1. Introduction

1.1. The Indo-European

1. The Indo-European languages are a family of several hundred languages and dialects, including most of the major languages of Europe, as well as many in South Asia. Contemporary languages in this family include English, German, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Hindustani (i.e., mainly Hindi and Urdu) and Russian. It is the

Countries with IE languages majority in orange. In yellow, countries in which have official status. [© gfdl]

largest family of languages in the world today, being spoken by approximately half the world's population as their mother tongue, while most of the other half speak at least one of them.

2. The classification of modern IE dialects into languages and dialects is controversial, as it depends on many factors, such as the pure linguistic ones (most of the times being the least important of them), the social, economic, political and historical ones. However, there are certain common ancestors, some of them old, well-attested languages (or language systems), as Classic Latin for Romance languages (such as French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Rumanian or Catalan), Classic Sanskrit for the Indo-Aryan languages or Classic Greek for present-day Greek.

Furthermore, there are other, still older -some of them well known- dialects from which these old language systems were derived and later systematized, which are, following the above examples, Archaic Latin, Archaic Sanskrit and Archaic Greek, also attested in older compositions and inscriptions. And there are, finally, old related dialects which help develop a Proto-Language, as the Faliscan (and Osco-Umbrian for many scholars) for Latino-Faliscan (Italic for many), the Avestan for Indo-Iranian or the Mycenaean for Proto-Greek.

NOTE. Although the proto-language groupings for IE languages may vary depending on different criteria, they all have certainly the same common origin, and that it is generally easier to

reconstruct than the individual groupings. For example, if we had only texts of old French, old Spanish and old Portuguese, medieval Italian and modern Rumanian and Catalan; then Vulgar Latin (i.e., the features of the common dialects spoken by all of them, not the older, artificial, literary Classical Latin) could be *easily* [see Criticisms B.2] reconstructed, but the groupings of the derived dialects not. In fact, the actual groupings of the romance languages are controversial, even knowing well enough Archaic, Classic and Vulgar Latin...
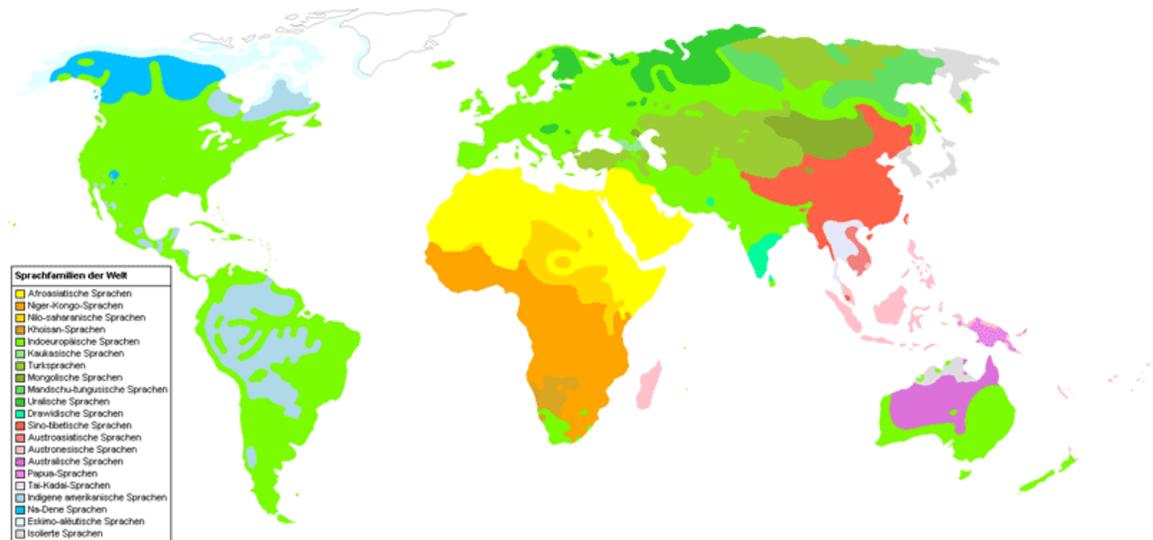
In **green**, majority of population speaking Indo-European languages. In **dark green**, Uralic language majority. In **light brown**, Turkic language majorities. [© gfdl]

