

The Anatolian languages

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- Anatolian is generally considered as the first branch to have separated from the other Indo-European languages.
- Speakers migrated into Asia Minor, probably from the Balkans across the Bosphorus, in the third millennium BC. They may have already been dialectally differentiated into (at least) Pre-Hittites, Pre-Palaites and Pre-Luvians.
- Anatolia was heavily Hellenized following the conquests of Alexander the Great, and the languages had disappeared by the 1st century BC. Therefore, Anatolian is the first IE branch to become extinct.

Origins



Figure : The ancient languages of Anatolia and surrounding regions.

- In 1906, an archive of clay tablets was excavated in Boğazköy (Turkey), identified as Hattuša, the capital of the Hittites, who established a powerful kingdom between 1650-1200 BC.
- By 1917, the language (Hittite) had been deciphered by Czech scholar B. Hrozný. It had an archaic Indo-European grammar and familiar vocabulary, such as *wa-a-tar* 'water' and *gi-e-nu* 'knee'.
- We now have about 30,000 (pieces of) tablets, most dating from the 13th century BC, some to the 16th and possibly 17th century BC.
- The oldest attestations come from Old Assyrian texts from the 19th century BC (Hittite names and a few loanwords).



Figure : Treaty of Kadesh (ca. 1259 BC) between Egyptian Pharaoh Ramesses II and Hittite King Hattusili III.

- The cuneiform archives preserve other related Anatolian languages, such as Luwian and Palaic (which may have already been an extinct liturgical language).
- They also preserve non-Indo-European languages, such as Hurrian (from Southeast Anatolia), and Sumerian and Akkadian (from Mesopotamia).

Anatolian sources are found in three types of script:

- Second millenium BC: cuneiform and hieroglyphic.
- First millenium BC: hieroglyphic and alphabetic.

Hittite is mainly preserved in cuneiform script, written by professional scribes on clay tablets. Both the writing system and the materials were acquired from Akkadian-speaking peoples of Mesopotamia.

- Form of the Babylonian-Assyrian cuneiform, a syllabic script.
- Syllables of the structure V (*a*, *e*, *i* and *u*), CV, VC (both incomplete for inherent *e*), and some CVC (only with *a*, *i* and *u*).

In order to write /*pahrzi*/ it is necessary to write either *par-ah-zi* or *par-ha-zi*.

mlitu- is written either *ma-li-it-tu* or *mi-li-it-tu*.

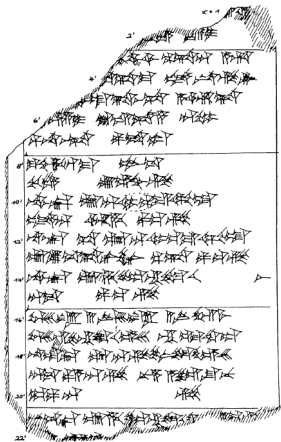
The hieroglyphic script is originary to Anatolia, and was first used for names and titles on seals.

- Syllabary with extensive use of logograms: signs have sometimes an ideographic and sometimes a syllabic value.
- Attestations from the second millenium BC are highly ideographic and not "in" any language.
- Only clearly associated with a particular language (Luwian) in the first millenium BC.

- Hittite is the earliest attested Indo-European language.
- Pre-Hittites came in contact with the autochthonous Anatolian Hattic people, from whom they took their name ("Land of Hatti"), as well as many aspects of their culture and religion.
- It was the language of the ruling classes, of public and private administration, and of the army.

- The changes over the four or five centuries of documentation are consistent with the development of a spoken language.
- Extensive Luwian elements in Hittite (personal names, hieroglyphs, loanwords) point to bilingualism.
- Archive texts mostly deal with the correct preservation of appropriate words and performance of rituals: religion, administration of cult, festivals, treaties, annals, etc. Literary texts are mainly mythological.

Hittite cuneiform script



- (8) *ma-ah-ha-an-ma* LUGAL-*us*
- (9) KUR-*e ú-e-eh-zi*
- (10) *na-as-kan É^D mi-iz-zu-ul-la*
- (11) EGIR-*an ar-ha pa-iz-zi*

- (8) "When the king
- (9) goes through the country
- (10) then the house (temple) of (the
God) Mizzulla
- (11) he enters again."

Figure : Hittite clay tablet,
describing a ritual to be carried out
by the king.

- Luwian was arguably the most widely spoken Anatolian language.
- Attested in about 200 pieces of clay tablet from the Hattuša cuneiform archives as 'of the land *Luwiya*' (one of the three major divisions of the Hittite state).
- Texts are rituals of private, therapeutic nature, or belonging to the state cult.
- Extensive Luwianisms in Hittite texts suggest a big and early influence.

