

昭和63年度言語研修

ペルシア語テキスト1

ペ ル シ ア 語

—文字と発音—

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THE WRITING AND SOUND SYSTEM OF PERSIAN

Exercises in Writing & Reading

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A P R E F A T O R Y N O T E

The present booklet is compiled as an introductory textbook of the Persian writing and pronunciation for the 150-hour intensive summer course to be held at the Institute in 1988. This primary objective has demanded some efforts in the following four points: (1) To enable the users to proceed step by step; (2) To limit the words given to basic or semi-basic vocabulary; (3) to represent as many varieties of cursive-writing forms as possible within the format with the intention that the users may acquire reasonable familiarity with handwritten Persian; (4) To make the booklet serve to beginners as a comprehensive manual of writing, pronouncing and reading the language. As is naturally so with other languages, Persian is not exactly spoken as it is written. Only several frequent features of Spoken Persian are also introduced so far as they are pertinent for the summer course.

In course of the preparation those books below are consulted:

Herbert H. Paper & Mohammad-Ali Jazayeri. The Writing System of Modern Persian. Ithaca, 1955.

Gilbert Lazard. Grammaire du persan contemporain. Paris, 1957.

Ann K. S. Lambton. Persian Grammar. Cambridge, 1957.

Mansour Shaki. A Description of the Modern Persian Speech-sounds, attached to A Modern Persian Phrase-book. Praha 1963.

Faze Larude. Reading Persian. Ann Arbor 1964.

Frank A. Rice. The Classical Arabic Writing System. Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University 1964.

Shuuji Matsushita. "Perushago Teheran-hoogen(teeruni) no on-'in nitsu'ite", Journal of Asian and African Studies. Tokyo 1969.

Yadollah Samareh. The Arrangement of Segmental Phonemes in Farsi. Tehran 1977.

Charles-Henri de Fouhécour. Elements de persan. Paris 1981.

Gernot Windfuhr & Hassan Tehranisa. Modern Persian: Elementary Level. Ann Arbor 1981.

Handwritings are those of Mr. Hamid Zonowzi. My sincere thanks are due to his kind help. In classroom, writings by other hands will be offered on blackboard and in the form of xerox-copies.

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O. GENERAL

The Persian alphabet consists of 32 letters and a number of diacritic signs; four letters are added to the original Arabic alphabet. Some of the principal features of the Persian writing system are as follows:

1. The writing runs from right to left.
2. There are no capital letters or italics.
3. Normally only the consonants and the long vowels are spelled out, except in dictionaries and elementary textbooks.
4. All the 32 letters have a connecting 'arm' to the preceding letter and the 25 of them have another connecting 'arm' to the following as well in the same graphic unit.
5. The letters have either four (25 in number) or two (7 in number) variant shapes according to their respective 'arm' connections [in other words, presence or absence of 'arm' or 'arms'] to neighboring letters: the isolated = ~ ≠ the initial = ~ ≠ the medial = ~ ≠ the final.
6. Several of the letters are identical in base forms; there are 18 base forms altogether in the isolated and the final position, 17 otherwise. Those letters of identical base forms are only distinguished by diacritic signs: their presence or absence, their position and their number. There are six diacritic signs in all.

When one reads the words, the following are to be noted:

- (1) The stress falls on the last syllable unless otherwise stated. (see #30.).
- (2) Every Persian syllable invariably begins with a consonant[C] and is followed by a vowel[V]. Conversely, there is no syllable which begins either with a vowel or a consonant cluster.
- (3) All the Persian syllables are grouped under either of the following three types: /CV/, /CVC/, /CVCC/.

e.g.

/CV/	/CVC/	/CVCC/
/jā/	/jān/	/jeld/
'place'	'soul'	'volume'
/na/	/nar/	/narm/
'not'	'male'	'soft'
/mā/	/māl/	/māst/
'we'	'property'	'yoghurt'

When more than two /C/ are juxtaposed, accordingly, there is a syllable boundary in between after /CC/:

/dast-māl/ 'handkerchief'

There is no initial consonant cluster either:

<DRD>* can only read /dVrd/ or /dVrVd/, not /drVd/
[* < > signifies letters while / / stands for sounds
or more accurately for phonemes.]

N.B.

Loanwords sometimes show /CCV/ or /CVCCC/
especially when they are spoken in aca-
demic circle. One of the consonants must
be either /r/, /l/ or /y/:

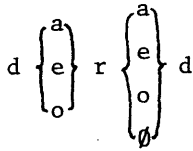
/profesor/ 'professor'
/plutonyom/ 'plutonium'
/televizyon/ 'television'
/'orkestr/ 'orchestra'

Both /plutonyom/ and /televizyon/ are, how-
ever normally pronounced as /plutoniyom/ and
/televiziyon/. In this case, only the /l/
cluster is observed.

(4) Short vowels are not marked except in the final. It follows
then that <DRD> can not read /dVrdV/.

- (5) /VV/ does not occur.* Any hiatus (=the immediate sequence of two vowels, each of which constitutes a separate syllable) must be divided or bridged phonemically by /'/ or /y/, graphically either by 'alef, hamze both of which represents /'/ or ye which stands for /y/ * (Except /aa/, /ee/ and /oo/ which secondly come from /a'~ah/, /e'~eh/ and /o'~oh/ respectively; they don't make any hiatus.).
- (6) Several phenomena are represented by more than one letters while some letters have several phonemic values.

Therefore, for example, there are 12, that is 3×4, ways of reading for DRD :



1. SYNOPTIC TABLE OF THE LETTERS

names	phonemic values	finally, connected to the preceding	medially positioned	initially, connected to the following	isolated
<u>'alef</u> ¹⁾	/ʾ/	ا..			ا
<u>be</u>	/b/	ب..	..ب..	ب..	ب
<u>pe</u>	/p/	پ..	..پ..	پ..	پ
<u>te</u>	/t/	ت..	..ت..	ت..	ت
<u>se</u>	/s/	ث..	..ث..	ث..	ث
<u>jim</u>	/j/	ج..	..ج..	ج..	ج
<u>ce</u>	/c/	چ..	..چ..	چ..	چ
<u>he jim</u> ²⁾	/h/	ح..	..ح..	ح..	ح
<u>xe</u>	/x/	خ..	..خ..	خ..	خ
<u>dāl</u>	/d/	د..			د
<u>zāl</u>	/z/	ذ..			ذ
<u>re</u>	/r/	ر..			ر
<u>ze</u>	/z/	ز..			ز
<u>že</u>	/ž/	ژ..			ژ
<u>sín</u>	/s/	س..	..س..	س..	س
<u>šin</u>	/š/	ش..	..ش..	ش..	ش
<u>sād</u>	/s/	ص..	..ص..	ص..	ص
<u>zād</u>	/z/	ض..	..ض..	ض..	ض

names	phonemic values	finally, connected to the preceding	medially positioned	initially, connected to the following	isolated
<u>tā</u> ³⁾	/t/	ط..	..ط..	..ط	ط
<u>zā</u> ⁴⁾	/z/	ظ..	..ظ..	..ظ	ظ
<u>'eyn</u>	/'/	ع..	..ع..	..ع	ع
<u>qeyn</u>	/q/	غ..	..غ..	..غ	غ
<u>fe</u>	/f/	ف..	..ف..	..ف	ف
<u>qāf</u>	/q/	ق..	..ق..	..ق	ق
<u>kāf</u>	/k/	ک..ک	..ک..	..ک	ک ک
<u>gāf</u>	/g/	گ..	..گ..	..گ	گ
<u>lām</u>	/l/	ل..	..ل..	..ل	ل
<u>mim</u>	/m/	م..	..م..	..م	م
<u>nun</u>	/n/	ن..	..ن..	..ن	ن
<u>vāv</u>	/v/ ⁵⁾	و..			و
<u>he docashme</u> ⁶⁾	/h/	ه..	..ح...ڄ..	..ه	ه
<u>ye</u>	/y/ ⁷⁾	ی..	..ی..	..ی	ی

1) See under the pertinent section.

2) Or he-ye jimi. Or he hotti, he hoti.

3) Or teyn.

4) Or zeyn.

5) See under the pertinent section.

6) Or he-ye docashme. Or he havvaz, he havaz.

7) See under the pertinent section.

Diacritic Signs

The following seven diacritic signs constitute part of the Persian writing system. The first six are used to distinguish those letters of the same base form which would be identical without them. The last one indicates the presence of a glide /' / (see #16.). They are placed over or under the letter. Other diacritic signs will be given in due course.

• •• or — ∴ or 0 or ∴ ∴ or 0 or ∴
— ~ 9

2. SYNOPTIC TABLE OF THE SOUNDS OR PHONEMES

(1) CONSONANTS:	bilabial	labiodental	dental	alveolar	velar	uvular
Stops						
voiceless	/p/		/t/		/k/	
voiced	/b/		/d/		/g/	
Fricatives						
voiceless		/f/	/s/	/š/	/x/	
voiced		/v/	/z/	/ž/		/q/*
Affricates						
voiceless				/c/		
voiced				/j/		
Nasals	/m/		/n/			
Lateral			/l/			
Trill			/r/			
(2) GLIDES: /y/ /h/ /'/**						
(3) VOWELS:***						
		/i/		/u/		
		/e/		/o/		
		/a/		/ā/		

* For details, see #11.

** For discussion, see #10, 14 and 15.

*** For diphthongs, see #15.IV. For /aa/, /ee/ and /oo/, see #10.

The following six phomenes are represented by more than one letters:

/t/: ت ط

/s/: س ث ص

/z/: ز ذ ض ظ

/h/: ح ه

/q/: غ ق

/ʾ/: ا ع (also indicated by hamze, see #16.)

3. BASE LINE

To write the Persian letters it is important to keep to the base line as is also the case with English letters. Some letters are always on and over the line; some stay on and under the line while some few stride over the line.

اسمِ حَرْفِ	شِکْلِ حَرْفِ
صَاد	ص ص
ضَاد	ض ض
طَا	ط
ظَا	ظ
عَيْن	ع ع ع
غَيْن	غ غ غ
فِ	ف ف
قَاف	ق ق
کَاف	ک ک
گَاف	گ گ
لَام	ل ل
مِيم	م م
نُون	ن ن
وَاو	و
هـ	ه ه ه
يِ	ی ی

اسمِ حَرْفِ	شِکْلِ حَرْفِ
أَلِف	ا
بِ	ب ب
پِ	پ پ
تِ	ت ت
ثِ	ث ث
جِيم	ج ج
چِ	چ چ
حِ	ح ح
خِ	خ خ
دَال	د
ذَال	ذ
رِ	ر
زِ	ز
ژِ	ژ
سِين	س س
شِين	ش ش

4. SEVEN NON-CONNECTORS

The seven letters in this section do not form 'arm' linking to the following letter while they do connect to the preceding one other than a non-connector. They have only two variants in shape as the initial form and the isolated are identical and, naturally, as the final and the medial also are.

phonemic values ⁰⁾	final = medial	initial = isolated	names
/ʔ/ ¹⁾	ا....	ا	<u>'alef</u>
/d/ ²⁾	د....	د	<u>dāl</u>
/z/ ³⁾	ذ....	ذ	<u>zāl</u>
/r/ ⁴⁾	ر....	ر	<u>re</u>
/z/ ³⁾	ز....	ز	<u>ze</u>
/z/ ⁵⁾	ژ....	ژ	<u>že</u>
/v/ ⁶⁾	و....	و	<u>vāv</u>

⁰⁾ All the letters except 'alef and 'eyn can represent, with or without tashdid (see #19), its double consonant: <d> is for /dd/ as well as /d/.

¹⁾ In the non-initial position where it has a special name 'alef hamze (see #16), 'alef indicates the presence of /ā/ (see #5 below). /ʔ/ is a weak glotal catch or a glide (see further #8 below) as is heard in English at all, create, oasis, geography, utmost, ever, re-iterate, etc.

