

1: South Slavs - Infogalactic: the planetary knowledge core

Slavs are an Indo-European ethno-linguistic group who speak the various Slavic languages of the larger Balto-Slavic linguistic group. They are native to Eurasia, stretching from Central, Eastern, and Southeastern Europe all the way north and eastwards to Northeast Europe, Northern Asia (), the Caucasus, and Central Asia (especially Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan) as well as historically in.

The Slavs An illustration of medieval moscow. Slavic groups also ventured as far as Scandinavia, constituting elements amongst the Vikings, whilst at the other geographic extreme, Slavic mercenaries fighting for the Byzantines and Arabs settled Asia Minor and even as far as Syria. Origins The location of the Slavic homeland has been the subject of significant debate. The Prague-Penkov-Kolochin complex of cultures of the 6th to 7th centuries AD are generally accepted to reflect the expansion of Slavic-speakers at that time. The proposed frameworks are: For these nations, the Sclaveni and the Antae, are not ruled by one man, but they have lived from of old under a democracy, and consequently everything which involves their welfare, whether for good or for ill, is referred to the people. It is also true that in all other matters, practically speaking, these two barbarian peoples have had from ancient times the same institutions and customs. For they believe that one god, the maker of lightning, is alone lord of all things, and they sacrifice to him cattle and all other victims. He mentions that they were tall and hardy: When they enter battle, the majority of them go against their enemy on foot carrying little shields and javelins in their hands, but they never wear corselets. Indeed, some of them do not wear even a shirt or a cloak, but gathering their treds up as far as to their private parts they enter into battle with their opponents. And both the two peoples have also the same language, an utterly barbarous tongue. Nay further, they do not differ at all from one another in appearance. For they are all exceptionally tall and stalwart men, while their bodies and hair are neither very fair or blond, nor indeed do they incline entirely to the dark type, but they are all slightly ruddy in color. Jordanes tells us that the Sclaveni had swamps and forests for their cities. Another 6th century source refers to them living among nearly impenetrable forests, rivers, lakes, and marshes. The Avars asked the Slavs to accept the suzerainty of the Avars, he however declined and is reported as saying: Bulgaria was instrumental in the spread of Slavic literacy and Christianity to the rest of the Slavic world. Modern history The Slavs green in Southeastern Europe As of , there were only three free Slavic states in the world: The Slavic peoples who were, for the most part, denied a voice in the affairs of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, were calling for national self-determination. Because of the vastness and diversity of the territory occupied by Slavic people, there were several centers of Slavic consolidation. Religious delineations by nationality can be very sharp; usually in the Slavic ethnic groups the vast majority of religious people share the same religion.

2: West Slavs - Wikipedia

The Slavs are an Indo-European ethno-linguistic group living in Central Europe, Eastern Europe, Southeast Europe, North Asia and Central Asia, who speak a Slavic language. They may share cultural traits and history.

Society Slavic Countries Slavs are the largest Indo-European ethno-linguistic group in Europe, and share historical backgrounds and cultural traits across a large geographic area. The modern Slavs are diverse in almost all ways including culture, genetic, and relationship between them. There are over million Slavs worldwide. History Of The Slavs The ancient Slavs belonged to diverse tribal societies who lived in the migration period between the 5th and the 10th century especially in the Eastern and Central Europe. They absorbed the Iranian ethnic groups who were also living in the Central and Eastern Europe around the sixth century. The majority of the Slavs converted to Christianity in the 9th century and occupied most of the medieval Christian states including Bulgaria , Poland , Serbia , Croatia , and Bosnia. Slavs were organized into chiefdoms with consolidation of the chiefdoms taking place in the 7th and 8th century. During the consolidation period, the culture of the Slavs was greatly influenced by the neighboring communities including the Khazars, Vikings, and Byzantium. The settlement had open areas which were significant for public activities and ceremonies. Slavs were part of the Eurasia, a multi-ethnic group which made up the Hun, Gothic, and Sarmatian Empires. In the 19th century, there were only three free Slavic States in the world; Montenegro , Russia , and Serbia. Slavs are the ethnic majority in most of the Central and Eastern Europe Slavic countries. They make up the citizenship of those countries. Currently, there are over million Slavs worldwide. Russia has the highest number of Slavs, million. Russians in the country form the ethnic majority. There are over 57 million Poles and Ukrainians each living in Poland and Ukraine respectively. Macedonia and Montenegro account for the least number of Slavs, 2. Protestants, atheists, and Muslims make the religious minority among the Slavs. Religion plays a key role in the alphabet used in the Slavic language. The Bosniaks, mainly Muslims, also use the Latin alphabet. The Slavic culture has been influenced greatly by the other ethnic groups they have come into contact with including the Balkans and the Thracians. The Slavs assimilated most of the non-Slavs they came into contact with including their culture while at the same time influence the cultures of the other communities which they could not assimilate.

3: Slavic peoples : Wikis (The Full Wiki)

Slavs are Indo-European ethnolinguistic groups in Europe. They are natives of Central, Eastern, Southeast, and Northeast Europe as well as Central and North Asia. The Slavs speak mainly Indo-European Slavic Language. The states made up of the Slavs account for about 50% of the territory of Europe.

For a more comprehensive list, see Ethno-cultural subdivisions. Note the first vowel "o", rather than an "a" as in Greek and Latin. Proto-Slavic language The ancestor of the Proto-Slavic language branched off at some uncertain time in an unknown location from common Proto-Indo-European possibly passing through a common Proto-Balto-Slavic stage. According to a popular view, "the Indo-Europeans who remained after the migrations became speakers of Balto-Slavic". Proto-Slavic proper, defined as the last stage of the language preceding the split of the historical Slavic languages, predates the 7th century, and was likely spoken during the 5th and 6th century. The Slavic language group is categorized with the satem or eastern isogloss of the Indo-European language family, along with the Baltic and Indo-Iranian groups. This is in contrast with the western or centum division that includes Romance, Germanic and Celtic languages. The spread is believed to be related to the mass migrations following the Last Glacial Maximum when the Balkans served as a refuge. However this view is not without its own problems. Germany is historically populated by both Germanic tribes and Western Slavic tribes. By comparison, Poland is a country historically populated almost entirely by historically Lech tribes. There is no historical record of German Slavs or Polish Slavs being exterminated during last years. On the contrary many Lech tribes still existed until 19th century Poland and Germany. A few Lech tribes still exist in 21st century Germany e. Sorbs with their tribal customs intact. One would therefore expect there to be a larger minority of R1a in Germany than is actually the case. In Britain, the distribution of R1a corresponds closely to the areas of Viking influence. The same Y haplogroup means that Vikings are parentally related to Lech Ludzie where the concentration of R1a is highest in Europe. In both Germany and in Poland R1b and I1 do exist in proportion to each other. In Europe only Nordic countries have something similar in proportions between R1b and I1. Curiously according to autochthonic theory West Slavs of Germany and Poland are not generally recognized as Pre-Slavic populations that subsequently became Slavicized allochthonic theory? Polish archeologists even point to Pomeranian culture as the source of the culturally distinctive and autochthonic appearance of Slavs in Europe. This is a form of Lusatian culture with heavy Viking influences and is clearly Slavic according to autochthonic theory. This subsequently means that the eastern appearing cultural distinctiveness of Rusins East Slavs is whatever is left of the original Slavic culture and Lechs are not Slavicized with it to this very day as a matter of fact. It may, in northern Europe at least, reflect an earlier east-to-west movement of peoples who entered Scandinavia but were for some reason unable to penetrate far into mainland Europe via Germany. It exists natively only in Europe and is associated with ancient "northern barbarians. In such high levels it occurs in non-Slavic areas, chiefly in Sardinia and Scandinavia. Thus it is not originally Slavic, and its regional abundance chiefly indicates the former Pre-Slavic populations that subsequently become Slavicized. Origins and Slavic homeland debate The location of the speakers of pre-Proto-Slavic and Proto-Slavic is subject to considerable debate. Serious candidates are cultures on the territories of modern Poland, Belarus and Ukraine. The proposed frameworks are: The pre-Proto-Slavs were present in north-eastern Central Europe since at least the late 2nd millennium BC, and were the bearers of the Lusatian culture and later the Przeworsk culture part of the Chernyakhov culture. The pre-Proto-Slavs were the bearers of the Chernoles culture of northern Ukraine From the 19th century onwards, the debate became politically charged, particularly in connection with the history of the Partitions of Poland, and German imperialism known as Drang nach Osten. Autochthonic theory the Proto-Slavs are native to the area of modern Poland , Allochthonic theory the Slavs immigrated to the area of modern Poland. The debate has been used as a tool of political propaganda and is often emotionally charged and interspersed with pseudoarchaeology and national mysticism. Contemporary scholarship in general has moved away from the idea of monolithic nations and the Urheimat debates of the 19th and early 20th centuries, and its focus of interest is that of a process of ethnogenesis, regarding competing Urheimat scenarios as false dichotomies.

