

Reading Booklet

Travelers should always check with their nation's State Department for current advisories on local conditions before traveling abroad.

Booklet Design: Maia Kennedy

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#### **Arabic Dialects**

There are many varieties of Arabic spoken throughout the Arab world, including North Africa. Of the hundreds of known dialects, the spoken varieties with the largest number of speakers are grouped, on the basis of similarity in vocabulary and syntax, into the following:

- Syrian Arabic (or Eastern Arabic, as taught in this course) spoken in Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, and Jordan;
- Egyptian Arabic spoken in urban Egypt;
- Gulf Arabic spoken in Kuwait, Abu Dhabi, the Emirates (Qatar), Oman, Bahrain, and Eastern Saudi Arabia;
- Iraqi Arabic spoken in Iraq;
- North African Arabic spoken in Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco;
- Saudi Arabic spoken in Central and Western Saudi Arabia;
- Yemeni Arabic spoken in Yemen and southern Saudi Arabia.

### The Written System — Modern Standard Arabic

The written form of the Arabic language, which dates back to pre-Islamic periods, is called "Standard" or "Literary" Arabic and is used and understood throughout the Arab world. It is the form of the language taught in schools and is the default for educated Arabs of any nationality. The written system has also been adopted by neighboring countries whose language is not Arabic, such as Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

Colloquial or "spoken" Arabic, including Syrian Arabic, varies widely by region, sometimes differing enough to be mutually unintelligible. It is considered to be a "dialect," and is almost never written down. Most educated Arabic speakers are able to easily jump back and forth between Standard and dialect, even within the same sentence, with no loss of understanding.

The Arabic writing system is easy to learn and master because the Arabic alphabet has a high correspondence between sound and symbol. This means that a letter is pronounced almost the same in every word position.

### The Arabic Alphabet

If you have done the Reading Lessons in Levels 1 & 2, you will be familiar with the Arabic script. If the Arabic alphabet is new to you or you need to refamiliarize yourself with the sounds of the alphabet, you may want to do the Levels 1 & 2 Readings before proceeding with Level 3.

The Arabic alphabet contains 29 letters including the hamza (glottal stop). There are also two variants of existing letters, alif and taa. A number of diacritical marks complement the alphabet. These are signs written above or below the letters; they are listed on page 16, after the alphabet chart.

There are two categories of Arabic letters. The first category contains six letters only, which are called "one-way connectors" because they connect only to the "preceding letters" or letters to the right. They do not connect to "following letters" or letters to the left. These are:

و ذ ر ز د ا

The other 23 letters of the alphabet constitute the letters of the second category. They connect to both preceding letters (to the right) and following letters (to the left), hence the term "two-way connectors."

The alphabet contains three long vowels: alif (aa), waw (uu), and ya (ii). The latter two function also as consonants, as in "wet" and "yes." There are three short counterparts of these vowels represented by diacritical marks: the fatHa (a), the damma (u), and the kasra (i). They are about half as long. A tiny circle written above a consonant is called a sukuun and represents the absence of a vowel.

The mark that resembles a tiny "w" is called shadda. It signifies a doubled consonant. For example, this mark over the letter "t" makes the word pronounced /sit-tah/ rather than /sitah/.

A complete listing of the Arabic alphabet has been included for your reference, beginning on page 10. It is shown in two 2-page spreads, reading right to left. Each letter has four different representations, depending on its position within a word. The listing includes the forms that the letters assume in different word positions. There is an independent form, as well as a beginning, a middle, and an end form. The term "initial" means the first letter of the word starting from the right, "medial" means all the letters in the middle, and "final" refers to the last letter of the word, on the left. The chart is to be used only as a guide since all of the necessary information for beginning to read in Arabic will be given in the audio portion of the Reading Lessons.

### The Letter taa' marbuuta (ة)

The letter taa' marbuuta (3) serves only as a suffix and is a variant of the letter taa' (2). The taa' marbuuta (3) functions most often as the feminine noun marker — meaning that when this letter is attached to most masculine nouns and adjectives, it makes them feminine.

The taa' marbuuta is not always pronounced. Whether or not it is pronounced depends on the grammatical function and structure of the word to which it is added.

