

Sweden: Literally the Israelite Viking Tribe

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The Kingdom of Sweden was founded on the union of two tribes, the Svear in the north and the Götar in the south. The name Sweden is derived from the Svear: In Swedish: *Svea Rike* which became Sverige (English: Svear Kingdom which became Sweden).

The Swedish people are very closely related to the Danes, whom students of the Lost Tribes of Israel almost all agree to be primarily of the tribe of Dan. The Swedes must therefore be of a tribe, or tribes, closely related to Dan. The full brother of Dan was Naphtali, whom we identify as Norway. In the Old Testament, Dan is usually associated with Naphtali and Asher, two of the other tribes of the handmaidens.

The Icelandic historian Snorri Sturlasson (1179-1241) wrote the books *The Younger Edda* (ca. 1220) and *Heimskringla* (a.k.a. *The Chronicles of the Kings of Norway*) (ca. 1230). Snorri wrote that the ancestors of the Nordic peoples, the Norwegians, Danes, Swedes and Icelanders, were descended from two tribes called the Aser and Vaner tribes, which had migrated to Scandinavia from the Black Sea region, led by one or several chieftain-priests called Odin. The legendary Norwegian explorer and adventurer Thor Heyerdahl wrote the book *Jakten på Odin* ('The Search for Odin', 2002), where he identified Odin's capital where the Aser and Vaner tribes lived in the 1st century BC as the Russian city of Asov on the Black Sea coast. Snorri wrote that because the Roman general Pompey the Great expanded the Roman Empire in the Third Mithridatic War (70s-60s BC), Odin chose to lead the Aser and Vaner tribes in a migration to Scandinavia. Snorri also wrote that Odin also had great estates in Asia Minor.

In the Old Testament we read in 2 Kings chap. 17 that the Assyrian Empire deported 10 of the 12 Tribes of Israel out of the land of Israel and settled them in northern areas of the Assyrian Empire:

"In the twelfth year of Ahaz king of Judah began Hoshea the son of Elah to reign in Samaria over Israel nine years. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, but not as the kings of Israel that were before him. Against him came up Shalmaneser king of Assyria; and Hoshea became his servant, and gave him presents. And the king of Assyria found conspiracy in Hoshea: for he had sent messengers to So king of Egypt, and brought no present to the king of Assyria, as he had done year by year: therefore the king of Assyria shut him up, and bound him in prison. Then the king of Assyria came up throughout all the land, and went up to Samaria, and besieged it three years. In the ninth year of Hoshea the king of Assyria took Samaria, and carried Israel away into Assyria, and placed them in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes." (2 Kings 17:1-6)

"Therefore the LORD was very angry with Israel, and removed them out of his sight: there was none left but the tribe of Judah only." (2 Kings 17:18)

The areas where the Assyrians placed the 10 Tribes of Israel happens to be almost identical to the areas in Asia Minor where Snorri wrote that Odin had great estates, and where we must presume that the Aser and Vaner tribes lived before they migrated to the Russian Black Sea region.

The very names Aser and Vaner also happen to be very similar to the names Asher and Dan, the names of two of the 10 Israelite tribes which the Assyrians deported around 721 BC.

The reason for this apparent co-incidence is, of course, that the Aser and Vaner tribes of Scandinavia are the Israelite tribes of Asher and Dan that used to live in the land of Israel and entered into the Mosaic Covenant at Mount Sinai along with the rest of the tribes of Israel.

According to Snorri, Odin and the Aser tribe migrated through northern Germany and Denmark to central Sweden, where Odin set up his capital in Uppsala north of Stockholm.

Snorri Sturlasson traced the ancestors of the Scandinavians to the two tribes Aser and Vaner. The Vaner tribe became the Danes. Odin was of the Aser tribe and according to the Danish historian Peter Frederik Suhm, the last historical Odin settled in Uppsala in Sweden. Odin and the Aser tribe which settled in Uppsala and Sweden must therefore be of the Israelite tribe of Asher.

In the Old Testament, the Israelite tribes of Dan, Naphtali and Asher, and sometimes Gad, are usually mentioned in connection with each other. This is because these four tribes were descended from the four patriarchs that were born to Jacob's two concubines, Bilhah and Zilpah. We must therefore assume that in the exile they would also be found living close to each other.

