volga to the Carpathian Basin; Hungarian society in the Conquest period; The family and village community; The clan, the tribe, and the kingdom; Agriculture and everyday life; Tents, houses, and those who lived in them; Workshops and market-places beneath the castle walls; Subjects and royal servants; Animism, shamanism, and religion; Sabre-tame plates, discs, and their art; and a chronological table as well as a list of recommended readings. The book is illustrated with 27 figures, including tables showing social structure in the Conquest period as compared to the social structure in the early Hungarian kingdom. Two maps show the migration of Hungarians, Arabs, and Normans during the 9th, 10th, and 11th centuries. The appendix contains 73 black and white plates on Hungarian art objects. The book is the third publication in the publisher's "Hereditas" series, which include Nándor Kalicz' *Clay Gods*, on the Neolithic Period and Copper Age in Hungary; and Miklós Szabó's *The Celtic Heritage in Hungary*. In preparation is István Dienes' *The Dawn of the Dark Ages*, on the Gepids and the Lombards in the Carpathian Basin.