

Morphophonemics of Loan- words in Translation

Dr. Jamal B.S. Al-Qinai^(*)

Abstract

A natural by-product of translation is the adoption of technical, scientific and culture-specific terms for which ready-made equivalents are either unavailable or unpopular. The infiltration of loan-words into standard Arabic is a landmark of the flexibility of Arabic morphology. Yet, the methods of analyzing assimilated (i. e. Arabicized) loan-words often assumed an impressionistic arbitrary nature. The current study attempts to linguistically diagnose and provide a typology for classifying any systematic phonological and morphological changes while also accounting for anomalies. The study adopts a comparative morphophonemic approach to SL/TL forms in view of lexical etymology and the methodology of classical philology and modern linguistics.

«A pure language is a poor language »

INTRODUCTION:

A natural by-product of translation is the adoption of technical, scientific and culture-specific terms for which ready-made equivalents are either unavailable or unpopular. The process whereby a particular language incorporates in its vocabulary words from another language is technically designated by such terms as «borrowing», «loaning» or «adoption», though the latter is usually the case¹.

The study analyses a corpus of loanwords in Arabic with the aim of investigating the phonological and morphological adaptations that are applied to the incoming lexical items. The term «adaptation» as Holden explains, refers to the process in the recipient language of alternating the phonological (and at times the morphological) make-up of the loanword². «Adoption», on the other hand, is a term that describes the assimilation into the recipient language of loanword while perserving their original form and pronunciation as per the donor language³. In Arabic, some loanwords are fully-naturalized and thus become the roots for further derivations. Others, however, remain foreign or partially translated.

1. THE CONCEPT OF 'ARABICIZATION' AND THE STATUS OF LOANWORDS :

Arabicization is a process whereby foreign words are incorporated into the language usually with phonological or morphological modifications so as to be congruent with the Arabic phonological and morphological paradigms, hence the term «analogical Arabicization». Yet, whereas Sibawayh (author of *al-Kitāb*) and al-Jawaliqi (author of *al-Mu'arrab*) recognize all foreign vocabulary used by the Arabs however distant from Arabic moulds some of it might be, al-Harīrī and al-Zamakhsharī advocated that loanwords which violate Arabic patterns degenerate the language⁴. Al-Harīrī, for example, includes in his treatise on solecism a number of borrowings which are in breach of Arabic patterns⁵.

| Non-analogical | | Analogical | | Native word as a mould |
|----------------|---------|------------|---------|------------------------|
| Loanform | pattern | Loanword | pattern | |
| هاون | فاعِل | هارون | فاعول | فاروق |
| دستور | فَعول | دُستور | فَعول | بهلول 'Jester' |
| سرداب | فَعلال | سرداب | فَعول | سربال 'garment' |

Non-analogical patterns of loanwords

The definition of Arabicization التعريب, has always been a matter of controversy among Arab philologists particularly with regard to the status of the borrowed word and the parameters that apply in the

^(*)Department of English Language and Literature
Faculty of Arts - Kuwait University

naturalization process of foreign vocabulary.

To begin with, ancient philologists used a multitude of different labels to refer to foreign vocabulary in Arabic. Al hamzaoui الحمزاوي cites the word الغريب as used by Ibn Abbas ابن عباس in his book Gharibal qoran غريب القرآن. Abou abayda أبو عبيدة مجاز القرآن and Assoyyouti السيوطي in Al Itqan fi olum al qoran الاتقان في علوم القرآن. Similarly, the label مما أعرب was used by Sibawayh سيويبه in Al kitab, Al jawaliki الجواليقي in Al Moarrab mina lkalam alajnabi العرب من الكلام الأعجمي and Ibn Jinni ابن جني in Al khassaiss الخصائص. The latter two also used the terms Addakhil الدخيل and Al aajami الأعجمي. In fact, the word Addakhil الدخيل was used by Al khafaji الخفاجي in the title of his book Chifaô al ghalil fima fil arabia min dakhil شفاء الغليل فيما في العربية من دخيل. One may also read such words as Al moarrab المرّب or attaarib التعريب in Assihah المصاح by Al Jawhari الجوهري and both in Al mozhir المزهر and Al mohaddab fima waqaa filqoran المهذب فيما وقع في القرآن من المعرب by Assoyyouti السيوطي. Finally, Al khalil bno ahmed الخليل بن أحمد in Al ayn العين employs various labels such as Al mobtadaâ المبتدع, al moyallad المولد and Addakhil الدخيل.

Despite the use of different names in labeling loanwords, there was one common ground in classifying foreign vocabulary in Arabic under two categories: Moarrabât معرّبات and Moalladât مولدات. Roughly speaking, معرّبات "Arabicized or fully-assimilated loanwords are those words which were adopted before the middle of the second century A.H. or what is commonly known as 'Asr al ihtijaj عصر الاحتجاج 'the authoritative age', while مولدات 'neologisms' is used to designate words that were borrowed thereafter.

Assouyouti السيوطي defines Almoallad as any word which was introduced by the non-indigenous who were not an authoritative source on language particularly after the second century A.H.⁷ However, Mohamed al amine al mohibbi محمد الأمين المحيبي considers as moalladat مولدات all words that were changed by the populace in their original sounds or vowels (irrespective of any given date)⁸. Finally, the contemporary عبد القادر المغربي designates as مولد any word that was unknown to Arab philologists⁹. Within this framework, the definition of مولدات is left wide open to encompass both words that were borrowed after عصر الاحتجاج «the authoritative age» until now, and any other native words that were subjected to changes in pronunciation or otherwise.

In شفاء الغليل, الخفاجي cites as مولدات some common words that have a high frequency of usage. For example, «abstract», فذلّكة, «essence» ماهية, «dexterity» الحذق, «disturbance» تشويش, «poetry session» مقامة, «newspaper» جريدة and «card» بطاقة are مولدات either by way of being borrowed from languages or for having no «classical» origin (i. e. no previous authoritative citation by the eloquent speakers of Arabic¹⁰).

Recently, the Egyptian language Academy set down its own definition of المولد. To quote, المولد is a word used by «الولدون» the non-indigenous in a way contrary to that of the Arabs. Those words which fall in line with the canons of Arabic are deemed acceptable, whereas those corrupted or improvised words which infringe them are not sanctioned by the Academy to be used in pure (i.e. classical) Arabic.¹¹ »

With regard to methodology, Eid propounds that Arabicization is, by and large, sanctioned by

common usage and does not follow any rigid analogical rules. While early philologists were busy at work in their attempt to lay the canons for the process of Arabicizations by describing the already-assimilated words, their ultimate goal was to formulate rules that were in line with Arabic morphological patterns. Such rules were, however, vulnerable to exceptions¹². This could be accounted for by the fact that their data was in itself inconsistent and marred with anomalies. They were simply applying rules of Classical Arabic morphology on foreign lexical items that have their own rules in their source language(s). Important in this context is Yowell Aziz's view on the application of ancient methods of transliteration :

« ... the ancient Arabic writer was not always consistent in his (transliteration) methods. Some of the ancient practices are no longer suitable...¹³ »

In a nutshell, those who undertook the task of translating foreign books into Arabic or those who came into contact with speakers of other languages had no preset rules for Arabicizing foreign words. The transliterated form of a given loanword was, thus, in concordance with their best knowledge of its pronunciation¹⁴. At times, they were not adequately fluent in the source language, and, therefore, the transliteration form of a given loanword may be the end product of a mispronunciation rather than any real phonological or morphological modifications.