1.2. European Languages

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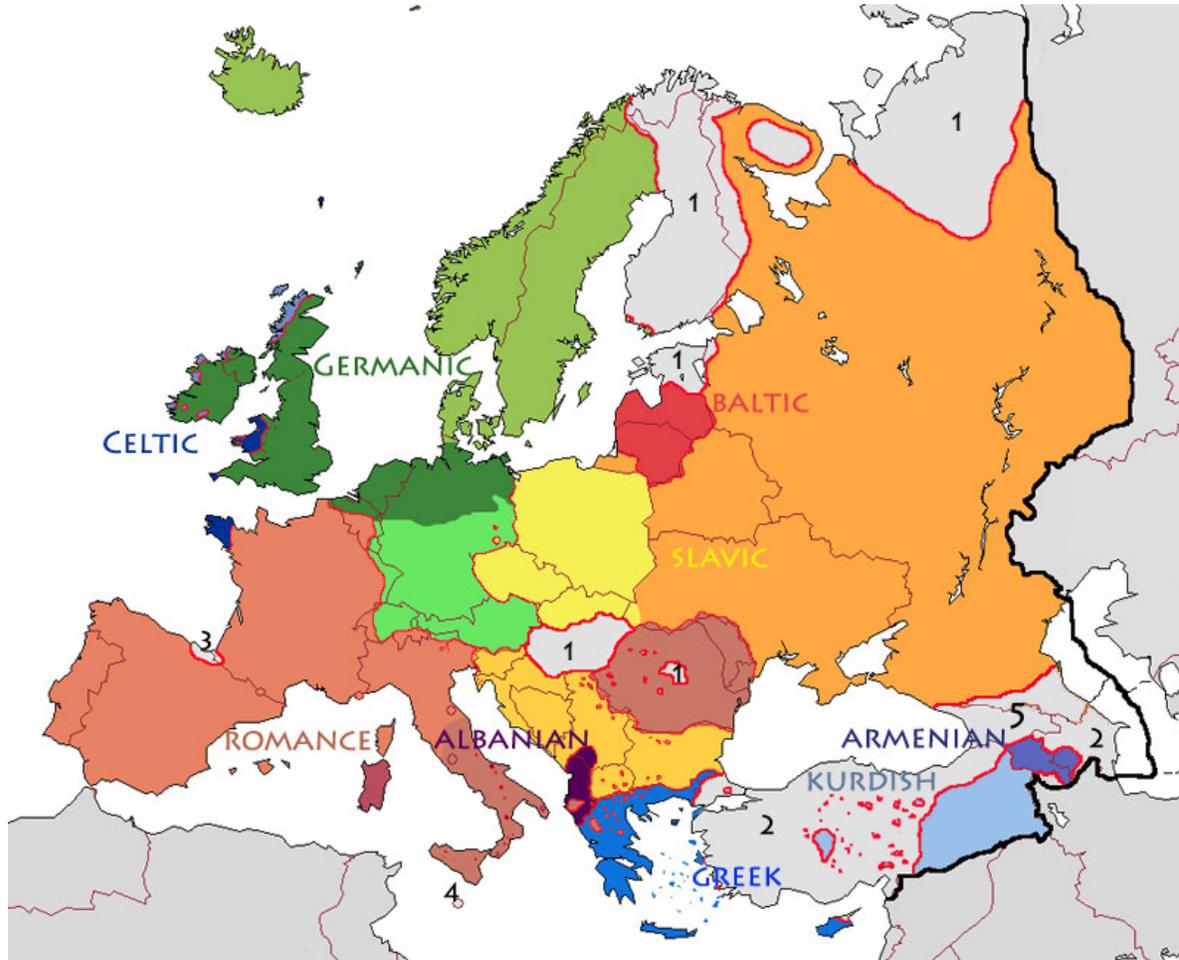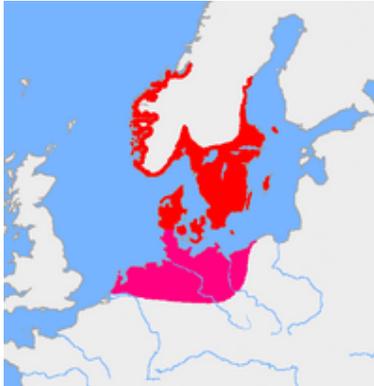

The black line divides the zones traditionally (or politically) considered inside the European subcontinent. In grey (inside Europe), non-IE languages: 1) Uralic languages; 2) Turkic languages; 3) Basque; 4) Maltese; 5) Caucasian languages.

NORTHERN IE DIALECTS

Germanic [w] [© gfdl]

The **Germanic languages** form one of the branches of the Indo-European (IE) language family. The largest Germanic languages are English and German, with ca. 340 and some 120 million native speakers, respectively.

Other significant languages include a number of Low Germanic languages (like Dutch) and the Scandinavian languages (Danish, Norwegian and Swedish).

Pre-Roman Iron Age cultures associated with Proto-Germanic, ca 500 BC-50 BC. The area south of Scandinavia is the Jastorf culture [©]

Their common ancestor is Proto-Germanic, probably still spoken in the mid-1st millennium BC in Iron Age Northern Europe. Germanic, and all its descendants, is characterised by a number of unique linguistic features, most famously the consonant change known as Grimm's law. Early Germanic dialects enter history with the Germanic peoples who settled in northern Europe along the borders of the Roman Empire from the 2nd century

The earliest evidence of Germanic is from names, recorded in the 1st century by Tacitus, and in a single instance in the 2nd century BC, on the Negau helmet. From roughly the 2nd century AD, some speakers of early Germanic dialects developed the Elder Futhark. Early runic inscriptions are also largely limited to personal names, and difficult to interpret. The Gothic language was written in the Gothic alphabet developed by Bishop Ulfilas for his translation of the Bible in the 4th century. Later, Christian priests and monks who spoke and read Latin in addition to their native Germanic tongue began writing the Germanic languages with slightly modified Latin letters, but in Scandinavia, runic alphabets remained in common use throughout the Viking Age.

In addition to the standard Latin alphabet, various Germanic languages use a variety of accent marks and extra letters, including umlaut, the ß (*Eszett*), IJ, Æ, Å, Ð, and Þ, from

runes. Historic printed German is frequently set in blackletter typefaces (e.g. Fraktur or Schwabacher).
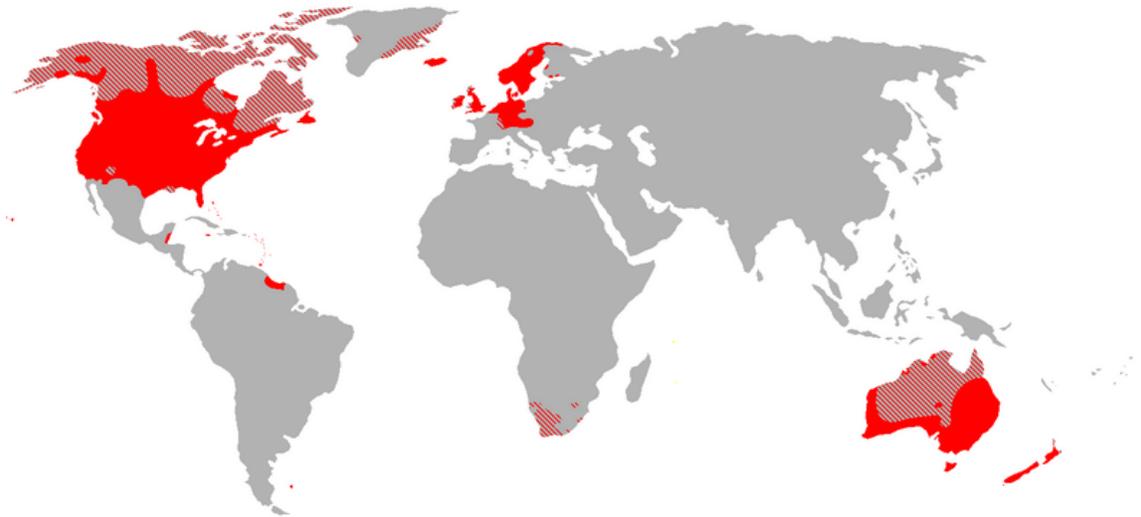
Spread of Germanic languages. Solid red indicates that a majority of inhabitants speaks a Germanic language. Striped red indicates that a sizeable minority (more than 10%) speaks a Germanic language. [© gfdl]

