

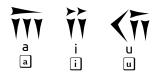
Old Persian is the name applied to the Persian langauge used in the cuneiform inscriptions of the Achaemenian dynasty; it was the vernacular speech of the Achaemenian rulers.

### 1 Writing System

#### 3,5

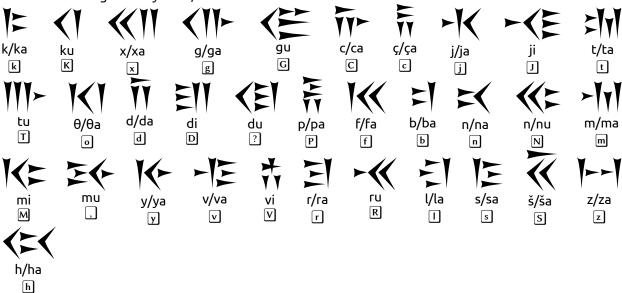
Old Persian is written in a cuneiform script, but with only a small number of signs compared to languages such as Akkadian. There are 3 vowel signs and 33 consonant signs

#### 1.1 Vowel Signs (3)



#### 1.2 Consonant Signs (33)

The consonant signs are syllabic, i.e.



#### 1.3 Logograms (Signs That Stand for a Whole Word)





# 2 Behistun Inscription

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Figure 1: Behistun Inscription, Column i, lines 1-8<sup>2</sup>

- 1. I am Darius, the great king, king of kings, the king of Persia, the king of countries, the son of Hystaspes, the grandson of Arsames, the Achaemenid.
- 2. King Darius says: My father is Hystaspes; the father of Hystaspes was Arsames; the father of Arsames was Ariaramnes; the father of Ariaramnes was Teispes; the father of Teispes was Achaemenes.
- 3. King Darius says: That is why we are called Achaemenids; from antiquity we have been noble; from antiquity has our dynasty been royal.

#### 3 Typing Old Persian

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## References

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> egreg. How to typeset ancient Persian scripts in LaTeX.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Livius. Column I, lines 1-8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Omniglot. Old Persian Cuneiform.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> H. Rawlinson. *Memoir on Cuneiform Inscription*. 1849.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Prods Oktor Skjærvø. *An Introduction to Old Persian*. 2002.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Wiktionary. m ii → iii.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Wiktionary. ∏ ∰ ∰ (∏ [E.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Wiktionary. - ☑ ► ☐ Σ ►.