Sémi összehasonlító nyelvészet

BMA-HEBD-303
Biró Tamás

2014. november 26.

HÁZI FELADAT
JÖVŐ SZERDÁRA

Olvasandó + házi feladat

1. <u>Olvasandó:</u>   Bennett 251–260, *Sém fiai* 345–395,

   Dévényi-Iványi 3–17 (rövidesen a honlapon is).

   Készítsen listát az elírásokról, nyomdahibákról.

2. <u>Szír írás:</u>

A Brown–Driver–Briggs (BDB) bibliai héber szótárban keressen
<u>tíz</u> olyan szócikket, amelyben szír rokon szó is szerepel.

„Transkribálja" a szír szót a Bennett 252. oldalán található táblázat
és a 254–255. oldalakon található magyarázat segítségével.

Emailben: biro.tamas@btk.elte.hu. Határidő: kedd dél (12:00).

AZ ÍRÁSRÓL

Miért (nem) kell tudnia egy sémi nyelvésznek az írásról?

- Az írás nem része a nyelvnek:
  - Kulturális invenció
  - Nagyon sok nyelv nem rendelkezik írásbeliséggel.
  - Írásrendszer vagy helyesírás változása ≠ nyelv változása
- Az ismert sémi nyelvek mindegyikét írásbeliséggel rendelkező kultúrában beszélték. Az írott nyelv normatív hatása befolyásolta a nyelv fejlődését.
- A „híres" sémi nyelvek rendelkeznek írásbeliséggel.
- A régebbi sémi nyelveket, ill. a sémi nyelvek régebbi állapotát csak írott forrásokból ismerjük.

Mit kell (illik) tudnia egy sémi nyelvésznek az írásról?

- Készség: más írásrendszerrel publikált nyelvi adatokat elolvasni. (Nem mindig írják át nekünk.)

- Megérteni, hogy mely nyelv esetén milyen bizonytalanságot okoz az, hogy az adott nyelvi adatokhoz csak valamely írásrendszer „szemüvegén" keresztül férünk hozzá.

- Írásrendszerek kialakulása és története, paleográfia, az egyes írásrendszerek rokonsága: a nem-nyelvészek szerint ez a terület a mi kompetenciánk.

Az átírás folyamata
(V.ö. Beyond Babel, pp. 21-22)

- Eredeti forrás, annak fotója, rajza.

- Írásjelek beazonosítása: א ב ג…

- Transzliteráció: átírás latin betűkkel úgy, hogy abból az eredeti írásmód még egyértelműen visszafejthető legyen. De a transzliteráció már részben értelmezés is. Például: בֵּי = *bēy* vagy *bê* ?

- Normalizáció: mintha az adott nyelvnek létezne egy standard, a kiejtést (részben) tükröző, latinbetűs helyesírása. Az adott nyelvet nem ismerő olvasó számára is hozzáférhetővé válik a szöveg.

- Fordítás modern nyelvre
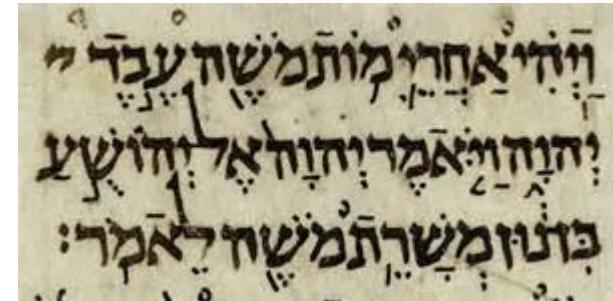
History of the alphabet