2. TYPES OF PHONOLOGICAL AND MORPHOLOGICAL CHANGES IN LOANWORDS :

This section purports to examine any systematic segmental or suprasegmental alterations in loanwords. The aim is to determine whether such changes are rule-governed in view of the canons of Arabic phonology and morphology. Changes may range from assimilation, dissimilation, metathesis, elision to doubling or replacing one or more segments of the original. In his book *al-Kitab*, Sibawayh remarks that (the Arabs),

«Often change the condition or a word from what it was in the foreign language by assimilating to Arabic those letters which are not Arabic and replacing a letter though it occurs in Arabic by another one. Furthermore, they change the vocalization and position of augmentative letters without attaining the Arabic word structure for, after all, it is a word of foreign origin whose power to attain the Arabic word structure is in their view not sufficient. Frequently, they shorten as in the « nisbah » construction or add whereby they either attain the Arabic structure or not, as in the case of كهرمان and فيروز سراويل إسماعيل إبراهيم آجر. Often they leave a noun unchanged when its letters are like theirs, be its structure Arabic or not as in the case of خرم خراسان and كركم¹⁵ »

Al -Karuri الكاروري, on the other hand, ascribes all changes that take place in loanwords to one governing criterion. He defines this as the tendency by the Arabs to attain sound harmony¹⁶.

2.1. SOUNDS WHICH EXIST IN BOTH THE LOANFORM AND ARABIC BUT WHICH ARE YET REPLACED BY SIMILAR SOUNDS OF THE SAME NATURAL CLASS¹⁷ :

Sibawayh hints at such segmental changes in his book *الكتاب* :

« Often they change the combination of a word from what it was in the foreign language, by assimilating to Arabic letters such as are not Arabic, and replacing a letter, even though it be like Arabic, by another one¹⁸ » But, « they may have a noun unchanged when its letters are like theirs¹⁹ ».

He, further, describes some irregular changes of loanword sounds that have Arabic counterparts. For instance, he cites the word سراويل (from Persian سراويل) in which the ش was replaced by a س, the proper name إسماعيل (from Hebrew/ Syriac إسماعيل)²⁰ wherein the ش was turned into س and a ع was substituted for the و and the Persian كنجليز « a ladle » which was Arabicized as قشليل by replacing the ك → ق, the ج (or

rather ²¹ by a ش and the final ل → ز (by regressive assimilation under influence of the original ل).

Al-Khafājī الخفاجي remarks that irregular changes of loanword sounds that have indigenous counterparts are confined to the ز ، س ، ش and the ل²². Yet, الجواليقي cites instances of similar cases. For examples, he traces the origin of التوت to the Presian توث (i. e. ت → ث). خربا to Persian خربا (i. e. ح → خ). Indeed, ²³ط → ت (i. e. تابه « frying pan » to Persian تابه « dill » to Persian شود (i. e. ذ → ث) and الشبث. These sounds along with those mentioned by both سيوييه and الخفاجي constitute but few members of a larger group. For instance, in the course of our study we came across some frequent changes of foreign segments that could have been retained intact by dint of having corresponding Arabic equivalents. Some of these segments/ sounds include the following:

A. CONSONANTS :

1. Hamza

In Persian a همزة is often replaced by other segments :

| | |
|----------------|--|
| أبرة : ح → أ | → حباري 'bustard' |
| أنزروت : ع → أ | → عنزروت 'glue' (i. e. replaced by its velarized counterpart). |
| أربيج : أ → ن | → نربيج « mouthpiece of a narghile » |
| أندام : ه → أ | → هندباء 'endive' (Also Latin endivia → هندباء) |
| زآب : ي → أ | → زرياب 'literally : gold-water (also used as a bird's name) |

Similarly, the همزة (or its equivalent) is velarized in loanwords from other languages²⁴.

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| ع → أ akhathis (Greek) | → عقيق 'carnelian' |
| somaet (Ethiopic) | → صومعة 'silo' |

2. ت

| | | |
|-------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| د → ت | تراج (persian) pheasant | → (تدرج) or دراج |
| | زرتك (persian) | → زرج |
| ط → ت | Stabulum (Latin) | → إسبطل |
| | Augustus (Latin) | → أغسطس |

3. ث

| | | |
|-------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| ت → ث | توت (persian) | → توت ²⁵ |
| | thiryakos (Greek) | → تريباق ²⁶ |
| د → ث | kantharitis (Greek) | → خندريس 'vintage wine' |

4. ج

| | | |
|-------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| ز → ج | كنج (persian) | → كنز 'treasure' ²⁷ |
|-------|---------------|--------------------------------|

- س → ج : چراغ (persian) → 'lamp. Light' (via Aramaic شراغا)²⁸
- ش → ج : كنجليز (persian) → 'a ladle' قنليل
- ص → ج : كج (persian) → 'plaster'²⁹ جص
- ق → ج : رامج (persian) → 'a decoy' رامق
- كوسج (persian) → كوسق
5. خ
- ح → خ : خريا (persian) → 'chameleon' حريا
- ح → خ : enchelis (Greek) → 'eel' أنقليس
- ك → خ : mastikhia (Greek) → 'mastic' مصطلكي
- ه → خ : dhrakhmi (Greek) → درهم
6. ذ → د :
- بالودة (persian) → فالوزج
- odor (Syriac) → آذار³⁰
- ز → د : zindan (Turkish) → زنزانة³¹
- ط → د : دنب بره (persian) → 'a mandolin-like instrument' طنبور
- ض → د : moda (Italian) → 'fashion, vogue' موضة
- دنگ (persian) → 'ost erity, hardship' ضنك
7. ذ → ث : شوذ (persian) → شيبث³²
- د → ذ : خيذ (persian) → خيد
8. ر
- ق → ر : سردار (persian) → 'pavilion' سرداق
- ل → ر : كنده بير (persian) → 'huge' (or قندويل) قندويل
- م → ر : barril (Spanish) → برميل (i.e. 2nd |r| → |م|³³)
- ن → ر : رهوار (persian) → 'ambler' (horse) رهوان
9. ز
- ز → ز : زنكلج (persian) → 'a little bell'³⁴ جلجل
- س → ز : اندازه (persian) → هندسة³⁵
- telezma (Greek) → طلسم (talisma)

