

Historical transformation of vowel sounds from traditional Persian to current Bakhtiarian Izeh language

Nour Ali Ahmadi Falehi

The professor of Enghelabe Eslami technical college

Email: n_a_faleh@yahoo.com

Abstract: Backtiari area is located in south west of Iran in alignment with Zagros Mountain ,Covering 39900 Km, including towns such as Daran and Fereidan shahr (Isfahan Province), Aligodarz (Lorestan District), Dezfool, Andimeshk, Masjed soleiman, Izeh, Shoshtar (Khuzestan Province), Borojen, Lordegan, Farsan (Charmahal Backtiary Provincel). Ize is a small town with 3930km located in north east of Khuzestan province between eastern latitude (T) and northern altitude This town is, 200 KM to Ahvaz the capital of khozestan province. Among the population residing in this town, 108232 people are living in urban districts and the rest are the rural communication living at the countryside. This town is cold in autumn and winter and warm in spring and summer. Although Izeh is a part of Backtiarian area, but there are some important difference between the language common in Izeh area and other Backtiarian population. Many books and articles have been published regarding the history, culture and linguistic characteristics of the whole Backtiarian population. Among them we may refer to (1) conversation customs and beliefs of Backtiarian People (Adivi), (2) Backtiarian Language which is dominantly as a dictionary instead of paying attention to languages (Khosravi) (3) Backtiari language dictionary written by saral (2002) (4) summary of Backtiarian poems (Mir Ghayed) – 2003), (5), Backtarian legend (Daghighian), (6) poems (Divan) of Mulla Zolfali Backtiari (Backtiari – 1996) and a book a bout the history and geography of Ize which is part of the Islamic Encyclopedia including also some common words and language in Backtiari which is different from Izeh Language. Since a significant part of Iranian population in khozestan, Isfahan, Fars and Lorestan provinces talk in this language ,this article is intending to focus on Historical transformation of vowel sounds from traditional P persian to current Bakhtiarian Izeh language. On the other hand, oil discovery in this area increased its importance for many geographic, sociologic researchers and historians, among them Scarmann was first foreigner who published some texts of Backtiary literature in 1904 and a Russian researcher, called Dimitry Jokovski published some of these texts in Saint Petersburg in 1923. In 1922, Lorimer and English officials working in Iran worked on some language in Iran as well as Backtiary language and published some of them in BSOAS Izeh area. Through the history of Backtiary population played a significant role in Iranian social political situation, and this society was under the attention of many tourists and researchers.

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Review of literature

In 2002 , Collin MCNOM published an article about Lorian language with Khoram Abad origin in Stodia Iranica Magazine and compared Lorian and Backtiarian languages in this article . Anonby compared 200 words in 16 languages in Lorian language (Anonby -2003) .Windfur referred to some phonologic characteristics in Backtiarian language (windfur , 1998) .Madady wrote a dictionary of Backtiarian language published in 2006 (Madady , 1996)

Aramideh edited his MA thesis regarding noun groups in Backtiarian language common in Masgjed Soleiman terriory , south of Iran (Aramideh, 2002). Taheri studied about the language and culture of Ancient Iran specifically focusing on Kohrang Baktiarian language common in Charmahal Backtiary province (Taheri , 2001). Ghasemi compared words in

Backtiarian Language with words in western Middle Iranian Languages (Ghasemi- 2006) .

As was mentioned above, there are very important resources regarding the culture and language of Bakhtiarian Izeh language. Although many of the above references were related to Bakhtiraian language but there isn't any specific study about Izeh language and this study is trying to find any relationship between vowel sounds substructures used in Bakhtiarian Izeh language and its ancient ancestors such as Old Iranian languages. As a result in this article I try to describe and analyze the Historical transformation of vowel sounds from ancient Persian to current Bakhtiarian Izeh language.

First of all some related abbreviations are introduced,

OIr =Old Iranian root

MP=Middle Persian
NP= new Persian
IZ= Izeh language.
Aves= Avesta

1- Transforming «ā» to "o" in the first place

ā->o

brought : oIr.ābrta(Abolghasemi, 1997) –MP.āwurd
(Hasan doost,2004) –NP.āward – IZ.owērd

Here b is transformed to w again showing two consecutive transformation in one word.

