

# Orpheus

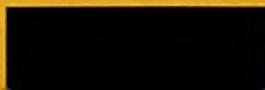


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## Re-reading Skok and Rostaing. Old and New Perspectives on the Linguistic Stratification in Europe

*Sorin Paliga*

The paper aims at resuming a once vivid discussion regarding the Pre-Indo-European (Pre-IE) heritage of Europe. Two old studies have been chosen as relevant in the field: Skok 1950 and Rostaing 1950, incidentally both published in the same year. At that time, the two authors represented an active trend in the field of historical and comparative linguistics, meanwhile somewhat blurred by the approaches to the so-called Nostratic hypothesis. The references try to summarise some of the relevant studies in what we may label the study of the Pre-IE heritage, but also ‘the Nostratic connection.’ In the first category, beside the two authors mentioned above, Alessio, Battisti, Bertoldi, Cocco, Devoto, Trombetti, and others should be quoted. They represent the old generations of linguists, also Muşu (little known abroad), Beekes and Leschber, as representatives of the younger generations. In the second category, reflecting a very active trend now, to mention Andreev and Illič-Svityč.

The author’s hypothesis is that the Pre-IE heritage is crucial in understanding the linguistic stratification of Europe, mainly of Southeast Europe, remarkably reconstructed by Skok, for example. It is also important to understand that this very old linguistic stratum represented an essential component of Old Greek, Thracian and Illyrian, with some elements preserved in the modern languages of SE Europe, i.e. those labelled as the *Balkansprachbund*. In fact, the investigation of the Pre-IE heritage, on the one hand, and the Nostratic approach, on the other, do not exclude each other. The analyses should consider both directions, now supported by the archaeological discoveries and by DNA analysis.

### A Brief Introduction

In 1950 two outstanding books were published: Petar Skok’s *Slavenstvo i romanstvo na jadranskim otocima. Toponomastička ispitivanja* (Romance and Slavic in the Islands of the Adriatic Sea. Research on Place Names) and Charles Rostaing’s *Essai sur la toponymie de la Provence*.

Both had a remarkable impact on subsequent studies of toponymic stratification in Europe: Skok concentrated on the Adriatic islands, Rostaing – on Provence. Both authors had a brilliant career in linguistics, mainly in

## On the Etymology of ΕΛΕΓΧΩ

*Bilyana Mihaylova*

The paper revises the different hypotheses about the origin of Gk. ἐλέγγω ‘to disgrace, put to shame (Hom.); cross-examine, question, accuse one of doing, bring to proof, accuse’ and ἔλεγχος, εος, τό ‘reproach, disgrace, dishonour; (Hom., Hes.), ἔλεγχος, ου, ὁ ‘argument of disproof or refutation’. An alternative explanation has been proposed: to analyse ἐλέγγω as a nasal infix present \*elenkh- – a Pre-Greek borrowing, derived from the IE root \*h<sub>1</sub>lek- (attested in OIr. *locht* ‘fault, shortcoming, vice; offence; (physical) blemish’, Icel. *lá* ‘to blame, reproach’, OE *lēan* ‘to blame’, OS *lahan* ‘to blame, prohibit’).

The origin of the verb ἐλέγγω ‘to disgrace, put to shame (Hom.); cross-examine, question, accuse one of doing, bring to proof, accuse’ and ἔλεγχος, εος, τό ‘reproach, disgrace, dishonour; (Hom., Hes.), ἔλεγχος, ου, ὁ ‘argument of disproof or refutation’ remains unclear in the etymological dictionaries of Frisk (I 486–487), Chantraine (DELG II 334) and Beekes and van Beek (GED 404–405). As observed by P. Chantraine (DELG II 335), the semantic evolution from the Homeric vocabulary to the Ionic-Attic is remarkable.

The primary meaning is well attested in *The Iliad* and in *The Odyssey* and its semantic core is undoubtedly ‘shame, dishonour.’<sup>1</sup>

In Book 9, Thetis, Achilles’ mother, tries to convince the hero to humble himself, not to behave arrogantly with the envoys, and not to despise their words:

*Il.*9.522 τῶν μὴ σύ γε μῦθον ἐλέγξῃς<sup>2</sup>  
*Il.*9.523 μηδὲ πόδας· πρὶν δ’ οὐ τι νεμέσση τὸν κεχολῶσθαι.

*Il.*9.522 **Do not you make vain their argument**  
*Il.*9.523 **nor their footsteps, though before this one could not blame**  
 your anger.

<sup>1</sup> The verb is attested once in *The Iliad* and once in *The Odyssey*. The noun has 5 attestations in *The Iliad* and 2 attestations in *The Odyssey*.

