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Croatian *dúpsti*, *dúbēm*, Slovak *dlbst'*, *glaphyrós*

There seems to be an equation and a set of equivalent relations which is reflected neither in the relevant Greek reference works nor in the important Slavic comparativist tools.

In REW 1.359 we find at *dolbít'* 'meisseln' the related formation *dolotó*, and the comparanda CZ. *dloubati*, Slovak *dlbst'*, Polish *dtubać*, *dtab*, Lith. *-dĩlbtĩ*, and OE *delfan* ['delvan].

Skok ERHSJ 1.460 adduces *dúpstĩ dúbēm*, Krk *dlistĩ* < **deltĩ*, *dlijeto*, and the comparanda Ukr. *dousty*, Slovene *dólbstĩ* (but note also in South Slavic Bulg. *dlato*).

We thus have excellent Balto-Slavic attestation, Lithuanian **dh̥lb-tei*, Slavic **dh̥lb(s)-t(e)i*, **d̥h̥alb̥*, Balto-Slavic **d̥h̥alp-tâN* (including Albanian, since *daltë*, indigenous to Romanian *daltă*, cannot be borrowed from Slavic) > Slavic **delp̥to(n)*. In Germanic we have English **d̥helb̥h-*.

The impression is that this base is strongly North European IE. For Greek *glaphyrós* Frisk GEW 1.311 offers no account; the meaning 'hohl' suits 'cisel', 'meisseln', gouging' admirably. We may easily reconstruct **dlb̥h-ur-ó-*, to an old verbal noun in *-ur*. This would add an example of the change **dl* > *gl-* that I have claimed for Greek (*Mír Curad: Studies in honor of Calvert Watkins*, Innsbruck 1998, 241–2) in such words as *glykés*, *glôtta*, *gála* (and *glago-*, cp. Schwyzer I 515, 518–9).

However the consonantism **dlb̥h-* goes poorly (inexactly) with Balto-Slavic **dh̥lb-* and Germanic **d̥helb̥h-*. This suggests that we have here a Prehellenic lexeme (as I have discussed repeatedly in *Živa Antika* of the 1970s on); a preform **dlp̥h-* theoretically < *d̥h̥lp-* (cp. *stiphros*) could have been extracted from **dh̥olp̥-to-m*. Note that I have claimed that Prehellenic (see *Encyclopedia of Languages and Linguistics* 1994, article on Indo-European), like Albanian, migrated from North Europe. This would imply that Greek **dl-* > *gl* occurred after contact with Prehellenic. Since syllabic **R* > Prehellenic **uR* (*pérgos*, *panagéris*, *mélē*, *Thule* = Slovene *tla*), we may also speculate that *gl̥phō* is an early loan from Prehellenic **dlp̥h-* < **d̥h̥lp-*.

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