- compound (mix)oli. *ā -maux-ta(Hasan doost ,2004) – MP.āmēxtan(Abolghasemi,1997)-NP.ā muxtan- IZ.omixtan

- Come: oIr. *āgmata(meyberg,p 15) - MP.āmatan(mackenezi ,p36) -NP.āmadan-IZ. Owaydan

2- Transforming "a" to "o" in middle part of the word

a->o

- young)OIr. Yuwan(Abolghasemi,1995)– MP. \check{J} aw

ān (Abolghasemi, 1995)–NP. \check{J} awān- IZ. \check{J} awon

Here u is transformed to a again showing two consecutive transformation in one word.

Here Y is transformed to \check{J} again showing three consecutive transformation in one word.

- Sparse) OIr. Tanuka(Hasan doost ,2004)- MP.tanuk(Mackenzie,P82)–NP.tonok- IZ. tonok

Here u is transformed to o again showing three consecutive transformation in one word.

Here a is omitted from the ending part of the OIr. Tanuka showing three consecutive transformation in one word.

- bedside)OIr. Bardanya(Neyberg P.43) MP. Bālēn -NP. Bālin(Neyberg P,43-mackenzie)- IZ.bolin

Here r is transformed to l again showing two consecutive transformation in one word.

excuse)OIr.Vahānaka(Hubschmann. P.32) – MP.wahānag(Hubschmann. P.32) – NP.bahāne- IZ.bohōne

balance) OIr. *tarāzūka(Hasan dost)-MP.tarāzūk(- Hasan dost p-332.-mackenzie. P.82)- NP.tarāzū- IZ.torōzin

3-Transforming "ā" to "ō" in middle part of the word

ā->ō

deserve)OIr.brāda(- bartholomae, Aiw, P, 885)-MP. Brāza 36 - NP. brāzidan- IZ.br ōzniḍan

watch)OIr. Pāya(Mackenzie P.62-bartholome Aiw ,P.885))-MP. Pādan-NP. Pāyidan- IZ. Pōyīdan

narrow)OIr. Bārayaka – aves. Bāra- MP.

Bārik(Bailey Tps, s, 1953) –NP.bārik – IZ-bōrik
wise)OIr. *dānā (roland.Kent s, 147) –MP

.d'n'g(mackenzie 61-Neyberg 57) -NP,dānā- IZ.dōnā
balance)OIr. tarāzūka- MP. Tarāzūk(mackenzie , P82)- NP.tarāzū- IZ.torōzin

excuse) OIr. *Vahānaka-(Hubschmann.P, st, 32) MP. Wahānag , (Hubschmann.Pst.S) - NP.bahāne-IZ. bohōne

drug) OIr.dārawka – aves. Dāraw - MP.dārūg (dāruk) (Hubschmann.Pst.S32)- NP .dārū -IZ. Dōrū

sky)OIr. Asmānam(roland, Gkent P, 53-))- MP. Asmān (Mackenzie ,Neyberg P, 32='sm'an)- NP.āsemān (āsmān)-IZ. āsemōn

roof) OIr. Pāna (eilers, S, 371 172)- MP.bān - Neyberg , P, 43=b'm.NP.bām- IZ. bōn

granin)OIr. *bādūka(pokorny, s, 108)- MP.

Bāzūk(Neyberg . P.46) –NP.bāzū-IZ.bōzū

Sperm) OIr.taumā(bartholomae.Aiw p.623-Pokorney IEW s 1085)-MP.tuhm(mackenzie)-NP.toxm-IZ.tōm

4- Transforming "ā" to "a" in the first part of the word

ā->a

sun) OIr. *ā f-tā b(Eilers , s, 46) –MP,ā ftā b (Hasan doost) –NP.āftāb- IZ . aftaw

water)OIr.āpi (Neyberg, P, 20)-Mp.āp (mackenzie)- NP.ā b- IZ.aw

In two above examples "ā p" is transformed to "aw"

5- Preservation of "a" in the first part of the word.

a->a

mill) OIr.arta (bartholomae Aiw , P, 239)- MP.ārdan(Mackenzie , P70) -NP.ārdkardan-IZ.ardan.