From pictograms
to a writing system
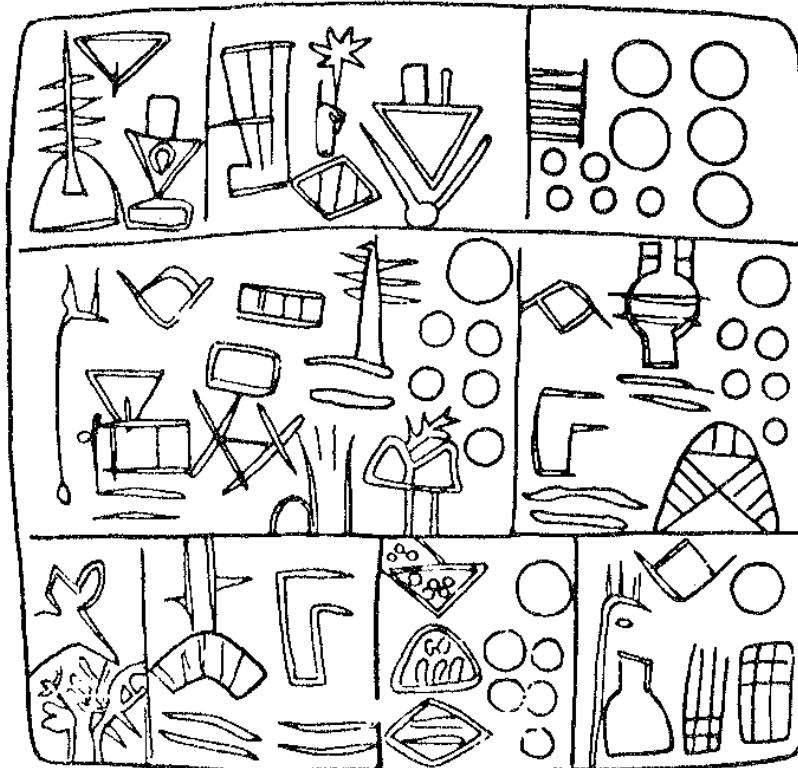
Fig. 2. Sumerian pictographic inscription
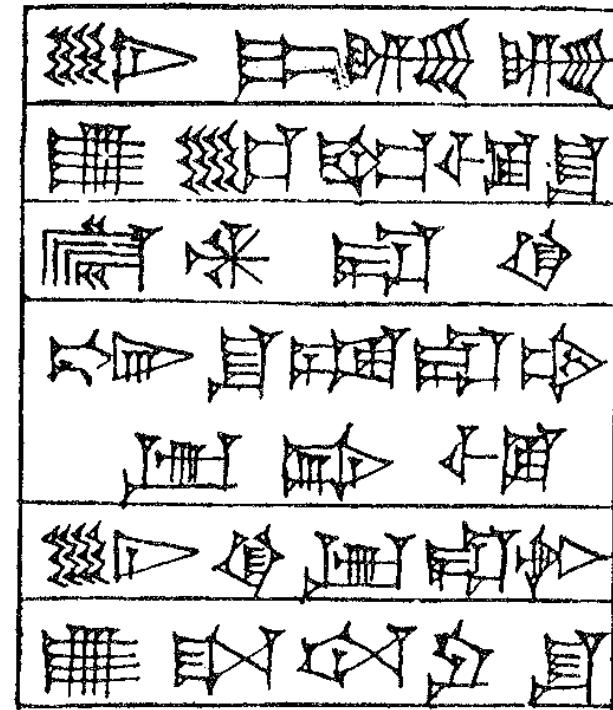
Fig. 3. Babylonian cuneiform text

Source: Joseph Naveh. *Early History of the Alphabet.* Magnes Press, 1987.

From pictograms to cuneiform and hieroglyphs

- _Logograms_ denote whole word.

Disambiguation:

- _Phonetic complements_: show last sounds of word.

- _Determinatives_: denote word class.

- _Syllabograms_

-Egyptian: also uniconsonantal signs.

Source: Joseph Naveh. _Early History of the Alphabet._ Magnes Press, 1987.

BIRD				
FISH				
DONKEY				
OX				
SUN				
GRAIN				
ORCHARD				
PLOUGH				
BOOMERANG				
FOOT				

SIGN	TRANS-LITERATION	OBJECT DEPICTED
	ꜣ	Egyptian vulture
	i	flowering reed
(1) (2)	y	(1) two reed-flowers (2) oblique strokes
	ꜥ	forearm
	w	quail chick
	b	foot
	p	stool
	f	horned viper
	m	owl
	n	water
	r	mouth
	h	reed shelter in fields
	ḥ	wick of twisted flax
	ḫ	placenta (?)
	ẖ	animal's belly with teats
(1) (2)	s	(1) bolt (2) folded cloth
	š	pool
	ḳ	hill-slope
	k	basket with handle
	g	stand for jar
	t	loaf
	ṯ	tethering rope
	d	hand
	ḏ	snake

Alphabet:
the principle of acrophony

- Egyptian uniconsonantal signs.

- West-Semitic alphabet: *consonantal writing*.

- Proto-Canaanite script
  - cca. 1800 BCE: Wadi el-Hol??
  - 17-16th c BCE: Gezer, Nablus (Shechem), Lachish
  - approx. 1500 BCE: Proto-Sinaitic inscriptions (discovered by F. Petrie, 1905/06, West Semitic slaves in turquoise mines?)

