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TRANSLATION OF THE LINEAR A TABLET HT 13 FROM CRETE

Abstract

Despite the various suggestions about the ethnicity of the creators of Linear A writing system, e.g. Luwians, Phoenicians, Greeks, etc, the peculiar aspects of the Minoan culture show strongest connection with the cultures of the oldest inhabitants of the Balkans, the Thraco-Pelasgians. This is supported by the amazing similarities between the early Cretan scripts, pottery and toponyms with corresponding scripts, pottery and toponyms of ancient Thrace. The Thracians were identified as Slavs in later times. The Slavic character of the Minoan words documented in HT 13 is unmistakable, because all they have clear Slavic etymology. The likelihood of the Slavic character is also supported by the recent genetic research.

Introduction

Linear A writing system was in use in Minoan Crete between 1800 and 1450 BC [1], p. 45. It was a syllabic script supplemented by pictograms. It is believed that the later Mycenaean Linear B script was inspired by the Linear A. After the decipherment of the Linear B script, the sound values corresponding to the sound value of the counterparts in form of Linear B were applied to the signs of the Linear A [1].

Linear A inscriptions were documented first by Sir A. Evans in his work *Scripta Minoa* [2]. Later, Carrateli [3], Packard [4], Georgiev [5], etc. made attempts for deciphering and classifications of the various Linear A inscriptions. During few decades different researchers championed different languages as suitable candidates for the Linear A inscriptions; some thought that it is an archaic form of Greek [5] pp. 11-14, others defined it as a form of Phoenician, or Luwian [6], p. 16.

In 1963 Georgiev made an attempt to decipher inscriptions on few Linear A tablets from Crete [5] pp. 11-14. The language of the inscription on tablet HT 13, Figure 1, Georgiev defined as Early Greek [5] p. 15.



Figure 1: Linear A tablet HT 13

Interpretation by Georgiev

The reading of the Linear A tablet HT 13 by Georgiev [5] is presented in Figure 2.



Figure 2: Linear A tablet HT 13 and its reading by Georgiev [5]

Interpretation by Georgiev

The reading of the Linear A tablet HT 13 by Georgiev [5] was:

⊕ ς ⋈ ⋈ / ⋈ . ⋈ . = Καυδέτα(ι) ΟΙΝΟΝ θέ (ν)

ψ ς	= Πεζά	5 ½
⋈ ⋈	= Tetu	56
⋈ ⋈	= Teki	28 ½
⋈ ⋈	= Κύδωνι	16 ½
Δ Δ	= Δαίτα	19
ψ ς / ⋈ ⋈	= Νωδυνεϊ	5
⋈ +	= Γυρόν	130 ½

His translation was:

The Kauda's inhabitants tribute of wine:

Reza	5. ½ (measures)
T.	56
T.	28.1/2
Kydon	16.1/2
Daïta	19
Nodyne	5
Total	130. ½

According to Georgiev [5], **Kaudeta** should be read as **Kaud-eta(i)**. **Kauda** comes from the name of isle Kauda (Gavdos) near the coast of Phaistos, and the second part **etai** would mean *members* (of the community). **Kaudeta** = *members of the community of Kauda*.

Te = θε(ν), dor. ἐθεν, aor. 3. plur. of τίθημι – *I set, I put*.

Tetu – perhaps personal name corresponding to Athic name Thetos, also Eu-thetos, Pao-thetos, Theto.

Teki – perhaps personal name corresponding to Te(i)xi(s), also Neo-teixis, Eu-teixa.

Kydoni – personal name Dative of Kydon,

Dai TAL (to be read) daïta corresponds to Dative sing. of personal (Dor.) name Daitas, Athic Daites, Homeric Deifontes, connected to Homeric δηῖος (Dor. δάφιος) – *destructor, annihilator*.

Nodunei – personal name Dative sing. of Nodunos – *that one, who appeases the pain*.

Kuro corresponds to Attic γυρόν (or γυρός) – to approximate, to make round (number).

