
Rafael Jiménez Zamudio

Biographical sketch: a life dedicated to the development of the studies of the Italic languages, Biblical Latin and the languages of the Ancient Near East.



Rafael Jiménez Zamudio, Alcalá de Henares, 2020

Rafael Jiménez Zamudio was born on December 8, 1945, in Tetuán (Morocco), but soon his family moved to Béjar (Salamanca). During his youth, he studied Classical Philology at the *Universidad de Salamanca*. From 1971 to 1974 he was hired as Adjunct Professor by the *Universidad Autónoma de Madrid*. From 1974 to 1983 he dedicated himself to his Latin professorship, teaching at high schools. He was hired as a lecturer of workshops at the *Universidad de Salamanca* in the area of Indo-European Linguistics from 1979 to 1981. A year later, he became Associate Professor of Latin at the *Universidad de León* until the beginning of 1986, completing the academic year in that university, but already as a Full Professor. The same year he moved to the *Universidad Autónoma Madrid*, where he obtained, through a free competition from INEM, the position of Full Professor in the Department of Classical Philology. In December 2007 he obtained the Chair of Classical Philology at the *Universidad Autónoma de Madrid*, where he remained until his retirement in 2015. His work as a professor of Latin and other languages of the Ancient Italian peninsula was joined by his presence as a teacher of Akkadian Language and Literature at the *Centro San Justino de Lenguas Orientales (Universidad de San Dámaso)* in Madrid during the academic year 1993-94, and professor of Sumerian and Akkadian at the *Centro Superior de Asiriología y Egiptología* of the UAM from 1998 until his retirement. At the same time, he expanded his studies in Rome and Cologne. His lines of research focus on Latin Phonetics and Morphology, languages of ancient Italy, the Latin versions of the Bible, translation techniques, the cultural influences of the Ancient Near East in the classical world and, finally, in the study of the Sumerian and Akkadian Language and Literature.

Currently, Rafael Jiménez Zamudio teaches Sumerian and Akkadian Language and Literature within the University Extension courses offered by the Department of History and Philosophy of the *Universidad de Alcalá de Henares*.

Due to his extensive research work, we can find numerous articles, books and reviews published in several specialized journals. A high number of these publications focus on the study of the Italic languages: “Acercamiento a la elegía II, 5 de Albio Tibulo” (1976), “Sobre algunos grupos de oclusiva más oclusiva en las lenguas itálicas” (1980), “Sobre el sufijo peligno -crix de *-trix” (1981), “Variantes de las formas de gentilicio en peligno” (1981), *Estudio del dialecto peligno* (1981), “Los nominativos plurales latinos en -es, -is, -eis y los nominativos plurales temáticos del Indoeuropeo postanatolio” (1984), “Acento y entonación en ie: Breve introducción al tema” (1985), “En torno a *devas corniscas sacrum* CIL I² 975. VI 96, 30691” (1985), “Acento y entonación en Indoeuropeo. Breve introducción al tema” (1986), “La silbante /*s/ en Indoeuropeo. Introducción al tema” (1986), “Vocales y diptongos en Indoeuropeo. Breve introducción al tema” (1986), *Estudio del dialecto peligno y su entorno lingüístico* (1986), *Nuevas consideraciones acerca del resultado de la desinencia verbal indoeuropea -*nt en latín y en las diversas lenguas itálicas* (1986), “En torno a la forma *lexe* (Ve. 213; Co. 216) y el infinitivo latino *legere*” (1986), “*Reitia*, ¿una divinidad de la escritura?” (1986-87), “El acusativo singular animado latino de temas en -s, -H y en sonante” (1987), “Estudio morfológico de la forma pronominal latina mihi” (1988), “Contribución al estudio del plural de la declinación temática latina” (1988), “La forma pronominal latina ipse: su origen” (1989), “Contribución al estudio etimológico osco “fu (u) tir” “filia” (1989), “*Quoei uita defecit non honos honore* (CIL I² 11). Nueva interpretación” (1990), “*Vén. magetlon*: Nueva interpretación” (1991), “Observaciones en torno a la forma verbal *didet* de Cil I 394” (1994), “Reflexión sobre los nominativos fem. del sg. en -ai de la necrópolis de Preneste” (1998), “Vestigios en castellano de antiguos giros sumerios y acadios a través de los textos bíblicos latinos y sus modelos griegos y hebreos” (1998), “Observaciones sobre el origen del Nominativo-Acusativo-Vocativo neutro temático, tipo lat. *dōnum*, gr. “doroy”” (2003), “El papel morfológico de los antiguos diptongos *-ōi y *oi en la flexión nominal temática del Latín” (2004), “Reflexiones en torno a las últimas aportaciones sobre el genitivo singular temático en latín” (2004), *Estudios morfológicos: La flexión nominal temática en Latín* (2006). Regarding Biblical Latin: “Perífrasis preposicionales latinas en la Vulgata. Modelos hebreos y paralelos sumerios y acadios” (2000), *El tema del diluvio en Ovidio y sus precedentes en las literaturas del Próximo Oriente Antiguo* (2002), *Algunos aspectos fonéticos y morfológicos de las versiones latinas del libro de Rut* (2006), *Algunas observaciones sobre la estructura del Onomastikon de Eusebio de Cesarea y la versión latina de la Biblia* (2006), *Jerónimo, traductor, comentarista y corrector del Onomastikon de Eusebio de Cesarea* (2008), “La colocación del adjetivo en las versiones latinas del *Libro de Rut*” (2008), *Toponimia Bíblica: El Onomastikon de Eusebio de Cesarea y la Versión Latina de Jerónimo: estudio, traducción y notas* (2008), “Versiones latinas del “*Libro de Ruth*” una introducción al Latín bíblico” (2009), *Técnicas de traducción en las antiguas versiones latinas de la Biblia* (2009), “Un arameísmo en Marcos 4.41” (2010), *El Mito de Faetón (Ovidio met. I 751-759 II 1-400) y sus precedentes en el Antiguo Oriente* (2010). Regarding oriental studies: “Acusativo del todo y de la parte, una peculiaridad sintáctica en *Atramhasis* III 2: 50 (versión paleobabilonia)” (1996), *Las inscripciones sumerias de las estatuas de Gudea de Lagash* (1997), “Las campañas de Aššurbanipal contra Egipto” (paper in collaboration

