



درفش رنگارنگ - دوران افشاریان

Porteur d'un étendard multicolore. Epoque Afsharide
Multi-coloured banner, Afshar period



درفش ۱۲ خط - دوران افشاریان

Porteur d'un étendard à 12 traits. Epoque Afsharide
Twelve-striped banner, Afshar period



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jewish queen of persia



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The Jewish queen of Persia was **Esther, also known as Hadassah in Hebrew**. She became queen after the previous queen, Vashti, was removed from her position for refusing the king's summons. Esther's story is recounted in the Book of Esther in the Hebrew Bible, where she risks her life to save the Jewish people from a plot to annihilate them. [\[link\]](#)



Here's a more detailed look:

Esther's Background:

Esther was a Jewish woman living in the Persian Empire, raised by her cousin Mordecai. [\[link\]](#)

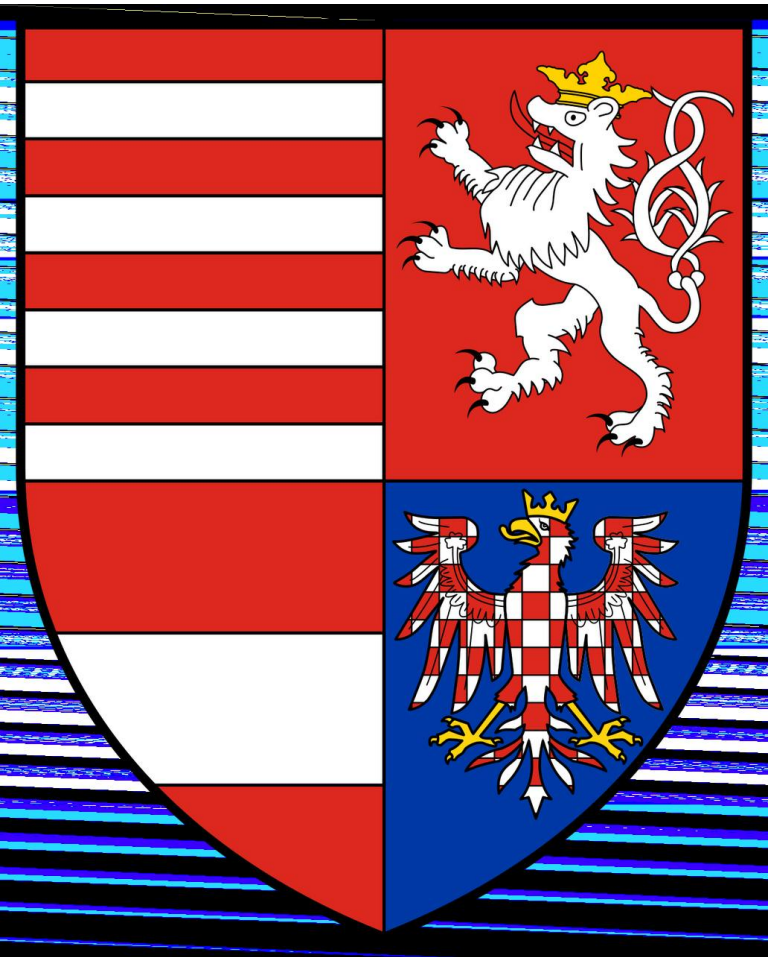


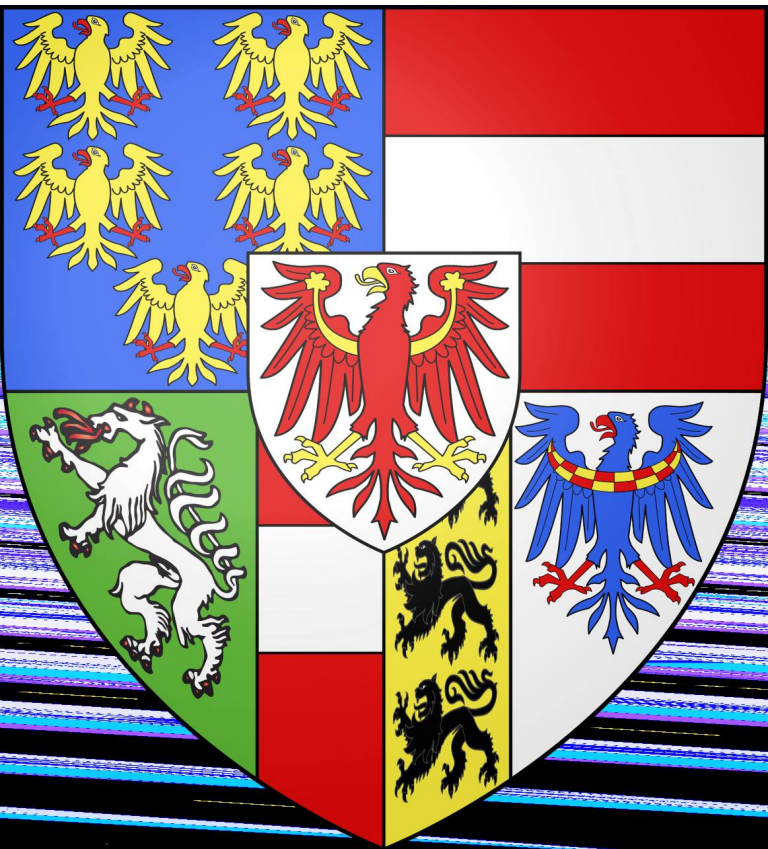
















The ethnic groups of Austria-Hungary in 1910 according to
Distribution of Races in Austria-Hungary by William R. Shepherd, 1911.

ending around 1700

Spain, Spain (1640)

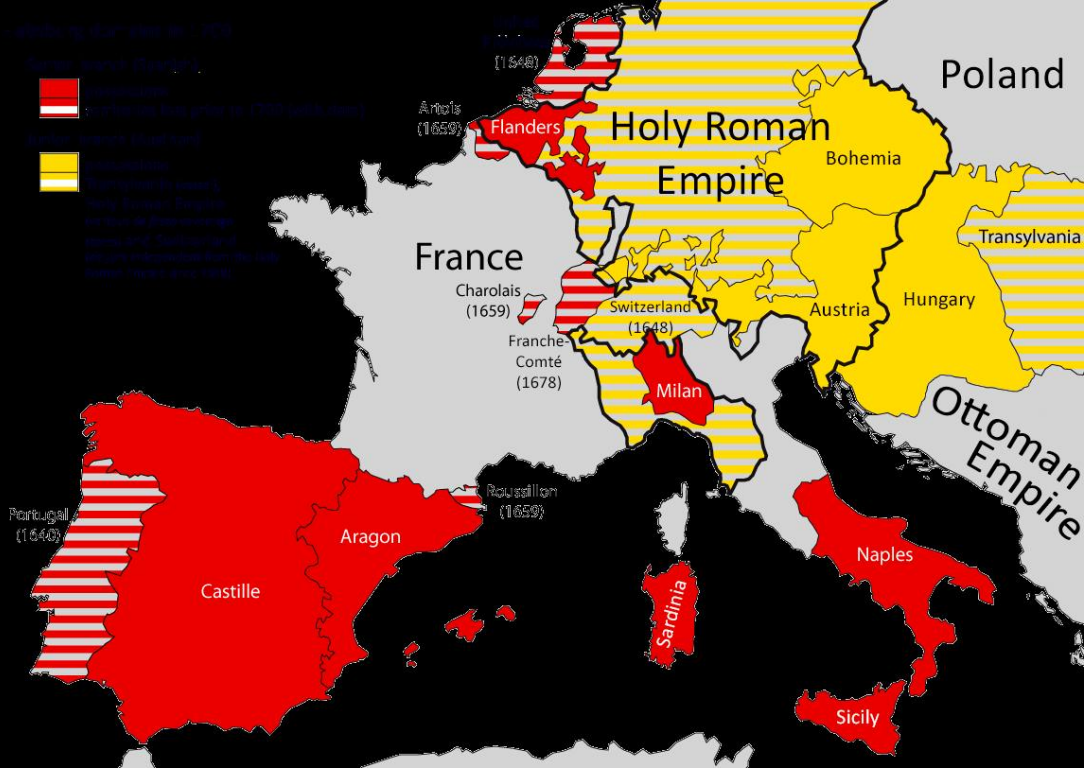


territories
acquired prior to 1700 (solid red)

Spain, Spain (1640)