Phon. Value	Schematic Forms	Early North-west Semitic	Early South Semitic	Early Letter Names	Meaning of Names
ʾ	ঠ ব	𐤀 (14th) 𐤀 (13th)	𐩱 𐩱 (Jamme)	ʾalp-	ox-head
b	⬜ ⬗	⬜ (17th) ◺ (13th)	𐩨	bêt-	house
g	⌐	⌂ (15th) 〉 (12th)	𐩴 𐩴	gaml-	throw-stick
d	⇨ 𐀀	◁ △ (10th)	𐩵 (Jamme)	digg-	fish
ḏ	=	?	𐩳 𐩳 (Jamme)	?	?
h	⚲ ⚲	⊒ (10th)	𐩠	hô(?)	man calling mace
w	⟝◦ ?	𐩥 (10th)	⊕ (? used for y)	wô(waw)	mace
z	?	𐤅 (16th) 𐩹 (10th)	𐩸	zê(n-)	?
ḥ	☰ 𐩢	𐩢 (12th) 𐩢 (10th)	𐩢	ḥê(t-)	fence (?)
ḫ	𐩭 𐩭	?	𐩭 (Jamme)	ḫa( )	hank of yarn
ṭ	?	‖⌐ (16th) ⊕ (10th)	𐩷	ṭê(t-)	spindle?
y	⎬⚯ ⟋	𐩺 (13th) 𐩺 (10th)	𐩺 (orig. w)	yad-	arm
k	⫽ ⫽	𐩫 (17th) 𐩫 (13th)	𐩫 𐩫	kapp-	palm
l	?𐩲C ℓ	𐩴 (14th) ẟ (13th)	𐩡 ℓ (Jamme)	lamd-	ox-goad
m	⏦⏦ ⏦	𐩣 (15th) ⧨ (13th)	𐩣 (9th) 𐩣 (8th)	mêm-	water
n	⤸ ⤺	⟨ (14th) 𐩬 (12th)	𐩬 𐩬	naḥš-	snake
s	?	𐩯 (10th)	𐩯 𐩯	(śamk-?)	?
ʿ	◓ ◒	⊙ (12th) ◯ (10th)	◦	ʿên-	eye
ḡ	𐩶	⊟ (15th)	𐩶 𐩶 (Jamme)	ḡa( )	?
p	𐩰 𐩰	𐩰 (10th)	◊ ◊	pʿt-(?)	corner?
ṣ/z	⅄ 𐩮	𐩮 (10th)	𐩮 𐩮	ṣa(d-)	plant
ḍ	?	?	𐩳	?	?
q	∞ 8	∞ (14th) � (10th)	ϕ φ (Jamme)	qu(p-)	?
r	� �	� (16th-14th)	� �	na'š-	head of man
ś/ṯ	⌇	𐩪 (13th) w (10th)	𐩪 𐩪	ṯann-	composite bow
š	ঠ ঠ	?	𐩦 𐩦 (Jamme)	?	?
t	+	+ ✕ (13th)	✕ + (Jamme)	tô(taw)	owner's mark

Fig. 17. Albright's chart of letters in the Proto-Sinaitic inscriptions

West-Semitic consonantal writings based on the principle of acrophony

- <u>West-Semitic alphabet</u>: strongly influenced by Egyptian uniconsonantal signs?

- <u>Ugaritic script</u>:

  – Akkadian (language & script) was also used in Ugarit.

 – Developed alphabet (27C + 3V), but based on cuneiform:

Fig. 16. The word *(l)b'lt* in the Proto-Sinaitic inscriptions

'a b g ḫ d h w z ḥ ṭ y k š l
m ḏ n ẓ s ʿ p ṣ q r t
ġ t ʾi ʾu s₂

Fig. 25. An abecedary from Ugarit

  – Abecedary from Ugarit: order had ritual importance?

Adopting a writing system to another language

- Cuneiform: Sumerian => Akkadian => Ugaritic, Luwian, Hittite, Elamite, Persian, Tel el-Amarna glosses
- Hieroglyphic: Egyptian => Luwian, etc.
- Phoenician => Greek => Latin => English, Dutch, French, Maltese (= an Arabic dialect influenced by English and Italian) etc.
- Hebrew => Judeo-languages
- Arabic => Persian, Turkish. Cyrillic, etc. to many languages

Problems arising:
- Different phonological system: new sounds not present in the source language. Dutch: ch, sj… Hebrew: shin/sin (ayin/rayin?)
- Traditions borrowed together with the writing system that do not make sense in the new language: Hebrew spelling in Yiddish, Sumerian logograms in Akkadian.

Further history of the Alphabet

End of 2nd millennium: reduction of the number of letters.

South-Arabian => Ethiopian

Phoenician, developed into:

- Punic

- Greek => Latin,Coptic, Cyrillic..

