
HISTORY OF ANCIENT LANGUAGES

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It is thought that human language originated and progressed over a very long time, around 100,000 years ago. These languages have changed throughout time, just like humans have. Numerous changes have occurred to several of these languages, including their branching out and eventual disappearance. Certain languages, by exception, have endured for thousands of years and have developed further throughout time. The idea of language first appeared, and it drastically changed human history. The evolution of the human race and our current state are directly attributable to language use. Languages are dynamic systems that constantly evolve, shift, and take on new forms throughout time. In this article, I will discuss languages that have survived since ancient times and are still used today.

Which languages are the earliest in the world that are still spoken today?

Certain of the oldest languages in the world may be found in certain ancient books and cave paintings. Many ancient languages are still in use today even if many of them were lost throughout time for a variety of reasons. It's difficult to know a language's origin. Since oral languages were in use tens of thousands of years before recorded languages, we will never be completely certain of the exact nature of the languages that existed in the past. There has been significant discussion over the origin of the first language spoken around the globe, but no clear consensus has been achieved.

Here are some of the world's oldest languages:

1- Sanskrit (5,000 years old);

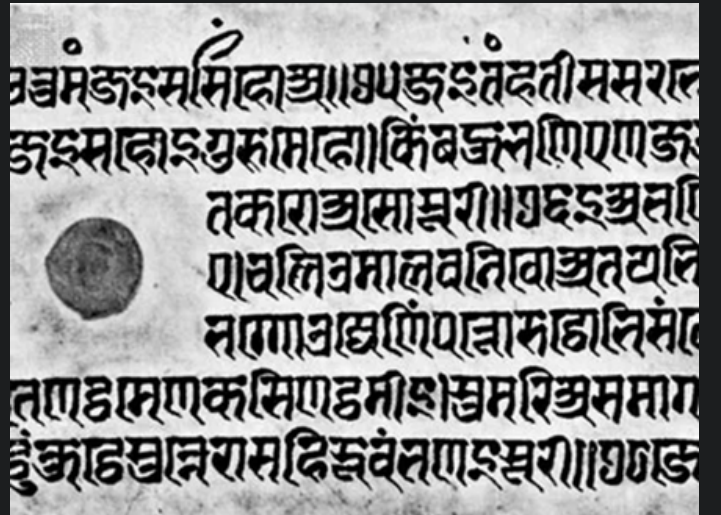
Some historians argue that Sanskrit was never used by the general population and was only spoken by a small group of people in religious and scholarly circles. Others indicate that the language's earliest speakers were a very vast community who lived throughout India, the Caspian Sea, and the Middle East.

Punjab is the original heartland of Sanskrit speakers. This is where Sanskrit's first dialect, Vedic, originated. The Vedic language evolved and grew more versatile throughout the time that corresponds to the early part of the second millennium BC. Following their extensive adoption of this language in the first millennium BC, the Indo-Aryan community which eventually extended to the Ganges Valley emerged with the language known as Prakrit. In the meantime, Sanskrit absorbed a large number of vocabulary terms and used styles from nearby civilizations. The literary and academic establishment of the fifth century BC conducted the earliest linguistic analyses. Academics generally assume that the group responsible for bringing Sanskrit to its full glory was led by a literary scholar by the name of Panini. The Vedic and Prakrit branches of Sanskrit, which were spoken by nearly everyone throughout that time, were very different from the Sanskrit grammatical principles developed by Panini.

The era's intellectuals enthusiastically embraced the structured vocabulary that was presented to them. The public never embraced Panini's grammar in spite of this. The composition of Indian religious writings marked the beginning of Sanskrit's true climb to prominence. In addition to being written in Devanagari, these manuscripts are also written in Brahmi and Haroshti scripts. Nonetheless, they were all conducted in Sanskrit.

Sanskrit is a dialect that permits structural attachments as well as inflections. It is possible for words to be joined to one another several times, unlike in many other languages. The combinations of words in this language are infinite. ABC, AABC, BCA, and so on using words A, B, and C. The following may be used to derive hundreds of thousands of words, each with a unique meaning. Sanskrit has one of the highest word counts of any language in the world because of this.

The oldest known Iranian dialects, Avestan, Old Persian, and Medic, as well as the ancient Greek and Latin, are 90% structurally and grammatically close to Vedic, Prakrit, and other Sanskrit dialects. Adjectives, verbs, pronouns, and words all have this commonality. Once more, there is a lot of similarity in the nominative, accusative, vocative, and auxiliary verbs (passive, active, causative, desiderative), and the tenses. There is also an organization of things (feminine, masculine, neutral).



There are 52 letters in the most recent form of Sanskrit, 15 of which are vowels and 37 of which are consonants. These are separated into categories like twisted and nasal. Sanskrit is not widely used today, but those who know it can utilize it to learn more about Indian religion and history.

2- Tamil (5,000 years old);

Tamil is a member of the Dravidian language family's South Dravidian branch. a Dravidian language that is mostly spoken by Tamil people in Sri Lanka and India. The language is spoken by around 75 million people and has a written history spanning over 2000 years. The language is the official language of the Union Territory of Puducherry, the Indian state of Tamil Nadu, and Sri Lanka. It additionally serves as the official language of Singapore. Tamil is studied at 543 elementary schools in Malaysia.

