

THE INTRODUCTION TO GERMANIC PHILOLOGY AND THE HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE



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LECTURE 1. INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF THE LANGUAGE

Plan

1. The aim of the study of the EL history
2. Investigating method in Linguistics
3. The Indo-European (IE) Family of languages



1. THE AIM OF THE STUDY OF THE EL HISTORY

Him ðā gegiredan Gēāta lēōde
ād on eorðan unwāclicne,
helmum behongen, hildebordum,
beorhtum byrnum, swā hē bēna wæs.
Ālegdon ðā tōmiddles mærne þēōden
hæleð hīōfende, hlāford lēōfne.

Old English heroic poem Beowulf, composed in the
8th century



Whan that Aprille with his shoures sote
The droghte of Marche hath perced to the rote
And bathed every veyne in swich licour,
Of which vertu engendred is the flour;
Whan Zephirus eek with his swete breeth
Inspired hath in every holt and heeth
The tendre croppes, and the yonge sonne
Hath is the Ram his halfe cours y-ronne.

Chauce's Caunterbury Tales, the Middle English from
the end of 14th century



To be, or not to be: that is the question:
Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer
The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune,
Or to take arms against a sea of troubles,
And by opposing end them?

Shakespeare's Hamlet in the late 16 century
pronunciation.



The **purpose** of our subject is a systematic study of the language development from the earliest times to the present days.

The aims set before a student of the history of the English language are as follows:

- to speak of the characteristics of the language at the earlier stages of its development;
- to trace the language from the Old English period up to modern time;
- to explain the principal features in the development of modern languages historically.



2. COMPARATIVE METHOD IN LINGUISTICS

- **7000 different languages** are spoken around the world.
- 90% of these languages are used by less than 100,000 people.
- Over a million people converse in 150-200 languages and 46 languages have only one speaker



- ❑ **Comparative method** – is the technique of reconstructing the earlier forms of the language or earlier languages by comparing the survival forms of the recorded languages;
- ❑ **The method of internal reconstruction**, which analyzes the internal development of a single language over time.



BRIEF HISTORY OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMPARATIVE METHOD

▣ **Sir William Jones**

an Anglo-Welsh philologist living
in India.

What famous observation did he
make in 1786?

He made an observation of
Sanskrit and found out that it
had some similarities with
Greek and Latin. All 3
languages had one
protolanguage.

▣ "Proto Indo-European" language



28 September 1746– 27
April 1794



- **Franz Bopp**, the German linguist.



14 September 1791 – 23 October 1867

- **Rasmus Christian Rask**, Danish philologist.



22. Nov 1787 – 14. Nov 1832

What did they do to develop the comparative linguistics?

Bopp: 1st professional comparison of 2 languages, resulted in a series of articles published in 1816.(greek/latin/sanskrit had common lexic)

Rask: Studied phonology of those languages,



P.I.E.	*oinos	*dwo	*treyes	*kwetwor	*penkwe	*kmtom
Modern English	one	two	three	four	five	hundred
<u>OLD ENGLISH</u>	an	twa	thri	feower	fif	hundteontig
<u>GERMAN</u>	eins	zwei	drei	vier	funf	hundert
<u>LATIN</u>	unus	duo	tres	quattuor	quinque	centum
<u>GREEK</u>	heis	duo	treis	tettares	pente	hekaton
<u>RUSSIAN</u>	odin	dva	tri	chetyre	pyat'	sto
<u>SANSKRIT</u>	ekas	dvau	trayas	catvaras	panca	satam
<u>SPANISH</u>	uno	dos	tres	quatro	cinco	ciento
<u>FRENCH</u>	un	deux	trois	quatre	cing	cent

The **comparative method** is a technique which helped scholars to prove that all languages can be united into families, so called **proto-language**.



MAIN TERMS

▣ **Proto-language:**

- (1) the once spoken ancestral language from which daughter languages descend;
- (2) the language reconstructed by the **comparative method** which represents the ancestral language from which the compared languages descend.

▣ **Sister languages:** languages which are related to one another because they descended from the same common ancestor (proto-language).