This is fulfilled in the fact that we identify Denmark with the tribe of Dan and Norway with the tribe of Naphtali. As we mentioned, Sweden was founded on the union of the two tribes of the Svear in the north and the Götar in the south. We identify the Svear as the tribe of Asher and the Götar as the tribe of Gad. Thus, the four tribes of Dan, Naphtali, Asher and Gad are today found in Scandinavia. (But not only Scandinavia. Gad is also found in northern Germany and elsewhere, and Dan is also found in Ireland and elsewhere.)

Asher: literally the Israelite Viking tribe

An astonishing fact is that in the Book of Judges, the tribe of Asher is almost literally called "the Viking tribe". Approx. 1250 BC when Deborah and Barak were fighting to liberate Israel from a Canaanite occupation, not all the tribes contributed to the freedom struggle. One of them was Asher. Deborah and Barak complained: ***"Asher continued at the seashore, And stayed by his inlets."*** (Judg 5:17 NKJV) According to most scholars the name "Viking" is derived from the Old Norse word "vik" (English: inlet), because the Vikings used inlets, fjords and similar bodies of water as harbors.

In Scandinavian Bibles this verse literally states that the tribe of Asher abode in "viker/vikar", which is identical to the origin of the word Viking:

"Aser sat kvar vid havets strand, vid sina vikar stannade han." (Judg 5:17 Swedish 1917 Authorized Version)

"Asjer som bodde ved havets strand, holdt seg i vikene der." (Judg 5:17 Norwegian 1978 Bible by the Norske Bibelselskap)

This hidden prophecy about Asher being a Viking tribe is fulfilled in the Swedish Vikings, who travelled and traded across Russia and the Ukraine. In 862 the Eastern Slavic peoples asked the Varangian Rus, which were Swedish Vikings, to establish what would become the Kingdom of the Kievan Rus. This kingdom evolved into the East Slavic nations of Russia, the Ukraine and Belarus.

Swedish Vikings were also famous for their fighting skills and their loyalty. From 874 to the 13th century the Varangian Guard was an elite unit in the East Roman army. It consisted mainly of Swedes, but also some Danes, Norwegians and Anglo-Saxons. The Varangian Guard was also the personal bodyguard unit of the East Roman Emperor, because he did not trust the native soldiers who were notorious for switching loyalty from one strongman to another.

Asher: a tribe where women were important

The genealogies in the Bible almost only mention males. Rarely do they mention females, and when they do, it is usually to make a point. In the genealogies of Asher, we find no less than two females:

“The sons of Asher; Imnah, and Isuah, and Ishuai, and Beriah, and Serah their sister. And the sons of Beriah; Heber, and Malchiel, who is the father of Birzavith. And Heber begat Japhlet, and Shomer, and Hotham, and Shua their sister.” (1 Chron 8:30-32)

This mentioning of two sisters is not explained in the Scriptures, but it must have a meaning. The message could be that in the tribe of Asher women would have greater prominence than among the other tribes.

This is fulfilled in Sweden, which self-identifies and is looked upon from the outside world as a stronghold of feminism. (This is not a defense of feminism, but simply an explanation why Sweden and Scandinavia in general has an inclination towards feminism.)

Beriah = Svear

The name of one of the sons of Asher is Beriah. When a name of a son of a patriarch is mentioned in the Bible it is for a reason. It is not a coincidence. In Hebrew (and in many other languages) the letters B and V are interchangeable. For example, in modern Hebrew Reuben is called Reuven and Abraham is called Avraham. Therefore, Beriah could easily become Veriah, which is rather close to the name Svear.

Asher's birth

Asher was Jacob's 8th son. We read about his birth: ***“And Zilpah Leah's maid bare Jacob a second son. And Leah said, Happy am I, for the daughters will call me blessed: and she called his name Asher.”*** (Gen 30:12-13)

Asher would therefore be connected with happiness and blessings. According to the World Happiness Report, Sweden is the 6th happiest nation in the world. (The 19 happiest nations are what we view as Israelite nations. God said he would bless Israel, and He certainly has also blessed them with happiness.) (John Helliwell et. al.: “World Happiness, Trust and Social Connections in Times of Crisis”: <https://worldhappiness.report/ed/2023/world-happiness-trust-and-social-connections-in-times-of-crisis/#ranking-of-happiness-2020-2022>)

