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Stellingen

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A HISTORICAL GRAMMAR OF PHRYGIAN

van Aljoša Šorgo

1. The grapheme <↑> of the Phrygian alphabet, which is used to spell the affricate [dz], was adopted from Hieroglyphic Luwian sign *376, which has the same shape and spells [tsi].
2. The Phrygian 3rd person singular aorist desinence *-es* developed from an agglutination of the *s*-aorist suffix **-s* to the 3rd person singular thematic aorist desinence **-e*.
3. Phrygian verbal formations with the suffix *-si-* ~ *-se-* developed from innovative optatives to sigmatic aorists and have a clear modal function. The appellation “sigmatic optatives” is more appropriate than previous attempts at naming them.
4. One of the functions of the Phrygian middle voice, when used transitively, is to create a causeless causative construction. In such a construction, the semantic agent of the verbal action is unexpressed, with its syntactic role occupied by the ultimate causer of the action.

5. The postulation of a Graeco-Phrygian as a subbranch of the Indo-European language family is on solid enough ground that it should take its place as the third securely identified Indo-European subbranch next to Indo-Iranian and Balto-Slavic.

6. Any reconstruction of the pre-history of the Greek language must closely engage with Phrygian data; to do otherwise is to ignore the most relevant source of information outside Greek itself.

7. The stops of Proto-Indo-European distinguished the following three manners of articulation: voiceless, pre-glottalized voiced, and breathy voiced.

8. Before we can determine whether the Indo-European language family is related to any other language family, we must reconstruct the proto-languages of other possibly related families to approximately the same degree of certainty as Proto-Indo-European.

9. Classes teaching dead languages should always include at least some training in active skills as a means of solidifying acquired knowledge.

10. A class teaching the basics of linguistics should be incorporated into high school curricula.