- ❑ **Cognate:** a word (or morpheme) which is related to a word (morpheme) in sister language by reason of these forms having been inherited by these sister languages from a common word of the proto-language from which the sister languages descend.
- ❑ **Cognate set:** the set of words (morphemes) which are related to one another across the sister languages because they are inherited and descend from a single word (morpheme) of the proto-language.
- ❑ **Sound correspondence:** a set of 'cognate' sounds; the sounds found in the related words of cognate sets which correspond from one related language to the next because they descend from a common ancestral sound.



3. THE INDO-EUROPEAN FAMILY OF LANGUAGES

Indo-European Family of Languages

The Centum languages

The Satem languages

Why are the branches called so?

Centum(West.Europ. Languages) means 100 in latin

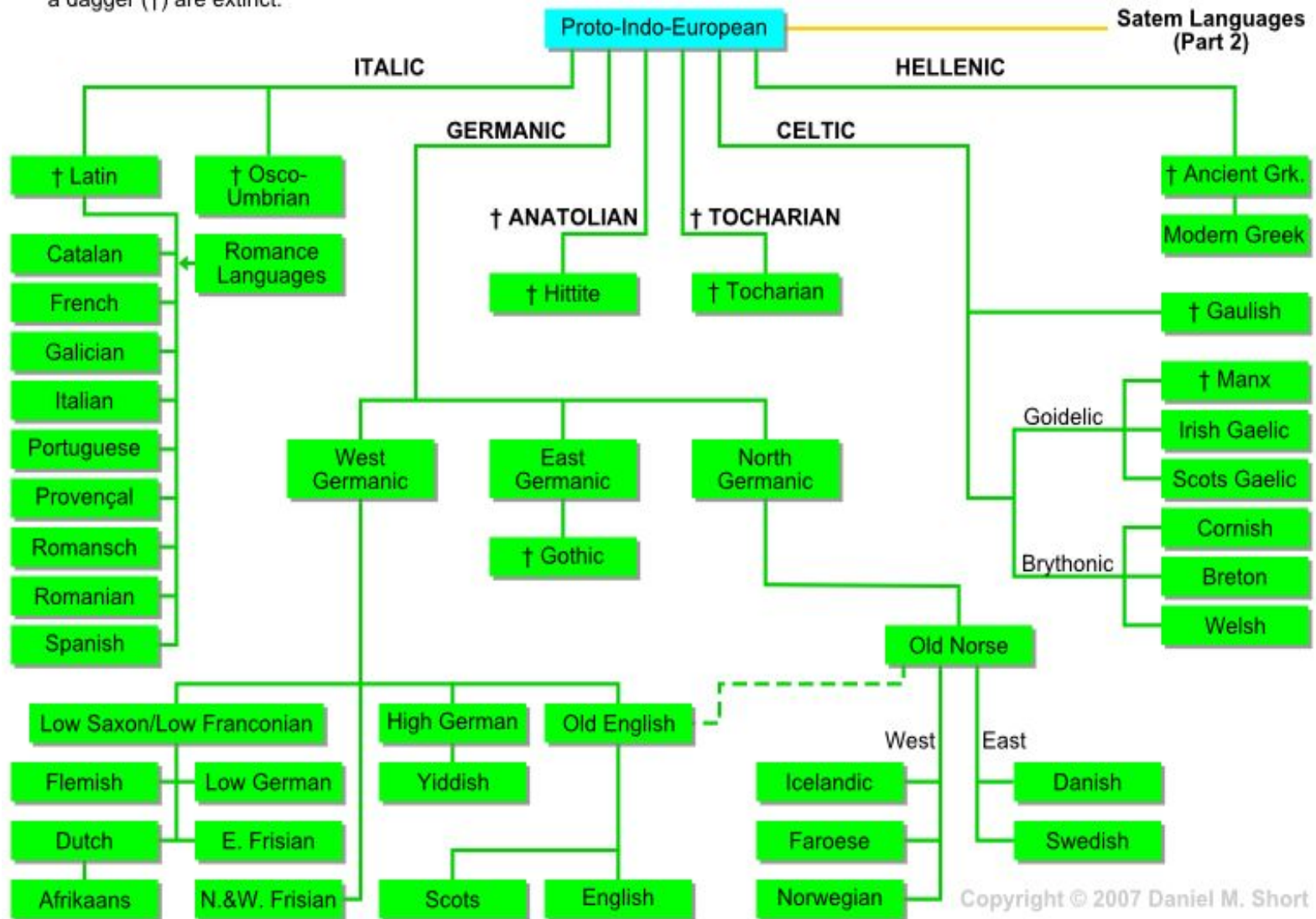
Satem(East. Europ. Lang.) means 100 in Persian



Indo-European Languages

Part 1: Centum Languages

Languages marked with a dagger (†) are extinct.