Tacitus, Pliny the Elder and Ptolemy mention a tribe of the Venedes east of the Vistula, commonly identified with the early Vandals. From Romanticism, the allochthonic school theorem is that the 6th century authors re-applied the ethnonym to hitherto unknown Slavic tribes, whence the later designation "Wends" for Slavic tribes, and medieval legends purporting a connection between Poles and Vandals. The autochthonic school postulates that the Venedes of Tacitus and the "Slavs proper" between the 1st and the 6th centuries coalesced into the historical Slavic ethnicities. The Slavs were "known to other people" as those tribes located between the Vistula and Dnepr until the middle of the 1st century BCE. The Slavs under name of Venets, the Ants and the Sklavens make their first appearance in Byzantine records in the early 6th century. Byzantine historiographers under Justinian I, such as Procopius of Caesarea, Jordanes and Theophylact Simocatta describe tribes emerging from the area of the Carpathian Mountains, the lower Danube and the Black Sea, invading the Danubian provinces of the Eastern Empire. Jordanes mentions that the Venets sub-divided into three groups: The Byzantine term Sklavinoi was loaned as Saqaliba by medieval Arab historiographers. Scenarios of ethnogenesis Historical distribution of the Slavic languages. The area shaded in light purple is the Prague-Penkov-Kolochin complex of cultures of the 6th to 7th c. AD, likely corresponding to the spread of Slavic tribes at the time. It has been suggested as the locus of a Germano-Balto-Slavic continuum compare Germanic substrate hypothesis, but the identification of its bearers as Indo-Europeans is uncertain. The Chernoles culture 8th to 3rd c. BC, sometimes associated with the "Scythian farmers" of Herodotus is "sometimes portrayed as either a state in the development of the Slavic languages or at least some form of late Indo-European ancestral to the evolution of the Slavic stock". The Milograd culture BC - AD, centered roughly on present day Belarus, north of the contemporaneous Chernoles culture, have also been proposed as ancestral to either Slavs or Balts. The ethnic composition of the bearers of the Przeworsk culture 2nd c. BC to 4th c. AD, associated with the Lugi of central and southern Poland, northern Slovakia and of Ukraine, including the Zarubintsy culture 2nd c. BC to 2nd c. AD, also connected with the Bastarnae tribe and the Oksywie culture are other candidates. The area of southern Ukraine is known to have been inhabited by Scythian and Sarmatian tribes prior to the foundation of the Gothic kingdom. Early Slavic stone stelae found in the middle Dniestr region are markedly different from the Scythian and Sarmatian stelae found in the Crimea. While the Chernyakhov culture 2nd to 5th c. AD, identified with the multi-ethnic kingdom established by the Goths immigrating from the Wielbark culture leads to the decline of the late Sarmatian culture in the 2nd to 4th centuries, the western part of the Przeworsk culture remains intact until the 4th century, and the Kiev culture flourishes during the same time, in the 2nd-5th c. AD, the first archaeological cultures the bearers of which are undisputedly identified as Slavic. The Kiev culture was overrun by the Huns around AD, which may have triggered the Proto-Slavic expansion to the historical locations of the Slavic languages. Slavs in the historical period Slavs emerged from obscurity when the westward movement of Germans and Celts in the 5th and 6th centuries AD necessitated by the onslaught of people from Siberia and Eastern Europe: Huns, Avars, Bulgars and Magyars started the great migration of the Slavs, who settled the lands abandoned by Germanic tribes fleeing the Huns and their allies: When their migratory movements ended, there appeared among the Slavs the first rudiments of state organizations, each headed by a prince with a treasury and defense force. Moreover, there were the beginnings of class differentiation, with nobles who pledged allegiance to the Frankish and Holy Roman Emperors. In the 7th century, the Frankish merchant Samo, who supported the Slavs fighting their Avar rulers, became the ruler of the first known Slav state in Central Europe, which, however, most probably did not outlive its founder and ruler. In this period, there existed central Slavic groups and states such as the Balaton Principality, but the subsequent expansion of the Magyars and Romanians, as well as the Germanisation of Austria, separated the northern and southern Slavs. In the early history of South Slavs, and continuing into the Dark Ages, non-Slavic groups were sometimes dissimilated by Slavic-speaking populations: In other cases, Slavs themselves assimilated other groups such as the Romanians, Magyars, Greeks, Italians, etc. Apart from the Illyrians who inhabited the Balkans, the Croats also partly merged with the Alans, and the Serbs are speculated to have assimilated a tribe of the Sarmatians called the Serboi, later merged with the Celts. Because of the vastness and diversity of the territory occupied by Slavic people, there were several centers of Slavic consolidation. Pan-Slavism became

compromised when Russian Empire started to use it as an ideology justifying its territorial conquests in Central Europe as well as subjugation of other ethnic groups of Slavic origins such as Poles or Ukrainians, and the ideology became associated with Russian imperialism. The common Slavic experience of communism combined with the repeated usage of the ideology by Soviet propaganda after World War II within the Eastern bloc Warsaw Pact was a forced high-level political and economic hegemony of the USSR dominated by Russians, and as such despised by the rest of the conquered nations. A notable political union of the 20th century that covered many South Slavs was Yugoslavia, but it broke apart as well. Slavic populations under foreign rule In the course of their history, many Slavic-speaking communities came under foreign rule for longer or shorter periods. Poland underwent partition, German-speaking empires appeared to absorb the Czechs for many centuries, and the Ottomans in their hey-day dominated the Slavs. The Slavs living in Brandenburg and Pomerania were exterminated or assimilated by Germans in the course of the Drang nach Osten; Turkish incursions suppressed the regional hegemonies of Bulgarian and Serbian speakers; Poland suffered decline, partition and extinction as a separate national state in the 18th century. Until the 20th century, certain speech-groups such as speakers of Slovenian lacked the resources to establish their own distinctive independent nation-states. Other communities speakers of Sorbian or of Kashubian, for example remain as minorities in the current system of nation-states. Some speech-communities have long stood under the influence of others -- even other Slavs: A political division Austria, Kingdom of Hungary also marks the now well-established border between the Slovenian and Croatian language areas, even if some bordering dialects of the two languages indicate an almost smooth transition. Despite their frequent lack of political power, Slavs demonstrated resilience, sometimes culturally taking over foreign political rulers, as in Bulgaria, where originally Turkic Bulgar overlords became Slavicized. Similarly, in the Republic of Dubrovnik, Croatian became an official language in parallel to Ragusan Dalmatian and Latin. In the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, a Ruthenian dialect was an official language. Nazi Germany, whose proponents claimed a racial superiority for the Germanic people, particularly over Semitic and Slavic people, plotted an enslavement of the Slavic people, and the reduction of their numbers by killing the majority of the population. Religion and alphabet Slavs gradually adopted Christianity between 6th and 10th century, and consequently the old Slavic religion was suppressed. The delineations by nationality can be very sharp. In many Slavic ethnic groups the vast majority of religious people share the same religion, although many are atheist or agnostic; in the latter cases people still may traditionally associate themselves with a particular religion in a cultural and historical sense.

