

**KARAKORUM – BIBLICAL SHINAR
ROOF OF THE WORLD, UPPER INDUS BASIN,
HOME TO EDEN, TOWER OF BABEL, OPHIR,
GILGAMESH, THARA, NOAH**

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Thanks, Stuart, for your great contribution

INTRODUCTION

This presentation is the synopsis of a planned book, on themes already covered in about twenty articles. It provides a new geographical, astronomical, numerical, linguistic, historical, and anthropological approach to subjects studied for centuries, where research has failed for several reasons, including:

- 1 - Use of the Masoretic version of the Bible instead of the Septuagint or Samaritan versions.**
- 2 - Failure to recognize that information in ancient texts is often encrypted (usually through multiplication by 180).**
- 3 - Failure to recognize the existence of hybrid names, especially in toponyms, where languages of neighboring people merge. See *GORISHANTA*, the Sanskrit name for Everest (Antonio Stoppani recounts the name's change in his masterpiece *Il bel paese*), a hybrid word of Sanskrit and Chinese.**

KARAKORUM, meaning *Black Mountains* (black is a positive color in the East; the Sumerians and Tibetans called themselves “black-headed people”; white is a negative color, that of the corpse picked clean by birds). Clearly defined by Walter Bonatti as the *Roof of the World*, it is an area associated with the upper basin of the Indus River—described in classical texts as mysterious and difficult to access (see Newton, *Amended Chronology of Ancient Peoples*). This region, called Shinar in Genesis (where even today a language called *Shinà* is spoken and a type of wood called *shinar* is exported), can explain fundamental events documented in the Bible, in Sumerian texts, and elsewhere:

- Eden, Paradise, *Kharsag*, with the additional identification of the forbidden trees of knowledge and of life.
- Where Noah built the Ark, and its departure for other lands via the upper Indus Valley, now Ladakh.
- Tower of Babel, the halting of the work and its subsequent total disappearance, except for evidence of the foundations, where archaeological research could be undertaken, potentially involving the Aga Khan foundation and CAI (Italian Alpine Club).
- First of Gilgamesh’s two journeys in search of *Ziusudra*—*Utnapishtim*, who had withdrawn to the Anye Machen, formerly northeastern Tibet.
- The place where Terah (Thara), father of Abraham, lived; the reason for Abraham’s migration; where he traveled for twelve years and where he settled.

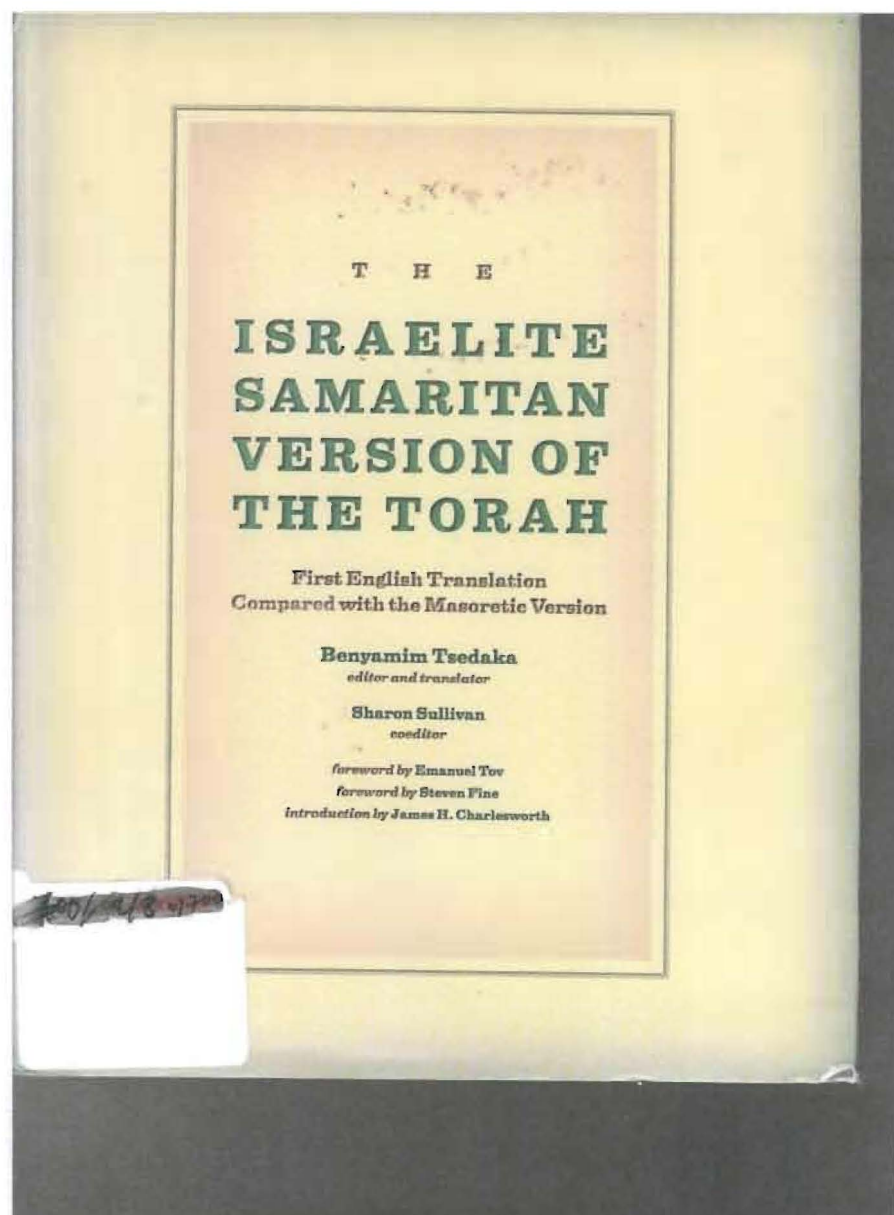
A corollary concerns the location where Solomon, a historical, not mythical, figure, built the Temple, say *Uraslam*, the name found in Samaritan and Egyptian texts. Not where present-day Jerusalem stands, where no trace of the Temple has been found. *Uraslam* can be located in Asir, a region now divided between Saudi Arabia and Yemen. Research to determine the exact site is ongoing; collaboration is welcome for the analysis of satellite images.

