

TYPHON EXPLOSION AS A SUPER TUNGUSKA EVENT, REINTERPRETING JOB, MELCHIZEDEK, ABRAHAM

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Dedicated to the great scholar of the Tunguska 1908 event, Vladimir Rubtsov, whose invitation to Bergamo University was truncated by his immature death.

Abstract

In Bible two persons appear whose origin is mysterious as well as their relation with patriarchs: Job and Melchizedek. In this paper we claim that Job in his advanced age was called Melchizedek. He took the title of *Lord of Justice*, after overcoming difficult experiences, whose origin was an astronomic event, namely the super Tunguska explosion of the object named in Job's book *Behemoth*, by Greeks *Typhon*, that we date at 2033 BC. By that event we also explain Terach and Abraham's migration from Ur/Uri, to Haran, both towns in Kashmir. Then we consider Abraham move to Canaan, a region that, following Salibi, we locate in Arabia Felix; on the way he met Job, referred to as Melchisedek. We explain in the Typhon scenario why the works at Tower of Babel ended in a strange way. More generally, we associate Typhon explosion to the end of the great civilizations of third millennium BC, say the Ancient Kingdom of Egypt and the Indus civilization.

1. On the identity of Typhon with Behemoth and Leviathan

The *Book of Job* is one of the most fascinating and mysterious books of Old Testament. There has been much discussion on its dating, some claiming it very ancient, others recent, others a fake, others, as in *Talmud*, see Cohen (1935), a parable. For a discussion till Qumram texts see Garuti (2004). In this paper we assume the content of the book as basically authentic, the described events dated at 2033 BC. In *Talmud*, Job is claimed to have met Abraham and to have lived 200 years, close to the 175 of Abraham, see *Genesis*. That the two great men lived at about the same time appears e.g. in the *Abraham Testament*, a Judaic-Christian apocryphal book, see *Rabbah Genesi* 57-14, Città Nuova, 1995.

Job, the main figure in his book, is not a Hebrew, but a man believing in one God, thus a monotheist before Moses, if our dating around 2000 BC is correct. He is described while living a difficult time, lasting 12 months according to *Talmud*, see Cohen (1935). He loses his great properties, his sons, is affected by a terrible illness, but recovers becoming again rich and powerful. In his talk with God two strange monstrous animals are named, *Behemoth* and *Leviathan*. Losses of his cattle, slaves and sons take place in a catastrophic setting.

We present the main Job's events quoting from *Book of Job*, edition *La Bibbia interconfessionale*, Editrice Elledici, 2000, ours the translation into English. Of course there are variants in other editions, the problem of the correct original biblical text being essentially unsolved.

In the region of Uz a man lived whose name was Job. He was honest and just, he rejected ill doing because he respected God... he was the most important man among those living east of Israel... lightning came and killed his cattle [7000 sheep and many camels, she-asses, ,]... his sons and daughters were banqueting in the house of the elder son when suddenly a very strong wind arose, from the desert. It destroyed the house, all inside were killed... woe to the day I was born and to the night I was conceived!... for me no more calm or rest, only torments I suffer... days of man on earth are a torment... I am covered with vermin and crusts, my skin if full of ulcers... miserable people attack me, make me run away, plan to destroy me...

The quoted text below translates *Behemoth* and *Leviathan* respectively as hippo and crocodile, but we use the original term. There is a long dialogue of Job with God, one of the greatest moments in world literature, whose nature we do not discuss. It follows discussions of Job with his friends, only a part given here.

How I created you, so I created Behemoth, who eats grass like an ox. Look how strong he is in his back and in his stomach! His tail is erect as the trunk of a cedar... he can be downed only by me, his creator, by my sword... he consumes the grass of whole mountains... no one can approach him nor anyone can make a hole in his nose with an iron, nor put on his nose a hook to tame him!

Can you capture Leviathan with a bait, or grab him by his tongue and pull him with a rope? ... may fishers bring him to the market and may the vendors cut him into pieces? ... no animal on earth is like him, nothing scares him, he dominates over all wild animals, he is the king of animals.

Then the Lord granted to the prayer of Job, freed him from his suffering and gave him twice what he had before... He blessed him in his late years. Job got 14.000 sheep, 6000 camels, 1000 pair of oxen and 1000 she-asses. Moreover he had 7 more children and 3 daughters [nothing said about wife or wives]. He lived 140 more years, having enjoyed a long and happy old age.

On Behemoth, there are several interpretations in literature, e.g.: a mysterious animal, a giant elephant or hippo, a dyo, or the symbolic meaning of God's supremacy. In Baruc's *Syriac Apocalypse*, an apocryphal of first century, one reads that the flesh of Behemoth and Leviathan, killed by God's power, will be eaten by men of justice in a banquet at the end of time.

Also on Leviathan the many interpretations include a giant crocodile, possibly related to Egyptian god Sobek, the Sumerian goddess Tiamat destroyed by god Marduk. About Tiamat, and other ancient myths explained within a new astronomic scenario of solar system recent evolution, see Spedicato (2016a).

Our interpretation, possibly never considered in literature, sees Behemoth as a small celestial body, size unknown. That body entered Earth atmosphere after possibly previous interactions, whose description is beyond our present analysis, exploding as a super Tunguska object not too far from where Job lived. The *Behemoth* of Bible, we claim to be the same as *Typhon*, or *Typheus*, of Greek mythology, possibly the *Apophis* in Egyptian one. Typhon was associated to earthquakes or volcanic eruptions. He had a complex story that we cannot consider in this paper, probably related to an origin from an impact on Jupiter in 6910 BC, see again Spedicato (2016a). A similar body in our interpretation was Phaethon of Greek mythology, that exploded over Eider river in northern Germany, Eridanus in myth. An explosion, see Spedicato (2014), that occurred about 1447 BC, explaining the Deucalion Flood and part of the Exodus events. Behemoth probably was not a single body, but consisted of

several bodies from fragmentation of the original body, with emission of gases, dust, material...

In the book of Job no explosion seems to be recorded, which can have various explanations. The simplest one is that Job was staying in a closed place and was not worried by earthquakes, certainly common, but rarely quoted in Bible. Preliminary question is where Typhon exploded. Greek mythology quotes several places, e.g. Lebanon or especially Aetna, where parts of Typhon under the volcano are claimed to produce that volcano eruptions. Main references are however to the eastern Egyptian delta, near the Mediterranean coast. It is claimed that where Typhon exploded, the great fortified city of Avaris was later built, center of the Hyksos power, close to where the city Pi Ramses was later built by Ramses II. The different places associated to Typhon explosion can be explained by fragmentation of Typhon, each piece exploding or impacting in a different place. This recently happened when comet Shumaker Levy impacted Jupiter in about twenty fragments. Notice that an explosion in atmosphere leaves almost no traces on the soil, see for the 1908 event in Tunguska Rubtsov (2009). Lebanon, north delta, and Aetna, lie approximately on an east-west line, associated to the object trajectory (weather moving from east or west unknown). Before exploding, Typhon and its parts might have passed over Babylonian sky, with the effects discussed below on the Tower of Babel. Notice that, from Boslogh et al (2008), Tunguska and super Tunguska events are more frequent than impacts and have more serious effects.