Its western neighbor, Malayalam, is the language with which it is most closely related in this family. Around the ninth century AD, differences between Malayalam and Tamil started to emerge. Although discrepancies between the two languages suggest a dialectization in the West in prehistory, Malayalam and Tamil split linguistically around the 13th or 14th century. Tamil's lexicon has a large number of terms borrowed from nearby languages as well as other languages like Hindustani, Sanskrit, and Persian.

The first recorded period of written history spans the years 300 BCE to 300 CE when Sangam literature flourished and the first written records of surviving Dravidian languages appeared.

Middle Tamil eventually developed from Old Tamil. The language underwent several phonological and grammatical alterations after this process was finished in the eighth century. The phoneme Aytam (ஐதம்) essentially vanished from the language, and simultaneously the aorist tense was introduced for the first time. Tamil became the first language in India to be written and published when the first prayer book was released in 1578 by Portuguese missionaries.

Modern Tamil developed from Middle Tamil. During this time, the usage of punctuation marks unique to European languages emerged due to their influence. Furthermore, a number of movements have been formed to rid the language of Sanskrit components.

அ	ஆ	இ	ஈ	உ	ஊ
a	ā	i	ī	u	ū
எ	ஏ	ஐ	ஓ	ஔ	ஓள
e	ē	ai	o	au	au
க	ங	ச	ஞ	ட	ண
ka	ṅa	ca	ña	ṭa	ṇa
த	ந	ப	ம	ய	ர
ta	na	pa	ma	ya	ra
ல	வ	ழ	ள	ற	ன
la	va	ḷa	ḷa	ra	ṇa
ஐ	ஸ	ஷ	ஹ	க்ஷ	ஸ்ரீ
ja	ṣa	ṣa	ha	kṣa	sri

A Brahmi script of Tamil-Brahmi heritage, abugida is their writing method used in modern Tamil. There are 12 vowels, 18 consonants, and one unique letter in this writing system.

3- Greek (3,600 years old);

Greek (Ελληνικά Elliniká or Ελληνική γλώσσα Ellinikí Glóssa), often known as Hellenic or Greek-speaking, is a language spoken in Greece, Cyprus, Albania, and the Eastern Mediterranean and Black Sea. It is the only spoken tongue in Greece and the Republic of Cyprus, where it is also recognized alongside Turkish. There are around 3,500 years of documented history in the language. Greek is typically categorized as a distinct branch of the Indo-European language family, while there have been other, less convincing ideas proposed. The language of Classical Greek culture was Ancient Greek. Modern Greek is derived from Ancient Greek, even if it differs from it. Greek has historically been transcribed primarily with the Greek alphabet, and this writing system is still in use today, however, it has also historically been written using Linear B and the Cypriot syllabary.

Roughly 13 million people worldwide are native Greek speakers; the majority of these individuals reside in Greece, although there are also speakers of Greek in Australia, Germany, and the United States. There are thought to be about 2,500 native Greek speakers who identify as Greek Orthodox in Turkey. Nearly the majority of them settle in Bozcaada, Gökçeada, and Istanbul. Furthermore, it is spoken by the Trabzon people who converted to Islam in the fifteenth and seventeenth centuries. 4,535 persons identified Greek, or the Pontic dialect, as their mother tongue in the 1965 census. Muslim Greek immigrants to Turkey from Greece, Crete, and Cyprus have left behind some Greek language speakers in areas like Mersin and Western Anatolia.

The widely held belief is that Greek belongs to the Indo-European language family and, on its own (and occasionally in conjunction with Ancient Macedonian), constitutes the Hellenic languages branch within the family. Within the Indo-European language family, some linguists merge Greek and Phrygian in the hypothetical Greco-Phrygian supergroup. This is because Greek and Phrygian share several characteristics that are unique to Indo-European languages. The Greco-Armenian and Greco-Aryan hypotheses, on the other hand, are less well established and suggest combining the Greek and Indo-Aryan languages, respectively, with Armenian.

Verbs and adjectives are conjugated similarly in Greek as they are in German. Verb conjugation comes in three basic varieties. However, not all irregular verbs will adhere to these three guidelines. The subject does not have to come before the inflected verb, just like in Turkish. You may, however, say "Gidiyorum" (Going) rather than "Ben gidiyorum." (I'm going) Adjectives are inflected in this language as well, unlike in Turkish. Gender influences the inflecting of adjectives as well. Nouns in Greek are classified as masculine, feminine, or neuter. The article η designates feminine nouns, the article ο designates masculine nouns, and the article το designates neuter nouns. The Turkish language does not have this rule.

The emphasis on vowels is the first thing that strikes one's eye while reading Greek. The Greek term for these stress marks is Τόνος (tonos), and they alter the word's sound as well as its meaning. Stress is present in all words with two or more syllables. The significance of the accent mark is demonstrated by the example below:

"I am healthy" (Είμαι γερός) is the meaning of eimai gerós. However, the meaning entirely shifts if we place the focus incorrectly:

"My old man" is what Είμαι γέρος, or eimai géros, means.

One-syllable words in Greek do not bear stress, yet there are three notable exceptions to this norm:

πώΥ (pos): how; δ (i): or; πού (pu): where, where.