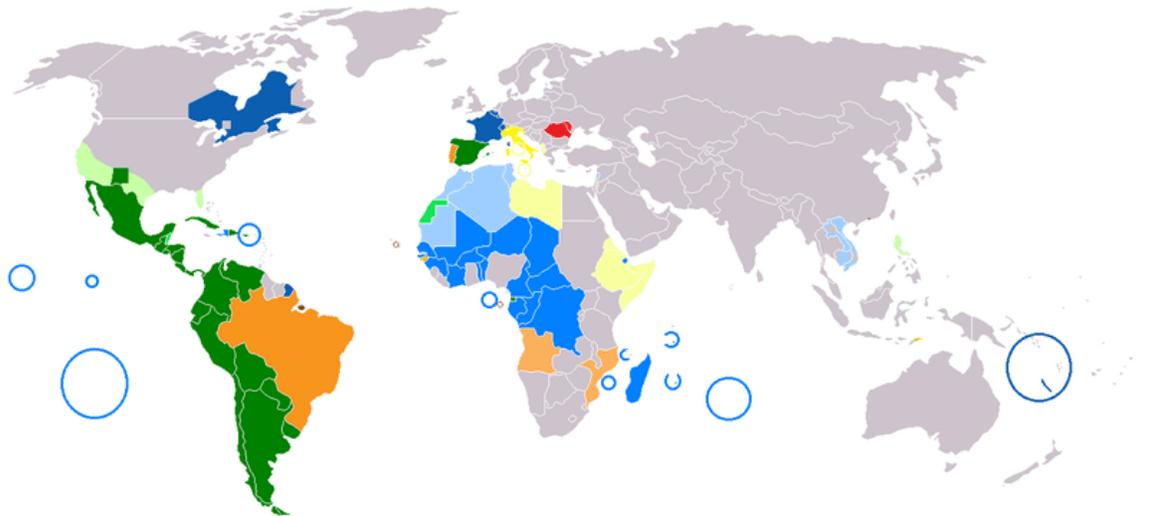## Romance [w] [© gfdl]

The **Romance languages**, a major branch of the IE, comprise all languages that descended from Latin, the language of the Roman Empire. The Romance languages have some 800 million native speakers worldwide, mainly in the Americas, Europe, and Africa; as well as in many smaller regions scattered through the world. The largest languages are Spanish and Portuguese, with about 400 and 200 million mother tongue speakers respectively, most of them outside Europe. Within Europe, French (with 80 million) and Italian (70 million) are the largest ones.

All Romance languages descend from Vulgar Latin, the language of soldiers, settlers, and slaves of the Roman Empire, which was substantially different from the Classical Latin of the Roman literati. Between 200 BC and 100 AD, the expansion of the Empire, coupled with administrative and educational policies of Rome, made Vulgar Latin the dominant native language over a wide area spanning from the Iberian Peninsula to the Western coast of the Black Sea. During the Empire's decadence and after its collapse and fragmentation in 5th century, Vulgar Latin evolve independently within each local area, and eventually diverged into dozens of distinct languages. The oversea empires

established by Spain, Portugal and France after the 15th century then spread Romance to the other continents — to such an extent that about 2/3 of all Romance speakers are now outside Europe.

In spite of multiple influences from pre-Roman languages and from later invasions, the phonology, morphology, lexicon, and syntax of all Romance languages are predominantly derived from Vulgar Latin.

Romance languages in the World. **Green** - Spanish; **Orange** - Portuguese; **Blue** - French; **Yellow** - Italian; **Red** - Rumanian [@]

Slavic [w] [© gfdl]

The **Slavic languages** (also called Slavonic languages), a group of closely related languages of the Slavic peoples and a subgroup of IE languages, have speakers in most of Eastern Europe, in much of the Balkans, in parts of Central Europe, and in the northern part of Asia. The largest languages are Russian and Polish, with 165 and some 47 million speakers, respectively.

The oldest Slavic literary language was Old Church Slavonic, which later evolved into Church Slavonic.

Distribution of the Slavic languages in Europe, in the areas where it is either recognized as an official language, or spoken by a majority. Also, in stripes, areas where a language was spoken before it got extinct or, the regions where it is best represented even if not spoken by a majority [©]

Celtic [w] [© gfdl]
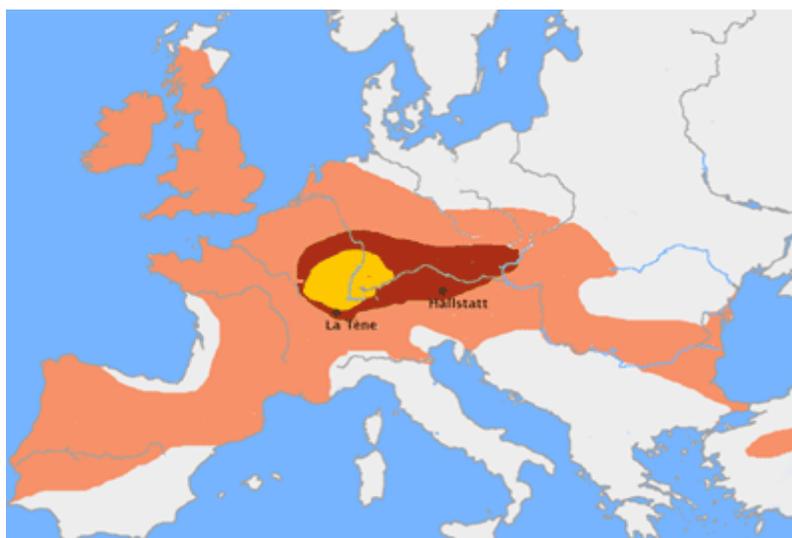
Distribution of the Celtic languages in Europe before Roman expansion. [© gfdl]

The **Celtic languages** are the languages descended from Proto-Celtic, or "Common Celtic", a branch of the greater IE language family. During the 1st millennium BC, they were spoken across Europe, from the southwest of the Iberian Peninsula and the North Sea, up the Rhine and down the Danube to the Black Sea and the Upper Balkan Peninsula, and into Asia Minor (Galatia), and even in Anatolia. Today, Celtic languages are now limited to a few enclaves in the British Isles and on the peninsula of Brittany in France.

The distinction of Celtic into different sub-families probably occurred about 1000 BC. The early Celts are commonly associated with the archaeological Urnfield culture, the La Tène culture, and the Hallstatt culture.