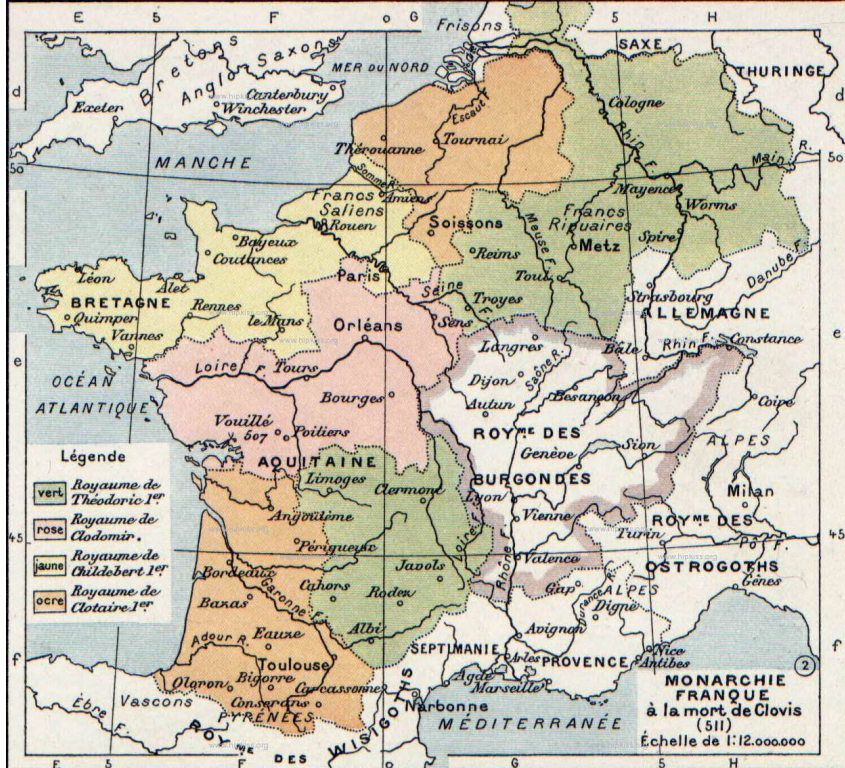
territories
acquired by treaty,
Holy Roman Empire
or other international
agreements, Switzerland
and other independent
states (yellow and black)





Aristocratic Frankish burial items
from the [Merovingian dynasty](#)







**THE ROYAL ELVEN
HOUSE OF VERE**



Blackwood Descent



Avalon Descent

**THE ANGEVIN
DYNASTY**



**Angevin House of
Chateaudun**



**Plantagenet House of
Anjou**

**THE ROYAL HOUSE
OF STUART**



Llewellyn Descent