Let us consider Typhon explosion over delta. The important effects, whose exact quantitative value is not available, are:

- A strong earthquake destroying buildings within hundreds km from explosion. Giza monuments already existed at explosion time, by us dated, see later, at 2033 BC. While pyramids were probably little damaged, possibly losing part of their stone cover, Sphynx was probably seriously damaged. According to Temple (2009), Sphynx's body was that of a jackal and the head of god Anubis. Due to the elongated shape of the head, with big ears, head was prone to damage. Also body was damaged, a great mid body fissure appeared, closed with cement by Selim Hassan about 1930. By doing so, Hassan blocked the access to a room below Sphynx, that was covered by hieroglyphs according to archaeological inspection. If Job's tragic events relate to Typhon's explosion, the death of his children in a fallen building can be attributed to the earthquake and the strong wind that followed the explosion

- A strong hot wind, with speed and temperature decreasing with distance from the explosion point. Initial temperature possibly over 1000°, fires starting up to 1000 km away. Most areas around the explosion were sea or desert, with significant vegetation in Egypt only along the Nile and in the delta, thus no fires over very large areas were produced. Large scale fires, for million square km, see Spedicato (2015), involved Mexico, Guatemala and southern present United States when about 10.500 BC a super Tunguska explosion took place over the Great Lakes, then covered by an ice layer 3-4 km deep. The very hot wind due to Typhon explosion, whose intense light was possibly associated to lighting, could incinerate the cattle of Job and the shepherds. Job was probably at that time living in Palestine, a few hundred km away from the explosion. He survived the explosion due to the special place he was staying, see later. The house, under whose ruins his children died, was destroyed by combined earthquake and wind. Notice that the wind might have brought dust from the exploded body, containing possibly radioactive substances; thus a possible cause of the skin plagues that Job lamented.
- If the explosion took place near the place where Avaris was later built, a short distance from Mediterranean coast, the atmospheric wave from explosion would push Mediterranean waters towards north. A giant tsunami flooded then the north coasts of that sea (the Ogyges flood of Greek memory), a return tsunami then the southern parts, including, Palestine. For someone observing from a high place, the tsunami front would have looked like a water wall, with an almost vertical front, moving fast in the shape of a giant snake. That vision led to the idea of the giant monster *Leviathan*, made of water. *Talmud* states that Leviathan was broken by the power of God and that his pieces were eaten by wild people. The breaking into pieces is just the breaking of the tsunami front when reaching the coast. Notice that in some low lying coasts a tsunami can reach inside for a long distance, maybe over a hundred km. Wild people can be identified with ancient tribes living on sea, such as the Ichthyophagi of classic geographers. In *Peryplus of Erithrean sea* these people are described as living on the shores of the Indian Ocean. They were stark naked, ate mussels and any beached fish, sometimes had cows fed with fish, their huts were made from whales bones. They did some trade, selling grey amber (a perfumed body product of sperm whales) collected on beaches, corals, pearls.... It is possible that two thousand years before the time of Peryplus, at Job time, these people lived also on some Mediterranean shores. They knew from experience if a tsunami was arriving, noticing the withdrawl of coastal waters. Then they would escape to higher land, returning at a safe time to catch the fish and

seafood brought by the giant wave. This behavior was noted during the recent tsunami in eastern Indian ocean, that killed some half million people, but not a single aboriginal of the Andaman islands. They fled to the higher areas, about 800 meters elevation, jungle covered, full of leeches, 108 found on the body of Heinrich Harrer (teacher of Dalai Lama during his seven years in Tibet), who first climbed the highest peak in those islands. The tsunami front, seen by Job or described to him by survivors, looked like a giant snake, broken on reaching coast, pieces eaten by Ichhyophagi.

The tsunami we associate to Typhon appears to be the oldest flood remembered in Greek tradition, apart from the unnamed flood associated to Atlantis destruction. It is *Ogyges Flood*, dated by Solinus, see bibliography, to 600 years before the Deucalion flood, and associated with days of darkness, possibly due also to an immense eruption of Aetna. Deucalion flood, see Spedicato (2014), occurred at time of Exodus, dated by internal Bible chronology, at 1447 BC, say 480 years before the construction of Solomon temple began in 967 BC. Thus Ogyges should be dated at about 2050 BC, later we claim as exact date 2033 BC. Darkness was due partly to dust from the explosion point, partly to volcanic eruptions within thousand km from the explosion, induced by the explosion.

Between Ogyges and Deucalion floods, Greek tradition recalls Inachos flood, seven generations before Deucalion's, say around 1630 BC, time possibly of the Thera or Santorini volcano eruption with caldera collapse. After Deucalion's, Greeks put Dardanus flood, perhaps in the 8th century BC, a period of migrations. Etruscan migration from Lydia to Tuscany was stated by Herodotus and recently confirmed by genetic analysis of scholars in Florence anthropology department led by Brunetto Chjiarelli, see Ghirotto et al (2013). Another confirmation for Ogyges flood at about 2050 is in Censorinus, see Vieni (2011), who states that Ogyges flood took place 400 years before Inachos, in agreement with the previous estimates.

Varro, in his lost *De natura deorum*, quoted by Augustin, states that, at time of Ogyges event, planet Venus changed in form and color, a phenomenon that we cannot explain presently. Radlof (1823, 2006) notices from *De civitate Dei* of Augustin that Venus changed also orbit at Ogyges time, quoting Adrastus of Cyzicus and Dion of Naples. Moreover weather at that time became very cold and snow fell; cooling effects certainly are expected in presence of much dust in atmosphere, recall the year 1840 without a summer after the Tambora explosion in Java of 1815.

In the event of Typhon explosion, Greece too was also very heavily affected, by tsunami, fires and dust; probably most of the inhabitants died, population recovering after a few generations. Delos is claimed to have been the first place where light returned, possibly because people survived in sacred caves, see Isidore of Seville (2006). It is also claimed that the town of Jobbe, later called Jaffa, one of the oldest towns in Palestine, survived the catastrophe. In next section we consider its association with Job. Jobbe survival can be explained if the tsunami did not reach the town, that was built on top of a small hill, and further protected by probably strong and high walls, as typical on those times, able to resist to earthquakes up to some size.

Who was Ogyges is an interesting question. *Ogyges*, Greek Ωγυγος, seems to mean *old*, but its origin might be not Greek. An *Ogia* appeared in the lost apocryphal *Book of Ogia who defeated the dragon after the Flood*, see Sacchi (1971). *Ogia* as a name might relate to *Ogyges* or to *Og*, a giant of the Refaim family in the land of Canaan, appearing in *Deuteronomy*. The name might also be applied to the giant in *Genesis*, Nimrud, a great hunter who became king of Babylon and more lands. Nimrud may be a Biblical name for Ninus of Diodorus or the king in Akkadian tablets named Sargon the Great, whose great capital city Agade is yet to be discovered. An *Ogyges* with multiple references possibly. Greek traditions tell of at least three *Ogyges* or *Ogygo*, one a Titan defeated by Zeus, one father of Eleusis, one founder of Thebes in Greece at the time of a flood before Deucalion's, which might well be the event following the explosion of Typhon. We suspect that *Ogia* was *Ogyges* or *Ninus* or *Nimrud*, and that the dragon in the *Book of Ogia* was the Behemoth - Leviathan to whose destruction *Ogyges* survived. The empire of *Ogyges* or *Sargon the Great* included areas where the explosion effects were not serious, so the king and its empire probably survived the catastrophe.

In this paper we neglect other effects of Typhon explosion in the Mediterranean area, of possible archaeological interest, including the Veneti from Central Europe moving to other areas, even in eastern Mediterranean. Certainly the most affected area was Egypt delta. There almost total destruction, the tsunamic waters reaching possibly south of Heliopolis and Memphis, main cities then built where the Nile narrow valley opens into the delta. *Ogyges* flood is a very good explanation for the mysterious and little understood end of the Ancient Kingdom. This Kingdom, after the First Intermediate period of complex analysis, was followed by the Middle Kingdom, considered by many the greatest Egyptian period, once population recovered and the effects of the catastrophe were forgotten.

Typhon explosion effects were important also far away. Later we provide a natural explanation in terms of Typhon of the story of Tower of Babel and of languages multiplication. We also will briefly cite expected effects on the Indus-Sarasvati civilization, where the tsunami induced by the explosion affected much of the low Indus valley, drying the Sarasvati river bed.

2 Job, who were you ?

It is natural to ask some questions about Job, where the answers differ among scholars. Our proposal on who Job was seems to be new, in geographic and chronologic terms.

Let us first consider the original land of Job. Notice that at the time of the special events here considered, Job was a mature man, about sixty, who lived 140 further years, thus seeing, see Ceronetti (1997), four generations. In the quoted biblical version Job is called a man from Uz. Same statement in *Septuaginta*, the biblical version that we prefer, as many Church Fathers. In the Masoretic text Job originated from the region of Gus. Both names in our opinion point to the Turkish people, originally divided into 12 tribes. Turkish people call themselves *Ghuz*, see Koestler's (1980); there are arguments that the Magi of the Gospel came from a region sacred to the Turkish, and other people, the Altai mountains, between Siberia and Mongolia, see Spedicato (2015). Magi, according to an apocryphal book, departed to meet Jesus accompanied by 12 chiefs and 12.000 men, possibly chiefs of the Turkish tribes.