- Paleo-Hebrew => Samaritan

- Aramaic =>

- Jewish

- Syriac

- Nabataean, Palmyrene => Arabic; India, Central Asia

Jewish scripts

אבגדהוזחטיכךלמם
ןסעפפלצקרשת
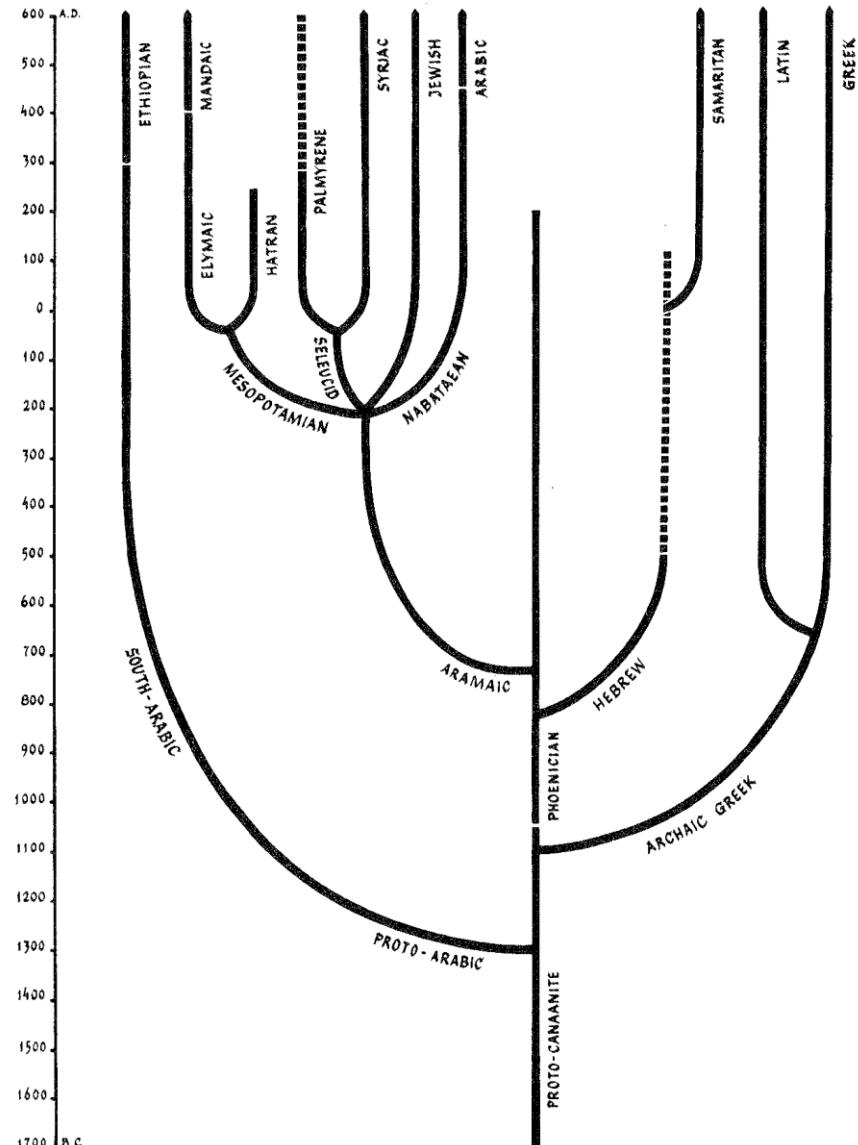
- After Babylonian exile (587-539).

- Qumran, First Jewish War (66-70), Bar Kokhba's revolt (132-135): sporadic use of paleo-Hebrew script (as an identity marker, a national symbol?).

- Paleography: very different handwriting styles in medieval manuscripts (Italian, Yemenite, etc. etc. etc.)

- Ashkenazi cursive (hand writing) => Israeli cursive.

- Sephardic cursive (hand writing): also used for Ladino.

  - "Rashi" script: 16th c., developed from Sephardic cursive to differentiate between Bible text and commentary.

- 1920s: Hebrew stenography. 1936: Hebrew Braille (both left-to-right)
  Signs for each letter in Israeli Sign Language (ISL).

Early Hebrew epigraphy

Important inscriptions
from the first temple period

First temple period

First temple period: 10th century – 586 BCE

Epigraphy = study of inscriptions.

Found in archaeological excavations.

Using pre-exilic Hebrew script.


Some famous examples given below.

Recommended, even if not up-to-date introduction: Joseph
  Naveh. *Early History of the Alphabet*. Magnes Pr., 1987.
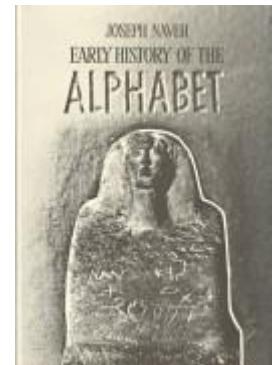
The Gezer calendar
End of 10ᵗʰ century BCE
School children learning agriculture?
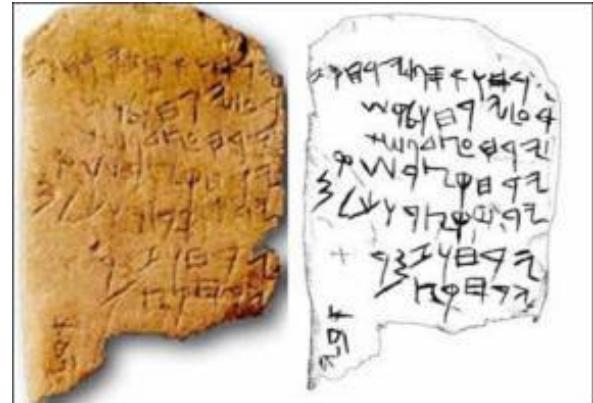
The Gezer Calendar with ancient Hebrew writing