Reflexion to the Georgiev's decipherment

In our opinion, the decipher by Georgiev [5] is deficient in several aspects:

1. **Kaudeta** (Gaudos) is defined as a Greek name for an island, but no Greek etymology for the Minoan word **kauda** is offered.
2. Georgiev ignores that the personal name **Reza** is Thracian, not a Greek one. **Reza** is related (or even the same) as the name of the Thracian king **Rezos**, who came to help the Trojans (Hom. Illias, II-423, [7]).
3. The personal name **Thetos** is defined as Attic, but Georgiev forgets that in the 2nd millennium BC Athenians were in fact Pelasgian people, not Greeks. Athenians were considered descendant of the Pelasgians even in the time of Herodotus [8], I-56, VII-94, VII-44.
4. The proposed Greek equivalents of TEKI – Te(i)xi(s), also Neo-teixis, Eu-teixa have a diphthong (EI), while in TEKI we have a single vowel. TEK(I) is perhaps a form of the component TOK found in the Thracian personal names Amatokos, Sparatokos, Saratokos, Scythotokos etc. The meaning of TEK/TOK, could be *flow, progeny, offspring*, related to O. Ch. Sl. ТОКЪ, ТЕЦИЙ meaning respectively *flow, to flow, to run* and also to Blg. word потекло/roteklo – *origin, family, clan*. Greek word τόκος – *progeny* is most probably a loanword because the Greek language does not offer any etymology.
5. The personal name Kydon is related to the Minoan city Kydonia. However, today we know that Minoans were non-Greek people, that is why the oldest Minoan toponyms can not be explained using the Greek language. This fact is admitted even by Chadwick [9].
6. The personal name Daitas, derived from δάφιος – *destructor, annihilator* has Thracian character. **Da(v)os** or **Da(u)os** was Thracian word for wolf, which we find in the toponym Daosdava, **davos** is related to Slavic (Blg.) verb давя (davja) – *I suffocate, I murder*, Slovene verb **daviti** – *to suffocate* and Russian **давить** (daviti) – *to suffocate*.
7. The proposed Nodunei should be read as Idunesi. Georgiev mistakes I for NO, and SI

for I. The reading of Younger (which is more recent than that of Georgiev) is I-DU-NE-SI [10] as name on a list. Unfortunately Younger doesn't offer either etymology or translation for this Minoan word.

8. Attic γυρόν (or γυρός) – *to approximate, to make round* is also most probably a Pelasgian word. Linear A word KURO (KULO) is much closer to Gen. Sl. word KOLO – *wheel*, which is the base of the words **okoli** (Sl), **около/okolo** (Blg) – *approximately, rounded*. Gen. Sl. word KOLO – *circle* has also a dialectal variant **күло** / kulo (Blg.), which is perfect match to Linear A word KULO/KURO.
9. The names **Kydoni** and **Nodunei** are according to Georgiev in Dative singular, that means that these people can not be tributers, but rather receivers of goods. If in a same document we have people, who deliver goods and people, who receive goods than we must be able to differentiate two separate accounts – one for the givers and one for the receivers. The rounded amount (KURO) shows that we have only givers, or only receivers.

Our interpretation of the Minoan inscription HT 13

Our transliteration of the Minoan inscription HT 13 is: **KA-U-DE-TA / B(ina) . TE. RE-ZA 5¹/₂ / TE-TU 56 TE-KI / 28¹/₂ KU-DO-NI 16¹/₂ / DWO 19 I-DU / NE-SI 5 / KU-LO 130¹/₂**, compare it in Figure 3.



Figure 3: Our reading of the Linear A tablet HT 13

Comparison with other Linear A tablets gives the following occurrence of these words:

⊕𐀀𐀃𐀆 = **KA-U-DE-TA** is present only in HT 13.

The ideogram for **wine**, 𐀀, is present on several tablets.

Based on the database of Caratelli [3], 𐀀 = **TE** is present on about one third of Linear A tablets from Hagia Triada.

𐀀𐀆 = **RE-ZA** is present also in HT 88.

𐀀𐀃 = **TE-TU** is present also in HT 7, HT 8.

𐀀𐀆 = **TE-KI** is present also on HT 122 and a similar name **Teke** on HT 85.

𐀀𐀃𐀆 = **KU-DO-NI** is present also in HT 85. A similar name, **Kutoni**, exists on a Linear A inscription on a cup.

𐀀𐀆 = **DWO** is not present elsewhere, but there is a related name **DUJO** in ZA 22.

𐀀𐀆 / 𐀀𐀆 = **I-DU NE-SI** is not present anywhere else, but there are a lot of related Minoan names: IDA, IDUTI, IDUWI etc.

𐀀+ = **KU-LO** is present on about two thirds of the Linear A tablets.

Interpretations

The word ⊕𐀀𐀃𐀆 = **KA-U-DE-TA** most probably relates to tax payers enlisted on the Linear A tablet HT 13 residing in a settlement or area named Kauda or something similar.

It is quite possible that Georgiev [5] was right that this toponym relates to the isle Kauda (present-day Gavdos south of Crete). However, it could be also a settlement on it since Gavdos has supported a permanent population since Neolithic times, although it was later abandoned several times. The isle Gavdos is shaped triangularly, its terrain is plain and semi-rocky and the climate warm and dry, with few rain showers. A big part of the island is covered now with pine-trees and cedars. The mythical nymph Calypso is said to have lived on the island of Gavdos [11].

