

NOUS SUPPLIONS LES DIEUX

□

Nous supplions les dieux du haut pays des neiges
Odin, Tiwas et Thor, Njordr et Freja
D'unir nos vies d'enfants comme deux fils de soie
Plus doux que la blancheur des premiers perce-neige !

Athanase Vantchev de Thracy

Glose :

Le Panthéon des dieux scandinaves:

La religion nordique apparaît avant tout comme la religion des Ases. Ces divinités, également connues sous les noms de Anses, Oses, etc., rappellent les dieux de l'Olympe grec. Ils représentent des puissances bienfaitantes : ils sont en lutte avec l'engeance maudite des Géants de la Gelée, comme les dieux grecs avec les Titans. Mais il y a entre les deux mythologies une différence fondamentale : tandis que chez les Grecs les dieux sont définitivement vainqueurs et jouissent d'une immortalité bienheureuse, les Ases sont constamment obligés de recommencer la lutte, et doivent même succomber un jour, quoique pour renaître ensuite.

Les trois principales divinités de cette mythologie étaient : Odin, Odhinn ou Wotan, Tyr ou Tiwas ou Zio, et Thor, Thôrr, ou Donar.

Les mythes représentent Odin comme le premier des dieux; ses attributions sont multiples : il est à la fois le dieu de la tempête, le dieu de la guerre, le dieu de la fécondité et de la sagesse. Deux corbeaux, perchés constamment sur ses deux épaules, Hugin (l'Esprit) et Munnin (la Mémoire), lui disent à l'oreille ce qu'ils ont vu ou appris dans leurs courses à travers le monde.

Tyr est resté spécialement le dieu farouche, qui préside aux combats. Thor, devenu fils d'Odin, est le dieu de la force par excellence; il commande aux vents, aux saisons, particulièrement à la foudre. Il est le dieu de l'orage et du tonnerre. Il est armé contre les monstres et les Géants d'un marteau qui revient de lui-même dans sa main après qu'il l'a lancé. Il tire également sa force de ses énormes gantelets de fer, de sa ceinture magique qui centuple ses forces, il est invisible et irrésistible.

Parmi les autres divinités, il faut citer les déesses Frigga (ou Hertha) que Tacite connaît sous le nom de Nerthus, et Freyja ou Holda. L'une et l'autre ont très souvent un caractère nettement chthonien, et qui passait comme Frigga pour être les dispensatrices de l'abondance, de la joie, de la fécondité. Il y a aussi Freyr, Beowulf, Aegir, Heimdallr; mais leur physionomie est restée indécise, et les érudits modernes ne sont pas toujours d'accord sur leurs véritables attributions.

Tous les dieux scandinaves sont regroupés par familles. La principale est celle des Vanes composée de Njördr, Freyr et Freyja, qui sont des dieux de la fertilité. De plus tous ne se placent pas sur le même plan. On a déjà cité les dieux principaux, et parmi les dieux du second ordre on mentionnera : Balder, fils d'Odin, beau, sage et bon. L'éclat de son palais radieux se reflète dans la zone lumineuse qui brille au ciel les nuits d'été. Njördr règne sur les vents et la mer. **Brage est le dieu de l'éloquence et de la poésie.** Lok personnifie enfin le mauvais principe. Il est le facteur du désordre, celui dans lequel les anthropologues contemporains reconnaissent la figure quasi-universelle du

trickster

, le joueur de tours, le dérangeur. Trois monstres sont nés de lui : le loup-Fenrir, le serpent Midgord, Hel ou la Mort. Nous avons déjà nommé Heimdal, le dernier de ces dieux secondaires. Viennent ensuite les douze déesses, qui entourent Frigga : puis les douze Valküres ou Valkyries, des vierges guerrières qui accompagnent Odin dans ses chevauchées et protègent les héros blessés sur le champ de bataille. Ce sont elles qui choisissent ceux qui doivent être tués, et qui font pencher la victoire vers le côté que favorise Odin. Quant aux guerriers qui ont mérité l'immortalité, ils habitent après la mort le brillant Valhala, dans lequel ils goûtent éternellement le plaisir de boire la bière et l'hydromel que leur servent les Valkyries, ou celui de combattre sans se lasser.