On the next page: the title page of the 2013 first English version of the Samaritan Bible, older than the Septuagint (about 400 BC vs. about 250 BC), written in Aramaic-Samaritan. Translation by Benjamin Tsedaka, cultural leader of the Samaritans, a people very close to Jesus in the Gospels and among the most persecuted in history. The text contains only

the Pentateuch, with about 150 variants compared to the Septuagint, versus about 6,000 between the Masoretic and the Septuagint versions.

In my work, I use the Septuagint, produced by 72 scholars, six from each tribe, chosen by the high priests of the Temple at the invitation of Ptolemy Philadelphus. It was recently discovered that the Qumran texts use predominantly the Samaritan version.

2013, first English edition Samaritan Bible by Benyamin Tsedaka



GARDEN OF EDEN IDENTIFIED: THE MIDDLE HUNZA VALLEY, PAKISTAN

Where the Garden of Eden was located (*Gan* in Hebrew, *Kharsag* in Sumerian, *Paradise* in Persian) is my scenario born from reading an article in *National Geographic* about the Karakorum Highway, built by the Chinese to connect Pakistan with China via the Khunjerab Pass (4,700 m).

Geographical motivations:

In the northern part of the valley there exist, very close to one another, the sources of four great rivers, identifiable with the four rivers which Genesis says originated from a single river that divided—namely the Gihon, Pishon, Euphrates, and Tigris (Hiddekel).

These are now:

- *Mintaka... Tarim, about 2,500 km — the ancient Hiddekel–Tigris*
- *Gihon–Oxus–Amu Darya, about 2,500 km — the ancient Gihon, name still locally preserved in its upper course, where it flows between the Pamir and Hindukush*
- *Mastuj–Konar–Chitral–Kabul–Indus, about 2,000 km — the ancient Pishon, whose name survives in that of Peshawar (“city of the frontier”) and Mount Rakaposhi (“frontier of the people of God”)*
- *Hunza–Gilgit–Indus, about 2,000 km — the ancient Euphrates, meaning River of a fertile land, say the Gan. It runs through the Hunza Valley, joining the Gilgit River near the town of Gilgit, formerly called Sargin, perhaps the lost Agade of Sargon the Great, capital of western Kashmir, ancient center for the collection and processing of cannabis.*

Note that the land “from the Nile to the Euphrates”, which God is claimed to have given to the Hebrews, would, therefore, extend from the Nile to the Indus, a land where now over half a billion inhabitants live.

The valleys of the Karakorum, including Hunza, receive little rain and are called a *valley desert*; hence *Eden = steppe*. They have rivers rich in water but to practice agriculture one requires irrigation canals and hard labor, reason why the Anunnaki, tired of doing such a hard work themselves, wanted others to perform it, according to Sumerian texts.

