

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910827285703321
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Titolo	The Carthaginian North : semitic influence on early Germanic : a linguistic and cultural study / / Robert Mailhammer, Theo Vennemann
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Amsterdam ; ; Philadelphia : , : John Benjamins Publishing Company, , [2019] ©2019
ISBN	90-272-6214-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (263 pages)
Collana	NOWELE Supplement series ; ; Volume 32
Disciplina	430.09
Soggetti	Germanic languages - History Punic language - Influence on Germanic - History Semitic languages - Europe - History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Sommario/riassunto	"This book presents a new and innovative theory on the origin of the Germanic languages. This theory presents solutions to four pivotal problems in the history of Germanic with critical implications for cultural history: the origin of the Germanic writing system (the Runic alphabet), the genesis of the Germanic strong verbs, the development of the Germanic word order, and etymologies for key elements of the Germanic lexicon. The book proposes that all four problems can be solved if it is hypothesized that ca. 2,500 years ago the ancestor of all Germanic languages, Proto-Germanic, was in intensive contact with Punic, a Semitic language from the Mediterranean. This scenario is explored by focusing on linguistic data, supported by an interdisciplinary mosaic of evidence. This book is of interest to anyone working on the linguistic and cultural history of the Germanic languages"--