The taa' marbuuta is not pronounced when:

- the word is said by itself, for example the word "car," sayyaara (سیارة)
- the word is followed by an adjective, as in "big car," sayyaara kbiire (سیارة کبیرة)

The taa' marbuuta (ة) is pronounced just like a regular taa' (ت) when:

- a personal pronoun is attached to the word, as in, "my car," sayyaartii (سيارتي). In this case, the taa' marbuuta (ة) is replaced with the letter taa' (ت).
- another suffix is attached to the word, e.g.,
   "two cars," sayyaartiin (سیارتین). Again, in

this case, the taa' marbuuta (ة) is replaced with the letter taa' (ت).

the word belongs with the following noun, resulting in a grammatical function similar to that of the preposition "of," as in the "city of New York" madiina(e)t nyuuyoork (مدينة نيويورك).

### The Definite Article (그): Assimilating and Non-Assimilating Sounds

The definite article in Arabic al (JI), is made up of the letters alif (I) and laam (J) and is prefixed to nouns and adjectives. Its pronunciation changes depending on the word that follows it.

It is pronounced *al* when prefixed to words beginning with a sound/letter that belongs to a certain group of letters referred to as "moon" or "lunar" letters. Long ago, Arab grammarians used the word "moon," *qamar* (آرَمُق), to exemplify this group of sounds. If the article is prefixed to a word beginning with a moon letter, the *laam* is pronounced as an l-sound and is said to be *non-assimilating*.

For example, if the article is prefixed to the word "moon," qamar (قَمَر), the result, "the moon," is al-qamar (الْقَمَر).

In contrast, there are words which start with sounds/letters called "sun" or "solar" letters. Arab grammarians used the word "sun," shams (شَعس), to exemplify this class of sounds. If the article is prefixed to a word beginning with a sun letter, the laam changes to the sound of the sun letter and it is said to be assimilating.

For example, if the article is prefixed to the word "sun," shams (شُمس), the result, "the sun," is ashshams (الشُمس). The sh in ash blends into the sh in shams.

Note that only the *pronunciation* of the article is affected, not its spelling.

### Phonological Variation Local Dialects vs. Modern Standard Arabic

Differences between spoken Syrian and Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) exist at the phonological level. Some examples of the differences in pronunciation are listed below.

Spelling	MSA Pronunciation	Eastern Arabic Pronunciation	Meaning
قَلَم	qalam like c as in cod ق	alam qaaf is a glottal stop	pen
ظريف	Dhariif ilke th as in thine	zariif like z as in zoo	nice
نظّارة	naDh-Dhaara ilke th as in thine	naD-Daara iike d as in done	eyeglasses
ذهب	dhahab ilke <i>th</i> as in <i>the</i>	dahab ilke d as in do <b>د</b>	gold
لذيذ	ladhiidh iike <i>th</i> as in <i>the</i>	laziiz like z as in zoo	delicious
ثوم	thuum ໍ່ວ່ like <i>th</i> as in <i>thin</i>	tuum iike t as in tune	garlic
ثانو <i>ي</i>	thaanawiy ప like th as in thin	saanawii iike s as in son	secondary

These variants are not interchangeable; you may not use s for th and still claim that your speech is in Modern Standard Arabic.

### The Reading Lessons

The Reading Lessons in Eastern Arabic 3 are designed to familiarize the learner with words that appear on signs, menus, and the like, as well as phrases that the learner is likely to see or hear in Arabic-speaking countries. Also there is a lesson on the pronunciation of the names of some famous Syrians, as well as some typical expressions and regional idioms. There are twenty Reading Lessons in all. Vowel markers have been included to aid you in reading unfamiliar words. Normally, everyday written Arabic will not include these markers or diacritics. You will be reading both Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) and Eastern Arabic. Instruction will be given as needed. Normally, writing is done only in MSA, and experienced readers look at the words and translate them "on the fly" into their dialect.

The recorded portion of the reading materials for *Eastern Arabic 3* will be found at the end of the program. You can do the Readings when it is most convenient for you, either with the lessons, or entirely after completing the full 30 lessons. Full instructions on how to proceed are in the recording.

Symbol in Transliteration	Final Position	Medial Position	Initial Position
aa	L	L	1
b	ب	<u> </u>	÷
t	ت	1	ت
th	ٿ	<u></u>	ä
j	=	÷	÷
Н	ح		_
kh	<del>ب</del> خ	خـ	خ
d	1	ــد	١
dh	ن	ن	ذ
r	_ر	-ر	ر
Z	-ز	-ز	ز
S	<u> </u>		ىب
sh	<u>ش</u>	<u></u>	ثب
S	_ص	_م_	<u>م</u> ب
D	_ض	خب	ضـ

