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Conclusion

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4 CONCLUSION

The present study concentrates on ‘Old Germanic languages’, i.e. the literary Germanic languages or epigraphic relics older than c. 700 years, with notices about their modern descendants. It summarizes tribal histories based on the primary texts in the original languages (usually Greek, Latin, Old English, Old Norse) and brings the basic etymological information about respective ethnonyms. The main benefit should consist in surveys of language histories of all individual languages which is illustrated by numerous text passages. This part of the book is accompanied by rich appendices, where are presented the main models of genealogical classification of both the Germanic languages within the Indo-European family and the Germanic branch proper; comparative phonetics and morphology of the Old Germanic languages; several longer texts from the Ancient, Byzantine or medieval and later authors (Amianus Marcellinus, Jordanes, *Origo gentium Langobardum*, Beda Venerabilis, de Busbecq); survey of the scripts used for the Old Germanic languages before the Latin script (Runic script: Elder Futhark, Old English and Younger Futhark; Gothic script); lexicostatistic classification of the Old Germanic languages in general and of the Frisian dialects in particular. An indispensable part of the monograph is the bibliography. It is divided into two main sections: (1) Primary sources of the Ancient, Byzantine and medieval authors and their translations. (2) Studies devoted to diachronic descriptions of individual Germanic languages, including comparative grammars and etymological dictionaries. The second section is finally divided into thematic subsections.