/ā/ is sometimes optionally rounded except after /k, g/:

/kār/ 'work' ; /gāv/ 'cow'

/jā/ 'place' : /jāhā/ 'places'

- 2) Dental like the Japanese /d/, not alveolar like the English /d/: /dandān/ 'tooth' /dast/ 'hand'
- 3) zāl and ze are phonemically identical; the former is used in words of Arabic origin.
- 4) Three positional variants or allophones are distinguished:
- (1) Voiced trill /#-/: /rāh/ 'road' /rud/ 'river'
 - (2) Voiceless trill /-#/ or /-C/: /kār/ 'work' /fārsi/ 'Persian'
 - (3) Voiced flap /V-V/: /barādar/ 'brother' /tārik/ 'dark'
- 5) Voiced palatal fricative. Its occurrence is fairly limited:
- /žāpon/ 'Japan' /gārāž/ 'garage' /možde/ 'good tidings'
 - /žāle/ 'dew'
- 6) Also /u/ (see #7 and #15). /v/ has three allophones:
- (1) Voiced fricative [v] /-i, /-C(C#/v/) or /-#: /havij/ 'carrot' /hevdah/ '17' /gāv/ 'cow'
 - (2) Voiceless non-fricative continuant [ɸ] /otherwise: /vazir/ 'minister' /'avval/ 'first'
- When pronounced carefully, [v] is frequently heard in this environment as well.
- (3) Especially before the backvowels (/ā/, /o/, /u/), /v/ tends to approximate the pronunciation of /w/: /'āvord/ 'he brought' /'āvāz/ 'song' /tāvus/ 'peacock'
- /v/ here almost serves as a hiatus-bridger or a hiatus-bridger (see #18.(4).(b).).

5. VOWEL INDICATORS

As was already noted (#0), short vowels are normally not indicated; it follows that one can read the word in question correctly only when he knows it already (cf. #26 below). When occasion requires, however, the following signs are used to specify the vowel or the absence of it.

a) Short Vowels:

ˆ... /Ca/ (fathe)

˙... /Ce/ (kasre)

˙'... /Co/ (zamme)

For the final /-e/, /-o/ and /-a/ which are invariably marked, see #14 (/ -e/ and / -a/) and #15.II.(iii).

b) "Long" Vowel /a/ (see #7.Exercise 7.)

(1) Non-initially it must be marked by 'alef as is above stated.

(2) Initially it is indicated by the combination of a consonantal 'alef (or more accurately 'alef hamze or simple 'alef) plus a vocalic 'alef which is represented by the special letter technically termed 'alef madde ʾ (see, further, #15 below). The diacritic sign itself is called madde ˆ...
For the other long vowels /i/ and /u/, see #7 below.

b) Zero Vocalism:

˙... /C/ (sokun or jazme)

Another orthographical signs will be given later in due course.

EXERCISE 1

A. Read:

- Note: 1) No word begins with a consonant cluster. Foreign words are Persianized by adding /'e/ initially: /'esport/ 'sport' /'eski/ 'sky'
- 2) Any short final vowel is marked by the special letter to be introduced later. For exceptions, see #22.

'gold'	زَر	'door; in'	دَر
'he struck'	زَد	'secret'	رَاز
'fortress'	دَرِّز	'from'	اَز
'pain'	دَرْد	'yellow'	زَرْد
'arrived'	وَارِد	'thief'	دُزْد
'deplorable'	زَار	'long'	دِرَاز
'medicine'	دَوَا	'Darius'	دَارَا
'he gave; justice; shout'	دَاد		
'he has'	دَارَد	'injury; vexation'	آزار
'free'	آزاد	'voice'	آواز
'he brought'	آوَرْد	'flour'	آرد
'Azar (femine name); name of the 9th month'			آذَر
'Dara knocked the door.'			دَارَا دَر زَد

'Azar has pain.'

آذر درد دارد

'Dara shouted.'

دارا داد زد

'Azar has a secret.'

آذر راز دارد

B. Write:

/dar/

/dārā/

/'az/

/dard/

/zard/ 'yellow'

/'āzād/

/'āz/ 'greed, avidity'

/'āvāz/

/davā/

/dārā dard dārad/

/'āzar 'ard dārad/

6. GROUP OF ب

The following four letters have a common base form; they are only distinguished by diacritic signs.

phonemic values	final	medial	initial	isolated	names
/b/	ب..	..ب..	..ب	ب	<u>be</u>
/p/	پ..	..پ..	..پ	پ	<u>pe</u>
/t/ ¹⁾	ت..	..ت..	..ت	ت	<u>te</u>
/s/ ²⁾	ث..	..ث..	..ث	ث	<u>se</u>

1) Dental like /d/ above: /tut/ 'mulberry' /tude/ 'heap; mass'

2) Phonemic equivalent of sin below.

EXERCISE 2

A. Read:

'open; again'	باز	'water'	آب
'gate, door'	باب	'wind'	باد
'bazaar'	بازار	'papa'	بابا
'foot'	پا	'habitable'	آباد
'till'	تا	'cord, wire'	تار
'load'	بار	'on; side; fruit'	بر

'goat'	بز	'seed'	بذر
'politeness'	ادب	'brother'	برادر
'idol'	بت	'flight'	پرواز
'bad'	بد	'tiger'	ببر
'effect, trace'	اثر	'traces; monuments'	آثار
'wealth'	ثروت	'fixed'	ثابت
'furniture'	اثاث	'(spiritual) reward'	ثواب

B. Write:

/bāz/

/bar/

/bād/

/'āb/

/'abr/ 'cloud'

/barādar/

/bāzār/

/pedar/ 'father'

/tar/ 'wet'

/samar/ 'fruit; result'

/servat/

7. VOWELS /i/ AND /u/

vāv and ye indicate /i/ and /u/ respectively. Both ye and vāv are also consonantal (for ye, see #15 and for vāv, see #4 above).

phonemic values	final	medial	initial	isolated	names
/u/		و..		و	<u>vāv</u>
/i/ ¹⁾	ی..	ی..	ی..	ی	<u>ye</u>

1) Medially as well as initially ye is only distinguishable from those letters of the ی group by the diacritic signs.

For other reading of ye and vāv, both being carriers of several phonemic values, see #15 below.

EXERCISE 3

Practice of Vowel Pronunciation

i) /a/:

/dar/ 'door; in' /zan/ 'woman' /'avval/ 'first'
 /'asb/ 'horse /mard/ 'man'
 /bahār/ 'spring' /cahār/ '4'

N.B. (1) /a/ sounds slightly longer when followed by a consonantal cluster in the same syllable, that is, when it is in the closed syllable.

(2) Before the syllable containing /ā/ it is often pronounced like [ə].

ii) /e/:

/del/ 'heart; stomach' /pedar/ 'father'
 /'esm/ 'name' /metr/ 'meter'

N.B. (1) As is with /a/, /e/ sounds a little longer in a closed syllable.

iii) /o/:

/to/ 'thou' /do/ 'two'
/goft/ 'he said' /'omr/ 'lifetime'

N.B. (1) Before /Cu/, /o/ sometimes sounds like a short /u/ as a result of assimilation:

/šoru ~ šuru/ 'beginning, start'
/šoluq ~ šuluq/ 'crowded, noisy'
/jonub ~ junub/ 'south'

Likewise a short /u/ is often heard in the plural forms like (see #18.(4).(b).):

/bāzuvān/ 'arms' (:/bazu/)

iv) /ā/ [Note that /ā/ is not a long vowel. It is desirable to use the sign /a/ instead of our /ā/ if possible.]

/'āb/ 'water' /dānā/ 'learned, wise' /'ān/ 'that'
/jān/ 'life; soul' /'āsmān/ 'sky, heaven'

N.B. (1) Phonetically /ā/ is not a long vowel, but it is metrically scanned as long together with /i/ and /u/.

(2) /ā/ sounds shorter before /n/ in the same syllable with nasalization in normal speech (see #13).

(3) For the lip-rounding of /ā/, see #4.1).

v) /i/:

/miz/ 'table' /bini/ 'nose'
/'in/ 'this' /zamin/ 'earth, land'
/*mikonim/ 'I do' /piyāz/ 'onion'

N.B. (1) Before /n/ it sounds shorter with nasalization in normal speech.

(2) Before /yā/ for example and in the incomplete aspect marker /mi/, it sounds like [ɨ]. This is also the case with /i/ before /n/. Compare /i/ of /zamin/, /zamin*i*/ 'terrestrial' and /zamin*e*/ 'background' [Note the syllable boundary of /za-mi-ne/.] (see further #15.V.)

vi) /u/:

/mu/ 'hair' /zānu/ 'knee'

/xun/ 'blood' /birun/ 'outside'

N.B. (1) Before /n/, exactly like /i/, it sounds shorter with nasalization. Compare /u/ of /birun/ and /biruni/ 'outer; men's quarter' [Note the syllable boundary of /bi-ru-ni/.]

EXERCISE 4

A. Read:

'force'	زور	'day'	روز
'quick; early'	زود	'far'	دور
'he was'	بود	'river'	رود
'sharp'	تیز	'arrow'	تیر
'old'	پیر	'without'	بی
'under'	زیر	'beautiful'	زیبا
'willow'	بید	'Europe'	اروپا
'camp'	اردو	'desire'	آرزو
'he; she'	او	'he saw'	دید
'you(pl.) saw'	دیدید	'fairy, feminine name'	یَکری

B. Write:

/dir/ 'late'

/zibā/

/zur/

/ruz/

/bud/

/bid/

/rud/

/dud/ 'smoke'

/'abru/ 'eyebrow'

/tup/ 'ball'

/vorud/ 'arrival; entrance'

N.B.

For reasons of clarity, even the long vowels can be identified by the vocalic signs and accordingly distinguished from other possible readings:

ta	tow	to	tu	tā	tēy	te	ti
تَ	تَوْ	تُو	تُو	تَا	تَيْ	تِ	تِي

8. ح GROUP

The following four letters belong to one shape group; the diacritic signs are again keys to distinguish.

phonemic values	final	medial	initial	isolated	names
/j/	ج..	..ج..	..ج	ج	<u>jim</u>
/c/	چ..	..چ..	..چ	چ	<u>ce</u>
/h/ ¹⁾	ح..	..ح..	..ح	ح	<u>he jimi</u>
/x/	خ..	..خ..	..خ	خ	<u>xe</u>

1) Which actually represents the glide /h/ in words of Arabic origin. /h/ in Persian words is marked by he docashme (see #14).

EXERCISE 5

A. Read:

'broom'	جارو	'broom'	جاروب
'left'	چپ	'crown'	تاج
'print'	چاپ	'place'	جا
'ass'	خر	'soul'	روح
'daughter, girl'	دختر	'news'	خبر
'need'	حاجت	'mason'	حجار

'pilgrim to Mecca, Hajj'

حاجی

(For the graphic feature of the double /jj/, see #19)

'wheel'

چرخ

'umbrella'

چتر

'good'

خوب

'tent'

چادر

'wood'

چوب

'tree'

درخت

'luck'

بخت

'throne, seat'

تخت

'God'

خدا

'thing'

چیز

'foreigner'

خارجی

'foreign'

خارج

'ruined, broken'

خراب

'limits, boundary'

حدود

B. Write:

/xodā/

/*cerā/ 'why?'

/catr/

/carx/

/deraxt/

/doxtar/

/xabar/

/taxt/

/baxt/

/jāru/

/cādor/ 'chador; tent'

/ciz/

/jadid/ 'new'

/cārpā/ 'four-footed'

/jodā/ 'separate'

/xord/ 'little, small'

/xāreji/

/xaridār/ 'buyer'

/xār/ 'thistle, thorn'

/cāy/ 'tea'

/xordād/ 'name of the 3rd month'

[*: hereafter, words preceded by the asterisk take stress on the initial syllable.]

9. THE س GROUP AND THE ص GROUP

Same as in #8 above.

phonemic values	final	medial	initial	isolated	names
/s/ ¹⁾	سس..	...سس..	..سس	س	<u>sin</u>
/š/	شش..	...شش..	..شش	ش	<u>šin</u>
/s/ ¹⁾	صص..	...صص..	..صص	ص	<u>sād</u>
/z/ ²⁾	ضض..	...ضض..	..ضض	ض	<u>zād</u>

1) sād, se (#6) and sin are identical in sound. The former two appear mostly in words of Arabic origin.

2) zād is identical with ze and zāl in sound. zād and zāl are practically limited in words of Arabic origin.