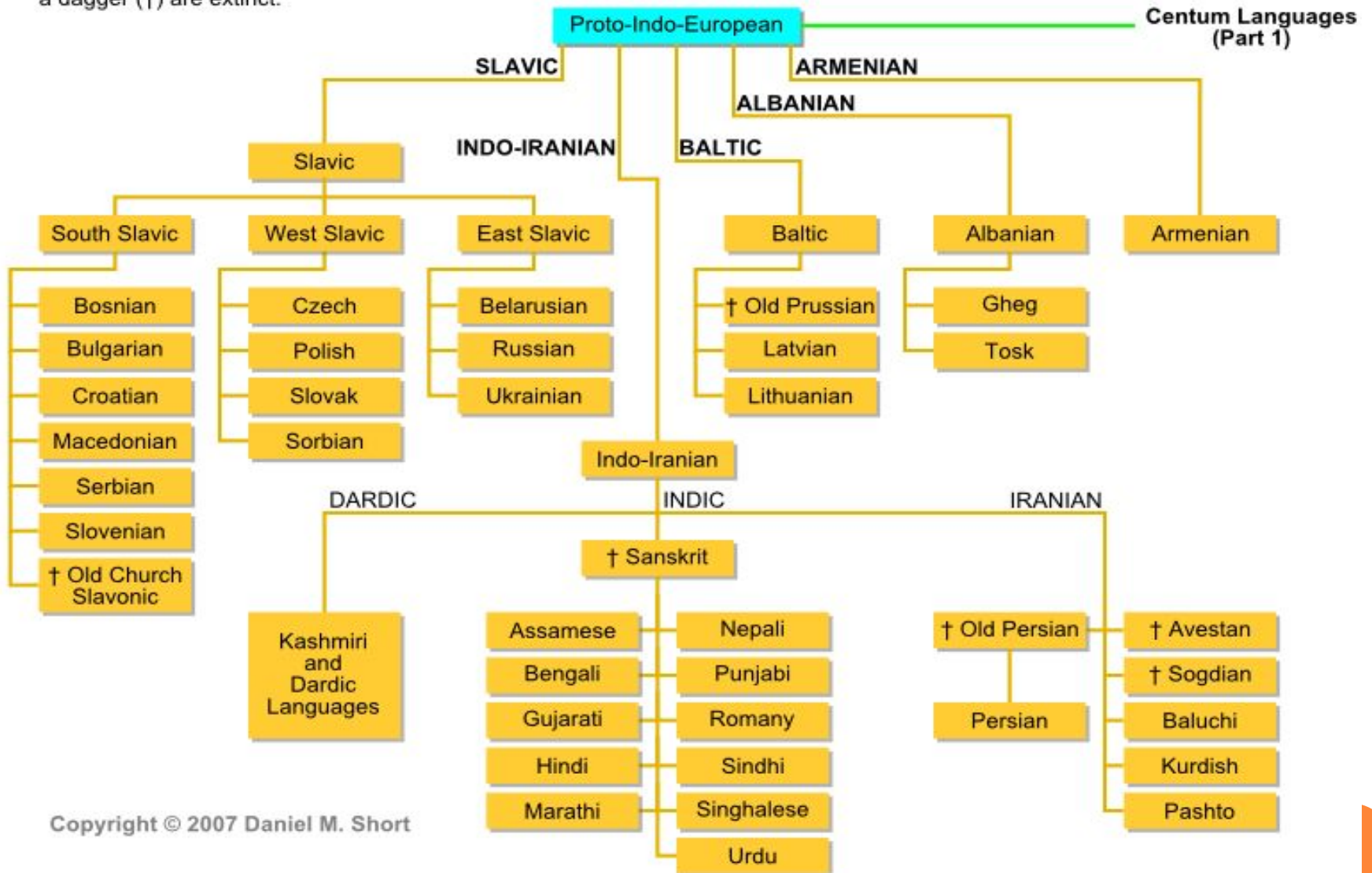
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