- ز → ص: polizza (Italian) → بوليصة³⁶
 ز → ظ: boza (Turkish) → بوظة 'ice-cream'³⁷
 ز → ع: باز (persian) → باغ 'span of the outstretched arms (a measure)³⁸
 ز → ق: آبريز (persian) → ابريق 'a pitcher or a jug'
 ز → ل: كفجيز (persian) → قفشليل 'a ladle'
 10. س
 س → ت: سرنوكر: (persian) → ترنوك 'despicable'³⁹
 س → ج: سرموزه: (persian) → جرموق 'a slipper or its cover.'
 س → ش: sahiro (Aramaic) → شهر⁴⁰
 س → ص: stabulum (Latin) → اصطبل (could be via Aramaic 'establa')
 mastikhia (Greek) → مصطكا
 س → ط: سربوش: (persian) → فز⁴¹ 'turban, turban'
 11. ش
 ش → ث: gadich (Hebrew) → جدث⁴² 'grave'
 ش → ح: حرش: (Hebrew) → حرج⁴³ 'thicket or woodland'
 ش → س: qachicho (Syriac) → قسيس⁴⁴ 'pries't ; and موسى⁴⁵ 'Moses'
 ش → ص: شمن: (persian) → صنم⁴⁶ 'idol'
 12. ع
 ع → غ: to outo (Syria) → طاغوت⁴⁷ 'idol or seducer'
 13. غ
 غ → ج: ارغوان: (persian) → ارغوان⁴⁸
 غ → ق: دوغ: (persian) → دوق⁴⁹ 'butter- milk'
 زاغر (persian) → زقلة⁵⁰ 'a bird's name'
 14. ف
 ف → ب: fleghma (Greek) → بلغم⁵¹ 'phlegm'
 ف → ث: foun (Hebrew) → نوم⁵²
 15. ك
 ك → ج: sac (Turkish) → صاج⁵³ 'bread tin'
 ankura (Greek)

- أنجر 'anchor'
- ك → خ: cartouche (French) → خرطوش 'cartridge'
- carciofo (Italian) → خرشوف 'artichoke'
- oktopous (Greek) → أخطبوط 'octopus'
- ك → ق: dhorakinon (Greek) → دراق⁵⁴ 'peach'
- kaftan (Turkish) → قفطان 'caftan'
16. ل : there are no consistent cases of ل segmental changes :
- ل → ل: لسكر: همزة → ل (Persian) → أنجر⁵⁵ 'anchor'
- ل → ل: لشكر: ع → ل (Persian) → عسكر⁵⁶ 'army or constabulary'
- ل → ل: صلوم: ن → ل (Syriac) → صنم⁵⁷ 'idol'
17. م
- م → ن: pamodora (Italian) → بندورة 'tomato'
- tembel (Turkish) → تنبل 'idle'
- rosatum (Greek) → رساطون 'wine mixed with honey'
18. ن
- ن → م: تنبان: ب → ن (Persian) → تنبان⁵⁹ 'tight short pants' → (the Persian ن → م under influence of the ب, then the م was assimilated into the ب in a geminate form).
- ن → س: sindhon (Greek) → سندس⁶⁰ 'silk brocade'
- ن → ي: صيدلاني: ي → ن (Persian) → صيدلاني⁶¹ 'pharmacist'
- ن → ن: جانباز: ن → ن (Persian) → جنباز 'gymnastic' (alternative pronounced جمباز)
19. هـ
- هـ → ج: بنفشه: ج → هـ (Persian) → بنفسج 'violet'
- rhetine (Greek) → راتينج 'resin (here the final sound [a] was treated on par with a [هـ])'
- هـ → ح: هران: ح → هـ (Persian) → حران⁶² 'Carrhae: ancient Mesopotamian town'
- هـ → خ: haimat (Ethiopic) → خيمة⁶³ 'tent'
- hosaf (Turkish) → خشاف 'compote or raisin juice'
- هـ → ز: دهلة: ز → هـ (Persian) → دهليز 'foyer or corridor'
- هـ → ق: بوتة: ق → هـ (Persian) → بوتقة 'melting pot'

نيزك 'meteor' → نيزة: ك → هـ (Persian)

A NOTE ON FINAL |هـ| IN PERSIAN LOANWORDS:

Sībawayh سيبويه remarks that Persian speakers replace final |هـ| by either a همزة or a ي in fast speech. Thus, the Arabs replace final Persian ي which contravenes with Arabic morphological restrictions on final segments by its nearest equivalent(s), viz the ج or alternatively the ك or the ق.⁶⁴ In other words, final Persian هـ which is replaced in Arabicized loanwords by a همزة or a ج or a ح or a خ or a ز or a ق or a ك (see above under 18-هـ) is originally a ي and not a هـ.

Al-Karūri الكاروري, however, traces the origin of the final Persian |هـ| to Middle (Pahlavi) Persian in which the final |هـ| was pronounced ك⁶⁵ (which could, in turn, be a Persian گ |g|; the change is, therefore, phonologically warranted). Further, he notes that the final هـ was at times replaced by a ج or a ق in order to show inflectional endings. In some cases, it was mistaken for feminine ة /ة in Arabic and at times was replaced by a ة /ة as in روزنه (Persian) → روزنه 'a hatch'⁶⁶.

Ali attributes such changes of foreign sounds that have native Arabic counterparts to «the tendency of Arabic sounds to combine in certain sequences rather than in others»⁶⁷. With regard to the velarization of sounds like ك, س, د, ت, and the hamza by replacing them with their emphatic counterparts viz ق, ص, ض, ط, ع respectively, he observes that «early Arabs were keen to preserve the character of Arabic. Emphatic sounds, being among the salient features of Arabic must thus here been to be more capable of embodying this distinction rather than the non-emphatic which are common to most languages»⁶⁸. In other words, whether the Arabs consciously or unconsciously velarized the ك, س, د, ت, and the ك, their aim was to exploit the phonological potentialities of the language in order to give loanwords an Arabic characteristic⁶⁹.

B. VOWELS :

The earliest reference made with regard to the change of vocalization while Arabicizing loanwords is to be found in the book of سيبويه :

«Further, they change the vocalization as in زُور and آشوب which are rendered as زور " falsehood " and آشوب "mixture"⁷⁰».

B.1. SHORT VOWELS :

Here, we will use Arabic approximants to represent foreign vowels for reasons of uniformity.

1. فتحة |a| (or its near equivalent)

1. |a| فتحة → |a:| ألف

bus (English) → باص (instead of possible form بَص)⁷¹

1.2. |a| فتحة → |u| ضمة

khabast (Ethiopic) → خُبِز (bread)

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| gumrak(Turkish) | → جُمْرَك 'customs' ⁷² |
| دستور (Persian) | → دُسْتُور 'constitution'(under influence of the following وُ) |

1.3. |a| كسرة → |I| فتحة

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| tabac(French or Spanish) | → طَبَاق 'tobacco' |
| cambiale(Italian) | → كِمْبِيَالَة 'bill of exchange' ⁷³ |
| galbab(Ethiopic) | → جِلْبَاب 'gown' |
| fasah (Hebrew) | → فِصْح |

2. ضمة |u| (OR ITS NEAR-EQUIVALENT) :

2.1 ضمة |u| → |a| فتحة :

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| gaborouto(Syriac) | → جَبُورُوت 'omnipotence' ⁷⁴ |
| gue hinnom(Hebrew) | → جَهَنَّم 'Hell' ⁷⁵ |
| pomodora (Italian) | → بِنْدُورَة 'tomato ' |
| كُرْكُدن (Persian) | → كَرَكُدن 'rhinoceros' |

2.2 ضمة |u| → |I| كسرة :

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| ovrizon (Greek) | → اِبْرِيْز ' pure gold' ⁷⁶ |
| بَلُور (Persian) | → بَلُور 'crystall' |
| mushka (Sanskrit) ⁷⁷ | → مِسْك 'musk' |

2.3. ضمة |u| : |a| ف :

| | |
|------------------|--|
| neon (English) | → نِيُون instead of نَيْن |
| سَنبُك (Persian) | → سَنبُوك or سَنبُوق 'barge' ⁷⁸ |

