1 Typing Old Persian

[1]

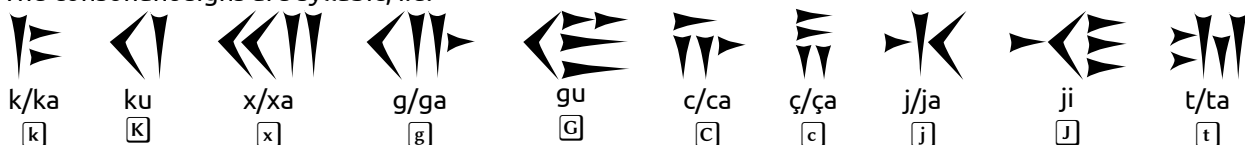| Key	Sign	Key	Sign	Key	Sign	Key	Sign
!		9	𒐂	Q	𒈦	i	𒐊
"		:		R	𒊑	j	𒖀
#	𒆪	;	𒌋	S	𒐼	k	𒅗
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&		>		V	𒀸	n	𒈾
'		?	𒐖	W	𒈦	o	𒌑
(	𒐈	@	𒀀	X	𒐜	p	𒉿
)	𒐊	A	𒀭	Y	𒅀	q	𒄀
*	𒐋	B	𒁀	Z	𒑊	r	𒆥
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0	𒌋	H	𒄭	'	𒈦	x	𒐜
1	𒁹	I	𒐊	a	𒀭	y	𒅀
2	𒐐	J	𒊺	b	𒁀	z	𒑊
3	𒐈	K	𒆠	c	𒍝	{	□
4	𒐉	L	𒇷	d	𒁕	|	𒐼
5	𒐊	M	𒈨	e	𒐼	}	𒋗
6	𒐋	N	𒐏	f	𒆜		
7	𒐌	O	𒌑	g	𒄖		
8	𒐍	P	𒉿	h	𒄭		

2 Writing System

[3, 4]
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)

a [a]   i [i]   u [u]
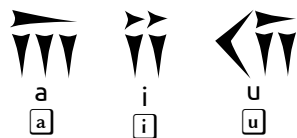
2.2 Consonant Signs (33)

The consonant signs are syllabic, i.e.

k/ka [k]   ku [K]   x/xa [x]   g/ga [g]   gu [G]   c/ca [C]   ç/ça [c]   j/ja [j]   ji [J]   t/ta [t]

tu T	θ/θa o	d/da d	di D	du ?	p/pa P	f/fa f	b/ba b	n/na n	n/nu N	m/ma m

mi M	mu .	y/ya y	v/va v	vi V	r/ra r	ru R	l/la l	s/sa s	š/ša S

z/za z	h/ha h

2.3 Logograms (Signs That Stand for a Whole Word)

king Q	earth e	country 4 3	god 6	Ahuramazada W q	Ahuramazada (genitive) q

3 Behistun Inscription

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

1. 𐎠�

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.

[2] Livius.   Behistun   t   01.   https://www.livius.org/sources/content/
    behistun-persian-text/behistun-t-01/.

[3] Omniglot. Old persian cuneiform. https://www.omniglot.com/writing/opcuneiform.
    htm.

[4] Prods Oktor Skjærvø. *An Introduction to Old Persian*. Online, 2002.