Hey there!

Thank you for sharing your interest in Indo-European languages.

Do you also agree that studying their common roots can reveal a lot about the history and culture of the people who speak them and answer a lot of pending questions in history….

The Indo-European languages are a family of languages spoken in most of Europe and areas of European settlement and in much of Southwest and South Asia¹. They are derived from a hypothetical Proto-Indo-European language (PIE) that is reconstructed by linguists based on similarities and differences among the modern languages. The oldest attested Indo-European languages are Anatolian, Indo-Iranian, Greek, Italic, Celtic, Germanic, Armenian, Tocharian, Balto-Slavic and Albanian¹. The speakers of PIE are called Proto-Indo-Europeans, and they are believed to have lived during the late Neolithic, or roughly the 4th millennium BC, in the Pontic–Caspian steppe zone in Eurasia (present-day Ukraine and southern Russia) ⁵. They had a society that was based on pastoralism, semi-nomadism, and a hierarchical kinship system⁷. They also had a religion that involved worshipping a sky father, a thunder god, a fire god, and other natural forces⁷.

(1) Indo-European languages - Wikipedia. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indo-European\_languages Accessed 16/4/2023.

(2) Proto-Indo-Europeans - Wikipedia. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proto-Indo-Europeans Accessed 16/4/2023.

(3) Who Were the Indo-Europeans and Why Do They Matter?. https://norse-mythology.org/indo-europeans-matter/ Accessed 16/4/2023.

(4) Indo-European languages | Definition, Map, Characteristics, & Facts. https://www.britannica.com/topic/Indo-European-languages Accessed 16/4/2023.

(5) Indo-European Languages - World History Encyclopedia. https://www.worldhistory.org/Indo-European\_Languages/ Accessed 16/4/2023.

(6) Where Did Indo-European Languages Originate, Anyway?. https://www.babbel.com/en/magazine/proto-indo-european Accessed 16/4/2023.

(7) Proto-Indo-European society - Wikipedia. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proto-Indo-European\_society Accessed 16/4/2023](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proto-Indo-European_society%20Accessed%2016/4/2023).

There are many words that are common in Indo-European languages, which show their shared origin from PIE. Some of these words are related to basic concepts such as numbers, body parts, animals, and kinship terms. For example, the word for 'mother' is similar in many Indo-European languages: Sanskrit mātār, Greek mētēr, Latin mater, English mother, Armenian mayr, Old Irish mathair, Lithuanian motina¹. The word for 'two' is also similar: Sanskrit dva, Greek duo, Latin duo, English two, Armenian erku, Old Irish do, Lithuanian du¹. The word for 'cow' is another example: Sanskrit gauh, Greek bous, Latin bos, English cow, Armenian kov². These words are called cognates, and they can be traced back to their reconstructed PIE forms by applying sound changes and comparing different branches of Indo-European languages. Linguists use these cognates to reconstruct PIE vocabulary and grammar.

(1) Indo-European vocabulary - Wikipedia. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indo-European\_vocabulary Accessed 16/4/2023.

(2) Common words of Indo-European languages - Hindu Website. https://www.hinduwebsite.com/general/indoeuro.asp Accessed 16/4/2023.

(3) indo european - Why do English, Italian, German, Spanish, French and .... https://linguistics.stackexchange.com/questions/13284/why-do-english-italian-german-spanish-french-and-latin-share-a-common-alphab Accessed 16/4/2023.

(4) Are Semitic and Indo-European languages at all related?. https://linguistics.stackexchange.com/questions/20771/are-semitic-and-indo-european-languages-at-all-related Accessed 16/4/2023.

(5) How Strong Is The Link Between Sanskrit And European Languages?. https://www.ancientpages.com/2020/08/05/how-strong-is-the-link-between-sanskrit-and-european-languages/ Accessed 16/4/2023.