

SEIZE – WEALTH

	Hitt <i>happina(nt)</i> - ‘rich’
Skr <i>kapati</i> - ‘two hands’	Skr <i>ápnas</i> - ‘wealth’, Avest <i>afnah-vant</i> - ‘wealthy’
Gk <i>κάπτω</i> ‘I nip’	Gk <i>ἄφενος</i> ‘wealth’, <i>ἀφνειός</i> ‘well-off, wealthy’ (< <i>*apnehios</i> , with aspiration) transfer
Lat <i>capīō</i> - ‘seize’	Lat <i>opulentus</i> (< <i>*opunentus</i>) ‘rich, wealthy’, <i>opēs</i> ‘possession, abundance, wealth’
Goth <i>hafjan</i> ‘raise’, ONorse <i>haptr</i> ‘serf’, OHG <i>habēn</i> ‘hold, possess, have’	
Latv <i>kāmpju</i> ‘I seize’	

Forms are from Ernout-Meillet (1950, 173; Mallory & Adams 1997, 637). The vowels on the right fluctuate between H_2 and H_3 (see Mallory & Adams 1997, 637). I would want it to be H_3 , but only Lat *opulentus*, etc. warrants this interpretation. With the exception of the vowel, the rest looks pretty neat and sits well with the well-known “anomaly” Slav **kostī* ‘bone’, Lat *costa* ‘rib’, but Hitt *hastai*, Skrt *ásthi*, Avest *asti-*, Lat *ossis* ‘bone’, Gk *ὀστέον* ‘bone’. The velar is consistently plain, non-palatalized. Judging from other examples, one would expect H_2 to cause palatalization. Hence, it is either a wrong example or *o*-vocalism was original. There is another, almost identical, IE root represented in Latin by *habere* (< **ghabh-*) from which **kap-* could borrow its *a*-vocalism. Slavic offers an interesting word **xapatī* ‘grab’, which is hard to place anywhere.