Around the fifteenth century BC, the first Greek manuscripts found were written using the Linear B script. This writing system based on syllabaries most likely originated from the Minoan Linear A script, which is unrelated to Greek and has not yet been decoded. The earliest known specimens of the Cypriot syllabary script, which is likewise of Linear A origin, date to the eleventh century BC. Phoenician has been the primary language since the ninth century BC. The original Greek alphabet is used to write it. Throughout history, the alphabet's letters have experienced a variety of alterations. Some have been obsolete, while others have had their sounds altered.

Αα alpha	Ββ beta	Γγ gamma	Δδ delta
Εε epsilon	Ζζ zeta	Ηη eta	Θθ theta
Ιι iota	Κκ kappa	Λλ lambda	Μμ mu
Νν nu	Ξξ xi	Οο omicron	Ππ pi
Ρρ rho	Σσ sigma	Ττ tau	Υυ upsilon
Φφ phi	Χχ chi	Ψψ psi	Ωω omega

Some numbers are;

0: μηδέν (Miden), 1: ένα (Ena), 2: δύο (Dio), 3: τρία (Tria), 4: τέσσερα (Tessera),
5: πέντε (Pente), 6: έξι (Eksi), 7: εφτά (Efta), 8: οχτώ (Oħto), 9: εννιά (Enniaea),,
10: δέκα (Deka), 50: πενήντα (Peninta), 100: εκατό (Ekato), 200: διακόσια (Diakosia),
300: τριακόσια (Triakosia)....., 1000: χίλια (Hilia)....., 10000: δέκα χιλιάδες (Deka Hiliades)

4- Egyptian/Coptic (3,400 years old);

- Ancient Egyptian language: 2700 BC - 2200 BC
- Middle Egyptian language: 2200 BC - 1500 BC
- New Egyptian language: 1500 BC - 700 BC
- Demotic: 700 - 400 BC
- Coptic: 400 - 1700

The term "Ancient Egyptian language," sometimes known as "Ancient Egyptian," refers to a stage in the evolution of the Egyptian language that is found in writings from the late era or in inscriptions and coffin texts from the Old Kingdom (2707-2216 BC). The earliest Afro-Asiatic language to survive to the current day is the Ancient Egyptian language, which also represents the oldest stage of the language's evolution. The manuscripts in this language that have remained to this day represent the written culture of that era rather than the language that was spoken in Egypt at the time, and there are likely significant distinctions between the two. Despite being the initial stage of Egyptian development, the Ancient Egyptian language had been replaced by Middle Egyptian.

4.1. - Ancient Egyptian;

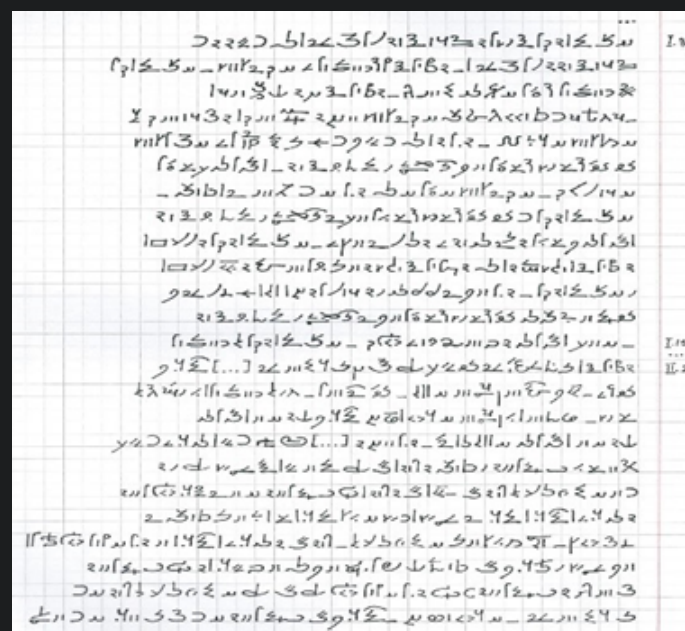
The language spoken in ancient Egypt throughout the Middle Kingdom, which ruled from the 21st to the 18th century BC, and afterwards until about the 16th century BC, is known as Middle Egyptian, or simply Middle Egyptian. It was superseded by the New Egyptian language during the 17th Dynasty, particularly in spoken language. There are some distinctions between the Ancient Egyptian and Middle Egyptian languages, despite the fact that both are products of Egyptian language evolution.



At least until the fourth century AD, literature and inscriptions were written in Middle Egyptian. The majority of studies conducted on Egyptian languages have also focused on Middle Egyptian languages. Egyptian hieroglyphs were used to write the Middle Egyptian language inscriptions discovered in tombs and structures. Instead of utilizing hieroglyphs, the writing in Middle Egyptian papyrus was written in hieratic script, a simpler and more stressed form of the hieroglyphs.

One of the phases of Egyptian civilization that dominated the New Kingdom era is the New Egyptian language or New Egyptian. Texts from the 17th Dynasty contain forms with characteristics often associated with New Egypt. Completely composed in New Egyptian, the writings predate the Amarna era. One type of Egyptian, called Demotic, superseded New Egyptian, which had fallen into usage in the 7th century BC.