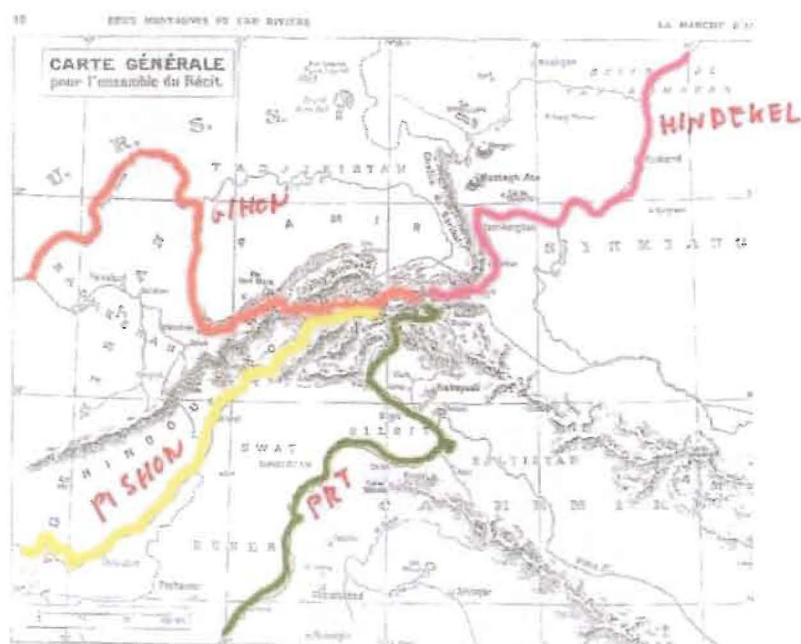
The Hunza Valley is now under the control of the Ismailis led by the Aga Khan, the old capital Baltit being now called Karimabad in honor of Karim, the late Aga; the population enjoys extraordinary longevity and physical health, possibly due to selenium in the waters of the Hunza River.

Hunza is a recent name; the people call themselves Bororo, and speak a unique and extremely complex language, Burushaski. A possible origin of this people may be from soldiers whom Alexander the Great brought from the Bororo Mountains near Lake Balkhash, the northernmost region he reached, where he founded Alexandria Eschate.

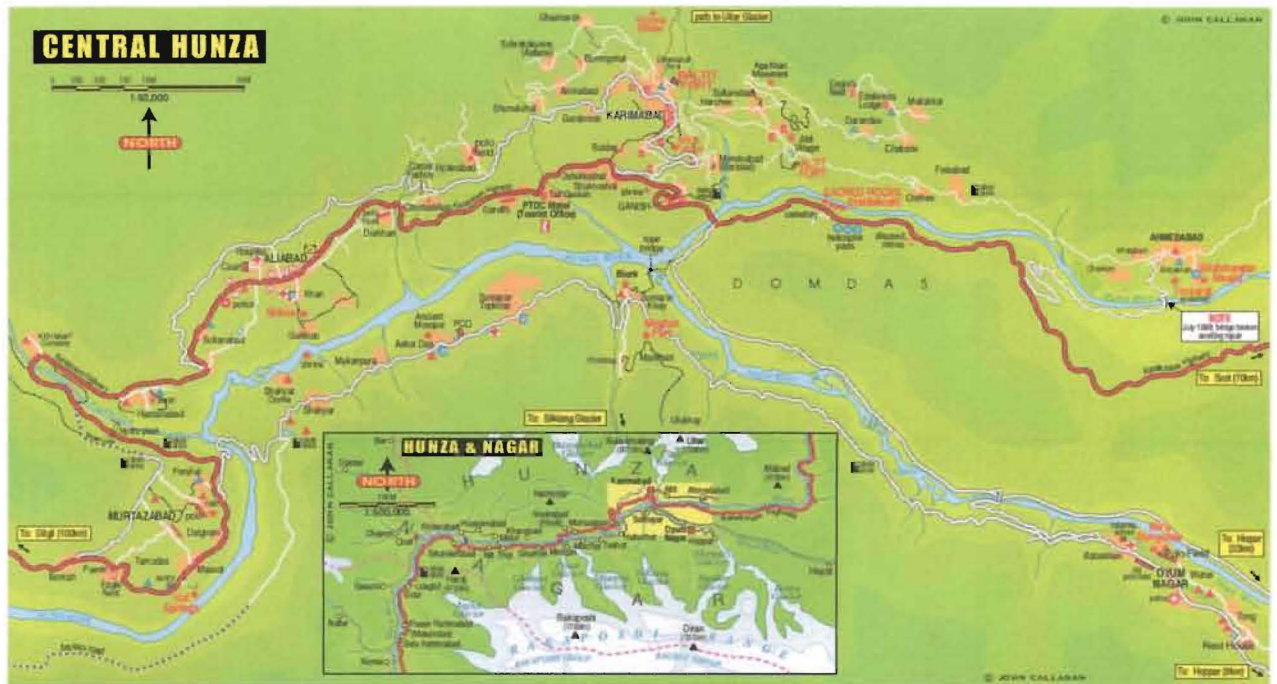
The Hunza Valley is now rapidly developing: the highway to China has reduced travel time from two months in the past to a few hours, though frequent landslides cause interruptions. The inhabitants are very active and prosperous, many being active as porters in the Karakorum and Himalayas.