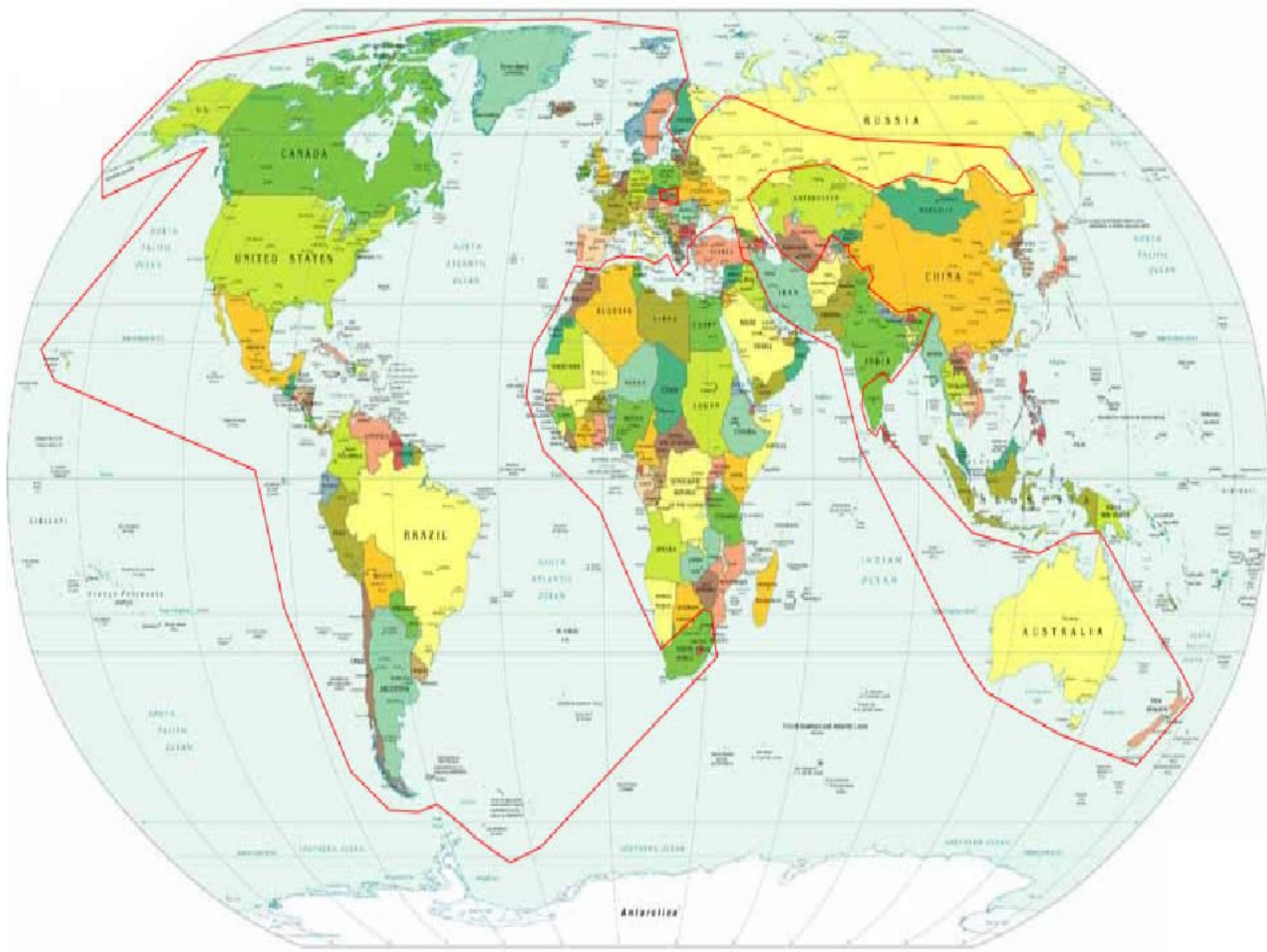


