

Gefördert durch



Erasmus+
Schulbildung

“Living at the coast of the Frisian sea”
(activities in the “Wattenmeerhaus Wilhelmshaven”)
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Introduction:
De Frisiis

(Plinius Maior, Naturalis historia, liber XVI cap.1)

In the first century a C, Plinius the Elder, wrote about the region of Frisia:

<p>(1) vasto ibi meatu bis dierum noctiumque singularum intervallis effusus in inensum agitur oceanus, operiens aeternam rerum naturae controversiam dubiamque terrae [sit] an partem maris.</p> <p>(2) illic, misera gens, tumulos optinent altos aut tribunalia exstructa manibus ad experimenta altissimi aestus,</p> <p>casis ita inpositis navigantibus similes, cum integant aquae circumdata, naufragis vero, cum recesserint, fugientesque cum mari pisces circa tuguria venantur.</p> <p>(3) Non pecudem his habere (contingit), non lacte ali, ut finitimis, ne cum feris quidem dimicare contingit omni procul abacto frutice.</p> <p>(4) Ulva et palustri iunco funes nectunt ad praetexenda piscibus retia captumque manibus lutum ventis magis quam sole siccantes terra cibos et rigentia septentrione viscera sua urunt.</p> <p>(5) Potus non nisi ex imbre servato scrobibus in vestibulo domus.</p> <p>(6) Et hae gentes, si vincantur hodie a populo Romano, servire se dicunt</p>	<p>(1) There, in a huge movement, two times in a period of all nights and days, the ocean is flows into an immense plain, hiding the eternal controversy of the elements of nature, whether this area is part of the land or the sea.</p> <p>(2) There, a miserable race inhabits raised little hills or platforms, which they have builded with their hands above the level of the highest known tide;L with their cottages (huts) which they have built in that way, they are like people on board a ship when the water covers the surrounding country, but like shipwrecked people when the tide has withdrawn itself; and around their cottages they catch fish which try to escape with sea (<i>when is goes back at low tide</i>).</p> <p>(3) For them it is not possible to have cows or sheep or to live from milk like their neighbours (=the surrounding tribes); They cannot even fight with wild animals, because all the bush country lies far away.</p> <p>(4) They connect ropes of sedges and reed from the marshes to nets in order to catch fish; and when they have taken mud with their hands, they dry it more in wind than in the sun, and with this (<i>warm pieces of</i>) earth they heat their food and their own bodies, which are frozen in northern wind.</p> <p>(5) Their have nothing to drink unless from the rain after this rain gas been collected in tanks front of their houses.</p> <p>(6) And THESE PEOPLE say that, if they were now conquered by the Roman nation, say that they will fall into slavery!</p>
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