

# A sketch of Proto-Caspian for relay purposes

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## 1 Torch

*Uráka Kiršâsi, makalušauyín, pásun pási, táz auščîsthai khàušaišyu! Kátulāthīn-tākītha tāhâi Hikháusāwi čhistsána huyási, táz báita. Urtháhamānin khullâ phàram-nuš šî Hikháusās čhàlaññās uktāwánšas, àlusî àšamnušyupa hītārāiyanta káušayiš bunnûš yàsi Khiršátayūn khwàranūnhupu tsízáyamnûš áḡmaniš tsátāitai. Nās-máramnūkwai xurânintar thállūntai kīthwàrrūntaiyu, táz áurža.*

## 2 Introduction

Late-Proto-Caspian is an IE posteriori spoken by a nomadic steppe-herder people living around the NW foothills of the Altai mountains in the mid 2nd Century BCE. Dialectally, it's earliest stage could be placed between Germanic and Greaco-Armenian sharing a Verner's development similar to the former and a reflex of PIE voiced aspirates like the latter group. The Pre-Caspian Phase was established in the Southern-Ural Foothills, North of the Caspian with a subsequent migration East where it came in contact and subsequently got influenced by Proto-Indo-Iranian. Within the general isoglosses it is a centum dialect, wherein the palato-velars merged with the plain velars  $*\check{K} > *K$  and the labio velars were maintained in the form of  $*K^w > *Kw$ . Thus Caspian *kitán* and *kwitwáras* from PIE  $*k̑ntóm$  and  $*k^wetwóres$ , respectively. Plain and palato-velars did get palatalized before front vowels early on with a second round of palatalization which saw the formation of two dorsal series very much akin again to PII and other Satem languages.

Otherwise, it is simply and early IE lang, fusional, SOV, head-final, with a robust declension system and extensive conjugation system, much like others of its time such as Sanskrit and Ancient Greek.

### 3 Phonology

Late-Proto-Caspian sees the collapse of a previous voice distinction in the stop series including the resolution of borrowed PII voiced plosives. The vowels, on the other hand, have not changed at all from the earlier stage. Of course, for the purposes of the relay this section is more of a way to show the romanization.

#### 3.1 Consonants

<i>bilab.</i>	<i>dent.</i>		<i>palat.</i>	<i>retro.</i>	<i>velar.</i>	<i>glott.</i>
	<i>plain</i>	<i>sibilant</i>				
m	n		ɲ		ŋ	
p	t	ts	tɕ	tʂ	k	
p <sup>h</sup>	t <sup>h</sup>	ts <sup>h</sup>	tɕ <sup>h</sup>	tʂ <sup>h</sup>	k <sup>h</sup>	
		s	ɕ	ʂ		h
β		z	ʐ	ʐ	ɣ	
	l		j	r	w	

<i>bilab.</i>	<i>dent.</i>		<i>palat.</i>	<i>retro.</i>	<i>velar.</i>	<i>glott.</i>
	<i>plain</i>	<i>sibilant</i>				
m	n		ɲ		ŋ	
p	t	ts	ć	č	k	
ph	th	tsh	ćh	čh	kh	
		s	ś	š		h
b		z	ź	ž	x	
	l		y	r	w	

### 3.2 Vowels

Predominantly a trivocalic system with the addition of /i/ it also differentiates for length. The high central vowel works as the main epenthetic vowel to break up illegal clusters.

	<i>short</i>			<i>long</i>		
	<i>front</i>	<i>central</i>	<i>back</i>	<i>front</i>	<i>central</i>	<i>back</i>
<i>high.</i>	i	ɨ	u	i:		u:
<i>low.</i>		a			a:	

	<i>short</i>			<i>long</i>		
	<i>front</i>	<i>central</i>	<i>back</i>	<i>front</i>	<i>central</i>	<i>back</i>
<i>high.</i>	i	ĩ	u	ī		ū
<i>low.</i>		a			ā	

### 3.3 Diphthongs

Raising diphthongs are limited to low vowels whilst falling diphthongs are formed from any combination of <w y> and a vowel.

	+w	+y
a-	au	ai
ā-	āu	āi

	+a	+ā	+i	+ī	+u	+ū	+ĩ
w-	wa	wā	wi	wī	wu	wū	wĩ
y-	ya	yā	yi	yī	yu	yū	yĩ

### 3.4 Pitch-Accent

There are two types of stress in Proto-Caspian that are marked by a rise or fall in tone, these are called **rising** and **falling**. It is marked <á> and <à> on short vowels and <â> and <ã> on long vowels, respectively.