Name	Name in Transliteration	Letter
ألِف	alif	1
باء	baa	ب
تاء	taa	ت
ثاء	thaa	ث
٠٠	jiim	3
حاء	Наа	۲
خاء	khaa	Ċ
دال	daal	١
ذال	dhaal	ذ
راء	raa	<i>)</i>
زاي	zay	j
سين	siin	س
شين	shiin	ش
صاد	Saad	ص
ضاد	Daad	ض

<b>←</b> − − −			
Symbol in Transliteration	Final Position	Medial Position	Initial Position
Т	لط	لط	ط
Dh	ظ	ظ	ظ
1	_ع	ے	ع
gh	ے خ ف	غ	خ
f	ف	<u>å</u>	ف
q	_ق	ä	<u> </u>
k	_ك	<	>
1	ـل	$\perp$	٢
m	~	_&_	_\$
n	م -ن	<u>:</u>	ن
h	4_	-	_\$
uu/w	_و	_و	و
ee/y	-ي	<u> </u>	<u></u>
aa	<del>-</del> ى	_	_
t	ئة	_	_
,	اً ق ئ	5	ٳٞٵ۪

Name	Name in Transliteration	Letter
طاء	Taa	ط
ظاء	Dhaa	ظ
ؿ۠ۮۛ ؿؙؽ۫	çayn	ع
غيْذ	ghayn	غ
فاء	faa	ف
قاف	qaaf	ق
کاف	kaaf	ك
لام	laam	J
ميم	miim	م
نون	ทบบท	ن
هاء	haa	٥
واو	waaw	و
<u>۽ ا</u>	yaa	ي
ألِفمَقصورة	alif maqSuura	ی
ألف مَقصورة تَاء مَربوطة هُمزة	taa marbuuTa	ä
هَمزة	hamza 13	۶

### Diacritical Marks (Read from right to left)

Name in Transliteration	Name	Sound	Letter	
sukuun	سُكون	none	0	
no vowel follow	s, above the	e letter		
fatHa	فتحة	а	/	
short vowel, abo	ove the lette	er		
Damma	ضَمّة عند المعادد	U	9	
short vowel, above the letter				
kasra	كَسْرة	i	/	
short vowel, below the letter				
shadda	شَدّة	none	W	
indicates a double consonant, above the letter				

### **Lesson One: Travel Signs**

.11 مَكْتَب سياحي

.1 مُطار

12. صَرْف عمْلات

.2 جُمارك

.13 قطار سَريع

.3 أم**تعة** 

.14 مَوْقِف تَكْسى

.4 مُحَطَّة

- .15 جُوازات
- .5 مَوْقِف باص
- .16 إسْتِعلامات

.6 بَوّابة

.17 تَذْكُرَة ذَهاب

7. مُغادَرة

.18 تَأْشيرة سياحية

.8 وُصول

- .19 تَجْديد جَوازات
- .9 سيريا تِل
- .20 رَسْم خُروج

10. هاتف

#### **Lesson One Translations**

- 1. airport
- 2. customs
- 3. baggage
- 4. station
- 5. bus stop
- 6. airport gate
- 7. departures
- 8. arrivals
- 9. Syria Telephone
- 10. telephones
- 11. tourist office
- 12. currency exchange
- 13. rapid-service / express train
- 14. taxi stand
- 15. passport checkpoint
- 16. information
- 17. one-way ticket
- 18. tourist visa
- 19. passport renewal
- 20. exit fee

### **Lesson Two: More Travel Signs**

#### **Lesson Two Translations**

- 1. parking
- 2. ticket office
- 3. information office
- 4. international flights
- 5. domestic flights
- 6. post office
- 7. the flight number
- 8. flight attendant
- 9. round trip ticket
- 10. boarding pass
- 11. baggage locker
- 12. direct flight
- 13. passengers
- 14. baggage/luggage handler
- 15. the airport terminal
- 16. resident permit
- 17. working permit
- 18. trolley
- 19. cell phone
- 20. plane connection

### Lesson Three: Driving in Syria

#### **Lesson Three Translations**

- 1. square
- 2. one way
- 3. highway
- 4. unpaved road
- 5. dead end street
- 6. sidewalk
- 7. work in progress
- 8. stop
- 9. pedestrians
- 10. police
- 11. detour
- 12. exit
- 13. school
- 14. intersection
- 15. falling rocks
- 16. sidewalk
- 17. no u-turn
- 18. no parking
- 19. yield
- 20. bumpy road

Lesson Four: Signs on Syrian Roads and Highways

- 2. بَغْداد
- .3 طريق مَحَلي
  - .4 جَنوب
- .5 حُدود السُرعة
- .6 خَفِّف السرعة
- 7. عُبور قطارات
  - .8 مَحَطّة بَنْزين
    - .9 حَلَب
- .10 خدْمَة سَيّارات

- .11 اِزْدِحام مُرور
- .12 طُوارئ الطُّرُق
  - .13 بَيْروت
- .14 ممنوع التَجاوُز
  - .15 إستراحة
  - .16 مَوْقِف طُوارِئ
- .17 صيانة سيارات
  - .18 دُرْعا-عَمّان
- .19 ممنوع التَكُلُّم مَع السائِق.
- .20 ممنوع مَدّ الرَأس من النافذة.

