

The historical development of the Avestan Alphabet\*

The historical development of the Avestan Alphabet*											
Semitic alphabets						Middle Iranian alphabets					Avestan
	Phoen.	Hebr.	Aram.	Palmyr.	Nabat.	Parth.	Mpers.I	Psalter	Mpers.B		Avestan
ʾ	𐤀	א	ܐ	Ⲁ	𐎀	𐎠	𐎡	𐎣	𐎤	𐎥	𐎦
									𐎧	𐎨	𐎩
									𐎪	𐎫	𐎬
									𐎭	𐎮	𐎯
									𐎱	𐎲	𐎳
									𐎵	𐎶	𐎷
b	𐤁	ב	ܒ	Ⲃ	𐎁	𐎢	𐎣	𐎤	b	𐎥	
g	𐤂	ג	ܓ	Ⲅ	𐎂	𐎣	𐎤	𐎥	g	𐎦	
d	𐤃	ד	ܕ	Ⲇ	𐎃	𐎥	𐎦	𐎧	d		
								𐎨	d	𐎩	
h	𐤄	ה	ܗ	Ⲉ	𐎄	𐎧	𐎨	𐎩	H		
w	𐤅	ו	ܘ	Ⲋ	𐎅	𐎩	𐎪	𐎫	𐎬	w	𐎭
									𐎮	ū	𐎯
									𐎰	v	𐎱
z	𐤆	ז	ܙ	Ⲍ	𐎆	𐎩	𐎪	𐎫	z	𐎬	
h	𐤇	ח	ܘܚ	Ⲏ	𐎇	𐎫	𐎬	𐎭	𐎮	x	𐎯
									𐎰	x	𐎱
									𐎲	x̄	𐎳
									𐎴	x <sup>v</sup>	𐎵
t	𐤈	ט	ܛ	Ⲑ	𐎈	𐎫	𐎬			𐎭	
y	𐤉	י	ܝ	Ⲓ	𐎉	𐎭	𐎮	𐎯	𐎰	y	𐎱
									𐎲	ī	𐎳
									𐎵	ÿ	𐎶
									𐎸	ÿ̄	𐎹
									𐎻	ÿ <sup>v</sup>	𐎼
									𐎽	ÿ <sup>v</sup>	𐎿
k	𐤊	כ	ܟ	Ⲕ	𐎊	𐎯	𐎰	𐎱	𐎲	k	𐎳
									𐎴	γ	𐎵
									𐎷	g	𐎸

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	Phoen.	Hebr.	Aram.	Palmyr.	Nabat.	Parth.	Mpers.I	Psalter	Mpers.B		Avestan	
l	𐤀	ל	ܠ	𐤎	𐤎	𐭎	𐭎	𐭎	𐭎	l	𐬀	(r)
									𐭎	L	𐬁	o
									𐭎	ō	𐬂	ō
m	𐤍	מ	ܡ	𐤌	𐤌	𐭍	𐭍	𐭍	𐭍	m	𐬃	m
									𐭍		𐬄	ṃ
n	𐤍	נ	ܢ	𐤏	𐤏	𐭎	𐭎	𐭎	𐭎	n	𐬀	n
									𐭎		𐬁	ñ
									𐭎		𐬂	ñ̄
									𐭎		𐬃	ṇ
s	𐤑	ס	ܣ	𐤒	𐤒	𐭏	𐭏	𐭏	𐭏	s	𐬃	s
									𐭏		𐬄	
c	𐤑	צ	ܥ	𐤙	𐤙	𐭏	𐭏	𐭏	𐭏	c		
p	𐤐	פ	ܦ	𐤑	𐤑	𐭏	𐭏	𐭏	𐭏	p,f	𐬀	p
									𐭏		𐬁	f
									𐭏		𐬂	β
s	𐤑	ס	ܣ	𐤒	𐤒	𐭏	𐭏	𐭏	𐭏	c,s	𐬃	δ
									𐭏		𐬄	δ
									𐭏		𐬅	ž
									𐭏		𐬆	ǰ
									𐭏		𐬇	č
									𐭏		𐬈	δ
q	𐤒	ק	ܩ	𐤓	𐤓	𐭏	𐭏	𐭏	Q			
r	𐤓	ר	ܪ	𐤔	𐤔	𐭏	𐭏	𐭏	r	𐬀	r	
š	𐤔	ש	ܫ	𐤕	𐤕	𐭏	𐭏	𐭏	𐭏	š	𐬃	š
									𐭏		𐬄	š̄
									𐭏		𐬅	ṧ
									𐭏		𐬆	y (ž̇)
t	𐤕	ת	ܬ	𐤖	𐤖	𐭏	𐭏	𐭏	𐭏	t	𐬃	t
									𐭏		𐬄	t̄

\*after H.S. NYBERG and K. HOFFMANN

## The Avestan alphabet:

𐬀	𐬁	𐬂	𐬃	𐬄	𐬅	𐬆	𐬇	𐬈	𐬉	𐬊	𐬋	𐬌	𐬍
a	ā	ā̇	q	ə	ā̄	e	ē	o	ō	i	ī	u	ū
𐬎	𐬏	𐬐	𐬑	𐬒	𐬓	𐬔				𐬕	𐬖		
k	x	x̄	xʷ	g	g	γ				c	j		
𐬗	𐬘	𐬙	𐬚	𐬛						𐬜	𐬝	𐬞	𐬟
t	θ	d	δ	t̄						p	f	b	β
𐬠	𐬡	𐬢	𐬣	𐬤	𐬥		𐬦	𐬧		𐬨	𐬩	𐬪	𐬫
ŋ	ŋ̄	ŋʷ	n	n̄	ṅ		m	ṃ		y	v		r
		𐬬	𐬭	𐬮	𐬯	𐬰	𐬱	𐬲		𐬳			
		s	z	š	š̄	ṧ	y=ž̇	ž̄		h			
				⋮	⋮	⋮							

## The Pahlavī alphabet:

	𐭀	𐭁	𐭂	𐭃	𐭄	𐭅	𐭆	𐭇	𐭈	𐭉	𐭊	𐭋	𐭌	𐭍
		b		g										
𐭎	𐭏	𐭐	𐭑	𐭒	𐭓	𐭔	𐭕	𐭖	𐭗	𐭘	𐭙	𐭚	𐭛	𐭜
H	w	z	x	y						k			l/r	
	𐭝	𐭞	𐭟	𐭠	𐭡	𐭢	𐭣	𐭤	𐭥	𐭦	𐭧	𐭨	𐭩	𐭪
	m/Q	n	s						p/f	c				
		𐭫	𐭬	𐭭	𐭮	𐭯	𐭰	𐭱	𐭲	𐭳	𐭴	𐭵	𐭶	𐭷
		r	š						t					

Ligatures:

𐭀𐭁 YP    𐭁𐭂 YT    𐭀𐭂 YP    𐭁𐭂 YT    𐭀𐭃 ŠP    𐭁𐭃 ŠT

etc.