

Contents

Acknowledgments	xiii
Preface: What Song the Sirens Sang	I
1 The Indo-European Problem in Outline	9
2 Archaeology and the Indo-Europeans	20
3 Lost Languages and Forgotten Scripts: The Indo-European Languages, Old and New	42
4 Homelands in Question	75
5 Language and Language Change	99
6 Language, Population and Social Organization: A Processual Approach	120
7 Early Language Dispersals in Europe	145
8 The Early Indo-Iranian Languages and their Origins	178
9 Ethnogenesis: Who were the Celts?	211
10 Indo-European Mythologies	250
11 Archaeology and Indo-European Origins: An Assessment	263
Notes	291
Bibliography	307
Index	337

Illustrations

PLATES

between pages 50 and 51

- 1 Hittite god or warrior from Boghazköy
- 2 The Tarkondemos seal
- 3 Clay tablet with Linear B script from Knossos
- 4 Shaft Grave stele from Mycenae

between pages 82 and 83

- 5 The Taklamakan desert
- 6 Documents in Tocharian languages
- 7 Çatal Hüyük: shrine with hunt frescoes
- 8 Nea Nikomedeia: aerial view of excavations

between pages 178 and 179

- 9 Female figurines from Nea Nikomedeia and Çatal Hüyük
- 10 Mohenjodaro: the Great Bath
- 11 Sealstones from Mohenjodaro

between pages 210 and 211

- 12 Egyptian relief showing Hittite war chariots
- 13 Sarmatian gold plaque with hunting scene
- 14 La Tène art: the Birdlip mirror

FIGURES

	<i>page</i>
2.1 Geometric vase from Athens c. 750 BC	25
2.2 Sword scabbard from La Tène c. 300 BC	26
2.3 Corded ware from northern and eastern Europe	31
2.4 Beaker assemblages	32
2.5 Linear-decorated pottery	36
2.6 The homeland area of the Kurgan culture (<i>after Gimbutas</i>)	40
3.1 Cuneiform script at Persepolis	44

3.2	Copy of a hieroglyphic Hittite inscription	48
3.3	Map of the principal Indo-European language groups of Europe and Asia	52
3.4	Map of Anatolia in the second millennium BC	54
3.5	Map of the Aegean, with Minoan and Mycenaean sites	58
3.6	Minoan Linear B script	60
3.7	Map of the Old Silk Road	63
4.1	The evidence of linguistic palaeontology for the homeland of the Indo-Europeans	79
4.2	The distribution of Bell Beakers in Europe	87
5.1	The family tree model for the Indo-European languages	101
5.2	Distribution of the Indo-European languages seen in terms of the wave theory	105
5.3	The use of lexicostatistical data to infer history of linguistic descent	113
5.4	Relationships between different Indo-European languages based on glottochronological correlations	116
6.1	Population growth curves	127
6.2	The wave of advance model	127
6.3	Computer simulation of the wave of advance	128
6.4	Diagram (a) to show system collapse	134
6.5	Diagram (b) to show system collapse	135
7.1	Emmer wheat, einkorn and six-row barley	146
7.2	Modern distribution in the Near East of the wild prototype of domesticated einkorn	147
7.3	Modern distribution in the Near East of the wild prototype of domesticated barley	148
7.4	Radiocarbon dates for the spread of farming economy to Europe	149
7.5	The impact of farming on the existing mesolithic communities of north-west Europe along the 'Atlantic façade'	151
7.6	The early spread of farming in Europe	155
7.7	Hypothetical sequence of cultural and linguistic transformations during the early spread of farming in Europe	160
7.8	Stamp seals from Anatolia and Europe	169
7.9	The original area of the Anatolian early farming culture	170

8.1	The Indus script on copper tablets from Mohenjodaro	184
8.2	Map of India indicating sites of the Indus Valley civilization	186
8.3	Decorated antler cheek-pieces for horse-bits c. 2000–1800 BC	199
8.4	Map of proposed alternative origins for the Indo-Aryan languages	206
9.1	Map indicating notional Celtic lands	213
9.2	The Botorrita tablet	230
9.3	The early linguistic population of Iberia	231
9.4	The evidence of Celtic place names	237
11.1	Map of the Pacific showing the major Austronesian linguistic divisions	278
11.2	Family tree diagram for the Fijian and Polynesian languages	279
11.3	Diagram indicating the chronology of Pacific island discovery by founding populations	280
11.4	Map showing the dispersal of the Bantu languages of Africa	282

TABLES

	<i>page</i>
I Comparisons of the verb 'to bear'	10
II The descent of the cuneiform scripts	46
III Hypothetical development of the Indic languages	47
IV The Anatolian language group	56
V The Hellenic languages	62
VI The Italic languages	67
VII The Celtic languages	68
VIII The Germanic languages	68
IX The Slavonic languages	69
X The Baltic languages	69
XI The Indo-European family	74
XII German borrowing from Latin	104
XIII The <i>satem</i> / <i>centum</i> subdivision	107
XIV Basic core vocabulary	114