Since no Greek etymology for the isle's name is offered [5], let us look whether we can find a Slavic one. Especially instructive is the name pair Kauda - Calypso (in Slovene notation: Kauda - Kalipso).

The syllables of the word written in Linear A as KA-U-DE-TA seem to be KAU-DE-TA. The syllable KAU is phonetically very close to the dialectal Slovene pronunciation 'kaw' (similar to English *cow*) of the word, which in literary Slovene is written as **kal** meaning *a small depression of few m in diameter more or less permanently containing some water, a splash, water hole, pond*. In compound words it appears written as **kal-** or **kav-**. The word is general Slavic (Old Slavic **kalъ**) and it lacks a final etymological explanation [12]. Although the etymologists did not accept it, there still exists the possibility that the original meaning of **kal/kav** was *black* [13] (or *dark*), since in Sanskrit **kali**, **kalka** means *black*. On the other hand, the Sanskrit word **kaluša** means *mud pool, pond*. The latter is almost equal to the Slovene word **kalúža** - *puddle, pool; slough, mud pool* (small), and the Czech **kaluž** - *a stagnant rain puddle*. This would speak in favor of the etymology by Miklošič [13].

For the description of such waters see e.g. L. Sever [14]. It is of importance that in several Slovene dialects the last consonant in the word **kal**, i.e. the L, is pronounced as a


consonantal U (Engl. W) when it is the last sound in the word as well as before consonants. Before vowels, it is pronounced L. The words **Kaudeta** and **Calypso** (Kaudéta - Kalípso) are consistent with this rule.

In the *Atlas Slovenije* [15], there are noticed all over Slovenia 45 different toponym forms derived from the root **kal-**, comprising altogether 106 different toponyms (mountains, settlements, objects, hamlets, small villages, meadows, house names, etc; however, not all known toponyms of this type are noticed there). Noted are also 16 different toponym forms derived from the root **kav-**, comprising altogether 28 different toponyms. The most interesting among them is **Kavdek**, a house name in the Pameče area above the Mislinja river in the Koroška (Carinthia) region of Slovenia. The word Kavdek contains two same syllables as KAU-DE-TA, i.e. KAU-DE-, but it is a singular masculine form, whereas the ending -TA in KAU-DE-TA corresponds to the ending of plural neuter form of Slavic words as DEKLETA – *girls* (Slovene), РЕБЯТА (REBYATA) – *boys* (Russian), МОМЧЕТА (МОМЧЕТА) – *boys* (Bulgarian).

Thus, the word KA-U-DE-TA seems to describe the *people living near a water pond* (or: *near water ponds*) regardless of what source of water they really used.

There is also another point: The nymph Calypso who is said to have resided on the isle of Gavdos. Like the Slovene pronunciation **kau** / **kali** of what is written as kal / kali, we have here **Kaudeta** / **Calypso**. The nymph name Calypso could be a corrupted form of the word Kalipca (pronounce Kaliptsa) - a girl from the settlement **Kau**.

Into the same direction point also the Slovene words KAD – *vat*, KOTANJA – *well*, KADUNJA – *depression*, KOTLINA – *low place*, and Russ. KADKA – *vat*, all with the original meaning *sunk, hollow, dug object*. As a related Slavic toponym the Slovene **Kadunec** (two settlements in Slovenia bear this name [15]) can be presented.

In the second row of the inscription, the first sign is a pictogram for **wine**, . That was the tribute. The Minoan&Mycenaean sign for *wine* could have had the sound value of **bi** or **be**, in analogy to its similarity to the Hittite sign PI/BI [16], the Phoenician Beth [17] (since according to A. J. Evans [18] the Phoenician alphabet was derived from the Linear scripts), and to Glagolitic B [19]. In this respect, it is worth mentioning that Slovene dialectal, »betacistic« [20] word for wine - *bina* begins with the same consonant or even with the same syllable.

Next following sign is $\text{𐤒} = \text{TE (DE)}$, which could mean *given, delivered*, in such case it is connected with the General Slavic verb DETI – *to put, to set, to place*. The function of **TE** as *given, delivered* is not certain, because it is not present in about two thirds of the tablets of Hagia Triada. Such a situation suggests that TE was rather a special tax, perhaps a tax, which was paid several times in the year (To compare, the Czech word for tax is DAŇ. The archaic Slovene word is DAN (f.)). We think that TE is connected to the General Slavic verb **TEČI** – *to flow, to run*, here in the sense continuous (flowing) tax.