6 - Transforming "ā" to "a" in the middle part of the word

ā->a

To cry)OIr. Vāng(Neyberg, s, 202)-MP.

Wāng(Bailey, Khs, 252) NP. bāng –IZ. wang

Frying –pan)OIr. *tāpaka(Hsan dost , Monier- williams M, 437) -MP. Tābag(Mackenzie-144) - NP.tabe- IZ. tauwa (tauwe)

To knit)OIr.Vāfta(- Abolghasemi p 35 –Bartholomae Aiw, P, 13-46) –MP.Vāftan(Neyberg, P,201) – NP.bāftan-IZ.baftan

7- Deletion of "ā" from the ending site

ā->-

Sperm)OIr. taumā –MP.tuhm- NP.toxm-IZ.tōm

justice) OIr. Dātā –MP.dāt-NP.dād- IZ.dāð

8-Transformation of "ū" to "i"

In the following examples ,Such transformation is specific fo Izeh language

Ū->i

Pillar)OIr.Stūnā(Roland , G.kent , P, 147)-MP.Stwn(Neyberg, P, 181)- NP. Stūn- IZ. stin
around)OIr.dūra(Roland G, kent, P, 148-Neyberg, P, 67)-MP.dwr (Mackenzie ,P67)NP. dūr -IZ.dir
Soon)OIr- Zūta-MP.Z ūd-NP.Zūd- IZ.Zi
oven)OIr.tanūra- MP.tanūr(mackenzie)- NP.tanūr – IZ.tanir
balance)OIr.*tarāzūka(Hsan dost , Monier-williams M, 437)- MP. Tarāzūk(Hsan dost , Monier-williams M, 437)-NP.tarāzū- IZ.torōzin

9 – Deletion of " " from the first part of the word.

ā->-

Fire OIr. Ātar(Roland, G, kent, P.152)-MP.ātaxš(Neyberg, 35)- NP.ātaš-IZ.taš

10- transforming "p" to "w"

P->W

In the following examples Ap ==aw

night)OIr.Xšap(Roland G.kent.102,104)-MP.šab(Mackenzie-14)-NP.šab- IZ.šaw
water)OIr. āPi(Neyberg, P20)- MP. Āp(Neyberg, P20)- NP. āb -IZ.aw
fever)OIr.*tapah(bartholomae Aiw, P, 632) – MP.tab(Mackenzie, 324)-NP.tab-IZ.taw
hatchet)OIr. tapara(Bailey, Khs, p203) –MP .tabar-NP .tabar(Hsan dost , Monier-williams M, 437)- IZ. tawer

11- Changing "au" to "ō "

Au ->ō

Sperm)OIr.taumā(Bartholomae Aiw P.6239-Neyberg, P, 194)-MP.tuhm(Hsan dost , Monier-williams M, 437)-NP.toxm- IZ.tōm
say)OIr.gaub(Kent.213-Neyberg P,85)-MP.guftan(Neyberg.P, 85)- NP.gōftan-IZ.gōđan

12- Changing " ū " to "ō "

Ū->ō

a nose bag)OIr.*tū braka (Turner CDIAI.P, 5972)-MP.tūbrak(Turner CDIAI, P, 5972) - NP.tūbre-IZ.tōrbe

13 – Changing "u" to "o"

u->o

Sparse)OIr. Tanuka(Mayrhofer KEWA 1 S, 474) – MP.tanuk (Mackenzie, P, 82) -NP. Tonok – Iz. Tonok

lie)OIr.duru[∨] (Roland G, kent.P, 132-Bartholomae, AIW, P, 767)-MP.druxtan (Roland G, kent.P, 132-Bartholomae, AIW, P, 767) –NP. Dro γ goftan- IZ.dorōgōđan.

