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The Tocharian Gender System

A Diachronic Study in Nominal Morphology

By

Alessandro Del Tomba



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*In lasting memory of a kind, strong man.
Lost but never forgotten*



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Alessandro Del Tomba

Pannone (Trento), November 2022

Abbreviations and Symbols

Grammatical Abbreviations

abl.	ablative
acc.	accusative
act.	active
adj.	adjective
all.	allative
alt., a.	alternating
adv.	adverb
arch.	archaic, cf. Peyrot (2008)
class.	classical, cf. Peyrot (2008)
coll.	colloquial, cf. Peyrot (2008)
com.	comitative
c _x	controller agreement
dat.	dative
dem.	demonstrative
det.	determiner
du.	dual
fem., f.	feminine
gen.	genitive
ger.	gerundive
inf.	infinitive
instr.	instrumental
ipf.	imperfect
loc.	locative
masc., m.	masculine
mid.	middle
neg.	negation
nom.	nominative
NP	nominal phrase
nt.	neuter
obl.	oblique
opt.	optative
part.	particle
perl.	perlative
pl.	plural

prs.	present
prt.	preterite
ptc.	participle
sbj.	subjunctive
sg.	singular
T _x	target agreement
voc.	vocative

Languages

Alb.	Albanian
Arm.	Armenian
Att.	Attic (Greek)
Av.	Avestan
Bctr.	Bactrian
BMAC	Bactria-Margiana Archaeological Complex
Celt.	Celtic
Chin.	Chinese
Croat.	Croatian (Standard)
Du.	Dutch
E	English
Fr.	French
Germ.	Germanic
Gk.	Greek
Goth.	Gothic
Hom.	Homeric
IE	Indo-European
IIr.	Indo-Iranian
Ir.	Iranian
It.	Italian
Khot.	Khotanese
Khwar.	Khwarezmian
Lat.	Latin
Latv.	Latvian
Lesb.	Lesbian
Lith.	Lithuanian
Luw.	Luwian

M	Middle
Mo	Modern
MP	Middle Persian
NP	New Persian
O	Old
OAv.	Old Avestan
OCS	Old Church Slavonic
OD	Old Dutch
OE	Old English
OHG	Old High German
OLG	Old Low German
ON	Old Norse
OP	Old Persian
Osc.	Oscan
OSIr.	Old Steppe Iranian, cf. Bernard (forth.)
Oss.	Ossetic
P	Proto(-)
Phr.	Phrigian
PIE	Proto-Indo-European
Pkt.	Prākṛit
Port.	Portuguese
pre-PT	pre-Proto-Tocharian
pre-TA	pre-Tocharian A
pre-TB	pre-Tocharian B
Pruss.	Prussian
PT	Proto-Tocharian
Rom.	Romanian
Russ.	Russian
Skt.	Sanskrit
Sl.	Slavic
Sogd.	Sogdian
Sp.	Spanish
TA	Tocharian A
TB	Tocharian B
Tum.	Tumshuqese
Uy.	Uyghur
Ved.	Vedic Sanskrit
W	Welsh
YAv.	Young Avestan

Symbols

/x/	phonological form
[x]	phonetic form; uncertain reading in Tocharian texts; addition in translation
(x)	restoration in Tocharian texts
x	morphological form (cf. Peyrot 2013a)
⟨x⟩	orthographic form
{x}	emendation in Tocharian texts
« x »	editorial supplement in Tocharian texts
*x	reconstructed form
x*	inferred form
**x	projected, but wrong form
x x	nom. form obl. form
>	developed phonologically into
<	developed phonologically from
>>	developed analogically into
<<	developed analogically from
→	yields through derivation; developed semantically into; borrowed into
←	is formed through derivation; developed semantically from; borrowed from
///	the line starts or ends with a lacuna (damaged document edge)
C	consonant or consonant cluster
Ć	palatal consonant or consonant cluster
V	vowel
Ÿ	accented vowel
†x	ghost form
x ^o	member of compound; cut of a word
!	caesura
•	indeterminable of an <i>akṣara</i>

Citation Codes

A	Tocharian A fragments from Berlin
AS	Pelliot Koutchéen, Ancienne Série, Paris
B	Tocharian B fragments from Berlin
DA M	Pelliot Koutchéen, Duldur Aqur M, Paris
G	Graffiti (Pinault 1987)
IT	IO L Toch, London, Indian Office Library
LC	Lettres commerciales, Paris
LP	Laissez-passers, Paris
NS	Pelliot Koutchéen, Nouvelle Série, Paris
Or	India office oriental collections
Ot	Ötani collection
SI	St. Petersburg collections
THT	Tocharische Handschriften der Turfansammlung, Berlin
W	Weber collection of medical and magical manuscripts, London
YQ	Tocharian A fragments found at Yanqi Qianfodong

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