



SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

ON THE ARTICLE "THE ARGONAUTICA ORPHICA VERSION FOR THE VOYAGE OF THE ARGONAUTS: A GEO-ANALYSIS"

by

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Received: 08/01/2018

Accepted: 15/01/2018

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Following our earlier paper (Kalachanis et al., 2017), we elucidate some parts referring to earlier attempts to decipher on a geomythological approach. Literature on geomythology may be traced back to ancient times (Plutarch, Plato, Homer, Hesiod etc), yet later investigations have bestowned famous trips based on scientifically based identification of places (Liritzis et al., 2017). Such a detailed attempt had been provided by the book of Mr. Sotiris Sofias¹ (Sofias, 2009) which referred to the voyage of Argonauts. The author has made known of three important elements

1. The 'Apsyrtides Islands', the small islands at the mouth of Ancient Fasis River (today's Rhion) was found for the first time by Mr. Sofias utilizing old maps and information of Georgian archaeologists. Mr. Sofias used a map of Poti in Georgia dated 1857, where the Apsyrtides islands, are depicted, which today do not exist, because the flow of the river was diverted **in the beginning of the 20 century**. This information is important as it gives a clear picture of the topography of the area. Our team had referred to the existence of islands in this area (based on the ancient text), pointing out that since then the topography of the area has changed. Mr. Sofias has proved this hypothesis.
2. The passage of Caucasus through an ancient diolkos², proposed for the first time in 2009 by Mr. Sofias after many months of research with maps of the Embassy of Georgia in Athens, is the present Kluhori passage. **This diolkos, referred by Orpheus as "Narrow Erytheia" was connecting the springs of two ancient rivers Cyaneos (present Kodori) and Psathis (Kuban)**. In his work, he gives details and maps. This information is extremely important as it proves that there really was a way of passing the Caucasus. In our own research we referred to the possible route of Argos through five Caucasus Rivers, without any reference to any diolkos.

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² The Diolkos (Διολκος, from the Greek διά, dia "across" and ὄλκος, holkos "portage machine") was a paved trackway which enabled boats to be moved overland. The shortcut allowed ancient vessels to avoid the long and dangerous circumnavigation.

3. The image of the swamp in the Maeotis Lake³ which confirms Mr. Sofia's notification of the presence of a swamp in this area, something that is perfectly in line with the ancient text. **It was the area just before the exit of Psathis (i.e. present river Kuban) to the Meotis Lake (Azof sea) close to the present Russian city of Termyuk.**

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³ Maeotis lake at Crimea, Black sea