

Postpositive Adjectives in Modern Standard English and Modern Standard Arabic: A Contrastive Analysis

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Abstract

The present study is intended to compare English and Arabic in the area of **postpositive adjectives** in order to find out the points of similarity and the difference in both languages. In this study, the researchers adopt the approach of 'contrastive analysis' since we have two languages under comparison. Therefore, three steps are followed in doing so, i.e., (i) description of the two languages, (ii) selection of certain areas for detailed comparison and (iii) comparison, i.e., identification of points of similarity and difference. The researchers hypothesize that Arabic shows more difficulty and confusion than English in the field of **postpositive adjectives** and there are more differences than similarities.

Introduction

English and Arabic have very important status throughout the world, since English (a Germanic language) is the language of the present development, and Arabic (a Semitic language) is the language of the Holy Qur'an. The present study highlights the concept of 'postpositive adjectives' in Modern Standard English (MSE) and Modern Standard Arabic (MSA). This investigation aims to identify and compare the meaning of 'postpositive adjectives' in MSE and MSA to find out the aspects of similarity and difference in both languages. The study tries to identify, analyze, and contrast the semantic and the syntactic features of 'postpositive adjectives' in MSE and MSA. In addition to reveal the aspects of similarity as well as of difference in both languages.

In dealing with such an investigation, the researchers use the Contrastive Analysis Approach which assumes that two languages could be compared in terms of their phonological systems, syntactic systems, writing systems, and cultural behaviour.

Below is the outline that is usually followed while doing CA:

(١) *Description* of the two languages

(٢) *Selection* of certain areas or items of the two languages for detailed comparison.

(٣) *Comparison*, i.e., the identification of areas of difference and similarity.

(Al-Nasrawi, ٢٠١١: ٦)

The scope of such a study is limited to the semantic (meanings) of **postpositive adjectives** in both English and Arabic. It is also restricted to Modern Standard English and Modern Standard Arabic. The researchers try to explain and analyze the confusion in this area of grammar, i.e., **postpositive adjectives** faced by learners in both languages. It is hoped that this study will be a good guide for those who are interested in the field of scientific research, linguistics, textbook designers and teachers of English and Arabic at the same time.

Section one

١. Postpositive adjectives in English

١,١ Introduction

In English, adjectives are syntactic or lexical category that function as the head of the adjective phrase and have the semantic value of *qualifying or describing* (Fromkin et al, ٢٠٠٣: ٥٧٣). Greenbaum and Quirk (١٩٩٢: ١٢٩) assert that adjectives have four

major

characteristics:

- a. They can freely occur in *attributive* function, i.e., they can premodify a noun by appearing between a determiner and the head word of the noun phrase. For example:
 - ١- It is an *ugly* painting.
- b. They can freely occur in *predicative* function, i.e., they can work as a subject complement:
 - ٢- The painting is *ugly*.
- c. They can be premodified by the intensifier *very*:
 - ٣- The children are *very happy*.
- d. They can take the *comparative* and the *superlative* forms (-er and -est) or (more and most).
 - ٤- My children are the (happy/ er/ est) now.
 - ٥- The students are more intelligent.
 - ٦- The students are the most intelligent.

١,٢ Types of Adjectives according to the position

There are three positions where an adjective can be placed: before a noun, after a noun, or in the predicate. These positions of adjectives are called attributive, postpositive and predicative respectively.

- (i) Attributive: **useful** information
- (ii) Predicative: This information is **useful**.
- (iii) Postpositive: something **useful**

١,٢,١ Attributive adjectives

An adjective is in an attributive position when it is placed before the noun it modifies. For example,

٧- I found some **hilarious** pictures. (**Hilarious** premodifies 'pictures'.)

٨- **Clever** people won't stay in such an environment. (**Clever** premodifies 'people'.)

However, pronouns cannot be premodified.

(Swan, ٢٠٠٥: ٨)

١,٢,٣ **Predicative adjectives**

Adjectives are predicative when they function as subject complement or object complement. There is a copular relationship between subject and subject complement:

٩- The children are **happy**.

١٠- He seems **careless**.

Adjectives are subject complement not only to noun phrase, but also to clauses, which may be finite clauses [١١, ١٢] or nonfinite clauses [١٣, ١٤]:

١١- That you need a car is **obvious**.

١٢- Whether he will resign is **certain**.

١٣- To drive a car is **dangerous**.