EXERCISE 6

A. Read:

'stew'	آش	'horse'	اسب - اسب
'army'	ارتش	'cook'	آشپز
'happy'	شاد	'back'	پشت
'value'	ارزش	'shoulder'	دوش
'lesson'	درس	'before'	پیش
'right(adj.)'	درست	'bear'	خرس

'hand'

دست

'plain'

دشت

'he had'

داشت

'will, pleasure, masculine name' رضا

'morning'

صبح

'wine'

شراب

'branch'

شاخ

'hundred'

صد

'owner'

صاحب

'person'

شخص

'lion; milk'

شیر

'garlic; full, satisfied'

سیر

'head'

سر

'loss'

ضرر

'advice'

نصیحت

'presence, majesty'

حضرت

B. Write:

/ʒab/ 'night'

/sud/ 'profit'

/sib/ 'apple'

/hesāb/ 'account'

/sut/ 'whistle'

/širāz/ 'Shiraz'

/hesābdār/ 'accountant'

/pesar/ 'son, boy'

/šotor/ 'camel'

/varzeš/ 'gymnastics'

/'arzeš/

/dašt/

/sabz/ 'green'

/sabzi/ 'vegetables'

/šaxs/

/sorx/ 'red'

/sedā/ 'voice, sound'

/xorus/ 'cock'

/xešt/ 'sundried brick'

/sahrā/ 'desert'

/sahih/ 'true, correct'

C. Learn How To Write sin/sin In Combination:

/šostan/ 'to wash'

/nešāstan/ 'to sit'

/šeš/ 'six'

/baxšeš/ 'gift, donation'

/šepeš/ 'louse'

Cf. /sistān/ 'Sistan'

شستن
نشستن
شش
بخشش
شپش
سیستان

10. THE ط GROUP AND THE ع GROUP

Occurrence of the first three letters is practically limited to words of Arabic origin.

phonemic values	final	medial	initial	isolated	names
/t/ ¹⁾	ط..	..ط..	..ط	ط	<u>tā</u>
/z/ ²⁾	ظ..	..ظ..	..ظ	ظ	<u>zā</u>
/ʔ/ ³⁾	ع..	..ع..	..ع	ع	<u>'eyn</u>
/q/ ⁴⁾	غ..	..غ..	..غ	غ	<u>geyn</u>

1) The phonemic equivalent of ta.

2) This letter of fairly rare occurrence is a phonemic equivalent of zā, zāl, and zād.

3) The phonemic equivalent of the consonantal 'alef and hamze (see #16), being phonetically a glottal catch or usually a mere glide. /' / indicated by 'eyn is limited in words of Arabic origin.

Except in the initial position, it requires some description:

(1) Intervocally it functions as a syllalbe-boundary marker or a hiatus-bridger:

/sā'at/ 'hour; watch'

/šojā'at/ 'bravery'

/tabi'i/ 'natural'

/mota'ajjed/ 'surprise'

(2) /V'C/: in normal speech it lengthens the preceding vowel:

/ba'd ~ baad/ 'afterwrds'

/še'r ~ šeer/ 'poem, poetry'

/da'vā ~ daavā/ 'quarrel' Cf. /davā/ 'medicine'

/šo'be~šoobe/ 'branch, office'
/ne'mat~neemat/ 'blessing, gift'
/sa'y~saay/ 'endeavor, effort'

In colloquial speech /VhC/ also results in /VVC/:

/šahr~šaar/ 'city, town'
/sahm~saam/ 'share, portion'
/mohr~moor/ 'seal, stamp'

(3) /C'V/: it often remains unpronounced:

/qal'e/ 'castle' Cf. /qarye/ 'village'
/jam'iyat/ 'population'
/daf'e/ 'time'
/mostaz'afin/ 'the oppressed'

(4) Word-finally it is not pronounced:

/ce no' qali~ce no qali/ 'What kind of carpet?'
/rob'~rob/ 'a quarter, one-fourth'
/morabba'~morabba/ 'square' Cf. /morabbā/ 'jam'

Sometimes metathesis is observed and a long vowel comes in as a result:

/šam'~šāam/ 'candle'
/man'~maan/ 'prohibition'
/jam'~jaam/ 'crowd; sum'

Likewise /h/ is colloquially lost in the same environment:

/sobh~sob/ 'morning'

N.B.

When followed by ezāfe, the final /h/ is retained in the environment of /Vh#/:

/deh-e now/ 'new village, village name'
Cf. /dah~da/ 'ten' /dahom/ 'tenth'

See, further, #14.(3).

N.B.

(1) 'eyn is originally a glottal stop in Arabic and the full value as such is heard in, e. g., onomatopoeic words:

/ba' ba' / '(cry of sheep, etc.)'

(2) Compare:

/jāme' / 'general; mosque'

/jāme'e / 'society, community'

/jāme / 'garment'

/motāle'e / 'studying'

4) There are three positional variants:

(i) Voiced uvular stop [G]/#- and /-qq-:

/qazā / 'food'

/raqqās / 'dancer'

(ii) Voiceless uvular fricative [χ] /-Voiceless C:

/vaqt / 'time'

/bāqce / 'flower-bed'

In careful speech the voiceless uvular stop [q] may be heard.

(iii) Voiced uvular fricative [ʁ] /otherwise:

/bāq / 'garden, orchard'

/daqiq / 'a minute'

EXERCISE 7

A. Read:

'danger'

خطر

'parrot'

طوطى

'garden; orchard'

باغ

'goose'

غاز

'sour milk'

دوغ

'hot'

داغ

'poetry'	شعر	'bald; dice'	طاس
'nature'	طبيعت	'natural'	طبيعي
'honey'	عسل	'festival'	عيد
'lute'	عود	'Saadi'	سعدى
'weak'	ضعيف	'weakness'	ضعف
'afternoon'	عصر	'confiscation; record'	ضبط

B. Write:

/tuti/

/qār/ 'cave'

/šojā/ 'brave'

/do'ā/ 'private prayer'

/tiq/ 'sword, razor'

/duq/

/'asr/

/še'r/

/tabi'i/

/surat/ 'face; figure'

/'asal/

/qazā/

11. ق AND ف

The base forms of these two letters are only distinct in the isolated and the final shapes.

phonemic values	final	medial	initial	isolated	names
/f/	ف..	ف..	ف..	ف	<u>fe</u>
/q/ ¹⁾	ق..	ق..	ق..	ق	<u>qāf</u>

1) The graphic variant of qeyn mostly in words of Arabic and Turkish origin. قریب /qarib/ 'near' and غریب /qarib/ 'strange, foreign' are identical in pronunciation.

EXERCISE 8

A. Read:

'electricity'	برق	'snow'	برف
'knife'	چاقو	'arch'	طاق
'clear, pure; smooth'	صاف	'Hafez; one who knows Coran by heart'	حافظ
'conquest'	فتح	'sweat; arrack'	عرق
'poor'	فقير	'spoon'	قاشق
'train'	قطار	'vessel, dish'	ظرف

B. Write:

/bʊf/ 'owl'

/taraf/ 'side, direction'

/tarafdār/ 'follower'

/sā'at/ 'time; watch'

/farah/ 'joy, feminine name'

/fārsi/ 'Persian'

/fardā/ 'tomorrow'

/joft/ 'pair'

/hefz/ 'preservation'

/fešār/ 'pressure'

/safar/ 'travel'

/forsat/ 'opportunity'

/qasr/ 'palace'

/qeyci/ 'scissors'

/'aqd/ 'contract'

/qafas/ 'cage'

C. Pronunciation Exercise:

/qam/ 'sorrow, grief'

/xam/ 'crooked, bent'

/qāli/ 'carpet'

/xāli/ 'empty'

12. THE ك GROUP

phonemic values	final	medial	initial	isolated	names
/k/ ¹⁾	ك..ك	..ك	ك	ك ك	<u>kāf</u>
/g/ ¹⁾	گ..گ	..گ	گ	گ	<u>gāf</u>

1) Palatalized /-#

/-C

/before the front vowels (/i, e, a, ey/)

/k/: /xāk/ 'earth'

/doktor/ 'doctor'

/kif/ 'purse'

/šekar/ 'sugar'

/kam/ 'little'

/kār/ 'work'

/kuh/ 'mountain'

Cf. /koštan/ 'to kill'

/kām/ 'palate, mouth'

/g/: /marg/ 'death'

/bozorg/ 'big, great'

/dogme/ 'button'

/gerān/ 'expensive'

/garm/ 'warm'

/gāv/ 'cow'

Cf. /guš/ 'ear'

/gol/ 'flower, rose'

Compare: /gand/ 'stink' vs. /qand/ 'coned sugar'

EXERCISE 9

A. Read:

'one'

یک

'bank'

بانک

'work'

کار

'paper'

کاغذ

'dirty'

کثیف

'company'

شرکت

'help'

کفش

'shoes'

کفش

'dark'

تاریک

'dog'

سگ

'wolf'

گرگ

'fly'

ملس

'big, great'

بزرگ

'book'

کتاب

'warm'

گرم

'worm'

کرم

B. Write:

/guš/ 'ear'

/gur/ 'grave'

/gušt/ 'meat'

/xāk/ 'earth'

/marg/ 'death'

/'ordak/ 'duck'

/kāj/ 'pine'

/kār/ 'work'

/šekar/ 'sugar'

/kucek/ 'small'

/kabutar/ 'pigeon'

/kabir/ 'great'

/kebrit/ 'match'

/šekast/ 'defeat'

/fekr/ 'thought'

/doktor/ 'doctor'

/pezešk/ 'medical doctor'

/kojā/ 'where?'

/kabāb/ 'roasted meat'

/gārāž/ 'garage'

C. Pronounce:

/kārgar/ 'worker' /kārgāh/ 'factory' /kārkonān/ 'personnel'

/kārkarde/ 'used, second-hand; skilled'

13. ل, م AND ن

phonemic values	final	medial	initial	isolated	names
/l/	ل..	..ل..	..ل ¹⁾	ل	<u>lām</u>
/m/	م..	..م..	..م	م	<u>mim</u>
/n/ ²⁾	ن..	..ن.. ²⁾	..ن ²⁾	ن	<u>nun</u>

1) lām is characteristically a stroke which is not so vertical as 'alef; it differs from 'alef in connecting to the following letter.

2) Initially and medially, the diacritic sign is a distinguisher of nun from the و group; the base form of the two is identical in these positions.

Note that /n/ is assimilated by the immediately following /C/:

/n_b^P/ → [m_b^P], etc. Some examples:

[pambe] <panbe> 'cotton' [< > = graphemes]

[zambur] <zanbur> 'bee'

[zambil] <zanbil> 'basket'

['angur] <'angur> 'grape'

Note, also, that it nasalizes the preceding vowel:

/jān/ [jā̃] 'soul'

/pānsad/ [pā̃sad] 'five hundred'

N.B. One of the most distinctive feature of spoken Persian is that

/ān/ and /ām/ (but not all of them!) are pronounced /un/ and

/um/ respectively with nasalization in the environment of

/ān#/ , /ānC/ and /ām#/:

/'ān/ → /'un/ 'that'

/'ānjā/ → /'unjā/ 'there'

/tehrān/→/tehrun/ or colloquially /teerun/ (see #10.3.)

'Tehran'

/divāne/→/divune/ 'mad, insane'

/midānam/→/midunam/ 'I know'

/tamām/→/tamum/ 'complete'

EXERCISE 10

A. Pronounce:

'wing'	بال	'load'	بار
'mane'	یال	'helper'	یار
'property'	مال	'snake'	مار
'mole'	خال	'thorn'	خار
'elephant'	فیل-پیل	'aged'	پیر
'fancy, thought'	خیال	'cucumber'	خیار
'bridge'	پل	'full'	پر
'honey'	عسل	'effect; literary work'	اثر
'promise'	قول	'bottom, depth'	غور
'heart'	قلب	'west'	غرب
'cabbage'	کلم	'generosity'	کرم
'lame'	لنگ	'color'	رنگ
' <u>lām</u> (name of a letter)'	لام	'tame, gentle'	رام

B. Read:

'we'	ما	'year'	سال
'bread'	نان	'wheat'	گندم
'glass'	لیوان	'cantaloupe'	طالبی
'machine; car'	ماشین	'pear'	گلابی
'flower, rose'	گل	'hair'	مو
'house, home'	منزل	'eye'	چشم
'peace; greeting'	سلام	'necessary'	لازم
'carpet'	قالی	'Egypt'	مصر
'store, warehouse'	انبار	'stone'	سنگ
'grape'	انگور	'bee, wasp'	زنبور
'help'	کمک	'life'	زندگی
'known, evident'	معلوم	'forest'	جنگل
'rice'	برنج	'stomach'	شکم
'name'	نام	'yoghurt'	ماست
'seed'	تخم	'examination'	امتحان
'Japan'	ژاپن	'brazier'	منقل

'finger'

انگشت

'beak'

نقار

C. Write:

/sāl/ 'year'

/del/ 'heart; stomach'

/marg/ 'death'

/lab/ 'lip'

/namak/ 'salt'

/bām/ 'roof'

/'ān/ 'that'

/'in/ 'this'

/malek/ 'king'

/'irān/ 'Iran'

/felfel/ 'pepper'

/susan/ 'lily'

/līmu/ 'lemon'

/dīn/ 'religion'

/mādar/ 'mother'

/nāv/ 'ship'

/bandar/ 'port'

/'omid/ 'hope'

/'anār/ 'pomegranate'

/'amrikā/ 'America'

/'amrikā'i/ 'American'

/'emruz/ 'today'

/šam/ 'candle'

/šam'adān/ 'candlestick'

/medād/ 'pencil'

/xodkār/ 'ball-point pen'

/mohammad/ 'Mohammad'

/namāz/ 'regular prayer'

/mard/ 'man'

/tanāb/ 'rope'

D. PRONUNCIATION EXERCISE:

/kar/ 'deaf'
/kāl/ 'baldhead'
/kal/ 'unripe, green'
/koll/ 'the whole, all'
/kar-o lāl/ 'deaf and dumb'

/xar/ 'ass'
/xār/ 'thorn'
/xāl/ 'mole'
/har/ 'every, each'
/hel/ 'cardamon'
/hall/ 'solution'
/hāl/ 'condition'
/hār/ 'mad, rabid'

/rafiq-e pesar-e rezā rādi'o-'e qermezrang-rā rowšan kard/

(words preceded by a dash - are enclitics and no carrier of stress.)