Duchy of Anjou



**Capetian House of
Anjou**

Leo IV

Emperor of the Romans



Solidus of Leo IV and his son Constantine
VI

Byzantine emperor

Tzitzak

Empress of the Byzantine Empire

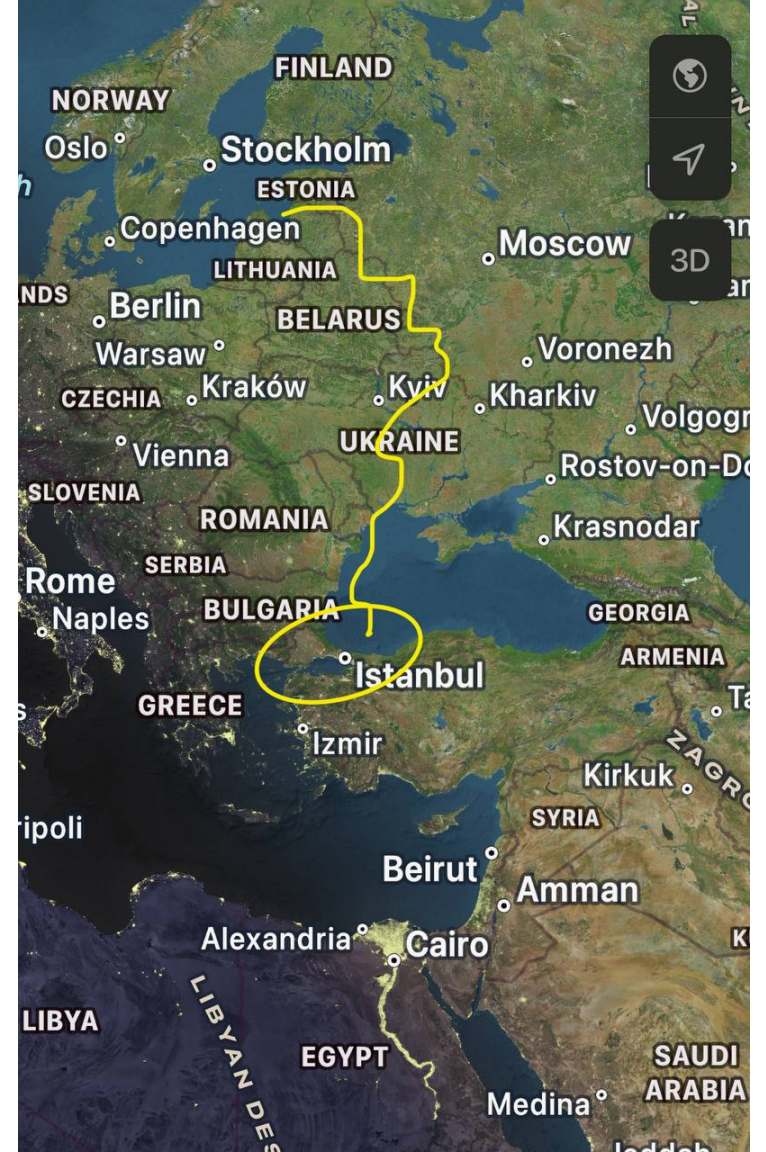
Tenure	741–750 (with Anna , 741–743)
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Born	Tzitzak 8th century
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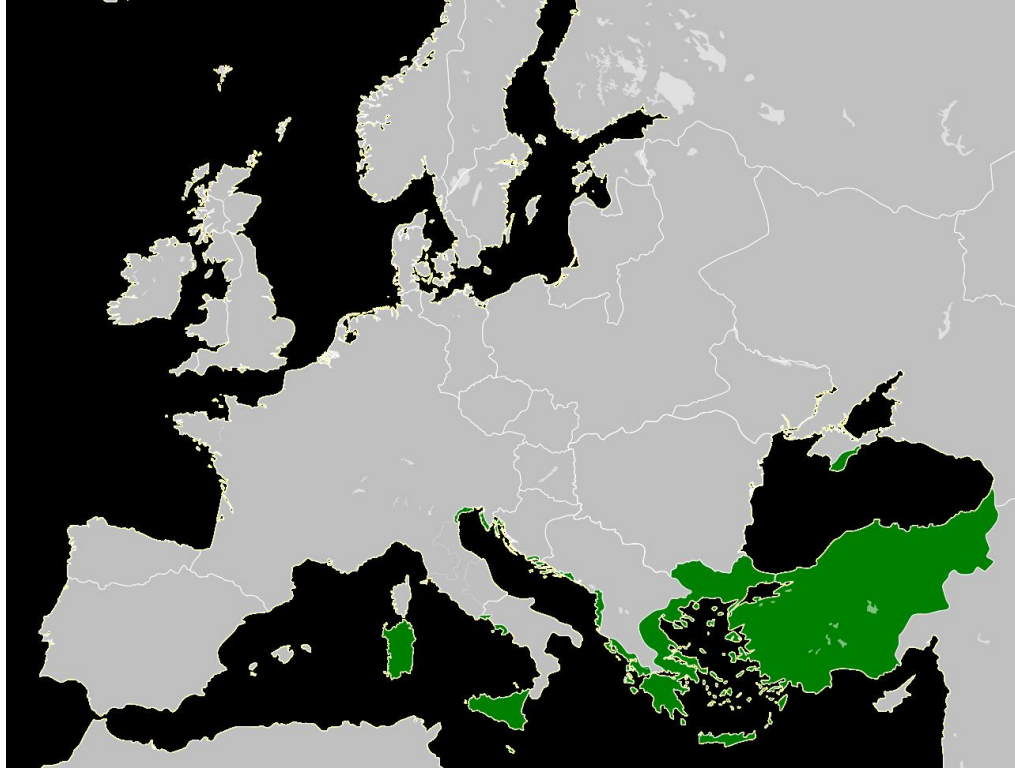
Died	<u>c.</u> 750
-------------	---------------

