

Research Report

The Ibero-Guanche (Latin) rock inscriptions found at Mt. Tenezara volcano (Lanzarote, Canary Islands, Spain): A Saharan hypothesis for Mediterranean/Atlantic Prehistory

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(Received 5 May 2020; Accepted 25 May 2020; Published 6 June 2020)

Abstract - Two of the several rock script panels found at Mt. Tenezara volcano slope, Lanzarote Is. (Canary Islands) have been analyzed. Both of them contain a linear writing which corresponds to the ancient Iberian semi-syllabary discovered by Gomez-Moreno in 1949 AD, thus to Iberian-Guanche inscriptions which previously were referred as Latin. Ancient Iberian scripts have been found in France, Portugal, Spain and other Mediterranean places during the 1st millennium BC and the following four centuries AD; it may be possible that Iberian signs could have been taken or used at the same time at Africa. Even one of the semi-vertical panels considered as Lybic is in fact written in Iberian-Guanche characters. Also, Mt Tenezara shows Cart-ruts pointing to Equinoxes Sunrise. Findings are put in the context of a Sahara relatively rapid desiccation and a massive people migration to establish several classic and pre-classic civilizations, like Sumer, Egypt, Hittite, Hellenistic, Iberians, Lybic and Canary Islands Guanches, and possibly other Old Atlantic Celtic ones. Saharan Hypothesis is based on Geology, Columbia Shuttle (1981) infrared photographs that show prehistoric desert fertility, Prehistory, Anthropology and Linguistics. A fertile and heavily populated Sahara existed before 6,000 years BC.

Keywords: Sahara, Latin, Scripts, Canary Islands, Iberian, Guanche, Lybic, Lanzarote, Fuerteventura, Quesera, Cheeseboard, Pyramids, Berber, Africa, Punic, Roman, Tenerife, Equinox, Tunisia, Algeria, Canarian,, Calendar, Raetian, Lepontic, Venetian, Etruscan, Basque, Cart-ruts, Sitovo, Gradeshnitsa, Usko- Mediterranean, Language, Tenezara, Juan Brito

Introduction

Mr Juan Brito Martin, local artist and free-lance archaeologist, exposed from 1980 on in Archaeology Museum at Arrecife, Lanzarote (Fig. 1a, b) drawings taken from Lanzarote rock scripts of unknown affiliation; these were named by Pichler like Latin (Pichler 1995, 2003) and found in Lanzarote and Fuerteventura Islands (Canary Islands). However, they are an incised linear writing which lacks Q, H, P and T frequent Latin letters and translation into Latin has not been possible (Pichler 1995; 2003). A transcription and a translation hypothesis was proposed long ago because scripts were almost identical to those of the Iberian semi-syllabary which was used in Iberia and France during first millennium BC (Appendix I); “Latin” scripts were named “Iberian-Guanche” and were mostly religious and funerary (Arnaiz-Villena & Alonso-García 2001; Arnaiz-Villena *et al.* 2001a). This type of lineal incise writing is present in all seven Canary Islands and they may have been unnoticed because all other islands except Lanzarote and Fuerteventura are humid and covered by vegetation (Arnaiz-Villena *et al.* 2019a; 2019b). People who wrote “Iberian-Guanche” inscriptions seem to be Canary Island inhabitants and not visitors. Genes of present and past Canary Islanders are difficult only to assign to North Africa because gene flow between North Africa and Iberia existed in prehistoric times and it is difficult to distinguish Iberian and North African from Canarian gene profiles.

North African and Iberian genes have been exchanged since prehistoric times as it is shown by using chromosome autosomal HLA genes (Arnaiz-Villena *et al.* 1999a; 2002); this Iberian / North African gene flow has been also established with different genetic markers by three other independent groups (Curat *et al.* 2010; Botigue *et al.* 2013; Gonzalez-Fortes *et al.* 2019). Genetic differences between western Mediterraneans and North West Africans are scanty (Arnaiz-Villena *et al.* 2015, 2017; Hajjej *et al.* 2018) because prehistoric Atlantic Europe, North African and Canary Islands belong to a related cultural and genetic group (Arnaiz-Villena *et al.* 2001a, 2002, 2015, 2017). Also, Canarian prehistory should in part be interpreted in the context of Megalithic Atlantic culture (Arnaiz-Villena *et al.* 2015, 2017, 2019c; Medina & Arnaiz-Villena 2018a, 2018b) and Saharan massive people emigration (Arnaiz-Villena *et al.* 2001a, 2002). In addition, a big rock carved lunisolar calendar has been found in

Lanzarote, (Canary Islands): "La Quesera"/Cheeseboard of Zonzamas (Medina & Arnaiz-Villena 2018a, 2018b; Arnaiz-Villena *et al.* 2018). Prehistoric Atlantic petroglyphs, mummifications, pyramids and possible megalithic buildings have been found (Medina & Arnaiz-Villena 2018a, 2018b; Arnaiz-Villena *et al.* 2018, 2019c), particularly this lunisolar calendar "Cheeseboard" of Zonzamas in Lanzarote Island and also Cart-ruts rock carved channel structures on the top of volcanoes. Also, other most likely pre-Punic and pre-Roman prehistoric rock calendars have been found in Gran Canaria Island (Barrios Garcia 2004; Barrios Garcia *et al.* 2018) However, archaeological dating based on absolute objective methods are greatly lacking in Canary Islands archaeological patrimony with exceptions (Atoche Peña & Ramirez Rodriguez 2009, 2016). In addition, pyramidal structures have been described in Canary Islands and not only in Tenerife, but also in Gran Canaria and La Palma (Ulbricht 2016) and also very similar ones in Western Sahara , African continent, only about 95 Km (59.03 miles) far from Fuerteventura Canary Island (Clarke & Brooks 2018).

