# MITRA, PRESSION, EQUINOX AND ZODIAC

## R. PETROVIĆ

Abstract. This paper gives a new facts for a visual reconstuction of the Mitraistic religion birthday. Earlier scholars trought that it had been about 3000 B. C. when the spring equinox was in the Taurus constellation while the autumn one was Scorpio. According to this paper that it was 1730 B. C. when the equinox points were in the Ram and Balance constellations. We establish that the Mitraic cult picture consisted of four points: two equinox spots (Cautopates and Cautes); and two solsticium spots winter one Petrogen (Mitra rock birth) and summer solsticium bull sacrificing (tauroktoni), with lionhead star regulus. Famous ancient geographer Hiparchus discovered about 128 B. C. the fenomenon of precession. (Miletić 1994) As a consequences of the discovery appeared a connection between the precession and persian God Mitra. He was the God of sunlight, similar to Apollo, with specific crownheptaktina. (Miletić 1994)

In those ancient times the phenomenon of precession was understood as a movement of the structure at the universe. (Miletić 1994) Seen astronomically it was varying at the Earth's axis. Hiparchos as a whole discovery had an an enormous spiritual stimulus for philosophic group of Stoics, from Tarsus in Asia Minor, Aratus, Atenadorus older and younger, Aristidus and Antipartus. (Miletić 1994) In order to interprete this new situation in the sky as the historisatian at Persian God Mitra based on the cardinal change at hearenly zones on both sides at the ecliptic by about 16 of the animal sequence of zodiacal stars. The astronomical model for bullsacrificay was the Perseus constellation. The Perseus constellation is situated above the Taurus constellation, near the Ecliptic and equator section. It happened in the Kilicia where the changing process was initiated. (Miletić 1994) Important influence in that process had a king of Komagena, Antiochus I (ruled from 69-34 B. C.) who equalized Greek and Roman Gods Apollo, Helius and Hermes. (Miletić 1994)

Persian God Mitra and Greek hero, Gorgon medusa killer, Perseus, iconographically were identical because both were dressed in Perssian cloths and had shaping goblet cap, from Frigia. (Miletić 1994)

This procession process, orientation changing of the sky equator, caused that the equinox points (21 Marth and 23 September) go back trough the circle of the zodiac constellations. For that reason every 2000 years (corectly 2160 years) the autumn and spring equinox points enter in the different zodiac constellations. The Mitra cult picture, from Hedernheim, shows situation about 1730 B. C. when the spring eqinox point crossed from constellation at Taurus to the constellation of Aries. (Miletić 1994) This alternations, which happened due to the mechanical Universe powers, was precisely explained by the cult picture of Persian God Mitra. Process of Mitra astral historisation was very slow it ended 128 B. C. after the philosophic addition in Tarsus and religion practise in the Antiochus Kingsdom in Commagene. Mitra waited 1500 years to come from philosophy in to domain of cult services and national religion.

