

The Imperative in the Rigveda

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STELLINGEN

behorende bij het proefschrift van Daniel Baum "Imperative in the Rigveda"

- 1) In the language of the Rigveda there is no semantic difference between a rist imperative and present imperative.
- 2) In spite of the fact that the expressions Gr. κλῦθί μοι and Skt. śrudhi me (hávam) only consist of two words, we must consider it a fixed formula. Even śrudhi on its own may be considered such.
- 3) If it is true that some of the more ancient forms found in the Rigveda are actually artificially preserved archaisms which were not found in the spoken language of the time, then this has serious implications for the dating of the text. It means in fact that the text cannot be dated relatively vis-à-vis the Vedic prose solely on the basis of the grammatical forms attested in the text, since the fact that the prose texts did not contain these archaisms does not necessarily mean that they represent a later form of the language..
- 4) The imperative in the Rigveda is used far more often for making requests of the gods than for giving commands. It is also by far the most common way to express wishes and aspirations.
- 5) The second person singular imperative in -dhi is always accented on the ending. The form $y \circ dhi$ is not a form in -dhi, but rather an example of the analogically created -i imperative.
- 6) Based on its six attestations in the Rigveda, the word *iriṇa*-has a meaning akin to "wadi", i.e. a stream that dries up in the summer.
- 7) The enclitic pronoun *naḥ* can occasionally be ablative, as exemplified by RV 6.48.10c.
- 8) The most basic Indo-European verbal categories are person, number, voice, and aspect. Everything else including tense is secondary.
- 9) A proto-version of the Laryngeal theory was published in 1879 by Friedrich Kluge, independently of Ferdinand de Saussure's work of the same year. (F. Kluge, *Beiträge zur Geschichte der germanische Conjugation*, Strassburg, 1879).
- 10) The Middle East situation will only come to a complete solution when a majority of the countries in the region are democratic.