<sup>2</sup> Greek text in *The Chicago Homer*, eds. Kahane, A. and M. Mueller, available at <http://homer.library.northwestern.edu/>. English translation by Richard Lattimore (1951).

## The Plant Name ἄμετρος ‘*Rubus*’ as a Palaeo-Balkan Term

Krzysztof Tomasz Witczak

The plant name *ametros* ‘blackberry, *Rubus fruticosus* L.’ (Pseudo-Dioscurides 4.37) is identified as the Proto-Albanian archetype of Alb. *mjetër*, *mjetërr*, *mjedër*, *mjedhër* ‘raspberry, *Rubus idaeus* L.’. It displays the initial vowel \**a-* (later regularly lost in Albanian), as well as the voiceless dental stop \**-t-* (confirmed by modern dialectal data, cf. Alb. *mjetër*, *mjetërr*, *mitër*). The voiced stop *d* or fricative *dh* are evidently secondary in Albanian.

In his work *De materia medica* (4.37), Pedanius Dioscurides (first century AD) discussed the medical properties of the blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* L.). In the second or third century AD, an anonymous author commonly referred to as Pseudo-Dioscurides, added an extensive list of botanic names to Dioscurides’ book. Pseudo-Dioscurides’ plant names constitute a useful source for investigating ancient languages. The relevant fragment is:

βάτος· οἱ δὲ κυνόςβατον, οἱ δὲ σεληνοτρόπιον, οἱ δὲ ἀσύντροφον, προφήται αἶμα Τιτάνου, οἱ δὲ αἶμα ἰβεως, Ῥωμαῖοι σέντιξ, οἱ δὲ ρούβουμ, οἱ δὲ μόρα σιλβάτικα, Δάκοι μαντία, Αἰγύπτιοι αἰμοίως, οἱ δὲ ἄμετρος (Ps.-Dsc. 4.37).

The plant name ἄμετρος ‘*Rubus* sp.’ (Adrados 1995: 194) appears at the end of the passage which begins with the heading βάτος, i.e., the basic Greek term for ‘blackberry, *Rubus fruticosus* L.’. Ps.-Dioscurides begins by mentioning dialectal Greek terms (οἱ δὲ κυνόςβατον, οἱ δὲ σεληνοτρόπιον, οἱ δὲ ἀσύντροφον “others [i.e., other Greeks] call it κυνόςβατος [literally ‘dog’s berry’], others σεληνοτρόπιον [lit. ‘turning to the moon’], others ἀσύντροφον [lit. ‘not growing together’]”), as well as two Greek terms used by prophets (αἶμα Τιτάνου, lit. ‘blood of the Titans’, αἶμα ἰβεως, lit. ‘ibis’s blood’; both Greek names seem to be partial calques of Egyptian αἰμοίως ‘blackberry’). He then refers to three Latin names for ‘blackberry’ (Lat. *sentix*, *rūbus* and *mora silvatica*), as well as a Dacian term (Dac. *mantia*) and an Egyptian one (αἰμοίως). Finally, the ancient author adds: οἱ δὲ ἄμετρος “others call it ἄμετρος.” It is unclear whether the pronoun οἱ (‘others’) refers to the Egyptians, the Dacians, or yet different non-Greek inhabitants of the Roman

## The Thracian Language

*Svetlana Yanakieva*

The study summarises the author's long years of research in the sphere of Thracian linguistics. The Thracian linguistic material is presented briefly – glosses and onomastics, the stages in research for more than one hundred years are outlined, the current stage of research and the issues raised in the sphere of the methodology of analysis, phonology, morphology, lexical material and historical phonetics. The issues of linguistic homogeneity and the fate of the Thracian language until the end of Antiquity are addressed. The views of different scholars are presented and the author's positions on debatable issues are argued.

### Introduction

Wilhelm Tomaschek's book *Die alten Thraker* (Tomaschek 1894) is fundamental in the sphere of the research on the Thracian language and in its second part the Austrian scholar has gathered in one *corpus* the entire Thracian linguistic material known in his time, and has analysed it so as to outline the linguistic situation in the Thracian lands, identifying also some links with other Indo-European languages.

During subsequent decades that material served as the foundation for the emergence of new studies on individual issues, chapters of books summarising encyclopaedic articles (Solmsen 1897; Kretschmer 1896; Младенов 1915; 1921; Jokl 1929; Brandenstein 1936). The Thracian linguistic material increases: many new Greek and Latin inscriptions containing Thracian personal and settlement names and epithets of deities came to light. During that period, the Bulgarian scholars G. Kazarow, D. Detschew, V. Beševliev, the French scholar G. Seure, the Romanians G. Mateescu, V. Pärvan, H. Mihăescu and many others had a great contribution.<sup>1</sup> The two most important books by Dimiter Detschew, *Charakteristik der thrakischen Sprache* and *Die thrakischen Sprachreste* (Дечев 1952; Detschew 1957; Detschew 1960), marked the completion and culmination of that stage. On the basis of the two sources – the inscriptions and the ancient authors – D. Detschew doubled the Thracian linguistic material that had been gathered earlier by W. Tomaschek, and thus *Die thrakischen Sprachreste* became the principal *corpus* for

<sup>1</sup> For more details on that earliest period, see Георгиев 1977: 7–8.