Spouse	Constantine V
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Issue	Leo IV the Khazar
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The Silk Road





6th century CE, established a major commercial empire covering the southeastern section of modern European Russia, southern Ukraine, Crimea, and Kazakhstan.^[10] They created what, for its duration, was the most powerful polity to emerge from the break-up of the Western Turkic Khaganate.^[11] Astride a major artery of commerce between Eastern Europe and Southwestern Asia, Khazaria became one of the foremost trading empires of the early medieval world, commanding the western marches of the Silk Road and playing a key commercial role as a crossroad between China, the Middle East, and Kievan Rus'.^{[12][13]} For some three centuries (c. 650–965), the Khazars dominated the vast area extending from the Volga-Don steppes to the

The **Hittites** ([/ˈhɪtaɪts/](#)) were an Anatolian Indo-European people who formed one of the first major civilizations of the Bronze Age in West Asia. Possibly originating from beyond the Black Sea,^[2] they settled in modern-day Turkey in the early 2nd millennium BC. The Hittites formed a series of [polities](#) in north-central Anatolia, including the kingdom of Kussara (before 1750 BC), the Kanesh or Nesha Kingdom (c. 1750–1650 BC), and an empire centered on their capital, Hattusa (around 1650 BC).^{[3][4]} Known in modern times as the **Hittite Empire**, it reached its peak during the mid-14th century BC under Šuppiluliuma I, when it encompassed most of Anatolia and parts of the northern Levant and Upper

The origin of blue eyes is linked to a genetic mutation that likely occurred around 6,000–10,000 years ago near the Black Sea region. A study from 2008 by the University of Copenhagen suggests a single mutation in the OCA2 gene, which affects melanin production in the iris, spread from an individual in this area. This mutation reduced pigmentation, leading to blue eyes. The Black Sea region, particularly around modern-day Ukraine and southern Russia, is a plausible origin point due to the spread of early human populations





Ivory Hittite Sphinx, 18th centu...