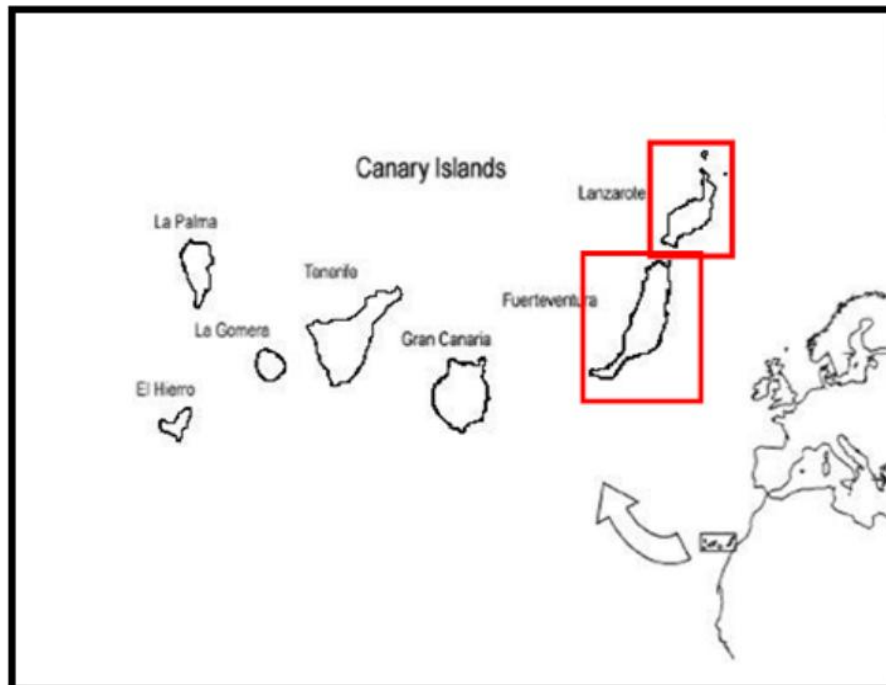


Fig. 1a Map of Canary Islands with their names and the Atlantic coast lines of Europe and North West Africa.

Lanzarote Island is 125 km (78 miles) apart off African Coast. Fuerteventura Island is at 97 km (60.27 miles) of Africa coast.

In the present paper, we aim to study panels of inscriptions found on rocks of Tenezara volcano mountain at Lanzarote West Coast (Figs. 1a, 1b, 3, 4). They are Ibero-Guanche rock inscriptions, also called Latin inscriptions. A putative Lybic inscription as considered by other authors (Panel 1, Fig. 5; Ulbrich 2015), we have concluded that it is a Iberian-Guanche inscription (Figs. 5, 6). A proposal of transcription and translation is put forward based on Iberian, Basque and Guanche (and also Berber) similarities as detailed in Mat and Met section (Arnaiz-Villena & Alonso-García 2001, 2007).



Fig. 1b Google Earth photograph placing of studied Lanzarote island volcanoes. Mt. Tenezara volcano is highlighted with a red circle. It erupted in Middle Pleistocene Epoch, a period between about 780,000 and 125,000 years ago (Arnaiz Villena et al. 2020).

Material and Methods

Methodology used for proposing a translation hypothesis for “Latin” or Iberian-Guanche Inscriptions (Arnaiz-Villena 2000)

We have followed a methodology which is similar to that proposed by Greenberg and Ruhlen (Ruhlen 1994). Our premises for approaching these Usko-Mediterranean languages, which include Ibero-Guanche scripts are:

A) Languages may correctly be classified, and decipherment approached with 10-20 "diagnostic" cognates (i.e. the personal pronouns and other frequently used cognates like plant names, family generics and tools and common life terms existing in Neolithic and pre-Neolithic societies). In general, we use phonology and semantics similarities.

Most of the written ancient Mediterranean languages studied previously by us (i.e. Iberian-Tartessian, Etruscan, Linear A) refer to an apparently common religion ([Poulianos 1969](#); [Arnaiz-Villena & Alonso-García 1998, 1999, 2001](#), [Arnaiz-Villena et al. 2001a](#)). This decipherment has been possible to the Basque-Spanish translation of words found in the above-mentioned extinct languages and showing a Basque correspondence. The topics found in this religion are: the Mother (Ama= mother, in Basque (B.)), the way of the Zen/Aka (dead, in B.) towards another life, going through The Door or Ate/a (B.). The flames (Kar, B.), which make the dead to be afraid, etc. A detailed transcription and translation hypotheses for Iberian-Guanche inscriptions are found in ([Arnaiz-Villena & Alonso García 2001](#); [Arnaiz-Villena et al. 2001a](#)).

B) Most of these deciphered "Usko-Mediterranean" languages refer to the following matters:

A. Religion and after death (90%).

B. Accountancy related to food-storage and other topics.

This skewed thematic writing may be due to that writings have been better preserved in sanctuaries and/or palaces, and not in normal living people housing (the latter being constructed with more perishable materials). Also, Neolithic and pre-Neolithic societies may have used written words as a magic or totemic sense related to permanent keeping of possessions and also to securing a proper and pleasant after death life; casts of clerks (related or not to religion) could have further driven this tendency in order to keep up with privileges. In addition, it is obvious that primitive societies felt less secure than nowadays more complex ones; this could have led people to find religion and food register to be essential.