2.4 ضمة |u| → |i| ي :

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| manganon (Greek) ⁷⁹ | → مَنجَنِيْق 'mangonel' |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|

3. |I| كسرة (OR ITS NEAR – EQUIVALENT) :

3.1. |I| كسرة → |A| فتحة :

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| ethir (Greek) | → اَثير 'ether' |
| enchelis (Greek) | → اَنْتَلِيْس 'eel' |
| imperator(Latin) | → اِمْبِرَاطُور 'emperor' |
| وَرَل (Persian) | → وَرَل 'monitor lizard' ⁸⁰ |

3.2. كسرة | I | → ضمة | U | :

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| istoria (Greek) | → أسطورة 'fable' |
| pirghos(Greek) | → بُرج 'tower' ⁸¹ , |

3.3. كسرة | I | → ألف | a : | :

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| tighnon(Greek) | → طاجن 'frying pan' ⁸² |
| chech(Hebrew) | → شاش 'muslin' ⁸³ |

3.4. كسرة | I | → وُ | > | :

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| kazik (Turkish) | → خازوق 'pole or dirty trick' ⁸⁴ |
|-----------------|---|

3.5. كسرة | I | → ي | i : | :

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Varnish (English) | → ورنيش |
| candela(Greek) ⁸⁵ | → قنديل 'lantern' |
| archipelaghos (Greek) | → أرخبيل 'archipelago' ⁸⁶ (Also notice the 'i' I → فتحة a) |

B.2 LONG VOWELS :

1. ألف | a : | - (or its near equivalent):

1.1. ألف | a : | → فتحة | a : | :

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| كمانجة(Persian) | → كمنجة ⁸⁷ 'violin' |
| كفادار(Persian) | → قفدان ⁸⁸ 'kohl container' |

1.2. ألف | a : | → ع :

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| maccarone (Italian) | → معكرونه |
| كاك(Persian) | → كعك 'cake or pretzel' |
| تانه(Persian) | → نعناع 'mint' |

1.3. ألف | a : | → ي | i : | :

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| trabzan (Turkish) | → درابزين ⁸⁹ 'railing or banisters' |
|-------------------|--|

1.4. ألف | a : | → ي | y | :

| | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| كاروان (Persian) | → قيروان ⁹⁰ 'caravan' |
|------------------|----------------------------------|

2. وُ | > | :

2.1. وُ | > | → ألف | a : | :

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------------|
| opion(Greek) | → أفيون ⁹¹ 'opium' |
| خون كار(Persian) | → خنجر 'dagger' |

2.2. وُ | و : | فتحة → i.e. the diphthong |aw| :

رُونِك (Persian) → رُونُق⁹² 'splendour of beauty'

2.3. وُ | و : | ألف → | a : | :

odor (Syriac) → آذار⁹³ 'March'

noqoucho (Syriac) → ناقوس⁹⁴ 'bell'

خسرو (Persian) → كوسرو (Syriac) → كسرى⁹⁵

dhimocion (Greek) → ديماس⁹⁶ 'dungeon'

2.4. وُ | و : | ضمة → | u | :

برغول (Persian) → برغل⁹⁷ 'cooked, parched and crushed wheat'

روستاق (Persian) → رستاق⁹⁸ 'the village and its vicinity'

2.5. وُ | و : | ي → | i | :

Kopru (Turkish) → كوبري⁹⁹ 'bridge'

burgu (Turkish) → برغي¹⁰⁰ 'screw'

3. ي | ي : | (or its near – equivalent) :

3.1. ي | ي : | فتحة → | a | :

بيدبان (Persian) → ديدبان 'sentry, guard' (under influence of the following ذ and ألف)

piselli (Turkish) → بسلى¹⁰¹ or بسيلة (with a short final ألف) 'peas'

3.2. ي | ي : | ضمة → | u | :

pondika (Greek) → بُندق¹⁰² 'hazelnut'

3.3. ي | ي : | كسرة → | i | :

كربان (Persian) → چريان¹⁰³ 'scabbard'

3.4. ي | ي : | ألف → | a : | :

zorifo (Syriac) → زرافة¹⁰⁴ 'a giraffe'

3.5. ي | ي : | وُ → | u : | :

hairetikos (Greek) → هر قوطي 'heretic'

2.2. SOUNDS THAT DO NOT CONSTITUTE PART OF THE ARABIC PHONOLOGICAL SYSTEM:

Such sounds are often replaced by their nearest homorganic equivalents. سيبويه notes that :

« ... the Arabs assimilate (foreign) letters to Arabic letters... Thus, Persian |g| is changed into either a ج or a ق or a ك as in جُرْبز or قُرْبز or كُرْبز respectively. Similarly, they replace the |p| by a ف in فِرند or a ب as in بَرند... Frequently, they change a letter which does not exist in Arabic, without changing the original structure of the word as in فِرند , بَقْم , آجر , جُرْبز¹⁰⁵.

In like manner , الجواليقي remarks that the Arabs :

« often change loanwords... by substituting foreign phonemes by their nearest homorganic Arabic equivalents. At times, they may even replace foreign phonemes by heterogeneous (i. e. heterorganic) substitutes. It is imperative to accommodate such changes lest Arabic should be infiltrated by "foreign" phonemes¹⁰⁶.

He, further, quotes الجوهري on the subject and comments on the latter's use of the word تَخْلَطُ 'interfere with' in the sentence "العرب تَخْلَطُ فيما ليس من كلامها" which implies that the Arabs 'interfere with the pronunciation of foreign phonemes and alter the structure of loanwords to conform with the canonical patterns of Arabic. To achieve this they modify loanwords by adding, replacing or eliding a segment or a short vowel (i. e. a diacritical)¹⁰⁷.

In الزهير , اليسوعي classifies Arabic phonemic substitutes for foreign sounds into two categories :

- 1- Phonemes which regularly replace foreign sounds : these include the ك , ج , ق and the ف . Such phonemes often replace sounds that have no Arabic equivalents.
- 2- Phonemes which are used to substitute foreign sounds on irregular basis : these include the ل , ن , س , ع , ش , ز¹⁰⁸ though, as was discussed earlier under 2.1 some of these phonemes may replace sounds that have identical arabic equivalents.

Nevertheless, it seems that philologists of late erroneously confined segmental changes to the above said phonemes, despite the fact that سيبويه and الجواليقي were merely citing examples rather than providing an exhaustive account of the subject. Besides, الجواليقي was primarily interested in Persian loanwords in Arabic and , hence, his comments and notes were directed towards the corpus of loanwords that was at his disposal. Indeed, nowadays the subject of foreign sound substitution has become more diverse with the increase in volume of loanwords and the number of source languages. In the following we will present some examples of substituting phonemes which are lacking in the phonological system of Arabic.

A. FOREIGN CONSONANTS :

1. |P| :

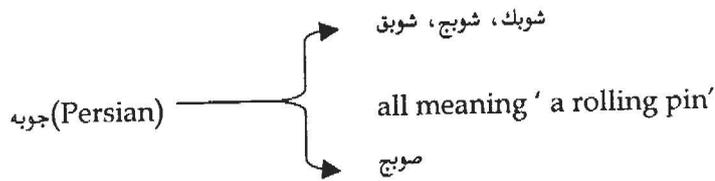
This segment constitutes an accidental gap in Arabic phonology and orthography though, as will be discussed below, a devoiced version of the |b| (i. e. |b. |) is present in certain consonantal clusters¹⁰⁹.

