

## THE OLDEST WRITTEN VERSION OF THE FLOOD STORY AND ITS RELEVANCE TO THE MIGRATIONS OF THE ANCIENT BULGARIANS.

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We studied the earliest version of the Deluge story, which were found on two clay tablets excavated from the Older Nippur library in “Tablet Hill”, Nippur by H. Hilprecht. These two tablets with cuneiform inscriptions were written by the tsar (emperor) of Kutians Erridu- pizir after he conquered the whole Sumer and Akkad in 2478 B.C. (accordingly the Nippur chronology). They state that the house-boat of the Ut- napshtim (the Babylonian Noah) landed on the mount Nisir in the land of Kuti (Guti).

We studied the history of people of Kuti and demonstrated that national name Kuti is older version of the Kutiguri (the biggest branch of ancient Bulgarians living in the Great Bulgar in VI- VII-th century AD). The affix guri means people in ancient Bulgarian language, i.e. Kutiguri means “people of Kuti”. This result links the ancient Bulgarians with the land of Kuti where landed the house-boat of Ut- napshtim. Therefore we studied the locations of the Kuti by toponyms and hydronames they left in Iran. We placed them on the map of Iran to obtain a map of their settlements. We studied the ceramic fragments left by Kutians found at these locations and compared them with ceramics found in Bulgaria. Using the drawing patterns on these artifacts we found that Kutians were leaving in Bulgaria in the first half of the 6-th millennium B.P. and later migrated south perhaps in result of the Flood. They established settlements in Zagros Mts in Iran in the beginning of the 4-th millennium B.P. Probably Erridu- pizir considered these territories under (land of Kuti).

We found in Iran 210 toponyms and hydronames formed on the base of Kuti. We studied the morphology of these ancient Bulgarian ethnonyms. They are compared with Bulgarian ethnonyms in Bulgaria and in the ancient states of Volga Bulgar and the Great Bulgar, and with synthetic toponyms formed from the same base with the same suffixes as these forming the toponyms in Bulgaria. This way we determined the different Bulgarian toponyms in Iran, which coincide with the theoretical (synthetic) Bulgarian toponyms. 68 of them still exist not only in Iran, but also in Bulgaria, the Great Bulgar or Volga Bulgar territories (now in Ukraine and Russia).

We found also many toponyms in Iran, which coincide with the names of the major cities and peaks in Bulgaria, which were named by ancient Bulgarians (Varna, Burgas, Madara, etc.). Some of them form the name of up to 43 different places in Iran each (they are repeated in up to 43 toponyms each).