رفیق پسر رضا رادیو قرمز رنگ را روشن کرد
/'in lebās-e lālegun māl-e xāle-ye lāl-e leylā 'ast/

این لباس لاله گون مال خاله لاله لیل است
/besmellāher-rahman-rahim/

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم (بسم الله الرحمان الرحيم)

- 1) The friend of Reza's son turned on the red-colored radio.
- 2) This garment of tulip color belongs to Leila's maternal aunt who is dumb.
- 3) By the name of Allah, the merciful and the compassionate.

14. ۵ HE DOCASHME

phonemic values	final	medial	initial	isolated	names
/h/ ¹⁾	ه..	...ه...ه...	..ه	ه	<u>he docashme</u>
/e/ finally					

1) Phonemically equivalent to he jimi insofar as it stands for /h/.

(1) he docashme or two-eyed he as /h/:

/har/ 'every, each'

هر

/havā/ 'air; weather'

هوا

/huš/ 'intelligence'

هوش

/māh/ 'month; moon' Cf. /mā/ 'we, us'

ماه

/deh/ 'village' Cf. /se/ '3'

ده

/beh/ 'better'

به

/jahān/ 'world'

جهان-جهان

/šāhanšāh/ 'Shahanshah'

شاهشاه

/māhi/ 'fish'

ماهی

Note that the final he docashme is either /h/ or the final /e/ indicator as is below.

(2) he docashme as the final /e/ indicator:

/xāne/ 'house'

خانه

/hafte/ 'week'

هفته

/nāme/ 'letter' Cf. /nām/ 'name'

نامه

/gorbe/ 'cat'

گربه

/tāze/ 'fresh'

تازه

/parande/ 'bird'

پرنده

/parvāne/ 'butterfly; permit'

پروانه

/be/ 'to, at'

به

/a#/ is also indicated by he docashme: /na/ 'not' نه

This is the only word ending in /a#/.

(3) As is stated above, /h/ is a glide. Re-read #10.(3)&(4):

- i) /VhC/ results in /VVC/.
- ii) /Ch#/ is colloquially pronounced /C#/.
- iii) /h/ is often lost in normal speech in the environment of /ChV :

/zanhā~zanā/ 'women'

زنها-زنها

/manham~manam/ 'I, too' Cf. /māham/ 'we, too'

منم-منم-منم

iv) Note the following graphic manipulation:

/pele/ 'Pele'

پله

پله does not guarantee the reading /pele/ (name of a soccer player).

EXERCISE 11

A. Write:

/cāh/ 'well'

/rāh/ 'road'

/'āhu/ 'gazelle'

/'āhan/ 'iron'

/'eštēbāh/ 'error'

/'istgāh/ 'station'

/forudgāh/ 'airport'

/hotel/ 'hotel'

/rubāh/ 'fox'

/šahr/ 'city, town'

/cahār/ '4'

/cehel/ '40'

/tehrān/ 'Tehran'

/bahār/ 'spring'

/sobh/ 'morning'

/kohne/ 'old, used'

/solh/ 'peace'

/hamkelās/ 'classmate'

/'esfahān/ 'Isfahan'

/lāle/ 'tulip'

/qahve/ 'coffee'

/qahvexāne/ 'coffee house'

/kuce/ 'alley'

/mive/ 'fruit'

/malek/ 'king'

/maleke/ 'queen'

/'edāre/ 'administration, office'

/qal'e/ 'fortress'

/qovve/ 'power'

/zelzele/ 'earthquake'

/tappe/ 'hill'

/hendavāne/ 'water melon'

/havu/ 'co-wife'

/darvāze/ 'gate'

/safhe/ 'page'

/zohr/ 'noon'

/tabaqe/ 'layer, story'

/šanbe/ 'Saturday' (see #13)

/tāyefe/ 'clan, tribe'

15. و AND ی

These two letters have more than one phonemic values:

vāv { /v/ (see #4)
 / u/ (see #7)
 /ow/
 /o/

ye { /y/
 /i/ (see #7)
 /ey/ and /ay/
 /iy/

- (1) Initially both vāv and ye can only represent consonantal /v/ and /y/ respectively (see #0.(2)). [See N.B. below in this page.]
 (2) Examples of vāv and ye as long vowel indicators are given already.
 (3) vāv as consonantal /v/ is also given above; some examples of ye as /y/ are:

/yax/ 'ice'

یخ

/yās/ 'jasmine'

یاس

(cf. /ya's/ 'despair', see #16.)

/yavāš/ 'slow, slowly'

یواش

/daryā/ 'sea'

دریا

/cāy/ 'tea'

چای

- (4) In pages which follow vāv and ye are to be treated in separate sections.

N.B.

vāv which indicates the enclitic coordinate nominal-connector /-o/ cannot stand syllable-initially:

/zan-o bacce/ 'women and children'

/'āmad-o raft/ 'traffic'

I. VAV AND YE IN COMMON

- (i) Both of them represent the corresponding vowels; /u/ and /i/ respectively.
- (ii) Both of them represent the corresponding consonants: /v/ and /y/ respectively.
- (iii) They indicate the sequence of [the corresponding vowel + the corresponding semivowel or glide]: /ow/ and /ey/.

[See further below on the diphthongs.]

vāv = /ow/ (colloquially /oo/, see IV.Diphthongs below.):

/rowqan/ 'oil'

روغن

/dowlat/ 'government'

دولت

/*borow/ 'Go!'

برو

/derow/ 'reaping, harvest'

درو

ye = /ey/

/meydān/ 'square; field'

میدان

/'eyb/ 'fault'

عیب

/key/ 'when?'

کی

/rey/ 'Rey, Rages'

ری

While there is no /aw/ in the case of vāv, /ay/ is heard before /y/; the medial ye stands for /ay-y/ here. /ay-y/ is limited to those words of Arabic origin:

/xayyām/ 'tentmaker; Khayyam'

خیام

/sayyār/ 'itinerant, traveler'

سیار

/sayyāre/ 'planet'

سیاره

/sayyād/ 'hunter' (:/seyd/ 'prey, game; hunting')

صیاد

/xayyāt/ 'tailor'

خیاط

N.B.

/sayyad/ 'descendant of the Prophet' is normally pronounced /seyyed/.

II. VĀV

(i) When followed by 'alef, vāv is consonantal except for the combi-

nation of $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \underline{\text{xe}} + \underline{\text{vāv}} + \underline{\text{'alef}} \\ \underline{\text{xe}} + \underline{\text{vāv}} + \underline{\text{ye}} \end{array} \right\}$ unless they are not of Arabic origin.

/xābīdan/ 'to sleep'

خوابیدن

/xāndan/ 'to read'

خواندن

/xāstan/ 'to wish'

Cf. /xāstan/(/bar-xāstan/) 'to rise'

خواستن

/xāhar/ 'sister'

خاستن

خواهر

/xāje/ 'eunuch; title of man of distinction'

خواجه

/xiš/ 'oneself'

خویش

/xišāvand/ 'relative'

خویشاوند

/xištan/ 'oneself'

خویشتن

In words of Arabic origin, reading is normal:

خوانین /xavānin/ 'tribal chiefs (pl. of /xān/ خان)'

Cf. /xān/ '(dinner) table'

خوان

(ii) vāv indicates /o/ in a limited number of words so far as those originally Persian ones are concerned. Some examples are:

/xod/ 'oneself'	خود
/xoš/ 'well, happy'	خوش
/xordan/ 'to eat'	خوردن
/tomān/ 'toman (=10 rials)'	تومان
/xoršīd/ 'the sun'	خورشید
/noxod/ 'issue-pea'	نخود

Note that /o/ is usually not marked:

/'ostād/ 'master'	استاد
/xodā/ 'God'	خدا
/dorost/ 'correct, right'	درست
/sonbol/ 'hyacith'	سنبل
/bolbol/ 'nightingale'	بلبل

N.B.

The enclitic coordinate nominal-connector /-o/ is always marked: /qowm-o xiš/ 'relatives'

قوم و خویش

On the other hand, it is not infrequent that vāv is used to indicate /o/ in foreign loanwords when the original /o/ or like sound otherwise would be lost:

/'otomobil/ 'automobile'	اتومبیل
--------------------------	---------

/toyotā/ 'Toyota'

ٹویوٹا

/niyuyork/ 'New York'

نیویورک

N.B.

This kind of graphic manipulation is also observed with ye:

/kisinjer/

(Instead of an ambiguous

کی سینجر
(کی سینجر)

(iii) The final /o/ is invariably marked by vāv as is repeatedly stated:

/do/ 'two'

دو

/to/ 'you (sg.)'

تو

/polo/ 'polo'

پولو

/rādi'o/ 'radio'

رادیو

III. YE

(i) The medial ye stands for /iy/ before /V/. For the pronunciation of /iy/, see below:

/movaffaqiyat/ 'success'

موفقیت

(/movaffaq/ 'successful'

موفق)

/'ozvīyat/ 'membership'

عضویت

(/ozv/ 'member'

عضو)

/samimiyat/ 'sincerity'

صمیمیت

(/samimi/ 'sincere'

صمیمی)

/iy/ is frequently observed in the plural formation of the words ending in /i/:

/'irāniyān/ 'Iranian'

ایرانیان

(/'irāni/

ایرانی)

(ii) The final ye in words of Arabic origin can stand for /a/ ('afef maqsure):

/ma'nā~ma'ni/ 'meaning' [/ma'ni/ is a common form;
in compounds only /ma'ni/
معنی - معنا is used.]

/fatvā/ 'judgement, judicial decree'

فتوی

/'isā/ 'Jesus'

عیسی

/musā/ 'Moses'

موسی

/mortezā/ 'Morteza'

مرتضی

/*hattā/ 'even'

حتی

/leylā/ 'Layla (fem. name)'

لیلی - لیلا

N.B.

1) Followed by the ezāfe (see #17), ye is turned into 'alef:

/fatvā-ye 'emām xomeyni/ 'judicial decree of Imam

فتوی امام خمینی Khomeini'

Cf. /ma'ni-ye~ma'nā-ye 'in kalame/ 'the meaning
معنی این کلمه - معنای این کلمه of this word'

- 2) /*bāle/ 'Yes.' and /*āre/ 'Yeah.' are sometimes spelled by the final ye and pronounced /*bali/ and /*āri/:

بله - بی آره - آری

- 3) To indicate the actual pronunciation, an 'alef' may be written on top of ye:

/*hattā/ حتی

IV. DIPHTHONGS

In Persian the following three diphthongs or the combination of /V/ + /corresponding semivowel or glide/ are throughout observed:

/ey/ /ow/ /āy/

Besides, /ay/ appears only in the words of Arabic origin as is above exemplified: /sayyār/ 'traveller', etc.

Another example of rare occurrence is /uy/ as is seen below.