Word *ghuz* is a common component in Turkish words, especially in family names, see e.g. Eröl Orghuz. This is the name of the Turkish geo-morphologist who, from satellite photographs, discovered that the basin of Takla Makan, now a sandy desert larger than France, north of Tibet, was once filled with water, most probably sweet water. A water that originated from Tibetan plateau, Pamir, Tien Shan and other surrounding mountains, when ices melted rapidly at the end of Ice Age, about 9450 BC, the time of Atlantis end. Part of the melted water did not reach oceans, since the heart of Asia has no outlet to oceans. The region was probably called *Abzu* in Sumerian records, this being a hybrid name from Persian *Ab* = water, and Sanskrit *zu* = sweet. The additional associated meaning of *abyss* follows since that huge sweet water basin appeared on a deep bottom, when seen from the surrounding mountains of Kunlun, Tien Shan and so on. For a Sumerian original land north of Tibet, see Spedicato (2001a,b, 2004).

Intriguingly, *gus* is the name of the dish of *our old people* still now prepared once a month in the village of Corteno Golgi, where Nobel Medicine Prize Golgi was born. Corteno lies in Central Alps, eastwards of the Aprica pass, between Valcamonica (location of the great Camuni civilization, begun possibly at Atlantis time) and Valtellina, a valley very rich in fruit, grasses, cereals, on the way from Italy to Germany. *Gus dish* consists of sheep meat cooked the whole night without water or herbs; a very tasty dish. A dish typical of steppes, fire from animal dung, no water, only the natural juices of the flesh. That dish recalls that a number of Turkish people, escaping Genghis Khan onslaught that covered the steppes with innumerable skeletons, reached the Alps. Mongols would not follow them, not due to distance, but because they never entered forests of swamps. According to Koestler (1980), about two hundred villages were founded by Turks in Carinthia, but clearly some of them reached Italian Alps at least up to Corteno Golgi. Turkish religion was monotheism. God was considered the creator of everything, but not interested in human affairs, so Turks prayed spirits and ancestors. Turks lived in an area of over ten million square km, between Russia, Mongolia, Tibet, much of Siberia. From the northern original areas, where the Altai region was possibly the most sacred place, they occupied the steppes of present Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, where we notice to root *Uz*. As Turanian (a word of probable Sanskrit derivation, meaning the *strong ones*, seen in India in the Tiranian navigators), they lived between the two great rivers Syr Darya (river of Lion) and Amu Darya (river of Adam? Also called Oxus, Gihon...). Turan had great cities in the eastern part, as Bokhara and Samarkand, close to the ranges of Pamir and Tien Shan. In the southern part Turkmen lived as bandits assaulting the villages and towns of the Iranian plateau, till a couple of centuries ago, see Vambery (2004).

Above arguments support our claim that Job was a man of the vast Turkish gent, noting additionally:

- In the city of Bokhara, glory of medieval Islamic civilization and of extremely old origin, due to the abundance of water, a monument was still visible before second world war, the so called Job fountain, or *Chasma Ayub*, see Maillart (2002). If such a tradition has a historical basis, then Job may have spent part of his life, probably his young years, in Turan. Now Turan is crossed by the two main silk roads, the difficult one from north-east, via Zungaria, the easier one from Kashgaria, south-east. Southern silk road passes by present city of Mazar-i-Sharif, branching to Kashmir and Panjab, thus to Indus and Ganges valley, and elsewhere. Around 2000 BC was a period of great civilization in China and India. Thus Job, certainly a member of the Ghuz élite, in terms of

commercial and shamanic activities, might have been in Turan for several reasons. One to trade with China, especially in the very expensive silk. Second to keep contacts with other religious leaders, for instance by attending shamans meetings, that took place perhaps regularly. Notice that till recently a sacred island of lake Bajkal was the place for regular meetings of shamans from much of northern and central Asia.... In one of such meetings he might have met the father of Abraham, Terach, from Kashmir, land as well of shamans and magicians and of Vedic tradition; Terach himself might have been interested in such meetings. He could have brought Abraham, one of his three sons, if the eldest unknown to this author, possibly to succeed him in religious knowledge and activity. Thus Abraham might have met Job and be influenced by his monotheism. Here possibly the origin of his break with his father and his move to Canaan.

- Turks are monotheist, believing in an absolute God, creator of everything. They call him Tengri, *Ten* possibly related to Chinese *Tien*, meaning *sky*. Their idea of God is found in many other people, see the Mongols, where a discussion on this concept is given in William of Rubruk, who visited emperor Mongu not long after death of Genghis. The presentation of God by Mongu is to this author of a depth unrivalled by Church Fathers. The monotheistic idea is found moreover among many so called primitive people, see for instance the Muria of central India, in Elwin (1963), or the Kafiri Kalasha of Hindukush, Cacopardo (2010). God is for them the supreme being, the creator of universe and of sentient beings ..., but he leaves man to his own affairs. This leads man to venerate and pray other beings, supposed to be more powerful than us, like angels, demons, souls of deceased humans. According to the *Apocryphal book of Athanasius*, Tourniac (2012), Melchizedek, whom we claim to be just Job in advanced age, discovered God by looking at the starry sky. Here thus a relation between the God named Tengri by Turks and the sky. The night sky over Turkish lands is usually deeper and fuller of stars than over European or Mediterranean areas, being a sky over deserts or elevated lands.

Above considerations justify Job as a monotheist, well before Moses, with a strong feeling of God. He might have been a shaman, with powers later enhanced by his special story. That he was a depositary of very ancient knowledge, a fact reserved in past generally to religious people, can be seen in *Job* 25.5 or in *Psalms* 72.5. There an

intriguing statement is attributed to Job, namely his reference to God as one who *was feared before Moon existed, before Moon shed her light, generations and generations in the past*. This sentence is usually considered a poetical utterance, but, in our new astronomic scenario of solar system since about 10.500 BC, it is the description of the capture of a satellite, that became Moon, from a planet passing near Earth, the Metis of Greek mythology, about 9500 BC. See Spedicato (2013, 2014, 2016a). Before acquiring Moon, Earth's satellite was Mars. It was lost in 6910 BC when Metis impacted Jupiter and Mars was removed from gravitational tie with Earth due the push received when large Jovian mass hit it. Signs of such impact are the depression on one hemisphere and the bulge on the other one.

We have argued that Job was a man of Turkish origin, who lived some time in Bokhara region. When the Typhon catastrophe occurred, and when Job dialogued with God, he had moved to the Mediterranean coast, most probably to Palestine, where he was a rich man of great authority. We come to this conclusion from the following arguments:

- There is in Jerusalem a so called *Job's well*, see Schalom ben Chorim (1997)
- According to Isidore of Seville (2006), in Idumea a source existed called *Job's source*, Idumea being south east of Palestine, in present Jordan. This statement, if true, indicates that a large area was subject to Job. Notice however that it was normal, and has been so till recent times in Tibet or Mongolia, for shepherds to move their flocks for thousands kilometers. Idumea was a region once settled, but after Job's time, by Edomites, who descended from Esau, brother of Jacob, son of Isaac. It is a rugged region, of difficult access, that can be defended by few soldiers. Romans conquered it after a century of attempts. In our book on Exodus, Spedicato (2014), we claim that Moses, after escaping the pharaoh in present Nuweiba area of eastern Sinai, brought his people to Idumea to escape another even more serious danger. The death of the pharaoh in Nuweiba was a marginal event for Egypt compared to the devastation of the delta brought by the Ogyges flood and by arrival of Turanian tribes, the Amu of previous raids, the Amalekites of Bible, the Hyksos of Manetho. These tribes had some 400.000 warriors, too many for Moses. He defeated about a thousand of them, *those born on the day of battle*, poetically claims Talmud, but wisely decided to wait several years, probably the famous 40, in the well protected Idumea. There signs of his presence are seen in *Wadi Musa, Ain*

Musa, Jebel Haroon, namely *Valley of Moses, Well of Moses, Mount of Aronne*, Moses brother. Ain Musa, existing at Moses time, was possibly the original Job Source, name changed in honor of Moses. Moses sojourn in that area was costly and paid with the gold he had stolen in the sanctuary of Baal Sefon, dedicated to Shiva, the god of the Indian navigators, the Pani Tiranians, involved in the trade between India and Egypt.