C) There are groups of words that are found together in the different languages ([Arnaiz-Villena 2000](#), [Arnaiz-Villena et al. 2001a](#)), i.e.: Atin-as (B.), the door of darkness and other idiomatic expressions preserved in both ancient Iberian and Basque. Beginning and ending of words are problematic and unless meaning is known, it is very difficult to

define them. Only known and repeated meanings (in several languages) are taken as sound cognate identification.

D) Basque language has remained with little modifications throughout time, because invasions have not modified this and other Basque society characteristics (Collins 1989). Basque and related languages were much more widespread than its present-day limits and included Europe, (Venemann 2003; Intxausti 1992), Africa and canary Islands (Krutwig 1978; Corriente-Cordoba 1977).

Transliteration and translation hypothesis of Usko-Mediterranean languages including Iberian and Iberian-Guanche

Iberian-Tartesian, Etruscan and Minoan Linear A have been transliterated and a translation proposed, as referred in (Poulianos 1969; Arnaiz-Villena *et al.* 1999a: Arnaiz-Villena & Alonso Garcia 1998, 1999). Basque-Spanish cognate meanings have provided the basis for the translation.

Berber has been distinguished from the Arab contamination by comparison with Basque (Sota *et al.* 1976; Keretxeta 1990), Iberian-Tartesian (see Chapter 7, of Arnaiz-Villena 2000) and Arab (Corriente-Cordoba 1977).

The ancient Lybic scripts were studied from (Chabot 1940a, 1940b, 1941; Harden 1971); some of them were written in Punic characters. Directions of the scripts were generally vertical and only assessed by the sense of meaning (Arnaiz-Villena *et al.* 1999a).

Etruscan texts were taken from D'Aneusa (1997). Hittite, Sumerian, Eblaic, Elamite, Ugaritic, Egyptian and Guanche texts were taken from the transliterated references of the most recognized World specialists (see references list of Arnaiz-Villena 2000, chapter 9 pages 210, 245, 246, which may be download from <http://chopo.pntic.mec.es/~biolmol/publicaciones/Usko.pdf>) (See Arnaiz-Villena & Alonso-Garcia 2001: for Lybic, Guanche and Ibero-Guanche).

Results

Lanzarote and Canary Islands Prehistory have been characterized by a strong dogmatism and abandoning. An outline of recent and ancient discoveries that did not fit with official history has been left out without much criticism (Arnaiz-Villena *et al.* 2019a). Particularly, Iberian-Guanche inscriptions have been forgotten once they were found to point out to be related with Iberian (Arnaiz-Villena *et al.* 2001a; Arnaiz-Villena & Alonso-García 2001) in spite that they were recognized to be widespread by Lanzarote and Fuerteventura (Pichler 1995, 2003) and were recently found throughout all 7 main Canary Islands (Arnaiz-Villena *et al.* 2019a; 2019b; 2019c).

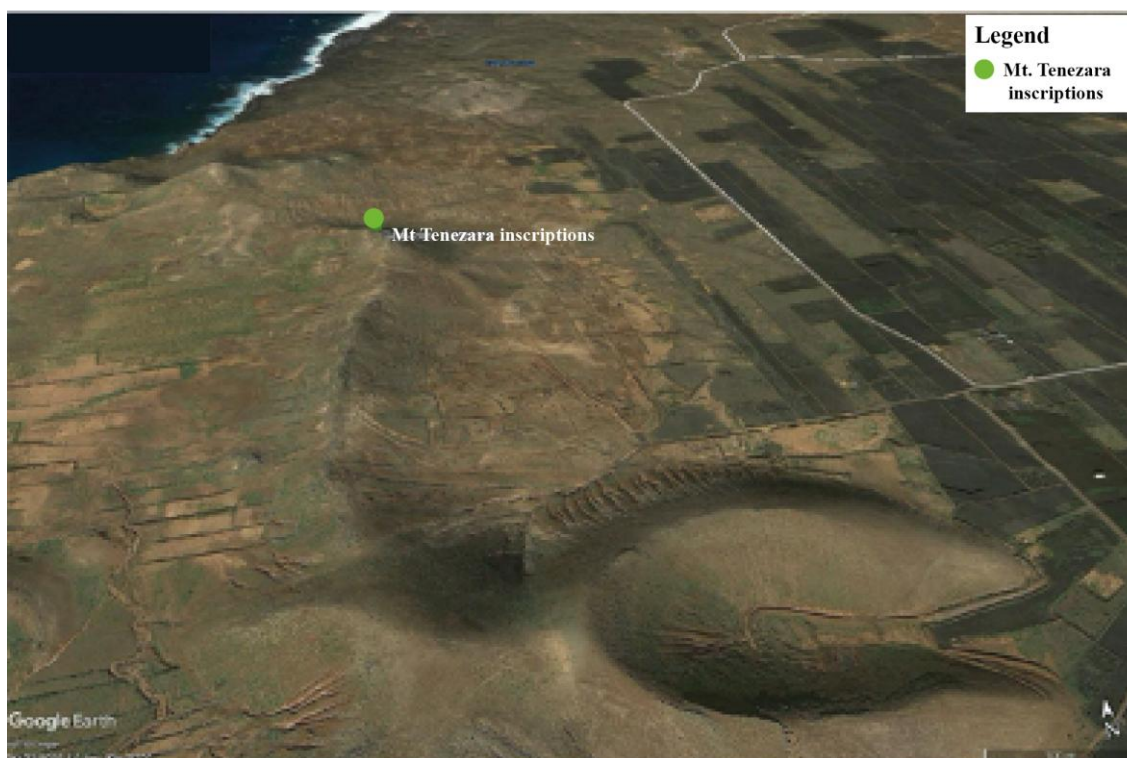


Fig. 2 Mt. Tenezara.