Below map of the four rivers with nearby sources at Mintaka pass

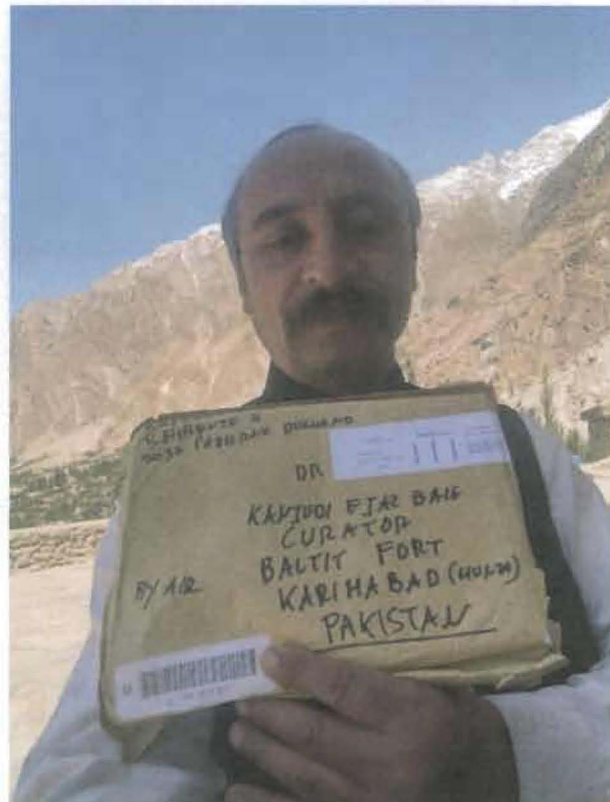
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Map of central part of Hunza valley



Eijaz Baig Kanjudi, library at Baltit Fort, of noble family, collaborator to author, showing an envelope sent by me to him, that took 11 months to arrive.



FROM EDEN TO THE NOACHIAN FLOOD: CHRONOLOGY AND EVENTS

The arrival of the Elohim–Anunnaki can be dated, following the beginning of the Ethiopian calendar, to 5500 BC (5508 BC in the Byzantine calendar, the eight-year error is due to Dionysius Exiguus).

The Noachian Flood occurred in 3161 BC, according to the Septuagint chronology, accepting that the construction of Solomon's Temple began in 967 BC; the same year can be obtained via the Aztec chronology of Ixtlilxochitl.

Between the descent of the Elohim–Anunnaki and the Flood there are 2839 years; therefore, the descent was 77 years before creation of Adam, using the Septuagint chronology, which places Adam 2262 years before the Flood, i.e. in 5423 BC. Adam and Eve were perhaps the last of the seven couples mentioned in Sumerian texts.

Eden was abandoned after a catastrophe around 4400 BC, possibly following the impact in the Indian Ocean of an asteroid, which created the Burkle Crater, near Madagascar, the largest known crater on the ocean floor, found in 2006.

The construction of the Great Pyramid began 300 years before the Flood, according to medieval Arab historians, therefore in 3461 BC. This implies that the arrival of the Flood was known in advance. Completion occurred in 3441 BC, according to ETH radiocarbon dating, Liritzis luminescence, and Duranti alignments; hence construction lasted 20 years, as stated by Herodotus. Thus

completion occurred 280 years before the Flood, number 280 being notably the pyramid height in royal cubits. The smaller heights of the other pyramids may signify their year of completion, after that of the Great Pyramid.

Noah was informed of the coming Flood 112 years beforehand, by Enoch. Hence, the Flood's arrival could be calculated (as in the VAHS scenario — Velikovsky–Ackerman–Harris–Spedicato), since it was associated with an astronomical phenomenon of known periodicity. The time to build the Ark was about a century — as long as it takes in Italy to build *Pedemontana* highway.

Chronological information appears to be encoded in the numerical parameters of the Giza complex, particularly in the radius of the circle passing through the vertices of the three pyramids (associated with the numbers 5500, 56, 42, 37, and others), as in a forthcoming paper by this author.