$\Psi\varphi = \text{RE-ZA}$ is the name of one of the tax payers. **Reza** was a Thracian (proto-Slavic) name with meaning *king* [21], which is related to O.Ch. Sl. word РЕЗЪ (REZ'Ь) – *profit, wealth* (sometimes the words for *king* are related to words for *riches, wealth*: Dutch word rijk means both *kingdom* and *wealth, riches*); East Indic RAJA (raža). We also should not

forget that some proto-Slavic rulers – Pyragast, Mysokius and others had the title REGES – *king* [22] p. 52 (or, its original form was more probably something like REGЪ). The proto-Slavic title REGЪ was lost in later times as many other titles: *boil, magot, bagain, bagatur, boljar* etc. Reza could be thus the local ruler.

𐀓𐀕 = **TE-TU** is a personal name related to Slavic Bulgarian **Тетъо** (Tetjo) with meaning *father*. Younger [23] defines TETU simply as a name on a list. Its ending -U, however, concords with Dative case, masculine. It could be also the shortened possessive form of Tetou (Tetow), usually known as Tetov. Compare also the name of the town Tetovo in Macedonia.

𐀓𐀖 = **TE-KI** – personal name related to O. Ch. Sl. words ТОКЪ, ТѢЩИ (TEŠTI) *to run, flow* and Blg. **тека**/teka – *I run, flow*, also to Blg. word **потекло**/poteklo – *origin, family, clan*. The meaning of the name was *quick one, to be quick, or progeny, child*. The presence of the verb TEČI in the Minoan language can be seen in the interpretation of the particle TE (cf. above). Cf. also [24].

𐀓𐀗𐀓 = **KU-DO-NI** – personal name, identical to the Minoan toponym Kydonia, so this tributer might have originally come from the Minoan settlement Kydonia. Minoan name **Kudoni** is similar to the Thracian personal name **Kuto** (which is also Bulgarian personal name) and we know for the presence of other Thracian personal names in Cretan Linear A documents: Diza, Pitakes [6] p. 18. Other Thracian names as: Areus, Buzos, Kotos etc. are documented on Cretan Linear B tablets [6] p. 19. In our opinion the name **Kudon(i)** is related to O.Ch. Sl. word ČUDO – *marvel*, from which many other Slavic words are derived. It can be linked to Bulgarian personal names Чудо / Čudo, Чудна / Čudna, having the meaning *marvelous, admirable one*. These names are derived from the General Slavic word ČUDO – *marvel*. We have to point out that the Linear A character KU (from the name Kudoni) might have been read also as ČU in some cases. Chadwick admits that the sound value of the Linear signs is not 100 % certain; for example KA could be also GA, KHA, or ten other sounds [25] p. 96. On the other hand, K and Č are sometimes interchangeable in the Slavic languages as we can see from the Bulgarian words: PEKA, but also PEČA – *I bake*, TEKA, but also TEČA – *I flow*, DA REKA, but also DA REČA – *to say*, SEKA – *to cut*, but also SEČA – *to cut*, LEKUVAM – *I heal*, but also LEČA – *I heal*.

𐀓𐀘 = **DWO**. The **Daita** suggested by Georgiev [5] p. 14 is in our opinion incorrect. The sign resembles the Linear B sign DWO (duó). Minoan name **DWO** we connect with Slovene words **dvojček** – *twin*, **dvojica** – *two, couple*, **dvojen** – *double* (dial. also *dušjčk, duá, dušjn*). Apparently DWO was a twin child.

𐀓𐀙 / 𐀓𐀚 = **I-DU-NE-SI** is unique among the personal names in inscriptions on the Linear A tablets. There is the question whether it is a name. It is written in two pieces in two lines, i.e. **I-DU / NE-SI**, in the same way as **TE-KI / 28^{1/2}**, which is doubtless a composition of a name and a number, separated into two items. Thusly, the true form of **I-DU-NE-SI** is **I-DU NE-SI** and for this reason it seems to be a composition of two words: IDU and NESI, which have clear Slavic characteristics. The word IDU is a noun, ID (or IDЪ) or IDO, in the masculine singular dative form. Whereas NESI is the singular imperative form of the verb NESTI – *to carry, to bring*.