The roots in compound words will keep their stress, but enclitics and other appended particles lose it.

Apart from that it doesn't play much more into this torch, so I won't go into the phonetic aspects of the whole system.

## 4 Morphology

Proto-Caspian nouns and verbs decline and conjugate into quite a few forms. I will only go into the ones shown in this document.

### 4.1 Nominals

Nominals mark for grammatical gender, number and case.

#### 4.1.1 Cases

Pronouns, Adjectives and Nouns decline for case. These cases are the following.

- **Nominative:** Marks for the subject of a clause

- (1)    **āntîr**            **tshistâsi.**  
         āntîr-Ø        tshistâ-si  
         man-NOM.SG stand.IPFV-3.SG.PRS  
         *'The man stands straight.'*

It is also the main predicative case

- (2)    **yakwás**        **káikas.**  
         yakw-ás        káik-as            Ø  
         horse-NOM.SG one\_eyed-NOM.SG COP.IPFV.3.SG.PRS  
         *'The horse is one-eyed.'*

In the 1st declension, the nominative without final consonant, is the basis of the compound and oblique forms of a nouns and adjectives.

- **Vocative:** Used for something that is being addressed.

(3) **klusí wàuyi.**  
 klu-sí wàuy-i  
 listen-IMP.SG sheep-VOC.SG  
*'Listen, sheep!'*

- **Accusative:** Marks the direct object in transitive verbs.

(4) **zâuš phûmin yaçàistî.**  
 zâw-s phûm-in ya-çàit-t  
 god-NOM.SG earth-ACC.SG PFV-STRIKE.PFV-3.SG.PST  
*'The god struck the earth.'*

It functions as lative case on its own and as a primary postpositional case.

(5) **ráumanüş tsáman aítá.**  
 ráuman-üş tsám-an ai-sí  
 roman-NOM.PL home-ACC.SG go-IMP.PL  
*'Romans go home!'*

(6) **imipîtir tsámaninna**  
 imi=pîtir-Ø tsám-an=inna  
 1.SG.ENCL=father-NOM.SG house-ACC.SG=within  
**yâiz.**  
 ya-ài-z  
 PFV-go.PFV-3.SG.PST  
*'My father entered the house.'*

- **Instrumental:** Marks the instrument or manner of a subject. Rare, often substituted by either the Dative or Ablative.

(7) **yîšū àuyin yakwákhnaz.**  
 yîš-ū àuy-in ya-kwákhna-z  
 arrow-INS.SG bird-ACC.SG PFV-kill.PFV-3.SG.PST  
*'They killed a bird with an arrow.'*

- **Dative:** Marks the indirect object and is the main postpositional case. Also works as a possessive case.

- (8) **tsaiwâimas yawàukan.**  
 tsaiw-âimas ya-wàuka-n  
 god-DAT.PL PFV-speak.PFV-1.SG.PST  
*'I spoke to the gods.'*

Also works as a possessive case of ownership.

- (9) **tsámas ámmai.**  
 tsám-as ámmai Ø  
 house-NOM.SG 1.PL.DAT COP.IPFV.3.SG.PRS  
*'(That) is our house.'*

- **Ablative:** Marks the direction “from” or “away from” something, main adverbial case, also takes on many postpositions.

- (10) **xurâs ipïskhàma.**  
 xur-âs i-pïskhà-ma  
 mountain-ABL.SG PST-comeIPFV-1.PL.PST  
*'We come from the mountains.'*

- (11) **tsámūz pásiš immi**  
 tsám-ūz pás-iš immi  
 house-ABL.SG master-NOM.SG COP.IPFV.1.SG.PRS  
*'As for the matters of (this) house, I am the master.'*

- **Genitive:** Marks an attributive or possessor of a head noun.

- (12) **tráwūn šauyínai phàxan phàrazi**  
 tráw-ūn šauyín-ai phàx-an phàra-zi  
 tree-GEN.PL priest-DAT.SG tithe-ACC.SG bear.IPFV-3.SG.PRS  
*'They bring the tithe to the priest of trees'*

Barring the 1st declension, without the final consonant (if any) it is the compound and oblique form of a noun or adjective. This is seen particularly so in participles.