Indo-European Languages

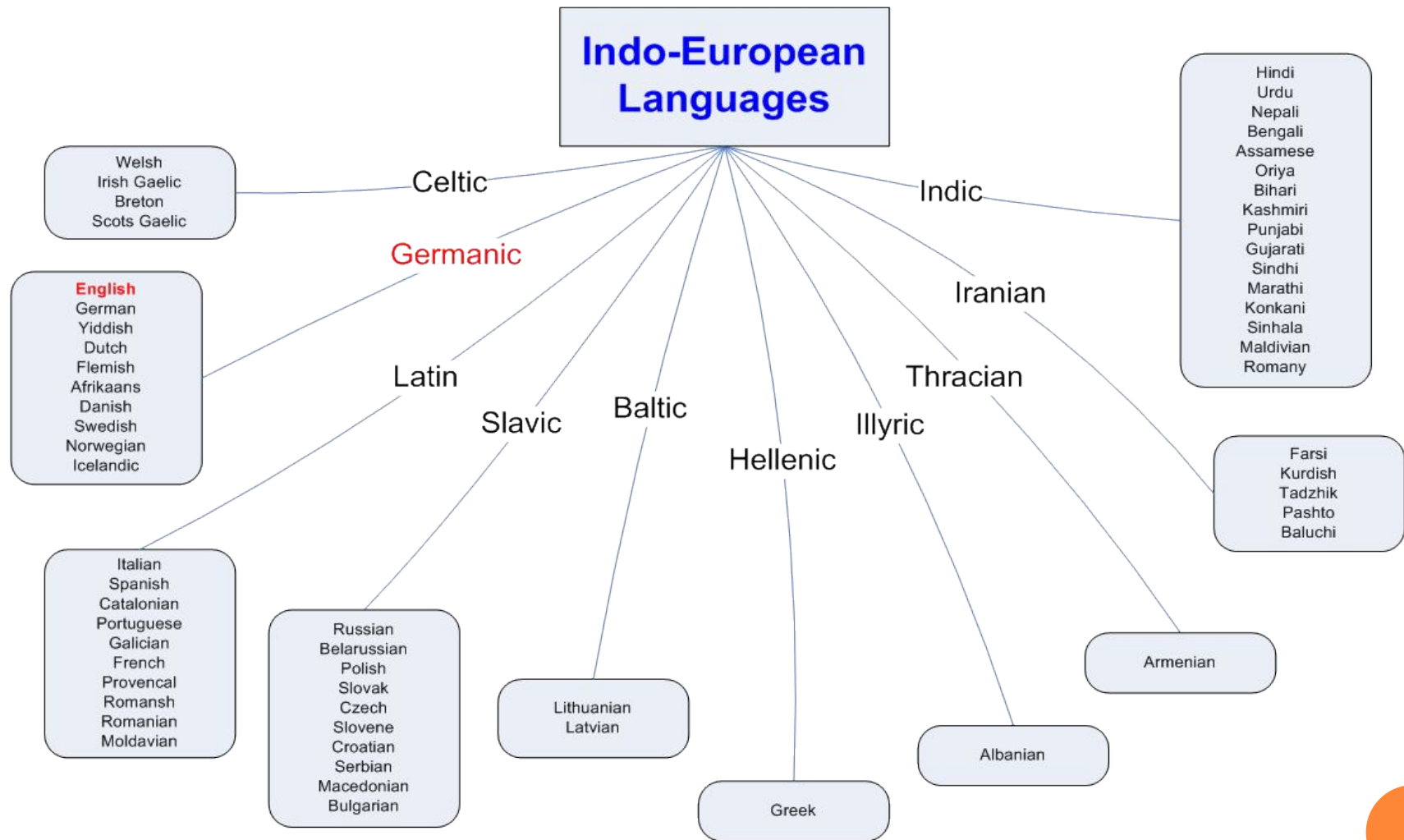
Part 2: Satem Languages

Languages marked with a dagger (†) are extinct.