THE NOACHIAN FLOOD AND LOCATION OF THE ARK

In the VAHS scenario, Flood was caused by a close passage of Mars, then in an elliptical orbit with a 56-year period. In extra-biblical Hebrew texts, the planet is called *Khima* (the *spirit that brings snow*). Flood arrived on 17 Nissan 3161 BC.

The rains came from the “fountains of the deep” (evaporation of ocean water caused by magma emission) and from the “fountains of the heavens” (water from Mars’ oceans, which disappeared due to that event). On the mountains, snow fell, explaining the death of Ötzi, whose dating is consistent with 3161 BC.

Rain lasted forty days, followed by fog and cold for about a year, from seasonal inversion by a reversal of Earth’s axis. The rainbow at the end of the Flood had a modified structure, with its arc pointing toward the opposite celestial pole.

The Ark was built on Lake Manasarovar, near the sources of the Indus and Sutlej Rivers, a region rich in gold (identified as the land of Ophir, from which Hiram brought gold to Solomon), south of the sacred Mount Kailash–Meru. Some parts of the lake presently never freeze.

See a fragment from lost *Universal History* of Nicolaus of Damascus: *the Ark was built “in the land of the Minias” and came to rest “on Mount Baris.”* Minias can be interpreted as: (land of) the knowledgeable man (Noah) and of fire from soil (explaining the hot water sources that prevent parts of the lake to freeze); Baris can be interpreted as: (land of) water, gold and fire...

The ark was made of deodar cedar wood, the only wood in Asia permitted for sacred buildings and statues. Such a wood has a beautiful color and can stand immersion in water for centuries without deterioration, but not for the over five millennia passed since Noachian Flood. Parts of the Ark may have disappeared as relics or for use in local constructions. Beneath Manasarovar and Kailash.



TOWER OF BABEL, FOUNDATIONS STILL VISIBLE

Research on the Tower of Babel, a most enigmatic theme of *Genesis*, was stimulated by Voltaire's *Philosophical Dictionary*, stating the tower's height as 81,000 Hebrew feet.

Assuming the Egyptian remen as the Hebrew foot and decrypting by dividing by 180, the height results in 166.5 meters — twenty more meters than the Great Pyramid, and one less than the Mole Antonelliana in Turin.

The remen of 37 cm was the base unit of measurement in the Megalithic era (third millennium BC). From its value one can derive geometrically the royal cubit (52.3 cm) and the megalithic yard. The meter was already known to the Egyptians and may have been the origin of the French meter. The number 37 is the most important of the ritual numbers, being related to the Napier and Dirac constants.

The Tower of Babel was built in the land of Shinar, never correctly identified. *Shinar* is the Upper Indus region, from which wood — still called *Shinar* — is exported, and where over one million people speak *Shina*, a Dardic language.

Babel is not the name of the tower, but of the place of construction: *Bab El*, meaning “Gate to the Land of the Elohim.” It is located near Nasirabad, where the Hunza Valley, going toward its sources, widens and then narrows again into an extremely difficult canyon, the entry, the gate, the Bab, to Eden.

Work on the tower ended abruptly due to sudden linguistic incomprehension between the workers and their leaders — a

phenomenon explainable as an electromagnetic shock caused by the passage of an astronomical body with a strong magnetic field. References in classical literature, and the VAHS scenario, point to Mercury, a planet with high density and magnetic field, and to the Moon losing one-seventieth of its light.

The tower is mentioned in *Genesis*, where Eber gives his son the name Peleah, in reference to this event, around 2630 BC. Evidence of a peak in ammonium levels in the GISP2 ice core appears a few years earlier and recurs every 24 years before and after, for many centuries (including 3161 BC, the year of the Flood, and 2033 BC, the year of Job's catastrophe, associated with Behemoth and Leviathan).

This can also be associated with the beginning of the seven years without Nile floods, described on the Famine Stela, during the reign of Djoser, when the Step' Pyramid of Saqqara was built.

