

József Kadocsa Vetráb

Trojans, Sicambers, Sicans, Francs...I.

„ahh(a)=ada=tta aladi // awinta Wilušadi “

They came from the sea, from Wilušaš

(Among the liturgical texts of the city of Ištuwa,
was found one ritual part from the 16th century)

“The Francs died out” said Marie-Paule, as we roamed through fifteen hundred years of the history of Gaul, which to view as a whole (*as a result of the adverse actions of history-writing*) is very difficult, even impossible for some of us, because of our upbringing.

“The Francs died out.” This short fatal sentence echoed in my ears, but soon it was replaced by the rhythm of the following archaic Greek quotation: “oiontai eidenai ti méden oidotesz”. “They (*the people*) think they know something, although they know nothing”, said Socrates after a lifetime’s experience.



It is absolutely unimaginable that a nation full of vitality, with sacred traditions, which had a strong historical constitution, and which was capable of building a strong society, a nation with an experienced military power could have died out. They were the Sali-Francs (who established the sacred kingdom (*Reges Criniti*) in the northern part of today’s France); which is today called the Empire of the Francs (*Frankreich / France*) by the descendants of the Eastern Franks, the Germans of the Rhine.

Picture 1. Siege of Troy

Let us review the question: Who were the Francs and which way did they travel until they appeared in the northern part of Gaul, at the beginning of the 5th century A.D.?

The knowledge of their Trojan identity was strongly retained in the mind of the political French nation throughout several thousand years; until the time of the sacred kingdom in the middle of Europe. (5th - 6th Century A.D.). The singer and poet Jean Lemaire, who was a descendant of the Guilder, around 1510 stated that the

Hungarians, the French and the Turks were all descendants of the Trojans, emphasizing that the first two peoples were Christian, while the Turks were of the Islamic religion.

Later we will see that the origin of the Hungarians and the Franks can be traced back to before the time of the Trojans and that we are led back to the time of the only ancient people “The Scythians”; who used a common language (*glotta*) and several dialects (*dialectos*) among themselves.

The Trojan Saga

The Trojan Origin Saga (as an existing tradition) is mentioned by the 7th century Merovingian chronicler, Frédégaire, who recorded the story of the first King of the Franks, King Priam, and Helen. (Homer mentions Paris instead of Priam, which shows us that Frédégaire presents the saga preserved in the people’s memory, independently of the record of the Greek historian.) Frédégaire writes: *“After Priam, during Friga’s time, the “Franks” were divided into two groups; one of them settled in Macedonia, assimilated with the ancient inhabitants and became the people of Macedonia. The other group fled from their old homeland, Phrygia, with their wives and children, and travelled through several lands. They elected a king, who was named Francio, and after his name, they became known as “Franks”). This Francio, left the lands of Asia Minor, and led his people to the present day Europe and settled down along the riverbanks of the Rhine and the Danube.”*

On another page of his Chronicle, Frédégaire also refers to the data of a chronicler from the 5th century, who reminds us that the former King of the Franks was also called “Priam” and he ruled in 382 A.D.

Troy

The Trojan War became well known through the ancient Hellenic literature, in the Iliad, written by Homer. For a long time, it was considered to be an excellent piece of fantasy, until the German archaeologist, Schliemann; excavated the city of Troy on the shores of the blue Aegean Sea of Asia Minor, beside the Bosphorus, in the second half of the 19th century. The decipherment of the Linear B writing (1852) made it possible to obtain more information about the region.



