Abstract

This thesis discusses the question of possible Mycenaean lexical relics in later Greek. Some words in Ancient Greek show unusual phonological developments for their respective dialects. Thus, they raise the question of interdialectal borrowing. Most of these words, which are already attested in Homer, differ from the expected forms regular for 'homerische Kunstsprache', the language of Homer's epics, which mainly consists of Ionic and Aeolic dialectal elements. In a number of relevant cases they show a treatment characteristic of the so-called strong dialects like Doric. Since Doric did not partake in the creation of the Homeric language, these forms must be explained differently.

One possible solution to this problem is to interpret these words as relics from the Mycenaean dialect. However, the exact state of the phonological system of Mycenaean is still not fully understood due to the limitations of the Linear B script, so this explanation must be regarded with caution.