- (13) **bĩĩńńántainri** **yakwán**  
 bĩĩńńà-nt-a(s)=inri yakw-án  
 go.IPFV-PTCP-GEN.SG=during.CONVERB PST-see.IPFV-1.SG.PST  
**itarkàn**  
 i-tark-àn

*‘Whilst going along, I saw a horse.’*

Another very important function of the genitive is that it marks the agent of compound verbal constructions and the passive.

- (14) **àuşyatai** **şláuxaşyu**  
 àuşya-tai şláux-aşyu  
 draw\_water.IPFV-PASS.3.SG.PRS slave-GEN.SG  
*‘The servant draws water.’*

- (15) **táwa** **kasthàn** **yatànsi** **hás**  
 táwa kasth-àn ya-tà-nt-s hás  
 2.SG.GEN spear-ACC.SG PFV-do-PTCP-NOM.SG ANA.NOM.SG

Ø

COP.IPFV.3.SG.PRS

*‘This is the spear that you had given.’*

#### 4.1.2 Grammatical Gender and number

Being an early IE-lang, Proto-Caspian retains the PIE genders masculine, neuter and feminine as well as the numbers singular, dual and plural. Adjectives, demonstratives and pronouns will agree in gender and number with their head. This includes participles which, along with the zero-copula, means that many times this will be the only thing relating them to their subject.

- (16) **bánā** **házlantā** Ø **kwân**  
 bán-ā házla-nt-ā Ø kwân  
 woman-NOM.SGF sit.IPFV-PTCP-NOM.SG.F COP.IPFV.3.SG.PRS REL.F.ACC.SG  
**yakwás** **phàrantuškwa** **bĩĩńńanzi**  
 yakw-ás phàra-nt-uş=kwa bĩĩńńá-nzi  
 horse-NOM.SGM bear.IPFV-PTCP-NOM.SG.M=and go.IPFV-3.PL.IPFV  
*‘The woman who sits and the horse who bears her, come.’*

### 4.1.3 Declensions

Declensions are divided into 5 main paradigms with sub categories. These are products of my own notations to keep track of diachronic change and there are better way to mark these out for sure especially since a lot of these are based on a stress system which has since shifted quite a bit.

- 1st declension, thematic a-stem: most prevalent and productive paradigm.
  - aM, Tonic Masculine
  - aN, Tonic Neuter
  - bM, Post-Tonic Masculine
  - bN, Post-Tonic Neuter
  - cM, Atonic Masculine
  - cN, Atonic Neuter
- 2nd declension, thematic ā-stem: also very productive, all feminine except for some proper names. There is virtually no difference between the 3 subforms except for in a few endings mainly in the dual.
  - af, Tonic Feminine
  - bf, Post-Tonic Feminine
  - cf, Atonic Feminine
- 3rd declension, athematic: large section, includes r-stem, n-stem, consonantal stem, nt-stem, and many more!
  - aM, Fixed stress Masculine
  - aN, Fixed stress Neuter
  - bM, Mobile stress Masculine
  - bN, Mobile stress Neuter
- 4th declension, i-stem: still a bit nebulous between true thematic i-stems and consonantal y-stems. This is a consequence of PIE high vowels being the syllabic counterparts of \*y and \*w. Also includes the feminine yā-stems which maybe should be a declension of their own.
  - aM, Stem stress Masculine



- aN, Stem stress Neuter
  - bM, Mobile stress Masculine
  - bN, Mobile stress Neuter
  - cM, Root stress Masculine
  - cN, Root stress Neuter
  - dF, yā-stem Mobile stress Feminine
  - eF, yā-stem Fixed stress Feminine
- 5th declension, u-stem: like i-stem but with u ~ w.
    - aM, Stem stress Masculine
    - aN, Stem stress Neuter
    - bM, Mobile stress Masculine
    - bN, Mobile stress Neuter
    - cM, Root stress Masculine
    - cN, Root stress Neuter

### 1st Declension Tables

Most of the endings will be the same, the best way to know which is which is by looking at the genitive singular (which is supplied in the lexicon entries. Thus Tonic, Post-Tonic and Atonic would align with the gen.sg endings *-ašya*, *-ašyu*, *-ušyu* respectively.

