

# Sarasvati-Croat cultural interactions during the transition from Neolithic to Metals Age (ca. 6500 BCE to 1<sup>st</sup> millennium BCE)

## Part 1a

The insights provided by Prof. Zlatko Tomicic and Adrija Zeljko Lovric about the origins of Croats are substantiated by the roots of civilization on the banks of River Sarasvati since circa 6500 BCE as enterprising miners and metalsmiths searched for minerals and created many alloys heralding the Metals Age transiting from the Neolithic Age. (Prof. Zlatko Tomicic and Adrija Zeljko Lovric (eds.), 1998, The old-Iranian origin of Croats, Symposium proceedings, Zagreb 24. 6. 1998; Scientific supervision: Prof.dr. Ivan Biondic, prof.dr. Marko Japundzic, prof.dr. Nediljko Kujundzic).

<http://www.hindunet.org/sarasvati/croats2.PDF>

There are hints of cultural contacts between Meluhha (Sarasvati-Sindhu river basins) of the riverine-maritime civilization with people along the Adriatic Coastline.

This monograph is organized in the following sections:

- Bronze Age in Croatia and possible links with Sarasvati civilization
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- kaveh (Persian); kovac (Croatian)
- The Kavis or kings in the Ga\_tha\_s and the Yashts and parallels in Vedic tradition of Bha\_rata
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- Sarasvati – Harahvati
- Sound change s>h, from Proto-Indic to Proto-Indo-Iranian
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- Annex :Some Croatian glosses of a linguistic area of the Bronze Age

There are indications that a linguistic area existed along the rim of Mediterranean Sea, coterminus with the period of Sarasvati Civilization (from circa 6500 BCE to 1900 BCE) where languages absorbed features from one another and made them their own, consistent with the transition from Neolithic to Metals Age (The Age is referred to as Metals Age because there are indications that iron smelting was started on Ganga river basin circa 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium BCE when bronze working was evidenced on Sarasvati-Sindhu river basins). The presence of two ingots read as ran:ku ‘tin’ point to the role

played by Meluhhan sea-faring merchants, miners and metalsmiths in creating alloys. The origins of croats together with the arrival of the Metals Age point to cultural (language and trade) interactions between Croatian and Sarasvati Civilization areas – across the Persian Gulf, through Tigris-Euphrates doab (Mesopotamia) and Mari en route to Haifa, and Cetina River valley.

### **Bronze Age in Croatia and possible links with Sarasvati civilization**

The discovery of two tin ingots in a shipwreck in Haifa with Sarasvati hieroglyphs (Indus script) shows the presence of people from Meluhha along the rim of Mediterranean Sea. This points to the need for studying the sources for bronze in the waters of Cetina river in Croatia.



**Haifa**



“We have the cylinder seal of a Sargonic official who served as translator for the Melukkha merchants who came to Agade from the Indus Valley, perhaps bringing with them the tin of Melukkha, a commodity mentioned in one of the statue inscriptions of Gudea, ruler of Lagash. A Mari text, dated to the ninth year of the reign of Zimri-Lim, refers to the construction of a 'small Kaptaru boat', perhaps to be taken as a model ship for ritual purposes or as the designation of a ship built for sailing to Crete...Bronze certainly was

being produced in Middle Minoan Crete, with production undergoing a great expansion during the Late Bronze Age, as it did on the Greek mainland...The problem is that, at present, no satisfactory analytical method for studying the provenance of tin has been discovered.” (James D. Muhly, 1995, Mining and Metalwork in Ancient Western Asia, in: Jack M. Sasson, ed. 1995, *Civilizations of the Ancient Near East*, Vol. III, New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, pp. 1501-1521). See: [http://jitnasa.india-forum.com/Docs/icaane\\_workshop.pdf](http://jitnasa.india-forum.com/Docs/icaane_workshop.pdf)

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