Baltic [w] [© gfdl]

The **Baltic languages** are a group of related languages belonging to the IE language family and spoken mainly in areas extending east and southeast of the Baltic Sea in Northern Europe. The language group is sometimes divided into two sub-groups: Western Baltic, containing only extinct languages as Prussian or Galindan, and Eastern Baltic, containing both extinct and the two living languages in the group: Lithuanian and Latvian (including literary Latvian and Latgalian). While related, the Lithuanian, the Latvian, and particularly the Old Prussian

Old Baltic dialects, modified from (apparently not copyrighted)
http://indoeuro.bizland.com/tree/balt/balt.html image

vocabularies differ substantially from each other and are not mutually intelligible. The now extinct Old Prussian language has been considered the most archaic of the Baltic languages.

Albanian [w] [© gfdl]

Albanian (gjuha shqipe) is a language spoken by over 8 million people primarily in Albania, Kosovo, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, but also by smaller numbers of ethnic Albanians in other parts of the Balkans, along the eastern coast of Italy and in Sicily, as well other emigrant groups. The language forms its own distinct branch of the IE languages.

The Albanian language has no living close relatives among the IE languages. There is no scholarly consensus over its origin. Some scholars maintain that it derives from the Illyrian language, and others claim that it derives from Thracian. The former group doesn't exclude a relationship with Thracian.

SOUTHERN IE DIALECTS

Greek [w] [© gfdl]

Greek (Greek Ελληνικά, "Hellenic") is an IE language with a documented history of 3,500 years. Today, it is spoken by 15 million people in Greece, Cyprus, the former Yugoslavia, particularly the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Bulgaria, Albania and Turkey.

Distribution of old Greek dialects, ca. 400 BC, after Risch (1955) [© gfdl]

Greek has been written in the Greek alphabet, the first true alphabet, since the 9th century B.C. and before that, in Linear B and the Cypriot syllabaries.

Greek literature has a long and rich tradition.

Greek has been spoken in the Balkan Peninsula since the 2nd millennium BC. The earliest evidence of this is found in the Linear B tablets dating from 1500 BC. The later Greek alphabet is unrelated to Linear B, and was derived from the Phoenician alphabet; with minor modifications, it is still used today.

Armenian [w] [© gfdl]

Eastern Armenian language today (Courtesy of The General Libraries, The University of Texas at Austin)

Armenian is an IE language spoken by the Armenian people in the Armenian Republic and also used by the Armenian Diaspora. It constitutes an independent branch of the Indo-European language family.

Armenian is regarded as a close relative of Phrygian. From the modern languages Greek seems to be the most closely related to Armenian. Armenian shares major isoglosses with Greek, and some linguists propose that the linguistic ancestors of the Armenians and Greeks were either identical or in a close contact relation.

Armenian is written in the Armenian alphabet, created by Saint Mesrop Mashtots in 406 AD. This alphabet, with two additional letters, is still used today.

Literature written in Armenian appeared by the 5th century. The written language of that time, called classical Armenian or Grabar, remained the Armenian literary language, with various changes, until the 19th century.

Kurdish (IRANIAN) [w] [© gfdl]

The **Kurdish language** (*Kurdî* in Kurdish) is spoken in the region loosely called Kurdistan, including Kurdish populations in parts of Iran, Iraq, Syria and Turkey. Kurdish is an official language in Iraq while it is banned in Syria. Before August 2002, the Turkish government placed severe restrictions on the use of Kurdish, prohibiting the language in education and broadcast media. In Iran,

Kurdish speaking areas of the Middle East.*(Courtesy of The University of Texas at Austin)*

although it is used in the local media and newspapers, there are severe restrictions on its use in education. Teaching Kurmanji Kurdish is prohibited in Iranian schools.

The Kurdish language has its own historical development, continuity, grammatical system and rich living vocabularies in comparison to other members of the Iranian language family. The number of speakers in Turkey is deemed to be more than 15 million, but an exact census is not available.

Romany (INDO-ARYAN) [w] [© gfdl]

Romany (or Romani) is the term used for the IE languages of the European Roma and Sinti. These Indo-Aryan languages should not be confused with either Rumanian or Romansh, both of which are Romance languages.

The **Roma** people (singular *Rom*; sometimes *Rroma*, *Rrom*), often referred to as Gypsies, are an ethnic group who live primarily in Europe. They are believed to be descended from nomadic peoples from northwestern India and Pakistan who began a Diaspora from the eastern end of the Iranian plateau into Europe and north Africa about 1,000 years ago. **Sinte** or Sinti is the name some communities of the nomadic people usually called "Gypsies" in English prefer for themselves. This includes communities
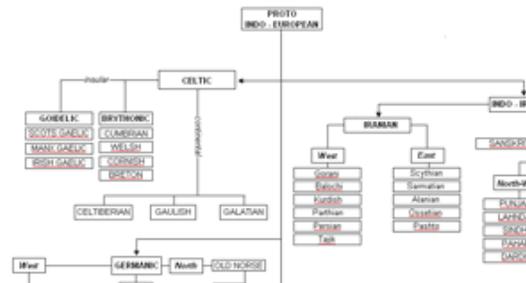
known in German and Dutch as *Zigeuner* and in Italian as *Zingari*. They are closely related to, and are usually considered to be a subgroup of, the Roma people. Roma and Sinte do not form a majority in any state.

Today's dialects of Romany are differentiated by the vocabulary accumulated since their departure from Anatolia, as well as through divergent phonemic evolutions and grammatical features. Many Roma no longer speak the language or speak various new contact languages from the local language with the addition of Romany vocabulary.

1.3. Traditional Views

1. In the beginnings of the Indo-European or Indo-Germanic studies (already using the comparative grammar), the Indo-European (or IE) language was reconstructed as an unitary language; for Bopp (and the first Indo-European scholars), it was the search of *The* IE. It appeared, then, at one place (in Europe or Asia) and at one point in time (more or less at some point between ten thousand and two thousand years ago, depending on the individual theories), and spread thereafter in individual languages which in turn had different dialects and so on.

2. The *Stammbaumtheorie*, or Genealogical Tree theory, states that languages split up in other languages, each of them in turn split up in others, and so on, like the branches of a tree. For example, a well known old theory about IE is that, from *The* IE, two main group of dialects known as *Centum* and *Satem* (because of their pronunciation of the gutturals, like in the word **kmtom**, *hundred*) separated, and from them anothers split up, which would be the common ancestors of the present languages, like Proto-Germanic (or Germanic), Proto-Italic (or Italic), Proto-Celtic (or Celtic), and so on.