/uy/ is often interchangeable except in the compounds:

/ju~juy/ 'brook'

جو - جوی

/bu~buy/ 'smell'

بو - بوی

/ku~kuy/ 'small street, quarter'

کو - کوی

/muyrag/ 'capillary vessel'

موی رگ - مویرگ

/mordešuy/ 'washer of the dead (colloquially /mordešur/)

مرده شوی

Examples of /āy/ are:

/cāy/ 'tea'

چای

/'āzarbāyjān/ 'Azerbaijan'

آذربایجان

Some words offer /āy/ variants of more or less literary connotation:

/pā~pāy/ 'foot'

پا-پای

/jā~jāy/ 'place'

جا-جای

/oy/ is observed in the following:

/xoy/ 'Khoy'

خوی

/xoyni/ 'Khoy-born; family name'

خوینی

What follows is, therefore, the list of the Persian diphthongs observed:

/uy/

/ey/ /oy/ /ow/

/ay/ /āy/

N.B.

(1) /ow/ is often pronounced /oo/:

/now~noo/ 'new'

نو

/nowruz~nooruz/ 'New Year'

نوروز

/celow~celoo/ 'boiled rice'

چلو

/polow~poloo/ 'pilaw'

پلو

- (2) The final /-ow/ when combined with /-ān/ (animate plural marker) is pronounced either /-avān/ or /-ovān/:

/peyrow/→/peyravān~peyrovān/ 'follower, disciple'

Note /xosrov-o sirin/ 'Khosrōw and Shirin' (:/xosrow/).

پيرو

پيروان

خسرو و شيرين

- (3) Another combinatory change involving vāv and /-ān/ is:

/bānu/→/bānuvān~bānovān/ 'lady'

بانو

بانوان

/'āhu/→/'āhuvān~'āhovān/ 'gazelle'

A short variation of /u/ or sometimes /o/ is heard.

These /-ān/ plural forms are literary; normally /bānuhā/ with the universal plural suffix /-hā/ is used.

[See #7.iii).]

V. NOTES ON YE-SOUNDS

/i/ indicated by ye varies in its pronunciation. Some of the important features are as follows:

- (i) It is a short /i/ when followed or preceded by a long vowel which is practically /a/ in most of the cases (/Ciyā/ or /āCiyV/-----/y/ here is almost a hiatus-bridger, see #15):

/siyāh/ 'black'

سياه

/riyāl/ 'rial'

ريال

/xiyābān/ 'street'

خيابان

/xiyār/ 'cucumber'

خيار

/ziyād/ 'much, many'	زیار
/miyān/ 'middle'	میان
/siyāsāt/ 'politics, policy'	سیاست
/'āsiyā/ 'Asia'	آسیا
/sāniye/ 'second'	ثانیہ
/bāmiye/ 'okra'	بامیہ
/kāmiyun~kāmiyon/ 'lorry, truck'	کامیون
/'āriyā/ 'Aryan' (side by side /'āryā/)	آریا

/i/ of /iyu/ also normally sounds short:

/ruhāniyun/ 'the clergy' (:/ruhāni/ 'spiritual')

روحانیون

روحانی

The above, however, is not a rule except for ya in the initial syllable. When carefully pronounced, the normal long /i/ is observed.

(ii) In the case of the combination of /iye/ (that of the final /ye/ and the final /i/ + ežāfe), this shortening of /i/ is realized more often than not while it is a long /i/ only in careful speech:

/riye/ 'lung'

ریہ

/hāšīye/ 'margin, edge'

حاشیہ

/'adviye/ 'spice, drug'

ادویہ

/tekiye/ 'leaning; passion-play theater'

تکیه

/ta'ziye/ 'passion-play'

تغزیه

/'ormiye/ 'Urmie'

لرزمیه

/bimāri-ye saxti/ 'heavy illness'

بیماری سختی

/zendegāni-ye 'ejtemā'i-ye zanburān/ 'the social

زندگانی اجتماعی زنبوران life of bees'

/dāstān-e 'ešqi-ye leylā-o majnun/ 'love story of

داستان عشقی لیلی و مجنون Layla and Majnun'

(iii) /iyV/ also appears in finite verb forms of the incomplete aspect. /i/ of the preverbal /mi-/ is phonetically close to [ɨ] in normal speech (see #7.v). N.B.(2.):

/miyāyad~miyād/ 'He comes.' (Colloquial /miyād/ is

میاید - میآید

not a written form.)

As is with /u/ in the environment of /uvV/, /i/ of /iyV/ is unstable (/iy/ and /uv/ appear only before a vowel.).

[See #7.v), iii) & vi).]

EXERCISE 12

A. Compare /i/ in a variety of environments:

/kolliye/ 'totality' کلیه /kolliyāt/ 'whole works' کلیات

/kolliyat/ 'generality, universality'

/si'om/* '30' سیام /'aziyat/ 'harm, injury' ازیات

/miliyun~miliyon/ 'million' میلیون /dowre-ye safaviye/ 'Safavid period' دوره صفویه

* Cf. /siyām/ 'Siam' ; /seyyom/ 'third' (= /sevvom/)

سیام سیم-سیم

B. Read:

'Yazd'	یزد	'salt desert'	کوبیر
'mounted'	سوار	'ministry'	دزارت
'Satan'	شیطان	'flood'	سیل
'memory'	یاد	'foundation'	بنیاد
'welfare, blessing'	خیر	'kind, sort'	نوع
'wave'	بوج	'subject, topic'	موضوع
'lapis lazuli'	لاجورد	'azure'	لاجوردی
'joke'	شوخی	'grave'	گور

'light'

نور

'instant'

فوری

'time'

وقت

'times'

لوقات

C. Read:

/vatan/ 'fatherland'

/gerdu/ 'walnut'

/qešlāq/ 'winter quarter'

/yeylāq/ 'summer quarter'

/yādgār/ 'commemoration; memory'

/'ādamiyat/ 'humanity'

/'ostān/ 'province'

/'olāq/ 'donkey'

/'omidvār/ 'hopeful'

/'ahammiyat/ 'importance'

/boz/ 'goat'

/berenj/ 'rice'

/šāli/ 'paddy'

/bonye/ 'physical strength'

/kamyāb/ 'rare'

/konjkāv/ 'curious, inquisitive'

/konjed/ 'sesame'

16. ... HAMZE

Hamze ... phonemically stands for /' / which is also represented by 'alef (only initially) and 'eyn (Note that the shape of hamze is like that of 'eyn). Hamze can not stand independently except in the final position; it needs a 'chair' or a 'carrier'. The 'chair' or 'carrier' is either 'alef, vāv or ye minus two dots. Difficulty is only on the graphic level (For the pronunciation, see #10.).

I. Words of Arabic Origin

Its occurrence is limited in non-initial position* in Persian. A rule of thumb is as follows (:there are exceptions, refer to Arabic grammar for details):

(1) When /o/ precedes → the carrier = vāv

/so'āl/ 'question'

سؤال

/mo'men/ 'believer'

مؤمن

/mo'assese/ 'institute'

مؤسسه

/mo'azzen/ 'one who calls people to prayer' مؤذن

/ro'yā/ 'vision, dream' (cf. /ruyā/ 'growing') رؤیا

رویا

/lo'lo'/ 'pearl'

لؤلؤ

(2) /a'C/ or /a'a/ → the carrier = 'alef

/ra's/ 'head' (cf. /ro'us/ 'heads')

رأس

رؤوس - رؤوس

* In very correct orthography hamze is attached to the initial 'alef as well:

/'abr/ 'cloud' ابر /'esm/ 'name' اسم

/ta'lif/ 'compiling; literary work'	تأليف
/mota'ssef/ 'regrettable, sorry'	متأسف
/mota'assefāne/ 'regretfully'	متأسفانه
/ta'asof/ 'regret'	تأسف

(3) /C'a/ or /C'ā/ → the carrier = 'alef again:

/jor'at/ 'courage' (see, however, (5) below.)	جرات
/qor'ān/ 'Coran' (Note that 'alef madde is 'alef + 'alef.)	قران

(4) /e'ā/ → the carrier = 'alef again:

/te'ātr/ 'theater'	تئاتر-تئاتر
/'ide'āl/ 'ideal'	ایدهآل

(5) Otherwise → the carrier = ye minus two dots:

/ra'is/ 'head, chief'	رئیس
/mas'ale/ 'probelm, question' (see (3) above.)	مسئله
/mas'ul/ 'responsible'	مسئول
/xā'en/ 'traitor'	خائن

(6) Hamze in the final position:

/šohadā/ 'martyr'	شهید - شهیدان
-------------------	---------------

/fazā/ 'space'	فضاء - فضا
/'alefbā/ 'alphabet'	الفبا - النبا
/joz/ 'part'	جزء - جز
/adā/ 'payment; performance'	اراء - ادا

This hamze is regularly unpronounced and often left out in writing. When followed by ezāfe, it is neglected also:

/'adā-ye qarz/ 'payment of the debt'

N.B.

ارای قرض

- 1) hamze is written according to the Arabic orthography; it is advisable to learn word by word.
- 2) As is treated in #10.3), /'/ tends to be lost. So /'al'ān/ which etymologically should be so is pronounced simply as /'alān/ 'just now':
- 3) The Persian writing system tends to simplify the Arabic orthography; hamze especially suffers from this tendency.
- 4) In the combination of /ā'e/, interchange of hamze (=/'/) and ye (=/'y/) is observed (the left-hand forms are normal):

/dā'em~dāyem/ 'constant, permanent'	دائم - درایم
/fā'ede~fāyede/ 'profit, use'	فایده - فایده
/'ajā'eb~'ajāyeb/ 'wonders'	عجائب - عجایب
/molā'em~molāyem/ 'mild, gentle'	ملائم - ملائم
/dā'ere~dāyere/ 'circle'	دایره - دائره

- 5) Note, especially, that when hamze is omitted---and it often is---, writing does not reflect reading any more:

/mota'assefāne/ 'regretfully'

تأسفانه

Without hamze it can only read /motāssefāne/; one should know the word to read it.

- 6) Sometimes variant writings are seen:

/mas'ale/ 'problem, question'

مسئله-سؤال

/hey'at/ 'party, board'

هیئت-هیأت

II. Persian Words

Hamze is used as an orthographic device to indicate the combination between two adjacent vowels; in other words, it functions, as is stated more than once so far, as a hiatus-bridger or a syllable-boundary marker in the case that the hiatus otherwise results.

Hamze is carried either by ye minus two dots as in Arabic or by the final he docashme (as a marker of ezāfe or the selective /-i/).

- (1) To mark a syllable boundary between the preceding long vowels /i, u, ā^{*}/ and the following /i/; hamze in this function is frequently replaced by ye (cf. N.B. 4) above).**

a) /pā'iz~pāyiz/ 'autumn'

پائیز-پاییز

/pā'in~pāyin/ 'down'

پائین-پایین

b) /rāhnamā'i/ 'guidance' (:/rāhnamā/ 'guide')

راهنامه‌ی-راهنامه

* Note that /ā/ is not a long vowel phonetically.

** See the synoptic section on /'/ and /y/ as hiatus-bridger which follows below (#18).

/tanhā'i/ 'solitude' (:/tanhā/ 'alone, solitary')

تنهایی - تنهایی

/talā'i/ 'golden' (:/talā/ 'gold')

طلایی - طلایی

/lālā'i/ 'lullaby' (:/lālā/ 'Bye-bye; bed [baby-talk]')

لالایی - لالایی

c) /davā'i/ 'a certain medicine' (:/davā/ 'medicine')

دوائی - دوائی

/qāli'i/ 'a certain carpet' (:/qāli/ 'carpet')

قالی

* The selective marker /-i/ does not carry stress.

** This /i/ of the latter is graphically unmarked more often than not.

d) /šomā'id/ 'It's you.'

شماید - شماید

/to'i/ 'It's you(sg.)'

تویی - تویی

e) /migu'im/ 'we say.' [Colloquially /migim/]

میگوئیم - میگوئیم

(2) To mark the final /i/ when added to the final he docashme.

a) /xāne'i/ 'a certain house' (:/xāne/ 'house')

خانه‌ای - خانه‌ای

/mive'i/ 'a certain fruit' (:/mive/ 'fruit')

میوه‌ای - میوه‌ای

Cf. /qahve'i/ 'coffee-colored' (:/qahve/ 'coffee')

[hamze cannot be used here.]

قهوه‌ای

b) /dide'i/ 'You(sg.) saw' (:/dide/ 'seen')

دیده‌ای - دیده‌ای

N.B. i) The left forms are of common usage.

ii) Hamze is omissible.

III. Loanwords

Hamze is often called into use to duplicate foreign words in Persian. Hamze is a hiatus-bridger or a convenient syllable-boundary marker.