1.1. |P| → |b. | :

porphura (Greek) → برفير 'purple'

- چانك (Persian) → چنك 'a lute'
- 3.2. |t| → |ش| :
- چاي (Persian) → شاي 'tea'
- çanta (Turkish) → شنطة¹¹⁴ 'bag'
- inch (English) → إنش
- 3.3. |t| → |ص| :
- خارجيني (Persian) → خارصين¹¹⁵ 'zinc'
- چك (Persian) → صك 'contract, document, cheque'

Certain loanwords may have alternative spellings as in :



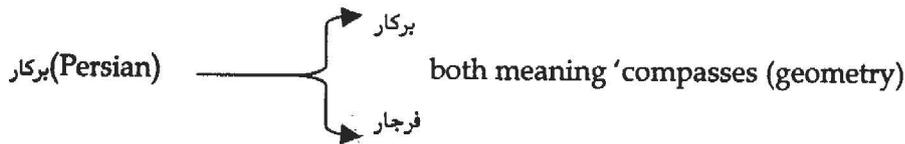
The |t| may also be rendered as تش as in :

- Sandwich (English) → سندويتش
4. |g| :
- 4.1. |g| → |ج| |dz| :
- Tighnon (Greek) → طاجن¹¹⁶ 'frying pan'
- monologue (English/ French) → مونولوج
- garçon (French) → جرسون 'waiter'
- gumruk (Turkish) → جمرك 'customs'
- 4.2. |g| → |غ| |gh| :
- Gardiro (Syriac) → غدير¹¹⁷ 'stream, creek'
- Augustus (Latin) → أغسطس
- Pythagoras (Greek) → فيثاغورس
- dogma (Turkish) → دمغة 'stamp, hallmark'
- gas (English/ French) → غاز
- 4.3. |g| → |ك| |k| :
- Sagrougo (Syriac) → سكرجة¹¹⁸ 'bowl, platter'

Magoung (Armenian) → مَكُونٌ¹¹⁹ 'Shuttle; also a weight measure'

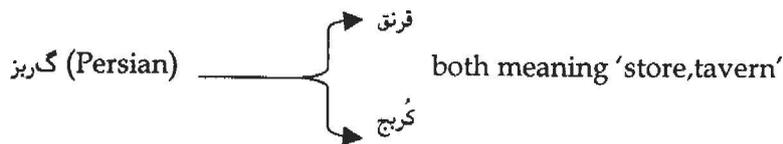
garage(English/ French) → كراج

In some casesn, a loanword may have alternative forms as in :



Also notice that the |g| in sagrougo → سَكْرُجَةٌ was replaced by both a ك and a ج within the same word.

4.4. |g| → |q|:



Groschen (German) → قروش 'piaster'

السَّعِيدِيّ claims that the Arabs used a sound similar to the |g| but was abandoned later¹²⁰. Consequently, the ج in جس (Persian : كج) used to be pronounced |g|, for examples, in the dialect of الحجاز as a |g|¹²¹; hence, the change of the ج → ك instead of a ك or a غ .

5. |ǧ| :

5.1. |ǧ| → |d| :

Montage (French) → مونتاج

régime(French) → رَجِيم

5.2. |ǧ| → |z| :

كز(Persian) → قز 'raw silk'

زبوه(Persian) → زَبْدُوق 'mercury'

Notice that both original sound and its Arabic equivalent are continuant, coronal, sibilant fricatives.

A NOTE ON MARGINAL CONSONANTAL PHONEMES:

In assimilating foreing sounds, reference is sometimes made to 'marginal phonems' i.,e. classes of sound found only in loanwords such as the |v| in the pronunciation of فيديو 'video' and فيتامين 'vitamin', the |g| in كونغرس 'congress' and the |č| in إنش 'inch' or شارلز (alternatively written تشارلز) 'Charles'. But there is no good reason to treat these sounds as phonemes, whether marginal or not, of Arabic¹²². They may best be regarded as non-Arabic insertions and hence may be pronounced with their original allophonic

features, though orthographically written in the nearest Arabic alphabetical symbols. In effect, when we consider the replacement of foreign sounds by their Arabic near-equivalents we could be talking about a process of assimilation on a binary level of spelling and pronunciation or simply a phonemic change at the level of spelling but with the retention of the allophonic quality of the source language phoneme.

In the loanword تلفزيون, the |v| sound of the original 'television' almost always shows transfer, i.e. it is pronounced [v] though written ف in Arabic¹²³. Yet, the analogical form تلفاز, is not likely to show such a transfer since it corresponds to a native morphological pattern in line with شيرتال 'shirt'. This indicates that full phonological assimilation goes hand in hand with full morphological integration¹²⁴.

With regard to the |P| in loanwords, Thornberg¹²⁵ observes that the |P| occurs as an allophone of Arabic ب |b| in the environment of syllable -or word- final position in some borrowed lexical items such as:

| | |
|------------|---|
| Chips | →[tʃ I ps](the written form in Arabic is شيس) |
| Helicopter | →[he I loka pter](هليكوبتر) |
| Captain | →[kæptin](كابتن) |
| express | →[ekspre s](إكسبريس) |

To account for such exceptional cases, with respect to the general borrowing rules that stipulates |p|→|b|, she quotes zughloul's¹²⁶ explanation which can be cast in the following notational rule:

$$|b| \rightarrow |p| / [-vd]$$

In other words, the [+vd] b becomes [-vd] before another [-vd] consonant. Further, she refers to Vennemann who, "argued that the process of assimilation is a weakening process and the fact that it occurs in syllable-final position is natural due to the universal strength relations", according to which, "in syllable-final position we are likely to observe processes and the fact that it occurs in syllable-final position we are likely to observe processes of weakening¹²⁷."

It is likely that Thornberg may have overlooked the fact that what she calls exceptional cases are but dialectal pronunciations of the orthographical form for the phoneme |ب|. |p| remains a gap in Arabic proper and the occurrence of not only the |p| as an allophone but also the |t|, |g|, or even the |v| in the pronunciation of Arabicized loanwords depends on:-

1. Level of education: some educated Arabs may tend to imitate the original source sounds of loanwords. sometimes, the speakers may pronounce the word with a feedback from his previous knowledge of the source language¹²⁸.
2. Dialectal influences: some dialects may, out of sluggishness of speech, aspirate the |ب| while others may adopt wholesale loanwords with a reproduction of their source sounds.

Further, it should be pointed out that one of the examples given, namely 'express' →[ekspre s] has been mistranscribed, since the actual pronunciation of the loanword of the loanform in Arabic is إكسبريس [eksibres] with a break in the consonantal cluster. In such an environment the |b| cannot be made [-vd] by reason of being surrounded by two [+vd] segments.

Rather than a [-vd] allophonic version of the |b| we have, as Thornberg quite rightly observes a devoiced |b|¹²⁹. However, Thornberg states that the devoicing occurs when the |b| is in initial position in a stressed syllable before low, mostly back vowels. Yet, the examples cited by her are either confined to certain dialects or are brand names the latter's pronunciations are highly irregular and are not subject to a given phonological rule. Indeed the |b| in words like 'ping-pong', 'pepsi' 'tape' or 'pipe' (as cited by Thornberg) is likely to be devoiced by way of original sound transfer though imitation, though Thornberg does not deem

it to be so¹³⁰.