Demotic is a language from the 7th century BC that was spoken in Egypt and represents one of the phases of Egyptian civilization. The vocabulary and grammar of the Demotic differ significantly from those of the New Egyptians employed during the New Kingdom. Demotic is regarded as a Lower Egyptian dialect as well. Demotic was written in the demotic script, although other writing forms that have endured to the current day also contain demotic texts.;



Coptic (ⲙⲉⲧⲣⲉⲙⲓⲕⲏⲙⲓ or ⲧⲙⲓⲧⲣⲙⲓⲕⲏⲙⲉ) is the final phase of ancient Egyptian development. Based on the Coptic script, the dialect is used in the rituals of the Coptic Orthodox Church.

5- Chinese (3,200 years old);

Sung by approximately one billion individuals around Chinese territory, Chinese (simplified: 汉语; traditional: 漢語; pinyin: Hànyǔ; additional names: 中文, 國文, 華文, 華語) is a set of languages evolved from Old Chinese. Chinese, including its dialects, is the most widely spoken language in the world and is spoken as a native tongue by one in five people worldwide. Spoken in mainland China, also known as Greater China, Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan, and East and Southeast Asian nations including Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore, Myanmar, Vietnam, and South Korea, are Chinese and its dialects. Given that Chinese is the most widely spoken language in the world, it is one of the six official languages of the UN. Along with Taiwan, Singapore, and China, it is the official language of Hong Kong and Macau.

Chinese is made up of hundreds of regional dialects. Currently, the term "Chinese" refers to all of the dialects that are derived from Old Chinese, including all of its varieties. Chinese is therefore said to belong to a language family. Roughly 850 million people speak Mandarin Chinese, the most common dialect of Chinese.

There are three main languages spoken in China: Wu, Yue, and Min. Wu is a language used by 90 million people in Shanghai and nearby areas, 90 million people in Guangzhou and its environment, and more than 70 million people in the Fujian and Leizhou peninsula regions, as well as nearly 50 million people in Southern China, Guangdong, Malaysia, and Indonesia. It originates from Hakka and other Chinese dialects that are prevalent in countries like Thailand.

The majority of Cantonese dialect usage occurs in immigrant populations. Within Yue Chinese, the language is spoken by almost 80 million people. This is because the majority of Chinese immigrants come from southern regions. Within the Sino-Tibetan language group, this language is a member.

Believed to have existed for more than 6,000 years, with the earliest known documents dating back more than 4,500–5,000 years. One of the world's earliest languages still in use today is Chinese. Chinese inscriptions were discovered on bones and metal containers. Chinese's writing system and linguistic structure have impacted a number of Far Eastern languages. Chinese has had a significant historical effect on languages like Korean, Japanese, and Vietnamese; nowadays, terms from Chinese make up more than half of the vocabulary of these languages. Chinese influence has resulted in a moraic language structure in Japanese and a disruption of vowel harmony in Korean. 60% of the vocabulary in modern Vietnamese is Chinese, despite the language being written using Latin characters.

Chinese characters were the initial basis for the writing systems that were created by the Japanese, Koreans, and Vietnamese. Hancha, a Chinese character set, has been used to write Korean throughout history. Eventually, the Hangul alphabet took the place of the Chinese letters. While Korean-Hangŭl characters share certain structural similarities with Chinese characters, they differ slightly from Japanese characters. Nonetheless, Chinese words are the source of the majority of Korean terms. Japanese Kana syllables are used to support Chinese characters. Although their pronunciations and meanings vary often from Chinese, Japanese Kanji characters and Chinese characters have a great deal of formal similarity. Vietnamese is still written using the Chinese character chữ Nôm alphabet, although it has moved to a Latin-based alphabet due to previous French colonization.

This language uses a unique writing system called Chinese characters. The history of this structure spans 4,500–5,000 years. In Chinese, words are made up of individual characters rather than a combination of characters. Chinese characters were ordered by Mao to be both traditional and modernized. Chinese was written using typical characters until 1954. Mao reduced the visual complexity of the characters to simpler forms. Taiwan still uses traditional characters nowadays. An educated Chinese reader understands between 5,000 and 7,000 characters, whereas finishing basic school requires knowledge of about 1,200 characters. You need to learn at least 3,000 characters to read a Chinese newspaper.

The dialects of Chinese differ by location. Mandarin is the most widely spoken dialect in China.

Which of the following regions' populations speak Chinese?

Mandarin: Spans the majority of China. There are 850,000,000 speakers.

Wu: Said by 90 million people in Shanghai and the adjacent regions.

Yue (Cantonese): The language of 90 million people in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of China.

Min: In the provinces of Fujian and Taiwan, spoken by 70,000,000 people.

Jin: Spoken by 45 million people in the provinces of Gansu and Shanxi in China.

36,000,000 people in the Chinese provinces of Hubei and Hunan speak Xiang.

Hakka: The language of 50 million people in the province of Guangdong, China.

Gan: The language of 33,000,000 people in the province of Jiangxi, China.

Pinghua: The language of three million people in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of China.



6- Basque (3,000 years old);

The language spoken by the isolated Basques is Basque (euskara). Linguists believe that Basque is an extension of the languages that were spoken in Europe prior to the Indo-European languages' arrival. Because of this, it is believed to be a very old language that is unrelated to any other language that is spoken today. It was spoken over the whole Iberian peninsula (France and Spain) and the Gascony/Aquitaine region (southwestern France) before the Indo-Europeans arrived.