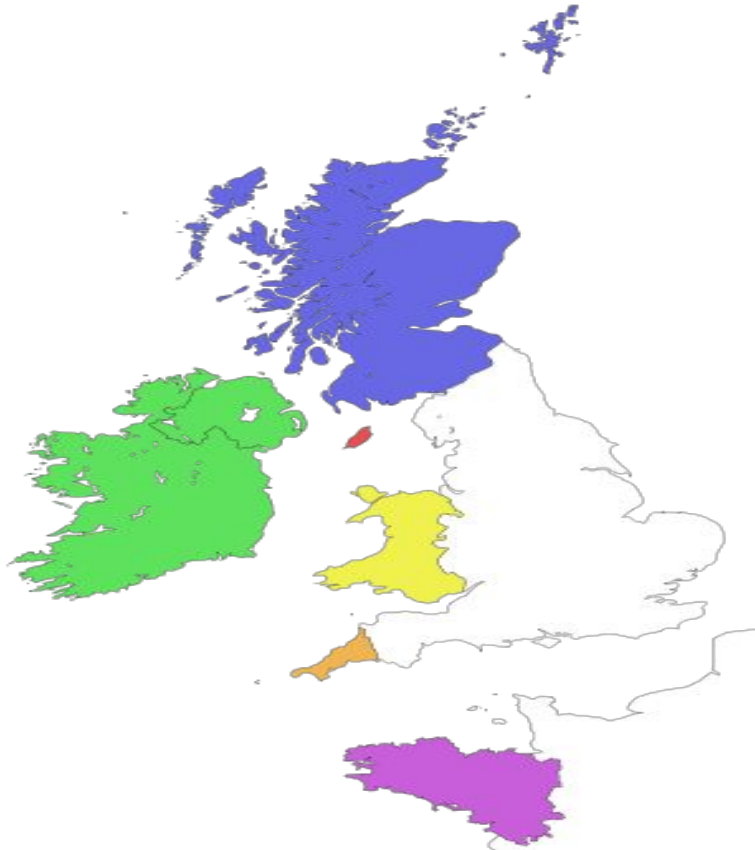




The Indo-European Family is divided into twelve branches, ten of which contain existing languages.



1. THE CELTIC BRANCH



Countries	Languages
Scotland	Gaelic Scottish
Ireland	Irish
Man	Manx
Wales	Welsh
Cornwall	Cornish
Brittany	Breton

What do you know about Celtic languages?
The only celtic language in france is BRETON.



2. THE LATIN BRANCH



Countries	Languages
Spain	Spanish
Portugal	Portuguese
France	French
Italy	Italian
Romania	Romanian

