As-salaamu-alaykum

By Ghinwa Alameen

Arabic - alarabiya
اللغة العربية

Arabic
Introduction

- **Name of language**: Arabic, alarabiya, /al.ʕa.raʼbij.ja/ (IPA)
- **Official language**: (Arab World) Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Chad, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Western Sahara, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, UAE, Yemen, Chad, United Nations.
- **National language**: Mali, Senegal, Somalia
- **Total Speakers**: Over 300 million (ranking 5th)
- **Writing system**: Arabic Alphabet
- **Language family**: Afro-Asiatic Semitic
Arabic in use

Diglossia

1- **Alfush’a** (the eloquent)
   - Classical Arabic: Quran, classic literature
   - Modern Standard Arabic: media, school, documents (writing).

Diglossia: use of two separate varieties of the same language, usually in different social situations.
2- **Alamiya** (colloquial varieties): Everyday uses.

**Major groups:** Egyptian, Maghreb, Levantine (East Mediterranean), Gulf, Iraqi, East Arabian.
Influence on other languages

• Major source of vocabulary for: Persian, Berber, Kurdish, Swahili, Urdu, Hindi, Turkish, Spanish.
• Language of Islam
English words of Arabic origin

- **General**: Cotton (qotn), sugar (sukkar), artichoke (ardi shoki), lemon (laymoon), camel (jamal), jar (jarra), Sahara (sahraa).
- **Scientific**: Algebra (aljabr), alcohol, chemistry (alkeemiyaa).
- **Religious**: Allah, Muslim, jihad, imam, Kaaba, etc.
Writing System

• From right to left
• 28 letters (3 vowels)
• Cursive: always attached
• Languages using it: Persian, Urdu, Malay.
• Arab chat script: “23rifo al3arabiya”
Hijai order

аб ث ج ح خ
h' h j t t b a
د ذ ر ز ش س
s sh z r th d
ض ط ظ غ غ
g a' z' t' d' s'
فق ك ل م ن
n m l k q f
ه و ي
y w h
Position of letters in words

See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arabic_alphabet
Before & After

أعدت سعبا طيب الأعراق
الأم مدرسة إذا أعدتها
أعدت شعبا طيب الأعراق
الأم مدرسة إذا أعدتها
Agreed Shaba, nice race
Agreed Mother is school
6th c

Ala'raqi t'ayiba shaa'ban aa'dadta
aa'dadta itha madrasaton alumnmu
Mother is school if you prepare her
You prepare a good nation (poetry)
8th c

# Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Western numerals</th>
<th>Standard numerals</th>
<th>Originally Arabic</th>
<th>Originally Indian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>٠</td>
<td>sifr</td>
<td>wahid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>۱</td>
<td>ithnan</td>
<td>arbaa'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>٢</td>
<td>thalath</td>
<td>h'amsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>٣</td>
<td>sita</td>
<td>saba'a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>۴</td>
<td>thamaniy</td>
<td>tisa'a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>۵</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>۶</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>۷</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>٨</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>۹</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Art of Calligraphy

Ruqa’a

Farisi

Andalusi
بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

Bismil lahi alrahman alraheem
محمود خان بن عبد الحميد مظفر دائماً

See also  http://perso.orange.fr/hassan.massoudy/galerie.htm
http://www-personal.umich.edu/~psantill/khaled/images.html
Match the orthographic picture with one of the following phrases in Arabic

- يا رب العالمين
- يا رب العالق
- تل دث الضالميت
- با دب للفاليمين
Phonology

• **Vowels**: three short vowels (marked by *diacritics*), three long vowels and two diphthongs. (see Arabic sounds applet in Ref.)

• **Consonants**: 28 (many pharyngeal and velar), dialectal variation
  
  E.g. qamar (moon):
  
  Amar (Levantine, Egyptian), gamar (Gulf)

• **Stress** vs shadda (double sound)

• **Syllable**: CV, CVV, CVC (no consonant clusters)
  
  d’a.ra.ba, ya.ma.niy.y, g’in.wa
Grammar

NOUN

• **Article**: definite *al-*, no indefinite

• **Inflection**


  Number: *kalb* singular, *kalban* dual, *kilab* plural.

• **Gender**: masculine, feminine.
Pronouns

Personal: Separate words nominative only, inflect for person, number.
e.g. you: *anta* (sm), *anti* (sf), *antuma* (dula), *antum* (pm), *antunna* (pf).

• Eclectic: Affixes to verb, or nouns.
e.g. *qala* ‘he said’, *qalat* ‘she said’, *qala* ‘they both said’, *qalu*: ‘they said’, *qilna* ‘they said (f)’.

Gulf: gal (m), galat (f), galu (p)

Verb

- Three word stem (dictionary criteria)
- Inflection: Affixes for gender, person, number.
- Tense and aspect:
  past (perfect): *thahabat* Ghinwa wahdaha
  went Ghinwa alone
  present (imperfect): *tathhabu* Ghinwa wahdaha.
  Goes, has gone

Sentence structure: VSO, or SVO (not strict)
Ghinwa tathhabu wahdaha.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Arabic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hello (Peace be upon you)</strong></td>
<td>As-salaamu-?laykum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>How are you?</strong></td>
<td>Kaifa-haluk(i)?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Good (Thank God)</strong></td>
<td>Al-hamdu-lellah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Blessed Eid</strong></td>
<td>?eedon mubarak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thank you</strong></td>
<td>Shukran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Good-bye</strong></td>
<td>Ma? as-salama</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
References

• http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Arabic
• Learn Gulf Arabic: http://www.gulfarabic.com
• Arabic sounds applet http://transliteration.org/quran/Pronunciation/Letters/TashP.htm
• Audio Lessons http://st-takla.org/Learn_Languages/01_Learn_Arabic-ta3leem-3araby/Learn-Arabic_00-index_El-Fehres.html
• Recent textbooks
  ❖ Alif Baa: Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds
Ila liqaa’ (until later)

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