1am, Thematic tonic a-stem. **tsaiwás**, **tsáiwášya** ‘god’

	<i>sg.</i>	<i>du.</i>	<i>pl.</i>
<i>nom.</i>	tsaiwás	tsaiwú	tsaiwúš
<i>voc.</i>	tsaiwá	tsaiwú	tsaiwúš
<i>acc.</i>	tsaiwán	tsaiwú	tsaiwánhī
<i>ins.</i>	tsaiwú	tsaiwáima	tsaiwáiš
<i>dat.</i>	tsaiwái	tsaiwáima	tsaiwáimas
<i>abl.</i>	tsaiwúz	tsaiwáima	tsaiwáimas
<i>gen.</i>	tsaiwášya	tsaiwáyauš	tsaiwún
<i>loc.</i>	tsaiwái	tsaiwáyauš	tsaiwáišu

1bm, Post-Tonic a-stem. **yakwás, yakwášyu** ‘horse’

	<i>sg.</i>	<i>du.</i>	<i>pl.</i>
<i>nom.</i>	yakwás	yakwŭ́	yakwŭ́š
<i>voc.</i>	yakwá	yakwŭ́	yakwŭ́š
<i>acc.</i>	yakwán	yakwŭ́	yakwánhĭ
<i>ins.</i>	yakwŭ́	yakwáimĭ	yakwáiš
<i>dat.</i>	yakwái	yakwáimĭ	yakwáimuš
<i>abl.</i>	yakwŭ́z	yakwáimĭ	yakwáimuš
<i>gen.</i>	yakwášyu	yakwáyauš	yakwŭ́n
<i>loc.</i>	yakwái	yakwáyauš	yakwáišu

1cm, Atonic a-stem. **hátaluš, hátalušyu** ‘yearling, foal’

	<i>sg.</i>	<i>du.</i>	<i>pl.</i>
<i>nom.</i>	hátaluš	hátalŭ́	hátalŭ́š
<i>voc.</i>	hátali	hátalŭ́	hátalŭ́š
<i>acc.</i>	hátalun	hátalŭ́	hátalunhĭ
<i>ins.</i>	hátalŭ́	hátalaimĭ	hátalāiš
<i>dat.</i>	hátalāi	hátalaimĭ	hátalaimuš
<i>abl.</i>	hátalŭ́z	hátalaimĭ	hátalaimuš
<i>gen.</i>	hátalušyu	hátaluyauš	hátalŭ́n
<i>loc.</i>	hátalai	hátaluyauš	hátalaišu

The neuter equivalents in the 1st declension only differ in the Nominative, Vocative and Accusative.

1bn, Post-Tonic a-stem. **hánnan, hánnášyu** ‘price, ransom’

	<i>sg.</i>	<i>du.</i>	<i>pl.</i>
<i>nom.</i>	hánnan	hánnāi	hánnā
<i>voc.</i>	hánnan	hánnāi	hánnā
<i>acc.</i>	hánnan	hánnāi	hánnā
<i>ins.</i>	hánnū	hánnaimi	hánnāiš
<i>dat.</i>	hánnāi	hánnaimi	hánnaimuš
<i>abl.</i>	hánnūz	hánnaimi	hánnaimuš
<i>gen.</i>	hánnas̃yu	hánnayauš	hánnūn
<i>loc.</i>	hánnai	hánnayauš	hánnaišu

## 2nd Declension Table

As most forms are the same here is a single post-tonic example.  
 2bf. Post-Tonic ā-stem. **bánā**, **bánās** ‘woman’

	<i>sg.</i>	<i>du.</i>	<i>pl.</i>
<i>nom.</i>	bánā	bánāi	bánāwi
<i>voc.</i>	bánā	bánāi	bánāwi
<i>acc.</i>	bánān	bánāi	bánānsi
<i>ins.</i>	bánāwī	bánāmī	bánāppi
<i>dat.</i>	bánāwi	bánāmī	bánāmuš
<i>abl.</i>	bánās	bánāmī	bánāmuš
<i>gen.</i>	bánās	bánāuš	bánāwūn
<i>loc.</i>	bánāya	bánāuš	bánāhu

## 3rd Declension Tables

Due to the variability in the roots seen in these paradigms I will give examples of the stems seen in torch and a general sketch of the endings.

Fixed stress endings, / marks masculine vs. neuter. <sup>j</sup> marks for possible gemination and palatalization and <sup>h</sup> aspiration.

