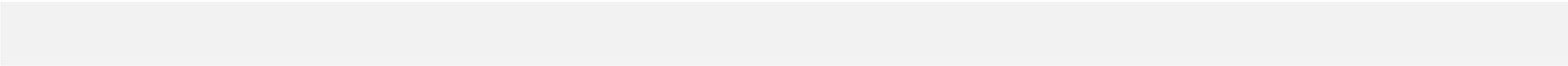


RYAN P. SANDELL

Gothic

Introduction – Part 2: Writing System



Roadmap

- The Gothic Alphabet
- The Origins of the Gothic Alphabet
- Other Orthographic Practices
- Text Sample

The Gothic Alphabet

ᛗ	a	A	1	aza	l	i	l	10	iiz	ᚱ	r	(P)	100	reda
ᛝ	b	B	2	bercna	ᚷ	k	K	20	chozma	ᚵ	s	(Σ)	200	sugil
ᚷ	g	Γ	3	geuua	ᛗ	l	Λ	30	laaz	ᚼ	t	ᚼ	300	tyz
ᚿ	d	Δ	4	daaz	ᚱ	m	M	40	manna	ᚹ	w	Y	400	uuine
ᛞ	e	E	5	eyz	ᚱ	n	N	50	noicz	ᚻ	f		500	fe
ᚢ	q	(u)	6	quertra	ᚷ	j	–	60	gaar	ᚷ	x	X	600	enguz
ᚦ	z	Z	7	ezez	ᚱ	u	(u)	70	uraz		hu (hw)		700	uuauer
ᚨ	h	H (h)	8	haal	ᚱ	p	ᚱ	80	pertra		o	Ω/O	800	utal
(l)	h (th)	Θ	9	thvth	ll	–	o	90	–	↑	–	ᚹ	900	–

Gothic – Introduction, Part 2

Origins of the Gothic Alphabet

- Invention attributed to the Bishop Wulfila
- Principal source for letter shapes: Greek
 - Letter shapes ($\Gamma = \Gamma$, $\lambda = \Lambda$)
 - Alphabetical order
 - Numerical values
 - Orthographic Practices ($\langle g \rangle = [\eta]$)
- Not all letters can be of (purely) Greek origin
 - Latin (?): \mathfrak{H} (h), \mathfrak{C} (j), \mathfrak{R} (r), \mathfrak{F} (f)
 - Runic (?): \mathfrak{Psi} (p), \mathfrak{Q} (o), \mathfrak{F} (f), \mathfrak{R} (r), \mathfrak{U} (u)
 - Unknown (Greek?): \mathfrak{O} (hu)

Gothic and Runic

- Uncertain: did Wulfila know the Germanic Runic alphabet?
- Some Runic inscriptions in Gothic (probably).
- Gothic letter names in the *codex Vindobonensis* 795 match letter names in other Old Germanic languages.
 - Gothic *bercna* = Old Eng. *beorc* = Old Norse *bjarkan*
 - Gothic *fe* = Old Eng. *feoh* = Old Norse *fé*
- Gothic Γ (u) resembles Runic Γ , and lacks any other clear source.
- Runic influence possible, but clearly minor compared to Greek.

Pietroassa Ring



Fig. 133. — L'Anneau à inscription, en Grandeur de l'Original.

- Source: Pietroasele, Romania; middle of the 4th c. CE.
- Read from left-to-right:
gutaniowihailag
gutaniō(pal) wī(h) hailag
‘possession of the Goths, sacred, holy’
- Reading and interpretation after Bammesberger 1994, Nedoma 2010.
- For present purposes: note similarity of *o* (𐌺) rune and Gothic letter *o* (Ɱ).
- Exact language disputed; Old High German also proposed (Snædal 2017).

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SD3 Add transliteration + transcription?

Saverio Dalpedri; 28.07.2019

SD4 TITUS Cyberbit Basic?

Saverio Dalpedri; 30.07.2019

Other Orthographic Practices

- **Diacritics (Manuscripts):** ĩ (i) vs. Ī (i). Not regularly given in texts.
 - The latter occurs word-initially or syllable-initially.
 - *saiiþ* 'sows', *ïesus* 'Jesus'
- **Diacritics (Linguists):** *ái* and *áu* (long) vs. *aí* and *au* (short).
 - Found in Gothic grammars, linguistic works.
 - Sometimes printed in textual editions.
- **Abbreviations:** a handful are known, usually for divine names.
 - XS, XNS 'Christ'; IS, INS 'Jesus', ΓΨ 'God'.
 - Written with a horizontal line above the letters.
 - Converted in textual editions: *xristus*, *iesus*, *gub*.

Text Sample: Matthew 5:20

		𐌶𐌿𐍆𐌰 <i>qib-a</i> say.PRES-1.SG	for	𐌰𐌹𐌶𐌰 𐌰𐌵𐌿𐌶𐌿𐍃 <i>auk izwis</i> 2.PL.DAT that	𐍆𐌰𐌲𐌹𐌶𐌿 <i>þatei</i> 2.PL.DAT that
𐌺𐌴𐌲𐌰 <i>nibai</i> unless	𐌹𐌺𐌶𐌰𐌸𐌹𐌵𐌴𐌶𐌴 <i>manag-izo</i> much-CMPV.NOM.SG	𐌶𐌰𐌹𐌲𐍆𐌿𐍆 <i>wairþ-ip</i> become.PRES-3. SG		𐌺𐌶𐌶𐌰𐌸𐌰-𐌺𐌴𐌶𐌴 <i>izwarizos</i> 2.PL.POSS.FEM.GEN.SG	
𐌸𐌰𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌲𐌹𐌲𐌹𐌶𐌴𐌺𐌶𐌴 <i>garaihtein-s</i> righteousness-GEN.SG	than	𐍆𐌰𐌹𐌶𐌰 <i>þau</i> that-GEN.PL	𐍆𐌹𐌵𐌸 <i>þize</i> scribe-GEN.PL	𐌲𐌴𐌹𐌲𐌰𐌸𐌸𐌸𐌸 <i>bokarj-e</i> and	𐌸𐌰𐌲𐌹 <i>jah</i> and
𐍆𐌰𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌲𐌹𐌲𐌹𐌶𐌴𐌺𐌶𐌴 <i>fareisai-e</i> Pharisee-GEN.PL	𐌺𐌴 <i>ni</i> not	𐍆𐌰𐌹𐌶𐌰 <i>þau</i> then	𐌶𐌰𐌹𐌲𐌰𐌸 <i>qim-ip</i> come.PRES-2.PL	𐌰 <i>in</i> into	‘For I say to you: unless yours exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and the Pharisees, you will not enter into the kingdom of heaven.’
𐍆𐌿𐌸𐌰𐌸𐌰𐌸𐌰𐌸𐌰𐌸𐌰𐌸𐌰𐌸𐌰𐌸𐌰 <i>þiudangardj-ai</i> kingdom-DAT.SG	𐌲𐌴𐌹𐌲𐌰𐌸 <i>himin-e</i> heaven-GEN.PL				

Folie 8

SD1

in red?

Saverio Dalpedri; 28.07.2019

SD2

(add translation in a box?)

Saverio Dalpedri; 28.07.2019

𐌲𐌶𐌹𐌳𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌺𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌹𐌸𐌰
𐌲𐌴𐌸𐌰𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌹𐌸𐌰𐌹𐌸𐌰

Thank you for your attention!