Details

CC0

- Zoroastrians, Manichaeans, and Babylonian astrologers **absorb and remix Hermetic concepts.**

- The Silk Road's heartland—**Samarkand, Bukhara, Baghdad**—becomes a melting pot of wisdom.

- Persian alchemists and mystics translate texts, blend them with **Sufi** spiritual practices.

The Sphinx Gate standing above the Yerkapi Rampart, Hattusa, the capital of...









On the other hand, the "Lady of the Lake" is a mythical figure from the Arthurian legends. She is often depicted as a fairy or enchantress who plays a crucial role in the stories of King Arthur, Lancelot, and

khazarian sea



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Caspian Sea

Largest of the salt lake between Europe and Asia



The term "Khazarian Sea" is not a widely recognized or standard name for any specific body of water.

- **Spiritual Significance:** Celts revered water as a sacred element, a gateway to the Otherworld, and a source of life. Rivers, lakes, and springs were associated with deities, particularly female ones like:

- **Black Sea Context:** The Galatians, living near the Black Sea, likely adapted their water veneration to local rivers like the Sangarius (modern Sakarya). They may have syncretized their beliefs with Thracian or Phrygian water cults, given the region's cultural blending.

The Scythians, nomadic pastoralists dominating the Black Sea steppes from the 7th to 3rd centuries BCE, had a practical and spiritual relationship with water.

- **Black Sea Connection:** The Black Sea itself was less central to Scythian myth than rivers, but their burial mounds (kurgans) near rivers suggest water's role in death and the afterlife, possibly as a passage to another realm.

The Thracians, indigenous to the southern Black Sea coast (modern Bulgaria and Turkey), had a rich water-centric mythology.

- **Sacred Springs and Rivers:**

Thracians venerated springs and rivers as divine, often associating them with healing and prophecy. The god Zibelthiurdos, a Thracian Zeus-like figure, was linked to water and storms, while the goddess Bendis may have had water-related fertility aspects.

Slavic tribes, emerging later in the Black Sea region (post-5th century CE), carried forward earlier traditions while adding their own.

- **Water Spirits:** The Rusalka, female water spirits, inhabited lakes and rivers. They were both seductive and dangerous, luring men to watery deaths or blessing crops with moisture. This duality mirrors the Celtic Lady of the Lake's benevolent yet perilous nature.

The Khazars, a Turkic people ruling the Black Sea-Caspian steppe from the 7th to 10th centuries, blended Turkic shamanism with influences from Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

- **Shamanic Beliefs:** In Turkic cosmology, water was a life force guarded by spirits like Su Iyesi (water master). Rivers and lakes were seen as sacred, used in rituals for purification or divination.
- **Khazar Context:** The Khazars, controlling the Volga and Don rivers, likely revered these waterways for trade and spiritual reasons. Their adoption of Judaism may have introduced biblical water symbolism (e.g., purification, the Red Sea),



The Sarmatians and Alans, Iranian-speaking nomads related to the Scythians, inhabited the Black Sea steppes before the Khazars.

- **Goddess Anahita:** The Persian goddess Anahita, worshipped by Sarmatians, was a deity of waters, fertility, and wisdom. Rivers and springs were her domain, and rituals involved offerings to ensure water's abundance.
- **Mythological Continuity:** Sarmatian water reverence likely influenced later Turkic and Slavic beliefs in the region, given their long presence in the Pontic steppe.



- **Water as Sacred:** Nearly all Black Sea cultures viewed water as divine, a source of life, and a bridge to the spiritual world. Rivers and lakes were sites for offerings, purification, and rituals.
- **Female Water Spirits:** Female deities or spirits (e.g., Rusalka, Anahita, Celtic lake fairies) are a recurring motif, often embodying water's dual nature—nurturing yet dangerous. This aligns with your interest in a female deity linked to a lake, as in the Lady of the Lake.

Context of Ritualistic Drownings

Ritualistic drownings, as a form of human sacrifice or offering, are hypothesized in various ancient cultures where water was seen as a sacred or liminal space—a gateway to the divine or the afterlife. In the Bronze Age, water (rivers, lakes, bogs, and seas) held profound spiritual significance, often associated with fertility, purification, or communication with deities. Drownings could serve as offerings to appease gods, ensure agricultural prosperity, or mark significant transitions (e.g., death or initiation rites).

3. Anatolian and Caucasian Cultures:

- In Anatolia (modern Turkey), near the Black Sea's southern coast, the Hittites (c. 1600–1200 BCE) performed rituals involving water for purification and divine favor.