	<i>sg.</i>	<i>du.</i>	<i>pl.</i>
<i>nom.</i>	-s/-Ø	- <sup>h</sup> a/- <sup>j</sup> a	-as ~ iš/-a
<i>voc.</i>	-Ø	- <sup>h</sup> a/- <sup>j</sup> a	-as ~ iš/-a
<i>acc.</i>	-a ~ -i/-Ø	- <sup>h</sup> a/- <sup>j</sup> a	-anhĩ ~ inhĩ/-a
<i>ins.</i>	-ĩ	- <sup>j</sup> ĩm	-(ĩp)pi
<i>dat.</i>	-ai	- <sup>j</sup> ĩm	-(ĩ)mas ~ -(ĩ)muš
<i>abl.</i>	-s ~ -uš	- <sup>j</sup> ĩm	-(ĩ)mas ~ (ĩ)muš
<i>gen.</i>	-s ~ -uš	-auš	-ũn
<i>loc.</i>	- <sup>j</sup> i	-auš	-su

and an example noun, **háikū**, **háikanhĩ**, ‘*idol, image*’, n-stem fixed stress.

	<i>sg.</i>	<i>du.</i>	<i>pl.</i>
<i>nom.</i>	háikū	háikanĩ	háikaniš
<i>voc.</i>	háikan	háikanĩ	háikaniš
<i>acc.</i>	háikanĩ	háikanĩ	háikanis
<i>ins.</i>	háikĩ	háikaññin	háikampi
<i>dat.</i>	háikanai	háikaññin	háikammuš
<i>abl.</i>	háikanhĩ	háikaññin	háikammuš
<i>gen.</i>	háikanhĩ	háikanauš	háikanũn
<i>loc.</i>	háikaññi	háikanauš	háikanhu

Variable stress endings.

	<i>sg.</i>	<i>du.</i>	<i>pl.</i>
<i>nom.</i>	-s/-Ø	- <sup>h</sup> a/- <sup>j</sup> a	-as/-a
<i>voc.</i>	-Ø	- <sup>h</sup> a/- <sup>j</sup> a	-as/-a
<i>acc.</i>	-a ~ -i/-Ø	- <sup>h</sup> a/- <sup>j</sup> a	-anhĩ/-a
<i>ins.</i>	-ĩ	- <sup>j</sup> ĩm	-(ĩp)pi
<i>dat.</i>	-ai	- <sup>j</sup> ĩm	-(ĩ)mas
<i>abl.</i>	-as ~ -uš	- <sup>j</sup> ĩm	-(ĩ)mas
<i>gen.</i>	-as ~ -uš	-auš	-ũn
<i>loc.</i>	- <sup>j</sup> i	-auš	-su

and an example noun, **pûs**, **pizás**, ‘foot’, highly irregular consonantal-stem.

	<i>sg.</i>	<i>du.</i>	<i>pl.</i>
<i>nom.</i>	pûs	pátha	pátas
<i>voc.</i>	páz	pátha	pátas
<i>acc.</i>	páta	pátha	pátanhĩ
<i>ins.</i>	pizî	pizîn	pispí
<i>dat.</i>	pizái	pizîn	pinmás
<i>abl.</i>	pizás	pizîn	pinmás
<i>gen.</i>	pizás	pizáuš	pizûn
<i>loc.</i>	pisí	pizáuš	pisú

To alleviate having to find any specific form in a table, the dictionary entries for each nouns and adjective includes both the direct and oblique roots.

#### 4th Declension Tables

Primary Fixed stress endings.

	<i>sg.</i>	<i>du.</i>	<i>pl.</i>
<i>nom.</i>	- <sup>j</sup> is/- <sup>j</sup> i	- <sup>j</sup> a/- <sup>j</sup> iyi	-ayiš/- <sup>j</sup> a
<i>voc.</i>	- <sup>j</sup> i	- <sup>j</sup> a/- <sup>j</sup> iyi	-ayiš/- <sup>j</sup> a
<i>acc.</i>	- <sup>j</sup> in/- <sup>j</sup> i	- <sup>j</sup> a/- <sup>j</sup> iyi	- <sup>j</sup> inhĩ/- <sup>j</sup> a
<i>ins.</i>	- <sup>j</sup> a	- <sup>j</sup> imĩ	- <sup>j</sup> ippi
<i>dat.</i>	- <sup>j</sup> ai	- <sup>j</sup> imĩ	- <sup>j</sup> imuš
<i>abl.</i>	- <sup>j</sup> as	- <sup>j</sup> imĩ	- <sup>j</sup> imuš
<i>gen.</i>	- <sup>j</sup> as	- <sup>j</sup> iyuš	- <sup>j</sup> ûn
<i>loc.</i>	- <sup>j</sup> ī	- <sup>j</sup> iyuš	- <sup>j</sup> išu

yā-stem (4df) endings.