Sample of a Genealogical Tree of the IE languages [© gfdl]

NOTE. The division in Centum and Satem is one of the oldest known features of the IE languages, and is still in use by many (usually uninformed) to classify the languages in two groups, thus generally disregarding the huge knowledge acquired in the last hundred years by IE scholars; especially the general agreement in the lack of relevance of phonetic isoglosses as this one for a general classification into main groups of dialects.

Classic, wrong, satem-centum dialect map [© gfdl]

3. The *Wellentheorie*, or Waves Theory, from J. Schmidt, states that one language is created from another by the spreading of innovations, like the waves of the water when a stone hits it: hence the name. The lines which define the extension of the innovations

are called isoglosses. The existence of different isoglosses over a common territory signals the existence of a new language or dialect. But there are transition zones, where languages or dialects and isoglosses do not coincide.

4. Every single theory of these old times supposed, then, that the objective was to obtain one IE, *The* IE, and every discovery of that or this feature of any language was then inserted into the main unitary Scheme, thus classifying them into innovations or archaisms of the old, native Proto-Language.

5. The Europaio is based mainly on *The* IE. Not because it upholds the traditional views, but because, even though we support the modern Three-Stage theory, we still look for the immediate common ancestor of the European languages, and this is still this old, unitary IE. Indeed, our vision is not that of the traditionalists, nor can our final output be theirs, as the assumption of the new theories imply a different approach to *The* IE; seen as a whole, though, our system is almost *The* IE, but for some due changes.

NOTE. In fact, most works on which the Europaio is based, especially those of the vocabulary, are in turn based on these old sources, although they have been revised by new scholars from the point of view of the new theories.
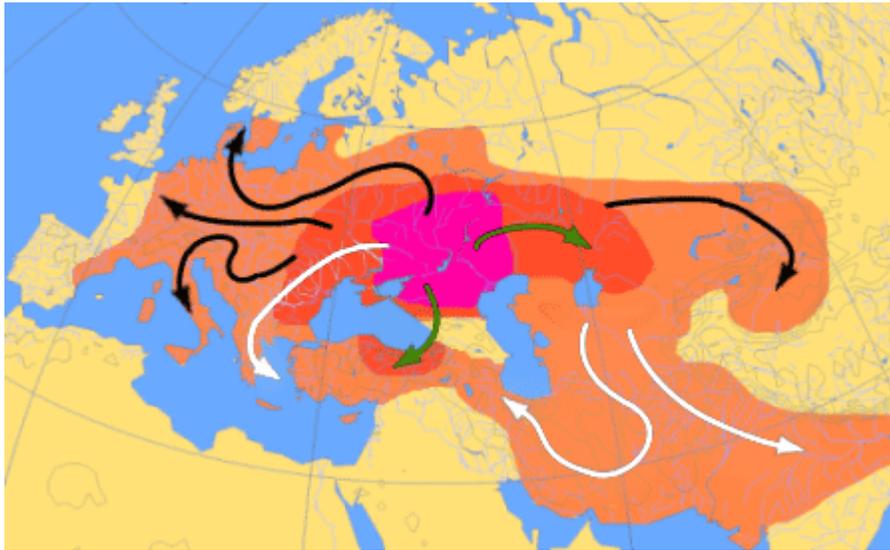
1.4. The Three Stages

1. Even the traditionalists had noted in their works the possibility of older origins of the IE, although they didn't dare to describe those possible older stages of the language.

Today, a general Three-Stage Theory describes how the IE history can be divided into three main layers or Stages (more or less artificial, as it tends to assume that there were no significant intermediate stages): one, the common (immediate) ancestor of the Indo-European proto-languages, that which had been searched for from the beginning, *The* IE, which now will be called **IE III** (also called *Late PIE*) and also Europaio in this Grammar. The second stage corresponds to the splitting of - at least - the Anatolian and IE III from their common source, **IE II** (*Middle PIE*). What is called IE I or Proto-Indo-European, **PIE** for short (*Early PIE*), is the ancestor of IE II; there is, however, no common position as to how it was like.

NOTE. It is impossible to trace back a single work that *reveals* the three stages, as the *Theory* developed from the very origins of the IE studies, and it was not until the Anatolian writings were discovered and read (already in this century) that this Theory could be rightly developed. We don't believe a single scholar to have made the whole *Theory*, but that multiple contributions have helped to achieve this (now) general *Assumption*.

2. Another division has to be made, however, so that the *Europaio* concept is properly understood. The IE III language split up early into two main dialects, (probably) the *Northern* and *Southern* - as we will call them from now on when necessary-, both of them are called IE III as a whole. As far as we know, the Northern later split up (we cannot exactly know the how and when of each dialect) in at least Tocharian, Germanic, Celtic, Latin, Baltic and Slavic, the last two sometimes referred to as Baltoslavic, for their shared features. The Southern split mainly in Greek and Indo-Iranian.

Sample Map of the IE languages expansion 4000-1000 BC, according to the Kurgan and Three-Stage hypothesis. In purple, the Yamna culture corresponding to PIE (4000-3500). In dark red and green arrows, expansion of **IE II** and **Anatolian** about 2500 BC. In lighter orange, spread of **IE III** dialects about 1000 BC, the black arrows signaling the Northern dialects expansion, the white ones that of the Southern dialects. [© gfdl]

NOTE. Albanian is usually included in the Northern dialects, while Armenian is sometimes included in the Southern ones.

The Northern dialects have some common features, as the five-case noun inflection or the -r endings (probably archaisms) against the eight cases of the Southern (an innovation, then).

NOTE. Modern Europaio is based on both, i.e., on the IE III group of dialects as a whole, as it is not sure to what extent the so called innovations of one weren't really already known to the other, before they split up. It is obvious, however, that we choose, when necessary, the formations of the Northern or European dialects over those of the Southern.

1.5. The Homeland

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1. The search of the *Urheimat* or Homeland of those who first spoke PIE has developed along with the linguistic research, being the Archaeology the science which helps the most in looking for this hypothetical common prehistoric land.