4: South Slavs : definition of South Slavs and synonyms of South Slavs (English)

The Italo-Gaulish subclade represent previous Hallstatt Culture in Central Europe and is reaching over % in Switzerland, North and Northern-Central Italy. The Nordic, Anglo-Saxon, and Germanic over % in England, Norway, Denmark, Northwestern Germany and Austria.

However, some scholars have advanced alternative theories as to the origin of the name. Proto-Slavic language Area of Balto-Slavic dialectic continuum purple with proposed material cultures correlating to speakers Balto-Slavic in Bronze Age white. Proto-Slavic language Proto-Slavic, the ancestor language of all Slavic languages, branched off at some uncertain time in a disputed location from common Proto-Indo-European , passing through a Balto-Slavic stage in which it developed numerous lexical and morphophonological isoglosses with Baltic languages. In the framework of the Kurgan hypothesis , "the Indo-Europeans who remained after the migrations became speakers of Balto-Slavic". Slavic linguistic unity lasted for at least centuries more, as can be seen in Old Church Slavonic manuscripts which, though based on local Slavic speech of Thessaloniki in Macedonia , could still serve the purpose of the first common Slavic literary language. Early Slavs Homeland debate The location of the Slavic homeland was a subject to considerable debate. Serious candidates were cultures on the territories of modern Belarus , Poland , European Russia and Ukraine. The proposed frameworks are: Historical distribution of the Slavic languages. The larger shaded area is the Prague-Penkov-Kolochin complex of cultures of the sixth to seventh centuries, likely corresponding to the spread of Slavic-speaking tribes of the time. From the 19th century onwards, the debate became politically charged, particularly in connection with the history of the Partitions of Poland and German imperialism known as Drang nach Osten. The question as to whether Germanic or Slavic peoples were indigenous on the land east of the Oder river was used by factions to pursue their respective German and Polish political claims to governance of those lands. But in after continuous archeological debates, Genetics was applied and it finally solved the question of locating the Slavic homeland. After studying [18] parental lineages of several Slavic populations with the aim of locating the Slavic homeland, it was found that all studied present Slavic populations trace their genetic roots to the present Ukrainian Slavic population, proving right archeological theories that were suggesting that Slavic homeland was located on territory of present day Ukraine. Earliest accounts Further information: Tacitus states that they were tall, blonde to brown haired, long-skulled. And both the two peoples have also the same language, an utterly barbarous tongue. Nay further, they do not differ at all from one another in appearance. For they are all exceptionally tall and stalwart men, while their bodies and hair are neither very fair or blond, nor indeed do they incline entirely to the dark type, but they are all slightly ruddy in color. From Romanticism , the allochthonic school theorem is that the 6th century authors re-applied this ethnonym to hitherto unknown Slavic tribes, whence the later designation " Wends " for Slavic tribes, and medieval legends purporting a connection between Poles and Vandals. The Slavs under name of Venethi , the Antes and the Sclaveni make their first appearance in Byzantine records in the early 6th century. Byzantine historiographers under Justinian I , such as Procopius of Caesarea , Jordanes and Theophylact Simocatta describe tribes emerging from the area of the Carpathian Mountains , the lower Danube and the Black Sea , invading the Danubian provinces of the Eastern Empire. Jordanes mentions that the Venethi sub-divided into three groups: The Byzantine term Sklavinoi was loaned as Saqaliba by medieval Arab historiographers. It has been suggested as the locus of a Germano-Balto-Slavic continuum compare Germanic substrate hypothesis , but the identification of its bearers as Indo-Europeans is uncertain. The area of this culture contains numerous tumuli - typical for IE originators. The Chernoles culture 8th to 3rd c. BC, sometimes associated with the " Scythian farmers" of Herodotus is "sometimes portrayed as either a state in the development of the Slavic languages or at least some form of late Indo-European ancestral to the evolution of the Slavic stock. The ethnic composition of the bearers of the Przeworsk culture 2nd c. BC to 4th c. AD, associated with the Luggii of central and southern Poland, northern Slovakia and Ukraine, including the Zarubintsy culture 2nd c. BC to 2nd c. AD, also connected with the Bastarnae tribe and the Oksywie culture are other candidates. The area of southern Ukraine is known to have been inhabited by Scythian and Sarmatian

tribes prior to the foundation of the Gothic kingdom. Early Slavic stone stelae found in the middle Dniestr region are markedly different from the Scythian and Sarmatian stelae found in the Crimea. While the Chernyakhov culture 2nd to 5th c. AD, identified with the multi-ethnic kingdom established by the Goths immigrating from the Wielbark culture leads to the decline of the late Sarmatian culture in the 2nd to 4th centuries, the western part of the Przeworsk culture remains intact until the 4th century, and the Kiev culture flourishes during the same time, in the 2nd-5th c. AD, the first archaeological cultures the bearers of which are indisputably identified as Slavic. The Kiev culture was overrun by the Huns around AD, which may have triggered the Proto-Slavic expansion to the historical locations of the Slavic languages. Genetics Haplogroup R1a Distribution more detailed map of Haplogroup R1a distribution The modern Slavic peoples come from a wide variety of genetic backgrounds. The frequency of Haplogroup R1a [20] ranges from A new study [9] studied several Slavic populations with the aim of localizing the Proto-Slavic homeland. The significant findings of this study are that: Two genetically distant groups of Slavic populations were revealed: According to the authors this phenomenon is explained by " Postulated to originate from Central Asia, it is found at high rates in Finnic peoples. Its presence in Northern Russians [23] attests to the non-Slavic tribes mixing with Finnic tribes of northern Eurasia. Slavic migrations Slavic tribes, mid seventh century AD. The "Sklavinias" in the Balkans, 7th - 8th centuries According to eastern homeland theory prior to becoming known to the Roman world, Slavic speaking tribes were part of the many multi-ethnic confederacies of Eurasia - such as the Sarmatian, Hun and Gothic empires. Huns, and later Avars and Bulgars started the great migration of the Slavs, who settled the lands abandoned by Germanic tribes fleeing the Huns and their allies: Perhaps some Slavs migrated with the movement of the Vandals to Iberia and north Africa. After a military movement even the Peloponnese and Asia Minor were reported to have Slavic settlements. Early Slavic states When their migratory movements ended, there appeared among the Slavs the first rudiments of state organizations, each headed by a prince with a treasury and a defense force. In the 7th century, the Frankish merchant Samo, who supported the Slavs fighting their Avar rulers, became the ruler of the first known Slav state in Central Europe, which, however, most probably did not outlive its founder and ruler. This provided the foundation for subsequent Slavic states to arise on the former territory of this realm with Carantania being the oldest of them. In this period, there existed central Slavic groups and states such as the Balaton Principality, but the subsequent expansion of the Magyars, as well as the Germanisation of Austria, separated the northern and southern Slavs. After their subsequent Slavicisation, it was instrumental in the spread of Slavic literacy and Christianity to the rest of the Slavic world. Assimilation Throughout their history, Slavs came into contact with non-Slavic groups. In the postulated "homeland" region present-day Ukraine, they had contacts with Sarmatians and the Germanic Goths. After their subsequent spread, they began assimilating non-Slavic peoples. Having lost their indigenous language due to persistent Hellenisation and the Roman conquest, what remained of the Thracians and Illyrians were completely absorbed into the Slavic tribes, the most notable exceptions being Romanians. Later invaders such as Bulgars and even Cumans mingled with the Slavs also, particularly in eastern parts. In central Europe, the Slavs intermixed with Germanic, Celtic and Raetian peoples, while the eastern Slavs encountered Uralic and Scandinavian peoples. Scandinavians Varangians and Finnic peoples were involved in the early formation of the Russian state but were completely Slavicised after a century. Some Finno-Ugric tribes in the north were also absorbed into the expanding Russian population. The Limes Saxoniae forming the border between the Saxons to the west and the Obotrites to the east Polabian Slavs Wends settled in parts of England Danelaw, apparently as Danish allies; Polabian-Pomeranian Slavs are also known to have even settled on Norse age Iceland. Early forms of germanization were described by German monks: Many early members of the Terek Cossacks were Ossetians. The Gorals of southern Poland and northern Slovakia are partially descended from Romance-speaking Vlachs who migrated into the region from the 14th to 17th centuries and were absorbed into the local population. The Slavs green in Southeastern Europe Ethno-linguistic map of Austria-Hungary and surroundings, Ethnic map of European Russia Conversely, some Slavs were assimilated into other populations. Although the majority continued south, attracted by the riches of the territory which would become Bulgaria, a few remained in the Carpathian basin and were ultimately assimilated into the Magyar or Romanian population. There is a large number of river

