

Digital classics and learning Greek in Iran

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Outline of the session

- Short introduction on the importance of learning Greek for Persian speakers
- Reviewing the challenges of learning Greek in Iran
- Introducing available resources in Persian for learning Greek
- Discussing the method of teaching used in the on going online course
- Employment of translation alignment as a tool for learning Greek
- Contemplating on the early results of the course

Importance of Learning Greek in Iran

- Greek historians such as Herodotus and Xenophon play an important role on how we understand history of Persia
- The impact of Greek philosophy on Iranian-Islamic philosophers is consequential
- Many scholars depending on their research interests find it necessary to learn Greek

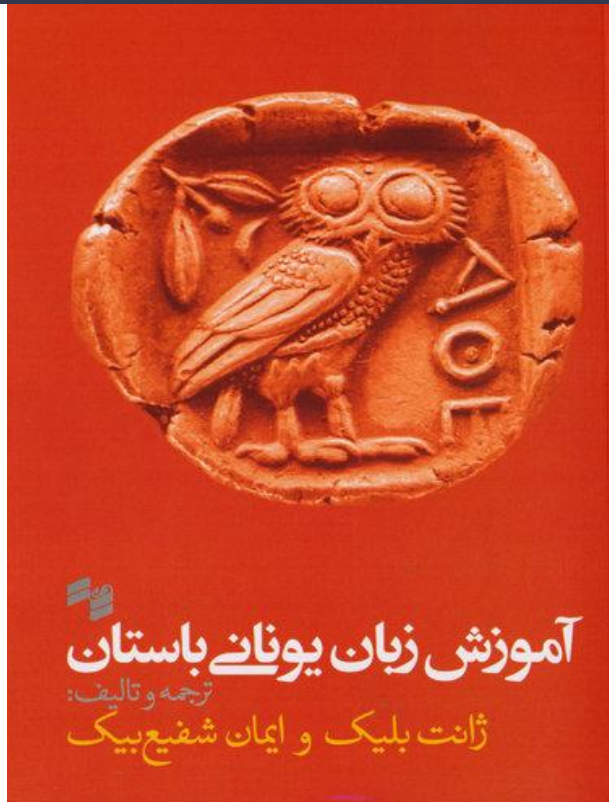
Challenges of learning Greek in Iran

- Limited number of courses and teachers
- Unfamiliar concepts in the Grammar: particles, participles, definite articles, gender, case, middle voice, optative moods, etc.
- Difficulty in accessing up-to-date resources in other languages
- Indirect translations of the original texts, causing inaccuracy in the alignments
- Lack of teaching resources such as lexicons and textbooks

Available resources in Persian for learning Greek

Currently the only available textbook in Persian is *Learning Ancient Greek language* by Janet Blake and Iman Shafi' beyk, a translation of three textbooks in English:

- *Greek for beginners* by L.A. Wilding
- *A primer of Greek grammar* by E. Abbott and E. Mansfield
- *An introduction to ancient Greek: a literary approach* by C. A. E. Luschnig



Perses, a non-profit self-study online course for Persian speakers, Available on: <https://ancientgreek.ir>



خانه درباره پرسس آموزش واژه نامه تنظیمات تماس

پرسس

درگاه آموزش یونانی باستان برای فارسی زبانان

Direct translations from Greek to Persian

- Metaphysics (Aristotle), translated by Sharafoddin Khorasani
- Pre-socratic philosophers (an extensive book with direct translation of some fragments), translated by Sharafoddin Khorasani
- Organon (Aristotle) translated by Mir Shamsoddin Adib Sultani
- The Poetics (Aristotle), translated by Soheil Afnan
- A Lexicon of Greek philosophical term in Persian and Arabic, by Soheil Afnan
- Fragments of Herakleitus, translated by Daryush Darvishi
- Sophist (Plato), translated by Alireza Saati

Employment of digital tools in the course

- Lemmatized texts, lexicons and translations available on Perseus
- Morpho-syntactic annotations
- Translation alignment
- Digitized grammar books
- Perses, for quizzes

Content of the first part of the course

- Alphabets
- Most common verbs, nouns and adjectives
- Basic principles of the grammar
- 3rd person singular and plural of present, aorist and imperfect tenses
- 1st and 2nd declension
- Endings of the 3rd declension with some examples
- Instructions to how to use various digital tools