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## Hittite nasal presents

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## Propositions

- 1> The Hittite nasal infix and *nu*-verbs are cognate to nasal infix and *nu*-verbs in other Indo-European languages.
- 2> The function of the verbal suffix *-nu-* is similar to that of the nasal infix and cannot be described as merely causative. In certain Hittite verbs the suffix *-nu-* has an intensive or terminative meaning.
- 3> The nasal infix stems in Hittite are preserved only with roots ending in velars and laryngeals.
- 4> There are several reflexes of the PIE infix *\*-né/n-* in Hittite: *-n-* and an extended variant *-nin-* (with a positional variant *-ni-* before a consonantal cluster), which go back to the zero and full grade of the PIE infix, respectively. The PIE full stem *\*-né-* is also directly preserved as *-ni-* in two verbs, *hinik-/hink-* ‘to grant’ and *tamenik-/tamink-* ‘to attach’.
- 5> Some of the Hittite infix verbs and the majority of *nu*-verbs were formed after the split of the Anatolian language branch from PIE, i.e., in Proto-Anatolian or in pre-Hittite.
- 6> There is in Hittite no clear indication of a present-aorist stem distinction, as is found in other Indo-European languages.
- 7> Similarly to *nu*-verbs, Hittite verbs with the suffix *-ahh-* can also be intransitive and deverbal.
- 8> The causative/intensive/iterative polysemy of the nasal infix and the suffix *-nu-* has striking parallels in the polysemy of other affixes in both Indo-European and non-Indo-European languages. The original function of the nasal infix and the suffix *-nu-* must have been to raise the transitivity or agentivity of the root. The resulting causative or intensive/iterative function of the affix depended on the initial degree of transitivity (agentivity) of the root.
- 9> Even though some Hittite nasal infix verbs follow the *hi*-conjugation, they are transitive and do not contain the PIE thematic suffix *\*-e/o-*. Therefore, they cannot go back to the alleged intransitive thematic *hi*-conjugation infix verbs, assumed for PIE by Gorbachov (Y. Gorbachov, 2007. *Indo-European origins of the nasal inchoative class in Germanic, Baltic and Slavic*. Ph.D. thesis, Harvard University). The *hi*-conjugation of these Hittite infix verbs is instead secondary.
- 10> Increasing the number of people with Higher Education is beneficial for the economy.
- 11> Libraries provide a unique environment for scholarly studies.