names and other placenames of Slavic origin in Romania. Modern Slavic history As of , there were only three free Slavic states in the world: Russian Empire , Serbia and Montenegro. An independent state of Bulgaria came into existence in In the entire Austro-Hungarian Empire of approximately 50 million people, about 23 million were Slavs. The Slavic peoples who were, for the most part, denied a voice in the affairs of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, were calling for national self-determination. This plan of genocide [38] was to be carried into effect gradually over a period of 25-30 years. Because of the vastness and diversity of the territory occupied by Slavic people, there were several centers of Slavic consolidation. Pan-Slavism became compromised when the Russian Empire started to use it as an ideology justifying its territorial conquests in Central Europe as well as subjugation of other ethnic groups of Slavic origins such as Poles and Ukrainians, and the ideology became associated with Russian imperialism. The common Slavic experience of communism combined with the repeated usage of the ideology by Soviet propaganda after World War II within the Eastern bloc Warsaw Pact was a forced high-level political and economic hegemony of the USSR dominated by Russians although often not ethnically. A notable political union of the 20th century that covered most South Slavs was Yugoslavia , but it ultimately broke apart in the s along with the Soviet Union. The word "Slavs" was used in the national anthem of the Slovak Republic , Yugoslavia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia , later Serbia and Montenegro Religion and alphabet Most Slavic populations gradually adopted Christianity between 6th and 10th century, and consequently their old pagan beliefs declined. A very small minority are Protestant , mainly in the north. In the south, Bosniaks and some minority groups are Sunni Muslim. Religious delineations by nationality can be very sharp; in many Slavic ethnic groups the vast majority of religious people share the same religion. Some Slavs are atheist or agnostic:

5: Slavs - Wikipedia

The South Slavs are a subgroup of Slavic peoples who speak the South Slavic languages.. They inhabit a contiguous region in the Balkan Peninsula, southern Pannonian Plain and eastern Alps, and are geographically separated from the body of West Slavic and East Slavic people by the Romanians, Hungarians, and Austrians.

Czech-Slovak In the early 21st century Czech was spoken by some 12 million people in the Czech Republic; its dialects are divided into Bohemian, Moravian, and Silesian groups. The literary language is based on the 16th-century form of the Central Bohemian dialect of Prague. The Slovak literary language was formed on the basis of a Central Slovak dialect in the middle of the 19th century. Western Slovak dialects are similar to Moravian and differ from the Central and the Eastern dialects, which have features in common with Polish and Ukrainian. In the early 21st century some six million people spoke Slovak; most lived in Slovakia. In the early 21st century Russian was spoken as a native language by some million people, including many inhabitants of countries that formerly were part of the Soviet Union. Its main dialects are a Northern Great Russian group, a Southern Great Russian group, and a transitional Central group, including the dialect of Moscow , on which the literary language is based. Ukrainian dialects are classified into Northern, Southeastern, Southwestern, and Carpathian groups the last having features in common with Slovak ; the literary language is based on the Kiev - Poltava dialect. In the early 21st century more than 37 million people spoke Ukrainian in Ukraine and neighbouring countries, and there were more than , Ukrainian speakers in Canada and the United States. Carpathian, also called Carpatho-Rusyn, has sometimes been considered a language apart. In a codified form of it Rusyn was presented in Slovakia, thus enabling the teaching of Rusyn in schools. In the early 21st century some seven million people spoke Belarusian in Belarus. Its main dialectal groups are Southwestern Belarusian, some features of which may be explained by contact with Polish, and Northeastern Belarusian. The dialect of Minsk , which served as a basis for the literary language, lies near the border between those two groups. Historical survey Proto - Balto -Slavic Innovations Each branch of Slavic originally developed from Proto-Slavic, the ancestral parent language of the group, which in turn developed from an earlier language that was also the antecedent of the Proto-Baltic language. An asterisk indicates a reconstructed rather than an attested form. The Slavic and Baltic branches are characterized by several innovationsâ€”including the change of the old Indo-European syllabic r and l which functioned as vowels to ir or ur, il or ulâ€”and similar patterns of stress in nouns and verbs. Hypothetical origins Some scholars believe that, after the common Indo-European area had divided into different dialect zones after approximately bce , a protodialect developed in the Baltic and Slavic areas that had many features peculiar to only those two branches of Indo-European. At the same time, that protodialect was connected with certain western Indo-European protodialects called Old European that are identified as the source of a number of river names. The ancient Baltic and Slavic names of rivers hydronyms , such as the Russian Oka , are of the same type as the hydronyms found in central Europe. The dialects of the Slavic protolanguage spoken near the Carpathian Mountains in the upper Vistula River area may have been part of the intermediate zone situated between the western Indo-European dialects Germanic , Celtic , Italic , and so on and the eastern Indo-European ones. In addition to Baltic and Slavic in the north, that intermediate zone included the ancient Indo-European languages of the Balkans Illyrian , Thracian , and Phrygian. The domain of the Proto-Balto-Slavic dialect may have been situated to the east of the Germanic and other Old European dialects, to the north of Ancient Balkanic, and to the west of Tocharian. The exact geographic borders of the Balto-Slavic domain appear impossible to determine, but they may well have been located in eastern Europe around present-day Lithuania and to the east and south of it. The later diffusion of Slavic languages southward into the Carpathian region may represent the spread of one of the dialects of that Old Baltic domain. The oldest Slavic protolanguage could be described as the result of further changes acting on the Baltic protolanguage but not vice versa. Until the middle of the 1st millennium ce, the Slavs were known to other peoples as the inhabitants of the vast territories between the Dnieper and Vistula rivers. In that period, according to the oldest Greek and Latin writings about the Slavs, they were already divided into several groups. The Slavic language, however, was uniform in its phonological and grammatical structure,

with important dialectal variations occurring only in the vocabulary. The main phonological difference between the oldest pattern common to Baltic and Slavic and the later one that characterized Slavic alone was that in Slavic all syllables became open i. Thus, all consonants at the end of a syllable were lost. That led to a reshuffling of most of the inflectional endings. An important clue to the date of the dissolution of Slavic unity is the separate development in different Slavic dialects of the name of the emperor Charlemagne. Although that process was common to all the Slavic dialects, which were still connected with each other at that period, it took place slowly and at different rates in different dialects, beginning in the 10th to the 12th century and expanding from the southwest to the northeast. With the loss of the yers, which gave different results in different dialectal groups, the uniformity of the Slavic language area finally disappeared, and separate branches and languages emerged. The early development of the Slavic languages