Place where Ibero-Guanche inscriptions are found (29°04'01.0"N, 13°42'24.3"W).

Mt. Tenezara has been shown to contain Cart-ruts that point to Equinoxes sunrise as observed from Lanzarote Island. Mt. Tenezara is one of the volcanoes which is facing West and on the border of Timanfaya Volcano historic eruption (1730 - 1736 AD) lava field. Its age is from middle Pleistocene (Arnaiz-Villena *et al.* 2020). Figs. 1 and 2 show its exact placement.



Fig. 3 Mt. Tenezara panels 1 and 2 of Ibero-Guanche inscriptions, general view (see Fig. 4). A 5 cm rule has been put over in order to see letters size (about 10 cm, 3.94 inches, or less).



Fig. 4 Panels 1 and 2 of Ibero-Guanche rock scripts, close up view. Other panels are observed around; their study will be published in a forth coming paper. Panel 1 is analyzed in Fig. 5. Panel 2 is analyzed in Fig. 6

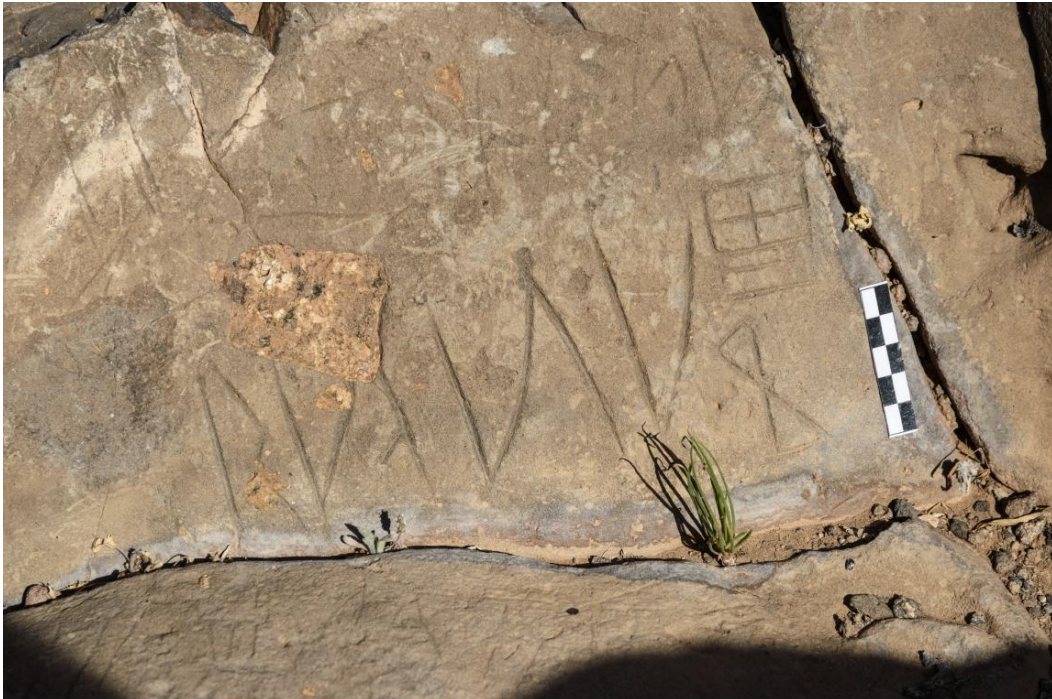


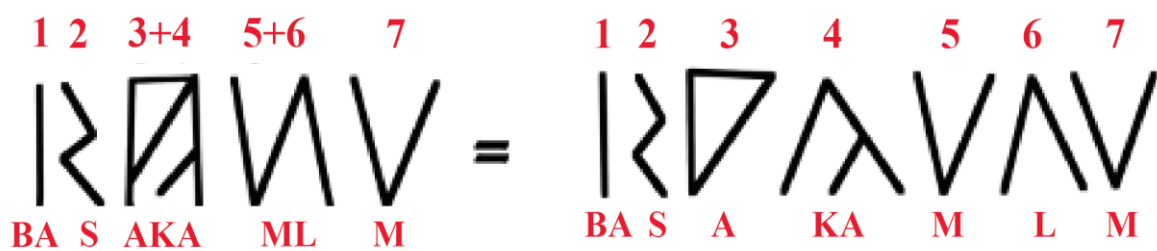
Fig. 5 Hypothesis of transcription and translation.

Words in Iberian and Basque language:

BASA= Remains; AKA= dead; AMA= Mother Goddess; MALO= hill, mountain; KOBA=grave; ABA= entrance; ATE= door. (Arnaiz-Villena & Alonso-García 2001; 2007);

https://commons.m.wikimedia.org/wiki/file:Iberian-Guanche_inscriptions.pdf; (Arnaiz-Villena 2000; Chabot 1940a, 1940b; Gomez-Moreno 1949). See also Appendix I