Asher a strongly defended nation

When Moses blessed the 12 tribes, he said of Asher: ***“Most blessed of sons is Asher; let him be favored by his brothers, and let him bathe his feet in oil. The bolts of your gates will be iron and bronze, and your strength will equal your days.”*** (Deu 33:24-25 NIV)

Asher's birth was connected with blessings, and so is Moses' blessing. When it is said that the bolts of Asher's gates would be like iron and bronze, it means that Asher would be strongly defended and hard to invade. This is fulfilled in Sweden, which has not been under overt foreign control or invaded – except for fighting on Sweden's borders – since the Swedish War of Liberation 1521-1523. Until 1523 Sweden had been a part of the Kalmar Union, a union of Denmark, Norway and Sweden headed by the King of Denmark.

Moses's prophecy that “Asher's strength will equal his days” could mean that the life expectancy of

the Asherites would be high. This is fulfilled in Sweden having the 15th highest life expectancy in the world. Swedes on average live 83.82 years. ("Life Expectancy by Country 2024": <https://worldpopulationreview.com/country-rankings/life-expectancy-by-country>)

Götar and Gutar of southern Sweden

Sweden was united around the year AD 1000, when the *Svear* of central-northern Sweden, the *Götar* of central-southern Sweden and the *Gutar* of the island of Gotland united under King Olof Skötkonung. At that time ethnic Danes inhabited the southern part of the Scandinavian peninsula and Finno-Ugric tribes inhabited what today is northern Sweden.

The Götar on the Scandinavian mainland and the Gutar of the island of Gotland are no doubt of the tribe of Gad.

The tribe of Gad was one of the two sons of Zilpah, Leah's maidservant. Gad's only full brother was Asher, whom we identify with Sweden and in particular central-northern Sweden. In the Old Testament Gad is sometimes mentioned alongside the other tribes of the concubines, Asher, Dan and Naphtali. Gad would therefore be expected to live close to Dan, Naphali and Asher.

Since we have identified Denmark with Dan, Norway with Naphtali, and central-northern Sweden with Asher, it is therefore obvious to identify the Götar of central-southern Sweden and the Gutar of the island of Gotland with the tribe of Gad.

Gad: a warrior tribe

Gad was to become a great warrior tribe. Of Gad's birth we read: ***"And Zilpah Leah's maid bare Jacob a son. And Leah said, A troop cometh: and she called his name Gad."*** (Gen 30:10-11)

The name Gad means "fortune, troop", two seemingly very different meanings. Fortune is similar to what was said about Asher. But in other parts of the Scriptures, Gad is also said to become a great warrior tribe.

When Jacob blessed his 12 sons, he said of Gad: ***"Gad, a troop shall overcome him: but he shall overcome at the last."*** (Gen 49:19)

The Hebrew word for "troop" here means "a crowd (espec. of soldiers): - army, band (of men), company, troop (of robbers)." (James Strong: *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible*, Hebrew and Chaldee Dictionary, p. 25 (Hebrew word #1416))

In Moses's blessing of the 12 tribes, Gad is again said to become a warrior tribe: ***"And of Gad he said, Blessed be he that enlargeth Gad: he dwelleth as a lion, and teareth the arm with the crown of the head. And he provided the first part for himself, because there, in a portion of the lawgiver, was he seated; and he came with the heads of the people, he executed the justice of the LORD, and his judgments with Israel."*** (Deu 33:20-21)

Sweden has been a warrior nation, and still is, more so than most other Western nations.

In the Middle Ages Denmark was the regional superpower in Scandinavia. But when Gustav II Adolf became king of Sweden in 1611, he immediately reformed the Swedish military into a fighting force second to none. Until that time European states hired mercenaries when they were going to war. But King Gustav II Adolf changed that by making the Swedish army a national army through conscription of healthy men. Sweden was the first nation in Europe to convert from Catholicism to Protestantism (Lutheranism) in 1523, and Gustav II Adolf also gave the Swedish Lutheran Church the responsibility of conscripting men. This gave the Swedish army a religious and moral advantage over the foreign mercenary armies, who owed their allegiance to Mammon.