- The extremely ancient town of Jaffa, from whose port ships left to Egypt, might have interested Job for trade reasons. If Job had lived in Bokhara, he could realize that silk had a big market in Egypt. Extending silk road to Palestine was no problem. Certainly a trade route existed from Bokhara to Egypt for sale of the lapis lazuli of Badakshan (eastern Bactria, present Afghanistan); lapis lazuli were very important in Egypt as sacred stones and as component of medicines. Gold, emeralds, other precious stones, musk were also traded via that road. Quality animals, as horses from Fergana, camels, falcons (the Pamir giant eagle used to hunt wolves and bears till Middle Ages...) and other objects could use that trade way. Finally, notice that the name for Jaffa may be a modification of old name Joppe.

- The apocryphal *Book of Athanasius*, see Tourniac (2012), states that Job lived seven year on mount Tabor, in Palestine. Veneti from central Europe and Adriatic were present with fortifications not only in their original land but in several places along eastern Atlantic coast, as Vendee in France, and along eastern Mediterranean coast, see Tomasiz et al (2007). In their language Tabor means *fortification*. If the place where Job lived some years is mount Tabor in Palestine, is an open question. Mount Tabor is famous for Christians because of Jesus transfiguration, when he appeared to Peter, John and Jacob, being with Moses and Elijah. Veneti were great navigators, on European rivers, on seas and on Atlantic. They might have used a fortification on top of the mount Tabor as a safe place to support their presence and trade. If they had relations with Job is just a question.

- According to the quoted apocryphal, Job left Tabor after his family was destroyed by a catastrophe, including apparently loss of his parents, not cited in Bible, thus his nickname *man without father and mother*. We have suggested

that Job was a shaman, possessing knowledge and techniques often transmitted from father to son. Bible is silent on such capacities of Job, probably subject to censorship when the book of Job got final revision in times of classical Mosaic monotheism, or when Esdra wrote his 94 sacred books (24 of the Hebraic canon, for the people, 70 apocryphals for the sapientists).

If we are right in identifying aged Job with Melchizedek, then he might have been on top of mount Tabor when the Typhon-Behemoth-Leviathan catastrophe occurred. It is unclear if Typhon, passing more or less over Tabor, before explosion over delta, was actually seen by Job, or if the description of Behemoth pertains only to his dialogue with God. Job did not witness directly the destruction of his sons and cattle. Now mount Tabor, height some 600 meters, goes up some 400 meters over the valley, originating north of present Haifa, with slow inclination from the coast, some 70 km away. So he was safe from the return tsunami, say from Ogyges flood effects on the coasts of Syria, Lebanon, Palestine. He could see the fast moving tsunami front, speed possibly over 100 km/h (tsunamis in open sea may be faster than 500 km/h). The wave possibly reached the basis of Tabor mount, going up for some extent. Similarly we proposed that Deucalion, see Spedicato (2014), watched the tsunami from Delphi, located some 600 meters high on the southern side of Parnassus. King Deucalion's memory is the basis of the Greek story of the most recent flood described by Plato, the oldest one being the Atlantis flood.

Finally, we give a tentative explanation of the name Job. We suggest a relation with the etymon of the words Jovis, archaic, and Jupiter, Latin words for the great planet and god. These names have never been fully explained, as philologist Luigi Lehnus confirmed me. A natural explanation comes within the astronomical VAS scenario, see Spedicato (2016a), extending approaches by Immanuel Velikovsky and John Ackerman. VAS explains the Greek myth of Athena born from the head of Jupiter as the consequence of a planetary body, in mythology the goddess Metis wife of Jupiter, impacting Jupiter, where now is the Red Spot, around 7000 BC. The impact projects into space part of Jupiter mass. The largest expelled material forms Athena, developing into planet Venus. Other material, part consisting of water, recalled as the *cosmic water*, on reaching Earth produced tsunamis, floods, violent rains. In this context the names Jovis and Jupiter, are explained as hybrid names. There we see a Chinese part, JU, meaning rain, a Latin VIS, meaning force, and PATER ~ PITER, meaning father, in Latin and Sanskrit. Note that Latins, part of the Arian people, came most probably from northern Asia. There they lived not far from the originators of the Han or Chinese civilization, who in ancient times were located in the high and

middle Yellow River valley. Similar hybrid names are seen in Himalayas, for instance in *Gorishanta*, the name of Everest before the British dedicated that mountains to the chief of their mapping office. *Gorishanta* originates from GORI, *white dressed lady*, in Sanskrit and Urdu and..., SHAN = mountain, TA = great, both in Chinese. Hybrid names are also common in Tien Shan, from Turkish and Chinese, see for instance Maillart (1934). *Job* name can be interpreted via JOB = JO – B = JO – AB = JU – AB, JU as before meaning rain in Chinese, AB meaning water in Persian (A, water in Sumerian). A name possibly recalling the cosmic waters that from Jupiter impact in 6910 BC reached Earth, including desert parts where rain almost never came.

We close this section with the following synthesis of previous arguments:

- Job was a man from some Turkish tribes, originally located between Siberia, Mongolia, Tibet, Urals and reaching via Turan the Iranian – Afghan mountains. Their religion was basically monotheistic, but in practice spirits and ancestor souls were venerated. He probably belonged to a rich family, preserver of ancient knowledge, and was a shaman, so a pagan, in Ben Chorim evaluation. He probably lived some years in the Bokhara region, moving later to Palestine, where possibly he lived in a fortified place on top of mount Tabor. His activity included trade, possibly even of silk, in addition to animal breeding. His abode on mount Tabor was probably motivated by religious reasons, top of mountains often chosen as a best place to pray, and also as a safe place for his merchandise

- Due to Typhon explosion over delta, whose effects were dramatic to Egypt and to the Indus-Sarasvati civilization, dramatic events affected also Palestine. Among these, a very strong earthquake and especially the wind, of high speed and temperature, associated to the atmospheric pressure wave produced by the explosion. The house where Job's children died was leveled by earthquake and wind. Cattle and servants were incinerated due to the high temperature of the wind. Job survived, see below, but he seems to have developed skin plagues, possibly due to dangerous elements in the exploded body, that made him suffer greatly and complain to God.

- Job's dialogue with God is one of the highlights in religious literature. We do not comment on it. We just point out that Job, if of Turkish stock and from a

family of shamans, could address God, or some high being, in many ways, apart from a direct talk as Moses had with JHWH. My personal opinion is that Job's dialogue refers to a true experience, not a metaphoric or symbolic event.

- The book of Job deals with events in the maturity of Job, let us assume about 2050 AC, actually 2033 from below. Job lived 140 more years according to the book. He became again powerful, rich in cattle and sons, and famous for his recovery and dealing with God. He attained a great authority, becoming known, see below, as *Melchizedek*, say *King of justice*, a title following his being *blessed by God*. He received Abraham under this title, Melchizedek not being a proper name. The title of Melchizedek appears in the apocryphal book *Secret of Enoch*, referring to events before the Noachian flood, see Sacchi (2015). Whether this title was then transmitted to others, up to Jesus as it is suggested in a letter of Paul, will be discussed in a following paper.
- Ceronetti (1997) cites a tradition stating that Job was in a prison wherefrom God released him. Prisons in antiquity often consisted of a deep empty cistern. Joseph son of Jacob spent about three years in such a cistern before becoming minister of pharaoh; even recently former Chinese president Liu Shao Chi was put in such a place, where he died of cold and hunger. If Job was imprisoned in a cistern, then he could have survived the hot wind, that did not reach the bottom of the cistern. In the eruption of volcano Pelè in the Caribbean island of Martinique in 1902, one of the four survivors was a prisoner in the cave of the prison. That man spent the rest of his life in the Barnum circle as a living miracle.