14– Changing " xt " to "ō "

burn) OIr.*saxta(Abolghasemi) – MP. Sōxtan ()Abolghasemi)-NP. Sūxtan- IZ.Sōđan
cook)OIr.Paxta(Hsan dost , Monier-williams M, 437)-MP.Pōxtan(Hsan dost , Monier-williams M, 437)-NP.Poxtan-IZ.Pōđan
pour) OIr.*raixta (Abolghasemi)- MP. Rēxtan(Neyberg, P, 169)- NP. Rixtan-Iz.rēđan
bind)OIr. Daux-ta (Abolghasemi)- MP. Dōxtan Farah Vashi- (Abolghasemi)- NP.dūxtan - IZ.dōđan.
Sift)OIr.Vaixta(BartholomaeAIW,P,1312) .MP .Wēxtan(Neyberg,P,209)-NP .bixtan- IZ. bēđan

15– Changing " ai " to " ey "

ai->ey

Spook)OIr.daiwa(Roland G,kent.P111-Neyberg,P,62) -MP.dēV (Neyberg, P, 62)-NP.div-IZ.deyv
sharp)OIr. Taija(Bartholomae.AIW, P, 653-Pokorny IEW 10161)-MP. Tēz(Neyberg, P,62)- NP. tiz- IZ. teyz
ai->ē
pour)OIr. Raixta(Abolghasemi) –MP. Rēxtan(Neyberg,P,169) (Abolghasemi)- NP. rixtan – IZ. Rēđan

rezor)OIr. Taiga(Bartholomae AIW P,623)- MP.

Tēx(Hubschmann pst P,49)- NP.ti[∨] - IZ. Tēx
sift)OIr.Vaixta(Bartholomae AIW.P.1312- (Abolghasemi) =waix-ta)-MP. Vēxtan (Neyberg,P,209)-NP. bixtan –IZ.bēđan

17- Changing " ai " to " ey "

a->ey

Late) OIr.darga(Roland.kent, P, 31-Neyberg,P65)-MP.dyr(Neyberg P,56)-NP.dir-IZ.deyr
axe)OIr.*taša (Hsan dost , Monier-williams M,437)-MP.taš (Hsan dost , Monier-williams M, 437) – NP. tišak - IZ.teyša

18 – Omitting "g"

g->-

Lie) OIr.drauga(Neyberg.P.66)–MP. Drō mackenzie- , Neyberg P,66=drw)-NP. drū[∨] – IZ.dorō
arrow)OIr. Tigra(Neyberg.P,193) – MP.tigr(Neyberg,P,193) – NP.tir – IZ. tir
late)OIr.darga(Roland G.kent P,91-neyberg P,56)-MP.dagr(dēr)(Neyberg,P,56)- NP.dir- Iz. Deyr

19- Omitting "a" in the last part of the word

a->-

OIr.h Uška (Abolghasemi) – MP.hušk(Neyberg P,104) .NP. Xōšk-IZ.hōšk
happy)OIr. Šiyāta(Kent.P.104-Neyberg.P.185)- MP. Š'D -NP.šād- IZ.šāđ

horse) OIr.aspa(RolandG,kent P,90-Neyberg,P,32)-MP.asp(Neyberg.P.32)- NP. Asb-IZ.asb
ear (OIr. Gauša(Neyberg.P.84) – MP.gōš(Neyberg.P.84) – NP.guš – IZ. guš
around)OIr.dūra(Roland G.kent P.188-Neyberg.P.67)-MP. Dūr(Neyberg.P.67) –NP. Dūr-IZ.dir
spook) OIr. Daiva(Roland G,kent,P,114-Neyberg,P,62) –MP.dēv(NeybergP,62)– NP. div – IZ. deyv

20 –Transforming vowel sound "V-W" to "b" in the first part of the word

W/V->b

knit) OIr. Vāfta(Bartholomae AIW,P,1346) (Abolghasemi) – MP. Vāftan(Neyberg.P.201) – NP .bāftan- IZ. baftan
wing) OIr. Vārda(Bartholomae AIW P.1412) – MP. Vāl(Neyberg.P.201)- NP. Bāl – IZ.bāl
twenty)OIr. Visatā(Pokorny IEW s.1177 - bartholomae AIW.P.1458) – MP. Vist(Neyberg.P.215) –Aves WĪsa'Ti NP. Bist – IZ. bis
sift) OIr. Vaixta(Bartholomae AIW,P,1912) (Abolghasemi)=waix-ta)–MP. Vēxtan(Neyberg,P,209) – NP.bixtan – IZ. bēdan
excuse)OIr.*Vahānaka(Hubschmann,P,32)- MP.wahānag(Hubschmann.P.32) – NP.bahāne – IZ.bohōne