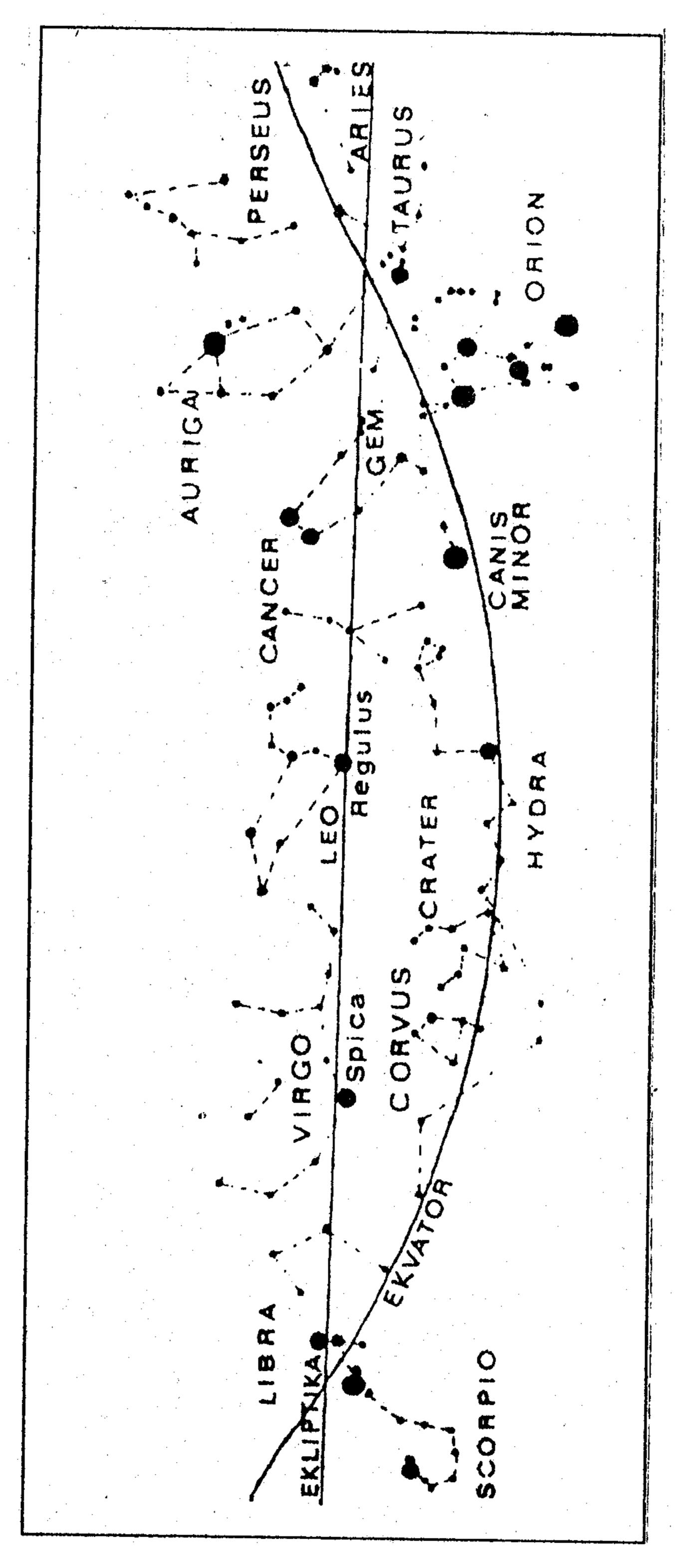


Figure 1.



Figure 3.