/te'ātr/ 'theater'

تئاتر-تئاتر

/kākā'o/ 'cocoa'

کاکائو

/nāpole'on/ 'Napoleon'

ناپلئون

/mā'o tse tong/ 'Mao Tse-tong'

مائوتسه تونگ

/sitro'en/ 'Citroën'

سیتروئن

/nive'ā/ 'Nivea'

نیوا

/tāblo-'e ne'on/ 'neon light'

تابلونئون

/'ide'oloži/ 'ideology'

ایدئولوژی

/'ide'ālist/ 'idealist'

ایدئالیست

/'ānflu'enzā/ 'influenza'

آنفلوآنزا

/dastgāh-e vide'o-'e soni/ 'apparatus of Sony's video'

دستگاه ویدئو سونی

Note that hamze is arbitrarily omitted. With hamze omitted, writing does not reflect reading; it becomes difficult to read without knowing the original word (see EXERCISE 15).

EXERCISE 13

Write your family name (/ 'esm-e xanevāde/) and first name (/ 'esm-e kucek/):

e.g. Masaaki Morioka /masā'āki moriyokā/

ماسا آکی موریکوگا

Hanako Hibiya /hānāko hibiyā/

هاناکو هیبیا

Kenichi Yamada /ken'ici yāmādā/

کن ایچی یامادا

Yuuki Yamauchi /yuki yāmā'uci/

یوکی یامائوچی

When there is no ambiguity involved, it is advisable to omit hamze.

17. THE NOMINAL CONNECTOR EZĀFE

The usage of ezāfe (unstressed) will be treated in Grammar. It is to be noted here that its presence, which is grammatically motivated, is normally not indicated on the graphic level except when the word-final is either /ā/, /u/ or /o/. See further #18.(2).

(1) Word-final = /ā/, /u/ → Indicated by ye:

/ketābhā-ye hoseyn/ 'Hosein's books'

کتابهای حسین

/ketābhā-ye fārsi/ 'Persian books'

کتابهای فارسی

/dāru-ye gerānbahā/ 'precious medicine'

داروی گرانبها

(2) Word-final = /e/ → May be indicated by hamze:

/xāne-ye man/ 'my house'

خانه من

Usually it remains unmarked.

(3) Otherwise → Not indicated at all:

/ketāb-e 'ali/ 'Ali's book'

کتاب علی

/šahr-e tehrān/ 'City of Tehran'

شهر تهران

/rādi'o-'e āqā-ye rostami/ 'Mr. Rostami's radio'

رادیو آقای رستمی

/sandali-ye now/ 'new chair'

صندلی نو

Note the last example. When the word-final is /i/, ezāfe is not marked.

N.B.

- 1) When the word-final /ow/ is attached by ezāfe, it becomes either /ov-e/ or /oo-ye/. When it reads /oo-ye/, ye sometimes comes in as ezāfe-indicator (see #18.(2). N.B.):

/celov-e xošmāze~celoo-ye xošmāze/ (:/celow/)

'tasty boiled rice' [Note the variations of

/celow~celoo/, see #15.IV.]

چلو خوشمزه - چلوی خوشمزه

- 2) When the word-final is /C'#/ , /' / becomes the initial of the new syllable thus originated:

/yek sā'at ba'd-az šoru-'e kelās/

'one hour after beginning of the class'

یک ساعت بعد از شروع کلاس

- 3) Note the following abnormality:

/rey-e bāstān~rey-ye bāstān/ 'ancient Rey'

ری باستان

- 4) When one wants to mark the presence of ezāfe, it can be done as follows:

/ketāb-e 'ali/ 'Ali's book'

کتاب علی

EXERCISE 14

A. Read:

'happeing'	اتفاق	'hare'	خرگوش
'agriculture'	کشاورزی	'airplane'	هواپیمای
'airport'	فرودگاه	'art'	هنر
'bus'	اتوبوس	'heroin'	هروئین
'mirror'	آئینه - آینه	'doll'	عروسک
'customs'	گمرک	'holiday'	تعطیل
'lazy'	تسل	'waist'	کمر
'lie'	دروغ	'weight'	وزن
'sin'	گناه	'to read'	خواندن
'legible'	خوانا	'food'	خوراک
'cool'	خنک	'cypress'	سرو
'statue'	مجسمه	'important'	مهم - مهم
'The Olympic Games'	بازیهای المپیک		
'Imam Khomeini'	امام خمینی		

NIOC (=National Iranian Oil Company)

شرکت ملی نفت ایران

OPEC (=Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries)

Persian Gulf

خلیج فارس

سازمان کشورهای صادرکننده نفت

B. Write:

/tamām/ 'whole'

/hamiše/ 'always'

/'āsiyā/ 'Asia'

/'amrikā'i/ 'American'

/ba'dan/ 'afterwards'

/sekke/ 'coin'

/ma'mulan/ 'usually'

/tavānā/ 'powerful'

/tavānā'i/ 'power'

/belit/ 'ticket'

/gorosne/ 'hungry'

/gorosnegi/ 'hunger'

/tešne/ 'thirsty'

/'alāqe/ 'attachment, concern'

/nānvā'i/ 'bakery'

/'ābejow/ 'beer'

/jow/ 'barley'

/kalam/ 'cabbage'

/kārvān/ 'caravan'

/kārvānsarā/ 'caravansarai'

/farhang/ 'culture; dictionary'

/xormā/ 'dates (fruit)'

/biyābān/ 'desert'

/namune/ 'example'

/'afsāne/ 'fable'

/xānevāde/ 'family'

/boxāri/ 'stove'

/cangal/ 'fork'

/bi-'adab/ 'impolite'

/'āb-o havā/ 'climate'

/zabt-e sowt/ 'taperecorder'

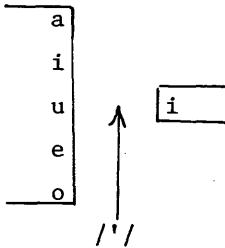
/bibi/ 'matron; grandmother' [Note the way of writing this word.]

/natije/ 'result'

18. GLIDES /' / AND /y /

Glides /' / and /y / function as automatic syllable-boundary markers or as hiatus-bridgers. When the preceding word ending in a vowel is attached by one beginning with a vowel (suffixes, endings, suffixal personal pronouns, suffixal forms of the copula, ezafe, etc.), in other words, when two vowels are bound to 'clash', either /' / or /y / automatically comes in between two adjacent vowels which are thus caught up in a 'clash' situation. In what follows we recapitulate essential points of these glides /' / and /y /.

(1) Attached by /i / → Hiatus-bridger = /' /



Graphically there are three ways of indicating this /' /:

- a)
- b)
- c)

In c) ye is sometimes used.

(i) the selective suffix /-i/ which does not take stress:

/qazā'i/ 'a certain food'

غذائی

/dānešju'i/ 'a certain student'

دانشجویی

/rādi'o'i/ 'a certain radio'

رادیویی

/qāzi'i/ 'a certain judge'

قاضی-قاضی‌ای

/sandali'i/ 'a certain chair'

صندلی-صندلی‌ای

/mive'i/ 'a certain fruit'

میوه-میوه‌ای

(ii) the nominal suffix /-i/ which takes stress:

/qahve'i/ 'coffee-colored'
[hamze cannot be used here.]

قهوه‌ای

/'amrikā'i/ 'American'

آمریکائی

When the final /-e/ goes back to older /-ag/, /g/ of /-ag/ is regained before /i/:

/xaste/ 'exhausted' → /xaste-g-i/ 'exhaustion'

خسته

خستگی

(iii) the suffixal forms of the copula:

/xaste'i/ 'You(sg.) are exhausted.'

خسته‌ای

/to'i/ 'You(sg.) are, It's you.'

تویی-تویی

/mā'im/ 'We are, It's us.'

مائیم-مائیم

/dide'i/ 'You (sg.) saw.'

دیده‌ای-دیده

Also as above, the following graphic variants are seen:

(iv) the personal endings:

/migu'im/ 'We say.'

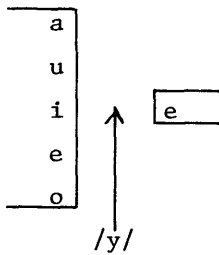
میگوئیم - میگوئیم

/miyā'i/ "You(sg.) come.'

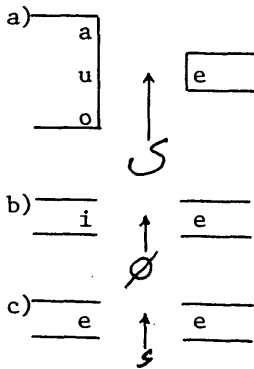
میآئی - میآئی

ye may be used instead of 'alef' in this case:

(2) Attached by /e/ → Hiatus-bridger = /y/



Graphically, there are likewise three ways of graphic marking:



It is also indicated by \emptyset or y ; there are three ways of showing /e/ in other words:

(i) the nominal connector ezāfe:

/sedā-ye man/ 'my voice'

صدای من

/dānešju-ye momtāz/ 'excellent student'

دانشجوی ممتاز

/sabzi-ye tāze/ 'fresh vegetable'

سبزی تازه

/mive-ye xošmāze/ 'tasty fruit'

میوه خوشمزه

/rādi'o-'e 'ali/ 'Ali's radio'

رادیو علی

N.B. The final /ow/, attached by ezāfe, either take ye or does not. As is stated above, /ow/ is often pronounced /oo/; when it is understood as /oo/, it takes /y/ as a hiatus-bridger. When it does not take /y/ as such, /-ow/ + /-V/ becomes /-ovV/ (see #15.IV.Diphthongs.N.B.(1) & #17.N.B.):

/jelov-e ra'is/ 'in front of the chief'

جلورئیس

/jeloo-ye ra'is/ '(same as above)'

جلوی رئیس

Cf. /peyrow/ 'follower' → /peyrovi/ 'a certain follower'

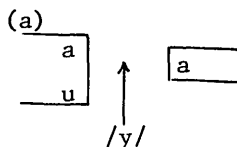
پیرو پیروی

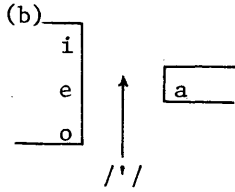
Cf. /xosrow/ 'Khosrow; king' /xosrovāne~xosravāne/ 'royal'

/xosrovi~xosravi/ 'kingly' /xosrovāni~xosravāni/ 'kingly'

(3) Attached by /a/ → Hiatus-bridger = /y/ or /'/'

Either /y/ or /y/ is called in as hiatus-bridger according to the phonological situation:





(i) the suffixal pronouns:

/cašmhāyam/ 'my eyes'

چشمهایم

/bāzuyaš/ 'his arm'

بازیش

/bini'am/ 'my nose'

بینی‌ام

/xāne'at/ 'your(sg.) house'

خانه‌ات

/rādi'o'aš/ 'his radio'

رادیو‌اش

(ii) the personal endings:

/miyāyam/ 'I come'

می‌آیم

/mi'āyam/ '(same as above)''*

می‌آیم

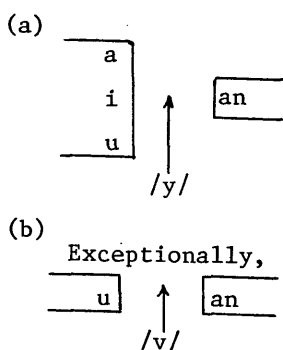
/miguyand/ 'They say.'

می‌گویند

*The first one is more colloquial.

(4) Attached by /ā/ → Hiatus-bridger = /y/ or /v/

/v/ does not appear as a hiatus-bridger other than here. This is applicable only to the animate plural suffix /-ān/. When /-ān/ is attached to some words ending in /u/, /v/ comes in exceptionally as such; it then sounds literary. It is to be noted that the general plural suffix /-hā/ is normally used in this case, too. [See #7.Exercise 3.iii).]



Graphically, ye is inserted after /ā/ and /u/; otherwise 'alef + nun is written without any graphic marking.