Horizontal Panel

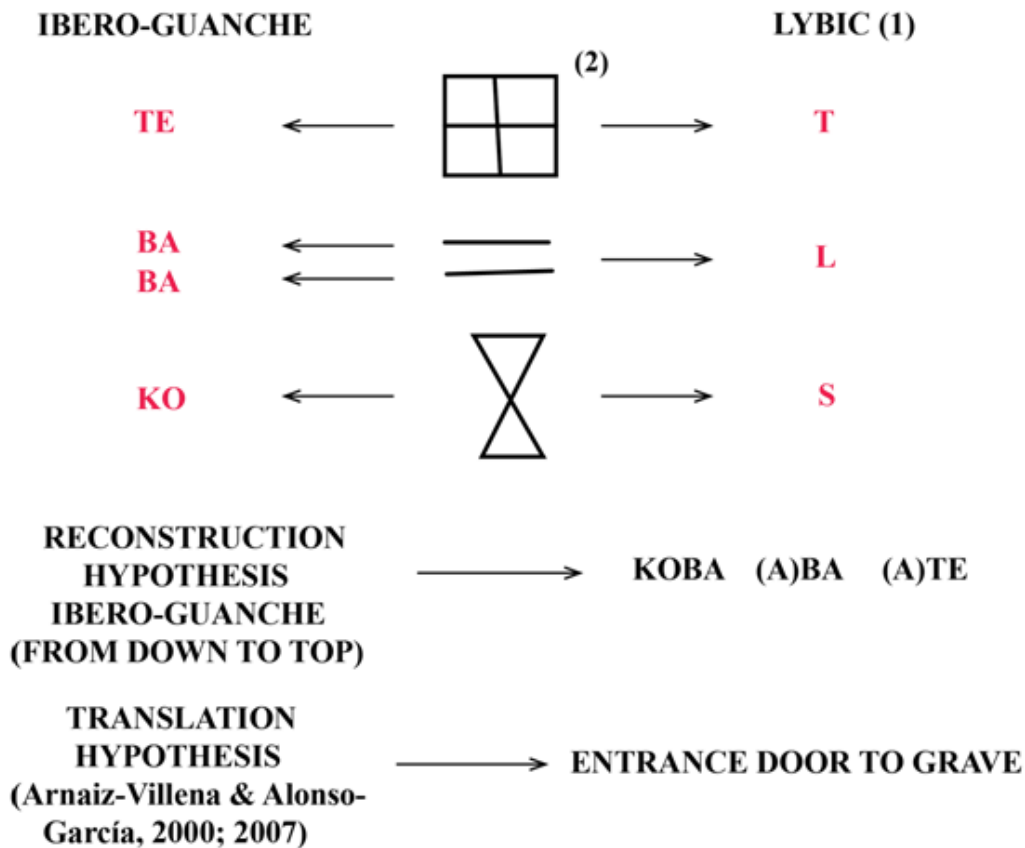


RECONSTRUCTION HYPOTHESIS → BASA AKA M(A) L(O) (A)M(A)


TRANSLATION HYPOTHESIS → DEAD REMAINS AT MOTHER MOUNTAIN (TENESARA)

Vertical (right) Panel

(see also *Ulbrich 2015*)



(See Appendix I; “Lybic” inscription was read by Pichler 2003: S-L-B (from down to top). This paper authors would read if it was ancient Lybic: S-L-T, according to Chabot 1940a; 1940b; 1941)

(2)  Pichler read this sign as Lybic “B”. This is not very common Iberian sign for “te”, but is similar to other “te” (see Appendix 1) presented as such as Iberian “te” by Prof. Javier Velaza in his conference at Museo Arqueológico (Madrid) - “La lengua y escritura de los Iberos”- (October 3rd, 2019) - See video at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLSTkYuU6iPdkM90-CZAUObOnC4MN12prP> Ciclo “Nuestros Primeros Lenguajes”


(1) This is not Lybic for us; it is a continuation of horizontal phrase, probably because Guanche writer did not have space enough. The semi-vertical  indicates continuation by itself. (Pichler 2003) records signs repetition (also Arnaiz-Villena and Alonso-García 2001) like two “|” (ba) and some of his scripts are also vertical (Pichler 2003).



Fig. 6 WORDS IN IBERIAN AND BASQUE LANGUAGES

(Arnaiz-Villena & Alonso-García 2001; 2007; Arnaiz-Villena 2000, chapter 9 pages 210, 245, 246, which may be download from <http://chopo.pntic.mec.es/~biolmol/publicaciones/Usko.pdf>; https://commons.m.wikimedia.org/wiki/file:Iberian-Guanche_inscriptions.pdf)

AKA= dead; BASA= remains; KABA= anguish; BAI= yes; LOAM

1	2+3	4	5	6	=	1	2	3	4	5	6
KA	BAS	KA	BA(BA)			KA	BA	S	KA	BA(BA)	

RECONSTRUCTION —————> (A)KA BAS(A) KABA BAI
HYPOTHESIS

TRANSLATION —————> YES, ANGUISH WITH DEAD REMAINS
HYPOTHESIS

SMALL "I" (6) IS FOR US A REPETITION



Discussion


Mt. Tenezara Ibero-Guanche inscriptions



Hypothesis for transcription and translation have been given for Tenezara Ibero-Guanche inscriptions. We have pointed out that these “corpus” of inscriptions lack typical Latin letters and a translation from Latin has not been possible since 1980. There are some facts that discard that these Ibero-Guanche inscriptions are Latin:

1. No translation has been formally proposed for these so called “Latin” characters since Pichler published his compilations on Fuerteventura inscriptions (Pichler 1995, 2003).

2. Arnaiz-Villena & Alonso-Garcia (2001, 2007, see Appendix I) recognized that this lineal script was Iberian semi-syllabic (Gomez-Moreno 1949, 1962) and proposed translations that mostly fit with other translations put forward by these authors based on Basque-Iberian (Arnaiz-Villena 2000; Arnaiz-Villena *et al.* 2001) equivalences. (https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?title=File%3AIberian-Guanche_inscriptions.pdf&page=1). At present, Basque-Iberian close relatedness is again accepted since Basque and Ancient Iberian numerals are identical (Ferrer i Jane 2009; Orduña-Aznar 2005, 2013).