	<i>sg.</i>	<i>du.</i>	<i>pl.</i>
<i>nom.</i>	- <sup>j</sup> a	- <sup>j</sup> ai	- <sup>j</sup> aiš
<i>voc.</i>	- <sup>j</sup> a	- <sup>j</sup> ai	- <sup>j</sup> aiš
<i>acc.</i>	- <sup>j</sup> an	- <sup>j</sup> ai	- <sup>j</sup> anhī
<i>ins.</i>	- <sup>j</sup> ā	- <sup>j</sup> āma	- <sup>j</sup> āppi
<i>dat.</i>	- <sup>j</sup> āwi	- <sup>j</sup> āma	- <sup>j</sup> āmuš
<i>abl.</i>	- <sup>j</sup> ās	- <sup>j</sup> āma	- <sup>j</sup> āmuš
<i>gen.</i>	- <sup>j</sup> ās	- <sup>j</sup> āyuš	- <sup>j</sup> āwūn
<i>loc.</i>	- <sup>j</sup> āyi	- <sup>j</sup> āyuš	- <sup>j</sup> āhu

#### 4.1.4 Adjectives

Adjectives come in declension pairs to cover all the grammatical genders.

Thematic: 1st (m. and n.); 2nd (f.) i-stem: 4th (m. and n.); yā-stem (f.) u-stem: 5th (m. and n.); yā-stem (f.), it appends to the root with the -w element. Athematic: 3rd (m. and n.); 4th (f.)

Stress type will match within the pairs. Thus a masculine adjective in 1bm will be 2bf in the feminine.

Adjectives can often be stacked in the oblique/compound form to make, well, compounds.

#### 4.1.5 Pronouns and Demonstratives

If adjectival, they will come after the noun and append to their head.

##### HAS, HĪ, TAZ

Definite demonstrative with both a proximal and distal sense. The closest there is to a proper 3rd person pronoun.

	<i>singular</i>			<i>dual</i>			<i>plural</i>		
	<i>m.</i>	<i>f.</i>	<i>n.</i>	<i>m.</i>	<i>f.</i>	<i>n.</i>	<i>m.</i>	<i>f.</i>	<i>n.</i>
<i>nom.</i>	hás	hî	táz	tû	sîa	tái	tái	sîai	tâ
<i>acc.</i>	tán	tân	táz	tû	sîa	tái	tánhî	sînhî	tâ
<i>ins.</i>	tánû	tái	tánû	táima	tâma	táima	táiš	tâppi	táiš
<i>dat.</i>	támmai	tášyāwi	támmai	táima	tâma	táima	táimas	tâmas	táimas
<i>abl.</i>	támmūz	tášyās	támmūz	táima	tâma	táima	táimas	tâmas	táimas
<i>gen.</i>	tášya	tášyās	tášya	táuš	tâuš	táuš	táišûn	tâhûn	táišûn
<i>loc.</i>	támmi	tášyā	támmi	táuš	tâuš	táuš	táišu	tâhu	táišu

##### KWAS, KWĀS, KWAZ

Relative demonstrative and used as a definite to mark participles in composite verbal phrases.

	<i>singular</i>			<i>dual</i>			<i>plural</i>		
	<i>m.</i>	<i>f.</i>	<i>n.</i>	<i>m.</i>	<i>f.</i>	<i>n.</i>	<i>m.</i>	<i>f.</i>	<i>n.</i>
<i>nom.</i>	kwás	kwâ	kwáz	kwû	kwâi	kwái	kwái	kwâs	kwâ
<i>acc.</i>	kwán	kwân	kwáz	kwû	kwâi	kwái	kwánhî	kwânhî	kwâ
<i>ins.</i>	kwánû	kwái	kwánû	kwáima	kwâma	kwáima	kwáiš	kwâppi	kwáiš
<i>dat.</i>	kwámmai	kwášyāwi	kwámmai	kwáima	kwâma	kwáima	kwáimas	kwâmas	kwáimas
<i>abl.</i>	kwámmūz	kwášyās	kwámmūz	kwáima	kwâma	kwáima	kwáimas	kwâmas	kwáimas
<i>gen.</i>	kwášya	kwášyās	kwášya	kwáuš	kwâuš	kwáuš	kwáišûn	kwâhûn	kwáišûn
<i>loc.</i>	kwámmi	kwášyā	kwámmi	kwáuš	kwâuš	kwáuš	kwáišu	kwâhu	kwáišu