- **Jason and the Argonauts:** Greek hero Jason led the Argonauts on a quest for the Golden Fleece, sailing to Colchis on the eastern Black Sea coast (modern Georgia).
 - **Black Sea:** The setting of Colchis, a wealthy Bronze Age trade hub, linked to Greek maritime exploration and myths of distant lands.
 - **Medea:** Daughter of Colchis' King Aeetes, a sorceress who used magic to help Jason steal the Fleece and escape, later becoming his wife.
 - **Medes:** An Iranian people; Medea's name and magical abilities may symbolically connect to their priestly class, the Magi, though not historically confirmed.
 - **Magi:** Medes' priestly caste, known for ritual and esoteric knowledge, possibly influencing Medea's depiction as a sorceress.
 - **Golden Fleece:** A mythical symbol, likely representing Colchis' wealth in gold or copper, tied to Black Sea trade networks.
-

- The Caucasus was also the setting for **Colchis** (eastern Black Sea, modern Georgia), home of the **Golden Fleece** in the myth of **Jason and the Argonauts**. The region's dangers, including barbarian tribes and harsh terrain, made it "forbidden" or daunting to Greeks.

- **Medea**, the sorceress from Colchis, and her connection to the **Medes** and **Magi** reinforced the region's mystical and forbidden aura, as it was seen as a land of powerful magic and unknown dangers.
- The **Caspian Gates** (a pass in the Caucasus, possibly near Derbent) were mythologized as barriers built by Alexander the Great to keep out "barbarians," adding to the region's mystique.

- **Prometheus in Mythology:**

- Prometheus, a Titan in Greek mythology, stole fire from Zeus to give to humans, defying divine authority. As punishment, Zeus chained him to a rock in the **Caucasus Mountains**, where an eagle ate his liver daily.
- Described in Aeschylus' *Prometheus Bound* (5th century BCE), the Caucasus was seen as a remote, forbidding region at the edge of the Greek world, near the Black Sea.



- **Franks:** The Franks were a Germanic people who emerged in the 3rd century CE along the Rhine River and gradually expanded into Roman Gaul (modern France, Belgium, and parts of Germany). They unified under leaders like Clovis I in the late 5th century.
- **Merovingians:** The Merovingian dynasty, named after the semi-legendary founder Merovech, was the first major Frankish royal dynasty (circa 457–751 CE). Clovis I (r. 481–511 CE) was the most significant Merovingian king, uniting the Franks, converting to Christianity, and establishing the foundations of what would become France. The

- **Connection to the Franks:** There is no direct historical or genealogical link between the Merovingian Franks and the Habsburgs. The Habsburgs were a medieval European dynasty with roots in the Germanic regions of the Holy Roman Empire, while the Merovingians were an early medieval Frankish dynasty. However, the Habsburgs, as rulers of the Holy Roman Empire (from the 15th century onward), claimed a broader imperial legacy that indirectly tied them to the Carolingians, who succeeded the Merovingians. The Carolingian Empire, under Charlemagne, was seen as a precursor to the Holy Roman Empire, and the Habsburgs, as later



- **Trojans in History and Myth:** The Trojans were the inhabitants of the ancient city of Troy, located in northwestern Turkey (modern Hisarlık). Archaeological evidence, particularly from Troy VIIa (circa 1300–1180 BCE), suggests Troy was a real city, likely a Luwian-speaking settlement with ties to the Hittite Empire, given its Anatolian context. The *Iliad* by Homer, written centuries later, portrays the Trojans as a distinct people, but it's a mythological account, not a historical record.

- **Thracian Connection:** Thracians were an Indo-European people living in the Balkans (modern Bulgaria, parts of Greece, and Turkey) during the Bronze and Iron Ages. Some ancient sources and modern scholars have speculated about cultural or ethnic links between Trojans and Thracians due to geographic proximity (Thrace is across the Dardanelles from Troy) and shared Indo-European traits. For example:
 - In the *Iliad*, Thracians are mentioned as allies of the Trojans (e.g., King Rhesus), suggesting close relations.

Yes, Orpheus, in Greek mythology, is often described as a Thracian bard and is famously associated with accompanying Jason and the Argonauts on their quest for the Golden Fleece. Let's clarify his Thracian identity and role in the myth:

- **Orpheus as a Thracian:** Orpheus is consistently depicted in ancient Greek sources as a Thracian, hailing from the region of Thrace (modern-day Bulgaria, parts of Greece, and Turkey). For example, ancient poets like Pindar and later sources like Apollodorus' *Bibliotheca* (1st–2nd century CE) place him in Thrace, often linking him to the Cicones, a Thracian tribe mentioned in Homer's *Odyssey*. His Thracian origin ties into the region's reputation in Greek culture for music, mysticism, and

Thracians and Bacchic Practices

- **Thracians and Dionysus:** The Thracians were strongly linked to the worship of Dionysus, the Greek god of wine, ecstasy, and ritual madness, known as Bacchus in Roman tradition. Ancient Greek sources, like Herodotus (*Histories*, 5th century BCE), describe Thracian tribes engaging in ecstatic religious practices, which align with the characteristics of Dionysian worship.