3. Fuerteventura lineal scripts lack the following letters which are basic in Latin writing: “C”, “Q” and “H” (it is  = O in old Iberian writing) (Pichler 2003). “A” () is not correct: it represents sound “KA” in Iberian, see Appendix I.

4. Occlusive consonants apparently do not exist, or they are very scanty (Pichler 2003): “B” has been only found 3 times, and even it could not be “B”. “P” has not been found. “T” has not been found. “C” (with a sound similar to “K”) in Latin has not been found. “” is used for = “KA” in this particular Canary Islands Iberian scripts, as it is found in Iberia. It is remarkable that occlusive consonants only exist in Iberian language in form of syllables (Appendix I).

5. Lineal Canarian “Latin” signs “” and “”, (wrongly translated to as “A” and “I”, as if it was Latin) represent 25% and 16% respectively of Fuerteventura scripts (Pichler 2003). This is a clear excess of vowel letters and signs particularly strange to ancient North African/Mediterranean languages in which vowels are usually not written.

6. Linking contiguous signs are more often found in these Canarian “Iberian- Guanche” inscriptions than in Iberian scripts found in Iberia and southern France. This phenomenon also occurs with Canarian-Lybian inscriptions (Arnaiz-Villena & Alonso-Garcia 2001). This may be due to difficulties to make inscriptions in hard basaltic rocks which sometimes have been polished (Arnaiz-Villena 2019a, 2019b). Writing support seems to have been hard stones in Canary Islands with engraving difficulties.

7. Lack of some Iberian characters in the obtained inscriptions (Pichler 2003) and some others differential characters in Ibero-Guanche inscriptions exist with respect to Iberian scripts (Appendix I). Commented in the present paper may be due: a) to the relative small “corpus” of available inscriptions or b) to Canary Islands “Iberian- Guanche” scripts being more primitive and the origin of Iberian semi-syllabary, c) “Iberian-Guanche” scripts may represent a local modified Iberian, d) It is a variation of linear scripts, including Iberian which is found in Europe (Runes, Old Latin languages: Raetic, Lepontic, Venetic, East European scripts like Vinca (Serbia), Gradeshnitsa and Sitovo (Bulgaria). These 3 later scripts are dated 4 -5 millennium BC. Thus, African Moroccan and Western Sahara territory should be carefully searched for existence of this type of lineal writing which may have been disregarded as “stone scratches” if not specifically looking for it. In fact, similar scripts have been found in Tunisia (Bonifay 2004). Prehistoric artifacts have been found at Lanzarote at the beginning of the 1st millennium BC of impossible Punic or Roman origin and other authors put them back to Bronze Age (Atoche Peña & Ramirez Rodriguez 2009, 2016; Arnaiz-Villena *et al.* 2019a, 2019 b).

8. Language of Guanches-Canarian First Inhabitants as met by Basque soldiers in Spain war to conquest Islands noticed "that they spoke Basque". A Basque Bishop was sent to teach them Christianity (Krutwig 1978). Also many Guanche names and Canarian toponymics are easily translated to Basque (Arnaiz-Villena & Alonso-Garcia 1998;

2001). However, original language is officially not known, but very likely is close to North African ones. Basque and Berber are related languages (Arnaiz-Villena & Alonso-Garcia 2001).