The noun ID or IDO has several connections. On the one hand, it could be connected to the Thraco-Pelasgian word **Ida** (name of mountains in Thrace and Crete, possibly a *holy mountain*) and a Thracian personal name **Idaeus**, as well as **Idomeneus** (grandchild of the king Minos), **Iduti**, **Iduwi** (Linear A tablets HT 104, MA 1a), etc. Another connection in this respect is the word (W)ID – *bright, clear, visible, to see, sight, sense of sight*. On the other hand, it is very close to the word **idol** – ‘*statue representing a deity, an ideal*’. The word IDO may had later, in the post-Minoan times, experienced the development into the words like idol, ida, idae, idea, eidolon (Greek), idolum (Latin), ajd (Slovene), Heide (German), heathen (English). The word IDO is most likely Pelasgian and Pelasgian presence in Greece and Latium in the antiquity is attested by many old authors [8] II-56, [26], [27] I-3. In HT 13 it may had been traced in its earliest phase of use, when wine was brought to IDO.

‡+ = **KU-RO (KU-LO)** – has the meaning *approximately, around, rounded to*, or to be more precise – **closure** (of the account) and corresponds to Gen. Sl. word KOLO – *circle*, which is the base of the words as **okoli** (Slovene), **okolo** (Croat), **около/okolo** (Bulgarian) – *approximately, rounded*. Gen. Sl. word KOLO – *wheel* has also dialectal variants and derivates as **кѣно / kulo** (Bulgarian), **kule** – *wheels* Slovene (Ljub. dial.), **kulca** – *wheels* Slovene (Crkl. dial.), **kuólca** – *wheels* Slovene (Tolm. dial.), **kulovity** – *round* (Czech). All these words are an excellent match to the Linear A word KULO.

The text on the Linear A tablet HT 13 is thus as follows

Kaudeta b(ina) te reza 5.5 tetu 56 teki 28.5 kudoni 16.5 dvo 19 idu nesi 5 kulo 130.5.

The sum of all numbers is 130.5, so the translation into English would be:

The people from Kauda, units of wine as a tax: Reza 5.5, Tetov 56, Teki 28.5, Kudoni 16.5, Dvo 19 and carry to Ido 5. Closure: 130.5.

In Slovene:

Kaudeti dajo kot dajatev vina: Reza 5.5 (mer), Tetov 56, Teki 28.5, Kudoni 16.5, Dvo 19 ter Idu nesi 5. Skupaj 130.5 (mer).

Discussion

J. Chadwick [9], the co-decipherer of Linear B, wrote explicitly that Minoan settlements as Knossos, Aminsos etc. belonged to a non-Greek population. Speaking about Linear A tablets Chadwick [1] wrote: “It is immediately clear that the language can not be Greek”.

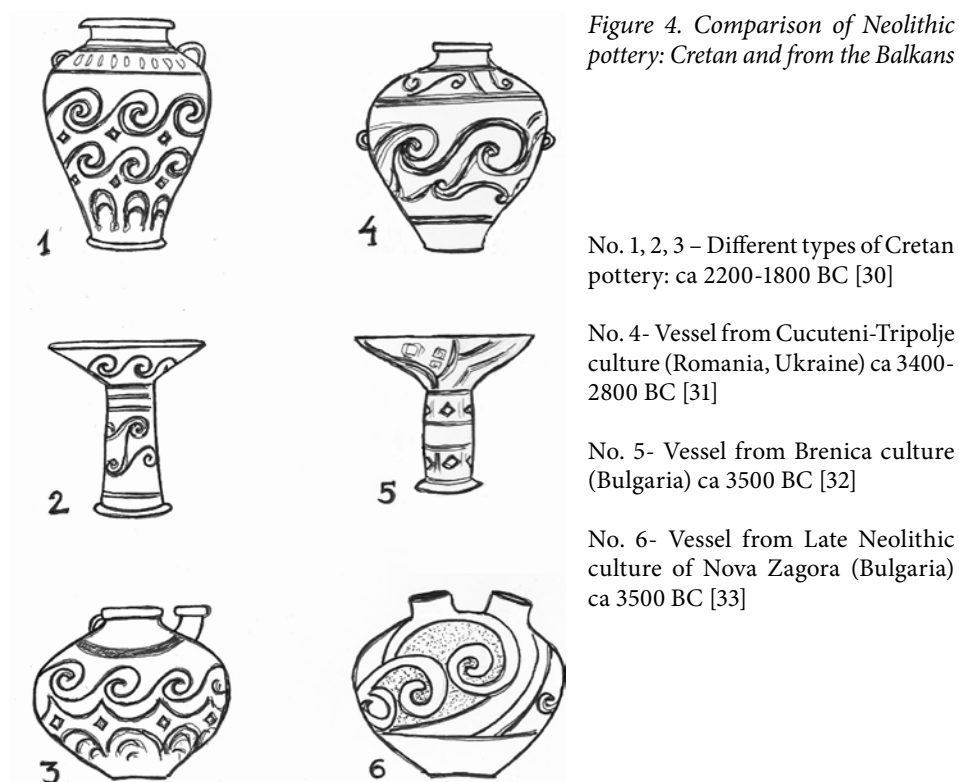
The Minoan words derived from the Linear A inscription HT 13 from Crete have without exception Slavic counterparts, some of which (KULO) are even identical. The toponym Kaudeta not only has explanation in Slavic languages, but has also parallels in the Slovene names of settlement(s) Kavdek and Kadunec. The enlisted names of the tax payers are equal to Thracian, and we must add that the presence of Thracian personal names, documented in Linear A documents, was already attested in 70-ties by Soesbergen [6] pp. 18-19.