"Two months gathering   [September-October]

Two months planting   [November-December]

Two months late sowing   [January-February]

One month cutting flax   [March]

One month reaping barley   [April]

One month reaping and measuring (grain)   [May]

Two months pruning   [June-July]

One month summer fruit   [August]

Abijah"   Source: http://www.truthnet.org/Bible-Origins/4_How_was_Bible_written/Gezer_Calendar_Hebrew.jpg

The Mesha stele

9th century
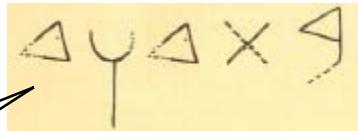
Moabite king's victory over house of David.

In Moabite language: too similar to Biblical Hebrew? Was it a general literary style?

Shape of letters: first distinctive features of Hebrew writing.

Read text on: http://en.wikipedia.

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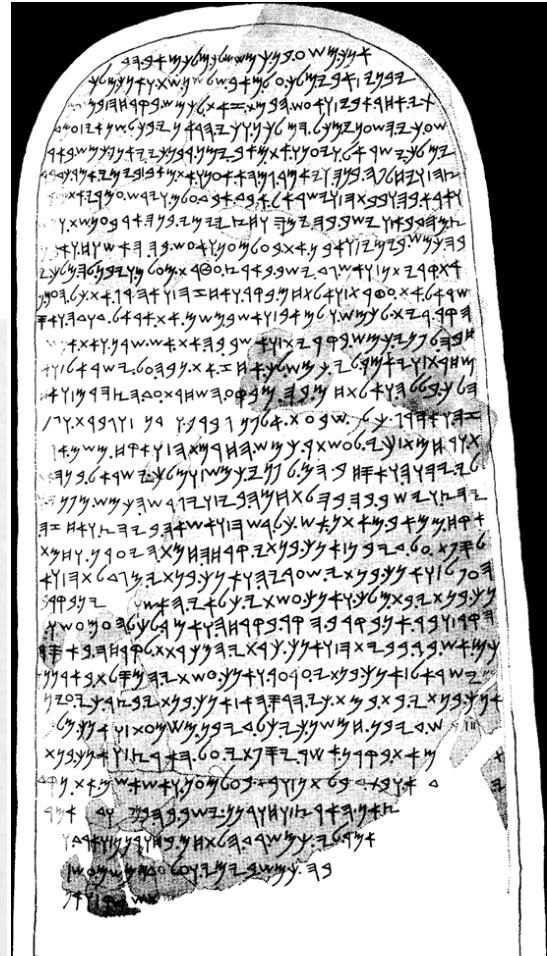
The Siloam (Shiloah) Inscription

2Chron. 32: *King Hezekiah* building a tunnel at the *Gihon Spring*, before the siege of Jerusalem by the Assyrians in 701 BCE.

Happiness when those digging the tunnel from the two ends finally meet in the middle.
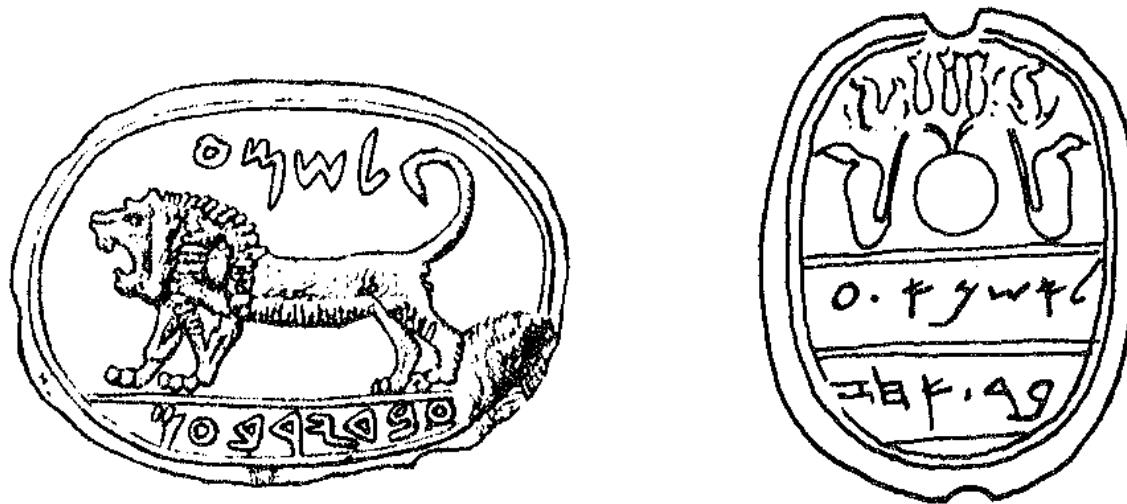
Seals