2. The peoples who spoke IE III, already separated from IE II dialects (such as Anatolian) were probably located in the steppe north of the Caucasus, in the surroundings of the Volga river. This location combine the expansion of the Northern and Southern dialects, and agree also with the Kurgan hypothesis.
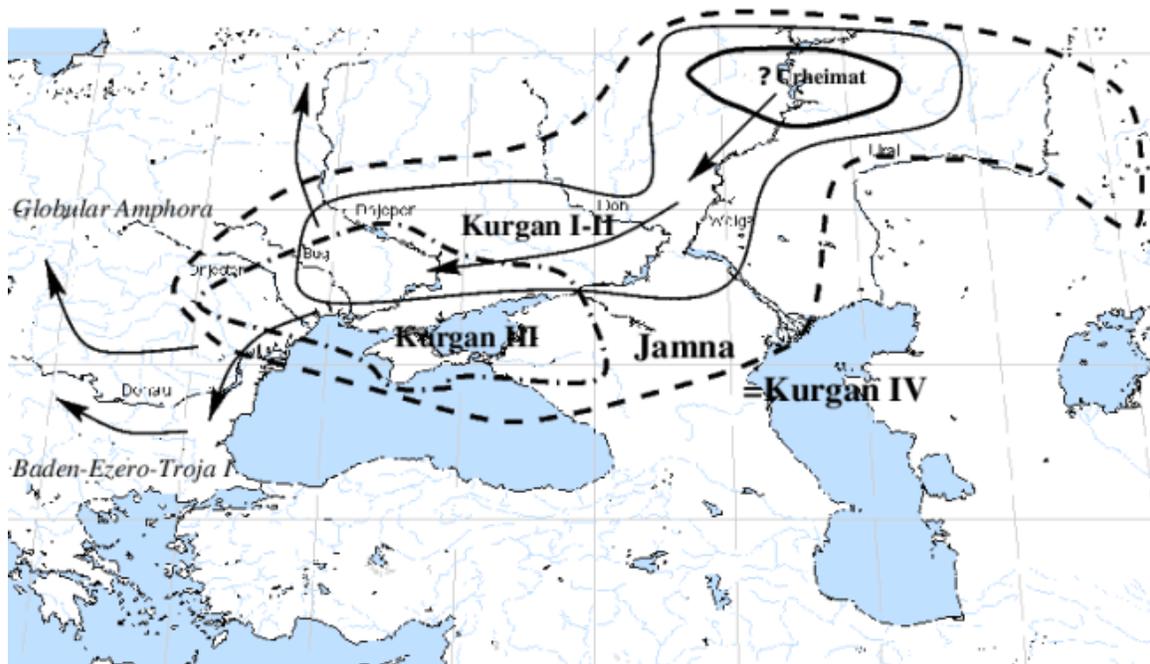
Map of the hypothetical Homeland or Urheimat of the **PIE** speakers, from 4500 BC. The Yamnaya or Jamna (Pit Grave) culture lasted from ca. 3600 till 2200. In this time the first wagons appeared. People were buried with their legs flexed, a position which remained typical for the Indo-Europeans for a long time. The burials were covered with a mound, a *kurgan*. During this period, from 3600 till 3000 the **IE II** split up into **IE III** and **Anatolian**. From the 3000 on, **IE III Dialects** began to differentiate and spread by 2500 westward (**Northern Dialects**) and to the southeast (**Greek** and possibly **Armenian**) and southwest (**Indo-Iranian**). By 2000 the Dialects' breach is complete. [© gfdl]

3. The European or Northern Dialects have developed in the European Subcontinent, but, because of the migrations, they have undergone different changes. Their original common location is usually traced back to some place to the East of the Rhine, to the North of the Alps and the Carpathian Mountains, to the South of Scandinavia and to the East of the Russian plain, not beyond Moscow. This linguistic theory is usually mixed with archaeological findings:
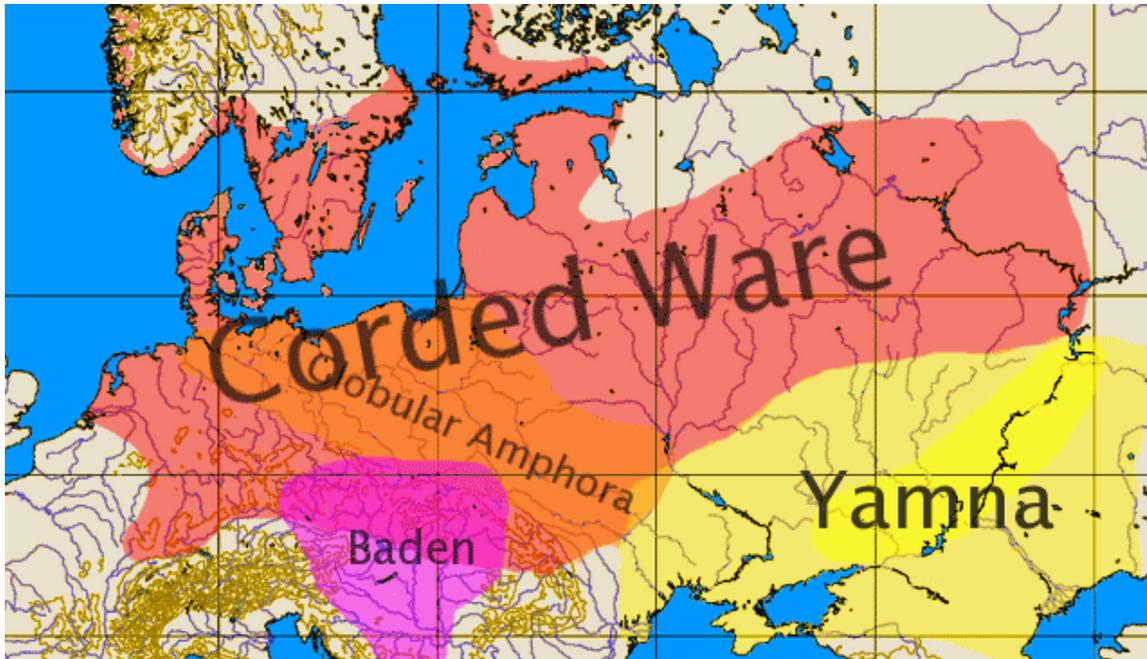
2000BC: The Corded Ware (in slight red) complex of cultures traditionally represents for many scholars the arrival of the first speakers of **Northern Dialects** in central Europe, coming from the Yamna culture (in yellow). The complex dates from about 3000-2000. The Globular Amphorae culture (in orange) may be slightly earlier, but the relation between these two cultures is unclear. Denmark and southern Scandinavia are supposed to have been the Germanic homeland, while the present-day West Germany would have been the Celtic (and possibly Italic) homeland; the east zone, then, corresponds to the Balto-Slavic homeland (their proto-languages certainly developed closely, if they weren't the same). [© gfdl]