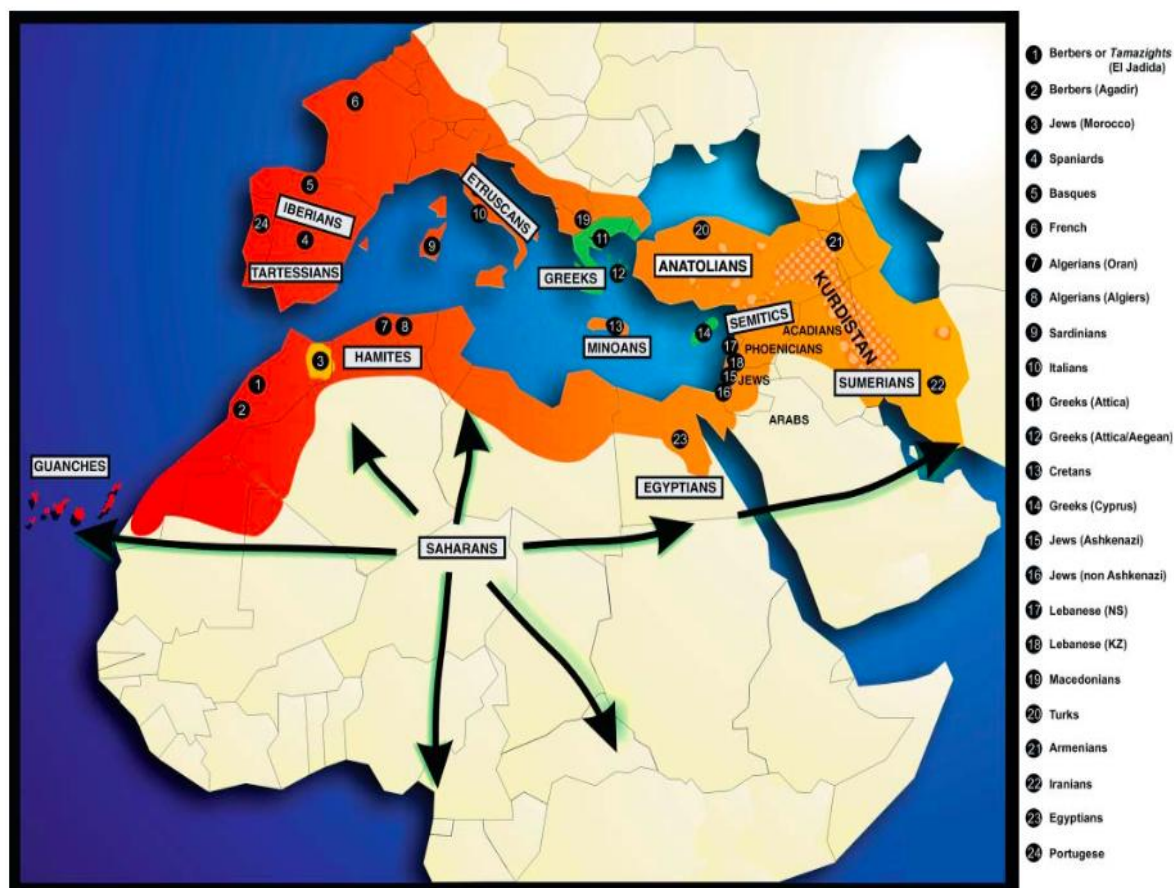


Fig. 7 Saharan hypothesis for classical culture establishment

Mediterranean area showing classic populations (squares).

Kurds (30 million) living area is represented by pink dots. Arrows represent population movements before 3000 years B.C. Etruscans had their highest development in the first millennium B.C.; however, their culture was a continuity of a more ancient “Villanovan” (Villanova, near Bologna) and pre-Villanovan cultures (2nd millennium B.C.). Semitic people were nomadic people, comprising Jews, Arabs, and Phoenicians. (Arnaiz-Villena *et al.* 1995, 2001a, 2002; Hajjej *et al.* 2018)

Sahara Desert desiccation and people exodus to periphery: Saharan hypothesis as origin of classic civilizations

By taking into account Genetics, Prehistory, Linguistics and other related Anthropology topics (Fig. 7), it was concluded that a dense populated Sahara area converted relatively rapidly in desert and inhabitants were driven to leave as shown in Fig. 7. Humid and fertile Sahara Desert was dried up between 10,000-6,000 years BC ,as seen by space Columbia shuttle infrared photography (McCauley *et al.* 1982) and further documented

by [Kutzbach et al. \(1996\)](#). Many Paleolithic and Neolithic tools and paintings are presently abandoned in Sahara Desert ([Mockhtar 1990](#); [Arnaiz-Villena 2000](#)). Study of Mediterranean and Atlantic languages gave together with other factors a picture of related languages: the Usko-Mediterranean languages ([Fig. 8](#)).



Fig. 8 Usko-Mediterranean-Languages.

The only ones which are non-extinct are Basque and Berber (or Tamazight) spoken at present in Morocco, Algeria, Libya, Egypt, Niger, Mali, Mauritania, including the Sahara Desert. Basque and Berber were spoken in a much wider area ([Arnaiz-Villena et al. 1995, 2000](#); [Hajje et al. 2018](#))

The Saharan hypothesis of fundamental contribution to Mediterranean and Atlantic Prehistory

It is well established that North Africans and southern Europeans are genetically related, and this may be due to a long lasting circum-Mediterranean cultural and genetic flow particularly during the last glacial peak ([Arnaiz-Villena 2000](#); [Arnaiz-Villena et al. 1995](#)). Both Sumerians and Egyptians are thought to have arrived at their respective homelands before written and archaeological records about their activities were obtained. Old Canaan (nowadays Israel and Palestine), including the coast, was populated by people of unknown origin, but probably related to both Egyptians and Sumerians ([Arnaiz-Villena et al. 2001b](#)). On the basis of our present day genetic and linguistic studies, we have postulated that many people coming from what is nowadays the Sahara Dessert started to move towards East, West, and North and also South, being an important part of the primitive people stock of Sumerians, Egyptians, Guanche (Canary Islands), Iberians, Etruscan, Minoans, Anatolians (nowadays called Turks on

only linguistic bases), Kurds, and other islanders or northern Mediterraneans ([Arnaiz-Villena et al. 2002](#)). The Saharan desiccation causes are now well established after 6,000 BC and Columbia shuttle infrared photographs show that the desert was a fertile land with many lakes and rivers ([Arnaiz-Villena et al. 1999b](#); [Arnaiz-Villena 2000](#)). Sardinians first people (speaking Nuragh) could also come in part from northern Africa and Iberian scripts have been found in Sardinia. Whether the different ancient languages found in the northern Mediterranean (also belonging to the Usko-Mediterranean family) were carried by Africans or were the result of a homogenization in language due to long lasting circum-Mediterranean contacts is not known. These contacts would have been possible both in glacier and inter-glacier or post-glacial periods. These languages may include the so far studied by us and also: Nuragh (Sardinia), Ligurian (southern France), Oscan, Messapic, and Venetic (Italy), Lydian and Lycian (Anatolia, Turkey) and others. *Sumer* (B. *Su* = Fire, *Mer* = Land, hot-land) toponym occurs in ancient Irak, Israel (Samaria), West Crete (Samaria gorge), and Russia, north of Black Sea. Palestinians appear to the West of Canaan (nowadays Israel) more or less at the same time than Jews to Canaan; they come from Crete, according to the Bible. However, both Palestinians and Jews are now considered of ancient Canaanite tribes descent ([Arnaiz-Villena et al. 2001b](#)). Only a few words remain from Palestinian language, but they called their prince: *Seren* (B. *Ser or Zar* = Old person, *en* = The most important). Also, the old Anatolian language is not Turkish, but Hittite, which belongs to the Usko-Mediterranean group therefore; many of the extinct languages classified as Indo-Europeans could be revised and could belong to the “older” Usko-Mediterranean family.