Thracian presence in Crete is evident from the existence of parallel toponyms between Crete and Thrace:

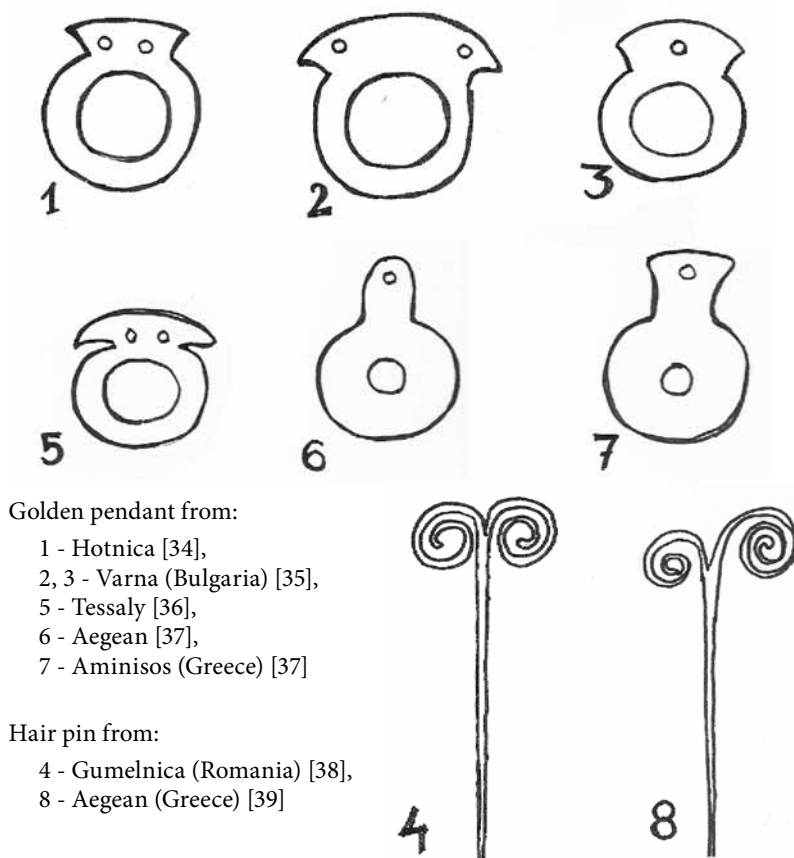
1. Cretan Ida corresponds to Thracian Ida.
2. Cretan Gortinia corresponds to Thracian Stene-**Corta**.
3. Cretan Paito (Phaistos) corresponds to Thracian **Paito**-visa.
4. Cretan Pergamos corresponds to Thracian Pergamos.
5. Cretan Dawo corresponds to Thracian Singidava, Daosdava.
6. Cretan Mesara corresponds to Thracian Mestos.

Parallels between Minoan and Thracian toponyms testify for permanent settlement of similar people on Crete and not just for trade relations between Minoans and Paleo-Balkan people. The similarity to Old C. Slavic words vid, grad, pad, prag, dav, mestya, is also indicated. From Th. Simocata [28] pp. 14-15, we learn that Thracian and Slavic are two names of the same people.

It is logical that if indeed a branch of predecessors of Slavs (called in the antiquity Thracians or Pelasgians) inhabited Crete and left toponyms there, other traces should be detectable too. Archaeology offers plenty of evidence for the Thracian presence on Crete. Hrozný pointed the connection between the Balkan Linear pottery and that of Crete long time ago. He connected the distribution of the Linear pottery to the Aegean region with the Thracian migrations [29] p. 220. Figure 4 offers comparison between Cretan and Balkan Neolithic pottery [30-33].



In addition we must mention that the Neolithic jewelry of the Balkans is amazingly similar to that of Aegean region (including Crete) from the same period, Figure 5, [34-39].