#### **Lesson Four Translations**

- 1. South Ring Road
- 2. Bagdad
- 3. local road
- 4. south
- 5. speed limit
- 6. slow down
- 7. train crossing
- 8. gas station
- 9. Aleppo
- 10. automobile assistance
- 11. heavy traffic
- 12. emergency road service
- 13. Beirut
- 14. double line road no passing
- 15. roadside refreshments / rest area
- 16. emergency stop
- 17. car service
- 18. A highway connecting the cities Daara and Ammaan
- 19. Please don't speak to the driver.
- 20. Don't lean out the windows.

### **Lesson Five: Arabic Loan Words**

#### **Lesson Five Translations**

- 1. assassin
- 2. zero
- 3. elixir
- 4. genie
- 5. jar
- 6. lemon
- 7. jihad
- 8. magazine / storehouse or military supply
- 9. mattress
- 10. algebra
- 11. saffron
- 12. sofa
- 13. tahini
- 14. tarrif
- 15. hummus
- 16. admiral
- 17. algorism
- 18. syrup
- 19. kohl
- 20. sugar

### **Lesson Six: Expressions and Pastimes**

- .1 بَرْجِيس
- طاولة زَهْر
  - .3 شُطْرَنج
    - 4. ضاما
  - .5 **كُراكو**ز
  - .ه حَكُواتي
  - .7 كُرة القَدَم
  - .8 كرة السَلّة
- . كرة المَضْرب
- .10 الكُرة الطائرة

- .11 سباحَة
- .12 سَهُرة
  - 13. حَفْلة
- .14 سیران
- .15 م<mark>َبْروك!</mark>
- .16 لا تُواخِزْني!
  - .17 دايمة
  - .18 صَحْتين.
- .19 شوهالحَكي؟
- .20 عَلى راسي! / عَلى عيني!

#### **Lesson Six Translations**

- 1. Two player board game
- 2. backgammon
- 3. chess
- 4. checkers-like game
- 5. puppets
- 6. storyteller
- 7. soccer
- 8. basketball
- 9. tennis
- 10. volleyball
- 11. swimming
- 12. late evening get-together
- 13. party
- 14. picnic
- 15. "Congratulations!"
- 16. "I beg your pardon; Excuse me!"
- 17. "May it last for ever."
- 18. "Two healths."
- 19. "What are you talking about?"
- 20. "With pleasure! or "Willingly!" (Literally, "on my head / on my eye,")

### Lesson Seven: At the Restaurant

#### **Lesson Seven Translations**

- 1. lunch
- 2. dinner
- 3. a snack
- 4. the menu
- 5. wine list
- 6. the daily special
- 7. salad
- 8. appetizers
- 9. water pipe used for smoking tobacco
- 10. soup
- 11. main dish
- 12. sweets
- 13. the check / bill
- 14. tip included in the check
- 15. tip
- 16. washroom
- 17. A napkin, please!
- 18. olive oil cruet
- 19. a half portion
- 20. Keep the change.

### **Lesson Eight: Medical Terminology**

- .1 غُرفة إسعاف
  - .2 تَأمين
- .3 سَيّارة إسعاف
  - .4 مَشْفي
  - .5 مُمَرِّضة
  - .6 طَبيب مُناوب
    - .7 دُواء
  - .8 مُعالَجة طِبيّة
- . العِناية المُشَدَّدة
  - 10. تَحَليل دَمّ

- .11 مَرْضان.
- .12 عندي صُداع.
- .13 سَخْنان شُوَي.
- .14 عَندي وَجَع بَطْن.
- .15 رِجْلي عَم تِجَعْني.
- .16 كتافي عم تجعني.
  - .17 سِنّي عَم يِجَعْني.
- .18 وين فيه صَيْدَلِيّة فاتْحة؟
- .19 عَن*دي* حَساسية للمُضادّات.
  - .20 ميزان حَرارة