١٤- Playing chess is **enjoyable**.

There is a copular relationship between direct object and object complement:

١٥- I find him **careless**.

١٦- He made the children **happy**.

The adjective functioning as object complement often expresses the result of the process denoted by the verb:

١٧- He pulled his belt **tight**.

١٨- He pushed the window **open**.

١٩- He writes his letters **large**.

The result can be stated for each sentence by using the verb (be):

٢٠- His belt is **tight**.

٢١- The window is **open**.

٢٢- His letters are **large**.

Most adjectives can be placed either in the attributive or the predicative positions. However, a small number of adjectives are restricted to one position only. For example, some adjectives such as 'previous' can only occur in the attributive position. For example, it is unacceptable to say 'this chapter is previous.' Conversely, some adjectives such as 'afraid' can only occur predicatively. For example, it is unacceptable to say ' * the afraid students did not say anything.'

(Quirk and Greenbaum, ١٩٧٣: ١٢٧ and Quirk et al, ١٩٨٥: ٤٣٢-٣)

١,٢,٣ **Postpositive** (after nouns and pronouns)

According to Swan (٢٠٠٥: ٩-١٠) this kind of adjectives comes immediately after nouns and lies in six categories:

(i) **Fixed phrases**

Adjectives come after nouns in some fixed phrases.

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| - the president elect | - postmaster general |
| - heir apparent | - notary public |
| - attorney general | - court martial |
| - from time immemorial | - body politic |

٢٣- The **Secretary General** of the United Nations has called for new peace talks.

(ii) Available, possible etc.

Some adjectives can be used after nouns in a similar way to relative clauses. This is common with adjectives ending in *-able* / *-ible*.

٢٤- Send all the tickets **available** / available tickets. (=...tickets which are available.)

٢٥- It's the only solution **possible** / possible solution.

Some adverbs can also be used like this.

- The woman **upstairs** - the people **outside**

(iii) Present, proper

Before a name, *present* refers to time: after a noun it means 'here/ there', 'not absent'.

Compare:

- the **present members** (= those who are members now)

- the **members present** (= those who are/ were at the meeting)

Before a noun, *proper* means 'real', 'genuine'. After a noun it refers to the central or main part of something. Compare:

٢٦- Snowdon's a **proper mountain**, not a hill.

٢٧- After two days crossing the foothills, they reached the **mountain proper**.

(iv) Expressions of measurement

Adjectives usually follow measurement nouns.

- two metres **high** - ten years **older**

Exception: worth (e.g. **worth** ١٠٠ euro).

(v) **Adjectives with complements** When an adjective has its own complement (e.g. skilled in design), the whole expression normally comes after a noun.

٢٨- We are looking for people **skilled in design**. (notskilled in design people*)

The postposition structures can of course be regarded as reduced relative clauses:

٢٩- We are looking for people who are **skilled in design**.

The complementation can of course be a prepositional phrase or a to-infinitive clause:

٣٠- I know an actor **suitable** for the part.

٣١- They have a house **larger** than yours.

٣٢- The boys **easiest to teach** were in my class.

٣٣- Students **brave enough to attempt the course** deserve to succeed.

(Quirk et al, ١٩٨٥: ٤٢٠)

In some cases an adjective can be put before a noun and its complement after it. This happens with *different*, *similar*, *the same*, *next*, *last*, *first*, *second* etc; comparatives and superlatives; and a few other adjectives like *difficult* and *easy*.

- a **different** life **from this one** - the **second** train **from**

this platform

- the **next** house **to the Royal Hotel** - the **best** mother **in**

(or the house next to the Royal Hotel) **the world**

- a **difficult** problem to solve

(vi) Something, everything etc.

Adjectives come after something, everything, anything, nothing, somebody, anywhere and similar words.

- ३०- Have you read anything **interesting** lately?

- ੩੧- Let's go somewhere **quiet**.

Adjectives can sometimes be postpositive, ie they can immediately follow the noun or pronoun they modify.

A postpositive adjective (together with any complementation it may have) regarded as a reduced relative clause:

- ३२- Something that is **useful**. Compound indefinite pronouns and adverbs ending in (-body, -one, -thing, -where) can be modified only postpositively:

- ३३- Anyone (who is) **intelligent** can do it.

- ३६- I want to try on something (that is) **larger**.

- ٣٥- We're not going anywhere very **exciting**.

