

# The **ORIGINS** of the **PROTO-INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGE**

Presented by: Jim Hemmer

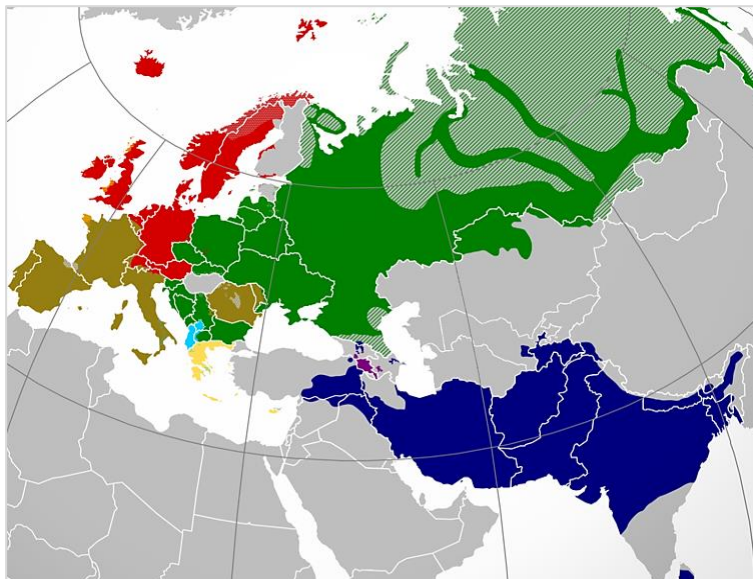
Two Mondays, November 8 and 15, 2021

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

**ONLINE via ZOOM**

In 1786 the discovery was made that the Sanskrit language originated from the same source as ancient Greek and Latin, and also Persian, Celtic, and German. The precise nature of this source was disputed by scholars for the next 200 years. But thanks to the advent of the science of paleogenomics in 2010, we now know that our languages originated with a group of Eurasian steppe nomads, the first horse warriors, who lived in the area of present-day Ukraine and Kazakhstan, beginning around 3,300 BCE.

The first session will briefly examine the sources of our current knowledge—linguistics, archeology, anthropology, and paleogenomics. Then we will delve into the history of these steppe pastoralists, and how they were able to spread their genes and their language, during the prehistoric period from 3,000 to 2,300 BCE, as far west as Scandinavia, southern Spain, and the British Isles.



Present-day distribution of Indo-European languages in Eurasia

- |                               |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| ■ Hellenic                    | ■ Germanic     |
| ■ Indo-Iranian                | ■ Armenian     |
| ■ Italic (Romance)            | ■ Balto-Slavic |
| ■ Celtic                      | ■ Albanian     |
| ■ Non-Indo-European languages |                |

----- **Registration deadline: November 6, 2021** -----

## **Enrollment form: Origins of the Proto-Indo-European Language**

Mondays, November 8 and 15, 2021

**VISTAS members \$25; non-members \$37.50**

- **EITHER pay online** on our website by secure credit card through PayPal\*:  
<https://www.vistaslifelonglearning.org/current-courses>

\*Subject to a 3% processing fee

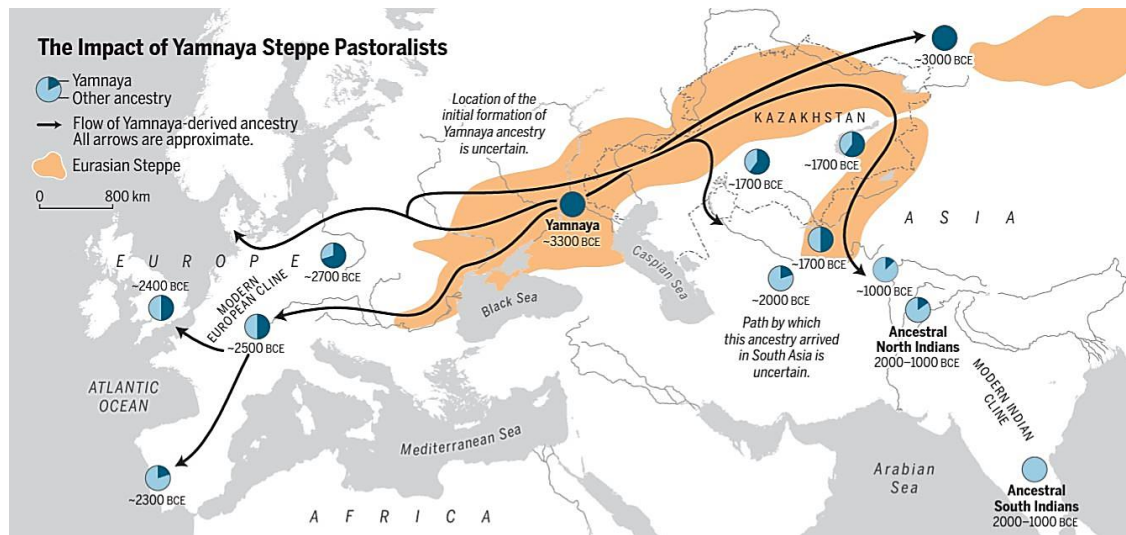
- **OR mail this form** and your check to: VISTAS Lifelong Learning, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 23228, Santa Barbara CA 93121