21- Deleting 't' in the last part

t->-

hand)OIr.dasta(Neyberg.P.58-Roland G.kent.P.145,88)– MP.dast (Mackenzie 62)– NP. dast-IZ.das
Friend) OIr. Dauštar(Roland G.kent.P.154,88-Neyberg.P.65)- MP. Dōst(Neyberg.P.65-mackenzie– NP.dust - IZ. dus
wish –will)OIr. Xwāsta (Abolghasemi)– MP. Xwāst-NP.xvāstan (Abolghasemi) z.Xās.

ungenerous)OIr.Pasta(Hubschmann.s.41) –MP. Past(Mackenzie)–NP. Past – IZ. Pas
twenty) OIr.* Visata(Pokorny IEW.s.1177- Bartholomae AIW.P.1448)-Aves. VĪsa'ti 40 –MP. Vist(Neyberg.P.215)- Np. bist – IZ .bis

22- Transforming "r" to "L"

r->L

unclean) OIr. *a-rūta(pokorny IEW,P681) (Abolghasemi 26) – MP. Ālūdan (Mackenzie =rwd)(Abolghasemi) –NP. ālūdan- IZ.ōliđan
wing) OIr.Wārda(Bartholomae AIW,P1412) – MP.Vāl(Neyberg,P,201) – NP.bāl – IZ. bāl
bitter) OIr. Taxra(morgenstirne IIFL I 295) – MP. Taxl(Mackenzie P,83-Neyberg). (Hsan dost , Monier-williams M, 437) 344 – NP. talx- IZ. tahl

batten)OIr. Pari- Vārana(Hrn GNE,s.304- Bartholomae AIW,P,866) – MP. Parwār(Horn GNE.s.304) – NP. Parwār – IZ. Pāluār
cord)OIr. *taθra(Pokorny IEW 1065,) (Hsan dost , Monier-williams M, 437)- MP. (Farah Vashi)– NP. tār- IZ.tāl

23- transforming "ta' to infinitive " đan " .

ta->đan

come) OIr. Āgmata(Neyberg,P,15- Bartholomae AIW.P,405-kent.244) –MP.āmatan(Neyberg,P,15)- NP. āmadan IZ. ovayđan

● Pour)OIr. Raixta(Abolghasemi)– MP. Rēxtan (Neyberg,P,169)– NP.rixtan – IZ. rēđan

● go) OIr. *rafta (Abolghasemi) – MP. Raftan (Abolghasemi) neyberg.P.164, Mackenzie– NP. raftan IZ. rađan

24- Transforming "ta" to "an"

Ta ->an

● bang – seal)OIr. Basta (Abolghasemi) –MP. Bastan—(Abolghasemi) (Neyberg,P,49,Mackenzie) – NP. bastan – Iz. basan

● seat)OIr. Nišasta (Abolghasemi) – MP.nišastan (Abolghasemi) (Neyberg.P.142,Mackenzie) – NP.nešastan – Iz. nešasan

● grow –eseap)OIr. *rasta (Abolghasemi) – MP. Rastan (Farah Vashi) (Abolghasemi)– NP. rastan –IZ. rasan

● wish –will)OIr. Xwāsta (Abolghasemi)– MP. Xvāstan(Abolghasemi) – Xāstan – IZ. Xāsan wash)OIr.šusta(Abolghasemi)–MP.šustan (Abolghasemi) (Neyberg,P,187,Mackenzie144) –NP. šōstan – Iz, šōsan

searching) OIr. *yusta (Abolghasemi)–MP.

√ J ustan(Abolghasemi)– NP. √ J ōstan IZ. √ J ōsan

25- Transforming "a" to "ā "

a->ā sky) OIr. Asmānam (kent,P,53) (Hsan dost , Monier-williams M, 437)–MP. Asmān (Hsan dost , Monier-williams M, 437)mackenzie- Neyberg.P.32='sm'n)- NP. āsmān- IZ.āsemān

● cow) OIr. Gav(Kent,P,101) – MP.

