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PERSIAN LANGUAGE AND ITS HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

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ABSTRACT

Persian is one of the 10 oldest languages, including Tamil, Lithuanian, Icelandic, Hebrew, Macedonian, Basque, Finnish, Georgian, and local Irish. Persian has gone through three stages of development in its long history. These are the ancient, medieval and modern stages of development of the Persian language. This article discusses about Persian language itself and its historical development.

KEYWORDS: *Persian Language, Development, Ancient Language, Stages, Written Monuments, Grammatical Structure, Historical Books.*

INTRODUCTION

Persian, known to its native Iranian speakers as Farsi, is the official language of modern day Iran, parts of Afghanistan and the central Asian republic of Tajikistan. Persian is one of the most important members of the Indo-Iranian branch of the Indo-European family of languages. It is distantly related to Latin, Greek, the Romance, Slavic and Teutonic languages, and English. Kurdish, Baluchi, Pashtu and Osetic are the other modern Iranian languages. The Persian of Iran is written in a cursive Arabic script that can be highly ornamental. In this respect Iranians have made the art of calligraphy and refined penmanship their own.

The Persian spoken in Afghanistan is known as Dari. The dialectal variation between Farsi and Dari has been compared to that between European French and Canadian French. The ancient Persian language was the official language of the Achaemenid state from the 6th to the 3rd centuries BC. Written on the basis of Mixhar. There are very few written Persian monuments of this period that have survived to the present day in the form of inscriptions carved on the roofs and tombstones of the palaces of the Achaemenid kings. These records contain valuable information about the enthronement of kings, their activities, and important events of that period. The style of the language of these written monuments is very close to each other. Ancient Persian is similar in grammatical structure to the sacred book of Zoroastrianism, the Avesto. The study of ancient Persian monuments was possible only by comparing them with the Avesto. The Avesto language is older than Old Persian. The ancient part of the Avesta is close to the ancient Indian language in terms of language, sound structure and grammatical forms, and can be considered as one language at the same time. The ancient Persian and Avesto languages had grammatical categories of gender (m, j, sr), 3 numbers (singular, binary, plural) and conjunctions (7 in ancient Persian and 8 in Avesta). The medieval period of the development of the Persian language covers the III-VII centuries AD. During this period, Middle Persian was developed in Persia, eastern Iran. The monuments of the Persian language of this period are many and varied. These include various religious inscriptions of Sassanid rulers, translations of the Avesto, and inscriptions on coins, seals, and various metal objects. Medieval Persian was the official language of the Sassanid state and Zoroastrianism. The Persian script of this period was based on the Aramaic script, with the

help of ideograms, i.e., Aramaic words, and Middle Persian words were written with symbols and read in Persian. Medieval Persian differs from Old Persian in its simplicity of grammatical structure and phonetic development. The sources contain information about the Sogdian, Saka and Khorezmian languages, as well as various monuments of this period of the Persian language. During the reign of the Arab caliphs in Iran (VII-IX centuries), the state and literary language was Arabic. Therefore, it is not yet known whether there were any documents written in Persian during this period. This indicates that the Persians wrote only in Arabic and in Arabic. It is known that during the Arab rule, famous Central Asian scholars Al-Khwarizmi, Abu Nasr al-Farabi, Abu Ali ibn Sina, Abu Rayhan Beruni also wrote their works in Arabic. Persian is one of the 10 oldest languages, which includes Tamil, Lithuanian, Icelandic, Hebrew, Macedonian, Basque, Finnish, Georgian and native Irish. These languages, which the magazine "Culture" indicated in its report, noting their current positions in different countries of the world, presented as the 10 oldest languages of the world. A notable feature of Persian is the small extent to which it has changed over the thousand years or more of its existence as a literary language. For example, a modern reader should have no difficulty in reading and comprehending the poems of Rudaki, the first Persian poet of note, who died in the year AD 940.

A striking feature of Persian literature is the prominence of poetry in this language, particularly in the classical period. Western audiences are also familiar with the works of some of the more popular medieval Persian poets such as 'Attar, Molavi (Rumi) d.1273 and Hafez d.1390. The works of these poets are deemed as the most perfect expressions of Persian mysticism. In the introduction of this report, it was stated: "The evolution of a language is similar to biological evolution, occurs very subtly from generation to generation, so there is no dividing point that distinguishes one language from the next language, which is formed from the first ... That is why, it is impossible to say that one language older than any other language, since they are all as old as humanity itself. For many centuries, the Iranians have kept the sweet Farsi language in their warm arms as a precious pearl, developed, processed and made it more beautiful day by day. The term "sweet" has been used in Persian for a long time and refers to the lightness and softness of this language. The Manichaean texts, Avesta and Pahlavi materials indicate the sweetness of the language. This term has been used for a long time about speech, and then the Iranians and foreign Iranianists used it only in relation to the language. "Sweet Persian", "Farsi - sugar" and the term "Persian sugar" are used only in connection with the Persian language (Farsi), and not other languages. The sweet Persian language went through a rather long period, and turned into its current form. The history of the Persian language as well as the history of the ancient territory of Iran is ancient and has risen from millennia. Modern Persian grammar is in many ways much simpler than its ancestral forms, having lost most of the inflectional systems of the older varieties of Persian. Other than markers to indicate that nouns and pronouns are direct objects, Modern Persian has no system of case inflections. Possession is shown by addition of a special suffix (called the *ezāfeh*) to the possessed noun. Verbs retain a set of personal endings related to those of other Indo-European languages, but a series of prefixes and infixes (word elements inserted within a word), as well as auxiliary verbs, are used instead of a single complex inflectional system in order to mark tense, mood, voice, and the negative. Ancient Persian is a dead Iranian language belonging to the southwestern group. Middle Persian, Persian, Tajik and Dari are direct descendants of Old Persian. Originally distributed in the southwest of Iran (Persia) (now in the Persian province of Iran). The mother tongue of the ancient rulers of the Achaemenid dynasty, it spread throughout the Achaemenid Empire in the 6th and 4th centuries BC. The cuneiform in ancient Persian was found in present-day Iran, Turkey, and Egypt, and all the texts have been translated into Elamite, Akkadian, and Aramaic. There were no dialectal differences in Old Persian. Its phonetic features are similar to those of Middle Persian. Language construction is synthetic, inflexible. Three different types of morphological units (core morphemes, affixal

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morphemes, and inflections) have categorical meanings. The word order in the sentence was relatively free (they were combined by methods of interdependence, adaptation, and coherence). His lexicon included words from ancient Iranian (eg, mussel) and non-Iranian (eg, Aramaic) languages. The spelling of Old Persian is similar to that of the Akkadian alphabet. The oldest monuments are the inscriptions of Darius I in 521-486 BC. The reading of these inscriptions was started in 1802 by the German scientist G.F. Grotefend. What we today call Persian is the germ language of a group of so-called Indo-European languages. In connection with the common characteristics of the Persian language with the language of the Indians, he formed a group of the Indo-Iranian language branch with the Indian languages.

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