4. These are the archaeological findings and the corresponding linguistic theories, put side by side for comparison.

ARCHAEOLOGY [w] [© gfdl] (Kurgan Hypothesis)	LINGUISTICS (Three-Stage Theories)
ca. 4500-4000: Sredny Stog, Dnieper-Donets and Sarama cultures, domestication of the horse.	The early Proto-Indo-European or PIE language.
ca. 4000-3500: The Yamna culture, the kurgan builders, emerges in the steppe, and the Maykop culture in northern Caucasus.	IE II. Two known dialects, Proto-Anatolian and Proto-IE III begin to differentiate.
ca. 3500-3000: The Yamna culture is at its peak, with stone idols, two-wheeled proto-chariots, animal husbandry, permanent settlements and hillforts, subsisting on agriculture and fishing, along rivers. Contact of the Yamna culture with late Neolithic Europe cultures results in kurganized Globular Amphora and Baden cultures. The Maykop culture shows the earliest evidence of the beginning Bronze Age, and bronze weapons and artefacts are introduced.	IE III and Anatolian have split up into two distinct languages. Anatolian is isolated south of the Caucasus, and have no more contacts with the IE III innovations.
3000-2500. The Yamna culture extends over the entire Pontic steppe. The Corded Ware culture extends from the Rhine to the Volga, corresponding to the latest phase of Indo-European unity. Different cultures disintegrate, still in loose contact, enabling the spread of technology.	IE III disintegrates into various dialects corresponding to different cultures. They remain still in contact, enabling the spread of phonetic and morphological innovations, as well as early loan words.
2500-2000. The Bronze Age reaches Central Europe with the Beaker culture of Northern Indo-Europeans. Indo-Iranians settle north of the Caspian in the Sintashta-Petrovka culture. Slavics and Baltics develop in north-eastern Europe.	The breakup of the southern IE dialects is complete. Proto-Greek is spoken in the Balkans and Proto-Indo-Iranian north of the Caspian. The Northern Dialects develop in Northern Europe, still in loose contact.
2000-1500: The chariot is invented, leading to the split and rapid spread of the Iranians and Indo-Aryans from the Andronovo culture and the Bactria-Margiana Archaeological Complex over much of Central Asia, Northern India, Iran and Eastern Anatolia. The pre-Celtics Unetice culture has an active metal industry.	Indo-Iranian splits up in two main dialects, Indo-Aryan and Iranian. In Europe, Germanic, Celtic (and maybe Italic or Proto-Latin), Baltic and Slavic differentiate from each other. Proto-Greek dialects are already written.
1500-1000: The Nordic Bronze Age sees the rise of the Germanic Urnfield cultures and the Celtic Hallstatt cultures in Central Europe, introducing the Iron Age. Italics move to the Italian Peninsula. Rigveda is composed. Mycenaean civilization in Greek Dark Ages. The Hittite Kingdoms flourish and decline.	Germanic, Celtic and Italic are already different languages, developing in turn different dialects.
1000-500BC: Northern Europe enters the Pre-Roman Iron Age. Early IE Kingdoms and Empires in the East. In the west, Classical Antiquity begins with the Greeks. Foundation of Rome.	Celtic dialects spread over Central and Western Europe. Osco-Umbrian and Latin-Faliscan are attested in the Italian Peninsula. Greek and Old Italic alphabets appear. The Anatolian languages become extinct.

1.6. Other Theories

1. A common development of new theories about IE has been to revise the Three-Stage assumption, what is actually not something new, but only the come back to more traditional views, by reinterpreting the new findings of the Hittite and trying to insert them into the old, static scheme.

2. The most known new alternative theory concerning PIE is the Glottalic theory, which assumes that PIE was pronounced more or less like Armenian (i.e., instead of **p**,**b**,**bh**, the pronunciation would have been *p'*,*p*,*b*, and the same with the other two voiceless-voiced-voiced aspirated series of consonants). The Indo-European homeland would have been then the surroundings of the Lake Urmia, in northern Iran, near the present Azerbaijan.

3. Other alternative theories concerning PIE are as follows [w] [© gfdl]:

I. The European Homeland thesis maintain that the common origin of the European languages lies in Europe. These thesis have usually a nationalistic flavour, more or less driven by Archeological or Linguistic theories, such as the Old European theories.

a. The Old European Theory compares some old European vocabulary (especially that of river names), which would be older than the spread of the IE III through Europe. It points out the possibility of an older, Pre-IE III spread of IE, wether branches of IE II or PIE or even an earlier related language.

b. This is, in turn, related with the theories of a Neolithic revolution causing the peacefully spreading of an older IE language into Europe from Asia Minor from around 7000 BC, with the advance of farming. Accordingly, more or less all of Neolithic Europe would have been Indo-European speaking, and the Northern IE III Dialects would had replaced older IE dialects, wether from IE II or PIE.

c. There is also a Paleolithic Continuity Theory, which derives Indo-European from the European Paleolithic cultures.

II. Another hypothesis, contrary to the European ones, also mainly driven by a nationalistic view, traces back the origin of PIE to Vedic Sanskrit, postulating that it is very *pure*, and that the origin can thus be traced back to the Indus valley civilization of ca. 3000 BC.

III. Finally, the Black Sea deluge theory dates the origins of the IE dialects expansion in the genesis of the Sea of Azov, ca. 5600 BC, which in turn would be related to the Bible Noah's flood, as it would have remained in oral tales until its writing down in the Hebrew *Tanakh*. This date is generally considered as rather early for the PIE spread.

1.7. Europaio

1. Europaio is, thus, a language System, a group of standardized rules necessary for proper communication, unlike IE III, which was a group of dialects spoken only in its speakers' prehistoric community. It is necessary, as it was always necessary in the civilizations that followed the Europaio splits (as the Romans, the Greeks, the Persians, etc.), to systematize a common, national language. This was usually made by choosing the dialect of the majority, or that of the richest or most powerful, in any case that of the dominant part of the society. All of these conditions are met by the Northern Dialects of IE III, which has to become the standard of the spoken language for the new Europe.