G'w(Neyberg.P82-mackenzie 77)– aves .gāuš (Kent.P.101)- NP. gāw – IZ. gā

foot) OIr. *Pada(Bartholomae AIW,P,842) – MP. Pā (Hsan dost , Monier-williams M, 437) (Neyberg.P.197=p'y-mackenzie=p'dy)– - IZ , Pā Cord) OIr. *taθra(Pokorny IEW 1065) -(Hsan dost , Monier-williams M, 437) – MP. Tāk– NP.tār- IZ. tāL

26- transforming "u" to "ō"

u -> ō

- dry)OIr. Huška (Abolghasemi) – MP. hušk (Neyberg,P,109)– NP. XōšK- Iz. hōšk
- belie)OIr. Draug(Neyberg.P.67)- MP.druxt(Neyberg,P,67-mackenzie)– NP. dru / goftan – IZ- dorō gōdan

27- Transforming "t" to "d"

t->d

- into) OIr . atar(kent.21,78) – MP.dar(Neyberg,P,58-mackenzie) – NP.dar – IZ.dar
- bringed) OIr. Ābrta(bartholomae AIW.P.938(Abolghasemi) – MP. Āwurd (Abolghasemi) -mackenzie48 =”wrđ)–NP. āward – IZ. ōwērd
- several)OIr.Čwant– MP.Čand(Abolghasemi)mackenzie-Neyberg .53=cwnd)– NP. Čand – IZ. Čand

28- Transforming "t" to "ð"

t->ð

- happy) OIr . šiyāta(Kent.P.109-Neyberg.P.185)– MP. Š't(Neyberg.P.185-mackenzie.)- NP. šād –IZ.šād
- unclean) OIr. Āruta (Abolghasemi) -Pokorny IEW.P.681) – MP. Ālūdan(Neyberg.P,185-mackenzie,36) – NP. ālūdn – IZ. ōliðe
- Justice) OIr. Dātā (Abolghasemi) – MP.dāt(mackenzie 59=d'd)- NP. dād- IZ. dād
- father) OIr. Pitar(Bartholomae AIW.905- 253) –MP. Pidar (Abolghasemi) – NP. Pedar –IZ. Peðar

29- Transforming "č" to "z"

č ->Z

- Fence)OIr . Pari- č inā- MP. Parzīn(mackenzie 121 =precyn) – NP. Parč īn – IZ. Parzīn
- Scourge) OIr. *tāčānaka(Hubschmann Pst.s 46- 320) –MP. Tāzānag (Mackenzie.P.83) – NP. tāziane – IZ.tāziyone

30- Deleting "u" in the ending part

u->-

- wood) OIr. Dāru(Kent.P.181)- MP. dār (čop)(mackenzie) – NP. čub – IZ. dār

31- Changing "x" to "h"

X->h

- bitter) OIr. taxra – MP. taxl –NP.talx – Iz. tahl

32- Changing "i" to "e"

i->e

- father) OIr. Pitar(Bartholomae AIW,P,905-253) – MP. Pidar (Abolghasemi) (mackenzie 125)=pyd) – NP. Pedar – Iz. Peðar

33- Changing "y" to "J"

- young) OIr. Yuwan(Neyberg,P,227- 24) – MP. Juwān (Abolghasemi) – NP. jawān. IZ. J awon
- searching) OIr. *yusta (Abolghasemi)- MP. J ustan (Abolghasemi)– NP. J ōstan- Iz. J ōsan

Conclusion:

The above details regarding the transformation of vowel sounds shows that ,vowel sounds in Bakhtiarian Izeh language are mainly transformed from Old Iranian roots in first ,middle and last part of the words. In some words there have been double transformation of vowel sounds in just one word. Such close relationship between Bakhtiarian Izeh and old Iranian language is resulted from this fact that there have been many ancient cultural sculptures and drawing ,tools and instrument from Ilam dynasty living in this territory before Islam showing t his territory was the center of Old Iran 20 decades ago. Most of the customs and cultures in this region is exactly the same as those in ancient Iran, full of kindness and intimacy between people. The main result of this study although a through another research is needed to find any other relationship between these two languages.

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Corresponding Author:

Norali Ahmadi Falehi

The professor of Enghelabe Eslami

Technical college,Tehran,Iran

Mobile: +9809128101404

Fax:+982166460218

E-mail: n_a_faleh@yahoo.com

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