There are differing views on the origins of Basque, a language that is isolated due to issues with classification, as well as possible related languages. Numerous recent investigations have shown that it is closely related to the Georgian language. This is how the possibility that it originated in the Georgian language has been established. The Basques, who identify as people who moved from Georgia, are solely recognized by Georgia.

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Determining the phonetic similarity and link between Basque and certain other languages spoken across the world is another area of inquiry. This study led to the conclusion that Basque shares more phonetic similarities with other languages than the Indo-European language family that is spoken throughout Europe.

Some Words in Basque;

Yes: Bai

No: Ez

Hello!: Kaixo!

Goodbye!: Agur!/Aio!

See you!: Ikusi arte!

Thank you!: Eskerrik asko!

Me: ni

You: hi, zu

Him: hura, bera

A a	B b	C c	D d	E e	F f	G g	H h	I i
a	be	ze	de	e	efe	ge	hatxe	i
[a]	[b/β]	[k/ɕ]	[d/ð]	[e]	[f]	[g/ɣ]	[Ø/h]	[i/ɨ]
J j	K k	L l	M m	N n	Ñ ñ	O o	P p	Q q
jota	ka	ele	eme	ene	eñe	o	pe	ku
[j/x/j/ɟ]	[k]	[l]	[m]	[n]	[ɲ]	[o]	[p]	[k]
R r	S s	T t	U u	V v	W w	X x	Y y	Z z
erre	ese	te	u	uve	uve bikoitza	ixa	i grekoa	zeta
[r/r]	[s]	[t]	[u/ɯ]	[b/β]	[ʷ]	[ʃ]	[i/ɨ]	[s]
Digraphs								
dd	ll	rr	ts	tt	tx	tz		
[t]	[ʎ]	[r]	[ts]	[t]	[tʃ]	[tʃ]		

7- Hebrew (3,000 years old);

Hebrew, often referred to as *Gvrit* (IPA: [iv'ɪt] or [ʕiv'rit]), is a Semitic language that is part of the Northwest Semitic part of the Afro-Asiatic language family. The national language of the Jews is Hebrew, which was used by the Hebrews and Israelites in the past. Additionally, there are about 15,000,000 Hebrew speakers worldwide and Hebrew is the official language of Israel.

Over 9,000,000 individuals speak Modern Hebrew globally, according to 2013 statistics data. Despite not being called "Hebrew" in the Tanakh, this dialect has historically been regarded as the national language of the Jews and their predecessors. Paleo-Hebrew writings first appeared in manuscripts around B.C. It was created in the tenth century.

Since Ashkenazi Jews in Central and Eastern Europe have retained it since they escaped Judea after the Roman emigration, it is the only Canaanite language that is still spoken today.

Consonants are also used as numerals in Hebrew, which is another characteristic. Aleph 1, Teth 9, Yod 10, and Kuf, for instance, all represent the number 100. The writing is done from right to left. There is identification for both men and women. After the First Temple was destroyed, Hebrew briefly maintained its dynamic features before progressively losing it and being known as "Lashon Hahamim" (Language of Scholars). It is a member of the Northwest Semitic languages' Canaanite branch. The Hebrew language's history is divided into four eras. Hebrew is used in the Bible, Mishnah, New Testament, and Modern Times. Since the 4th century BCE, Mishnah Hebrew has been a common language. As a matter of fact, for generations, people in the Judean region used Hebrew in schools and temples, and Aramaic as their everyday language. Hebrew's impact declined over time. When the State of Israel was founded, this language was designated as its official tongue.

Since the Ashkenazi Jews of Central and Eastern Europe have not forgotten Hebrew since they departed Judea following the Roman exile, Hebrew holds the unique title of being the only Canaanite language still spoken today.



Jewish minorities residing far from Israel also speak it, despite it being the official language of Israel. Hebrew has been written with the 22-letter Hebrew Alphabet, which is read from right to left. The countries where it is most widely spoken include Israel, the United States, Australia, Canada, Germany, Palestine, Panama, and the United Kingdom. A non-Jewish minority in the West Bank and Jewish minorities across the world also speak it as a spiritual dialect, along with Ladino, Yiddish, or Aramaic, in addition to the local tongue.

Hebrew is a language of Afro-Asiatic origin that is categorized as Semitic. The Northwest Semitic languages are made up of the Aramaic and Canaanite languages within this linguistic group. Ugaritic, Phoenician, and Hebrew are Canaanite languages. Samaritan Hebrew, Modern Hebrew, and Ancient Hebrew are all categorized as "Hebrewic" by the Glottologist.

Avraham Ben-Yosef states that Hebrew originated in the Kingdoms of Israel and Judah and developed between 1200 and 586 BC. It is still up for discussion among academics to what extent Hebrew was spoken locally in ancient times following the Babylonian exile and whether Old Aramaic was the predominant international language in the area. Hebrew was used so seldom that it nearly vanished as a "spoken language" in Late Antiquity; yet, Hebrew was employed as a literary language and the liturgical language of Judaism until its resurgence as a spoken language in the late 19th century.

With Zionism (Jewish nationalism) at the end of the 19th century, Hebrew was revitalized as modern Hebrew and started to be spoken by the Jews of the period, taking the place of languages like Yiddish, Arabic, and Russian. With the help of Eliezer Ben Yehuda's own efforts, it was once again used. Itamar Ben Avi, originally named Ben-Tzion Ben Yehuda, was the first native speaker of modern Hebrew and the son of Ben Yehuda.