Number of persons \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

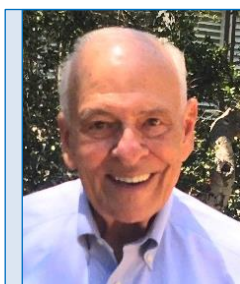
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

In the second session, we will consider how these Yamnaya nomads, after eventually crossing the natural barrier of the Ural Mountains, were able to spread their genes and language eastward, during



the Bronze Age from ca. 2100 to 1200 BCE, to central Asia, Iran, and the Indian subcontinent. We will also examine how chariot technology and copper and bronze metallurgy facilitated this expansion.

Note: This course is a modified version of a similar course presented via Zoom last summer as part of Jim's Silk Roads series.



*JIM HEMMER holds an AB degree from Marquette and a JD degree from Harvard Law School. He spent his entire career with the Chicago firm Bell Boyd & Lloyd, of which, at the time of his retirement, he was Managing Partner and CEO. His specialty was corporate and securities law, and he taught legal education programs for the Illinois State Bar Association. More recently, he has been a prolific and popular VISTAS presenter. Jim and his wife, Francine, moved to Santa Barbara in 2017.*

## VISTAS Calendar

**SUBJECT TO CHANGE; for up-to-date information, visit our website ([VistasLifelongLearning.org](http://VistasLifelongLearning.org)) frequently!**

| Course / Event  | Date(s)                       | Time            | Venue                     |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Annual Fall Picnic                                      | Sunday, September 19          | 12:30 pm        | Tucker's Grove            |
| Nonfiction Book Club 1 / Dawn McGrew                    | 2nd Thursday monthly          | 1:30 pm         | Meets in a private home   |
| Nonfiction Book Club 2 / Dawn McGrew                    | 4th Monday monthly            | 1:30 pm         | Via Zoom                  |
| Short History of Cryptography / Dick Norwood            | Wed. Sep. 1, 8, 15, 22        | 10:00 am        | Via Zoom                  |
| Humanity's Relationship with Food / Larry Canepa        | Fri. Sep. 3, 10, 17           | 1:00 pm         | Via Zoom                  |
| Important Economic Issues / Peter Naylor                | Wed. Sep. 29, Oct. 6, Oct. 13 | 9:30 am         | Bethany Congreg. Church   |
| Great American Waterways / Jim Hemmer                   | Mon. Oct. 11, 18, 25          | 10:00 am        | Via Zoom                  |
| James Baldwin: In His Own Words / Denny Klos            | Wed. Nov. 3, 10               | 9:30 am         | Montecito Covenant Church |
| <b>Origins of Proto-Indo-European Lang. / J. Hemmer</b> | <b>Mon. Nov. 8, 15</b>        | <b>10:00 am</b> | <b>Via Zoom</b>           |
| The Story Behind Bellosguardo / John Ummel              | Tues. Nov. 16                 | 9:30 am         | Montecito Covenant Church |
| Frayed Am. Social Safety Net / Ted Anagnoson            | Mon. Nov. 22, 29, Dec. 6, 13  | 9:30 am         | Bethany Congreg. Church   |
| "Sounds Good! Does It Work?" / Phil Sokolove            | Tues. Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14     | 9:30 am         | Venue TBD                 |
| Am. Criminal Law & Procedure / Pat McKinley             | Wed. Dec. 1, 8, 15            | 9:30 am         | Venue TBD                 |