Thracians were frequently described by ancient Greek writers, like Xenophanes (c. 500 BC), as having red hair and blue eyes, and their depictions in art often emphasized this trait. They were seen as fierce, warlike, and "barbaric" by the Greeks, who viewed non-Hellenic peoples with suspicion. This perception of Thracians as violent and uncivilized could have linked red hair to negative stereotypes, such as aggression or untrustworthiness, in early Eurasian cultural narratives. For example, Greek comedies portrayed Thracian slaves with red wigs, reinforcing ridicule.

Egypt, red hair was linked to Set, a malevolent god, resulting in human sacrifices of red-haired men. In medieval Europe, red hair was tied to witchcraft, vampirism, and betrayal, partly due to artistic depictions of Judas Iscariot and Mary Magdalene as redheads. These cultural and religious narratives amplified prejudice.

1. Cannabis (Hemp):

- **Evidence:** Ancient sources, notably Herodotus (5th century BC), describe the Thracians using cannabis in ritualistic settings. He notes that they threw "hemp-seed" (likely seeded cannabis buds) onto red-hot stones in enclosed spaces, producing a psychoactive vapor that caused euphoria, shouting, and joy, serving as a purification rite akin to a vapor-bath.

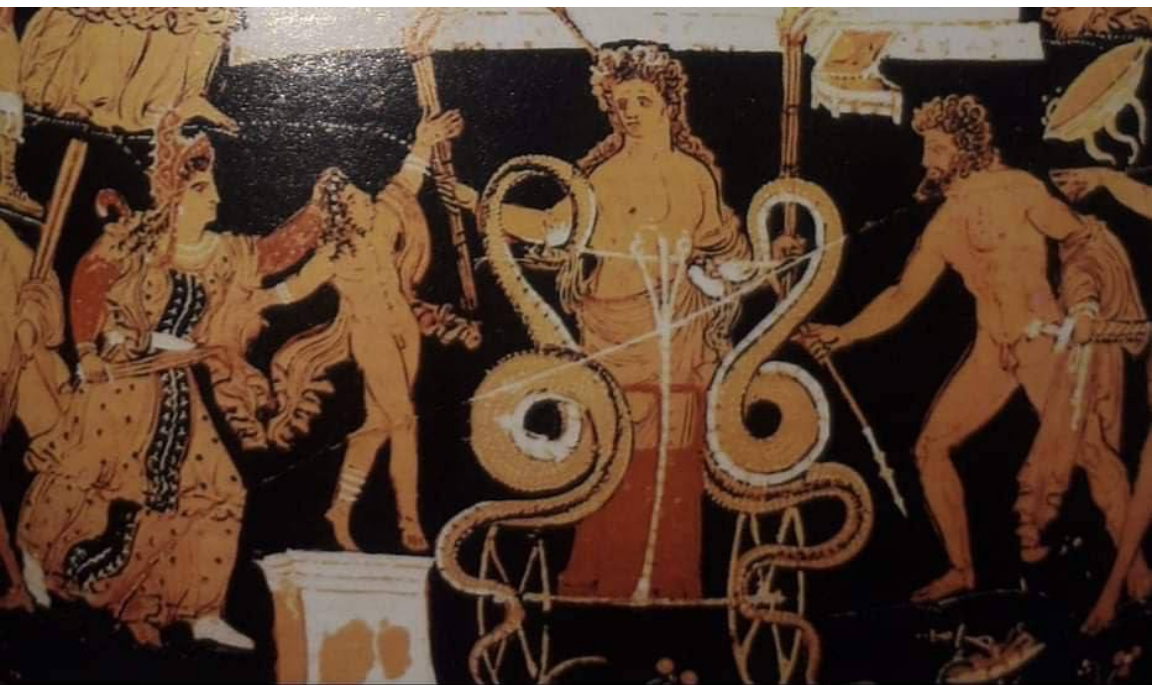
What is Kykeon?

Kykeon (from Greek *kykān*, "to mix" or "to stir") was a drink used in ancient Greek religious rituals, most famously in the Eleusinian Mysteries, a secretive initiation cult dedicated to Demeter and Persephone. It was typically a mixture of:

- **Barley** (often described as *alphita*, ground barley meal).
- **Water.**
- **Herbs or additives**, such as pennyroyal (*glechon*), a mint-like plant, as mentioned in ancient texts like the *Homeric Hymn to Demeter* (c. 7th–6th century BC).



















What Are the Eleusinian Mysteries?

The Eleusinian Mysteries were secretive religious rituals held annually in Eleusis, near Athens, from at least the 7th century BC to the 4th century AD. Dedicated to the goddesses **Demeter** and **Persephone**, they centered on themes of death, rebirth, and agricultural fertility, inspired by the myth of Persephone's abduction to and return from the Underworld. The rites were open to initiates (Greek-speaking men, women, and sometimes slaves) who swore secrecy, with severe penalties for revealing details.

