

# Europe's Druids & Norsemen

*some background*

*before looking into their reincarnation beliefs in the handout*

3rd talk at the ULT seminar, Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2021

# The Ancient Wisdom in Europe

## An Historical Perspective:

“Thus even in the days of Aristotle few were the true Adepts left in Europe and even in Egypt. The heirs of those who had been dispersed by the conquering swords of various invaders of old Egypt had been dispersed in their turn (from Europe & Middle East).

“As 8,000 or 9,000 years earlier (~9,000 BC) *the stream of knowledge had been slowly running (Westwards) down from the tablelands of Central Asia into India and towards Europe and Northern Africa*, so about 500 years B.C. it had begun to flow backward to its old home and birthplace.” (Returning to Asia before the start of the Piscean Age; note the Atlanteans had also taken refuge in the East, on its high tablelands & plateaux).

from *The Mystery “Sun Of Initiation”*, Collected Works of H. P. Blavatsky 14:269

# Old Asia's influence on Northern African & European cultures

Lines of influence flowed from East to West from the tablelands of Western China > India > Egypt > Greece > Europe & then reversed



# **The Return East, of the old Egyptian Exodus**

Egypt's "sacred Scribes and Hierophants became wanderers upon the face of the earth... Those who had remained in Egypt found themselves obliged for fear of a profanation of the sacred Mysteries to seek refuge in deserts and mountains, to form and establish secret societies and brotherhoods—such as the Essenes... (they) bound themselves by solemn oaths to keep silent, and to preserve secret their Sacred Knowledge and Science."

"The Last of the Mysteries in Europe" H. P. Blavatsky CW 14:294

# The Celtic Druids of Europe, their civilisation & cities

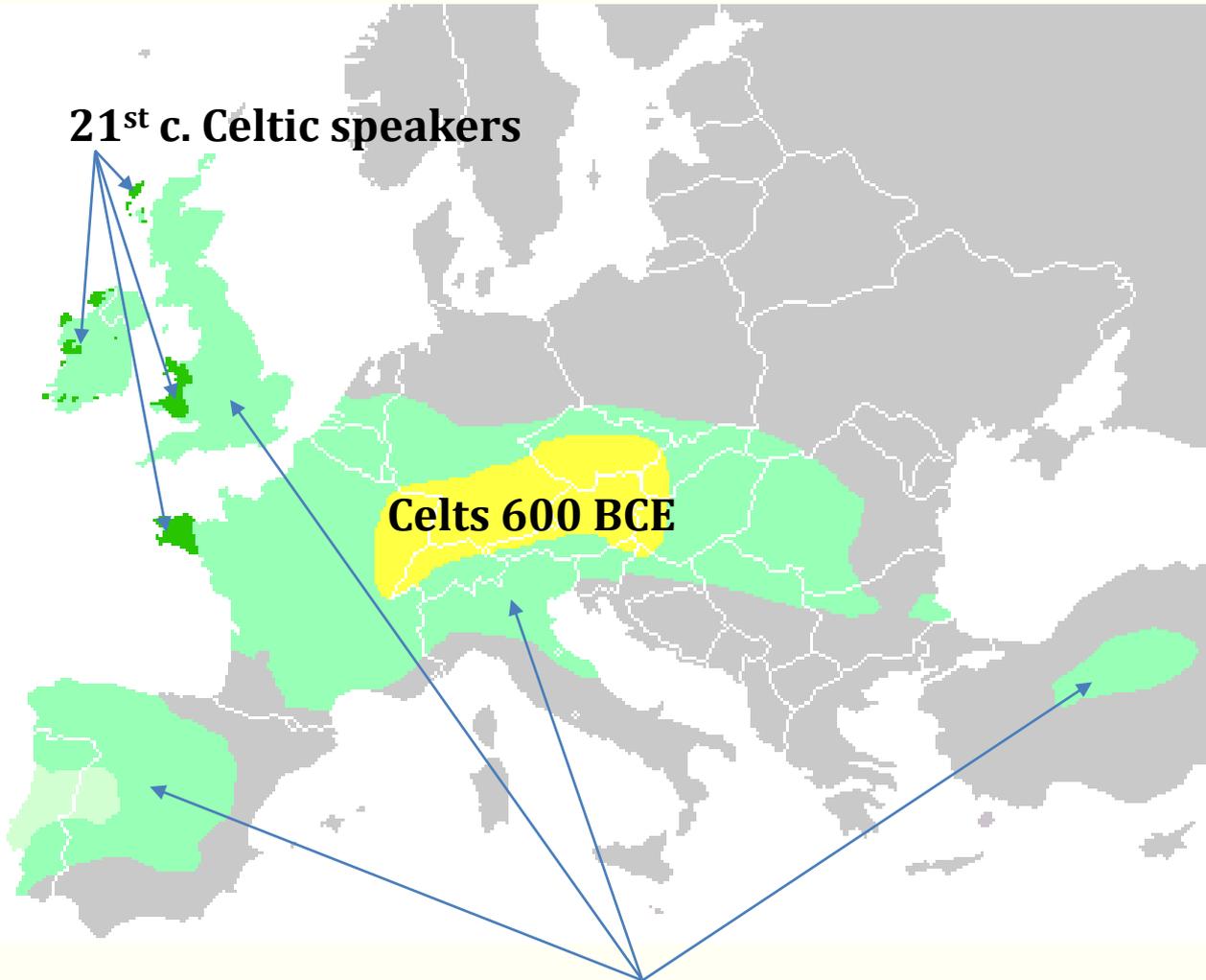
Their beliefs we will read in the handout; but firstly, let's see who they were by looking at two of their cities in north central France on which HPB gives some interesting facts:

**Alesia** - now St. Reine, Côte d'Or

**Bibractis** - now Mont Beuvray (*near Autun*)

# Area of the Celts

## The Celtic Rise & Fall



**Maximal Celtic expansion, c. 275 BCE**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Celtic\\_languages](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Celtic_languages)

## The Britons are later Celts



The Brittonic-speaking  
community around 500 CE

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brittonic\\_languages](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brittonic_languages)

# Alesia

## one of the grandest Celtic-Druid cities

“The cycle of \*\*\*\* being at its close, the first hour for the disappearance of the Mysteries struck on the clock of the Races, with the Macedonian conqueror (Alexander)... its last hour sounded in the year 47 B.C.

“Alesia the famous city in Gaul, *the Thebes of the Kelts*, so renowned for its ancient rites of Initiation and Mysteries, was, as J. M. Ragon well describes it: “The ancient metropolis and *the tomb of Initiation*, of the religion of the Druids and of the freedom of Gaul.””

“The Last of the Mysteries in Europe” HPB CW 14:294

## **Alesia** (cont'd)

“History shows the populations of Central Gaul revolting against the Roman yoke. The country was subject to Caesar, and the revolt was crushed; the result was the slaughter of the garrison at Alesia (or Alisa), and of all its inhabitants, including the Druids, the college-priests and the neophytes; after this the whole city was plundered and razed to the ground.”

“The Last of the Mysteries in Europe,” HPB CW 14:294

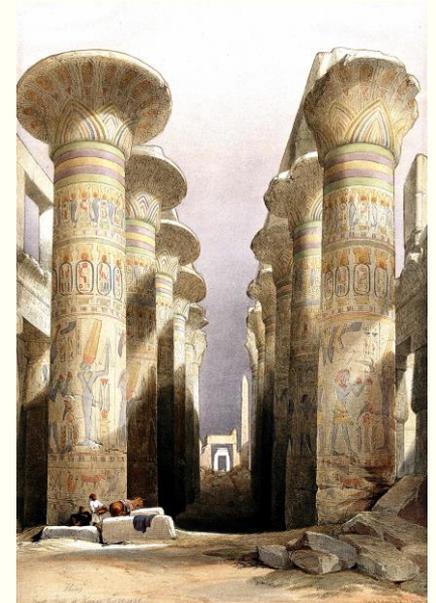
[ The great Mysteries in Europe and Africa were then forced underground for 2,000 years, largely resurfacing only in 1875. ]

# Alesia

*“the Thebes\* of the Celts”*

now St. Reine, Côte d’Or in N. Central France,

It may not have had Egyptian Temples but it had great esoteric learning and initiations.



The temple at Karnac, Luxor, Thebes.

\* Thebes, with its Luxor and the temple at Karnac, was the great centre of learning in upper Egypt, renown for its “Science of Occult numbers says H. P. Blavatsky. “It was in the great Theban sanctuary that Pythagoras upon his arrival from India studied the Science of Occult numbers.”

*(The Origin of the Mysteries, CW, 14:254, and CW 14:246)*

# Bibractis

A fortified settlement, the capital of the *Aedui* Celtic tribe and one of the most important hillforts in Gaul. It was situated near modern Autun in Burgundy, France, now Mont Beuvray.

Before the Roman conquest in 52 BC the great Celtic city of Bibracte had more than thirty thousand inhabitants, protected by a huge stone wall of the Murus Gallicus type enclosing an area of 1.4 sq. kilometers. (current research from exoteric sources such as [wikipedia.org/wiki/Bibracte](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bibracte))



Drawing of Bibracte as it might have looked 100 B.C.E.