The separate development of South Slavic was caused by a break in the links between the Balkan and the West Slavic groups that resulted from the settling of the Magyars in Hungary during the 10th century and from the Germanization of the Slavic regions of Bavaria and Austria. Some features common to Slovak and Slovene may have developed before the West-South break. The eastward expansion of dialects of Balkan Romanian a Romance language led to a break in the connection between the South and the East Slavic groups about the 11th-12th century. The history of the Balkan Slavs was closely connected with Byzantium, in contrast to that of the Lekhitic and Sorbian subgroups of the Western Slavs, which was connected with western European culture. An effort on the part of the Slavs to counteract the influence of the Western Christian church which was associated with the German empire was the motive behind the introduction of the Old Church Slavonic language into the liturgy in Great Moravia, the first Slavic national state. Founded in the 9th century, Great Moravia united different groups speaking West Slavic dialects. In its prince, Rostislav, invited St. Cyril and his brother St. Methodius to create a national church with a language and writing of its own. Prior to that time some Christian texts in Moravia might have been translated into Slavic from Latin and partly perhaps from Old High German; those have been preserved only in later copies. The disciples of Cyril and Methodius were soon forced to leave Moravia, and mostly they went south. The second period in the history of the Old Church Slavonic language occurred in the Bulgarian kingdoms of Symeon and Peter and in the kingdom of Samuel. It was connected with the literary activity of many Bulgarian scholars who translated numerous Greek texts into Slavic and also produced a small number of original works. In the writings of the period of Symeon and Peter, Western Macedonian features were replaced by Eastern Bulgarian ones. Both the Western and Eastern variants recensions of the Old Church Slavonic language are preserved in manuscripts of the 11th century, whereas the East Slavic Russian variant is reflected in the oldest dated Slavic manuscript, The Ostromir Gospel, and in many later texts. The Moravian variant must be reconstructed on the basis of some later texts such as the Kiev fragments from the beginning of the 11th century, which were written after the break with the Great Moravian tradition. In some documents of the 10th and 11th centuries, the Bohemian variant which shares some West Slavic peculiarities with Moravian has been preserved. Several features are common to the Moravian and Bohemian varieties of the Old Church Slavonic language, to the Slovene Pannonian variant reflected in the Freising fragments late 10th century, and to the Croatian Old Church Slavonic tradition that is attested from the 12th century as well as to the Serbian tradition. All those variants of Old Church Slavonic have some peculiarities that are to be explained as the result of the interaction of the original system with that of a local dialect. In approximately all Slavic languages were so similar to one another that such interaction was possible. From those local variants of Old Church Slavonic that are preserved in the manuscripts of the 10th-12th century, one should distinguish the later local Church Slavonic languages Russian, with its variants; Middle Bulgarian; Serbian, which in the 18th century was replaced in Serbia by the Russian variant; Croatian; and the Romanian variant of Church Slavonic, which was used as a literary and church language in Romania from the 14th to the 18th century. From the linguistic point of view, those later Church Slavonic literary languages differ from the earlier varieties chiefly in their systems of vowels; the early nasalized vowels were replaced by different later reflexes, and the reduced vowels yers, with the exception of those followed by a syllable containing another yer, were generally lost. Such changes in the sound pattern were accompanied by a number of culturally determined changes in vocabulary. The emergence of the individual

Slavic languages After the schism between the Eastern Orthodox and Western Roman Christian churches in the 11th century and the beginning of the Crusades, the Church Slavonic language fell out of use in all West Slavic countries and in the western part of the Balkan Slavic region. The only exception was the renaissance of Croatian Church Slavonic in the 13th century. At the end of the same century, the first Czech verses in the local dialect were written; they were the precursors of the rich poetic literature in the Old Czech language that appeared in the 14th century. The early Czech literary language was marked by the influence of Latin, which had replaced the Bohemian variety of Old Church Slavonic as a literary language. In the earliest period of its development, the Polish literary language was modeled on the Czech pattern. After the Christianization of Poland, Latin and later German loanwords entered the Polish language in their Czech form. Later, the Polish literary language was enriched by cross-fertilization with Ukrainian and Belarusian. In the 16th century in Dalmatia, poets who were influenced by the Italian Renaissance and who also wrote in Italian and Latin created a rich poetic literature in Croatian. A Slovene translation of the Bible was published in 1584, and Kashubian and Sorbian religious texts were also produced during that period. The comparatively early rise of the West Slavic and the westernmost South Slavic languages as separate literary vehicles was related to a variety of religious and political factors that resulted in the decline of the western variants of the Church Slavonic language. In contrast, the continuing use of Bulgarian Church Slavonic and different variants of Russian Church Slavonic made it difficult to construct literary languages for Bulgarian and Russian that were based on everyday speech. Bulgarian texts were written in Bulgarian Church Slavonic until the 16th century. After that the so-called Damaskin religious literature developed, closer to the popular speech; its development, however, was hampered under Turkish rule. Most of the Old East Slavic Old Russian literary texts were written in a mixture of Russian Church Slavonic and the Old Russian vernacular language; only a few documents, particularly some parts of the chronicles annals, were written entirely in Old Russian. The proportion of South Slavic Church Slavonic and East Slavic Old Russian elements in each text is different depending on its stylistic peculiarities. In the middle of the 17th century, the old Great Russian variant of the Church Slavonic language in the official Orthodox Church was replaced by a new variant taken from the southwestern East Slavic tradition, a form that incorporated some Ukrainian and Belarusian elements. That development was connected with a split in the Russian Orthodox Church. Because the Ukrainian tradition includes many West Slavic elements, that reform, which occurred after the incorporation of Ukraine into the Russian Empire, was a step in the direction of the Westernization of the Russian language that took place about 1700, when Tsar Peter I the Great began his attempts to reconstruct and Westernize the whole Russian way of life. In the 18th and 19th centuries, many waves of loanwords from different Western languages entered the Russian language. During an earlier period Russian sentence structures had been formed on Germanic and Latin patterns; the intensive French-Russian bilingualism of the Russian elite in the 18th and 19th centuries not only influenced syntax but also brought a shift in the range of meanings of Russian words as the elite came into contact with western European concepts. In the official style of Russian, however, Church Slavonic elements are still widespread, as can be seen even in general newspaper articles. The concept of a language that would unite all the Slavs has remained in the back of the Slavic consciousness, not as a real aim but rather as an important symbol. In modern literature one might cite the experiments at unification of Velimir Khlebnikov, a Russian Futurist poet, and of the Polish poet Julian Tuwim, who invented words based on Russian and other Slavic roots in some of his poems. The modern Slavic languages Among the Slavic languages that attained their standard literary form at a later stage in Slavic history than those mentioned above is Ukrainian. It was used in some literary texts in the late 18th century and in turn influenced the language of Nikolay Gogol, one of the greatest Russian writers of the 19th century. In the 19th century and especially in the first decades of the 20th century, a number of great poets wrote in Ukrainian, notably Taras Shevchenko 1814-1861 and Lesya Ukrainka 1899-1913. The movement toward national liberation led to the introduction of many neologisms into the language, which persisted even after the advent of Russian pressure to bring the languages closer again. Since the breakup of the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia, all the Slavic languages have acquired the status of the main language of an independent state. Only the minor languages are exceptions: The extent of dialectal variation in the different languages ranges from a very great degree in

Slovene to a much smaller degree in Polish and Russian. Radio and other mass media have been among the main influences leading to linguistic consolidation. Languages such as Polish, Czech, and Russian, which have served as a basis for great literatures, have become models for others that are only now being put to literary use although for such languages as Kashubian and, to some degree, for Sorbian, the folk literature remains much more important as a model than individual literary works and translations of past centuries. Page 1 of 2.

6: FRUA | Slavic Cultures

The Slavic people are a race that descends from Indo-European roots that once shared a common language as well as area of descent. Today, the majority of these people – also called "Slavs" – live in Central and Eastern Europe.