Of course, adjectives that can occur only attributively are excluded:

- * something (which is) **main**.

- * somebody (who is) **mere**.

Postposition is obligatory for proper meaning 'as strictly defined', e.g.:

- the city of London **proper**

In several institutionalized expressions (mostly in official designations), the adjective is postpositive, e.g.:

Note also:

- the person opposite [But: the opposite direction]

- all of us, me included [But: including me]

- Monday to Friday inclusive [AmE also: Monday through Friday]

- Longman Group Limited: Ltd(UK); Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Incorporated, Inc(US)

- Asia **Minor** - poet **Laureate**

- devil **incarnate** - all things **English**

- the best car going
- B flat, **sharp, major, minor**

(Quirk et al, 1980: 420-1)

1.4 Functions of Adjectives

There are two main uses of adjectives, namely describing and classifying.

(i) Describing Function

An adjective can be used to describe the quality of a noun. It helps answer the question "what is X like?", where X is the noun. For example,

٦١- The **quick** fox jumps over the **lazy** dog. ('Quick' describes the fox. 'Lazy' describes the dog.) Describing adjectives can be modified by adverbs of degree like 'very' or 'extremely'.

(ii) Classifying Function

An adjective can be used to classify a noun. It helps answer the question "what is the type of X?", where X is the noun. For example,

٦٢- These two **British** tourists know how to speak Italian.

('British' tells us the 'type' (nationality) of the tourists.)

Classifying adjectives cannot be modified by adverbs of degree like 'very' or 'extremely'.

٦٣- I prefer **red** wine to **white** wine. ('Very red wine' and 'very

white wine' are not acceptable, because 'red' and 'white'

function as classifying adjectives here.)

http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/English_Grammar/Basic_Parts_of_Speech/Adjectives (es)

Section two

٢. الصفة أو النعت (= aṣṣfa/ anna'it = Adjectives)

٢.١ Introduction

'(= anna'it = adjective) while it is called 'aṣṣfa' in النعت In syntax, this word is called ' morphology (Jacob, ١٩٨٨: ٤١٨). Generally speaking, adjectives in Arabic normally post-modify their head and agree with it in number, gender, definiteness, and case, e.g., (= imra'atun ṭawīla = امرأة طويلة a tall woman), (= rajulun ṭawīl. رجل طويل case, e.g., (= arrijālu ṭawīlān = الرجال الطوال (= rajulāni ṭawīlān = two tall men), tall woman), atṭiwāl = The tall men) (Al-Jurjaani, ٢٠٠٣: ١٣٦). In Arabic all kinds and sections of adjectives follow their nouns, like what we call in English 'postpositive adjectives' (Azzamakhshari, ١٩٩٩: ١٤٨). Therefore, the researcher will discuss and analyze the adjectives in Arabic in general without going into absolute details in order not to scatter the subject matter we investigate. Arabic adjectives are similar to nouns in almost every aspect. In their syntactic function, however, they are said to be tawābi' = followers of the head noun, in that they agree with it in definiteness, number, gender, and case. Arabic adjectives are mainly derived from verbs and nouns.

The most common adjectives derived from nouns are:

(i) فاعل عادل : = 'ādil = just; جاهل = jāhil = uneducated; صابر = ṣābir = patient; etc.

= ḥamîd; thankful; etc. حميد = sa'îd = happy; سعيد = kabîr = big; كبير (ii)فَعِيلُ

= 'azûm = careful; etc. عزم = kasûl = lazy; كسول = ḥaḡûd = malicious; حقود (iii)فَعُولُ

= khajlân; shy; etc. خجلان = kaslân = lazy; كسلان = ghaḡbân = angry; غضبان (iv)فَعْلَانُ

denoting colours: فَعْلَاءُ the feminine of which is أَفْعَلُ (v)

أبيض → بِيضَاءُ = abayḡ → bayḡâ' = white; أسود → سَوْدَاءُ = aswad → sawḡâ' = black

→ حمراء → ḥamar → ḥamrâ'; etc.

(=al- yâ') termed Adjectives derived from nouns are formed by adding the suffix (=al- yâ') termed Adjectives derived from nouns are formed by adding the suffix (عَفْلِي = 'aqli = mental, نفسي = nafsi = psychological, رمزي = ramzi = symbolic, etc. Adjectives in Arabic are used attributively and predicatively.

