

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

## 1 Typing Old Persian

[1]

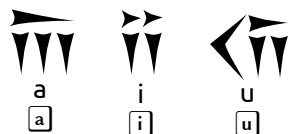
!	9	Q	i
"	:	R	j
#	;	S	k
\$	<	T	l
%	=	U	m
&	>	V	n
'	? <E	W	o
(	@ <I	X	p
)	A	Y	q
*	B	Z	r
+	C	[	s
,	D	\	t
-	E	]	u
.	F	^	v
/	G	_	w
0	H	'	x
1	I	a	y
2	J	b	z
3	K	c	{
4	L	d	
5	M	e	}
6	N	f	
7	O	g	
8	P	h	

## 2 Writing System

[3, 5]

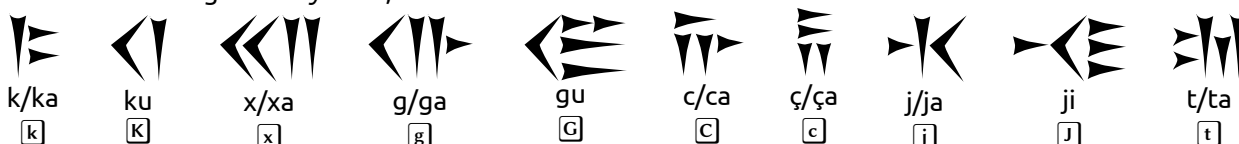
Old Persian is written in a cuneiform script, but with only a small number of signs compared to languages such as Akkadian. There are [3 vowel signs](#) and [33 consonant signs](#)

### 2.1 Vowel Signs (3)



### 2.2 Consonant Signs (33)

The consonant signs are syllabic, i.e.



𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿
tu	θ/θa	d/da	di	du	p/pa	f/fa	b/ba	n/na	n/nu	m/ma
<span>T</span>	<span>o</span>	<span>d</span>	<span>D</span>	<span>?</span>	<span>P</span>	<span>f</span>	<span>b</span>	<span>n</span>	<span>N</span>	<span>m</span>
𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿
mi	mu	y/ya	v/va	vi	r/ra	ru	l/la	s/sa	š/ša	z/za
<span>M</span>	<span>.</span>	<span>y</span>	<span>v</span>	<span>V</span>	<span>r</span>	<span>R</span>	<span>l</span>	<span>s</span>	<span>S</span>	<span>z</span>
𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿										
h/ha										
<span>h</span>										

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

𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿	𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿
king	earth	country	god	Ahuramazada	Ahuramazada	Ahuramazada (genitive)
<span>Q</span>	<span>e</span>	<span>4</span> <span>3</span>	<span>6</span>	<span>W</span> <span>q</span>	<span>W</span> <span>q</span>	<span>q</span>

## 3 Behistun Inscription

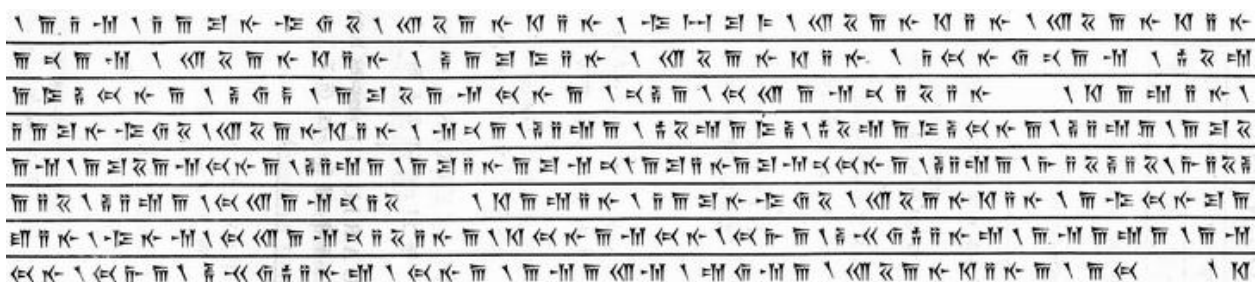


Figure 1: Behistun Inscription, Column i, lines 1-8[2]

1. 𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿 𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿 𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿 𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿 𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿 𐎧𐎠𐎼𐎿  
(Pronoun) I[6] Darius[4]

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.

## References

- [1] egreg. How to typeset ancient persian scripts in latex. <https://tex.stackexchange.com/a/397087/277953>.