Introduction This rather lengthy article is the result of my curiosity while planning my first trip to Budapest. I discovered I knew very little of the geography and history of Central Europe, and set out to learn more. I later added Poland and the Baltic republics, Albania and Macedonia, but Greece is not included, except incidentally. This article is, of course, not a complete treatise, since there is much more material than can be treated in such a limited compass, but investigates the topics that I found interesting. It is assembled from the secondary sources mentioned in the References at the end of the article. It is meant primarily for my own enjoyment, but others may find one or another story interesting. I have tried to be fair, but it is necessary to take positions based on the information I have. There is a great deal of conflict, blood and hate in this history, from the migrations of the first millennium of this era to the Shoah of It is depressing that people have not been better to each other. One also finds pernicious national myths that deserve to be exposed. I am dependent on my sources for information. In controversial cases, I have tried to examine both sides, which the Internet facilitates. In many cases, only one faction has truth on its side. Numerical statistics are always suspect, particularly if there appears to be no rational source of them. We begin with some geography. This range extends in a km arc from the Porta Hungarica where they are divided from the Alps by the Danube to the Iron Gate where the Danube separates them from the Balkans. Their arc contains the Hungarian Plain, drained by the Danube, the Tisza and their tributaries. In the east, they curve around the Transylvanian plateau, a hilly region contained by mountains. The Carpathians consist of several independent ranges and form a broad mountainous belt. The White Carpathians are the westernmost range. Then come the West Beskids and the East Beskids, separated by the High Tatra, which is a little south of the main summit line. The eastern, or wooded, Carpathians curve around Transylvania and then join the east-west Southern Carpathians that extend to the Iron Gate near Orsova. These mountains are the outer limits of the Alpine orogeny of early Tertiary age. The western parts are composed of typical Alpine flysch, while the eastern sections are mainly sandstone. The High Tatra are granite. They are not high mountains with Alpine scenery. The highest peak, in the High Tatra of the Slovak Republic, reaches m ft. It is back to Gerlachova now. There are many passes through the range. The Breslau-Budapest railway uses the Jablunka Pass, at the northwest corner of the Slovak Republic, the lowest at ft. Vereczke Pass, in the eastern Carpathians, is famous as the route of the magyars in into the Hungarian plain. The Predeal Pass is at the junction of the eastern and southern Carpathians, just south of Brasov. To the north, towards Poland, is the Galician plain, once a Hapsburg possession. Beyond that, plains extend to the Baltic. To the east is the Ukranian plain, extending into Central Asia. In the northwest the Carpathians collide with earlier mountains of the Hercynian or Variscian Carboniferous orogeny. These ranges enclose the plateau of Bohemia. The Harz mountains to the west are part of this assembly. All of these mountains are strongly mineralized. The Erzgebirge was an early source of tin and copper, and, therefore, bronze. Its name, in fact, comes from an earlier meaning of "erz" as bronze. Silver and lead were, however, the principal products of all these mountains. Gold is also found in important amounts. Although much ore still remains, the richer deposits are exhausted and there are many cheaper sources at present, so mining is chiefly historical. This region is drained by the Danube, which rises in the Black Forest in southwestern Germany not far from the Rhine, flowing northeastward to its northernmost stretch in Bavaria, near Regensburg, then generally eastward through Austria to its right-angled bend to the south through Budapest and Beograd. The river then turns eastward to the gorge of the Iron Gate where it crosses the hard rocks of the Carpathians at Orshova. The Iron Gate is 3. It was cleared of rocks in the 19th century to permit some navigation, but was bypassed by a ship canal in There is now a dam and a hydroelectric plant at the gorge. From the Iron Gate the Danube flows eastward toward the Black Sea, but turns north and flows parallel to the shore through extensive swamps for about miles before turning east and building a large delta with three distributaries as it flows into the sea. The Tisza meanders to the north from near Beograd, reaching the foothills of the Carpathians and then

making a hairpin bend and draining northern Transylvania through its tributary the Szamos. The principal southern tributary of the Danube is the Save, rising in Austria and entering the Danube near Beograd. A little further north, the Drau flows parallel to the Save. The Dinaric Alps separate these drainages from the Adriatic. To the east of the Carpathians, the Prut joins the Danube where it turns eastward to its delta. The next large river is the Dneister, which enters the Black Sea at Odessa. These rivers drain the Ukrainian Plain as far as the Pripet Marshes. The Volga and the Don drain the vast Russian Plain, the home of many peoples. We should also notice the southern extension of central Europe, the Balkan Peninsula. This is bounded on the north by the Danube, on the west by the Adriatic and Ionian Seas, on the south by the Aegean, and on the east by the Black Sea. Most of this area is mountainous or hilly, with few good internal routes and many isolated hiding places. The Balkan Mountains themselves are an east-west range dividing Bulgaria into halves. The upper half was ancient Moesia, the lower half Thrace. To the west was Illyria. Migration of Peoples After the Ice Age, Europe was repopulated by migration from more southerly regions. Since then, some peoples have been in constant motion, either driven from their previous homes by climatic conditions or competition with other groups, or attracted to richer lands where they hope to make better lives or escape persecution. These migrations are of intrinsic interest and historic importance, but knowledge of them is very imperfect until written records become available. Often the only information on movements and original homes is oral legend. Archaeology is of very little help, since relics are not only scarce, but difficult to interpret. This, of course, does not prevent archaeologists from weaving intricate tales of little reliability. One important clue is preserved in the people themselves: It is remarkable that, in spite of common language properties among all humans, different languages are almost completely mutually incomprehensible. Human groups classify people by language: In addition, language is very conservative, changing only slowly with time and often only superficially. The creation of new languages requires special conditions and happens only rarely. Sanskrit is also Indo-European, which gives the "Indo-" part of the name. Linguists establish these identifications by isolating word roots, and consistent patterns of change. The eastern class of Indo-European languages use the root "satem" for a hundred, while the western class uses "centum". This is all explained by some as the result of a migration of people from the Caucasian region northwards and westwards into Europe, carrying their language with them. These people were once called Caucasian, now Proto Indo-European. The actual home country may be the Dneister and Don steppes in present-day Ukraine. This may be much too simple, and Indo-European is only a convenient classification of languages that could have a common source. Not all the people of Europe are Indo-European. There are, for example, the older populations of Great Britain and Ireland who were absorbed by Celtic peoples and whose languages have disappeared, but whose physical types probably still remain. These people must also have migrated to Europe, perhaps from Africa via the straits of Gibraltar. These may include the Basques. Hungarians speak a Finno-Ugric language originating in the Urals, as of course, do the Finns. The arrival of the Hungarians is noted in history. Turkic people speak an Altaic language, supposed to originate near that central Asian mountain range. Magyar is a Finno-Ugric language of unknown source, with similarities in form to Altaic languages. All languages acquire loan-words from neighbouring peoples, so such borrowing does not indicate that the languages are themselves related. Language is more persistent than race or culture. A majority language overwhelms a minority language when constant interaction is necessary between the groups. Sometimes, a new language arises as a compromise, necessary in forming a lingua franca, which was the case with English and other Western European languages. I have not heard of a European analogy to the sign languages of American Indians, where there were a great number of mutually incomprehensible languages. Bulgaria speaks a Slavic language, not the Turkic language of the minority ruling Bulgars, which has been completely absorbed. Vlachs speak their Latin-based dialects, not the Slavic of the many absorbed Slavs in their community. Standardized national literary languages are a recent development. In the middle ages and earlier, Latin and Greek Koine were standardized written languages of Europe that could be used for official purposes and literature.