Attributive adjectives normally post-modify the noun head

..... ١- الولدُ الذكيُّ

- alwaladu **adhdhakiyyu**....

- * the boy the **clever**.....

- The **clever** boy.....

Predicative adjectives function as predicators in normal sentences (often no copula, . The relation between the two parts of verbal or otherwise is required):e.g., the nominal sentence is intensive. A verbal copula is used to indicate past time and future time:

٢- كَانَ الولدُ صبوراً

- kâna al-waladu ṣabûran.

- * was the boy **patient**.

- The boy was **patient**.

٣- سَيَكُونُ الطِّفْلُ قَوِيًّا.

- sayakûnu atṭiflu **qawiyya**.

- * Will be the boy **strong**.

- The boy will be strong.

A pronominal copula is used when both parts of the nominal sentence are definite as in:

٤- الرَّجُلُ الْوَاقِفُ هُوَ الْمَدِيرُ.

- arrajulu alwâqifu huwa almudîr.
- * The man standing he the director.
- The man who is standing is the director.

(Aziz, ١٩٨٩: ١٦٥-٦٦)

(= anwâ' anna't = Kinds of adjectives) ٢, ٢ أنواع النعت

= haqîqi = real (i) الحقيقي

The adjective here completes its head noun (the noun followed) by explaining one of its features. This adjective should agree with its head noun in inflection, singularity, duality, plurality, muscularity, femininity, definiteness, and indefiniteness. For example:

٥- طَلَعَ الْبَدْرُ الْمُنِيرُ.

- ṭala'a albadru **almunîr**.
- * The moon appeared the **lightening**.
- The **lightening** moon appeared.

(= lightening) which is singular, mentions one of the المنير In this example, the word (= moon). البدر features of its singular followed noun, i.e.,

= assababi = causal (i) السببي

In this kind, the adjective the follower that completes its followed noun by explaining some features related to it:

٦- جَاءَ الرَّجُلُ النَّاجِحُ ابْنُهُ.

- jâ'a arrajulu **annâjih** ibnuh.
- * came the man the **passing** his son.
- The man whose son is **successful** came.

(= successful) here is a causal adjective because it relates to the man. الناجح The word That is, the success is related to the son of the man (not to the man himself).

(= fawâ'id anna't = Functions of adjectives) ٢, ٣ فوائد النعت

The following are the purposes of adjectives:

= attakhṣîṣ = Specification: when the head noun (followed noun) is التَّخْصِيسُ (i) indefinite.

٧- مررتُ بِرَجُلٍ نَشِيطٍ .

- marartu birajulin **nashîṭ**.

- * Passed I with a man **active**.

- I passed an **active** man.

= attawḍîḥ = Explanation: when the head noun (followed noun) is definite. التَّوْضِيحُ (ii)

٨- مررتُ بِزَيْدِ الْخَيَّاطِ .

- marartu bizaidin **alkhayyâṭ**.

- * Passed I with Zaid the **tailor**.

- I passed Zaid the **tailor**.

= almadḥ = Appreciation: المَدْحُ (iii)

٩- جاءَ الطَّالِبُ الْمَجْتَهِدُ .

- jâ'a aṭṭâlibu **almujtahid**.

- * Came the student the **clever**.

- The **clever** student came.

= adhdam = Depreciation: الذَّمُّ (iv)

١٠- أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ .

- a'ûdhu billâhi min ashshayṭâni **arrajîm**.

- * I depreciate by Allah from the Satan the **hateful**.

- I inclined to Allah from the **hateful** Satan.

= attawkîd = Emphasis: التَّوَكِيدُ (v)

١١- ضَرَبْتُ الْكُرَّةَ ضَرْبَةً وَاحِدَةً .

- ḍarabtu alkurata ḍarbatan **wâḥida**.

- * Beated I the ball a beat **one**.

- I beat the ball **once only**.

(Hassan, ١٩٧٦: ٤٣٧-٤٠ and Jacob, ١٩٨٨: ٤١٨)

= aqsâm anna't = Sections of adjective أقسام النعت ٢, ٤

٢, ٤, ١ Singular adjective which should be:

(= isman mushtaqqan = derived noun) like: (i) اسما مشتقاً:

١٢- أَحَبُّ الطَّالِبِ النَّشِيطُ.

- uhibu atṭâlîba **annashîṭ**.

- * Like I the student the **active**.