ENGLISH (My translation) :

WE BEG THE GODS

We beg the gods of the high country of snows:

Odin, Tiwas and Thor, Njordr and Freja

To unite our children's lives as two silk threads

Sweeter than whiteness of the first snowdrops!

Notes:

Scandinavian gods:

The god of the Clear Sky is Tyr. On alt-Germanic his name sounded "Tiw", that corresponds Greek Zeus.

The god of Thunder is Scandinavian Thor . To him corresponds Germanic Donner. In both "Edda" Thor the opponent World the Serpent behaves as a mighty warrior, he fights against giants and monsters. Pays on itself his familiarity to people that is not absolutely typical for Thunder god.

Many characteristics of the God of Earth Powers were incorporated by Odin that proves to be true on an example of comparison with Celtic tradition. Famous epithet Odin - "All father" corresponds to nickname Dahghda - " Father of all ".

Odin - the Cultural Hero (German Wotan, Anglo-Saxon Woden) - has occupied the Supreme position in Scandinavian pantheon. His grandiose image was considered variously. The most simple treatment - "the Supreme god", is more complex - "the god of war", is even deeper - "Apparently, Wodan in genesis - a chthonic demon, the patron of the military unions and military initiation and the god - sorcerer (shaman)."

One of major Odinn's functions was collecting souls died (but it is extreme the heroes falling in fight) in illusive palace Valhalla. He patronised brave warriors even at their live. But also the Scandinavian god has cunning and insidiousness in not a smaller degree, than Hermes. Odin was the reason of destruction of many heroes to which helped before (Sigmund, Helge, Heirred). "Danish king Harald has received the plan of military actions and the promise of numerous victories from the god. However during fight, Odin has taken his place of chariot man and has ruined Harald. In reply to a question why he has denuded promised good luck, One has answered, that "the grey wolf observes of halls of gods".

According to Persian sacral texts 'Frashegird' there will be great disasters at last centuries of the world. All wolves will be left together and will merge in one huge wolf. People will beat with it and will win. After centuries, all snakes will be slipped together and will grow together in the huge snake. And again, people will battle to it and will win.

Scandinavian and ancient Persian cultures have a line of the similar moments and besides eschatology. The plot about gold of dwarf Andvari, paid by gods is widely known as the repayment for death of his son, killed in an image of an otter. The damnation (the given plot has served as a beginning to a history about Sigurd (Siegfried) and Nibelung) was imposed on this gold. And in Zoroastrian Iran above all animals the otter - "a water dog" was esteemed. For murder of an otter severe compensation in case of which default the person was cursed was imposed.

The great Goddess of ancient Germanics was Nertus. In "Germany", Tacitus describes her cult. A statue of the goddess kept in a sacred grove, and only priest could come there. In certain time

Nertus put on a chariot, harnessed with bulls, and carried through all country. These days all wars stopped, and general fun because this goddess named "Terra Mater", returned fertility to the world began. Then the chariot and its contents were cleared in sacred lake, and ritual was so confidential,

Name Nertus is not known from the Scandinavian sources. As reflections of the Great Goddess can be considered Erd, Frigg, Freyja and even Valkyrie . Erd, whose name is meant with the ground, it is considered mother Scandinavian Thor. It is more about her it is not known. Frigg - "Beloved" was Odinn's wife and the goddess of a marriage, love, the family center. She had gift of a prediction. Frigg to some extent it is possible to correlate with Greek Hera (the same as Erd with Greek Gaia).

Freyja ("Mistress") was as a matter of fact double of Frigg. She was considered as the wife the Odd (probably, variant of Odinn). Unlikely Frigg, Freyja in "Edda" concerns to Vanir - small group of gods of fertility, and is Freyr's sister. She embodied fertility, love, and beauty. Forage of that, the goddess daily divides and chooses together with Odin killed warriors. As representative of Vanir, Freyja had knowledge of magic (from Asir Odin owned to it only). There are in Scandinavia groups of women, venerated her cult, were considered owning as prophetic force. It is no wonder, that Christians considered their as witches, no less than itself Freyja, drives on a chariot, harnessed with cats.

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We beg the gods of the high snow country,

Odin, Tiwaz and Thor, Njord and Freya,

to join our childhoods like two silk threads,

softer and whiter than the first snowdrops!

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Translated from the French of Athanase Vantchev de Thracy by Norton Hodges

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