Both the State of Israel, founded in 1948 and Palestine, governed by the United Kingdom, proclaimed modern Hebrew and Arabic to be official languages in 1921. Following a vote in the Israeli Parliament on July 19, 2018, Hebrew was declared the sole official language of Israel, replacing Arabic as one of the official languages.

As is evident in practically every Semitic language, Hebrew phrases are formed from verbs made up of three consonants. These three consonants define the verb root's true meaning. Consonants are added to the start or end of this root to create names.

In Hebrew, compound verbs are uncommon, and verb tenses (to be in the past, to be present) are secondary to whether the action has been finished. (Optimal – Inadequacy)

Noun inflections are no longer present in Hebrew; instead, the prepositions {ת is associated with accusativus (-i genitive), -de genitive with locativus, -e genitive with dativus, ablativus (-den genitive) with {ל, and -{ prefix with locativus. (-in -un -nin -nun) genitiveus.

Nouns come in two varieties: masculine and feminine. There are three forms for the noun: dual, plural, and singular. The dual plural suffix (-aim) is used for plurals that are double or consist of two items, such as hands, feet, eyes, ears, and legs; plural suffix (-im for male, -ot for female) is used for plurals that have more than two things.

Adjectives come in two varieties, male and female, and their usage is dependent upon the gender of the noun. Adjectives with numbers can also be masculine or female.

ט	ח	ז	ו	ה	ד	ג	ב	א	
Tet	Chet	Zayin	Vav	He	Dalet	Gimel	Bet	Alef	
(T)	(Ch)	(Z)	(V/O/I)	(H)	(D)	(G)	(B/V)	(Silent)	
ס	נ	מ	ל	כ	ך	ק	פ	ע	י
Samech	Nun	Nun	Mem	Mem	Lamed	Khaf	Kaf	Yod	
(S)	(N)	(N)	(M)	(M)	(L)	(Kh)	(K/Kh)	(Y)	
ת	ש	ר	ק	ץ	צ	ף	פ	ע	
Tav	Shin	Resh	Qof	Trade	Trade	Fe	Pe	Ayin	
(T/S)	(Sh/S)	(R)	(Q)	(Tz)	(Tz)	(F)	(P/F)	(Silent)	

8- Persian (2,800 years old);

Persian, sometimes known as Persian (Persian: **فارسی**; Fârsi, **پارسی**, Pârsi or **زبان فارسی**; zabân-e Fârsi) is a language spoken in western Iran that is a member of the Indo-European language family. The main speaking regions are Iran, the northern regions of Russia and Azerbaijan, the eastern regions of Afghanistan and Tajikistan, the central Asian region of Uzbekistan, and the Persian Gulf nations of Kuwait and Iraq. It comes from the language of the prehistoric Persians.

Iran, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and Russia have designated Persian and its dialects as official languages (Dagestan). More than 100 million people in Iran, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Russia, Azerbaijan, and Persian Gulf nations including Kuwait and Iraq are native speakers of Persian. This language is thought to be spoken by the same amount of people in other nations, particularly in Pakistan and India. A recommendation to designate Persian as one of the languages with "International Mother Language" status was made to UNESCO in 2006.

Persian has historically been valued as a noble language by a number of empires in South, Central, and West Asia. The languages of Old Persian, which was used earlier in the Achaemenid Empire (550–330 BC), and Middle Persian, which served as the official language of the Sasanian Empire (224–651 AD), are combined to form Modern Persian. The ancient Persians who spoke it originated and spread it from the Pars (Persia) area in southwest Iran.

The grammar displays a resemblance to several European languages. It has impacted the languages of surrounding nations, particularly the Turkic languages of Central Asia, the Caucasus, and Anatolia, and has long been regarded as a distinguished cultural language in Central Asia, South Asia, and the Middle East. It has less of an impact on Arabic and Mesopotamian languages. The Islamic world's second cultural language is Persian. Arabic masterpieces were written in this language, particularly those that dealt with Sufism. It's a language rich in melody and poetry. Even non-native speakers, including those in the Ottoman Empire in the West, the Mughal Empire in South Asia, and the Pashtuns in Afghanistan, utilized it formally as a bureaucratic language.

In and around India, it was extensively spoken as a second language five hundred years before the arrival of the British. In South Asia, it was acknowledged as the language of literature and culture. During the Mongol Empire, it was designated as the official language. Persian continues to affect Hindustani, Kashmiri, Punjabi, Sindhi, Gujarati, Bengali, and even Telugu languages, as well as Persian literature remains popular in the area, all of which are indications of Persian's historical impact. Particularly, Urdu is a synthesis of Persian, Arabic, Turkish, and other South Asian regional languages. It was widely utilized in the Muslim regions of India's Mughal Empire.

Old Persian writings go all the way back to B.C. It was created in the 1000s. The regions southwest of the modern Iranian Plateau are where the known Old Persian language originated (today's Fars Province). Old Persian writing is as old as recorded history, and it dates to B.C. These are the Behistun Inscriptions, which date to the 500s and were inscribed under the Achaemenid Empire. The cuneiform script was initially used to write Old Persian, and then the Pahlavi Alphabet was used. It was one of the Achaemenid Empire's official languages and was spoken in ancient Iran. Only stone-carved specimens are still present today. It is said that this era was also governed by the Persian rule that the verb should always come at the conclusion of the phrase.