2. The system is made partly based on the obvious underlying old system (of the common IE III), partly based on more modern innovations (mainly of the Northern dialects); and partly, as always, eliminating old (possibly) general rules which cannot be used by a modern language speaker, such as some old syntax rules, and - more rarely - artificially generalizing (possibly) non-general rules. We have also developed two new formations, based on modern European languages: the (dynamic) passive voice endings and the conditional.

3. The words to complete the reconstruction are to be found mainly in modern IE languages, while the general loan words, wether classical (from Greek and Latin, like *philosophy* or *hypothesis*) or modern (from English, like *software*, from Spanish, like *guerrilla*, from German, like *Kindergarten, etc.*), should be translated as well when possible, as they are all theoretically Europaio dialectal words whose original meaning could easily be seen if translated. For example, the Greek word *photo*, could appear in Europaio either as **photo** [p'oto] or [foto] (as an *own* loan word), or as **bhawto** [bhəwto] (as an own word), from the verb bh<u>a</u>, *to shine*, which in Greek gives for example *phosphorus* and *phot*. The second form is, then, preferred.

4. A comparison with Hebrew seems necessary, as it is the only successful precedent of an old, reconstructed language becoming the living language of a whole Nation:

HEBREW	EUROPAIO
ca. 3000 BC: Proto-Aramaic, Proto-Ugaritic, and other Canaanite languages spoken.	ca. 3000 BC: IE II dialects, such as proto-IE III and proto-Anatolian spoken.
ca. 1000 BC: The first written evidence of distinctive Hebrew, the Gezer calendar.	ca. 2000 BC Northern IE dialects develop in Europe. ca. 1600 BC: Hittite and Luwian tablets, both Anatolian dialects. ca. 1500 BC: Linear B tablets in Mycenaean Greek.
Orally transmitted Tanakh, composed between 1000 and 500 BC.	Orally transmitted Rigveda, in Vedic Sanskrit, (similar to older Indo-Iranian), composed in parts, from 1500 to 500 BC. Orally transmitted Zoroastrian works in Avestan (Iranian), from 1000 to 700 BC. Homeric works dated from ca. 700 BC. Italic inscriptions, 700-500 BC.
Destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians under Nebuchadnezzar II, in 586 BC. The Hebrew language is then replaced by Aramaic in Israel under the Persian Empire. Destruction of Jerusalem and Expulsion of Jews by the Romans in 70 AD.	Italics, Celtics, Germanics, Baltics and Slavics are organized mainly in tribes and clans. Expansion of the great Old Civilizations, such as the Persians, the Greeks and the Romans. Behistun Inscription in Avestan, Celtic inscriptions ca 500 BC; Negau Helmet in Germanic, ca. 200 BC.
70-1950 AD. Jews in the Diaspora develop different dialects with Hebrew influence, with basis on Indo-European or Semitic languages.	Expansion of the renowned Antique, Medieval and Modern Indo-European civilizations, such as the Byzantines, the Franks, the Spanish and Portuguese, the Polish and Lithuanians, the French, the Austro-Hungarians and Germans and the English among others.
1880 AD. Eliezer Ben-Yehuda begins the reconstruction of a modern Hebrew language for the future Land of Israel.	1820 AD. Rask and Bopp begin the reconstruction of the common ancestor of the Indo-European languages.
19th century. Jews speaking different Indo-European (Yiddish, Judeo-Spanish, etc.) and Semitic languages (Judeo-Aramaic, Judeo-Arab etc.) settle in Israel, at first using different *linguae francae* to communicate, such as Turkish, Arab, French or English.	1949-1992. European countries form an International European Community, the EEC. 1992-2005: A Supranational entity, the European Union, substitutes the EEC. There are more than 20 official languages*, 3 de facto, English, German and French.
1922 AD. Hebrew is named official language of Palestine, along with English and Arabic. From that moment on, modern Hebrew becomes more and more the official National language of the Israeli Nation. The settlers' native languages are still spoken within their communities and families.	1992-Present. New steps are made to develop a National entity, a confederation-like state. The EU's Constitution and linguistic policy are two of the most important issues to be solved before that common goal can be achieved.

*Although there are no exact statistics, probably about 97% of the EU population speaks a IE language as a mother tongue, and every European must learn at least one IE language at school.

5. The adjective and noun Europaios comes from *europaios*, the genitive (and adjective) of Old Greek *Europe̱* / *Europa̱*, both forms interchangeable already in the oldest Greek,

and both coming from the same ending, -**a** (see § [4.9.3.](#)) or (in laryngeals' theory) a still older -**eh**. The Greek ending -**ai-o**- (see § [4.7.8.](#) for more on this special genitive) turns into Latin -**ae-u**-, and so *Europaeus*. The forms **Europa** and **Europaios** are, then, the original and correct ones, and have been also the most widely used forms for millennia. Only modern Greek maintains the form *Europe* (modern Greek *Europi*) for the subcontinent; but even in this modern language the adjectives are *europaikos*, m., (with a newer IE ethnic ending -*ikos*) and *europaia*, f.

NOTE 1. *Europe* is a common evolution of Latin a-endings in French; as in *Amerique* for *America*, *Belgique* for *Belgica*, *Italie* for *Italia*, and so on. The English term *Europe* is thus a French loan word, as can be seen from the other continents' names: *Asia* (not **Asy*), *Africa* (not **Afrik*), *Australia* (not **Australy*), and *America* (not **Amerik*).

NOTE 2. In Latin there were still two forms for Europe: *Europa, Europaeus*, and lesser used *Europe, Europensis*. The last form is usually seen in scientific terms.

The genitive of the Europaio word *Europa* is *Europas*, though, following the third declension. The name of the language is *Europaiom*, inanimate, because in almost every IE language that has an independent name for languages, this is neuter.

1.8. Bibliography

This work is mainly a compilation of others' knowledge, the output of two centuries of thorough research.

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This a little list of those (renowned) dead researchers who have contributed to the Europaio reconstruction with their works until now:

- Friedrich Schlegel (1772-1829)
- Jakob Grimm (1785-1863)
- Rasmus Rask (1787-1832)
- Franz Bopp (1791-1867)
- August Friedrich Pott(1802-1887)
- Theodor Benfey (1809-1881)
- Rudolf von Raumer (1815-1876)
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