Courtesy [theosophist.wordpress.com](https://theosophist.wordpress.com)

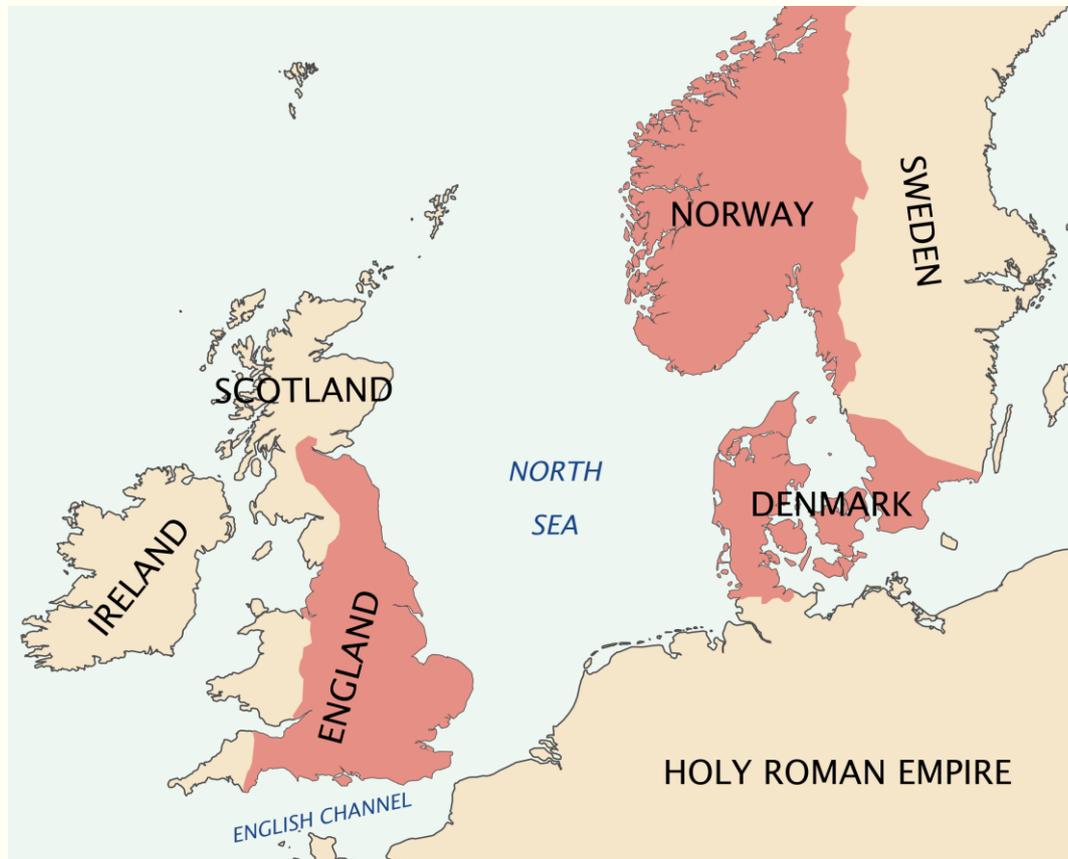
# **Bibractis** (cont'd)

A city as large and as famous, (Bibractis) not far from Alesia, perished a few years later. [...]

Such was the last city in Gaul wherein died for Europe the secrets of the Initiations of the Great Mysteries, the Mysteries of Nature, and of her forgotten Occult truths.

“The Last of the Mysteries in Europe,” HPB CW 14:294

# The Norseman & their Viking Raiders



**The dominions of  
King Cnut (Canute)  
the Great.**

He has been called "the most effective king in Anglo-Saxon history" the story of his commanding the tides notwithstanding!

England, Denmark and Norway were united by **Sweyn Forkbeard** (Danish king) for most of 1013 to 1042 (the end of the Viking Age). He died 1014, his son **King Canute** acquired England in 1016, and then both Denmark and Norway, after which came the 'Nor-mans.'

# The Norseman & some of their Gods

**Odin** (*Scand.*). The god of battles, the old German *Sabbaoth*, the same as the Scandinavian *Wodan*. He is the great hero in the *Edda* and one of the creators of man. Roman antiquity regarded him as one with Hermes or Mercury (Budha)...

In the Pantheon of the Norsemen, he is the “father of the gods” and divine wisdom, and as such he is of course Hermes or the creative wisdom. Odin or Wodan in creating the first man from trees – the Ask (ash) and Embla (the alder) endowed them with life and soul, Honir with intellect, and Lodur with form and colour. (*Theosophical Glossary*, Odin)

**Baldur.** Norse god of rebirth, son of Odin, the ‘God’ of beauty, innocence, peace, and rebirth. (Wiki)

But what are such ‘Gods’? Better to say, more theosophically, this or that *force or manasic influence*.

For further references see the **indexes** in

*Isis Unveiled*

&

*the Secret Doctrine*

<https://www.theosophy-ult.org.uk/books>