

~~Lost~~ found in translation

Being an Arabic citizen living abroad in a multicultural and multinational city was not an easy experience for me.

You meet with lovely, interesting people every single day from all over the world, yet you cannot soak into the full experience of getting to know their culture, their traditions, their lifestyle;

simply because lots of words and meanings got lost in translation.



Understanding each other is requisite nowadays, we as human beings are in need to be heard, we need to be helped, we need to be understood and to uplift each other no matter where we belong to. We need to unite.

So, let me briefly introduce you my language “the Arabic Language”:

The Arabic language (AL-‘arabiyyah , or Aarabi) is one of the eldest and richest speaking languages in the world. And it is usually, but not universally, classified as a central Semitic language as it is related to languages in other subgroups of the Semitic language group.

During the middle ages, Arabic was a major vehicle of culture in Europe, especially in Science, mathematics, and philosophy. As a result, many European languages have borrowed many words from it.

Arabic influence in vocabulary, is mainly seen in European languages “mainly Spanish” and to the lesser extent Portuguese and Catalan, owing to the proximity of Christian European and Muslim Arab civilizations and the long-lasting Arabic culture and language presence mainly in southern Iberia during the AL -ANDALUS era.

Arabic also has influenced many other languages around the globe throughout its history, Some of the most influenced languages are.

Persian, Turkish, Hindi and Urdu, Kurdish, Bosnian, Bengal, Malay, Maldivian, Albanian, Armenian, Azerbaijan, Sicilian, Spanish, Greek, Bulgarian, Tagalog, and many others.

In addition, English has many Arabic loanwords, some directly but mostly via other Mediterranean languages.

The influence of the Arabic language has been most important in Islamic countries, because it is the language of the Islamic sacred book “the Quran”, but it is an important source of vocabulary for other languages as mentioned above, hence the education minister of France has recently been emphasizing the learning and usage of Arabic in schools.

The Arabic language has changed and modified through the centuries, we had an old Arabic, old Hejazi and classical Arabic, Neo-Arabic, Nahda “during the wake of the industrial revolution”, and then the modern Arabic.

Arabic usually refers to Standard Arabic, which western linguists divide into “Classical Arabic and Modern Standard Arabic “. It could also refer to any of variety of regional vernacular Arabic dialects, which are not necessarily mutual intelligible.

Classical Arabic is the language found in Quran “The holy book of Islam”. Classical Arabic is perspective, according to the syntactic and grammatical norms laid down by classical grammarians and the vocabulary defined in classical dictionaries.

أ	ب	ت	ث	ج	ح	خ	د	ذ	ر	ز	س	ش	ص	ض	ط	ظ	ع	غ	ف	ق	ك	ل	م	ن	ه	و	ى
'	b	t	th	j	h	kh	d	dh	r	z	s	s	h	ḍ	t	ẓ	'	gh	f	q	k	l	m	n	h	w	z

Modern standard Arabic largely follows the grammatical standards of classic Arabic and uses much of the same vocabulary. however, it has discarded some grammatical constructions and vocabularies which no longer have any counterpart in the spoken varieties and dialects.

The Arabic is the liturgical language of 1.8 billion Muslims, and the mother language of approximately 422 million citizens around the world making it the fifth spoken language in the world. Arabic is spoken in 27 different country, taking in consideration that each country has it is own dialect or slang, yet the classical Arabic language is understood both spoken and written around all the Arabic nations.

The Arabic alphabets contain 28 letters as shown above.

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