

## Re: Alphabets, origin or

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Yusuf B Gursev wrote:

>

> *Peter T. Daniels wrote:*

> > *Yusuf B Gursev wrote:*

> >

>

> > > :> :> *Miguel Carrasquer wrote:*

> > > :>

> > > :> :>

> > > :> :> *perhaps you should look up the works cited by Diringner.*

> > > :>

> > > :> : *Perhaps you should avoid citing works that are well over half a century*

> > > :> : *old.*

> > > :>

> > > :> *one of the references was quoted as "leaving no doubt" and at any rate Enc*

> > > :> *Britt. 2002 said the same thing.*

> > > :>

> > > :> *at any rate, I would like your opinion. except for a few letters the*

> > > :> *armenian alphabet does not look very greek like, though there is teh*

> > > :> *general idea of upright letters, vowels and a right to left direction*

> > > :> *as in greek.*

> > >

> > > : *I answered O.P. directly. Armenian does not \_look\_ like Greek because*

> > >

> > > *I'm mainly talking about looks not the system. it \*looks like\* pahlavi.*

> >

> > *What Pahlavi are you looking at?? Armenian isn't blobby; it's all*

>

> *earlier pahlavi is less cursive, called pahlavik (which is just an old*

> *pronunciation of "pahlavi) in the article.*

What do we know of 4th-century Pahlavi?

Anyway it's a direct continuation of Imperial Aramaic script.

> *also \*I\* am not looking for a pahlavi explanation, I am jsut saying that*

> *there is such a claim. if it is incorrect, more detail than just a quote*

> *would be welcome. I am not "wedded" to any particular explanation.*

>  
>> *straight lines with exaggerated thicks and thins (Howie Aronson calls it  
>> the unXeroxable script).*  
>>  
>> *The irrelevant script that Armenian is most usually said to resemble is  
>> Ethiopic.*  
>  
> *ethiopians and armenians have monophysite christianity in common.*

But they don't have any characters in common, nor the mechanism of representing vowels. You cannot show a single letter that has the same shape and sound in Armenian and Ethiopic.

>>> *Diringer mentions greek as one of the theories of origin, just does not  
>>> seem to favor it.*  
>>>  
>>> *: the inventor (Mesrop Mashtots?) wanted a distinctive script. Gamkrelidze  
>>> : believes that some of the shapes might have been deliberately modeled on  
>>> : an archaic Greek script, but that's a bit of a stretch.*  
>>>  
>>> *"Enc Britt. 2002" is excerpted from Diringer's pre-1969 treatment, is it  
>>> : not?*  
>>>  
>>> *if there is a post-1969 refutation of the pahlavi origin, please give it  
>>>*  
>> *If there is a pre-1969 reason for suspecting a Pahlavi origin, please  
>> give it.*  
>  
> *I did, Diringer and his references. I don't know that much about  
> the topic, but as I said, when there is a controversy (or an apparent  
> controversy), some more detailed arguments about the matter would be  
> welcome.*

Since all I have access to is Diringer's book itself, that doesn't help!

>>  
>>> *otherwise, it seems that pahlavi was at least one of the models for the  
>>> script.*  
>>  
>> *Why?? (And how would Mesrop have known about Pahlavi?)*  
>  
> *because it was the language of the armenian court before  
> christianity and establishment of armenian as a written  
> language. armenian has numerous loanwords from various  
> stages and various languages of iranian. also other  
> cultural items like using persian (or parthian) names,  
> iranian influence in old armenian religion etc.*

What written Iranian is there from Seleucid times?

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