## Antonia Tryphaena: a Hellenistic Queen in the Network of the Roman Imperial System

*Ruja Popova*

Four women, indisputably linked through kinship, became actively intertwined through their origin and dynastic marriages, in the network of political life along the Black Sea coast: the Bosporan Kingdom, Thrace and the Pontus. Pythodoris I, Antonia Tryphaena, Pythodoris II and Gepaepyris managed to benefit from their social status and to transform it into grounds for spreading their personal influence at the borderline between two ages in history: Hellenistic and Imperial.

Antonia Tryphaena, daughter of Polemo I, King of Pontus, Cilicia and the Bosporus, and of his wife Pythodoris I, Queen of the Pontus, famous in ancient times for having ruled over an enormous territory after the death of her two husbands, was the link between the two dynasties – Thracian and Bosporan – in the early 1<sup>st</sup> century AD. As wife of the Thracian king Kotys, his widow and mother of his children, Tryphaena turned into an active participant in the last stage in the history of the Thracian kingdom. After her husband's death, she succeeded in benefiting from her social status, her personal authority and financial potential, thus spreading her influence and securing to her heirs places in the world controlled by the Roman Empire, worthy of their origin.

### *Daughter of Kings*

Antonia Tryphaena's father was Polemo, son of Zeno – an eminent Aristocrat and rhetor from Laodicea on the Lycus (Str. 14. 2. 24). Through the remarkable figure of the rhetor Zeno, a loyal ally of Marcus Antonius during his campaigns in 40 BC, Polemo was linked to the triumvir (Plut. *Ant.* 61) – a bond with significant consequences for his political career and for his entire family, which was also strangely re-used in the historiography from the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century to this day. When Marcus Antonius created the kingdoms of Pontus, Paphlagonia, Galatia and Cappadocia, in 39 BC he appointed as king of one of them Pontus Darius, son of Pharnaces and grandson of Mithridates. At that time, Polemo was king of part of Cilicia (App. *BC* 5. 75). All that was related to the reorganisation of the Eastern territories by Rome. Apparently, during that period Polemo was already an element in the Asia Minor network of the triumvir, who appointed as kings in different places

## Extra-Urban Necropolises in the Thracia Province (1<sup>st</sup>–3<sup>rd</sup> Centuries AD): the Problem of Their Settlement Attribution

*Kaloyan Pramatarov*

This specialised article represents a hypothetical attempt at summarising available data in archaeological publications concerning the links between extra-urban necropolises in the Thracia Province dating from the 1<sup>st</sup>–3<sup>rd</sup> centuries AD and their synchronous settlement units: unfortified settlements, fortified settlements, villas and sanctuaries. This exhaustive research reveals the steady combination of components related to a settlement pattern, conditionally designated as “models”: “open unfortified settlement – necropolis”, “fortified settlement – necropolis”, “villa – necropolis”, “village – necropolis – villa estate – tumular necropolis with rich graves”, “village – necropolis – villa estate – tumular necropolis with rich graves – sanctuary.”

### Introduction

The main objective of this article is to present the data and the problems associated with the attribution of the necropolises in the Thracia Province to certain elements of the ancient settlement pattern: unfortified (open) settlements, fortified settlements, villas and sanctuaries. The emphasis in the study is on the period of the Principate (1<sup>st</sup>–3<sup>rd</sup> centuries AD), but it also considers archaeological sites (settlements and burial complexes) dated by researchers within wider time frames: 1<sup>st</sup>–4<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>–4<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>–4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD. The research is based on observations on the link between necropolis and settlement discussed in the available archaeological publications, which allow to outline the general pattern and regularities in the organising of the necropolises around certain types of settlement units during the period under review. The term “extra-urban necropolis” is applied in the present article to designate a necropolis which did not serve the needs of the urban population. In this sense, all tumular and flat necropolises found on the territory of the Thracia Province, which do not belong to the category of “urban necropolises”, i.e., the necropolises of the big urban centres organised in the immediate vicinity of their fortification walls, were extra-urban. The category of the “extra-urban necropolises” includes the groups of the “villa necropolises” that are well defined by Bulgarian researchers