

# The interaction between Greek and Arabic Medical Terms

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Muslims divided science into two distinct categories: First, *'Ilm al-Ady On<sup>1</sup>* علم الأديان, (i.e. science of religion or of legitimacy): covering theology; such as the interpretation, the *ʿad ʿat ʿ*, the *qir ʿ ʿ ʿ*, *al-fiqh*, *ʿelm al-kal ʿm*, rhetoric, language, syntax, and literature. Second, *'Ilm al-Abd On<sup>2</sup>* علم الأبدان, i.e. natural sciences or the science of mental or Wisdom. Sometimes, they are called science *'Ilm Al- ʿA ʿjam علم العجم* or **Ancient science**, namely: philosophy, medicine, engineering, astrology, music, magic and chemistry. The second type of science is meant in this paper: namely, the heritage of the Arabs in medicine because medicine is the focus of scientific studies in Islamic civilization, and has a special place and distinct. Arab scholars tries to make science a secular subject and to liberate it from religion.

Here I shall draw some of my findings relating to a type of *'Ilm al-Abd On* by comparing between the Greek and Arabic medical terms.

**Medical terminology** has evolved in great measure from the Greek, Latin, and Arabic languages into recent medicine. During the Renaissance period, when the science was begun some medical terms of the disease first used by Galen, and pharmacy by Dioscorides have been retained till now. This accounts for the fact that the second most common source of medical root words is the Greek language. Other older roots have their origins in Arabic. This is due to the fact that Arabic scholars were important teachers of medicine through the middle ages.

The Arabs were the first scientists who had gathered Greek medical

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knowledge's texts into encyclopedias that also contained their interpretations of the texts. Avicenna's *al-Canon* and Haly Abbas' *Pantegn<sup>3</sup>i* are two of the most influential Arab encyclopedias to be translated into Latin. Their works were an ordered catalogue of known medical knowledge.

The new medical texts came with a whole new set of medical terms both from the Greek texts and from its Arab interpreters.

In the Middle Ages, these Arabic encyclopedias were translated into Latin. Since Latin lacked adequate medical terminology, frequently, in the absence of Latin equivalent, Arabic terms were adopted for the nomenclature of the structures of the body in medicine. This gave a historical and scientific value for the Arabic medical heritage.

As it is well known, the medical heritage of the Arab has a historical and scientific value, and it benefits us on the level of the term, and experiences of Arab scientists in this area should be inspirited. The translation of the medical heritage usually distinguish between two different phases: The phase of transference, and readability then the assimilation and understanding.

The phase of transference is prior to the phase of absorption and understanding. Arabs translated medical books from Greek, Syriac, Persian into Arabic, and the phase of absorption began by using the translated knowledge and ended by merging it into the Arabic thought and culture.

The issue of finding the appropriate term in two phases has risen together in varying degrees for finding the accurate Arabic term that will be used in medicine, and is able to express the pure and complex concepts, and to call things by their accurate nomenclature.

In the first phase (i.e. transference and receipt), the main problem for the Arab translators was an almost complete lack of technical Arabic terms in return for Greek terms, and they had to have a solution to the problem by going to three basic ways:

### **1- The transliteration of the Greek term into Arabic either direct or**

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indirect through the Syriac or Persian language:

ημιτριταίος → (حمى شبه ثلثية) أمطريطاوس = Semi-tertian fever

ημιτριταίος, α, ον, of a fever, *semi-tertian*<sup>4</sup> الملاريا

الثلثية, (see Hippocrates Medicus (v BC.) *Epid.*1.2, Galenus

Medicus (ii AD.) 1.17(1) 233), and for ημιτριταίικος, η, ον, (see Ptolemaeus Mathematicus (ii AD.) *Tetr.*199).

επιαλος → (حمى الملاريا) إبيالوس = Ague

επιαλος and εφιαλτης, Aeol. επιαλτης (see Alcaeus Lyricus, iii p. 147 (vii/vi BC.) 129; (= 406 L.-P.), Macrobius Grammaticus (iv/v AD.) *Somn.*1.3.7, also επιαλος,

*nightmare*, conceived as a throttling demon, Phrynichus Comicus (v BC.)1, Dioscorides Medicus (i AD.) 3.140 (pl.). Dor. εφιαλτας (as nomen proprium), BCH = suppl. 8, 9, v. index IV. 109.94 no. N7, Artemidorus Daldianus Onirocriticus (ii AD.) 2.37, Rufus Medicus (ii AD.) apud Orbasius Medicus (iv AD.) 7.26.177, Strabo Geographus (i BC. / i AD.) 1.2.8; pr. n. of one of the Aloidae, II. 5.385, Odyssey 11.308, *Salamine de Chypre* XIII. *Testimonia Salamina* 2: *Corpus épigraphique*, J. 355 (amphora, vi BC.), Pi. P. 4.89), and Att. pr. n., cf. Aelius Dionysius Grammaticus (ii AD.) *Fr.*381, *Inscriptiones Graecae*. 1<sup>2</sup>.950.92, etc. (Identified with ηπιολης by A.D. Fr. 8.12 (or Apollodorus, v. Sophron Comicus (v BC.) 68 note); επιαλτης (see Suidas Lexicographus (x AD.).