3. Melchizedek, who are you?

Melchizedek is one of the most mysterious persons in Bible. He appears in *Genesis*, receiving Abraham, who gives him one tenth of the loot from his defeated enemies, and is blessed by him; but some claim that it was Melchizedek to offer values to Abraham. He appears in a letter of Paul, who claims Jesus to belong to the order of

Melchizedek. In Ethiopian texts, included the quoted Enochian one, Methuselah, son of Enoch, appears to be the first High priest of God. He transmits this quality, depending on the source, either to Noah aged ten, or to younger brother of Noah, Nir. According to some traditions, in *Targum*, by Samaritans and Luther, the first Melchizedek was Shem, son of Adam, or the son of a prostitute, see Tourniaq (2012).

Leaving aside the question of the original Melchizedek and how the title was transmitted up to Jesus, we quote the following, from the quoted Bible text, about Melchizedek that we identify with Job:

After having defeated Chadorlaomer and the other kings with him, Abram was going back [from Coba, north of Damascus, after freeing his nephew Lot]... Melchizedek, king of Salem, came bringing bread and wine. He was priest of God the Highest. He blessed Abram with these words: God, the Highest, creator of Heaven and Earth, may He bless you, Abram! And God the Highest be blessed since he made you win over your enemies. Then Abram gave Melchizedek one tenth of everything in his possession.

The quoted Bible text and the letter of Paul place Melchizedek in an extremely high position in the context of monotheism. By his blessing of Abraham and receiving one tenth of his possessions, Melchizedek appears to be greater than Abraham. Their meeting suggests that both knew each other, and not only for hearsay.

In this section we develop the hypothesis that Melchizedek, or Malek Sadok, King of Justice, is a title given to Job once he overcame his troubles, became again powerful and rich, a man of authority also for his dialogue with God; a title he may have obtained just as a kind of nickname, but more probably was conferred to him when someone anointed as a new Melchizedek, as Noah was anointed by his grandfather. A title possibly shared with someone else, not known to us from the considered documents. The possibility that two persons were Melchizedek at the same time is confirmed by coexistence of Methuselah and Noah, and at the moment of writing, by some analogy, by two Popes in the catholic church. We have no clue as who anointed Job. Possibly a great shaman in Turkish tribes, who reached Job in Palestine after traveling thousands of kilometers, no feat for ancient people.

We notice that the meeting of Abraham with Job-Melchizedek takes place in our scenario several years after the Typhon explosion, 14 years, see below, passed by Abraham in Haran, 12 years in Damascus, plus some time for travel. The meeting was therefore between two persons in full maturity, but still many years before their death at a patriarchal age. Abraham left Haran at 75, so he was at least 87 when

meeting Melchizedek, who was probably of similar age. Some 13 years later Abraham had his first and unique son from Sarah, Isaac.

On the origin of Job, hence of Melchizedek, we already argued. A confirmation of Job as a possible Melchizedek is in the *Chronicon Paschale*, stating that Melchizedek belonged to the race of Cham, *on this side of the Garden of Eden*. In Spedicato (2004) the Garden of Eden is identified with Hunza valley in northern Pakistan, between Hindukush and Karakorum. Turan would be “on this side”, if seen from Palestine. If race of Cham would mean a dark skin, then such a skin characterizes not only Africans, but the Dravidian people, living in India, Iran and other places, a people of complex past migrations.

More information from Tourniaq:

- Melchizedek was not circumcised, as declared by Abraham. Circumcision predates Moses, being practiced in much of Africa since millennia, for unknown reasons; it was not practiced in Asia, a fact in agreement with our proposal that Job belonged to a Turkish tribes. In a following paper we will propose for circumcision, as well as for female mutilations, an origin from the observation of a special astronomic event, related to Mars when it had an orbit bringing it close to Earth every 54 years, till about 800 BC
- Rebecca, daughter of Nachor, brother of Abraham, and wife of Isaac son of Abraham and Sarah, met Melchizedek, according to the book *The cave of treasures*; a meeting quite possible in view of Job-Melchizedek living 200 years, 25 more than Abraham, both dying about the same time. Rebecca may have met Melchizedek on the way from Nachor home, likely in Kashmir, see below, to the Canaan land where Abraham and Isaac lived; Abraham had sent to find a wife for Isaac in the land of his brother
- the woman of mystical experiences, Martha Emmerick, who lived in 19th century and was known for her visions, claimed that Melchizedek owned a castle that was later visited by John the Baptist. Melchizedek had white clothes, like priests in India, Egypt, and Druids, Essenes, Christian popes...
- In the book *Enoch of Hebrews*, Melchizedek has a mother, but not a father, as for Jesus
- In *Peregrinatio Silviae* of Jerome, the meeting between Abraham and Melchizedek occurs in Salem in Samaria. There were probably several Salem,

one is known near Jordan river. The cited Sichem is found near present Nablus and mount Garizim, sacred to Samaritans.

4. Abraham, wherefrom did you come and where did you settle?

Abraham is, with Adam, Enoch, Noah, Moses, Joseph and Salomon, one of the Bible persons of greatest interest to this author. Leaving aside the religious and political aspects in his life, we investigate the regions where he lived originally and where he ended his long life, 175 years old according to *Genesis*.

From quoted Bible we take some lines, whose geographical analysis will lead to a conclusion differing from the usual one. Notice the name Abram instead of Abraham, Abram being the initial name, changed later by God, etymon discussed above.

Terach took with himself his son Abram, Lot, son of his [of Abram] brother Aran, Sarai, wife of Abram, and left Ur of Chaldeans, aiming to reach the land of Canaan, But when they arrived in the town of Carran they settled there, where Terach died aged 205.

Then God said to Abram: leave this land, your tribe, the family of your father and go to the land I will show you. I will arise from you a very numerous people ... by you I will bless all people in Earth. Abram left Carran following the order of the Lord.

They reached Canaan and Abram went through that land till Sichem, stopping at the Oak of More.

Sometime later Abram went to Egypt, due to a food shortage. He met the pharaoh (clearly meaning that Abram was well known), to whom he offered his wife, declaring her to be a sister. She was actually a stepsister, being the daughter of a second wife of Terach. She was extremely beautiful, probably with the additional attraction of blond or reddish hair, transmitted to her nephew Esau. Curiously, marrying a stepsister is prohibited by Moses, with death penalty!

We consider the geography and the motivations of Abraham trip, not given clearly in *Genesis*. In the used version of *Genesis* we read that he left from Ur of the Chaldeans; in *Septuaginta*, see *Éditions du cerf*, 1994, he left from the *land of the Chaldeans*, one of thousands of variants between *Septuaginta* and the Masoretic text. When the Sumerian city of Ur, in present southern Irak, was discovered in the nineteenth century, archaeologists thought and claimed that they had found the Ur of Genesis.

They assumed that Chaldeans were the people of that area, despite they are known from *Anabasis* of Xenophon to live in eastern Anatolia, albeit many centuries later. Chaldeans were known as expert in magic arts, divination, astronomy. Recall that Paul defied in his town Tarsus and won against magicians from Anatolia. Then he collected and burnt their books. *Genesis* does not explain why Terach left Ur. Charran is usually identified with the city of Harran, presently in southern Turkey, close to the very old town of Urfa, named Edessa by Alexander, presently Urfa Sanlury, say *Urfa the Glorious*. Harran was in past dedicated to the Akkadian god Sin, god of the Moon, and its population consisted of Sabei, devoted to magical arts. Incidentally, we consider the name Sabei, as well as the name Saba of the Queen who visited Solomon, related to Siva, Shiva, pointing to an origin of both from India.

We now give a new explanation why Terach migrated with Abraham and from where, and we discuss the route that Abraham may have taken to the land of Canaan. Our scenario is tied with the one concerning Job.

