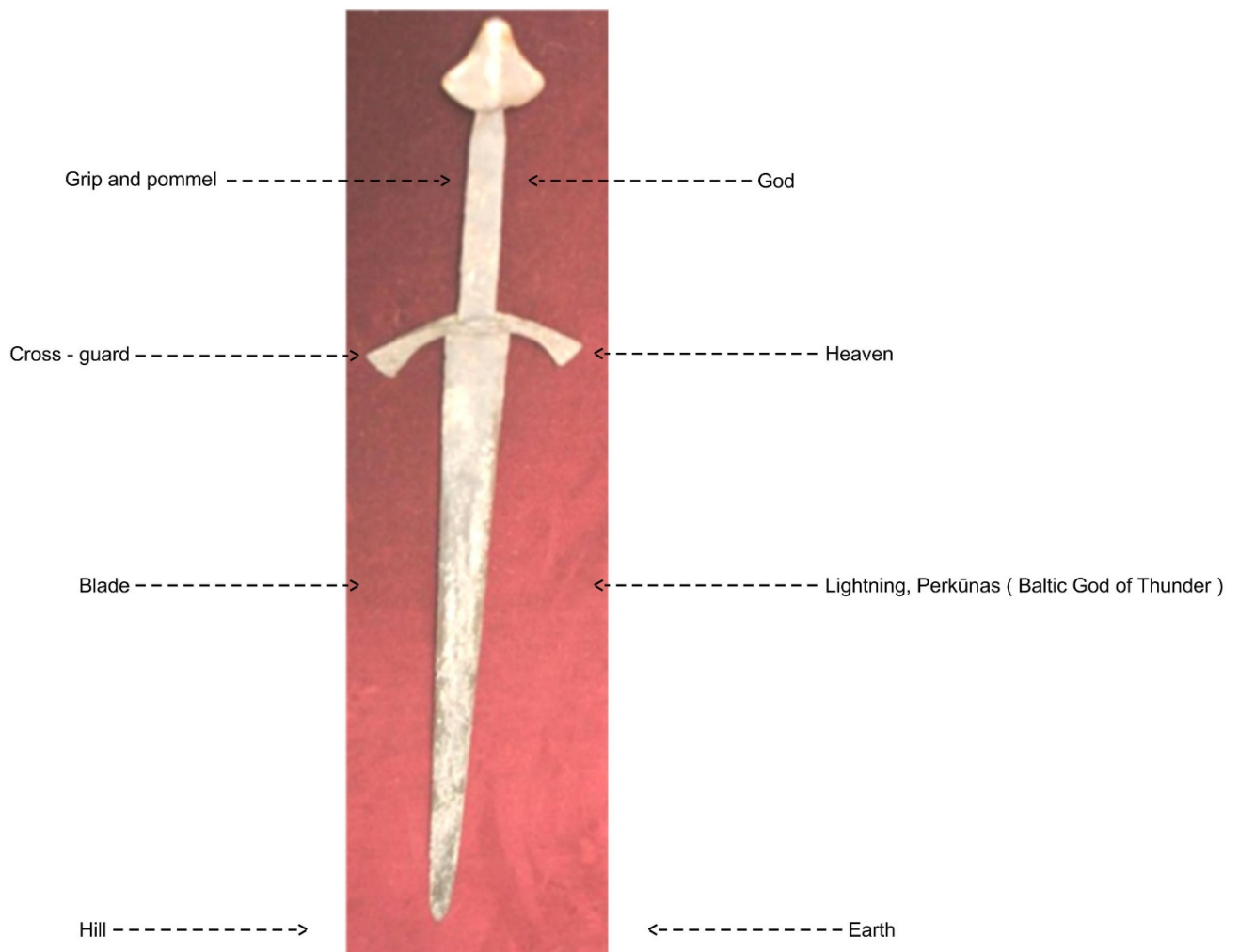


The Sword on the Hill. The Essence of the Symbol.

The sword rising from a hill is the same "World Tree" connecting the Earth and the Heavens. Hill is the Earth, sword's cross-guard with curved down sides is the Firmament, the grip, and the pommel are God above the Heavens. The same meaning is conveyed by the vertical structure of the distaff and roofed pillars (roofed pillar is a traditional Lithuanian wooden shrine), and by the way, the Christian Cross (the horizontal arm of a cross also means the Vault of Heaven, and the crucified on him means God).

The vertical sword symbolizes the connection between Heaven and Earth which is imparted by the Heavenly light which swoops down as lightning of Perkūnas, Baltic God of Thunder (bright, frisky blade).



In the most common sense, the sword symbolizes the victory of Good against Evil. It is the weapon of the defender of forces of Light against the formidable Darkness forces. In the Baltic worldview, it corresponds to the lightning, perceived as a weapon of the Divine Light Bearer Perkūnas by which the forces of evil and darkness are beaten and hunt away. This way, it embodies and inspires the warrior - the defender of the Fatherland, not just as a weapon, but also as a link of divine power which ensures God's provision in the battle for Good.

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