A000-Eur-Bulgaria-Stara Zagora-Figurine-Steatopygic-Ceramic-6th Millennium BCE-Neolithic

   

Figs. 1-4. Bulgaria-Stara Zagora-Figurine-Steatopygic-Ceramic-6th Millennium BCE-Neolithic

**Case No.: 1**

**Formal Label:** Bulgaria-Stara Zagora-Figurine-Steatopygic-Ceramic-6th Millennium BCE-Neolithic

**Accession Number:** A000

**Display Description:**

The apparent steatopygic condition of this figurine suggests that this physical condition was possible in Eurasian Paleolithic women and in the so-called “Venus figurines.” It is unknown whether this depiction was intended to be lifelike or an exaggeration. Steatopygian conditions can exhibit an angle from 90 to 120 degrees between the back and the buttocks. The condition has been suggested to be genetically induced among peoples of southern Africa, but how this condition is induced among peoples of the European descent remains to be explained.

Khoisan women with steatopygia:

    

1) <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/71/Woman_with_steatopygia.jpg>

2) <http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-EXcNDF9N6Qw/T8-Up-PgBjI/AAAAAAAABGQ/Ikhgn-fIr5c/s1600/ncp05010503.jpg>

3)http://3.bp.blogspot.com/\_nlc15ExoAhk/TIhMWdmDmZI/AAAAAAAAAGM/8YP9RNsoNo8/s1600/c.jpg

4) <http://news.softpedia.com/images/news2/What-is-Steatopygia-2.jpg>

5) Egyptian, Queen Hatshepsut’s retinue https://www.bing.com/images/search?view=detailV2&ccid=9GrTgbs%2f&id=6175E43BD6E5E86B55BA666DB11D68B3E84635E4&thid=OIP.9GrTgbs\_ujXClYU7Q0HyuAEsEB&mediaurl=http%3a%2f%2fi1-news.softpedia-static.com%2fimages%2fnews2%2fWhat-is-Steatopygia-6.jpg&exph=399&expw=465&q=steatopygia&simid=608050535053069650&selectedIndex=9&qpvt=steatopygia

European women with steatopygia:

   https://tse2.explicit.bing.net/th?id=OIP.wPbNIyN5tQ4mag0M1\_m9QgCuD6&pid=Api

1. <https://pictures.abebooks.com/ARSAMANDI/md/md7174130583.jpg>
2. [https://tse1.mm.bing.net/th?id=OIP.WdR\_jo7MbPKnCdY- Uy0xVgC9Es&w=189&h=300&c=7&qlt=90&o=4&dpr=1.5&pid=1.7](https://tse1.mm.bing.net/th?id=OIP.WdR_jo7MbPKnCdY-%20Uy0xVgC9Es&w=189&h=300&c=7&qlt=90&o=4&dpr=1.5&pid=1.7)
3. https://tse2.explicit.bing.net/th?id=OIP.wPbNIyN5tQ4mag0M1\_m9QgCuD6&pid=Api
4. http://image.way2enjoy.com/pic/44/58/63/0/600full-mal-malloy.jpg

**Date or Time Horizon:** 6th millennium BCE

**LC Classification:** DR98 S83

**Geographical Area:** Stara Zagora, Bulgaria

**Map:**



Fig. 2. Map of location of Stara Zagora, Bulgaria. From <http://latitude.to/lat/42.42604/lng/25.63356>



Fig. 3. Neolithic House, Stara Zagora regional Historical Museum, Bulgaria. http://www.getmetravelled.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Neolithic-Dwellings-Museum\_Stara\_Zagora\_Bulgaria.jpg

GPS coordinates: 42º25'33.74" N 25º38'0.81" E

Medium: black clay and red ochre

Dimensions: H 77 mm; W 33mm

Weight: 17 g

**Provenance:** Archaeological Museum in Stara Zagora

**Condition:** Museum Replica

**Discussion:** This figurine dates to the beginning of farming in central Europe and the use of red ochre geometric markings perhaps tattoos or body paint used in the rituals like the kuker festival. The production of ceramic figurines indicates that Stara Zagora was a sedentary society in which there was expendable time for creating amulets such as this one for individuals.

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