7: South Slavs - Wikipedia

The territorial divide between its subgroups I1b in Eastern-Southern Europe (land of East Slavs & Thracians) and I1a in Northern-Central Europe (land of West Slavs & Vikings) is also in Europe a recognized territorial partition between ethnic territories of the East Slavs and the West Slavs.*

Another name popular in the Early modern period was "Illyrians", the name of a pre-Slavic Balkan people, a name first adopted by Dalmatian intellectuals in the late 15th century to refer to South Slavic lands and population. From this idea emerged Yugoslavia, which however did not include Bulgaria. Ivanoff Early South Slavs[edit] Main articles: Early Slavs and Sclaveni The Proto-Slavic homeland is the area of Slavic settlement in Central and Eastern Europe during the first millennium AD, with its precise location debated by archaeologists, ethnographers and historians. Curta, the homeland of the southern Slavs mentioned by 6th-century writers was just north of the Lower Danube. Jordanes, Procopius and other late Roman authors provide the probable earliest references to southern Slavs in the second half of the 6th century. Often, the Byzantine Empire was stretched defending its rich Asian provinces from Arabs, Persians and others. This meant that even numerically small, disorganised early Slavic raids were capable of causing much disruption, but could not capture the larger, fortified cities. Most scholars consider the period of as the beginning of large scale Slavic settlement in the Balkans. Curta points out that evidence of substantial Slavic presence does not appear before the 7th century and remains qualitatively different from the "Slavic culture" found north of the Danube. DAI mentions the beginnings of the Croatian, Serbian and Bulgarian states, from the early 7th to the mid 8th century. Middle Ages[edit] By AD, Slavs had settled in most of the Central and Southeast Europe, from Austria even down to the Peloponnese of Greece, and from the Adriatic to the Black Sea, with the exception of the coastal areas and certain mountainous regions of the Greek peninsula. Their influence in the Balkans however diminished by the early 7th century and they were finally defeated and disappeared as a power at the turn of the 9th century. Inhabiting the territory between the Franks in the north and Byzantium in the south, the Slavs were exposed to competing influences. They created a Slavic written language, Old Church Slavonic, which they used to translate Biblical works. At the time, the West and South Slavs still spoke a similar language. The script used, Glagolitic, was capable of representing all Slavic sounds, however, it was replaced in the Balkans and Russia by Cyrillic in the 11th century. The religious works were almost exclusively translations, from Latin Croatia, Slovenia and especially Greek Bulgaria, Serbia. In 1389, the Ottomans defeated a large Serbian army at the Battle of Maritsa, and in 1459 defeated the Serbian army at the Battle of Kosovo. By now, Serbian and Bulgarian rulers became Ottoman vassals, the southern Serbian provinces and Bulgaria holding out until annexation in the 19th century. Much of the Balkans was under Ottoman rule throughout the Early modern period. Ottoman rule lasted from the 14th century up until the early 20th in some territories. Ottoman society was multi-ethnic and multi-religious, and confessional groups were divided according to the Millet system, in which Orthodox Christians Greeks, Bulgarians, Serbs, etc. In Islamic jurisprudence, the Christians had Dhimmi status, which included certain taxes and lesser rights. Islamization led to the forming of Slavic Muslims, that survive until today, in Bosnia, south Serbia, Macedonia and Bulgaria. In the 16th century, the Habsburg Monarchy controlled what is today Slovenia, Croatia and northern Serbia. The Kingdom of Croatia, which included smaller parts of what is today Croatia, was a crown land of the Habsburg emperor. The Early modern period saw large-scale migrations of Orthodox Slavs mainly Serbs to the north and west. The Military Frontier was set up as the cordon sanitaire against Ottoman incursions. There were several rebellions against Ottoman rule, but it was not until the 18th century that parts of the Balkans, namely Serbia, were liberated for a longer period. While Pan-Slavism has its origins in the 17th-century Slavic Catholic clergymen in the Republic of Venice and Republic of Ragusa, it crystallized only in the mid 19th century amidst rise of nationalism in the Ottoman and Habsburg empires.

8: South Slavs - WikiVisually

Consequently, we suggest that there is a "central-east European" genetic substratum in West and East Slavs, and a "south-east European" one for South Slavs". So if slavs originated in the North-Central Europe and did not differ much from their closest linguistic and genetic relatives - Balts then it would be Poles and Russians.

It could originate in pretty much any slavic language. My family name is Frankofsky. I was told it was of Slovak origin. I was wondering if only Neo-Nazis and Americans only use the word Slav then why in Slovak language does the word Slovan exist to mean Slav? It all depends in which Slavic language the letters are written. I speak Slovak, Czech and am trying to learn Russian. Different country - different language. At the same time, I am not denying that some are similar. Read and re-read your conversations. It is honestly easy to determine whether it is just a scam or not. If her messages are long and come in a relatively short time - scam. If she gives you a sad story about how she lost her parents and looks for true love - scam. So Belarussians, for example, are not Slavic according to you? You also forgot Montenegrins, Macedonians and Bulgarians. Just like the Gauls are the ancestors of the French or the Anglo saxons are the ancestors of the English. The only people who call them that are neo-nazis and Americans, apparently. I would really like to get some of them translated, especially the ones during World War II. I would like to find out how they coped with the war over there. I also have articles about her career in the military. Is there any Slavic Society in California that maybe could help me get the letters translated? The majority though live in Europe. They differ culturally, genetically and religiously. Jasperman-you are in control of what you want to do. I find that being honest and direct is the best rule to live by. To have a healthy amount of skepticism is not only wise, but necessary. Whether the lady is a slav or belongs to any other group of people is really irrelevant.

9: Slavic Countries - www.enganchecubano.com

While Scandinavia also has a cromagnoid presence and these two regions south slavs and Scandinavians have the highest UP type presence in Europe although the south Slavic CM has been altered or dinaricised but unreduced. so they still are more on the cromagnoid side.

Early Slavs Little is known about the Slavs before the 5th century. Their history prior to this can only be tentatively hypothesized via pre-Indo-European archeological and linguistic studies. Much of what we know about their history after the 6th century is from the works of Byzantine historians. In his work *De Bellis*, Procopius portrays the Sclavini supposed to be Slavs as unusually tall and strong, with a tan complexion and reddish-blond hair, living a rugged and primitive life. They lived in huts, often distant from one another and often changed their place of abode. They were not ruled by a single leader, but for a long time lived in a "democracy". John of Ephesus, in his *Ecclesiastical History* portrays the Slavs as extremely violent people. He has often been identified as Perun, the creator of lightning. The Slavs went into battle on foot, charging straight at their enemy, armed with spears and small shields, but they did not wear armour. The lack of understanding may be attributed to matrilineal succession practiced among Southern Slavs. Migrations and postulated homeland Further information: Slavic settlement of the Eastern Alps Scholars have traditionally placed the Slavic Urheimat in the Pripet marshes of Ukraine, or alternatively between the Bug and the Dniepr. The Balkans was one of the regions which lay in the path of the expanding Slavs. Material culture from the Danube suggests that there was an evolution of Slavic society between the early 7th century and the 8th century. As a reaction to this economic isolation, and external threats e. Archeological sites from the late 7th century show that the earlier settlements which were merely a non-specific collection of hamlets began to evolve into larger communities with differentiated areas e. As community elites rose to prominence, they came to "embody a collective interest and responsibility" for the group. Some, such as Bulgarian scholar Vasil Zlatarski, suggest that the first group settled the western Balkans, becoming one of the forerunners of the linguistic group that became the Bosnians, Serbs and Croats, [9] whilst offshoots of the Antes settled the eastern regions roughly speaking, becoming one of the ancestors of the Bulgarians. They spread about destruction, taking loot and herds of cattle, seizing prisoners and taking fortresses. This meant that even numerically small, disorganised early Slavic raids were capable of causing much disruption, but could not capture the larger, fortified cities. These large scale population movements are associated with the arrival to the area of the Avars, a nomadic Turkic group that had lost a war against other nomads further east, and settled in the Carpathian basin, subjugating the many small Slavic tribes. Most scholars consider the period of as the beginning of large scale Slavic settlement in the Balkans. They settled the Carpathian plain, west of the main Slavic settlements. They asserted their authority over many Slavs, who were divided into numerous petty tribes. Other Slavic tribes continued to raid independently, sometime coordinating attacks as allies of the Avars. Others still spilled into Imperial lands as they fled from the Avars. Archaeological evidence show that there was intermixing of Slavic, Avar and even Gepid cultures, suggesting that the later Avars were an amalgamation of different peoples. The Avar Khanate finally collapsed after ongoing defeats at the hands of Franks, Bulgars and Slavs c. What remained of the Avars was absorbed by the Slavs and Bulgars. The earliest Croatian state was the Principality of Dalmatia. Prince Trpimir of Dalmatia was called Duke of Croats in He organized a state by annexing the Principality of Pannonia as well as maintaining close ties with Pagania and Zahumlje. By AD, Slavs had settled in most of the Balkans, from Austria to the Peloponnese, and from the Adriatic to the Black seas, with the exception of the coastal areas and certain mountainous regions of the Greek peninsula. This has led scholars to cast doubt on the accuracy of the historical sources, often describing large scale settlements by the Slavs throughout the Balkans, including southern Greece. Over the classical ages, they were at times invaded, conquered and influenced by Celts, Greeks and Romans. Following the fall of Rome and numerous barbarian raids, the population in the Balkans dropped, as did commerce and general standards of living. Many people were killed, or taken prisoner by invaders. They were the most vulnerable to raids and were also hardest hit by the financial crises that plagued the falling empire. However, the Balkans