### **Lesson Eight Translations**

- 1. emergency room
- 2. insurance
- 3. ambulance
- 4. hospital
- 5 nurse
- 6. doctor on call
- 7. medicine
- 8. medical assistance
- 9. intensive care unit
- 10. blood test
- 11. I don't feel good.
- 12. I have a headache.
- 13. I have a little fever.
- 14. I have a stomachache.
- 15. My leg hurts.
- 16. My shoulders hurt.
- 17. I have a toothache.
- 18. Where is an open pharmacy?
- 19. I'm allergic to antibiotics.
- 20. thermometer

### **Lesson Nine: Traveling by Train**

- .1 سكّة
- 2. قطار
- .3 قطار سَريع
- .4 قطار شُكْن
  - .5 م<mark>َقعَد قطار</mark>
  - .6 دَرَجة أولى
- 7. بسافِر درجة أولى بس.
  - .8 حَجْز
  - .9 مَحْجوز
  - .10 مَقْصورَة نَوْم

- .11 عَرَبَة نَوْم
- 12. عربة أَكْل
- .13 أمِر المُحَطة
  - .14 تَكْييف
- .15 جَدُول مَواعيد
  - .16 **نَفَ**ق
- .17 الرّجاء عَدَم الوُقوف.
  - .<sub>18</sub> مَقْصورَة
  - .19 نصْف تَذْكَرة
    - 20. جابى

#### **Lesson Nine Translations**

- 1. track
- 2. train
- 3. express train
- 4. freight train
- 5. seat in a train.
- 6. first class
- 7. I only travel in first class.
- 8. reservation
- 9. reserved
- 10. sleeping compartment
- 11. sleeping car
- 12. dining car
- 13. head of the station
- 14. air conditioning
- 15. train schedule
- 16. tunnel
- 17. "No standing."
- 18. compartment
- 19. child's fare
- 20. conductor

### **Lesson Ten: Supermarket Items**

.1 خُضَر

#### **Lesson Ten Translations**

- 1. vegetables
- 2. fruit
- 3. cheese
- 4. pasta
- 5. chicken
- 6. meat
- 7. one kilo
- 8. dairy products
- 9. yogurt
- 10. cashier
- 11. ice cream
- 12. bread
- 13. butter
- 14. pies
- 15. oil
- 16. vinegar
- 17. salt
- 18. garlic
- 19. peppers
- 20. cucumber

### Lesson Eleven: At the Hotel

#### **Lesson Eleven Translations**

- 1. reception area
- 2. key
- 3. director / manager
- 4. elevator
- 5. a double room
- 6. a single room
- 7. room with a view
- 8. bed and breakfast
- 9. gym
- 10. wake up call
- 11. pool
- 12. in season
- 13. sauna
- 14. massage
- 15. hairdresser
- 16. concierge
- 17. Do not disturb.
- 18. room service
- 19. to make up the room
- 20. five-star hotel

### Lesson Twelve: Items in the Bathroom

#### **Lesson Twelve Translations**

- 1. toothpaste
- 2. soap
- 3. shower soap
- 4. shower
- 5. shampoo
- 6. toilet paper
- 7. an electric razor
- 8. bathtub
- 9. towel
- 10. hair dryer
- 11. sink
- 12. perfume
- 13. baby powder
- 14. bathrobe
- 15. sponge
- 16. mirror
- 17. mouthwash
- 18. shaving foam
- 19. deodorant
- 20. shower cap

### Lesson Thirteen: At the Post Office

#### **Lesson Thirteen Translations**

- 1. wire (electronic transfer)
- 2. hand stamp / rubber stamp
- 3. postage stamp
- 4. postcard for use in Syria only
- 5. bills paid at the post office
- 6. mail box
- 7. registered mail
- 8. air mail
- 9. post office savings account
- 10. parcel
- 11. mail delay
- 12. postman
- 13. receipt
- 14. return receipt
- 15. form
- 16. to send
- 17. to mail
- 18. to stand in line
- 19. post office clerk
- 20. to sign

### Lesson Fourteen: At the Bank

#### **Lesson Fourteen Translations**

- 1. checking account
- 2. down payment
- 3. open an account
- 4. close an account
- 5. bank transfer (female)
- 6. deposit
- 7. account statement
- 8. interest
- 9. loan
- 10. ATM card /ATM machine
- 11. bank investments (male)
- 12. interest rate
- 13. home equity loan
- 14. bank loan (male)
- 15. bank window / teller
- 16. checkbook
- 17. percentage rate
- 18. depreciation
- 19 inflation
- 20. bank transaction (female)