Instead, what we have is a general assimilation rule whereby a |b| will be devoiced before[- vd] consonant, i.e. |b| → |b̥| / [-vd]. This rule may optionally apply in the pronunciation of شيبس [tʃ ɪbs], كابتن [k æptɪn] and any other word with similar consonantal sequence including native Arabic words such as دبس [dɪbs], 'date sirup'.

Finally, Thornberg notes that "since |n| is neither phonemic nor is it represented in the orthography of Arabic, it is changed to a nasal+ obstruent sequence ..." The articulation of the adapted form is something akin to n + {k but not quite an |ŋ|¹³¹.

She cites some examples amongst which are:

| | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Boeing | → Boʊɪŋ |
| Westinghouse | → Westɪŋhʊs |
| Tang | → Tæŋg |
| Exception of the Rule: | |
| Ping pong | → bɪŋ ɪ b kɔŋ |

Well, it seems that Thornberg was misled by the transliterated form of the above words since in actual speech نج نغ or even نك are all pronounced as |ŋ| or to be exact |n| + |g| regardless of the orthographical representation. Thus, for example, the word 'congress' is transliterated either as كونجرس or كونغرس but almost always pronounced |kɔŋ gres| or |kɔŋ geres|. Another equally interesting example is انجلترا or alternatively إنكلترا from French 'Anglettere' |ãŋlater| meaning 'England'. Here, both the ج and the ك are pronounced as a |g|, yet, the |ŋ| is, to use Thornberg's term, separated into two segments: ج+ن (or ك) with كسرة |I| infixed after the ج (or ك). Thus, the Arabic word would read |'ɪŋɪltarah|. Once again, the exact pronunciation of the Arabicized form is determined by education and feedback from the speaker's knowledge of the source language.

B. ASSIMILATION OF FOREIGN VOWELS AND DIPHTHONGS:

Both الجواليقي and سيويه make reference to the change of the vowel quality of loanwords upon their assimilation into Arabic. Thus, سيويه states, "وغيروا الحركة", "they (the Arabs) change the vowels"¹³², while الجواليقي includes with other phonological modifications the substitution of a vowel by another as well as making a vowelized (consonant) vowelless and vice – versa¹³³.

In the following, it will be seen that, as with other segmental changes, the quality and length of foreign vowels is determined by way of approximation rather than by any sound phonological criteria.

1. |ã| → |a : n| (i.e. spreading)

champagne |ʃãpan| (French¹³⁴) → شعبانيا

parlement |parlamã| (French) → برلمان

2. |æ| → |a|:

sandwich (English) → سندويتش

3. |ɛ| → |z|:

bifteck | biftɛk | (French) → بفتيك

étiquette | etiket | (French) → إتيكيت

4. |ɛ| → |a : n| (i.e. spreading):

mannequin | mank ɛ | (French) → ماننيكان

5. |ɛa| → |a|:

batteria | bat earia | (Italian) → بطارية

6. |œ|:

6.1. |œ| → |u|:

docteur | doktœr | (French) → دكتور

6.2 |œ| → |ɔ|:

Coiffeur | kwaf œ r | (French) → كوافير

7. |y| → |u|:

caricature | karikatyr | (French) → كاريكاتير

jupe | ʒ y p | (French) → (ميني جوب as in جوب)

8. |u| → |u|:

douche | duʃ | (French) → دوش

doublage | dublaz | (French) → دوبلاج

9. |u| → |u|:

rheumatism | ruə:mətizɒm | (English) → روماتيزم

10. |ø| → |i|:

De luxe | dølyx | (French) → ديلاكس (notice also |y| → |u|)

11. |ɔ| → |u| + |n|:

coupon | Kup ɔ | (French) → كوپون (notice also the |u| → |u|)

12. |a| → |I|:

|gəlbɑ : b | (Ethiopic) → جلباب¹³⁵, 'gown, dress'|ma : ʕd | (Ethiopic) → مائدة¹³⁶, 'table'Yet, according to الكاروري, if a |a| is adjacent to a bilabial, it is changed to a ضمة |u|¹³⁷:e.g. |khəbast | (Ethiopic) → خُبز¹³⁸, 'bread'

|bōrh a :n| (Ethiopic) → برهان¹³⁹, proof

2.3. STRESS SHIFT :

This type of change is incurred on loanwords in Arabic owing to:

a-Mispronunciations in the absence of diacritics or as a result of a transliterational error on the part of the translator:

e.g.

étiquette(French) → إتيكيت while according to the French pronunciation etik t it should be إتيكت

nylon(English) → نيلون/ نايلون instead of نيلُن or نايُن

keramis (Greek) → قراميد instead of قراود

varnish(English) → ورنيش instead of وارنش

Note that in most of the above examples the stress is shifted from the first to the second syllable.

Such erroneous pronunciations which could also be the result of mistransliterating the original source word are but part of the problem of

“... how to represent (foreign) pronunciation within the frame work of the Arabic script. For the dictionary user who knows (the foreign language) well, no pronunciation aid would be necessary. Such a user will recognize the word or pronounce it from his knowledge of its (original) spelling. But the dictionary user who does not know (the foreign language) may wish to pronounce the loanword in a recognizable approximation of its native form... The loanword may be respelled in parentheses with the Arabic vowels and consonants that are closest to the foreign phonemes...¹⁴⁰”

B-THE INFLUENCE OF ARABIC STRESS PATTERNS:

Arabic tends to place the primary stress on the next to the last syllable. this often results in accentuating or prolonging the stressed sound as it is summed up by ابن جنى in الخصائص,

“ when short vowels are accentuated, they are changed to their corresponding long vowels. Thus a فتحة is turned into an ألف, a كسرة into a يـ and a ضمة into a و¹⁴¹”

e.g. ألف → فتحة :

برده (Russian) → بردان 'early morning and evening'

louvi(Greek)/لوبيه(Persian¹⁴²) → لوبياء 'bean'

كسرة → يـ

Candela(Greek) → قنديل

Nickel(English) → نيكل

ضمة → و

Chimos(Greek) → خيموس

Technology(English)/ technologie (French) → تكنولوجيا

Similarly, the stress shift to the syllable before the last accounts for the doubling of the ك in دُكان

'store'(from Persian : دُكان¹⁴³) and the ر in دراج 'francolin(zool)''(from Persian : تراج¹⁴⁴)

Some cases of stress shift may entail (medial) segmental deletion as in قرميد 'foof tile' (from

Greek : keramis)wherein the medial vowel 'a' was dropped owing to transposing the stress to the i | | which as a result was turned to a |i| in قرميد . And in the word رستاق / رساق 'a village and its outskirts' (from Persian: روستا) the و was deleted as a result of the stress shift.

Finally, in the word جربان 'scabbard'(from Persian: كَرَبان¹⁴⁵) we have a case of doubling the ب and deleting the ي .

