Saka, Ṛaka, Shaka or Saca were a group of nomadic Iranian peoples who historically inhabited the northern and eastern Eurasian Steppe and the Tarim Basin. Though closely related, the Sakas are to be distinguished from the Scythians. It has been suggested that the ruling elite of the Xiongnu was of Saka origin. In the Rus people - Wikipedia, the Rus people are generally understood in English-language scholarship as ethnically or ancestrally Scandinavian people trading and raiding on the river-routes between the Baltic and the Black Seas from around the eighth to eleventh centuries CE. Thus, they are often referred to in English-language research as Viking Rus.