Ancient Persian artifacts can be discovered in Iran, Egypt, Bahrain, Iraq, Romania (Gherla), Armenia, and Turkey. One of the earliest known Indo-European languages is Old Persian.

This is Persian, or "Pahlavi" as it was pronounced during the Sassanid era. This language is used in many written works regarding Zoroastrianism. Among these papers are Bundahishn, Arda Virafname, Mainu Khared, and Pandnameh Adorbad Mehresfand.

Three medieval Iranian dynasties—the Tahirids (820–872), the Saffarids (860–903), and the Samanids (874–999)—completed the shift from Middle Persian to New Persian.

Traditional divisions of New Persian, also known as Modern Persian, are as follows:

- In the 8th and 9th centuries, early New Persian
- Persian classical literature (c. 10th–18th century)
- Modern Persian (from the 19th century forward)

For speakers of Modern Persian, Early New Persian is mostly understandable because of the persistence of Persian morphology and, to a lesser extent, lexicon.

Early New Persian;

The Arabic alphabet was initially used in early New Persian writings, which date back to the ninth century. Middle Persian, the official, sacred, and literary language of the Sasanian Empire (224–651), is the direct ancestor of Early New Persian.

Classical Persian;

It's unclear where Classical Persian originated. Although terms from various regions of the nation are borrowed, the majority of words have roots in Avestan, "Old Persian," and "Pahlavî." Poetry and other classical texts exhibit it. One of the finest poets in Iranian literature, Firdavsi, claims that he endured for thirty years to save this language from Arab invaders and that it was on the verge of extinction:

Later, Persian literature, language, and culture were widely disseminated when the Mongols conquered Iran. Persian became the official language of the Indian court.

Words from European languages are translated directly to describe a situation or product since they do not have identical equivalents in Persian. Additionally, a few non-technical terms have become part of the lexicon, such as weeping (thank you).

Modern Persian;

The 19th century saw the emergence of the modern Persian era. During the Qajar Dynasty in this century, the Persian dialect spoken in Tehran gained prominence. There were still a lot of Arabic terms in Persian during this time, but the majority of them had been incorporated into Persian grammar and phonology. In addition, several Russian, French, and English terms—particularly those related to technology—entered Persian throughout the Qajar era. In the 1870s, under Nasir al-Din Shah's Qajar era, research on the need to preserve Persian vocabulary from foreign terms and standardize Persian spelling was first conducted.

Muzaffer al-Din Shah made the decision to create the first Persian language school in 1903 (Ferhengistan) following Nasir al-Din Shah. The organization accepted Arabic and Persian as legitimate word-derivation sources. Preventing books from being printed with incorrect word usage was the institution's main goal upon founding. The institution brought the Persian word for "railway," *rāh-āhan* (راه‌آهن), into usage. A Persian encümen was created in 1911, and a dictionary named Scientific Encümen Lügatı (Lugat-e Encumen-e İlmi) was created with a list of Persian vocabulary.

Later on, this dictionary was finished and given the new name Ferheng-e Katuziyan, or Katouzian Dictionary. The official language authority of Persian under the Pahlavi era, the Academy of Persian Language and Literature (Fergenestan-e Zebân o Edeb-e Fârsi) was founded in 1935 and carried out study on Persian and other Iranian languages.

Three modern variants exist for standard Persian:

- Persian: Spoken in Iran, Modern Persian
- Dari: spoken Persian in Pakistan, Uzbekistan, and Afghanistan
- Tajik: The Persian language is spoken in Russia, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan. It is written using the alphabet Cyrillic.

A a	Â â	B b	C c	D d	E e	F f	G g	H h
اَ	آ	ب	چ	د	ه	ف	گ	ح
I i	J j	K k	L l	M m	N n	O o	P p	Q q
ی	ج	ک	ل	م	ن	و	پ	ق
R r	S s	Š š	T t	U u	V v	W w	X x	Y y
ر	س	ش	ط	ت	و	و	خ	ی
Z z	Ž ž	'	ey	ow				
ذ	ژ	ء	ی	و				
ظ								

9- Arabic (2,700 years old);

Arabic, also known as al-lugat'ul 'arabiyye (اللغة العربية) or just عَرَبِيّ, ʿarabī, is a language that is a member of the Semitic language family of the Afro-Asian language family. The language is spoken throughout a vast geographic area that stretches from the Mediterranean region in the north to the Horn of Africa and the Indian Ocean in the southeast, and from the Atlantic Ocean in the west to the Arabian Sea in the east. Including all of its dialects, the estimated population speaking it is almost 420 million.

24 nations have made it their official language, including Chad, Mali, and 22 Arab League members. Additionally, Somaliland, Tanzania (Zanzibar), and the partially recognized Sahrawi Democratic Republic acknowledge it as an official language. It is among the six official languages of the UN and the Arab League. It is acknowledged as a minority or national language in the Republic of Cyprus, Senegal, and Niger. The constitutions of Iran, Israel, Pakistan, the Philippines, and the Republic of South Africa all provide Arabic special linguistic status.

Arabic is a language that has several dialects. These variations may exhibit varying degrees of mutual intelligibility or none at all. Some publications consider them as distinct languages as a result. The Arabic dialect used as a written language in the Arab world is called Fasih Arabic, which is the standard form of Arabic based on Quranic Arabic. Muslims worship in Quranic Arabic, which is used to write the Quran, the sacred book of Islam.