The destruction of the Tower occurred later, likely due to the collapse of a dam forming a lake in the Hunza Valley, from which several kilometers of water suddenly rushed down for hundreds of kilometers, sweeping away everything in their path. The geologist Hewitt has demonstrated that such phenomena are common in Karakorum and have occurred about one hundred times in the Hunza Valley over the last 10,000 years.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONFIRMATION OF TOWER OF BABEL

Stuart Harris, the most important among my collaborators (deceased in September 2025), through analysis of Google Earth and Google Street View, following my precise indications, discovered the following:

- Stone walls in a Hunza village incorporate giant bricks — possibly originating from the Tower and recovered along the Hunza River, downstream from Nasirabad, a small town located where Hunza river valley enlarges, then restricts to a narrow canyon.
- Near Nasirabad, satellite images clearly show a square with a side of 365.2 royal cubits, within which is visible a circle of 180 royal cubits in diameter — probable foundations of the Tower, enclosed within a square perimeter wall, typical of hill forts of the third millennium BC, the first of which

were discovered in Val Camonica (Italy). A smaller whitish circular area inside the square may relate to the foundations of a Takht e Suleiman, a monument to recall a visit by Solomon. This author has argued that Solomon left power to his two legal children to travel to return to their families the women (and their offsprings from him) he had received from many kings, knowing that at his death his official children would kill all of them. According to Tucci, Solomon died in Kapilavastu, where Buddha was born centuries later, possibly a descendant of him.

- The structure requires on-site investigation; procedures for such an operation are currently being pursued by the author with relevant authorities, among them dr Kamal Shahid, met by this author when he was Pakistani ambassador in Berlin.

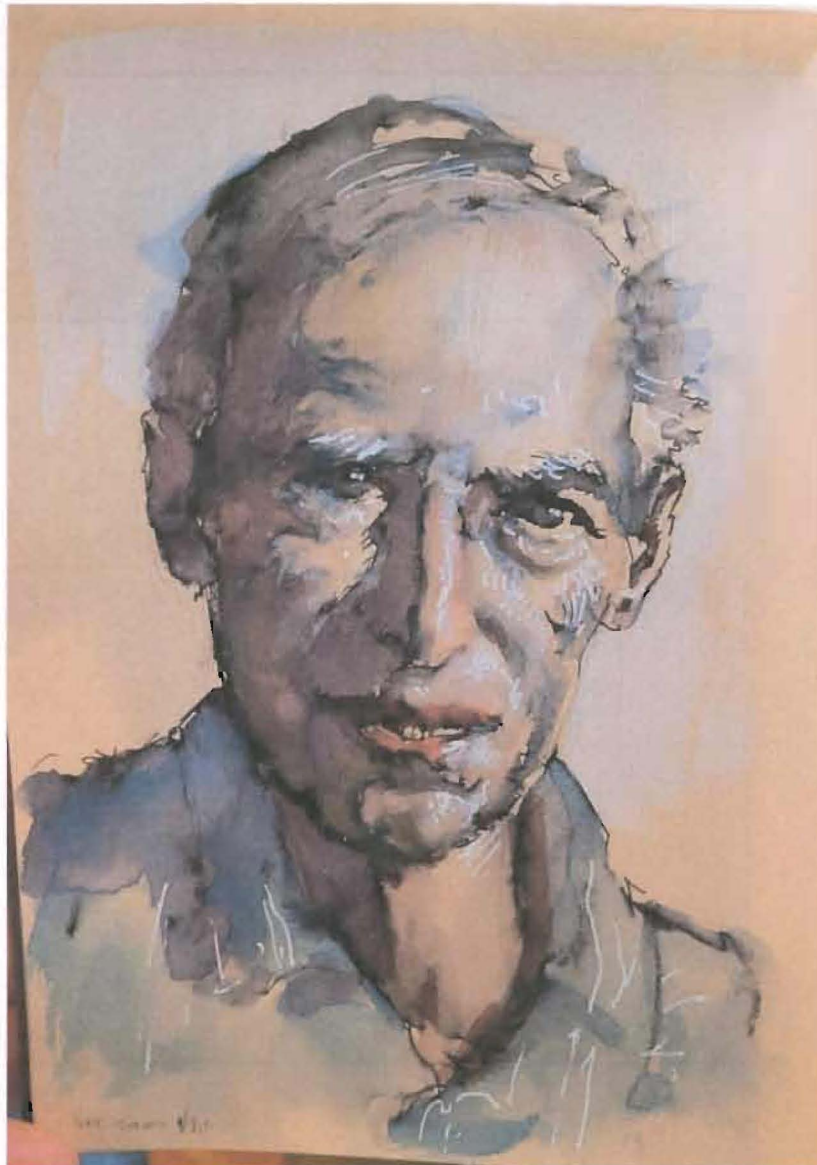
Below: photographs of the possible Babel Tower foundations within a square set of walls. The line of the Tower foundations is faint. No one except this author thought to change the measures from fathoms to royal cubits when they become meaningful. The idea that the whitish circle inside the square might relate to the foundations of a Takht-e-Suleiman came to this author when he was in hospital Humanitas Pio X Milan.