Hittite was classified by Hrozný ([Hrozný 1915](#)) as Indo-European with the study of only one phrase, which is now translated by us with the help of the Basque-Spanish equivalences with aa altogether different meaning ([Arnaiz-Villena et al. 2002](#))

Therefore, the relationship between Indo-European and “Usko-Mediterranean” languages may be very difficult to disentangle. In different periods, they must have been mixed up in the people’s common language depending on the time when the particular studied document comes from. Different degrees of admixture may be found. However, the “Usko-Mediterranean” languages seem to be quite uniform (at least the written documents); this will be commented in another work, but it may be due to the lack of a widespread writing among people. It was monopolized by clerks (probably priests and high government officers). Also, the strict religious language formulation may have

contributed to the observed monotony on topics. Indo-European (or Eurasian) languages have substituted by unknown, suspected (Greeks with Iron-technology invading Minoan empire), or known (Latin speakers substituting Etruscan speakers) reasons. However, all present-day Eurasian languages have “Usko-Mediterranean” cognates and other language characteristics, which have not sufficiently been studied.

Guanches: Prehistoric Canary islands First Inhabitants

The Canary Islands first inhabitants were called “Guanches.” They were noticed to speak a Basque-like language and a Basque was appointed to christianize the Islands ([Krutwig 1978](#)). Some of the toponymics or other names may be translated by using the old Basque-language-Spanish-English equivalences ([Keretxeta 1990](#)). Lanzarote or Lancelot island was ruled by a King called *Guadarfia* (B. = “our-double horn”); the leader might have worn a double horned hat. Fuerteventura island had two rulers *Guize* (B. = man) and *Ayoze* (B. = knife). *Armiche* ruled on Hierro islands (B. = house-spider). Gomera islands has four subdivisions *Agana* (B. = the brotherhood dead), *Hipalan*, *Malagua*, and *Orone* (B. = hurricane). Gran Canaria island rulers were the *Guanartemes* (B. = our brotherhood of sinner land). Tenerife was subdivided in eight parts; two of them were *Anaga* or *Ana-Aka* (B. = the brotherhood of the dead), *Abona* (B. = the entrance). The present capital “Santa Cruz” was named *Anazu* or *Ana-Su* (B. = the brotherhood of fire); the most important cultural city La Laguna, was named *Aguere* (B. = panoramic, view), and it is certainly a high city with a magnificent view. For more Guanche words translation, consult references: ([Arnaiz-Villena & Alonso-García 2001](#); [Arnaiz-Villena 2000](#)). However, Guanches not only spoke “Guanche” which may be regarded as very close to the proto-berber language found in the Libyan inscriptions ([Arnaiz-Villena & Alonso-García 1998, 1999, 2001](#)), but also ancient Iberian. In the last four decades, many rock inscriptions have been found, throughout the eastern Canary Islands, Lanzarote, and Fuerteventura. They have been shown to be Iberian inscriptions with a funerary and religious meaning ([Arnaiz-Villena & Alonso-García 2001](#)). These have been named the Iberian-Guanche inscriptions. Thus, while the genetic identity of the Canary Islands inhabitants seems to be quite homogeneous ([Cavalli-Sforza et al. 1994, Arnaiz-Villena 2015, 2017](#)) and close to North Africans, Iberians and other Atlantic populations and two type of languages or writings (Lybic and Iberian) were taken place by the first inhabitants as observing rock-scripts. Therefore, the strong correlation between genes and languages is artifactual ([Cavalli-Sforza et al. 1994](#)) and

may sometimes be found at a macrogeographical level, particularly if some data are not considered. However, when studying populations at a microgeographical level a correlation between genes and language is not found (i.e., Guanche people/Iberian and Guanche language (Cavalli-Sforza *et al.* 1994; Arnaiz-Villena & Alonso-García 2001; Arnaiz-Villena *et al.* 2015, 2017); present-day Turks/ Turk language (Cavalli-Sforza *et al.* 1994; Arnaiz-Villena *et al.* 2001c); genetical North African Berbers (most of the population)/ Arabic imposed language (Cavalli-Sforza *et al.* 1994; Gomez-Casado *et al.* 2000; Arnaiz-Villena & Alonso-García 2001).

Appendix I

Iberian →		Tartessian ←	Phoenician	Ancient Greek	Iberian →		Tartessian ←	Phoenician	Ancient Greek
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Iberian-Tartessian semi-syllabary (Gómez Moreno 1949, 1962)

Comparison with other language scripts

Acknowledgements

We thank University Complutense of Madrid for its continuous support. AA-V had PI18/00720 grant from Ministerio de Ciencia, Innovacion y Universidades and FEDER funds.

Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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To cite this article:

Arnaiz-Villena A., Medina M., Ruiz-del-Valle V., Lopez-Nares A., Rodriguez-Rodriguez J., Suarez-Trujillo F. 2020. The Ibero-Guanche (Latin) rock inscriptions found in Mt. Tenezara volcano (Lanzarote, Canary Islands, Spain): A Saharan hypothesis for Mediterranean/Atlantic Prehistory
International Journal of Modern Anthropology. 2 (13): 140 - 162
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.4314/ijma.v2i13.5>



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