##### KAS, ŠĪ, KAZ

Distal or hyper-distal contrastive pronoun. It can be used in a disambiguating sense to specify what is being talked about.

	<i>singular</i>			<i>dual</i>			<i>plural</i>		
	<i>m.</i>	<i>f.</i>	<i>n.</i>	<i>m.</i>	<i>f.</i>	<i>n.</i>	<i>m.</i>	<i>f.</i>	<i>n.</i>
<i>nom.</i>	kás	šî	káz	kû	kâi	kái	kái	šîas	šî
<i>acc.</i>	kán	šîn	káz	kû	kâi	kái	kánhî	šînhî	šî
<i>ins.</i>	kánû	kái	kánû	káima	kâma	káima	káiš	kâppi	káiš
<i>dat.</i>	kámmai	kášyāwi	kámmai	káima	kâma	káima	káimas	kâmas	káimas
<i>abl.</i>	kámmūz	kášyās	kámmūz	káima	kâma	káima	káimas	kâmas	káimas
<i>gen.</i>	kášya	kášyās	kášya	káuš	kâuš	káuš	káišûn	kâhûn	káišûn
<i>loc.</i>	kámmi	kášyā	kámmi	káuš	kâuš	káuš	káišu	kâhu	káišu

## 4.2 Verbs

Verbs in Proto-Caspian conjugate for person (1st, 2nd, 3rd); number (sg. pl.); tense (past and present); mood (indicative, subjunctive and optative) as well as voice (active and passive).

For tense, one must derive, thus imperfective, perfective and stative version of a verb are considered separate verbs. There's 16 main verbal classes and an irregular augment system that you won't have to deal with as I will be placing the verbs in the lexicon as they appear in the text.

### 4.2.1 Tense, Mood and Voice

#### Tenses

- **Present:** The non-past, it can refer to general, present and future events with the use of the subjunctive.
- **Past:** For past events including those occurring in the immediate past.

#### Mood:

- **Indicative:** Your vanilla mood, can be used in the habitual and gnomic sense as well.
- **Subjunctive:** For inconclusive events as a dubitative; for wishes and desires (the PIE desiderative did not make it into Proto-Caspian) and for future events.



- **Optative:** a jussive, the primary wish mood and used in conditionals of a contemplative nature.

## Voice

- **Active:** Used for active constructions and to mark agentive subjects in both intransitive and transitive verbs.
- **Passive:** For passive and reflexive/experiencer constructions as well as when a passive subject needs focus. Some verbs are deponent, though, that is, they conjugate in the passive but have an active meaning.

### 4.2.2 participles

Participles are often used in predicates along with a zero-copula.

Apart from regular adjectival use participles heavily used in Proto-Caspian for adverbial clauses along with enclitics to form converbs. When in such a situation, the participle will be in the compound/oblique form mentioned before.

- (17)   **bĩñńántainri**                                 **yakwán**                                 **itarkàn**  
         bĩñńà-nt-a(s)=inri                      yakw-án                                 i-tark-àn  
         go.IPFV-PTCP-GEN.SG=during.CONVERB PST-see.IPFV-1.SG.PST  
         ‘*Whilst going along, I saw a horse.*’

### 4.2.3 Aspect

**Imperfective** Default aspect, describes an action with a continuous or progressive aspect in the past or present. Though a cessation of the action can be inferred, there is no defined end. It has an innate delimitative nature and more prief actions are described through auxiliary constructions.

**Perfective** For actions with a determined end point with a strong semelfactive sense to it. Tense wise it is strictly past and perfective verbs take no present endings.

**Stative** Forms stative verbs but also has a strong resultative sense. Without using compound constructions, the verbs are intrinsically non-past.

#### 4.2.4 Zero-Copula

If there is no emphasis on the copula and the aspect is imperfective and in the indicative then the copula is dropped. AS this usually happens around predicative participles, the tense and aspect can be inferred from them.