STUART HARRIS

Met at Stanford by this author after the 1999 conference in Milan and Bergamo: *New Astronomical Scenarios and Their Consequences on Human History* (Bergamo; proceedings edited by Spedicato and Notarpietro).

Harris was a specialist in satellite photo analysis, as well in geologic (particularly GISP2) and dendrochronological records. He extended the work of Marija Gimbutas on Old Europe Language, translated documents far older than the Sumerian ones, and reconstructed chronologies of catastrophic events. He authored hundreds of articles (*Academia.edu*, *Migration & Diffusion*, etc.) and wrote three monographs during the last weeks of his life while suffering from pancreatic cancer.



THE FORBIDDEN PLANTS IN EDEN

According to *Genesis*, Adam and Eve were expelled from Eden for having eaten from the forbidden Tree of Knowledge; Yahweh was pleased that they did not also eat from the Tree of Life, which would have given them immortality like the gods. According to medieval rabbinical sources (information from Ezio Albrile), the two trees were, in fact, a single tree.

Noting that Gilgit was, for millennia, a major center for harvesting and processing (including producing *soma* from leaf infusions) *Cannabis Indica*, whose original area was possibly Shinar, and that this plant exhibits a strong sexual dimorphism, the following hypothesis arises:

- The Tree of Knowledge corresponds to the female *Cannabis Indica*, known for intensifying perception of sound and light and for inducing visions and hallucinations, formerly interpreted as a form of knowledge.
- The Tree of Life corresponds to the male *Cannabis Indica*, richer in vitamins and mineral substances, with analgesic effects and capable of inducing in users the sensation of having become immortal.

Cannabis Indica still grows wildly in the Hunza Valley; people there use to eat the roasted seeds in their mountain travels (information from Ejaz Baig).

We observe that Eve probably was not tempted by a snake, an animal not eating vegetables, but rather by a bird, as Yezidis claim, calling him Melet Ta'us. It was probably the beautiful blue Indian peacock, once common in Karakorum, known for its voracious appetite.

The Eve–Serpent dialogue was probably a telepathic communication, a form of exchange well attested between humans and animals, especially birds; see the cases of St. Benedict, St. Francis, and especially Solomon, who was said to be expert in the “languages of birds.”

Note also that carrier pigeons probably did not carry written messages in pouches but transmitted them telepathically.

The Bible presents true events, but handed down with errors—some intentional, some accidental.

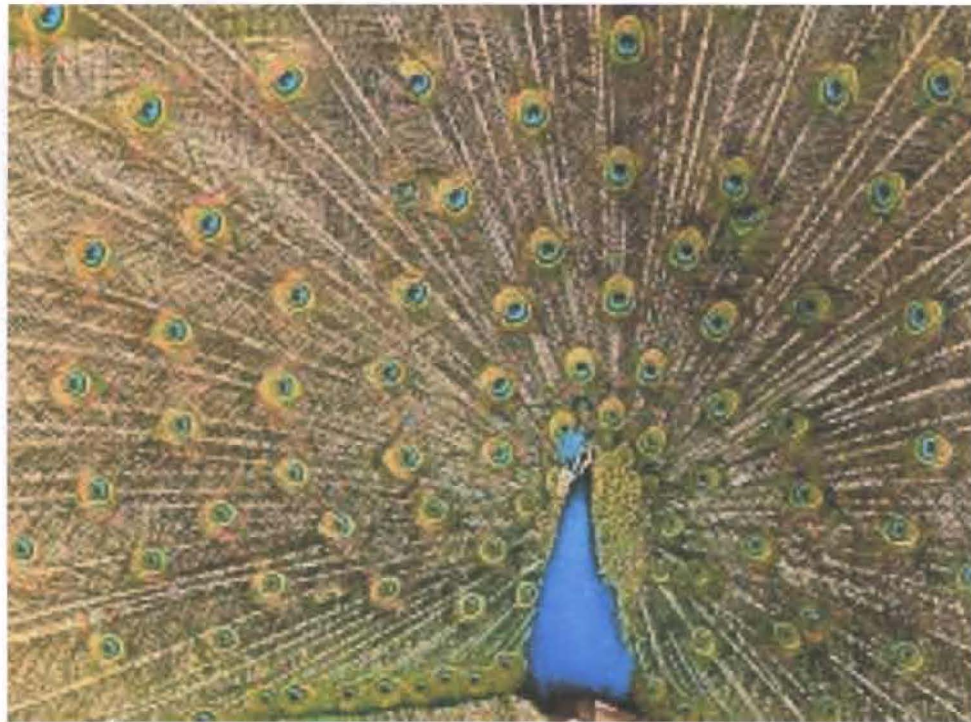
One should remember that the 24 books of the Bible, preserved thanks to Ezra's memory upon the return from Babylon, are the least important among the 94 books he dictated to five scribes after their loss during the Assyrian and Babylonian deportations.