#### Lesson Fifteen: At a Newstand or Bookstore

- 1. جُريدة
- 2. جريدة يَوْمِيّة
  - .3 مَجَلَّة
- .4 رُسوم كاريكاتوريّة
  - .5 دَلیل سیاحی
    - .ه خُريطة مَدينة
    - 7. خريطة طَريق
      - .8 قاموس
        - .9 رواية
      - .10 كتاب أطْفال

- 11. قصّة بوليسيّة
  - .12 تاریخ مَحَلّی
    - 13. كتاب شىعْر
- .14 وَصْلَة إِنْتَرْنِت
- 15. عُرْض لِكتاب
- .16 كتاب بغلاف سَميك
  - .17 طُلُب خاص
  - .18 قصة قَصيرة
    - .19 قصة خُرافيّة
      - .20 رُزْنامة

#### **Lesson Fifteen Translations**

- 1. newspaper
- 2. daily newspaper
- 3. magazine
- 4. comic book
- 5. tourist guide
- 6. city map
- 7. road map
- 8. dictionary
- 9. novel
- 10. children's book
- 11. mystery story
- 12. local history
- 13. poetry book
- 14. internet connection
- 15. book review
- 16. hardcover book
- 17. special order
- 18. short story
- 19. fairy tale
- 20. calendar

### **Lesson Sixteen: Regional Expressions and Holidays**

- .1 حاجة بَأه!
  - .2 طُيِّب!
- 3. كُل سِنِة وإنْتو سالمين!
  - .4 رَمَضان
- .5 عيد الفطر/ العيد الصَعير
  - .6 الْحَجّ
  - 7. عيد الأضّحي
    - .8 العيد الكبير
      - 9. عيد الميلاد
    - 10. عيد الفصّح

- .11 كُنيسة حَنانيا
  - .12 مَعْلُولا
- .13 دیر مار سَرْکیس
  - الميدنايا ميدنايا
  - .15 الجامع الأُمويّ
    - .16 قَصْر العَظْم
    - .17 مُسْرَح بُصْرى
      - 18. إيبْلا
      - .19 رَأْس شَمْرا
        - .20 قَلْعَة حَلَب

#### **Lesson Sixteen Translations**

- 1. Come on! or Stop it!
- 2. OK!
- 3. May you be safe every year!
- 4. Ramadan month when Muslims fast from dawn to sunset
- 5. Smaller Eid three days of celebrations after Ramadan
- 6. The Haj the annual pilgrimage to Mecca
- 7. Eid of Sacrifice four days of festivities after the annual Haj
- 8. Greater Eid four days of festivities after the annual Haj
- 9. Christmas an official holiday in Syria and Lebanon
- 10. Easter an official holiday in Syria and Lebanon
- 11. St. Ananias Church in Damascus
- 12. Maaloula only place in the world where Aramaic is still used today as a living language
- 13. Monastery of Saint Sergius
- 14. Sednaya ancient convent
- 15. Omayyad Mosque in Damascus
- 16. Azem Palace in Damascus
- 17. Bosra amphitheater (2 BC)
- 18. Ebla ancient city (circa 2400 BC)
- 19. Ras Shamra (Ugarit) ancient city where first alphabet was developed (7 BC)
- 20. Citadel of Aleppo

### **Lesson Seventeen: Syrian Proverbs**

- 1. ساعة إلك وساعة لربك.
  - .2 إذا بدّك تُحَيْرو خَيْرو.
  - .3 حامِل السُلُّم بِالعَرْض.
- .4 ما بحِكَّ جلدَك مِثْل ضِفْرك.
  - .5 القُرد بعين صاحْبو غَزال.
- .6 من تحت الدَلْف لَتَحْت المزْراب.
  - .7 أُوَّل الرَقْص حَنْجَلة.
  - .8 لا تُدلّ شَكّاد عَلى باب دارَك.
    - . كُل ممنوع مَرغوب.
    - .10 الغايب حِجْتو مَعو.

- .11 الإسْكافي حافي والحايك عَرْيان.
  - 12. كِتْر الأيادي بتِحْرِق الطّعام.
    - .13 دود الخَلّ منّو وفيه.
    - .14 مثّل خازوق البَحْرَة.
    - .15 إيد وحدة ما بتصَفِّق.
      - .16 بدّو سَلْتو بَلا عِنِب.
    - .17 متل الخنفسة بالطاسة.
      - .18 كُما تَزْرَع تَحْصُد.
        - .19 أُجْوَدُ من حاتم.
          - .20 الوَلَدُ سنُّ أبيه.