Let us consider again Typhon's explosion over Egyptian delta, date below at 2033 BC. The explosion devastated Egypt especially, terminating the Ancient Kingdom and activating the little known First Intermediate Period. It affected also Middle East, but less seriously than Egypt, since the hot wind from the explosion moved over a mainly desert area, and the tsunami in the Mediterranean was spent on the hills and mountains in Syria, Lebanon and Palestine. We estimate that the explosion occurred at the time of the great Assyrian empire of Sargon the Great, also known in our interpretation as the Ninus of Diodorus and the biblical Nimrud, see below. Other great civilization at that time was that of the Indus-Sarasvati, in western India, mainly in Panjab and in Kashmir. The ruins of over a hundred towns have been detected, especially near the now dry Sarasvati river, see Kak et al (1995) or Lahiri (2006). Such a civilization ended suddenly, by a likely catastrophic event, some authors even speculating an atomic war involving extraterrestrial powers. A consequence of the catastrophe was that river Sarasvati dried up, its bed filled with sands. Kak dates the event at about 1900 BC, but an earlier date should be possible. We also note that the so called BAM, Bactria-Margiana, civilization was thriving in the Turanian region, but exploration of the ruins of its many towns, with evidence found of a local script, is just beginning.

The end of the Indus-Sarasvati civilization and the drying up of the Sarasvati river can be explained by Typhon explosion. First observe that the southern coast of Pakistan, especially the Makran area south of the Baluchistan eastern province, is rich in methane hydrates, one of the three richest coastal areas of such material. The two other areas are the Sea of China coast and the northern Caribbean coast. In such areas

there are sands containing methane hydrates, whose study is relatively recent and economic exploitation yet to be developed. It has been estimated that there is more methane there than in any deposit. Methane hydrate, present in other planets, especially in Jupiter, is an unstable combination of methane and water. The tie between the two molecules may suddenly break, under changes in temperature or earthquake effects. In Spedicato (2014), following Stuart Harris, private communication, the sudden end of great civilization of Tennessee and Ohio is attributed to a giant tsunami from the Caribbean that reached 2000 km inland, dated precisely at 1447 BC and following the Phaethon explosion over northern Germany. See analysis of satellite photographs due to Stuart Harris.

If a similar tsunami was generated from the coasts of Makran and Sindh, then much land around the lower part of the Indus river could be affected, tsunamic waters towards the mountains of Kashmir. Much population of the Indus-Sarasvati civilization perished, cities were destroyed by flood and earthquake. The Sarasvati river dried up, sand filling its bed. Some destruction expected also in the lower parts of Kashmir. Overall, a devastation not as absolute as in the Egyptian delta but anyway of dramatic size. Also the BAM civilization, where ruins exist of a hundred towns, some of large size, was greatly affected, by earthquake mainly.

We know from *Talmud* that Terach made statues of idols. Most probably not in stone but in the beautiful wood of Cedrus Deodara, the holy wood, the only wood allowed in Asia for statues of gods and for temples. Such a wood has a fine reddish color and cannot be attacked by insects; moreover it resists water for some 300 years. Deodar main habitat is in Kashmir, growing best between 1500 and 3000 meters elevation; it is found in other places, as Himalayas slopes and Tibet where tall trees are found up to 4500 meters elevation. We note the existence till half 19th century near Uri in Kashmir of one of the two special deodar woods in Kashmir, see Pithawalla (1953), possibly once a sacred wood for growing that tree for trade or sacred works. Whole trunks could be floated down the nearby river Jhelum, the richest of water of the five rivers forming Indus, for sale even to over sea lands.

Here we assume that Terach was, inter alia, a builder of sacred objects, statues and so on, made with the sacred deodar wood. He possibly sold also deodar tree trunks for construction; and he possibly was in jewels construction and other trade. Thus not a shepherd as usually assumed, but a rich man with contacts with foreigners and special capacities. Let us note that Joseph father of Jesus was also a rich man, an expert in construction of great buildings and probably also of special granulated jewels, see Spedicato (2016b).

It is natural to think that Terach left the Uri region after the tsunami induced by the Typhon earthquake. *Septuaginta*, but not the Masoretic version of *Genesis*, states that he left after his son Arran, father of Lot and probably his first son, died in front of him, see the edition by Sacchi (2012). Such a death might have occurred in the catastrophe. Terach may have left Uri because of severe local destruction and the disappearance of the usual market. He may also have faced reactions of the survivors, that observed that the statues, or idols, had given no protection; a popular reaction seems to have occurred also in Egypt during the first intermediate period, when religious structures were destroyed, as well as statues both of gods and of pharaohs.

Uri of Kashmir had an important commercial position, in the southern part of Kashmir on the main road from Panjab, from Rawalpindi to Srinagar, then via a high Karakorum pass, to present Chinese Turkestan. This road was followed by the medical doctor and explorer H. W. Bellew working for the British military. Bellew (2013) notices that *Ur* (Uri has the Persian final i) is a word that in Sanskrit means *water*, with reference to rather special types of water, even of cosmic origin, *pani* being the more usual name, extended even to *navigators* (and surviving in Bengali, Hindi, Urdu, Sinti...). Uri may have taken this name being located near the Jhelum river, the richest of water of the five rivers that enter Panjab and join forming Indus. Kashmir is a land rich of rivers, lakes, forests, considered a Paradise on Earth, related to the Vedic civilization of fourth millennium BC and to the Bon civilization still extant, famous for magical rituals and knowledge. Kashmir is famous also for the beauty of his women. It is possibly the original land of the Queen of Sheba who visited Solomon. She was probably after some years visited by Solomon on his trips to return his many wives to their families, see Spedicato (2008). Uri is on the way from Panjab to Srinagar, the capital of Kashmir, located in a most beautiful setting. In Srinagar there is the most famous of the several *Takht-e-Suleiman*, or *Thrones of Solomon*, found in Asia. Below that monument there is *Rozabal*, a shrine that tradition associates with Jesus.

Ur of Chaldeans, or *Land of Chaldeans* as in *Septuaginta*, may refer not to the name of the Chaldeans as the local populations, but to a tribe of magicians, present in great number in that land or town, but also in different parts of the ancient world. Now Kashmir has always been known as a land of magicians. Kashmir was moreover related with the Zhang Zhung kingdom that, before Buddhism spread in Tibet, controlled the south west part of Tibet and parts of Kashmir, connected to Tibet via Baltistan, a valley dominated by the K2 mountain, called also Little Tibet. The religion dominating that area and most of Tibet was before Buddhism the Bon religion, still surviving in some parts of Tibet. Bon was known for the many practices of White

and Black Magic, see David Néel (2006). Thus a reference to Chaldeans would be to special magicians, possibly more present in Kashmir and Tibet than in Mesopotamia or Anatolia.

Genesis states that Terach, aged 145, from Ur moved to Charran, or Harran, usually identified with the city of that name in southern Turkey now, near to Urfa Sanluri. But in Kashmir, between Uri and Srinagar, there is one of the most important towns of Kashmir, namely Haran, elevation about 1600 m, latitude about 34 degrees. In Haran a meeting of some 500 Buddhists monks took place in second century AD, convened by emperor Kanishka, to discuss the correct interpretation of the teachings of Buddha (differences were not solved and Buddhism split). Haran of Kashmir can thus be considered as the place where Terach stopped, remaining there for the rest of his life. He died at age 205 according to *Septuaginta*. He probably returned to his previous work of idol making, using local deodar wood. Market would again be soon available, in view of the very high birth rates of that time. Knowing that such a great man had lived in Haran may explain why the Buddhist meeting took place there. For more, see Matlock (2000).

Another intriguing argument that agrees with Abraham in Kashmir is that in *Genesis*, *Septuaginta* version, we find the words *Mesopotamia* and *Mesopotamia of Syria*, a difference that seems not to have elicited a special comment. In our approach Mesopotamia of Syria is the usual area related to present Tigris and Euphrates, belonging mostly to Irak, Syria and Turkey. Mesopotamia by default is instead Kashmir, that is watered by five great rivers, forming finally the Indus, more rich of water than Tigris or Euphrates, defining a land truly lying between rivers. Notice that Rebecca sent Jacob to his brother Laban in Mesopotamia, not said of Syria, suggesting that Laban had remained with his father Nachor in Haran. On the way back Jacob passed by Mesopotamia of Syria. Notice also that king Balaak called the great magician Balaam from Mesopotamia, a fact agreeing with Kashmir being noted as the top magicians area in the world.