Golden pendant from:

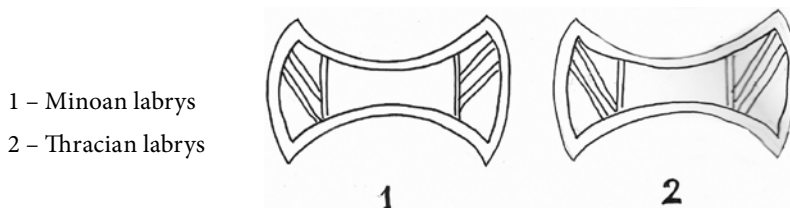
- 1 - Hotnica [34],
- 2, 3 - Varna (Bulgaria) [35],
- 5 - Tessaly [36],
- 6 - Aegean [37],
- 7 - Aminisos (Greece) [37]

Hair pin from:

- 4 - Gumelnica (Romania) [38],
- 8 - Aegean (Greece) [39]

Figure 5. Comparison of the Neolithic jewelry of Greece and Thrace

The Minoan royal symbol – the labrys, Figure 6, has the same form and in some cases same adornment as the labrys from Thrace (Orsoia, Northern Bulgaria). Minoan word for this specific kind of axe was DAPURO [41], which corresponds to Bulgarian [42], Russian [43], and Slovene [44] word **ronop/topor** - *axe* as well as to Hindu [45] word TAPAR - *axe*.



- 1 - Minoan labrys
- 2 - Thracian labrys

Figure 6. Comparison of form and ornament of Minoan [30] and Thracian [40] labrys

There are no strata of mass destruction between 3500 and 1500 BC between Balkans and Crete.

Connection between Cretan scripts and that of the Neolithic Balkans was found by Georgiev, who also pointed out that the writing system of the Balkans was older than the Aegean one [21] p. 157, which is a clear indication that the Early Cretan script was not a local invention, but was brought from the Balkans [19] p. 110. Another connection between the predecessors of Slavs and the Cretan scripts can be found in the fact that 33 Glagolitic signs have Linear A counterparts [19] p. 103.

As epigraphic evidence for early proto-Slavic presence in Crete can be given the translation of the Linear A inscription on the golden ring from Mavro Spelio [46] pp. 337-346, which was deciphered with the help of Slavic languages. Another Eteo-Cretan inscription of much later date, deciphered with help of Slavic languages shows the continuing proto-Slavic inhabitation of Crete until at least 2300-2100 years ago [47] pp. 199-206. It is of importance to mention that Conway found interesting parallels between the Eteo-Cretan and Venetic language [48] p. 102, and Veneti have been defined as Slavs by many authors [49]. We offer also a small Minoan-Slavic glossary in Table 1, where can be seen the great similarity between the Minoan and Slavic language.

A strong argument for the connection of proto-Slavs with Crete is the recent genetic research showing that the Slavic Macedonians are genetically closer to the Cretans than the Greeks are [50]. That is a clear and undisputable indication for the past presence of proto-Slavic people on Crete. Another recent genetic study [51] shows an appreciable presence of the haplogroup R1a1 in the eastern regions of Crete, especially on the Lasithi Plateau. It indicates one of the earliest genetic strata on Crete and a very close genetic relationship between the R1a1 chromosomes from the Lasithi Plateau and those from the Balkans. This genetic marker is widespread among the Slavs [52]. Some theories place the origin of R1a1 in Eastern Europe [53], which according to Alinei has been populated with Slavs since the Palaeolithic times [54].

The situation on Crete is thus in some way similar to the relation between the Indo-Aryan and Slavic populations, where the haplogroup R1a1 has been found at high frequencies in both of them, which points to a common genetic origin of a large percentage of Slavic and Indic language speakers. The Indic languages, Vedic Sanskrit in particular, and Slavic languages, show evidence of remarkable similarities as well [55-60].

We do not have written sources about the proto-Slavic domination of Crete simply because the general ethnonym Slav was applied to all the people considered today as Slavs as late as in the Early Middle Ages. Before that period these people had different general names, one great part was called Thracians, who according to Duruy were related to Pelasgians and Illyrians [61] pp. 23-24. Thracians, Illyrians and Pelasgians are historically and archaeologically connected with Crete [23] pp. 17-22, [29] pp. 219-221, [21] p. 157, [62] V.2.4.