#### **Lesson Seventeen Translations**

- 1. Time for fun, time for prayer.
- 2. If you want to confuse someone, give them a choice.
- Said to someone who makes things more complicated than they have to be. (Literally, carrying a ladder sideways.)
- 4. Nothing can scratch your skin like your own nail.
- 5. All her geese are swans. (Literally, "A monkey in the eyes of its owner is like a gazelle.")
- Out of the frying pan and into the fire. (Literally, going from under a leaky ceiling to under a downpour.)
- 7. Things don't start at full blast. (Literally, "Dancing begins in a slow movement.")
- 8. Beware of greedy people. (Literally, "Don't show a beggar where you live.")
- 9. You want what you can't have. (Literally, "Everything prohibited is desired.")
- An absent person has his excuse. (Said when someone has not arrived when expected. Literally, "A person on the road has an excuse.")
- The cobbler's children have no shoes.
   (Literally, "The cobbler is barefoot and the weaver is naked.")

- 12. Too many cooks spoil the broth. (Literally, "Too many hands burn the food.")
- Family disagreements are from the family itself. (Literally, "Worms in vinegar are produced by it [vinegar].")
- 14. Like a fish out of water. (Literally, "resembles the stake-like stopper of a fountain.")
- 15. A single hand cannot clap.
- 16. To be content with a safe escape. (Literally, "He wants his basket empty without grapes.")
- 17. Like a beetle in a cup. (Used when too much effort is exerted to no avail.)
- 18. You reap what you sew.
- 19. "More generous than Hatim," a legendary generous man who lived before the rise of Islam.
- 20. Like father, like son. (Literally, "A son is the secret of his father.")

### Lesson Eighteen: Well-Known Syrians

- .1 عُمَر أبو ريشة
- .2 يوسُف العَظْمة
- 3. عبد الرّحمن الكواكبي
  - 4. شُنفيق جَبْري
  - .5 ناظم القُدسي
  - .6 هاشم الأتاسي
  - .
     7. شُكْري القُوَّتْلي
- .8 سُلْطان باشا الأَطْرَش
  - . و زكى الأرسوزي
    - .10 إبْراهيم هَنانو

- <sub>-11</sub> نِزار قَبَّاني
- .12 حافظ الأُسَد
- .13 **فارس الخوري**
- .14 أبو خَليل القَبّاني
  - .15 فَيرُوز
- .16 الأَخْوَيْن رَحباني
  - .17 صَباح فَخْري
    - .18 أدونيس
      - 19. حَنّا مينا
- .20 ساطع الحُصْري

### **Lesson Eighteen Translations**

- Omar Abu Risheh one of Syria's and the Arab world's renowned poets
- 2. Yousef al-Azmeh an officer in the Ottoman Army (Following the fall of the Ottoman Empire and the independence of Syria, he became the first Minister of Defense. He was killed fighting the French invasion and became a national hero.)
- 3. Abdelrahman Al-Kawakby a thinker, social reformer, and journalist
- 4. Shakik Jabry a civil servant, poet, and literary critic
- 5. Nazem al-Qudsy a prominent Syrian political leader (He was president in 1931, 1939, 1954, & 1960.)
- 6. Hashim al-Atasy a prominent Syrian political leader (He was president in 1931, 1939, 1954, & 1960.)
- 7. Shukrii al-quwatli was president in 1943 and 1955
- 8. Sultan Pasha al-Atrash a noted leader of the Druze minority, led the Syrian rebellion against the French
- 9. Zaki al-Arsuzi a thinker and philosopher
- 10. Ibrahim Hanano a leader of the resistance against the French occupation 1920–1945
- Nizar Qabbani the foremost Arab poet of modern times

- 12. Hafez al-Asad the late president of Syria (Created stability in Syria for thirty years.)
- 13. Faris al-Khoury a lawyer and statesman; the first prime minster of the Syrian Republic
- 14. Abu-Khalil al-Qabbani founder of the Arab theater in modern history
- 15. Fairuz- a Lebanese singer who enjoyed great popularity in the Arab world, particularly in Syria and Lebanon
- The Rahbany Brothers (Mansour and Assi) revolutionized Arab music and revived traditional, classical music and poetry
- 17. Sabah Fakhry one of the two best tenors in the Arab world
- 18. Adonis (Ali Ahmad Saeed) a modern Avant Garde Syrian poet with an international reputation
- 19. Hanna Mina a renowned contemporary Syrian novelist
- 20. Sati al-Husri a writer and stateman; considered the father of Arab nationalism

### Lesson Nineteen: Expressions for Special Occassions

- 1 تُهانينا!
- .2 الله مَعَك!
- 3. تَمَنيّاتُنا بِالشِّفاءِ العاجِل!
  - 4. نعيماً!
- .5 الحَمْدُ الله عَلى السلامَة!
  - .ه مُسْتَحيل!
  - 7 كُل عام وَأَنْتُم بِخَير!
    - .8 الله يَعطيك العافْية!
      - .9 بْصَحِّتْكُن!
      - .10 طاب يَومُك!