+

Galician, Ladino, Catalan
Provincial
Romansh
Moldavian

Spain
France
Switzerland
Moldova



3. THE SLAVIC BRANCH



1. East-Slavic group:

Russian
Ukrainian
Belorussian

2. West-Slavic languages

- Czech
- Slovak
- Serbian
- Polish
- Kashubian

3. South-Slavic languages

Slovenian
Macedonian
Bosnian
Serbian
Croatian
Bulgarian



4. THE BALTIC BRANCH

The Baltic Countries



Bruce Jones Design Inc. 1992

Countries
Lithuania
Latvia

Languages
Lithuanian
Latvian



5. THE HELLENIC BRANCH

Countries
Greece

Languages
Modern Greek



6. THE ILLYRIC BRANCH



Countries
Albania

Languages
Albanian



7. THE THRACIAN BRANCH



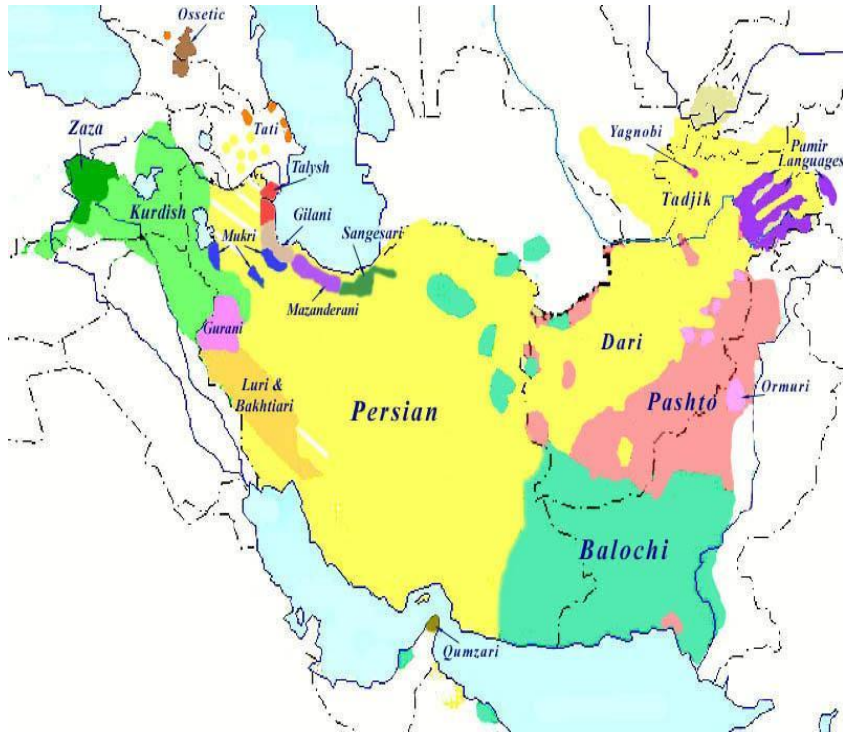
Countries
Armenia

Languages
Armenian

Եզական ղէմք մըն է նաեւ Մովսէս Խորենացի, որուն հանդէպ երախտիքի անսակման պարտք մը ունին իր ազգակիցները: Նպատուք զոր ան բերած է մեր գրականութեան անգին է: Ան մեր առաջին պատմագիրն է: Այդ պարճառով ան կոչուած է «պատմահայր», մեր պատմաբաններուն հայրը: Ան ջանացած է գրիչ հայոց պարմութիւնը, մեր ցեղի ծագումէն մինչեւ Տրդ դար, իր օրերը:

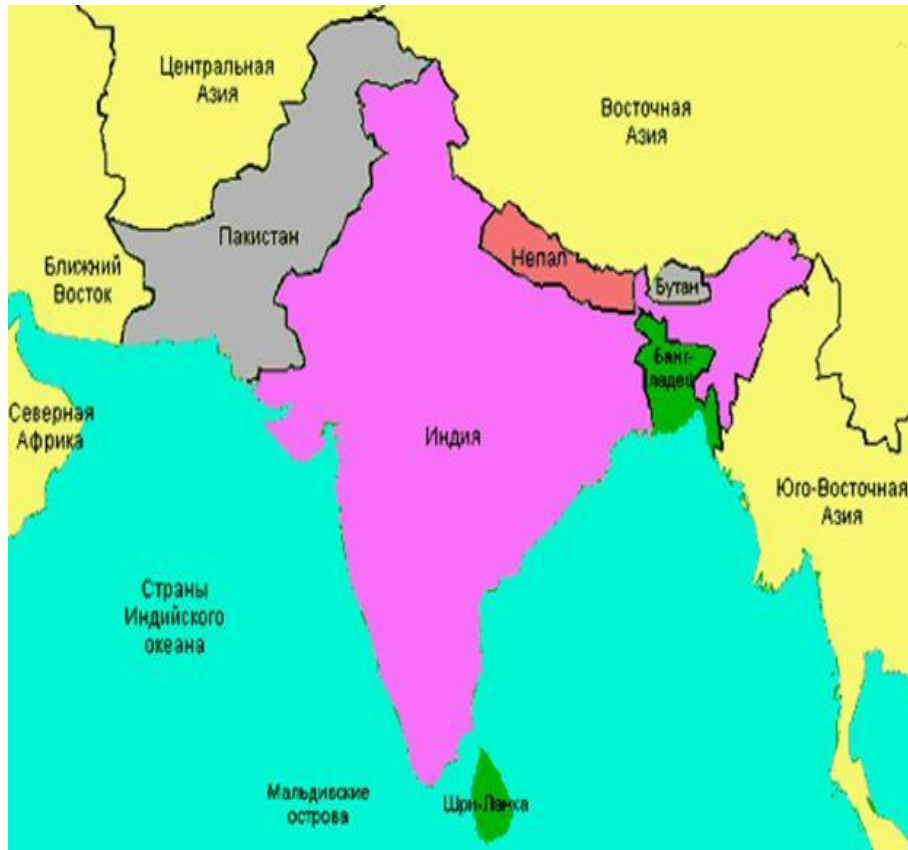


8. THE IRANIAN BRANCH



Countries	Languages
Iran	Farsi
Afghanistan	Persian
Turkey	Kurdish
Syria	Arabic
Iraq	Arabic/Kurdish
Iran	Balochi

9. THE INDIC BRANCH



Countries	Languages
India	13 languages
Nepal	Nepali
	Bengali
	Sindhi
	Sinhalese
	Maldivian



10. THE GERMANIC BRANCH