Picture 2, Asia Minor and the map of the Hellenic world

The remaining data of the ancient Eastern sources from the 16th - 13th centuries B.C., written in cuneiform characters on clay tablets in the Hittite language, inform us in a fully authentic way about the names of today, the location of the homeland of the Trojan people (*Troié / Greece*), their military alliances, related nations and also of the origin of their language. The name of the fortress of the Trojan Kingdom is often mentioned in the Hittite sources: WILUŠAŠ (*Hittite*) = (w)ILIOS (*Ilios*) and also the name of the city TRUWIŠAŠ (*Hittite*) TRUIA (*Troié = Troy*). We should know that, during the reign of the Great Hittite King Tudhaliyaš I. (approx. 1420 - 1400 B.C.) AŠŠUWAŠ (*meaning: Horse Region*) Troy was a part of his country, in what we call today, Asia Minor. The name ASSUA was mentioned in the Old-Greek language (*taking into account the Greek Grammar*) and later became a geographical term for ASIA.



Picture 3, the city of Troy and the nine steps of development

The Trojans made their business by trade and by raising large animals. It is not accidental, that Homer mentions the Trojans as a “horse-raising”, and “horse-taming” nation. The city’s name originated from the Greek word Wilios and was used in the form “Wiry” on a list with names showing a trade route of Pharaoh Amonhotep III. In the military sense, Troy was well equipped, and had a well-experienced military force, which was a part of the well-functioning alliance of the related nations of Western-Asia. It is known that between Alakšanduš, Wilušaš, the Trojan King and the Great King of the Hittites, Muwatalliš, there was a military contract (1280 B.C.). The test of this military alliance was the Battle of Qades, five years later (1275 B.C.), where the great empires of the time, fought each other: the Empire of the Hittites and the armies of Egypt. The allies of the Hittites were the Lukkass and Dardars.

Homer gives a list of the Trojan allies, who took part in the defence of Troy against the Hellenic armies: the Dardars – Lukkass (*their country name: Lukkaš*) – Maions (*Meions*) – Mysas (*Keteiosz*) – Plais (*Paphlagonas*), Pelasgians (*Pelaszg*) – Thracians - Kikons - Phrygians (*Phrüges*), etc., to name a few.

It is obvious that all the armies of the countries west of Asia Minor lined up in the war against the military forces of the Greeks; so the question is: What was the real purpose of the Trojan War?

We cannot be far from the truth when we think that the real reason was for the Greeks to win control over the Aegean Sea and to expand their rule along the shores of Asia Minor.

The rich and powerful Troy was in the way of this plan. However, in the middle of the 13th century it was destroyed.

Sicambers

The majority of the inhabitants fled and assimilated with a nation-group of Asia Minor, called the Pelasgians and a new nation was born: the “Bebrys”. They gathered

all their strength and crossed the Bosphorus and, travelling through the Land of the Thracians, reached today's Macedonia, where the Pelasgians from Asia Minor joined those Pelasgians who had settled earlier in Greece.

The Sicans, also known as the Sicambers or Francs, after the name of their king, Francio (*Francion*), separated into two large groups and continued their migrations.

The first group of the Sicambers reached the southernmost point of the peninsula of Italy Sicany (*Sicily*) by sea. Making their way on the peninsula towards the north, they reached Rome and Treviso and, crossing the Southern Alps they reached the southern part of Gaul. It is understandable that at every place they stopped, they founded a town, calling it Troy in memory of their ancient city.

That is why we can follow their trail on the map, to Trogir on the sunny coast of Dalmatia, to Tréves (in Germany), to Treveso (in Italy), to Trogan (in Switzerland), and also to Troyen on the banks of the River Meuse, and Trouen and Troyes along the River Aube.

I should mention as an interesting point that, in the Pyrennees Mountain Range, there still exists a small group of the Bebrys and, in the middle of their region is a little village called Troy (*Troie*).

Picture 4. The first page of the original writings



Translated by: Krisztina Tamási

Summery of the Pictures:

1. – Trojan War from the 14th century, made for Charles VII. From the first page of the French Picture Chronicle.
2. – Asia Minor and the map of the Hellenic World, showing: Asshuvash, Truwishash, Lydia and Caria
3. – City of Troy and the nine steps of its progression.
4. – The “Big French Chronicle” and the first page of the original writings.