Fig. 64. Two Hebrew seals from the 8th century B.C.
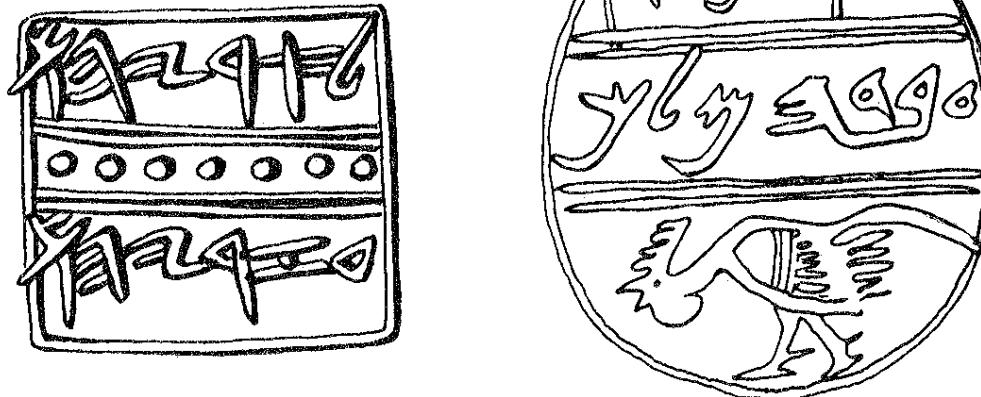
Fig. 61. Two Hebrew seals from the late 7th century B.C.

Jar handles:
la-melekh
inscriptions

Fig. 62. The *bt lmlk* inscription on the shoulder of a jar from Lachish
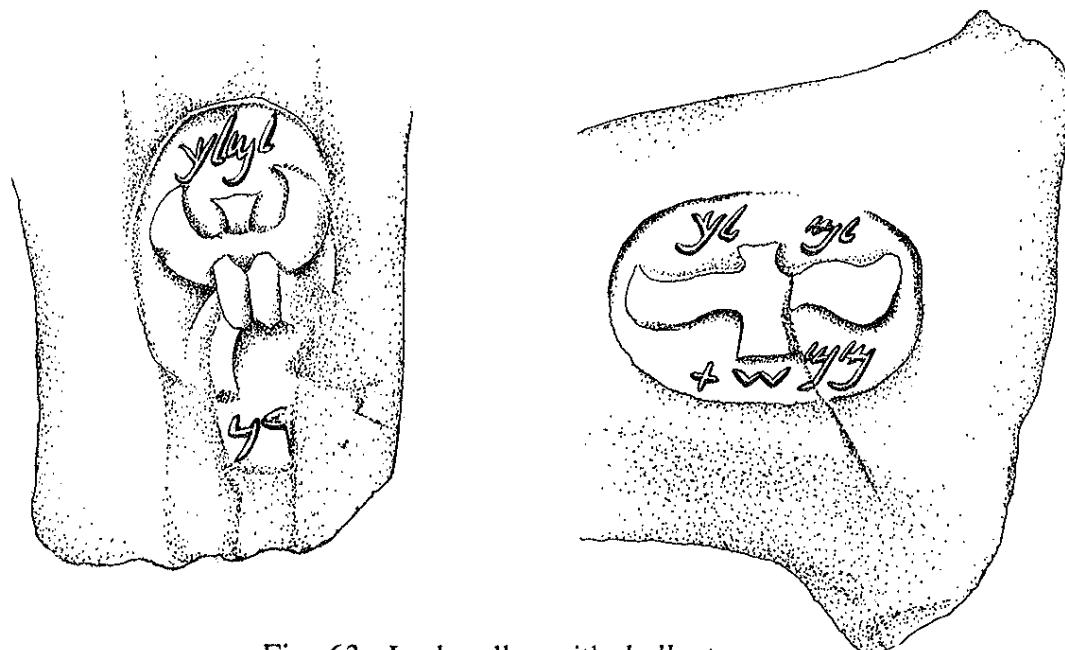