2.4 SEGMENT AND FEATURE ADDITION :

2.4.1. Declusterization by way of Epenthesis:

in order to break consonant clusters, The Arabs interpose a vowel whether initially or medially(usually after the first consonant) or by prefixing an additional syllable composed of the glottal stop • (همزة) and a short vowel,thereby creating a new syllable of the type CVC which is permissible in Arabic.Thus , for example, the consonantal string of CCC in words like 'ice cream' and 'express' is broken into CVCC in their arabicized counterparts ايسكرام and ايسكس . Similarly, CC in Italian 'balcone' and French 'cadre' is broken into CVC in كادر and بلكونة .

Initial consonant clusters also undergo epenthesis either by prefixing a همزة or inserting a vowel as in the following examples :

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| كليلو (Syriac) | → اكليل ¹⁴⁶ 'crown, wreath' |
| هليلة(Persian) | → اهليلج 'myrobalan' |
| Scala (Italian) | → سقالة 'scaffold' |
| Drama (English) | → دراما |
| Klima (Greek) | → اقليم 'region' |
| Klirikos(Greek) | → اكليريكي 'clerical' |
| sfin(Greek) | → اسفين ¹⁴⁷ 'Wedge' |
| Zmili(Greek) | → زميل 'chisel' |
| drachma(Greek) | → درهم |
| Spirito(Italian) | → اسبرتو |
| Stade(French) | → استاد 'stadium' |
| Anomalies | |
| studio(English) | → ستوديو |
| flourescent(English) | → فلورنست |
| stereo(English) | → ستيريو |
| styrofoam(English) | → ستايروفوم |

cement(English) ciment(french) → إسمنت (Despite the declusterized sequence of the original).
 إنكشتبان(Persian) → كشتبان¹⁴⁸, 'thimble'

2.4.2 to show inflection, a همزة or a ج is sometimes added finally to loanwords ending in a vowel or a |h|.

e.g. خربا(Persian) → حرباء¹⁴⁹, 'chameleon'
 سارو(Persian) → صاروج 'lime, depilatory agent'
 rhetine (Greek) → راتينج 'resin'
 sima(Greek) → سيماء¹⁵⁰, 'mark, sign'

2.4.3 Final Nominal Suffixة :

Accademia (Italian)/ akademeia (Greek¹⁵¹) → أكاديمية
 Bourgoise(french) → بورجوازية
 kathedra(Greek) → كاتدرائية 'cathedral' (notice the addition of the همزة in line with 2 above regarding final addition to show inflection).
 molochi(Greek) → ملوخية¹⁵², 'jew's mallow'
 strategy(English) → إستراتيجية (notice the prefixation of ا in line with 1 above)

2.4.4. Relative / adjectival ي :

artois(french) → إرتوازي
 Hidiv (Turkish)/ خديو(Persian) → خديوي¹⁵³
 Amarantacées (french) → الفصيلة الأمر نيه

2.4.5. In some loanwords from Syriac as well as other languages some segments are doubled probably to be modelled after existing morphological patterns.

e.g. From Syriac:

جنتو 'ganto'¹⁵⁴ → جنّة 'paradise' (according to the the pattern فعلة)
 سمورو 'samouro' → سمور 'sable' (according to the pattern فُعُول)
 مثلتو 'machalto' → مسلة 'spire' (according to the pattern مفعلة)

Others :

سنكل / سنك كل (Persian) → سجّيل 'lump of clay' (it is modelled after the pattern فَعِيل, to indicate large quantities)
 Dhorakinon (Greek) → دراق 'peach' (according to the pattern فُعَال)
 Scala (Italia) → سقالة¹⁵⁵, 'scaffold' (according to the pattern فَعَالَة)

2.4.6 . Miscellanea :

زراب(Persian) → زرابي (singular : زربي) ' mat, carpet' (the ي was suffixed to the Persian loanword to form the plural from which the singular was derived by backformation).

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Kastanon(Greek) | → كستناء chestnut' (suffixing 'alif and همزة after deleting the final '- on-) |
| Abat – jour (french) | → أباجورة 'lampshade' (suffixing the ة for the grammatical gender of feminine). |
| Horasan (Turkish) | → خراسانة ¹⁵⁶ , 'concrete' |
| zemerek(Turkish) | → زمبرك ¹⁵⁷ , 'spring' (by way of coalescent assimilation) |
| zidan(Turkish) | → زنزانة ¹⁵⁸ , 'prison cell' |
| Mastro(Italian) | → مايسترو ¹⁵⁹ , 'maestro' |

2.5. DELETION (ELISION) :

Deletion is yet another morphophonemic process that is administered to loanwords. To begin with, سيويه remarks that, in Arabic, when two t's i. e. تت come in succession, one of them may optionally be deleted¹⁶⁰. In other words, to cite Bakalla's national formula :

ت → / Ø # (opt¹⁶¹)

| | | |
|------|---------|----------|
| e.g. | تتكلمون | → تكلمون |
| | تتذكرون | → تذكرون |

Further, in his discussion of Arabicized loanwords, سيويه employs the word حذف¹⁶², 'deletion' to describe one of the changes that are applied to borrowed lexical items. الجواليقي, on the other hand, uses the expression نقصان حرف¹⁶³ i.e. 'the omission of a letter' to describe more or less the same process of deleting a segment or more from the original source. Such changes, according to الكرمللي, are attributed to the Arabs' keenness to maintain unstrained and easy pronunciation of loanwords by omitting some of their sounds / letters¹⁶⁴.

In the course of our study, we have noticed that deletion may involve initial, medial or final segments or syllables and may even include the clipping of a part of a word or one member of a compound. In addition, some cases of deletion are language-specific and in effect are more regular than others.

1. INITIAL SEGMENT/SYLLABLE DELETION :

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Historia (Greek) | → أسطورة 'myth' |
| Musandira (Turkish) | → سندرة ¹⁶⁵ 'loft' |
| انكشتبان (Persian) | → كشتبان ¹⁶⁶ 'thimble' |
| بيمارستان (Persian) | → مارستان ¹⁶⁷ 'hospital' |

2. MEDIAL SEGMENT/SYLLABLE DELETION :

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Chabbat (Hebrew) | → سبت ¹⁶⁸ 'Saturday' |
| Ounguiya (Greek) | → أوقية 'ounce' |
| Strata(Greek) | → صراط 'way, path' |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| بادزهر (Persian) | → بازهر ¹⁶⁹ 'pathological globules in animals' |
| برهان (Persian) | → برهان ¹⁷⁰ 'proof' |
| رونیک (Persian) | → رونق 'glamour' |
| فرسنگ (Persian) | → فرسخ ¹⁷¹ 'league, parasang' |
| فرهوند (Persian) | → فرهود ¹⁷² 'stout boy' |
| نشخوار (Persian) | → نشواز ¹⁷³ 'fodder remains (livestock)' |

3. FINAL SEGMENT/SYLLABLE DELETION :

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Fallopian (English)/Fallopio(Italian) | → فالوب |
| Axis(English) | → أکس |
| شست (Persian) | → شص ¹⁷⁴ 'fishhook' |
| نشاسته (Persian) | → نشا ¹⁷⁵ 'starch' |
| نردشیر (Persian) | → نرد 'backgammon' |

LANGUAGE SPECIFIC DELETION :

a. SYRIAC :

Generally speaking, final $\text{ܘ} \text{ } | \text{ } \text{ܘ} \text{ } |$ in loanwords of a Syriac origin is omitted upon their assimilation into Arabic.