- After Hittite, the best known Anatolian language.
- Mainly known from monumental inscriptions on stone, from the 14th and 13th centuries BC, but mostly from the 10th to the 7th century BC (after the fall of the Hittite Empire).
- The hieroglyphs were invented for writing Luwian, as attested from acrophony.
- Texts describe the activities of local rulers in the new independent small states, some dedicatory, some historical.
- The influence on Hittite suggests that Luwian was the spoken language in Hattuša, while Hittite was preserved as a written diplomatic language.

Hieroglyphic Luwian

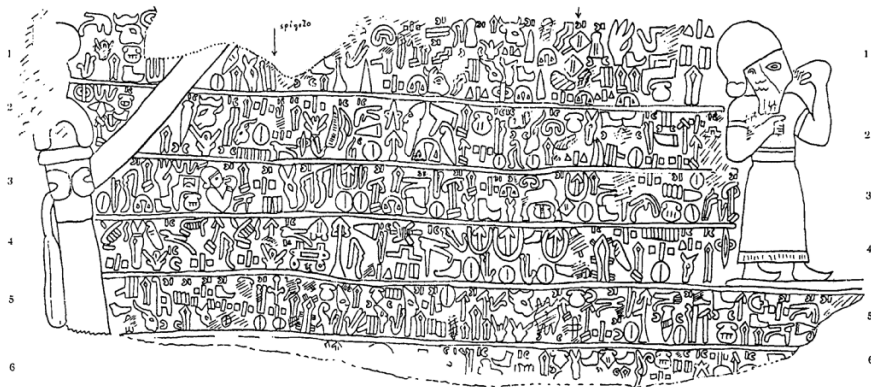


Figure : Inscription in Luwian hieroglyphs: proclamation of king Halparuntiya, king of Gurgum, ca. 850 BC.

Other Anatolian languages

- *Lycian*: Belongs to the Luwic group. We possess around 150 inscriptions from the 5th and 4th centuries BC, written in an alphabet related to Greek.
- *Milyan*: Also called *Lycian B*, attested in two inscriptions written in the Lycian alphabet, showing a related yet different language.
- *Carian*: Known from some 200 inscriptions, from the 6th and 5th centuries BC, found in Egypt, where Carians served as the pharaoh's bodyguards. Written in its own alphabet, partially deciphered thanks to a bilingual inscription discovered in 1996.
- *Lydian*: Attested on some 100 stone inscriptions in a native alphabet related to Greek, from the 8th to the 3rd century BC. Its status within Anatolian remains a "special" one.

Anatolian alphabetic scripts

Table 5.1 The Lycian alphabet

Character	Transcription
𐌲	a
↑	e
B b	b (/β/)
𐌶	β (/k ^β /?)
𐌷 𐌸	g (/ɣ/)
Δ	d (/δ/)
E	i
F	w
𐌺	z (/tʰ/)
X	θ
𐌻	y
𐌼	k (/k</)
𐌽	q (/k/)
Λ	l
𐌾	m
𐌿	n
X	ñ (/m ^ɱ /)
Ξ	ñ (/n ^ɱ /)
O	u
𐌺	p
𐌻	(≈ /k</?)
P	r
𐌷	s
T	t
𐌸	τ (/c/)
𐌹 𐌺 𐌻 𐌼 𐌽	ā
𐌿 𐌺 𐌻 𐌼 𐌽	ē
+	h
𐌺 𐌻 𐌼 𐌽	x (/k>/)

Table 6.1 The Lydian alphabet

Character	Transcription
A	a
𐌲	b
𐌷	g
𐌸	d (/d/)
𐌹	e
𐌺	v
𐌻	i
𐌼	y
𐌽	k
𐌾	l
𐌿	m
𐌺	n
o	o
q	r
𐌻 𐌼 𐌽	ś (/s/)
T	t
𐌸	u
𐌺	F
+	q (/k ^β /)
𐌺 𐌻	s (/s/)
Ξ	τ (/tʰ/)
𐌾	ā
𐌿	ē
𐌺	λ
𐌻	v
↑	c (/d ^β /?)

The core grammatical structure of Hittite in nominal, pronominal and verbal morphology is clearly Indo-European.

A few innovations:

- Only two moods: indicative and imperative. Loss of subjunctive and optative.
- Only two tenses: present-future and preterite. Loss of the aorist and perfect verb tenses.
- Two voices: active and mediopassive.
- Loss of the comparative **-yos-* and the superlative.
- Loss of the dual grammatical number.

- Loss of the feminine gender.
- Merging of vowel qualities *a* and *o* into *a*.
- The *e/o* ablaut is preserved as an alternation *e/a*:
Hittite *peda* 'place' and *pata-* 'foot' <IE **ped-/pod-*.
- Confusion of voiceless stops: the signs *-dV-* and *-tV-* are employed interchangeably in different occurrences of the same word.