The family of languages known as the Afro-Asian languages includes Arabic and its dialects. Within this family, the language is a member of the Semitic languages branch. Glottolog states that all Semitic languages fall under the West Semitic category, with the exception of Akkadian and Ebla, which are Eastern Semitic languages. The Northwest Semitic languages are Aramaic, Canaanite (Hebrew and Phoenician), and Amorite; Arabic and Old South Arabic are included in this group, which is further divided into an intermediate group known as the Central Semitic languages.

Spoken throughout the Arabian Peninsula, the Fertile Crescent, and the Atlantic Ocean, Arabic is a language of great diversity. Over a billion Muslims use Arabic as their primary language of prayer. Arabic is the native tongue of over 350 million people worldwide. 22 Arab nations, including Yemen, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates, have it as their official language. Due to Arabic's significance and global relevance, the United Nations designated it as the sixth official language in 1974.

Arabic is the sole official language, one of the official languages, or spoken by a minority in the following countries: Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, Algeria, Djibouti, Chad, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Morocco, Palestine, Iraq, Israel, Qatar, Comoros, Kuwait, Libya, Lebanon, Mali, Egypt, Mauritania, Western Sahara (Partly recognized state), Senegal, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Oman, Jordan Yemen. However, Maltese, a language closely related to Arabic, is also spoken in Malta.

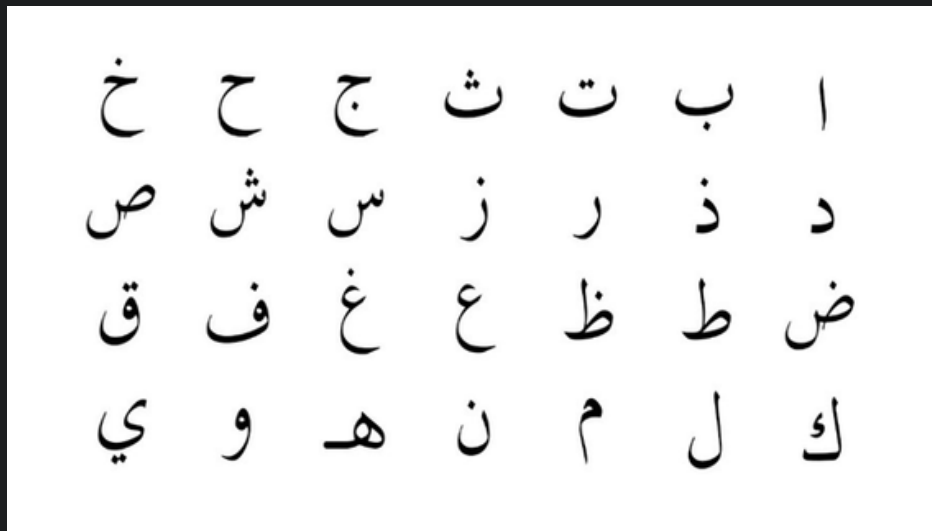
There are 28 characters in the Arabic alphabet. These letters are composed of seventeen fundamental forms. Arabic script is written from left to right. The majority of the letters (sâmit) are silent. On the other hand, signs employed primarily for the Quran, language-learning materials, and poetry are referred to as harek. Arabic letters are spelled differently depending on whether they start, stop, or come to the conclusion of a word. Six of the 28 consonants of the Arabic script are unique to Arabic, while the other 22 are sounds that have evolved via the Semitic alphabet.

While it is widely acknowledged that the Arabic script came from the Nabataean alphabet, which itself descended from the Aramaic alphabet, the details regarding its genesis in terms of how, when, and where remain unknown. Before Islam, there was a time known as ignorance, during which poetry in particular reached extremely high standards. Advanced writing levels remained unachieved, nonetheless. There were two alphabets in use while the Islamic prophet Muhammad lived:

- Nashih: A cursive handwriting style used in books and correspondence.
- Kufi: A script mostly used for decoration that has letters with sharp edges.

Not only have Arabs employed the Arabic script historically and up to the present day, but other non-Arab tribes in Asia, including Iranians, Turkic peoples, and Muslim Indians (see Urdu), have also done so, particularly after Islam gained international recognition. Aside from Arab nations, it is being utilized in Iran, Pakistan, and Afghanistan. Nonetheless, slight modifications have been made to the fundamental forms of the alphabet to accommodate various sounds in languages other than Arabic. For instance, Iranians and Turks added the letter چ (cim/c) to their alphabets because the Arabic alphabet does not have the "ç" sound. This allowed them to create the form of Ğ (ğim/ğ) by expanding the letter's dot count from two to three.

Similar to other Semitic languages, most Arabic words come from roots that have three consonants, a lesser number have four consonants, and a smaller number have five consonants. One root can yield ten distinct meters. These meters are produced by employing certain prefixes or the vowel and movement scheme to add sounds to three consonants. A verb, is a noun formed from one or more verbs, a subject that executes the verb, an object that is exposed to the verb, and a concept with a common root but distinct interpretations can all be generated from a given meter. In Arabic, words can be classified as verbs, nouns, letters, or prepositions. There are feminine and masculine forms for nouns.



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