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MIDDLE-EARTH WORLD IN THE UNIVERSE MODEL

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Abstract: SECOND FLOOR (MIDDLE WORLD). According to ancient Turkic myths, the main god of the middle world is Holy Earth-Water (\$>\$: \rightarrow\forall \text{3}\forall \text{1} \text{3}\forall \text{1} $-id^uq$ yir:sub) is considered This image appears in almost all of Orhun-Enasoy's memoirs and represents the middle world. The Byzantine historian Felfilakt Simokatta, who lived in the 7th century, Movses Kalankatuy, the Albanian historian, and Ahmad ibn Fadlan, the Arab historian of the 10th century, also mentioned that the concept of "land-water" was sacred for the Turks in ancient times.

Like the Blue God and Lady Umay, the Holy Earth-Water was one of the guardian deities of the Turks. He is subject to seventeen spirits. The image of Earth-Water was used in ancient Turks in two different meanings: the first - as a symbol of the motherland, and the second - as the main god of the middle world. Before the word Earth-Water "ыduq" ya'ni "muqaddas", "qutlug" the word was always used in combination and expressed the image of the whole motherland. The ancient Turks imagined the goddess of Earth and Water as a beautiful woman. The Kul Tigin (Great Inscription) from the Orhun-Enasoy inscriptions contains the following words

A matn:² : 446 L P: フン 出 ≫ 1 > 7: T > D: フ3 > 7: 甘 し レ

Transkripsiyasi: Vza: tvr^vk: t^ongrisi: tvr^vk ыd^uq yəri: subы: ^ancha t^omⁱs: $tvr^{\nu}k:bod^{\mu}n: yoq:bolm^{a}zun: təy^{i}n$

Meaning: "... above, the Turkish God, the Holy Earth-Water of the Turks said: "Let the Turkish people not perish".3

It is clear from this that the Holy Earth and Water protected the Turkish people from destruction, that is, from evil. According to the myths of the middle world, people also lived in this world. The following myth about the origin of humans is preserved in the Kul Tigin (Great Scripture).:

Asl matn:⁴

¹ Менгес К.Г. Тюркское иди ъгосподинъ, некоторые его рефлексы в тюркских языках и параллели в других языковых семях. – В кн.: «Турсологиса». – L.: 1976. – S. 102-103.

² Абдурахмонов Ғ., Рустамов А. Қадимги туркий тил. "Ўқитувчи". – Т.: 1982. – Б. 96.

³ Yuqoridagi manba. – B. 104.

⁴ Абдурахмонов Ғ., Рустамов А. Қадимги туркий тил. "Ўқитувчи". – Т.: 1982. – Б. 101.

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Transkripsiya: Vzə kök: t³ngri: asra: yag uz: y³r: qыlыntuqda: kin ara: kisi: og lы: qыlыnтыs:

Meaning: "When the blue sky was created above and the brown earth below, the son of man was created between the two."

According to the information, the ancient Turks made sacrifices to the gods under the patronage of the Holy Earth and Water in spring and autumn. Sacrifices were made on mountain tops. They saw the mountain as sacred and protected from enemies. Turkic peoples lived with the idea that the owners and guardians of Earth and Water are not earthly people, but the spirits of ancestors. Surrendering the land and water to the enemy was equivalent to surrendering the spirit of the ancestors to the enemy. That is why every inch of land of the Motherland is considered sacred, and the Holy Earth-Water is considered the god of goodness. However, by the order of the Blue God, Earth-Water sometimes punished people for their sins. The earth is represented by the color symbol of brown (black on some tablets) and green.

Yo-kan is one of the powerful helpers of the Holy Earth-Water in the middle world. The reason for this is that he lived in the center of the "tree of life" growing in the middle of the world. For the ancient Turks, the tree was the creator, protector of the whole world, people, and a symbol of life and eternity. According to the mythological imagination, the height of such a tree was close to the upper world, that is, to God. Mountain, lake (generally bodies of water) and forest spirits were considered assistants to the sacred Earth-Water. For example, in Turkic-runic written monuments, Otukan forest is said to be the center of the Turkic khanate. Because the ancient Turks imagined Otukan as the center of the earth. In general, Otukan has risen to the level of a symbolic image of the forest cult. East, South, West, North are defined relative to this center.

The ideas of the ancient Turks about the mythological image of Earth and Water and the beliefs related to it were the factors for the formation of inscriptions as written literature. Childless women asked for children by sprinkling wine and water on dry rivers and pleasing the spirits there. It is mandatory not to throw dirty things into the water and to keep it clean. The aforementioned spirits protected Turks from enemies and other evil spirits. So, it would be correct to conclude that all these traditions and beliefs are embodied in the image of the Holy Land and Water.

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