- I like the **active** student.

= maṣḍara = Participial adjective (infinitive) مصدرأ (ii)

١٣- جَاءَ رَجُلٌ عَدْلٌ (عَادِلٌ).

- Jâ'a rajulun 'adl.

- * Came a man **just**.

- A **just** man came.

= ism alishâra = The determiners اسم الإشارة (iii)

١٤- مَرَرْتُ بِالرَّجُلِ هَذَا.

- marartu birrajuli **hâdhâ**.

- * Passed I with **this** man.

- I passed **this** man.

= alism almawṣûl almu'araf bi'al = Relative noun with المعرف بال الاسم الموصول (iv)
definite article

١٥- جَاءَ الْمَدِيرُ الَّذِي تَقَاعَدَ.

- Jâ'a almudîru **alladhi** taqa'ad.

- * Came the director **who retired**.

- The **retired** director came.

= aism almansûb = The Style noun (الاسم المنسوب) (v)

١٦- شاهدتُ رجلاً دِمَشْقِيًّا.

- shâhadtu rajulan **dimashqiyya**.

- * Saw I a man **Damascus**.

- I saw a **Damascus** man.

= dhî/ dhât = The owner (صاحب , صاحبة) ذي, ذات (vi)

١٧- صافَحَ رَجُلٌ ذُو عِلْمٍ امْرَأَةً ذَاتَ فَضْلٍ.

- şâfaḥa rajulun **dhu** 'ilmin imra'atan **dhâtu** faḍl.

- * Shook hands a man **of** science a woman **of** virtue.

- A man **of** knowledge shook hands with a woman **of** virtue.

= al'adad = The number (العدد) (vii)

١٨- رأيتُ رجالاً ثلاثةً.

- ra'aytu rijâlan **thalatha**.

- * Saw I men **three**.

- I saw **three** men.

(Atturfi, ١٩٨٦: ١٥٣ and Jacob, ١٩٨٨: ٦٨٨)

= anna'tu aljumla = Adjectival clause (النَّعْتُ الجملة) ٢, ٤, ٢

(= allafz = اللَّفْظُ) In this point, the head should be 'indefinite' with regard to
(= alma'nâ = *meaning*): (المعنى) *pronunciation* and

(i) Pronunciation

١٩- رأيتُ ولداً يبكي.

- ra'aytu waladan **yabki**.

- * Saw I a boy **cries**.

- I saw a boy **crying**.

= crying). (The adjective of the ((ولد)) in this sentence is the verbal clause (يكي = boy).

(ii) Meaning

٢٠- وَلَقَدْ أَمَرُ عَلَى النَّثِيمِ يَسُبُّنِي.....

- wa laqad ammurru 'ala **alla'im**i yasubbuni.....

- * And passed on the **arrogant** man insults me.

- And when I passed the **arrogant** man, he insults me.

= arrogant) has generic meaning, اللئيم Here the Arabic adjective with definite article (i.e., not certain man who is arrogant.

(Jacob, ١٩٨٨: ٦٨٨)

anna't shubh ajjumla = The adverbial clause = النَّعْتُ شَبَهَ الْجُمْلَةِ ٢, ٤, ٣

٢١- شَاهَدْتُ تَلْمِيزاً أَمَامَ الْمَدْرَجِ.

- shâdtu tilmîdhan **amâma almadraj**.

- * Saw I a pupil **before** the ladder.

- I saw a pupil **in front of** the ladder.

(Al-Samarra'i, ٢٠٠٣: ١٦٦ and Jacob, ١٩٨٨: ٦٨٨)

= ism alfâ'il (= nomen agentis or present participle) and ism maf'ûl (اسم الفاعل واسم المفعول ٢, ٥)
almaf'ûl (= nomen actionis or past participle)

Participles are regarded as a part of adjectives in general and postpositive adjectives in particular in Arabic. They are divided into two groups: The اسم المفعول and اسم الفاعل. The first which may be called *the present participle* has the form of فاعل (clerk). If it is derived from (the verb of three letters), e.g. الرباعي (worker), عامل (a quadrilateral verb), e.g. الرباعي (fighter), مقاتل derived from

a travelling (traveller) رجل مسافر (a fighting women), شاب عامل (a working youth), امرأة مقاتلة, (man),

, e.g. مفعول The other participle which may be called *the past participle*, has the form of

(understood or understandable). This مفهوماً (wounded), مجروح (broken), مكسور (a wounded رجل مجروح (a broken window), مكسور شباك) participle has usually sense: (something which can be understood). مأمراً مفهوماً (man),

These two types of participles behave like adjectives in that they agree with the noun رجلان (a fighting woman), امرأة مقاتلة head in definiteness, case, number, and gender: (a wounded man), رجل مجروح (fighting men), رجال مقاتلون (two fighting men), مقاتلان (wounded men), etc. رجال مجروحون.