were not desolate; considerable numbers of indigenous people simply remained. The larger cities were able to persevere, even flourish, through the hard times. Archaeological evidence suggests that the culture in the cities changed whereby Roman-style forums and large public buildings were abandoned and cities were modified. The centerpiece of such cities was the church. This transformation from a Roman culture to a Byzantine culture was paralleled by a rise of a new ruling class: Sarmatian tribes such as the Iazyges are recorded to have still lived in the Banat region of the Danube. Since their lifestyle revolved around agriculture, they preferentially settled rural lands along the major highway networks which they moved along. Whilst they could not take the larger fortified towns, they looted the countryside and captured many prisoners. In his *Strategikon*, Pseudo-Maurice noted that it was commonplace for Slavs to accept newly acquired prisoners into their ranks. The Slavs lacked an organised, centrally ruled organisation which actually hastened the process of willful Slavicisation. Such interactions awarded the pre-Slavic populace protection within the ranks of a dominant, new tribe. In return, they contributed to the genetic and cultural development of the South Slavs. This phenomenon ultimately led to an exchange of various loan-words. For example, the Slavic name for "Greeks", *Grci*, is derived from the Latin *Graecus* presumably encountered through the local Romanised populace. Conversely, the Vlachs borrowed many Slavic words, especially pertaining to agricultural terms. Whether any of the original Thracian or Illyrian culture and language remained by the time Slavs arrived is a matter of debate. It is a difficult issue to analyse because of the overriding Greek and Roman influence in the region. However, what is certain is that the Thracian [18] and Illyrian identities disappear from history during this period. Over time, due to the larger number of Slavs, the descendants of most of the indigenous populations of the Balkans were Slavicized, an exception being Greece, where the smaller number of Slavs scattered there came to be Hellenized over succeeding centuries aided in time by more Greeks returning to Greece in the 9th century and the role of the church and administration. However, they too were eventually assimilated into the body of Slavs. In contrast, the Romano-Dacians in Wallachia managed to maintain their Latin-based language, despite much Slavic influence. After centuries of peaceful co-existence, the groups fused to form the Romanians.

Relationship with Byzantium Further information: *Sclaviniae* Byzantine literary accounts i. In , a combined Avar , Bulgar and Slav army besieged Constantinople. The siege was broken, which had repercussions upon the power and prestige of the Avar khanate. This time, the Belegezites also known as the *Velegeziti* did not participate and in fact supplied the besieged citizens of Thessaloniki with grain. A number of medieval sources attest to the presence of Slavs in Greece. While en route to the Holy Land in , Willibald "reached the city of Monemvasia , in the land of Slavina ". This particular passage from the *Vita Willibaldi* is interpreted as an indication of a Slavic presence in the hinterland of the Peloponnese. For example, while the Byzantinist Peter Charanis believes the *Chronicle of Monemvasia* to be a reliable account, other scholars point out that it greatly overstates the impact of the Slavic and Avar raids of Greece during this time. Florin Curta points out that evidence of substantial Slavic presence does not appear before the 7th century [38] and remains qualitatively different from the "Slavic culture" found north of the Danube. There, investigations of burial graves and cemetery types indicate an uninterrupted continuity of traditions from late antiquity , reflecting a contiguous demographic spread that chronologically matches with the arrival of Slavic-speaking groups. Pg

Relations between the Slavs and Greeks were probably peaceful apart from the supposed initial settlement and intermittent uprisings. This was achieved through its theme system , referring to an administrative province on which an army corps was centered, under the control of a strategos "general". It was not until years later that a third theme would be established. In 866, the eunuch general Staurakios campaigned from Thessaloniki, south to Thessaly and into the Peloponnese. New themes in the 9th century included those of Thessalonica , Dyrrhachium , Strymon , and Nicopolis. Apart from military expeditions against Slavs, the re-Hellenization process begun under Nicephorus I involved often forcible transfer of peoples. That the re-Hellenization of Greece through population transfers and cultural activities of the Church was successful suggests Slavs found themselves in the midst of many Greeks. As the Slavs supposedly occupied the entire Balkan interior, Constantinople was effectively cut off from the Dalmatian cities under its nominal control. However, the Slavic tribes of Macedonia never formed their own empire or state, and the area often switched between Greek Byzantine , Bulgarian , Serbian and temporarily even Norman control. The Byzantines were unable to

completely Hellenize Macedonia because their progress north was blocked by the Bulgarian Empire, and later by the Serbian Kingdom, which were both Slavic states. However, Byzantine culture nonetheless flowed further north, seen to this day as Bulgaria, the Republic of Macedonia, and Serbia are part of the Orthodox world. Even in Dalmatia, where Byzantine influence was supplanted by Venice and Rome, the influence of Byzantine culture persists. When they had been defeated by the Langobards at Lauriana, in , their attempts to penetrate westward into what is now Italian Friuli ended. Upon their arrival, the Slavs brought with them a tribal social structure which probably fell apart and gave way to feudalism only with Frankish penetration into the region in the late 9th century. Following another shift of power between the two in the early 12th century, Bosnia found itself outside the control of both and emerged as an independent state under the rule of local bans. In response to Hungarian attempts to use church politics regarding the issue as a way to reclaim sovereignty over Bosnia, Kulin held a council of local church leaders to renounce the heresy and embraced Catholicism in . By the time of his death in , he was successful in annexing territories to the north and west, as well as Zahumlje and parts of Dalmatia. He was succeeded by his nephew Tvrtko who, following a prolonged struggle with nobility and inter-family strife, gained full control of the country in . The Ottoman Empire had already started its conquest of Europe and posed a major threat to the Balkans throughout the first half of the 15th century. Finally, after decades of political and social instability, the Kingdom of Bosnia ceased to exist in .

The Slavs accepted as their rulers the Bulgar Khans but retained significant autonomy. Both peoples had to protect the country from the Byzantines to the south and the Avar Khanate to the north-west. The Byzantines were aware of this new threat but were completely defeated in the Battle of Ongal and in officially recognized Bulgaria as a sovereign country, known nowadays as the First Bulgarian Empire. By the mid 9th century Bulgaria expanded into much of the Slavic-populated areas of the Balkan peninsula in Thrace, Moesia, Macedonia and Dacia. Khan Omurtag " made an administrative reform which aimed the centralization of the country and deprived the Slavs of their autonomy. As a result, some Slavic tribes to the north-west rebelled but they were quickly subjugated. Balkans, latter half of 9th century Following the Christianization of Bulgaria and the creation of the Glagolitic and Cyrillic alphabets and the formation of a literary Bulgarian language , the Bulgars and Slavs finally merged into the Bulgarian people. In the Byzantines also had to recognize the Imperial title of the Bulgarian rulers in Bulgarian " Tsar and the Bulgarian Patriarchate.

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