Opposition *past* : *non-past*

- *Past* (the marked member): preterite.
Same stem: *kuen-ta* 'he killed', *kuen-zi* 'he kills', 'he will kill'
- *Non-past* (the unmarked member): present, future, prospective, and historical present in past narrative.

Prospective aspect

kuenzi=ma-an LUGAL-uš h̄uišnuzi=ya=an LUGAL-uš

The king can kill him [or] the king can let him live.

Narrative present in past time

The Queen thereupon gave birth (pret. *h̄āšta*) to 30 daughters and she raised (pret. *šallanušket*) them herself. (Meanwhile) the sons were going back (pres. *āppa yanzi*) to Nesa and driving (pres. *nanniyanzi*) a donkey. When they arrived (pret. *arer*) in Tamarmara, they said (pres. *taršikanzi*)...

Two genders: common and neuter (or animate and inanimate).

Different interpretations:

- Initially seen as a merge of the original IE masculine and feminine. (*Kammenhuber, 1963*)
- An animate-inanimate opposition can be reconstructed for IE. Masculine and feminine became subsequently distinguished within the animate gender.
- *-i-* suffix in Luwian would correspond to IE feminine suffix *-ih₂-* (Sanskrit *vrkī́* 'she-wolf'). Common Anatolian would have originally had a tripartite gender distinction. (*Starke, 1982; Oettinger, 1987*)
- *-ih₂-* could have existed in Anatolian without having yet developed the feminine function. (*Melchert, 1992*)

Two genders: animate and inanimate.

- Comparative evidence from Lycian shows Proto-Anatolian had the traditional Indo-European three-gender system.
 - Masculine: nom. *-e*, acc. *-ẽ* < **-os*, **-om*
 - Feminine: nom. *-a*, acc. *-ã* < **-ā*, **-ām* < **-ah₂*
 - Neuter
- Anatolian languages innovated by eliminating the feminine gender by merger.
- Phonological reason: IE feminine **ah₂* lost its final laryngeal, and the undercharacterized nom. **-a* was further marked by nom. *-s*. The resulting *-aš* is rendered identical to *-aš* from masc. them. **-os*:
 - Hittite nominative *ḫāššaš* 'hearth' (cf. Latin *āra*, fem.)
 - Hittite *ḫāraš* 'eagle' (cf. Old High German *aro*, masc.)

It has been doubted whether the feminine gender is of PIE origin. (*Beekes*)

- No formal distinction between masc. and fem. stems:
ph₂tĕr 'father' alongside *d^hugh₂tĕr* 'daughter'
- -o stems are masculine, but there are exceptions: *h₁ekú(o)* 'horse' is also used for 'mare'
- Gender difference does not need to be accompanied by a difference in form:
Dutch *huis* 'house' (neut.) and *buis* 'tube' (fem.)
- The three-gender system arose in Late PIE after Anatolian had split off. The IE feminine gender, and its association with the suffix **(i)eh₂* is recent:
**deiu-os* 'god', *deiu-ih₂* 'goddess'; so 'he', *seh₂* 'she'

It is not immediately clear which categories the PIE verb had.

	Sanskrit	Gothic	Hittite	
voice	3	2	2	(<i>active, passive, middle</i>)
tense	6	2	2	(<i>pres., imf., fut., aor., pf., ppf.</i>)
mood	5	3	2	(<i>ind., inj., sub., opt., imp.</i>)

Table : The categories of Sanskrit are given in parentheses; the categories in italics are also found in Gothic; Hittite is as Gothic, but with a middle instead of the passive, and without the optative.

The question must be solved by looking at the traces of archaic forms.

- Latin has a subjunctive and no optative, but the subj. of 'to be' would seem to be an old optative ($-\bar{i}- < -ih_1-$).
- The PIE verb categories have long been considered to be: 2 voices, 3-5 tenses and 5 moods (similar to Sanskrit and Greek).
- The simplicity of Hittite may be a process of simplification, but what was the original situation?

Obvious differences distinguishing Anatolian from the other IE languages led scholars to speculate on the relationship between them.

- Anatolian should be viewed not as a branch, but as a linguistic group only marginally related to Indo-European. (*Forrer, 1921*)
- *Indo-Hittite theory*: Anatolian and Indo-European were two branches of one linguistic family. (*Sturtevant, 1933*)

Explanations for the differences:

- *Schwundhypothese*: Missing categories have been lost in Anatolian, which would be a particularly innovative branch of Indo-European.
- *Herkunftshypothese*: Missing categories were formed only after the Anatolian branch split off. It would thus be particularly archaic.

Hittite makes a very archaic impression because of its simplicity: it lacks several forms and categories routinely found in the other IE languages.

- The missing categories never existed in Anatolian.
- The other IE languages jointly created these categories after the Proto-Anatolians left the Indo-European homeland.
- There would have been an Indo-Hittite proto-language, from which Proto-Anatolian and the other IE languages derived.



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