with D. Juan Antonio Pino) (1997), *El poema de Erra. Estudio y traducción* (1998), *Gramática de la lengua Sumeria. Gramática con ejercicios, léxico y signario* (1998), “Estudio onomasiológico de los verbos de “hacer” en los textos sumerios de las estatuas de Gudea” (1998), “Los primeros pasos en el descubrimiento del cuneiforme” (2001), *Antología de textos acadios. Textos transliterados y anotados* (in collaboration with D. Juan Antonio Pino y D. David Hinojar San Román) (2002), *Adapa y Etana. Dos poemas acadios* (2002), *Antología de textos sumerios. Textos transliterados y anotados* (2003), “Cuando los dioses empuñaron las armas” (2003), *Mitología mesopotámica: Adapa y Etana, dos poemas acadios* (2004), “Adapa o la inmortalidad frustrada. Reflexiones sobre el poema de Adapa” (2005), “Observaciones sobre el prefijo /na-/ en el verbo sumerio” (2009), “Aššurbanipal contra Babilonia” (paper in collaboration with con D. Juan Antonio Pino) (2011), *El poema de Gilgamesh* (2015), *Nueva gramática de Sumerio* (2017), *Enūma elish* (2020), “^dEN-LÍL-LÁ Versus ^dEN-LÍL-LA” (2021).

For the editors of this volume of *Isimu*, Rafael Jimenez Zamudio is much more than a brilliant researcher with exclusive dedication to teaching undergraduate or graduate studies, because he has been part of the editorial committee of this journal without interruption from its foundation until volume 16 (1998-2013). *Isimu* came to light only a few years after the current publishers began our journey in the languages of the ancient Near East in the early 1990s, at the same time as Raphael. But while we, as doctoral students, were at the beginning of our research career, Rafael was already a Full professor at the university that sheltered us, the UAM. Early, his mastery of Indo-European languages joined his passion for the Oriental ones (Sumerian, Akkadian, Hittite, Aramaic) and, while we were taking stumbling steps through some of them, Rafael could already teach them with a solvency that never ceased to amaze us. So, he soon went from being our Akkadian companion to being our Akkadian and Sumerian teacher. His dedication to us, and to many others who came later, is indelible because with it he filled many of his afternoons in which he attended us even outside his teaching hours, outside of the academic courses and, against all odds, anchored us to your classes for hours.

With the creation of the *Centro Superior de Asiriología y Egiptología* (currently the *Centro Superior de Estudios de Oriente Próximo y Egipto antiguos*) in the UAM, in 1998, its collaboration with the Department of Ancient History grew by being in charge of one of the permanent seminaries, the *Seminario Samuel Noah Kramer*, until his retirement. This Seminar was a perfect platform to study and deep in the investigation of the ancient oriental languages, literature and the thought of the peoples of the Ancient Near East. Likewise, his approach was settled on by being one of the reference researchers assigned to the Roman and Latin Studies section of the ICCA-UAM in 2015.

For *Isimu* it has been and continues to be an honour to have had his collaboration as editor and with his scientific production, since Rafael attended the call of the God up to six times. The contributions of our teacher and colleague have been:

- 1998, “Estudio onomasiológico de los verbos de HACER en los textos sumerios de las estatuas de Gudea”. *Isimu* 1, pp. 179-191.
- 1999, “Vestigios en castellano de antiguos giros sumerios y acadios a través de los textos bíblicos latinos y sus modelos griegos y hebreos”. *Isimu* 2, pp. 183-193.
- 2003, “Un diccionario de Acadio largamente esperado”. *Isimu* 6, pp. 339-340 (book review).

- 2005, “Adapa o la inmortalidad frustrada: reflexiones sobre el poema de Adapa”. *Isimu* 8, pp. 173-200.

- 2011, “Aššurbanipal contra Babilonia”. *Isimu* 13, pp. 25-60 (in collaboration with J. A. Pino Cano).

- 2013, “Enki y Ninhursanga”. *Isimu* 16, pp. 13-38.

Now *Isimu* calls those who knew him as a companion, as a teacher or as a researcher to honour him. With all of us, he surely talked (and continues to talk) about all those worlds that thrill him, with the temperance that characterises Rafael, involving us in his fascination and engaging us to initiate research that we can now possibly give back to him in this volume. *Isimu*, Enki’s vizier, has a powerful voice, a double voice, and he has called us. And, even though *e-nu-ma e-liš la na-bu-ú ša-ma-mu* (‘when high the heavens had not received a name’), we can hear him pronouncing one: Rafael Jiménez Zamudio.

Juan Antonio Pino Cano and Carmen del Cerro Linares