- .11 رَوِّق!
- .12 يا حَرام الشوم!
- 13. بِحْكي مَعَك بَعْد شْنَوَيّ!
  - .14 يا الله!
  - .15 على الطائِر المَيْمون!
    - .16 مْوَفَّق نْشاالله!
  - .17 دير بالك عَلى حالك!
    - .18 عُقبال ميت سنة!
      - .19 انتَبه!
      - 20. يا ريت!

#### **Lesson Nineteen Translations**

- Congratulations! (for a special event)
- 2. Goodbye! Literally, "May God be with you."
- Get well soon!
- 4. Bless you! Cheers! Said when one has finished taking a bath or returned from the barber or hair dresser.
- Welcome back! Glad you're all right! Said after one returns from a trip or has recovered from an illness. (Literally, "Thank God for your safety.")
- 6. No Way!
- 7. May you be well every year, said on any festive occasion, for example New Year or Christmas
- 8. Good job! (Literally, "May God give you strength.")
- 9. To your health! Cheers!
- 10. Have a good day!
- 11. Cheer up!
- 12. What a pity!
- 13. I'll talk to you soon!
- 14. Come on!

- 15. Have a good trip! Bon voyage!
- Break a leg! (Literally, "May God make you succeed!")
- 17. Take good care of yourself!
- 18. Happy Birthday! (Literally, "A hundred more years like this one!")
- 19. Watch out!
- 20. I wish!

### **Lesson Twenty: Some Famous Syrian Dishes**

- 1. كَبُّة
- 2. كُنافة
- .3 **بَقْلاوَة**
- .4 مَعْمول
- .5 شيخ المحشي
  - .ه کُواج
  - 7. مُلوخِيَّة
  - .8 مَحْشىي
    - .9 مُجَدَّرَة
  - .10 فول مْقَلَّى

- .11 بامْيَة
- .12 رز بْقول
- 13. بازلا وَرُزّ
- .14 فاصوليا بالزَيْت
  - 15. سَبانخ
- .16 فَطائِر سبانخ / فَطائِر جُبْن
  - .17 سَمَك مَشْوي
    - .18 بابا غَنّوج
    - .19 كُم مَشْوي
      - 20. مُتَبَّل

#### **Lesson Twenty Translations**

- kibbeh comes in many varieties (It is basically a dome-like pocket stuffed with lamb fat, red peppers, onion, walnuts, and spices.)
- 2. kunafeh a baked dessert made from shredded wheat and sometimes stuffed with pistachios or white cheese
- baklava it's origin is claimed by the Greeks, Turks, and Syrians
- mamoul a soft dough stuffed with pistachios, walnuts, or dates and dusted with confectioners' sugar
- sheikh el-mehshirt a Syrian dish made from small cored zucchinis stuffed with minced meat, onion, and pine nuts and cooked in yogurt
- 6. kawaj a stew that contains tomatoes, diced zucchini, onions, tomato sauce
- 7. mluukhiye an herb
- 8. mahshi zucchini, eggplant, and bell peppers stuffed with rice and meat
- mjaddara cracked wheat cooked with lentils and served with a layer of carmelized onions on top

- 10. foul m'alla green broad beans stir fried with cilantro and garlic in olive oil
- bamya okra cooked in a tomato-based stew with lamb and served with rice
- 12. riz b-foul rice with green broad beans and lamb
- 13. bazilla w-riz rice with peas and lamb
- 14. fasuulia b-zzeit green beans stir fried in olive oil with cilantro and garlic (Another version is cooked in tomato sauce with garlic.)
- 15. sabanekh spinach
- 16. fatayer sabanekh/jiben pastries with spinach / cheese on top
- 17. samak mashwi grilled fish
- 18. baba ghannuuj an eggplant dip
- 19. lahm meshwi grilled lamb
- mtabbal- a dip prepared from mashed carrots or zucchini mixed with tahini, lemon juice, and olive oil

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