Fig. 63. Jar-handles with *lmlk* stamps

Ostraca
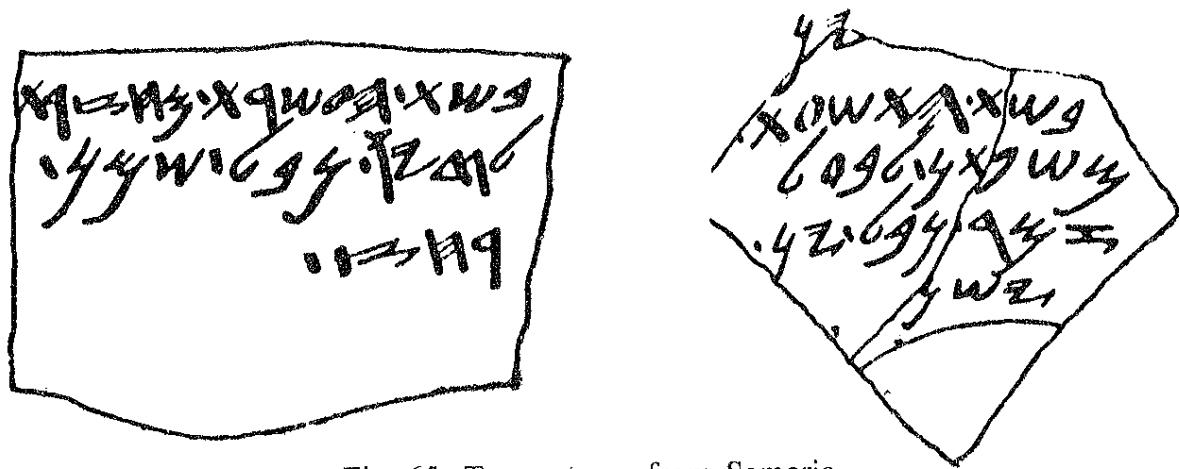
Fig. 65. Two ostraca from Samaria

Ostracon: letter (or else) written (with ink, sometimes incised) on a piece of pottery (typically broken off from a vase).

Famous ones in Biblical archeology: Khirbet Qeiyafa (1000 BCE?), Samaria (8th c.), Mesad Hashavyahu (late 7th c.: petition to the local governor), Arad (early 6th c.), Lachish (early 6th c.)...