| | |
|-------------|---|
| e.g. إكليلو | → إكليل 'crown, diadem' ¹⁷⁶ |
| ترعتو | → ترعة 'canal' |
| تلميذو | → تلميذ 'pupil' |
| جبروتو | → جبروت 'omnipotence, tyranny' |
| ديرو | → دير 'monastery' |
| زبونو | → زبون 'customer' |
| سفسيرو | → سفسير 'broker' |
| سمورو | → سمور 'sable' |
| شحرورو | → شحرور 'thrush, blackbird' |
| عربونو | → عربون 'down payment' |
| فدنو | → فدان 'a square measure = 4200.833m ² ' |

b. GREEK AND LATIN :

In like manner, final segments' syllables in loanwords of Greek or Latin origin are deleted upon their being Arabicised.

e.g. WORDS OF GREEK ORIGIN:

| | |
|---------------|---|
| archipelaghos | → أرخبيل ¹⁷⁷ 'archipelago' |
| fanarion | → فنار ¹⁷⁸ 'lighthouse' |
| fellinos | → فلين'cork' |
| kalopolion | → قالب ¹⁷⁹ 'mold, model' |
| keramis | → قرميد'roof tile' |
| koukoumion | → قمقم ¹⁸⁰ 'a bulgy, long-necked bottle' |
| manganon | → منجنيق'mangonel' |
| narkissos | → نرجس ¹⁸¹ 'narcissus' |
| patrikios | → بطريق'penguin' |
| paximathi | → بقسماط'rusk' |
| thirayakos | → ترياق'potion' |
| valsamon | → بلسم ¹⁸² 'balsam' |

Deletion of Medial and Final Syllable :

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Episcopus | → أسقف ¹⁸³ 'bishop' |
|-----------|--------------------------------|

WORDS OF LATIN ORIGIN :

| | |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| Canalis | → قناة or قنال'canal' |
| Centenarium | → قنطار'kantar' |
| Corphinus | → قفة ¹⁸⁴ 'large basket' |
| Denarius | → دينار'dinar' |
| Horreum | → هري ¹⁸⁵ 'granary' |
| Marmaroon | → مرمر ¹⁸⁶ 'marble' |
| palatium | → بلاط'court' |

2.6. CLIPPING OF A WHOLE PART OF A WORD OR A MEMBER OF A COMPOUND

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| بریده دم (Persian) | → برید ¹⁸⁷ 'mail' |
| نردشیر (Persian) | → نرد ¹⁸⁸ 'backgammon' |
| هزارستان (Persian) | → هزار ¹⁸⁹ 'nightingale' |
| hydrakele (Greek) | → قيلة ¹⁹⁰ أو أرده (notice that the original loanform was dissected into two parts each of which was Arabicized individually as a full word, yet, both mean 'hernia'). |

Sometimes, clipping can take the form of assimilation (usually in syllable final position across word boundaries)

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| e.g. baking powder | → باکینباور [b kinbawder] |
|--------------------|---------------------------|

2.7. DISSIMILATION :

When two adjacent sounds sound alike, one is altered by changing its feature value in order to preserve the contrast between otherwise homorganic or semi-homorganic segments. Sometimes, this takes the form of addition 'epenthesis' or deletion.

- e.g. دديان (Persian) → ديدبان 'centurian' (Deletion of د)
 بادزهر (Persian) → بازهر 'bezoar' (Deletion of د)

2.8. METATHESIS :

Arabicization may also involve metathesis, i.e. transposing phonemes or segments from one place to another.

From Persian :

- دار اُفزين → دار اربزين¹⁹¹ 'hand-rail'
 دَوْل → دلو¹⁹² 'bucket'
 زنجير → جنزير¹⁹³ 'chain, track for a tank, caterpillar...etc.'
 سردار → سراق¹⁹⁴ 'pavilion, large tent'
 نرمك → نمرق¹⁹⁵ 'pillow'

From Hebrew :

- صلوتا → صلوات¹⁹⁶ 'prayers'
 جوليات → جالوت¹⁹⁷ 'proper name'

From Syriac :

- إفستين → إسفنت → 'favoured juice'

From Greek :

- eparchia → أبرشية¹⁹⁸ 'parish, bishopric'
 præcoquus → برقوق¹⁹⁹ 'plum'
 litra → رطل 'a unit of weight of variant equivalence : in Egypt 449.28g'.

From Turkish :

- eretsane → ترسانة²⁰⁰ 'arsenal'
 frenlemek → فرملة²⁰¹ 'brake'
 manovara → مناورة²⁰² 'manœuvre'

2.9 COMPOUNDING

Examples of compounding are few (see under 2.1). Most of such words are the result of transliterating the pronunciation of two SL components in fast speech.

- e.g. كاه رُبا (Persian) → كهرباء 'electricity'
 جامه دان (Persian) → جمدانة 'a large water pot'

| | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|---|-----------|-----------------|
| مرزن گوش | (Persian) | → | مرزجوش | 'ear lobe' |
| خون کار | (Persian) | → | خنجر | 'dagger' |
| کفجه لیز | (Persian) | → | قفشلیل | 'laddle' |
| Roba Vecckia | (Italian) | → | روبابیکیا | 'antiques' |
| زم هریر | (Persian) | → | زمهریر | 'bitter cold' |
| سنگ کل | (Persian) | → | سجیل | 'lumps of clay' |

But we may notice a multitude of partial translations of compounds, usually in scientific register.

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------|
| e.g. Arsenide | → | زرنیخید |
| Acide hydro ferrique | → | حمض الأیدروحدیدیک |
| Tetrabromide | → | رباعي برومید |
| And the awkward 'ideology' | → | فکرولوجیا |

2.10 . REMODELLING IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARABIC MORPHOLOGICAL PARADIGMS:

The earliest reference made to remodelling loanwords to conform with Arabic word patterns comes from کتاب سیبویه

"The Arabs change those foreign words which are absolutely incongruous with their own, sometimes assimilating them into the structure of their words, and sometimes not. As for that which they assimilate into their forms (i.e. morphological patterns), There is درهم according to إسحاق، دیماس according to دینار and دیباج، سَلَهَب according to بَهْرَج، هَجْرَج according to آجور، فَوْعَل according to جَوْرَب، یربوع according to یعقوب، إعصار according to فُرْطاس²⁰³ according to عذافر and رَسْتاق according to عاقول

Thus, according to سیبویه who holds a somewhat liberal view, remodelling loanwords is not mandatory though they may be subject to other phonological or morphological modifications,

"Often they leave a noun unchanged when its letters are like theirs, be its structure Arabic or not, as in the cases of خراسان، خَرَم and کَرَم They may change a letter which does not exist in Arabic leaving the original Persian structure of the word intact as in فِرْنَد (from پَریند) آجُر (پَریند) (from کَریر) جُرْبُر (from آکُر or آکُر) and جُرْبُر (from کَریر)"²⁰⁴

In short, سیبویه was intersted in describing and analysing loanwords rather than prescribing any rules for their incorporation into the patterns of Arabic. To him, العرب is a term which describes both analogical and non-analogical Arabicization²⁰⁵.

Other philologists who maintained an approach similar to that of سیبویه include ابن سیده، ابن بری، الجوالیتی and الخفاجی. The latter, while examining segmental changes, reiterates the stance adopted earlier by سیبویه by using similar wordings " they may transform the patterns of Persian words into Arabic