(a) /'āqāyān/ 'misters, messieurs'

آقایان

/dānešjuyān/ 'students'

دانشجویان

/'irāniyān/ 'Iranians'

ایرانیان

Note that the animate plural marker /-ān/ appears as /-gān/ when attached to words ending in /-e/. This /g/ has nothing to do with a hiatus-bridger; it is etymological (see #18.(1).(ii).):

/bacce/ → /baccegān/ 'children'

بچه-بچگان

/morde/ → /mordegān/ 'the dead'

مرده-مردگان

/jangzade/ → /jangzadegān/ 'the war-stricken'

جنگ زده - جنگ زدگان

/divāne/ → /divānegān/ 'the insane'

دیوانه - دیوانگان

(b) Usually the following three words are given as standard examples. Naturally they take /hā/ much more frequently:

/ʾāhuvān/ 'gazelles'

آهوان

/bāzuvān/ 'arms'

بازوان

/bānuvān/ 'ladies'

بانوان

N.B.

i) /v/ functions something like a hiatus-bridger in the following words:

/tāvus/ 'peacock'

طاووس-طاووس

/dāvud/ 'David'

داود

/kāvus/ 'King of the Kian Dynasty'

کاووس

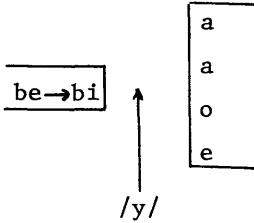
* Note that the writing does not correspond to the pronunciation.

ii) As is with /i/ immediately followed by /y/, this /u/ is normally pronounced as a short /u/ and sometimes with /o/-like sound. Note that, although long vowels /i/ and /u/ hold stability as their characteristic feature, they are unstable before corresponding semivowel or glide.

Glides functioning as automatic hiatus-bridgers are likewise called in when two preverbal /mi/ and /be/ are otherwise to 'clash' with the initial vowel of the verb stems.

(5) Prefixed by the Modal Preverb /be/ → Hiatus-bridger = /y/ with the Shift of /be/ to /bi/ or /' / without Any Change

(a)



/i/ of /bi/ which results from /be/ is short with stress.

/biyā/ 'Come!'

بیا

/biyāyad/ 'may he come.'

باید

/biyandāz/ 'Throw away!'

بیانداز

/biyoftad/ 'may he fall down.'

بافتند

Note that the written does not always correspond to the reading. [For the preposition /be/, see (8) below.]

(b)

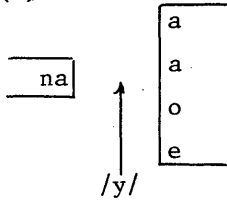
be ↑ i [Or better, the initial /' / is retained.]
/i/

/be'istad/ 'may he stand.'

ایستد

(6) Prefixed by the Negative Particle /na/ → Hiatus-bridger = /y/ or /'/'

(a)



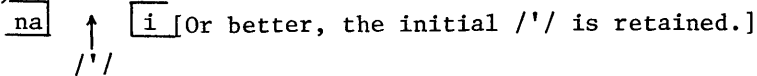
/nayandāz/ 'Don't throw!'

نیانداز

/nayoft/ 'Don't fall!'

نیافت

(b)



/na'istad/ 'He does not stand.'

نیاسته

N.B.

/na/ carries stress all the time.

(7) Prefixed by the Incomplete-aspect Marker /mi/ → Hiatus-bridger = /y/ or /'/'

Distribution of /y/ and /'/' is exactly identical with that of the preceding (6).

(a)

/miyāyad/ 'He comes.'

میآید

/miyandāzad/ 'He throws away.'

میاندازد

/miyoftad/ 'He falls.'

میفتد

Note that there are observed several manners of graphic presentation. /mi/ can be written separately, too.

(b) /mi'ist/ 'He was standing' می ایست

Note here that /mi/ is to be written separately; this finite form, which is not used, is offered only to show how to write.

(8) Preposition /be/ Followed by Initial-Vowel Word

There is no change in sound. /be/ is normally no carrier of stress. Graphically /be/ and the following word beginning with a vowel may be combined:

/be-'in/ 'to this' باین - باین

/be-'u/ 'to him' باو - بلو

/be-'ān/ 'to that' بآن - بآن

Note that /ba 'in/ 'with this', for example, cannot be graphically combined:

Literary variants of the above are:

/be-d-in/ 'to this' بدین

/be-d-u/ 'to him, to her' بدو

Compare the set of /xaste/ 'exhausted' and /xastegi/ 'exhaustion' (#18.(1).(ii).).

Colloquially /h/ comes in as a glide instead of /' / and the archaic, etymological /d/:

/be-h-eš/ 'to him' بهش - بهش

19. DIACRITIC SIGN: TASHDID

و named tashdid indicates the double consonant. This is normally not written out.

/haqq/ 'right, truth'

حق

/bacce/ 'child'

بچه

/hammām/ 'Turkish bath'

حمام

/senn/ 'age'

سن

/tašakkor/ 'thanking'

تشکر

/*'ammā/ 'but'

اما

EXERCISE 13

Read:

'stairs'

پله

'tale'

قصه

'jam'

برج

'dam, dike'

سد

'strength'

قوت

'accuracy'

دقت

'subtle, accurate'

دقیق

'minute'

دقیقه

'painter'

نقاش

'painting'

نقاشی

'maize, corn'

ذرت

'shop'

دکان

'grocery'

بقالی

'grocery owner'

بقال

20. DIACRITIC SIGN: TANVIN

Tanvin appears in those adverbs proper of Arabic origin. It stands for the final /-an/ with 'alef ۱ or very rarely for the final /-tan/ with the dotted he docashme ۛ (te marbuta or te tammat):

/kāmelan/ 'perfectly'

كاملًا

/ba'dan/ 'afterwards'

بعْدًا

/masalan/ 'for example'

مثلاً

/taqriban/ 'comparatively'

تقريبًا

/fowran/ 'immediately'

فورًا

/'avvalan/ 'firstly'

أولًا

/nesbatan/ 'comparatively'

نسبًا - نسبةً

/haqiqatan/ 'truly'

حقيقتًا

It may be written upon hamze of the word final:

/'ebtedā'an/ 'in the beginning' (:/'ebtedā/ 'beginning')

ابتداءً

ابتداء

The right-hand forms are commonly used. Tanvin, as is with tashdid, is often left unwritten.

Vasle ۞ which resembles a small sād and other minor graphic complexities are not our immediate concern. As is mentioned above, it is essential to have some acquaintance with Arabic grammar when one intends to move further in Persian.

21. NUMERALS

Numerals are written from left to right:

۱ ۲ ۳ ۴-۵ ۵-۵ ۶-۶ ۷ ۸ ۹ .

1988	۱۹۸۸
25/7, 1988	۱۹۸۸/۷/۲۵
3/4, 1367	۱۳۶۷/۴/۳
03-917-6111	۰۳-۹۱۷-۶۱۱۱
0081-488-86-9404	۰۰۸۱-۴۸۸-۸۶-۹۴۰۴

N.B.

1) Note the following vowels (see #7.Exercise 3.v) & #13.N.B.):

/šeš~šiš/ '6'

شش

/pānzdah~pāzdah~pūzdah/ '15'

2) Note, also, /o/ in:

پانزده

/bist-o do/ '22'

بیست و دو

/sad-o dah/ '110'

صد و ده

3) When numerals are used in enumeration, a dash is added after them for clarity's sake:

۱-فارسی

۲-ترابنی

۳-انگلیسی

۴-فرانسوی

22. WHEN A SINGLE LETTER STANDS ALONE

As is stated in #14.(2)., the final short vowels must be graphically indicated: /-e/ and /-a/ by he docashme and /o/ by vāv. A minimum unit of words is a syllable; conversely any minimum word must be in the form of either /CV/, /CVC/ or /CVCC/, except enclitics which constitute a new syllable either with the final /C/ of the preceding word or with an automatically inserted glide. The shortest word form is /CV/, then. It follows that a single letter, which cannot make a syllable, does not represent any word.

The following are the exceptions to this rule:

- (1) It stands for the name of the alphabet or like sound:

/be.'em.ve./ 'B.M.W.'

ب-ا-م-و

- (2) /va/ 'and' Cf. Enclitic form /-o/.

/'irān va žāpon/ Cf. /'irān-o žāpon/ [Graphically identical]

ایران و ژاپن

- (3) /'e/ ء = Exclamation of disbelief (stressed)

- (4) /de/ >-> = Exclamation of emphasis, disbelief or surprise (stressed):

/de mohammad, hanuz 'injā na-rafti/ 'What, Mohammad!

د محمد هنوز اینجا رفتی You don't go there yet !'

/de borow/ 'Do go right away!'

د برو

- (5) /ze/ ز = 'from' (< /'az/ از) [poetic]

When combined with other word, one letter naturally stands for one word:

/to-rā/ 'you (accusative)'

ترا

/ma-rā/ 'me (accusative)'

مرا

23. PUNCTUATION MARKS

The following punctuation marks are of common usage as in French or in English:

period	.
comma	,
question mark	?
colon	:
exclamation mark	!
dash	—
quotation marks	(()) or ()
several periods which indicate omission; dash may be used for this purpose
semicolon	;

Practically any punctuation marks of European languages are utilized when a writer so wishes.

Unlike English or French, words are almost never divided at the end of a line in handwriting and also rarely in print. When such a division does occur, it is usually done between a root and an affix, or between affixes providing the break occurs after a non-connector and that the affix to begin the next line starts with a consonant. Examples are seen in Text [the 3rd volume of the textbooks of the present intensive course] (We followed Paper 1955, p.29 in this section.).

24. SAME READING AND DIFFERENT WRITING

Letters of soundwise identical value are sometimes interchangeably used, whether it may be correct or incorrect; those letters limited in words of Arabic origin tend to be replaced by those of Persian words. Some of examples are as follows:

/qafas/ 'cage'	قفص - قفس
/'otāq/ 'room'	طاق - اتاق
/satl/ 'pail'	سطل - سطل
/tehrān/ 'Tehran'	تهران - طهران
/šast/ 'thumb'	شست - شست
/qulí/ 'teapot'	قوری - غوری
/moqol/ 'Mongol'	مغل - مغول
/bote~bute/ 'bush, shrub' Cf. /bute/ 'melting pot'	
/'otu/ 'iron'	لوتہ - بتہ اطو - اتو
/sad/ '100'	صد - سد
/zoqāl/ 'coal'	زغال - زغال

There are several examples which reflect different reading:

/fil~pil/ 'elephant'	فیل - پیل
/fālude~pālude/ 'Iranian 'kuzukiri'; kind of icecream'	فالوره - پالوره

On the other hand, there are observed more than few examples which are soundwise indentical and only graphically differentiated:

/qazā/ 'food'	غذا
/qazā/ 'destiny; chance'	قضا
/qāzi/ 'judge'	قاضی
/qāzi/ 'warrior fighting against infidels'	غازی
/hayāt/ 'court-yard'	حیاط
/hayāt/ 'life'	حیات
/xiš/ 'oneself'	خویش
/xiš/ 'plough'	خیش

25. SAME WRITING AND DIFFERENT READING

There are plenty of the examples. The following are more or less limited to semi-basic vocabulary:

کی /key/ 'When?'
/ki/ 'Who?'

دیر /dir/ 'late'
/deyr/ 'monastery'

پر /par/ 'feather'
/por/ 'full'

گل /gol/ 'flower; goal'
/gel/ 'mud, clay'

ده /deh/ 'village'
/dah/ '10'

نه /na/ 'not'
/noh/ '9'

دور /dur/ 'far'
/dowr/ 'cycle, period'

نفس /nafas/ 'breath'
/nafs/ 'self, soul'

جو /jow/ 'barley'
/ju/ 'brook'

کشتی /kešti/ 'boat, ship'
/košti/ 'Iranian wrestling'

علم /'alam/ 'standard, flag'
/elm/ 'science'

خرد /xord/ 'little, small'
/xerad/ 'wisdom'

پست /post/ 'post, mail'
/past/ 'low, mean'

دم /dom/ 'tail'
/dam/ 'breath'

خود /xod/ 'oneself'
/xud/ 'helmet'

جستن /jostan/ 'to search'
/jastan/ 'to jump'

گزیدن /gozidan/ 'to choose'
/gazidan/ 'to bite, to sting'

شکر /šekar/ 'sugar'
/šokr/ 'thanks'

آبرو /'ābru/ 'honor'
/āberow/ 'acqueduct'

سر خوردن /sar xordan/ 'to be disillusioned'
/sor xordan/ 'to slip'

There are several examples which offer three readings or more:

کرم /kerm/ 'worm'
کرم /karam/ 'generosity'
کرم-کرم /kerem~krem/ 'cream'

به /be/ 'to, at'
به /beh/ 'quince'
به /bah/ 'Well done! (usually /bah bah/)

گرد /گرد/ 'round'
گرد /gard/ 'flying dust'
گرد /gord/ 'hero'

کره /kare/ 'butter'
کره /kore/ 'sphere, globe; Korea'
کره /korre/ 'young (of certain animals)'

مهر-مهر /mehr/ 'the sun; affection'
مهر-مهر /mohr/ 'seal, stamp'
مهر-مهر /mahr/ 'marriage portion'

ملک /malek/ 'king'
ملک /melk/ 'landed property'
ملک /molk/ 'kingdom'
ملک /malak/ 'angel'

Note the following examples which are grammatically different:

منتظر /montazer/ 'waiting, expecting'
منتظر /montazar/ 'expected'

بکش /bokoš/ 'Kill!'
بکش /bekeš/ 'Pull!'