Thoth and His Bird Symbol (Ibis)

Thoth was the ancient Egyptian god of wisdom, writing, magic, science, and the moon, often depicted as a man with the head of an **ibis** or as an ibis itself. The **sacred ibis** (*Threskiornis aethiopicus*), a

Symbol of Death and Rebirth

The **sacred ibis** (*Threskiornis aethiopicus*), with its white plumage, black head, and curved beak, was a potent symbol in ancient Egypt due to its behavior of wading into the Nile's muddy, opaque waters to probe for food (e.g., small fish, crustaceans). This act of delving into the "murky depths" resonated with Egyptian concepts of death, rebirth, and the hidden truths of existence, particularly through Thoth's role as god of wisdom, magic, and the afterlife.

1. Blue Lotus (*Nymphaea caerulea*):

- **Properties:** The blue lotus, a water lily native to the Nile's muddy waters, contains alkaloids like **aporphine** and **nuciferine**, which have mild sedative, euphoric, and possibly hallucinogenic effects when consumed in concentrated forms (e.g., soaked in wine, smoked, or ingested as tea).

holding or offering lotus flowers during banquets or rituals, suggesting its use in ceremonies linked to death and rebirth. For example, lotus flowers adorned mummies, symbolizing resurrection, as the flower closes at night and "rebirths" by opening at dawn.

2. Mandrake (*Mandragora officinarum*):

- **Properties:** Mandrake, a root plant with alkaloids like scopolamine and hyoscyamine, has hallucinogenic, sedative, and anesthetic effects. It was used in ancient Mediterranean cultures for medicine and magic.

- **Ritual Use:** Egyptian medical texts, like the **Ebers Papyrus** (c. 1550 BC), mention mandrake in treatments for pain and possibly as a sedative in religious or healing rituals. Its anthropomorphic root shape led to associations with life and the human soul, potentially used in funerary rites to ease the transition to the afterlife.

- **Death and Rebirth:** Mandrake's sedative effects could induce trance-like states, simulating a "death-like" sleep followed by awakening, aligning with rebirth motifs. Its use in mummification or funerary offerings (speculative) may have symbolized the soul's journey through death to eternal life.

Yes, to some extent, your logic holds based on the genetic evidence. The Cohen Modal Haplotype (CMH) and its associated Y-chromosome haplogroup J1-M267, which are linked to ancient Semitic populations including Jewish Kohanim, are indeed more prevalent in certain Arab populations—such as Saudis, Yemenis, and Jordanians—than in the broader Jewish population today. This reflects a shared ancient Semitic ancestry rather than a direct indication of “Jewishness” in a modern religious or cultural sense. Here’s a breakdown:

Yes, Saudis, Yemenis, and Jordanians, particularly Bedouin and other tribal groups, have higher concentrations of J1-M267 than the average Jewish population, indicating a stronger retention of this ancient Semitic genetic marker. However, this does not imply they have “more Jewish genes” in a cultural or religious sense—rather, it highlights a shared Semitic heritage that predates and transcends modern ethnic or religious boundaries.

The most direct reference to Mary and purple in a Greek text comes from the **Protoevangelium of James** (2nd century AD), an early Christian apocryphal work written in Greek. This text, while not part of the canonical Bible, is closely associated with early Christian traditions and provides detailed stories about Mary's life.

- **Reference:** Protoevangelium of James 10:1–2
- **Context:** The text describes Mary as a young virgin chosen to spin threads for the temple veil. The priests assign her the task of spinning the "true purple" (ἀληθινὴν πορφύραν *alēthinē porphyran*) and scarlet threads.

Καὶ λαβοῦσα ἡ Μαρία τὴν
πορφύραν καὶ τὸ κόκκινον
ἐκλωθεν... (*Kai labousa hē Maria
tēn porphyran kai to kokkinon
eklōthen...*) Translation: "And Mary,
taking the purple and the scarlet,
spun them..."

- Jesus' mock purple robe during his trial (Mark 15:17, John 19:2), symbolizing royalty but used in mockery.
- The rich man's clothing in the parable of Lazarus (Luke 16:19).
- The Whore of Babylon's attire (Revelation 17:4), symbolizing wealth and corruption.
- Lydia, a seller of purple goods (Acts 16:14, πορφυρόπωλις

- **Context:** Mary, as a young virgin, is chosen to spin "true purple" (ἀληθινὴν πορφύραν *alēthinēn porphyran*) and scarlet threads for the temple veil. The Greek word πορφύρα (*porphura*) refers to purple dye or fabric, a costly and royal color in antiquity, often made from murex snails.