With Terach remained probably his son Nachor, whose daughter Rebecca became wife of Isaac, son of Abram. Abram indeed sent a servant to his original land to find a wife for his son Isaac, who at 40 was still celibate. Since Isaac was born when Abram was about 100, 65 years had passed on Isaac birth since Abram had left Haran, his father then being dead since some 5 years. According to *Genesis*, Rebecca stole some idols of her father Nachor, possibly belonging to her dead grandfather, a confirmation that idol construction and sale was probably still going on. Nachor discovered the theft and looked for them, stopping the servant of Abram, but Rebecca avoided being searched claiming she was in her period. One may wonder why

Rebecca was interested in such idols. Perhaps it was not she, but Abraham, who told the servant to bring them, possibly some idols of special interest to his late father Terach.

In the *Book of Jubilees*, see Sacchi (2011), it is stated that Abraham stayed 14 years in Haran. When Abraham left he was 75 years old; so Abraham arrived from Uri aged 61. This age is interesting, because if Abraham date of birth is correctly given by us at 2094 BC and if he left Uri immediately after the Typhon-Ogyges catastrophe, then we can date this catastrophe at 2033, improving over the approximate age 2050 from Greek tradition. Then we would get the important consequence that:

- Ancient Kingdom collapsed year 2033 BC
- Indus-Sarasvati civilization collapsed 2033 BC
- Job tragic events took place 2033 BC
- Tower of Babel construction, see below, ended in a strange way 2033 BC

Thus 2033 BC marks one of the several discontinuities of astronomic catastrophic origin that are suggested by ancient history, mythology, religious texts.

Let us go back to Abraham. He left Haran after a clash with his father, whose idols he destroyed, according to *Talmud*. Abraham had received from God, how and when seems not to be said, the order to go to the Land of Canaan. This land has always be taken to be Palestine, which would put him in contrast with Melchizedek, formerly Job in our view. We agree with Kamal Salibi (1996) that the land of Canaan was the Asir region in Arabia Felix, essentially the land from Meccah to Yemen. There settlements from India probably existed, even from the fourth millennium BC, the time of the great Vedic civilization associated to the epics of Ramayana and Mahabharata.

It is possible that Abraham knew the story of Job, say his survival to a catastrophe, his discussion with God, his becoming again rich and powerful and of great authority. He knew he was honored as Melchizedek. So Abraham was interested in meeting him and be blessed by him. If Job had spent some years in Bokhara, as we have surmised, then a contact between them might have existed, when Terach and his son attended religious meetings, traded idols and other precious objects with neighboring countries. Bokhara could be reached in a few weeks of travel, being on the main way from India to Turan and beyond. And ancient people traveled a lot, for trade or for religious purposes.

It would be of utmost interest to know the arguments that Abraham and Melchizedek discussed, speaking either in Sanskrit or Zhangzhung or... but we miss even the content of the long night dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus, unless part of it entered some gnostic Gospels.

Having left Melchizedek, Abraham reached the land of Canaan, being in good relations with the local king Abimelek. The place where he settled, the Oak of Mamre, was possibly in Wadi Jalil, say Valley of Galilee. There many Hebrew lived at the time of Herod the Great, including the family of Jesus, see Salibi (2007). Wadi Jalil is about a hundred km from Mecca. Near Mecca the two small hills Safah and Marua are according to the *Koran* the place where Abraham was going to sacrifice Ismael (Isaac in *Genesis*). Abraham reached the place of the sacrifice of Isaac in three days, see also Cosma Indicopleustes (1992), corresponding to about one hundred kilometers. Note that Safah and Marua are names suggesting the sacred Indian names of the god Siva and the holy mountain Meru, actually Kailash in Tibet, on whose summit Siva sits embraced with one of his wives, usually Parvati. A geographic connection between Mecca and India, to which others can be added.

We do not know by which route Abraham reached the land of Melchizedek once he left Haran. We guess the following:

- First west of Kashmir he reached the principal town of Hindukush, now called Gilgit. From Gilgit going north by the trail that till recently was considered the most difficult in the world, a hundred kilometers along the vertical walls of a canyon in places over 3000 meters deep, one reaches Hunza valley, the place of the Garden of Eden according to Spedicato (2004). If Abraham knew that Garden of Eden had been there, he might have attempted to reach it. That feat was performed by Gilgamesh, in the scenario of Spedicato (2001a,b), probably at a younger age, and helped by Enkidu, who knew that valley. We note that the old name of Gilgit was Sargin. Name Sargin might originate from the great Assyrian king Sargon the Great, the Ninus of Diodorus and the biblical Nimrud, whose empire most probably included that area. Nimrud was a great hunter and the region of Gilgit was rich of interesting game, say fast running wild asses, yaks, bears, Marco Polo sheep able to move on very rugged and steep terrain. Wild asses were specially hunted for their delicious meat. They were the preferred game for the great Persian hunter Rostam, the hero of Shanamah, the Book of Kings, who died falling from horse while hunting them.

- From Gilgit, Abraham possibly reached Bokhara region, where he may have met Job years before; he inquired about Job and possibly bought silk brought from China. On the way there he passed by the valley of river Pishon, now having different names from the local towns (Konar, Chitral, Mastuj). Then probably he passed by present Afghan city of Mazar-i-Sharif. This city was probably visited also by the Magi on their way from Altai to Jerusalem, see Spedicato (2015). The grave of Zoroaster was possibly there, later attributed to Ali, see Vambery (1994). Dating Zoroaster is an open problem, also in view that it was not the name of a single person, but a title, as Melchizedek.
- From Bokhara region, Abraham reached Damascus via Persia, where he spent 12 years according to a tradition. Then he met Melchizedek after defeating some enemies.

We give without discussion some additional information on Abraham, certainly a small part of what could be retrieved by a full search in ancient texts.

- Cristoforetti (2006) studies the 360 idols that were located around Kaaba, near Mecca, before their destruction by Mohammad (who did not destroy the other 360 in the dual temple of the white stone near Asir, later destroyed by Wahabite king Ibn Saud). He recalls a local tradition that Kaaba was built by Abraham and that there were reproductions of Abraham, his son Ishmael, Jesus and Mary
- Abraham grave was in the Mamre cave, near the Oak of Mamre, his body put there by both his sons, Ishmael, born when Abraham was 86 years old, 11 years after leaving Haran (implying a stay in Damascus less than traditional 12 years?), and, Isaac, born when he was 99, Sarah 90. When Sarah died, aged 140, Abraham, aged 150, married her servant Keturah, who gave him several children
- In the book *Myths of the Hebrew*, of Graves and Ratai (1998), amply taken from *Talmud*, it is said that Nimrud wanted to kill Abraham. Then Terach gave to Nimrud a slave, claiming he was Abraham. Abraham hid in a cave for 13 years, perhaps most of the 14 years he was in Haran, and was not found by Nimrud. The contact between Nimrud and Terach can be understood within a traditional scenario with Sargon the Great, alias Ninus, alias Nimrud, a conqueror of an empire between the Mediterranean and India. He might have conquered the Hindukush, building there Sargin, later to be Gilgit. He might have tried to conquer Kashmir or Panjab. His attempts may have stopped after the Typhon explosion

- The fact that the color of the hair of Esau, grandchild of Abraham, was reddish, suggests that the hair of either Abraham, or more probably his wife Sarah, was also reddish or blonde. A Sarah with such unusual hair color would be of supreme beauty to people used to women with black hair. This fact could explain why Abraham thought that Sarah would greatly attract both pharaoh and Abimelech. In Kashmir there are people of different races, not many Dravidians of dark skin, many Arians of white skin. Thus Barbiero (1988) appears to be right in claiming that Abraham was an Arian.
- We recall the statement of Clearchus of Soli that *Hebrew descend from the wise men of India*. Wise men of India were the Brahmins, of Vedic religion, whose origin as Arians from northern Asia has been claimed by many, see for instance Tilak (1994). In the sands of deserts north of Tibet mummies have been found in perfect conditions of the Tocarians, a tribe of Arians, noted for great stature, blue eyes, blond or reddish hair and a dress similar to that used by Scottish people.
- Finally note that Abraham is the new name given to Abram by God after he left Haran. The etymon of Abram can be seen in AB = water, river in Persian, and RAM = Rama, the great king of Ramayana. So a reference to the river Jhelum near Uri, where Abraham was probably born, a river that was possibly the richest in water in the whole empire of Rama. A reference also to the great king and god Rama, that had to be cancelled later when another God appeared. Terach, if not a Brahmin, was probably close to the Hinduist religion and well acquainted of the ancient traditions of India.
- A corollary of the above is that the original language of Abraham was most probably Sanskrit or Pahlavi, present Kashmiri language being a mixture of Sanskrit, Persian, some Turkish and Dravidian. Hebrew as a Semitic language was thus learnt by him and his descendants in the centuries spent in Arabia Felix, Asir, where the best Arabian is still now spoken, a language appearing in many variants.