(Aziz, ١٩٨٩: ٢٩٤)

Section three

٣. Contrastive analysis of ‘postpositive adjectives’ in English and Arabic

٣,١ Similarities

١) Adjectives, in general, whether or not postpositive has the function of qualifying, describing or modifying in English and Arabic.

٢) Postpositive adjectives come after nouns or pronouns in both.

٣) When ‘postpositive adjectives’ have its own complement in English and Arabic all expression should follow its noun.

٤) ‘Postpositive adjectives’ in both languages can be derived from their nouns, i.e., *denominal adjectives*:

English

١-The Secretary **General** of the United Nations has called for new peace talks.

٢- The members **present** are cooperative.

Arabic

= ‘âdil = just عادل ١-

= jâhil = uneducated جاهل ٢-

٣,٢ Differences

١) It is noted that adjectives in Arabic only **post poses** their ‘noun head and pronoun’, while English has three kinds of adjectives in this respect, i.e., attributive, اتوابع, predicative, and postpositive.

٢) There are fixed phrases showing ‘postpositive adjectives’ in English (**the president elect**, hair **apparent**, attorney **general**, etc.) whereas no such phrases in Arabic.

٣) There are certain characteristics of the postpositive adjectives in English, i.e. some adjectives should end in (able = suitable, ible = flexible, etc.). On the other hand, there is nothing of this point in Arabic.

٤) Only English has two choices in using adjectives postpositively or attributively, especially with such words as (*different, similar, the same, next, last, first, second*). For example:

- a **different** life **from this one** (or a life **different from this one**)

- a **difficult** problem **to solve** (or a problem **difficult to solve**)

٥) English has **six categories** of postpositive adjectives as Swan (٢٠٠٥: ٩-١٠) mentions in (١, ٢, ٣ = fixed phrases, available/ possible/ etc., present/ proper, expressions of measurement, adjectives with complement, and something/ everything/ etc.). In contrast, Arabic adjectives are **totally** regarded as *postpositive adjectives* or *predicative adjectives* at the same time since they come after their nouns and pronouns.

English

١- We are looking for people **skilled in design**. (adjective with a complement)

٢- The **Secretary General** of the United Nations has called for new peace talks. (fixed phrases)

Arabic

١- أحبُّ الطَّالِبَ النَّشِيطَ.

(English translation = I like the **active** student.)

٢- رأيتُ ولداً يبكي.

(English translation = I saw a boy **crying**.)

٦) Expressions of measurement are one of the examples of the 'postpositive adjectives' in English, but these expressions don't show the same function.

٧) English (not Arabic) has particular words followed by postpositive adjectives, e.g., something, everything, anything, nothing, somebody, anywhere and similar words:

١- Have you read anything **interesting** lately?

٢- Let's go somewhere **quiet**.

The Arabic Consonant and Vowel Sounds in the Present Study

Sounds	Examples	English meaning
'	'mîr	prince
b	bâb	door

Postpositive Adjectives in Modern Standard English and Modern Standard

t	tamr	dates
th	tha'lab	fox
j (researcher changed di to j)	jadîd	new
ḥ	ḥadîd	iron
d	dâr	house
dh	dhayl	tail
r	rajul	man
z	zîr	jar
s	safara	travelled
sh	sham'a	candle
ṣ	ṣalât	prayer
ḍ	marîḍ	patient
ṭ	ṭayr	bird
ʿ	ʿayn	eye
gh	ghubâr	dust
f	fawâkih	fruit
k	kalb	dog
q	qalam	pencil
l	layl	night
m	miftâh	key
n	nâr	fire
h	hâmish	margin
w	warda	flower
y	yarâ	see
ẓ	ẓulm	injustice
a	walad	boy
u	dub	bear
i	miftâh	key
â	bâb	door
û	sûra	picture
î	fîl	elephant

This phonological system was adopted from "Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia"

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