After the Reformation the Catholic nations tried to stop the spread of Protestantism. This led to the 30 Years War (1618-1648), which more or less was a religious civil war in Germany with many foreign

actors. Sweden entered the 30 Years War in 1630, and in 1631 the Swedish army defeated the Catholic League in the Battle of Breitenfeld. In 1632 the Swedish army again defeated the Catholic League and killed its commander Count Tilly. From that point in time Sweden was seen as the champion of the Protestant cause in Europe. King Gustav II Adolf was known as the 'Lion of the North', and his entire life was like a fulfilment of Moses' prophecy of Gad: "he dwelleth as a lion, and teareth the arm with the crown of the head." (Deu 33:20)

In 1682 the allotment system of the Swedish army was completed. This changed the Swedish army into a Christian fighting force. The soldiers were to pray every day and to be respectful to civilians. Rape, interrupting prayer and taking the name of God in vain were all crimes punished with the death penalty.

The Swedish Empire culminated in the Great Northern War, where Sweden was opposed by virtually all its neighbors – though not at the same time – including Russia, Great Britain, Denmark-Norway, Prussia, Poland-Lithuania and Hannover. In 1708 King Charles XII of Sweden even launched a full-scale invasion of Russia, which was rather successful until the Battle of Poltava in 1709, where the Russian army soundly defeated the Swedish invaders. (Eerily similar to Napoleon's invasion of Russia in 1812 and Germany's invasions of Russia in 1914 and 1941.) Despite battling against many and much larger nations than itself, Sweden persevered until 1721. This was when the age of the Swedish Empire ended.

Today Sweden still has a military might superior to most other nations of its size. Sweden has remained neutral since the Napoleonic Wars until 2009 when Sweden signed a mutual defense agreement with the other EU member states, and in 2024 when Sweden became a NATO member. This long period of neutrality has been one of the reasons why Sweden has maintained a potent military-industrial complex. The Swedish military-industrial complex not only supplies equipment to the Swedish armed forces, but exports even more equipment abroad.

One of the most well-known Swedish military companies is SAAB, which produces the JAS-39 Gripen fighter aircraft, which serves in the air forces of Sweden, Hungary, South Africa and Brazil. Another is Bofors Industries, which produces and exports artillery, howitzers and anti-aircraft guns. Today Bofors is a part of the British BAE Systems.

Despite the fact that the Swedish ruling elite is a champion of political correctness and multiculturalism, Sweden also exhibits all the characteristics said to be found in the Israelite tribes of Gad and Asher.

The Camp of Dan and the Kalmar Union

After the Exodus when Israel was wandering in the wilderness, the 12 tribes were divided into 4 camps consisting of 3 tribes each. The Camp of Dan consisted of Dan, Asher and Naphtali. In the Old Testament the 3 tribes are usually mentioned next to each other. And for most of their time in the land of Israel they lived next to each other in northern Israel.

This is similar to Denmark, Norway and Sweden. The three nations were united in the personal union the Kalmar Union from 1397 to 1523, which meant that they remained nominally independent kingdoms but had the same monarch. The monarch was always the Danish monarch. This meant that Denmark came to dominate Sweden and Norway.

Scandinavian languages are mutually intelligible

Swedish, Danish and Norwegian are mutually intelligible languages. It means that they are able to understand most of the other languages without prior familiarity or special effort. Danish and Norwegian has the highest mutual intelligibility, while Swedish has a lower mutual intelligibility with Danish and Norwegian.

This also affirms that Denmark and Norway primarily are of Dan and Naphtali – who were full brothers – while Sweden primarily is of Asher and Gad – who also were full brothers.

Early Swedish-Israelite witness: Johannes Eurenus

One of the earliest witnesses to write in detail about our Israelite origin was the Swedish Lutheran pastor Johannes Eurenus (1688-1751), who was pastor in the Lutheran-Evangelical State Church in Ångermanland and Torsåker in northern Sweden.

Eurenus wrote *Atlantica Orientalis, Eller Atlant Näs til des rätta Belägenhet beskrifwet för många år sedan* ('Atlantica Orientalis, or the Cape of Atlantis Described at Its Right Position Many Years Ago', Strengnäs, Sweden, 1751). In the book, which contained a foreword by Chapter Dean Carl Fr. Ljungberg, Eurenus used 140 pages to describe that the Nordic peoples were descendants of the Lost 10 Tribes of Israel, by using the Bible, Nordic and Greek myths and history.