6 Typhon and the end of Tower of Babel

In previous sections we have seen how the Typhon event explains facts of Job and Abraham. The explosion affected of course whole regions and their political powers,

especially the kingdom of Egypt, the empire of Sargon the Great, the Indus-Sarasvati civilization; it probably affected other empires at that time, as the Chinese, the BAM, and in Europe that of the Veneti, who controlled not only central Europe with the great mines of iron and salt, but were able navigators with colonies in faraway places.

Now we consider a special event in the empire of Sargon the Great, the biblical Nimrud. According to tradition, Nimrud was a giant, first a hunter, then becoming king of an empire over lands between Egypt and India. His capital city, Agade, is still to be found, maybe one of the several thousands of tells yet to be excavated. Note that during the war against Saddam Hussein an American bomb over a tell brought to light tablets inscribed in cuneiform characters, showing that a town and a library existed there, the tablets now sold on the international antiquarian market. Of Sargon we have a portrait, in granulated gold, a technique also used by Etruscans, rediscovered by Mario Pincherle. Small spherules of gold are obtained by pouring melted gold into a water container, then they are attached to a gold lamina using a glue of myrrh, then the lamina with the spherules is covered by incense and cooked in an oven. Gold, myrrh and incense, the three items that Magi offered to Joseph, when they visited him and Jesus and Mary.

Sargon is again not a proper name, but a title, meaning *Lord that cannot be destroyed*. We motivate here why he should be identified with two Assyrian kings known by another name:

- Diodorus presents a great king of Assyria, named Ninus, whose wife is Semiramis. Ninus created a great empire, further developed by his wife when he died, reaching from Egypt to India. He built the great cities of Babylon and Ninive, whose original size was double the size when they were reconstructed. Diodorus states that Ninus lived 1300 years before Sardanapalos, known also as Assurbanipal, famous for his library found almost intact. Assurbanipal according to standard chronology lived between 668 and 631 AC, thus giving for Ninus a date around 2000 BC, in agreement with our scenario.
- According to *Talmud*, Nimrud, who failed to kill Abraham, was killed by Esau, nephew of Abraham, possibly in revenge of his attempt to kill Abraham.
- Eusebius of Caesarea (2001) states that Nimrud built Edessa, and tried to build near Babylon the highest tower in the world, a project whose failure we discuss below.

Let us consider the Tower of Babel, usually considered to be a symbolic fact. Here we use the name Nimrod for the king. We observe that Egypt is not among the

countries forming Nimrod's empire. Ancient kings were used to travel, for instance when giving their daughters in marriage to some king their neighbor. So Nimrod likely visited Egypt and admired the Giza pyramids. They already existed since some 1440 years, a construction date of about 3440 following from C₁₄ analysis (by ETH laboratory, unpublished), from dating stones via quantum optics technique developed by Ioannis Liritzis, see Temple (2011), from four stellar alignment found by Giancarlo Duranti (2003). Also several medieval Arab historians state that pyramids were built 300 years before Flood (of Noah). Noah's Flood can be dated, Spedicato to appear, to 3161 AC. A man like Nimrod, who from being a hunter arose to be one of the greatest kings of his time, was possibly envious of such great structures in the Egyptian kingdom. So he decided to build one even higher and more beautiful.

How high was the tower he planned and started to construct near Babylon is not known to this author, but an educated guess is 360 royal cubits. Royal cubit, about 52 centimeters, was a common measure in the ancient western world, geometrically related to the *remen* and to the megalithic yard. Number 360 was important in ancient cultures, being related to the number of days of the year before the Flood. We see that number in many constructions in India, in the number of god statues around the Kaaba and its dual temple in Asir, see, for a collection of ritual numbers and their astronomic origin, Spedicato (2016b). With a height of 360 cubits, Nimrod's tower would be some 20 meters higher than Cheops pyramid. Diodorus states that 700.000 workers were involved in the construction, a high number, but less than the workers some 2000 years later involved in the construction of the Great Wall, completed in a few years for a length of over 2000 km. The workers, probably prisoners, had to carry stones from the mountains in the east, over 200 km away, since the soil near Babylon is mud and sand.

Genesis states that the tower was never finished because the workers started speaking different languages and could no more understand the received orders. This fact is seen as a miracle due to action of God to punish the arrogance of Nimrod.

What *Genesis* states would actually be a miracle if such a languages multiplication took place really. But in our scenario there is a natural explanation.

Before exploding over Egyptian delta, Typhon was captured in an orbit spiraling around Earth, as later happened to Phaethon. An orbit not passing exactly over the same places at each round, due to several reasons, including fragmentation. Since Typhon and parts of it exploded in at least three known places, Lebanon, Egyptian delta and Aetna, an orbit on an east to west line or west to east, is suggested. Babylon is more or less on that line. We can assume that a passage took place with the object

in the sky quite close to Babylon. It could have descended so much as to touch the atmosphere. Then two effects would be expected:

- Compression of the air, damaging the ear drums, in people who would not be protected by being inside a building. It is clear that if the object was seen, repair would be given to the officers and not to the slave workers
- A very strong sound, damaging or destroying the about two thousands hair cells of the hearing nerve.

Due to the above effects workers became deaf and could no more understand their orders. So no miracle, no multiplication of languages, but a hearing problem.

7 Dating Noachian Flood and Abraham birth

In a forthcoming paper we give arguments to date Noachian Flood at precisely 3161 BC, using several clues, of which two are precise to the year, coming from quite distant sources, a Mesoamerican one and a Middle East calendar. Then Abraham birth date to 2094 BC comes by assuming that the patriarchs genealogy in *Genesis*, *Septuaginta* version, is correct. Notice a difference from the genealogy in Masoretic text by a few centuries, see Spedicato (2016c). The corresponding changes on related chronologies of Egypt, Assyria, India are important only for Egypt.

7 Conclusions

In this paper we have argued for the following interpretation of facts in *Genesis*:

- That the oldest of the catastrophes memorized by Greeks, say that of Typhon and related Ogyges flood, explains not only discontinuities in the Egyptian and India history, but the special events concerning Job, Abraham and the Tower of Babel
- That the Typhon explosion occurred in 2033 BC, a date that signals the end of the Ancient Kingdom of Egypt, the Indus-Sarasvati civilization, the tragic events in Job's life, the departure of Terach and Abraham from Uri to Haran, the end of the construction of the Babel Tower

- That Job in his advanced age was known as Melchizedek and that Abraham, born in Uri in Kashmir in a family important for economic and religious role, left Haran in Kashmir to the land of Canaan, located in Arabia Felix as claimed by Lebanese historian Kamal Salibi. Thus Hebrews, who are by definition the descendants of Abraham, are exactly what Clearchus of Soli claimed, namely they descend from the wise men of India. Thus they are most probably of Arian origin, not of Semite origin
- That the story of the Tower of Babel may be true, the story of the language multiplications being consequence of a loss of hearing.

Our conclusions are to some extent tentative. Future elements about the scenario may come from geological evidence that an explosion occurred over Egyptian delta and a tsunami devastated the Mediterranean coasts and the Indus lowland about 2000 BC.

Another question about Job becoming Melchizedek is that he probably had to be anointed to such a role, by someone with the authority to perform this operation. Related question is whether Jesus was also anointed in the Melchizedek order, as Paul states. A question for another paper.

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