## 5 Lexicon

áluz, álusī *n.* 3an. ale, alcoholic beverage.

ánšas, ánšašyu *n.* 1bm. portion, share; piece.

ájman, ájmanhī *n.* 3an. troop.

ášamnuš, ášamnušya *n.* 1cm. raw grain.

asmáramnuš, asmáramnā, asmáramnušyu; passive present participle of "asmárazi, asmáranzi" *class ii. root thematic imperfective, yā-augment.* to take heed, acknowledge; to give an answer.

áurža, áuržīr *class xii.* root aryan stative. to say or state in an official sense.

auščīsthai; 2nd person singular present subjunctive of "auščátai, auškántai" *class xv. thematic -sk(h)-imperfective, lengthened augment, dependent.* see, notice, be aware of.

báita, bizīr *class xii. athematic reduplicated stative.* to come to know, be aware of.

bunnás, bunnā, bunnášya *n.* 1am. pot, vessel.

čhàlañña, čhàlaññās *n.* 4ef. gold.

čhistsû, čhistsánhī *n.* 3am. punishment; injury.

hás, hī, táz *det.* this, that.

Hikháusa, Hikáusās *n.* 4dm. proper name.

hītáras, hītārā, hītárašyu *adj.* 1b;2b. either of the two, one of the two.

hupu *post.* GEN. under.

huyási, huyánsi *class viii. thematic -ya- imperfective, zero grade, i-augment.* to command, give orders; to instruct.

intar *post.* ACC. into GEN. inside.

kás, šī, káz *pron.* contrastive distal.

kátulā *n.* 2cf. battle, war, conflict.

káušiš, káuša, káušas *adj.* 4c;4d. many, numerous.

khàušaiš; 2nd person singular optative of "khàušazi, khàušanzi" *class ii. root thematic imperfective, ya-augment.* hear out, take testimony, listen to.

khullā, khullās *n.* 2af. sacrificial offering.

khwàrū, khwàranhī *n.* 3am. warrior.

Kiršâsiš, Kiršâtaiš *n.* 4am. proper name.

kīta *encl. converb.* due to, cause;; *post.* ACC. down, by; GEN. with.

kīthwàrrūntai; passive 3rd person plural subjunctive of "kīthwàrryatai, kīthwàrryantai" *class vii. thematic -ya- imperfective, full grade, i-augment, passive.* to be sacrificed.

kwás, kwâ, kwáz *pron.* relative.

mákaluš, mákalā, mákalušyu *adj.*

1c;2c great, big.

**na** *part.* negative.

**pa ~ kwa** *part.* and (nominal), appends to the end of nominals, -kwa after fricatives and plosives, -pa otherwise.

**pásiš, pásaiš** *n.* 4cm. lord, master.

**phàramnuš, phàramnā, phàramnušyu;** active present participle of "phàrazi, phàranzi" *class ii. root thematic imperfective, i-augment.* to bear, bring, carry.

**tāhás, tāhášya** *n.* 1am. leader, chief.

**thàllūntai;** passive 3rd person plural subjunctive of "thàllyazi, thàllyanzi" *class vii. thematic -ya- imperfective, full grade, i-augment.* to send.

**thînsî, thînsa, thîntás;** active present participle of "thîsi, thînsi" *class i. root athematic auxiliary.* to put in place; to do; to start.

**tsátāitai;** passive 3rd person singular present subjunctive of "tsátāsi,

tsátānsi" *class v. reduplicated athematic imperfective, ya-augment (strengthening).* to donate, offer up.

**tsîzáyamnuš, tsîzáyamnā, tsîzáyamnušyu;** passive present participle of "tsîzáyazi, tsîzáyanzi" *class ix. thematic inchoative imperfective in -aya-, i-augment (strengthening).* to direct, instruct; to oversee.

**uktāwas, uktāwā, uktāwašya** *adj.* 1;2 8 ordinal.

**urîkšî, urákšî** *n.* 3am. high lord, king.

**Urtháhamā, Urtháhamās** *n.* 2cf. summer solstice celebration.

**yan ~ in** *post.* ACC. towards, to; ABL/GEN. in.

**yanta** *post.* DAT. within, inside; ACC. through.

**yàsi** *conj.* also.

**yu** *part.* and (verbal), appends to the end of verbs.