The decipher of the word "Kaudeta" as provided by Georgiev [5] is plagued by other problems. Namely, the tradition of "western" scholarship in linguistics is based on the Kentum bias. Now we understand that the term "Centum/Kentum" is largely obsolete and

Table 1: Minoan-Slavic glossary (from present paper and [46])

MINOAN	SLAVIC
1. AREI – <i>furious</i>	JAREI, JAROST – <i>fury, rage, young, youth</i> (Blg., Russ., Slo.)
2. STARIK – <i>old man, leader</i>	STARIK, STAREC – <i>old man</i> (Blg., Russ., Slo.)
3. KETO – <i>progeny</i>	ČEDO – <i>child</i> (O.Ch.Sl)
4. JATA – <i>first</i>	(J)EDIN – <i>one, first</i> (Common Slavic)
5. POSITEN – <i>honorable</i>	POČTEN – <i>honorable</i> (O.Ch.Sl.)
6. AJAK – <i>strong</i>	JAK – <i>strong</i> (Blg., Serb., Slo.)
7. KAUD – <i>pit, well, vat</i>	KAD – <i>vat</i> (Slo.)
8. REZA – <i>king</i>	REGA – <i>king</i> (Old Slavic)
9. TEK – <i>run, flow, son</i>	TEK – <i>run</i> (Slo.)
10. KUDON – <i>marvel</i>	ČUDEN – <i>marvelous</i> (Blg.)
11. IDA – <i>mountain, clear, white</i>	VEDER – <i>clear</i> , VIDETI – <i>to see*</i> (Blg., Slo.)
12. NESI – <i>carry, bring</i>	NESTI – <i>to carry, bring</i> (Common Slavic)
13. DWO – <i>two, twin, couple, double</i>	DVOJČEK – <i>twin</i> , DVOJICA – <i>couple</i> , DVOJEN – <i>double</i> (Slo)
14. KULO – <i>wheel, around</i>	KULO – <i>wheel, around</i> (Blg., Slo.)
15. PERG – <i>high place</i>	PRAG – <i>high place, threshold</i> (Blg., Slo.)
16. GORT – <i>enclosure, fort</i>	GOROD – <i>enclosure, city, fort</i> (Common Slavic)
17. KAER – <i>to dig</i>	KORPATI – <i>to dig</i> (O. Ch. Sl)
18. PAIT – <i>to fall, depression</i>	PAD – <i>depression</i> (Common Slavic)
19. MES – <i>to move</i>	MESTJA – <i>I move</i> (Blg)
20. DAW – <i>multitude</i>	DAV – <i>multitude</i> (Czech)
21. DAPURO – <i>axe</i>	TOPOR – <i>axe</i> (Blg., Russ., Slo.)

* About IDA corresponding to **VEDER** – *clear, bright* it is to say that many names of mountains have the meaning *bright - white topped*: Alps, Apennines, Caucasus, Himalayas etc. Ida is a high mountain and perhaps in the winter season the tops were covered with snow, so that they become white, pure, clear. IDA is related also to Blg. word **VIDELO** – *bright, clear* and to Common Slavic verb **VIDETI** – *to see, to be able to distinguish clear*.

is often replaced by the less ostentatious term “Non-Satem”. By the novel understanding [63-65], the Non-Satem “Peripheral” (disintegrated) languages are derived from the (highly integrated) “Core” (Slavic) languages. When searching for the etymology of an archaic word, it is much more prudent to seek the word origins in the a-priori “Core” languages (Slavic, especially the most archaic dialects; Sanskrit, especially Vedic) rather than in the derived “Peripheral” a-posteriori languages (Greek, Latin, Germanic). The remedy lies in seeking the etymology in the Slavic Core.

Conclusion

The language of the Linear A tablet HT 13 is unmistakably proto-Slavic: the people Kaudeta residing in a settlement or area named Kauda denoting a water pond area, the names of the tributers and the administrative term KULO have best explanation in the Slavic languages. The grammar peculiarities – the forming of plural with -TA; dative singular (in IDU) and imperative singular (NESI) are typical for Slavic languages like Slovene, Czech, Bulgarian, Russian etc as well. Also the genetic data point into this direction.

Acknowledgement

The authors are indebted to Dr. J. Rant, to reviewers, as well as to P. Jandáček for valuable suggestions.

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Povzetek

Prevod besedila na tablici HT 13 s Krete, napisanega s pisavo Linear A

Čeprav ustvarjalce črtna pisave A (Linear A) pripisujejo k različnim ljudstvom, npr. Luvijcem, Ferničanom, Grkom, itd, svojske lastnosti Minojske kulture kažejo najmočnejšo povezavo s kulturami najstarejših prebivalcev Balkanskega polotoka, Trako-Pelazgijcev. To potrjuje presenetljiva podobnost zgodnjih kretskih pisav, lončenine in toponimov s pisavo, lončenino in toponimi nekdanje Trakije, katere prebivalci so bili kasneje poimenovani kot Slovani. Protoslovanski značaj minojskih besed, zabeleženih na napisu HT 13 s Krete, je očiten, saj imajo vse jasno protoslovansko etimologijo. Možnost protoslovanskega značaja podpirajo tudi rezultati genetskih raziskav.