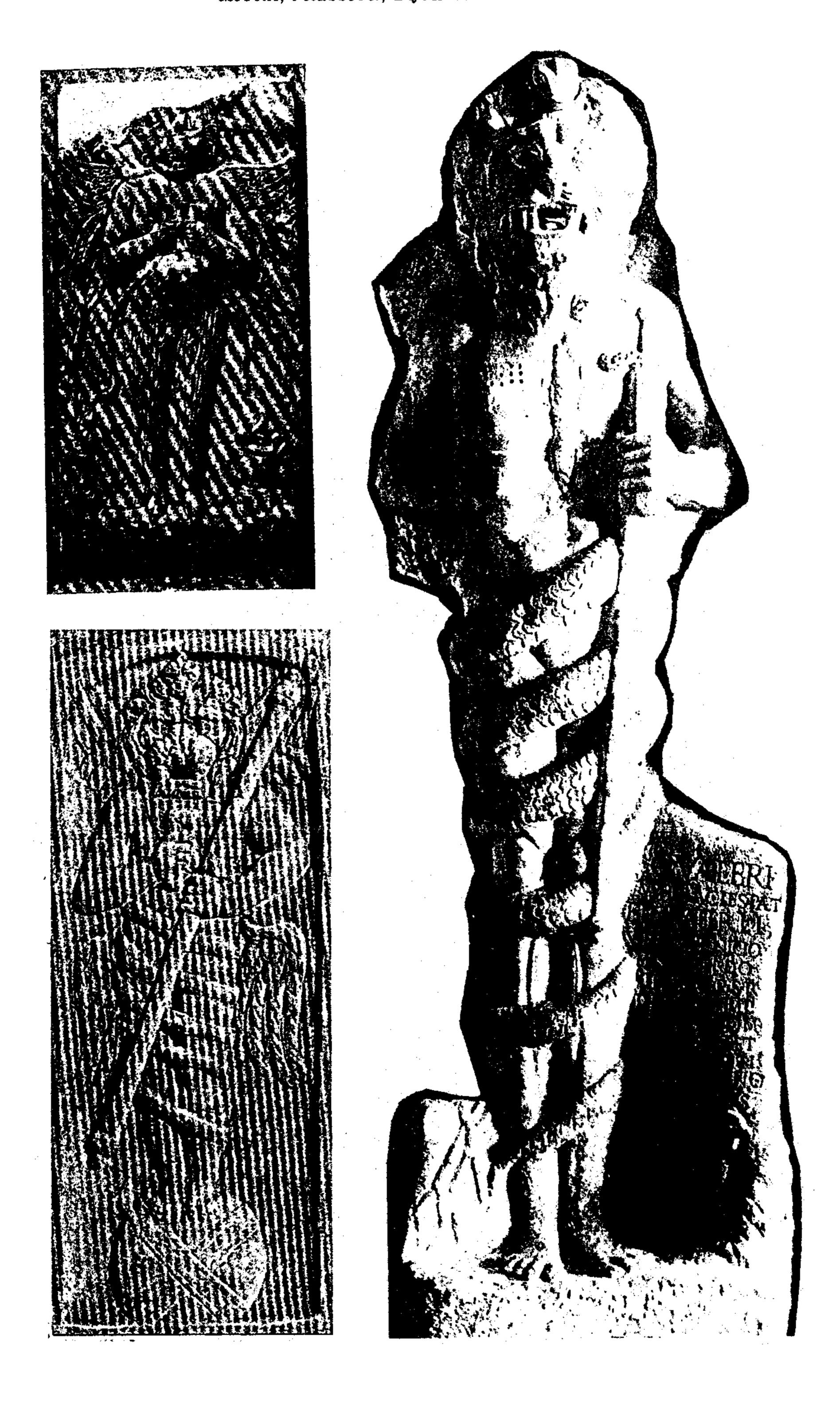


Figure 2.

### 1. BULL SACRIFICING-TAUROKTONIA

The picture of bull sacrificing by Mitra, with two witnesses-dadophoros- Cautes and Cautopates (Miletić 1994) who hold torches in their hands; was described as change of the constellation of Taurus with that of Aries. The astronomical event from 1730 B. C. got a great pictural addition with participants: raven, scorpion, snake, lion, dog and goblet. (Miletić 1994) Quoted star constellations were situated between the spring and autumn equinoxes. The spring and autumn equinoxes got a torch carrier (Cautes and Cautopates) images which showed their role with crossed legs. The position of crossed legs had a role to the describe the crossing between the equator and ecliptical lines. (Miletić 1994, Zotović 1973) The meaning of bull sacrificing THEMA MUNDI, the condition at the moment of the universe creation. (Miletić 1994) Mirche Eliade, the best mythologist of the World, formulated the birth and dying idea like a successive process. A new life and a new World always must be created after a total destruction of the old one. Everything must be equalised as a TABULA RASA, complete zero, as a total conflagration (conflagratio) or a total flood (diluvium). (Elijade 1998)

#### 2. ASTRONOMICAL CONCLUSIONS

If we look on Hipparchus discovery of precession, in fact a star constellation incongruity (Beker 1992) we can observe it from a view of real mechanical powers in the Universe. For antique scholars precession was ovserved as an interregnum process, the bull giving the throne to a ram. In that case in the bull sacrificing participated seven zodiac signs, some at them more than half year. The Essence of this star constellation is in emphasizing the central position of the star constellation of Leo and his most shining star Regulus. (Miletić 1994)

#### References

Beker, U.: 1992, Astrološki Leksikon. Astrologija, astronomija, kosmologija, Gornji Milanovac, 281.

Elijade, M.: 1998, Mit i zbilja, Beograd, 46.

Miletić, Ž.: 1994, Kučerin zbornik, Zadar, 85-100.

Zotović, Lj.: 1973, Mitraizam na tlu Jugoslavije, Beograd 94-98.