بکن /bokon/ 'Do!'
بکن /bekan/ 'Dig!'

* Imperative forms take the initial stress.

میکشند /mikešad/ 'He pulls.'
میکشد /mikošad/ 'He kills.'

میکنند /mikonad/ 'He does.'
میکند /mikanod/ 'He digs.'

میبرد /mibarad/ 'He carries.'
میبورد /mibord/ 'He was carrying.'

میشویم /mišavim/ 'We become.'
میشویم /mišuyam/ 'I wash'

آنها کردند /'anhā kardand/ 'They did.'
آنها کوردند /'anhā kord-and/ 'They are Kurds.'

پستان /pestān/ 'breast'
پستان /past-ān/ 'mean people (pl.)'

* /mi/ takes stress.

26. VARIATIONS IN READING

Quite a number of words can read more than one way. Often one pronunciation sounds bookish while other is colloquial. One which shows assimilating tendency or a tendency to add to the number of syllables is colloquial or normal in daily speech as a rule of thumb.

In what follows the right-hand pronunciation is colloquial.

/'āvordan~'āvardan/ 'to bring'

آوردن

/'āsmān~āsemān/ 'sky, heaven'

آسمان

/'āmuzgār~'āmuzeḡār/ 'teacher'

آموزگار

/'eyd~'id/ 'festival'

عید

Contrary to an assimilating tendency are:

/xonok~xonak/ 'cool'

خنک

/šokufe~šekufe/ 'blossom'

شکوفه

/yusof~yusef/ 'Joseph'

یوسف

Exercise 15

Read the following words originated from European languages:

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| ۱۴- فناتیک | ۱- تاکسی |
| ۱۵- توالت | ۲- ترن |
| ۱۶- رمان | ۳- پارک |
| ۱۷- آلبیہ | ۴- پارکنگ |
| ۱۸- آگوردیون | ۵- پست |
| ۱۹- آما تور | ۶- تلفن |
| ۲۰- آتھلوانترا | ۷- سینما |
| ۲۱- کولکاولا | ۸- رستوران |
| ۲۲- سیمان | ۹- سناریو |
| ۲۳- ساندریج | ۱۰- تقویمی |
| ۲۴- سوپ | ۱۱- اسپت |
| ۲۵- سالار | ۱۲- اسکی |
| ۲۶- ہمبرگر | ۱۳- رستوریو |

۲۷- ویسکی	۴۱- بلب
۲۸- وردکا	۴۲- سوپرمارکت
۲۹- راریو	۴۳- تتر
۳۰- تلویزیون	۴۴- کیلو
۳۱- تآتر	۴۵- لیتر
۳۲- موسیقی	۴۶- سالن
۳۳- پیانو	۴۷- سابلوتاژ
۳۴- ویولون	۴۸- سانس
۳۵- (نژری	۴۹- شانس
۳۶- بئر	۵۰- کت
۳۷- رانده وو	۵۱- ناسیونالیست
۳۸- ارکستر	۵۲- نایلون
۳۹- پنلوئن	۵۳- نمون
۴۰- بیسکویت	۵۴- وتیامین

۶۹- مینیا تور

۷۰- کوپن

۵۵- هرؤن

۵۶- هوربون

۵۷- فزیک

۵۸- فلیم

۵۹- کارت

۶۰- کودتا

۶۱- لاسٹیک

۶۲- مانیٹور

۶۳- میل

۶۴- مد

۶۵- مدرن

۶۶- ملوری

۶۷- منو

۶۸- نیلر و سکوپ

EXERCISE 16

Write down phonemically first and then try to transliterate in Persian letters:

1. "Excuse me, Sir."
2. "Please (do so); Not at all"
3. "Please (come in, etc.)"
4. "Hello!"
5. "Welcome!"
6. "Thank you."
7. "Be successful!"
8. "To your health."
9. "Goodbye."
10. "Good luck to you."

27. ARABIC NAMES AND PHRASES

Arabic names and phrases are freely introduced into Persian. As is mentioned above it is essential to have at least an elementary acquaintance with Arabic grammar.

In this section some samples of Arabic names and phrases are given.

/'abdolhoseyn/ 'Abdolhosein'

عبدالحسين

/'abdollāh/ 'Abdollah'

عبدالله

/zeynol-'ābedin/ 'Zeynol Abedin'

زين العابدين

/zarbolmasal/ 'proverb'

ضرب المثل

/'abolfazl/ 'Abol Fazl'

ابو الفضل

/'enšā 'allāh/ 'If God will'

انشاء الله

/'alhamdolellāh/ 'Praise be to God.'

الحمد لله

/bārakallāh/ 'Bravo!'

بارك الله

/beynol-melali/ 'international'

بين المللي

/beynon-nahreyn/ 'Mesopotamia'

بين النهرين

/dāyeratol-ma'ref/ 'encyclopaedia'

دائرة المعارف

28. LIGATURES AND HANDWRITTEN FORMS

Ligatures are a combination of two letters into a specialized form which is not a part of the regular Persian alphabet. Or, a ligature is one symbol representing a sequence of two letters. All of the ligatures are already given. It is intended here to recapitulate what were given above.

They are limited to the following five combinations:

lām-'alef

kāf-'alef

gāf-'alef

kāf-lām

gāf-'alef

/lāstik/ 'rubber, tire'

لاستیک

/lāzem/ 'necessary'

لازم

/talā/ 'gold'

طلا

/kāqaz/ 'paper'

کاغذ

/negāh/ 'glance'

نگاه

/kalam/ 'cabbage'

کلم

/galu/ 'throat'

گلو

/gol/ 'flower'

گل

/kalāq/ 'crow'

کلاغ

/kolāh/ 'hat, cap'

کلاه

There is no ligature of three letters as is understood from the above examples [We borrowed heavily from Paper 1955, p. 16 in this section.].

In handwriting kind of shorthand forms are frequently used. Examples are offered above. Some of important handwritten variations are:

/'āqā-ye širāzi/ 'Mr. Shirazi'

/xāne-hā/ 'houses'

/ke/ 'that, etc'

/har/ 'every'

/pir/ 'old'

/mohammad/ 'Mohammad'

/mo'asesse/ 'institute'

/'ali'ābād/ '(name of a village)'

29. COMBINING WORDS OR WRITING COMPOUNDS

I. Other Than Compounds:

When words ending in /-e/ take the comparative /-tar/ or the plural marker /-hā/ , they are written separately:

/xastetar/ 'more exhausted'

خستتر

/xānehā/ 'houses'

خانهها

The latter is sometimes written:

خانهها-خانه which properly stands for /xān-hā/
'caravanserais; Khans'

II. Compounds:

Compounds, the member of which occurs also as separate word, may be divided between each member in writing or printing:

/'irāndust/ 'Iran-lover'

ایران دوست - ایراندوست

/'irānšenās/ 'Iranologist'

ایران شناس

/bipul/ 'pennyless'

بی پول

[vs. /bihejāb/ 'unveiled, immodest'

بی حجاب - بیحجاب]

/'ali'ābād/ 'Aliabad (village name)'

علی آباد

/'ābād/ in local names is as a rule written separately.

Where there is no ambiguity incurred, members tend to be graphically combined:

/dānešgāh/ 'university'

دانشگاه

/ketābxāne/ 'library'

کتابخانه

30. NOTES ON STRESS

Any word can take stress when emphasized. In normal speech, however, all the words are classified into two groups: stressed and unstressed. The latter includes ezāfe (#17), the definite accusative marker /-rā/, the selective marker /-i/, monosyllabic prepositions, finite forms of "compound" verbs, and others.

Those words which take stress are again classified into two groups: finite verbs and nominals (nouns, adjectives and adverbs).

(1) Finite Verbs:

Their stress pattern is recessive, that is, stress falls on the initial syllable of the sound unit. The exception is the negative particle /na/ which always retains stress. Note that past participles used in the past tenses are naturally no finite forms; they are nominals and follow the following stress pattern.

(2) Nominals:

Their stress pattern is progressive, that is, stress falls on the last syllable of the sound unit with limited number of exceptions.

Exceptions are as follows:

1) Provisional Initial Stress:

All the nominals in vocative usage take the initial stress:

/móhammad!/ (:/mohammád/ 'Mohammad')

/xā́nom!/ (:/xā́nóm/ 'lady')

Note that the normal final stress is also used in the vocative usage with rising intonation:

/mohammád!/ 'Mohammad (why don't you listen to me!?)'

/xānom! xānom! xānóm!/ (When she did not notice
or neglect a call twice,
a third one takes the
final stress to imply
accusation, etc.)

Note, further, that the vocative formed by /-ā~
yā/ (C-ā and V-yā) retains the original final stress:

/xodā́-yā/ 'Oh God!'

/xodāvánd-ā/ 'Oh God!'

2) Permanent Initial Stress:

The following words carry stress on the initial
syllable. The list is not exhaustive but contains
many frequent words:

/xeyli/ 'many. much'

/'āyā/ '?' (Yes-or-no question marker)

/'ammā/ 'however'

/vali/ 'but'

/hattā/ 'even'

/ya'ni/ 'that is, i. e.'

/'avvalan/ 'first'

/sāniyan/ 'secondly'

/zirā/ 'because'

/mabadā/ 'lest'

/hamin/ 'this very'

/hamān/ 'that very' [All the /ham/ compounds
take stress on /ham/.]

/harkas/ 'every one' [All the /har/ compounds
take stress on /har/.]

/'intowr/ 'this manner'

/'ānvaqt/ 'then' [All the /'in/ and /'ān/ com-
pounds take stress on /'in/
and /'ān/.]

Like the vocative, the following words take either the initial or the final stress according to the situation:

/bále/ vs. /balé/

/'áre/ vs. /'āré/

When they take the initial stress, they simply mean 'Yes.' and 'Yeah.' respectively; if finally stressed, they imply 'Yes?', 'What did you say?', etc.

/'agár/ 'if' (unmarked final stress)

/'ágar/ 'if (it is so that)'

/magár/ 'unless' (unmarked final stress)

/mágar/ 'do you mean that...?'

/cérá/ 'why?' (unmarked initial stress)

/cerá/ 'Why not!, Certainly!'

3) All the others than the above two:

They invariably carry stress on the final syllable.

Those sets below are only distinct in stress and in presence/absence of open juncture:

/xarābé/ 'ruins'

/xarāb-e/ 'It's broken.'

/ruzí/ 'daily bread'

/rúzi/ 'a certain day; per day'

/tutí/ 'parrot'

/túti/ 'a certain mulberry'

/bālěš/ 'pillow'

/bāl-eš/ 'his wing'

/bimārí/ 'illness'

/bimāri/ 'a certain sick person'

/ketābí/ 'bookish'

/ketābi/ 'a certain book' [Many examples of this type]

/māhí/ 'fish'

/māhi/ 'monthly, per month'

/dustí/ 'friendship'

/dústi/ 'a certain friend'

/mardí/ 'manliness'

/márdi/ 'a certain man'

/nešāní/ 'address'

/nešāni/ 'a certain mark'

/xaridám/ 'I've bought.' (</xaridé'am/)

/xarídám/ 'I bought.'

/puldār-id/ 'You are rich.'
/púl dārid/ 'You have money.'

/puldār-e/ 'He is rich.'
/púl dāre/ 'He has money.'

/pesaré/ 'the son'
/pesár-e/ 'It's a son.'

/'ahmadé/ 'that Ahmad'
/'ahmád-e/ 'It's Ahmad.'

/'āzādé/ 'free-born, noble'
/'āzād-e/ 'It's free'

/be-nām-am/ 'by my name'
/bé-nāmam/ 'I will name.'

/darāmád/ 'income'
/dár 'āmad/ 'He came out.'

/be-zán/ 'to the woman'
/bézan/ 'Beat!'

/be-déh/ 'to the village'
/bédeh/ 'Give!'

/'ābgarmkón/ 'water-heater'
/'āb gárm kon/ 'Boil water!'

/kušéš/ 'endeavor'
/kuš-eš/ 'Where is it?'

/xānemān/ 'house, home'
/xāné-mān/ 'our house' (/xāné-y-emān/: in Tehrani Persian
/xānámun/)