He wrote that the Greek myth of the giant Atlas was a legend or memory of the forefather of the Nordic peoples, Jacob-Israel. He also believed that the myth of the lost land of Atlantis was a legend or memory of the Nordic peoples's lost homeland Canaan, from which the children of Israel had disappeared.

Atlantica Orientalis was also published in Latin in Germany (Berlin, Stralsund, and Leipzig, 1764). Johannes Eurenus had to go through much opposition before *Atlantica Orientalis* could be published, especially because many did not like challenging the flattering thesis which Olof Rudbeck the Elder had written about in his monumental work *Atlant Eller Manheim* (1679-1702), that Scandinavia was the lost Atlantis.

Johannes Eurenus was a learned man who was held in great respect for his teachings. He was also viewed as a brilliant man of the church and was in particular known for his linguistic and musical talents. He also wrote several other books in Swedish and Latin.

Excerpts from *Atlantica Orientalis*:

From Chapter I 'On the land of Israel ATLANTICA': "The history of the children of Israel is no less true and ancient than it is wonderful and matchless, and besides other names with which this highly famous people have been called; it is certain that the Greeks called them Atlanteans, and [that the Greeks called] the land of Israel Atlantica." (Johannes Eurenus: *Atlantica Orientalis*, p. 1)

"I will let everyone else look in vain as long as they desire, but it is a certain truth that the Greek word Atlas is the very same as the Hebrew name Israel." (*ibid.*, p. 3)

From Chapter VI 'The Dispersed SCYTHIANS or Exiled Israelites': "As well-known as the SCYTHIAN name is, as unknown are their true ancestry. All histories speak of them, and many count them among their Countrymen; but no one seems to be able to positively prove how they first dispersed in Asia, and how their great power and glory has been able to spread at that time, as the Highest Government in the same Lands was held by the Chaldeans, the Assyrians, the Medes, the Persians, and the Greeks. Thus, it seems to me very obvious, if these Scythians were the Families of Israel, who after the time of Salmanasser dispersed themselves in the Eastern Lands, and did not, at the request of Cyrus, go home, but did plant Inhabitants out in the at that time uninhabited wastelands and Lands towards the North." (*ibid.*, p. 83)

From Chapter VII 'The SVIAR'S and the GOTH'S Origin from the Scythians or the Lost Children of ISRAEL ', where Eurenus wrote that Thor is a legend or memory of Moses: "Thor is a Hebrew word, as well as the title of Moses. Therefore, he came out of the thunderstorm and the unheard thundering, and carried forth the Law of God, which in the Hebrew just as much marks Thor as a Lawgiver." (*ibid.*, p. 109)

"Thor is said to have had a club with which he struck his enemies and opened the rock; which by Joh. Mag. Hist. L. 1:9, Adam. Brem. and Erico Olai is called Thor's scepter or staff, and which was surrounded by fire, and is a certain reminder of the Moses's staff which followed him into the fire, hit

the rock and defeated his adversaries.” (*ibid.*, p. 110)

Eurenius also wrote that the old pagan temple in Uppsala was modeled after king Solomon's temple in Jerusalem: “Of the temple of Sala. Just as the city had its name from the former residence of the Israelites in Canaan, so the temple in Uppsala was an image of the ruined Solomon's temple in Jerusalem.” (*ibid.*, p. 112)

About the religion practices of the Israelites and the Swedes: “With all this you can nonetheless feel an extraordinary similarity on all points between the religious practices of the Israelites and of the Swedes, which convinces us of their relationship.” (*ibid.*, p. 115)

Concerning the language: “Furthermore, the language which we have kept confirms that our ancestors have sprung from Israelite refugees and Scythians, since we have an extraordinary mixture of the languages through which the Israelites stayed during their exodus out of the Orient, and wandered through.” (*ibid.*, p. 122)

One of the signs that a nation is descended from the Lost Tribes of Israel is the presence of people who believe that they are descended from the Lost Tribes of Israel. The fact that Sweden produced one of the earliest witnesses to write about our Israelite origin in detail, and also that there also have been a number of later public advocates for this theory, confirm that Sweden indeed is an Israelite nation.

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