The 70 most important books, including the Enoch Pentateuch, were reserved for the high priests, kept in an iron cabinet in the Temple of Jerusalem.

Such books were accessible also to exceptional individuals, such as Nicolaus of Damascus, friend of Herod the Great and arguably the greatest historian of all time. His *Universal History* spanned 144 volumes (versus 133 by Sima Qian), but is lost except for fragments—perhaps recoverable if excavations were undertaken at Herculaneum.

Below: *Cannabis indica*, male and female; and the Indian blue peacock (*Pavo cristatus*).





FURTHER NOTES ON THE UPPER INDUS AREA

Other articles by the author consider the following facts set in the Upper Indus region:

- In Ladakh, the Indian valley where the Indus River flows after leaving Tibet, there are thousands of inscriptions in lost languages, readable as *OM MANI PANI*, which can be translated as “Glory to the Lord of the Waters” — that is, to Noah, who, on Lake Manasarovar near the Indus source, survived in the Ark for over a year. It appears that these three words were later transformed into the four sacred words of Buddhism, to which countless symbolic meanings have been attributed.
- The Epic of Gilgamesh, transmitted for millennia by Middle Eastern bards (among them, reportedly, the father of Gurdjieff), recounts two journeys made to meet Utnapishtim—Ziusudra, one of the survivors of the Flood (for the *Talmud*, many Arks were built, and some resisted the Flood). Utnapishtim resided in the Anye Machen massif (“Mother of Clear Waters”), northeastern Tibet.

In the first expedition, Gilgamesh chose the shorter route—through the Hunza Valley, entering China via the Mintaka or Khunjerab Pass. Suffering from altitude sickness, he was forced to return and later took a longer route, skirting the Pamir and Tien Shan ranges on their western sides and passing through the Gates of Dzungaria, then still covered by the waters of a much larger Lake Balkhash.

- The identification of the region of Ophir—whose name means *Fine Gold* (thanks to Brunilde Neroni, among the foremost specialists in Sanskrit)—with the area around Lake Manasarovar. There, gold nuggets of up to 50 kilograms were often found at the end of the nineteenth century, as reported by Allen, a member of Younghusband's British expedition for the conquest of Tibet. Marmots, while digging their burrows, would bring gold nuggets to the surface, giving rise to the classical tradition of giant gold-digging ants in the mountains of India. My identification was praised by Kamal Salibi, the leading historian of the Arab world in the last century, who had considered Ophir impossible to locate before I undertook my research.
- The identification of the region inhabited by Thara (as in Septuagint) or Terah (as in Hebraic Bible), father of Abraham, with Kashmir: the *Ur* of *Genesis* being today's Uri, and *Haran* corresponding to the holy city Haran near Srinagar.
Terah- Thara may not be a proper name but rather a title, since *thera* denotes, among the Brahminic bhikkhus, the group of higher rank (cf. the Sinhalese epic *Mahavamsa*).
 Kashmir may also have been the probable origin of both Hiram and the Queen of Sheba (see the *Kebra Nagast*).
Sheba may be a variant of Shiva, just as *Saphon* in *Baal Saphon* (Book of *Exodus*) represents a related form. The interpretations of this name as Lord of the North or Lord of flies are a corollary of my proposal, since Shiva is said to sit on Mount Kailash with Parvathi, that is north of India, and his temples in India are full of flies who feed of the offers of butter.

THIS WRITING IS DEDICATED TO:

BRUNILDE NERONI

Not only Alexandra David-Néel knows of India

I met Brunilde Neroni, a lady of noble lineage, a top specialist in Sanskrit, Bengali, and Hindi, author of books of rare depth and delicacy, in one of my meetings with over three hundred leading opera singers, from which two books emerged.

Her father, Luciano Neroni, who died young, was a bass singer—one of the greatest of the past century, with a voice both powerful and profoundly dark.

From Brunilde I obtained the meanings of three Sanskrit words—*Ophir*, *Ur*, and *Can*—which appear in ancient documents and are of fundamental importance for my interpretation of such texts.

Below: Brunilde Neroni and her father Luciano Neroni.



WALTER BONATTI

**I discussed with him the journey of Gilgamesh,
but it was too late for him to follow his traces.**

**Below: myself and Bonatti meeting at a CAI event. I later looked for him
in Dubino, but he was not at home.**

***"Roof of the World"* is his expression for the Karakorum.**

