



How Native Language and Bilingualism Shaped the **Cognition of Ancient Greece?**

Genc Struga*

Appointed Consultant Worcestershire Acute Hospital NHS Trust, United Kingdom

*Corresponding Author: Genc Struga, Appointed Consultant Worcestershire Acute Hospital NHS Trust, United Kingdom.

Received: June 16, 2021; Published: July 22, 2021

The ancient Greece the temple of western civilisation has been bilingual society. Herodotus said that Pelasgian language was spoken in many places and people of Attica were originally Pelasgians but they learned a new language and become Hellenes. Hellenes were weak first but they grew in number as speaking ancient Greek and being Hellenes was the same. In the process of Hellenization seems that a large part of population did not have ancient Greek as their native language but as second language [1].

The Pelasgians language is proposed as link in development of other languages and Pelasgians seems not only that they had shaped culturally and ancient Greek civilization but also linguistically [2].

The ancient Greek society being bilingual and with their native language brought enormous development in cognitive abilities at that time by giving a great impact in art, philosophy, exact science and literature.

The vivid imagination and mythology, polytheism must have been transferred essentially by their native people of ancient Greece ethnography. The native or mother language was spoken at home transferring not only sound, meanings and feelings but also mythology and legends, philosophy, art, music all what resembles ethnography.

By speaking two languages the cognition is influenced not only from dimension of exchanging between two languages but from the culture that associate them and appears that ancient Greece society must have been long in statuesque of bilingualism.

Ancient Greek language often identify with koine dialect or the dialect of Attika has been the language of culture and education for other society as well but was not able to influence the same western society assembling more a transfer culture than ongoing civilisation.

The reason is that something essential is missing in this development, the native cultural language of ancient Greece itself transferring knowledge and culture of a thousand of years civilisation, by straggling this native language with time the ancient Greek civilisation lost its spirit.

Connecting the ancient Greek civilisation with ancient Greek language only and simply transferring the terms to modern science, the western civilisation overlooked the native language of Greece that not only shaped ancient Greek civilisation but also the ancient koine dialect of Attika.

By the end of the 2nd century BC most local inscriptions were no longer in dialect; in contrast with the many dialects of the earlier colonies, the language brought to Asia and Africa by Alexander the Great and his Successors was a form of koin since again this was language of education to him but not his native language or at least most of his troops.

43

We must accept that although the language of education, the native language of people of Greece spoke another language at home. Then Greekness was latter defined with speaking Greek as one main of criteria of Herodotus, the dialect of Attika pelasgians population of Greece become official.

Ancient Greek civilisation assemble in its root in fact one of much older civilisation, the new Greek ethnos took from pelasgians everything and presented as its own and claiming common roots.

The L. Græc is ad. Gr., said by Aristotle (Meteor. I. xiv) to have been the prehistoric name of the Hellenes in their original seats in Epirus. The word is app. an adjectival derivative of Graius, which is used in Latin as a poetical synonym of Græcus. Recent scholars think the name may have been brought to Italy by colonists from Eub a, where there is some evidence of its having existed [3,4].

Apparently, the name was taken from one of most ancient Pelasgians tribes Epirot often called barbarian by educated Greek since the official Koine dialect was not sufficiently used beside in higher and educated class.

Although there are sources that claim Greek language as Indo-European speakers must have reached Greece from elsewhere, though the language may have acquired its main characteristics in Greece itself [5].

While this issue is become a matter of dispute since Greeks have claimed Pelasgians roots, this amalgam of bilingualism and emerging cultures, misname gave as result a new civilisation which of course in essence was thousands of years older than even Homeric legends and myths brought again in "new" Koine dialect.

Bibliography

- 1. Herodotus. Histories, 1.57. (Herodotus & Strassler) (2009): 32.
- 2. Greek Language A Dictionary of World History. Oxford University Press (2000).
- 3. World. Ed. John Roberts. Oxford University Press (2007).
- 4. "Oxford English Dictionary" (2007)
- 5. "Greek Language A Dictionary of World History". Oxford University Press (2000).

Volume 13 Issue 8 August 2021 ©All rights reserved by Genc Struga.