Ostraca
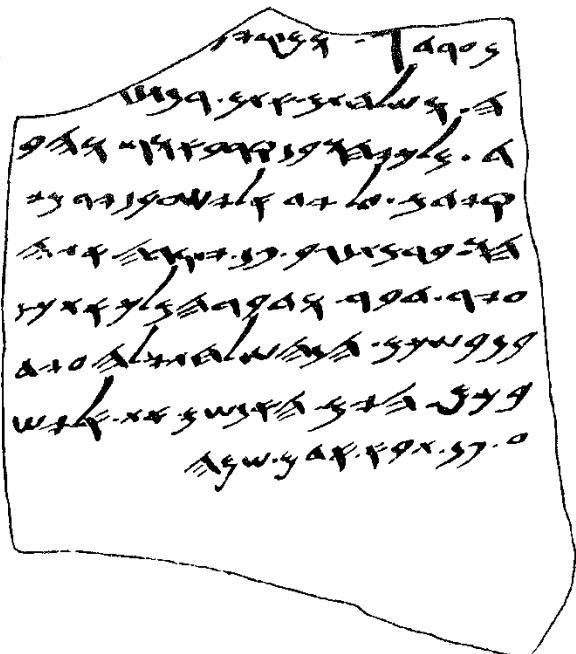

Fig. 66. An early 6th-century B.C. ostracon from Arad
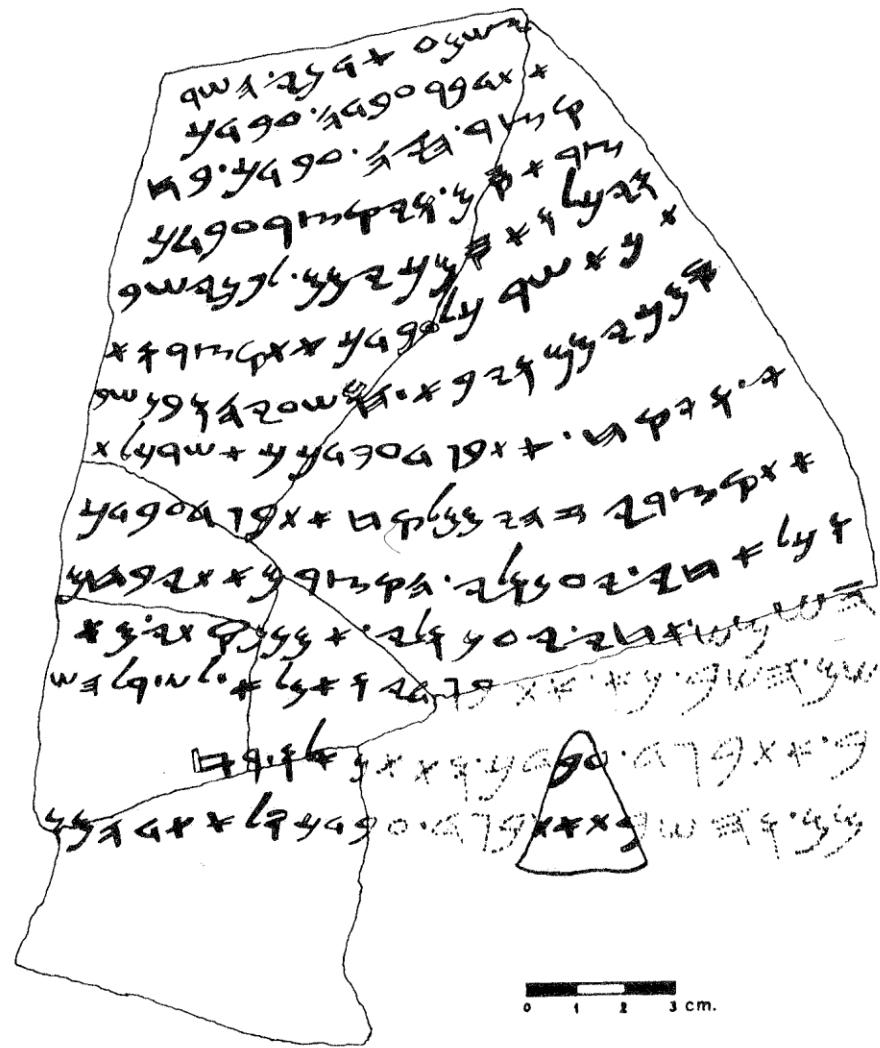
Fig. 67. Late 7th-century petition from Meṣad Ḥashavyahu

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Overview:

Development of the Paleo-Hebrew script:

1. Gezer calendar: 10th c.
2. Mesha stele: 9th c.
3. Siloam inscription: late 8th c.
4. Seals from the 7th cent.
5. Arad ostraca: early 6th c.
6. Leviticus fragment: 2nd c. BCE.
7. Medieval Samaritan bookhand.

Upper box: alef to kaf,

lower box: lamed to tav.

Name of the Hebrew letters

- Name of the Hebrew letters come from the Phoenician alphabet.

- Nice examples of sound changes:

  – Phoenician *rēš* ~ Hebrew *rōš*, but cf. *bərēšīt* (Proto-Semitic **rāš,* cf. Arabic *rās*).

  – Phoenician *bēt* ~ Hebrew *bayit*, status constructus (smichut) *bēt*. Probably, Proto-NWSemitic ** bayt* with a diphthong [ay]. It got monophthongized [ay] > [ē] in Phoenician and in the Hebrew status constructus. But in the status absolutus of Hebrew, a second vowel [i] got inserted, [y] became a full vowel, and so the diphthong was eliminated by turning the word into two syllables.

A few words on orthography

Spelling (Werner Weinberg: *The History of Hebrew Plene Spelling,* HUCP 1985, pp. 1ff):

Initially (10th c. BCE, Gezer and Phoenician inscriptions): extremely *defective/chaser*:

- בת(for בית),
- ז(for זה),
- לפנ(for לפני),
- שערמ(for שעורים, 'barley+plural')

Insertion of *matres lectionis* at the beginning of the words (more *plene/male* writing, cf. Mesha):

- כי[ki], בנתי[baniti]
- בנה[bana] and [b'no], cf. פה ,כה, שלמה

A few words on orthography

Phonological change *(monophthongization):* <u>diphthongs</u> turned into <u>monophthongs</u>: [iy] > [i:], [uw] > [u:], [ay] >[e:], [aw] >[o:], [a?] >[a:].

Hence, letters originally denoting consonants/glides, now denote vowels.

Hence, the idea of vowel letters:

- Crucial in non-semitic languages (Greek borrowing the Phoenician alphabet; Persian borrowing the Arabic alphabet; Yiddish and Ladino...)

Biblical Hebrew: matres lectionis sometimes with and sometimes without etymological history.

Late Biblical Hebrew: more plene than classical BH.

Qumran Hebrew: extremely plene spelling.

A few words on orthography

Israeli Hebrew:
  rules of the *Academy of the Hebrew Language:*

    – When to use *matres lectionis* in non-vocalized text (e.g., yod in open syllables, but not in closed ones).

    – How to transcribe foreign words:
        e.g. t vs. th, such as in תאוריה .vsטלפון .

Please always remember:

    – The *writing system* is not part of the *language system*!

Many languages have no writing system. Some have more wr systems.

    – *Orthography* is not part of *grammar*!

Orthography = social convention, changing independently of lg.

Yet, traditional spelling can help reconstruct past stages the languages.

    – Do not confuse *sound* with *letter*!

Viszlát jövő szerdán!