καλοποδιον → قالب = caliber

καλοποδιον meaning **caliber** is derived from M. French **calibre** via the Spanish or Italian language, ultimately, from the Arabic substantive *qalib* "a mold, last," which perhaps is derived from the Greek substantive καλοποδιον "a



shoemaker's last" lit. It is compound from "little wooden foot" from **καλον**<sup>5</sup> "wood" + **ποδος** (gen. of **πους** "foot"). Arabic also used the substantive in the sense "mold for casting bullets," which is the original lit. meaning in Eng., though the earliest cited sense is the fig. one of "social standing, quality, rank". **Calibrate** is derived from **caliber** and is attested as half-life, with means "unsatisfactory way of living;" the sense in physics, "amount of time it takes half a given amount of radioactivity to decay." (see Douglas Harper, Etymology' Dictionary, 2001 vs. **caliber**. (See Gal. 6.364, Suid.<sup>6</sup> **καλοποδαριαι φορμαι lasts**, and *Edict.Diocl.9.1.*<sup>7</sup>).

**πιστακια** → **الفستق** = → **pistachio**

**πιστακη** meaning **pistachio** **الفستق**, ultimately from Greek **πιστακη, η**, pistachio tree<sup>8</sup>, *Pistacia vera*, Alciphro Epistolographos (iv AD.) 1.22 ( See Diosc. I 124 **πιστακια** vs., and Ibn Sina II 412, 5.)



**σαγαπηνον** → **سَخْبِنَاج** (Persian) → **سكبينج** (Arabic) = *Ferula persica*

**σαγαπηνον, το**, a plant, probably, *Ferula persica*, Galenus op.cit. 12.117; also its *gum*, Dioscorides op.cit. 3.95; and as adj., **οπος σαγαπηνος** Gal. 1.c. 13.567.



**αψινθιον** → **أفسنتين** = **wormwood**

**αψινθιον, το**, *wormwood*, *Artemisia Absinthium*, Hippocrates Medicus (v BC.) *Morb.3.11*, *Mul.1.74*, Xenophon Historicus (v/iv BC.) *An.1.5.1*, Theophrastus Philosophus (iv/iii BC.) *HP1.12.1*, Dioscorides (i AD.) 3.23. Another kind called **αψινθιον θαλασσιον** (see Dsc.3.23,5).



## 2- Literal translation of the term:

**αλωπεκια** → **داء الثعلب** = **(fox sickness or alopecia)**

**αλωπεκια, η**, disease, like *manage in foxes*, in which hair falls off (see Sophocles Tragicus (v BC.) *Fr.419*, and Gal.12.381), pl. *bald patches* on the head (see Aristoteles Philosophus (iv BC.) *Pr.893*<sup>b38</sup>).



οφιασις → داء الحية = (snake sickness)

οφιασις, εως, η bald place on the head, of serpentine or winding form, Gal. 12.381, 10.1004, and a form of leprosy in which the patient sheds his skin like a snake, Ps.-Gal.14.757.



επιληψια → (المرض الالاهى) = (Sacred Disease = epileptic fit = الصرع)

επιληψια, η or επιληψις, εως, η epileptic fit<sup>9</sup>, (see Hippocrates Medicus, *Coac.*587, *Morb.Sacr.*10, Aristoteles Philosophus, *Pr.*960<sup>a</sup>18, etc. (but, invasion, attack of disease, Hp.*Morb.*3.16.).



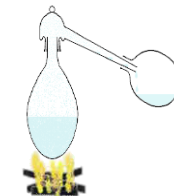
μυος ωτα → أذان الفار = madwort

μυος ωτα<sup>10</sup>, also μυοσωτις, ιδος, η, madwort<sup>11</sup>, *Asperugo procumbens*, Dioscorides (i AD.) 2.183. It called also αλσινη, η, lich-wort, *Parietaria lusitanica*, Theophrastus Philosophus (iv/iii BC.) *HP*9.13.3, Dioscorides (i AD.) 4.86.



αμβιξ → الإنبيق = Alembic

αμβιξ meaning alembic: In modern language, the substantive 'alembic' is the Arabic substantive *al-anbiq* (الإنبيق) means 'still' (the distillation device). It is derived



from Greek αμβιξ, meaning a vessel narrowing towards the brim, or cup (see Hesychius, Lexicographus (c. v AD.), Athenaeus.11.480d). We have also αμβικος, cap of still (see Posidonius Historicus (II/I BC.) 67.25 E.-K., and Boeckh A., *Corpus Inscriptionum Graecarum*, Berlin (1828–77). 3071.7, and Etymologicum Magnum 80.18, as cap of still (see Dioscorides op.cit. 5, 95, Zosimus, *Alchemista* (iii / iv AD.) p.141 B.).

αμβυξ, perhaps = αμβιξ, (see Herodianus Grammaticus (ii AD.) 1.44, al).

It is to be noticed that that Greek letter μ becomes ن in Arabic language

because when the letter م immediately followed by the letter ب, without any vowel coming between them, ن takes the sound of م as عنبر ④ **ambar** not ④ **nbar**<sup>12</sup>.

### 3- Arabicised the Greek terms:

ξηριον → ksirin (Syriac) → الإكسير (Arabic) = **elixir**

ξηριον meaning **elixir** الإكسير (*al-ʿiksīr*): two terms have been called elixir: (1) the philosopher stone<sup>13</sup>; (2) medicinal potion (L. *medicamentum siccum*). The Arabic substantive is derived from Greek ξηριον "desiccative powder for putting on wounds" (see P. Oxy. 1142.7 (iii AD.))<sup>14</sup> and Alex.



Trall.1.15<sup>15</sup>, The substantive can be written without iota (see Aet. 6. 65 al., ξηρον<sup>16</sup>; Alexander Aphrodisiensis Philosophus (iii AD.) Pr. 1.150). The transfer of the Greek medical term into Arabic has two verbal types; either direct from Greek or indirect from Greek through Syriac or Persian.. Thus, the term إكسير is subjected to some Arabic rules, (1) ξηριον becomes إكسير on the measure of *If ④ @l* (وزن إفعيل), (2) A syllable cannot begin with two consonant, the first of which is destitute of a vowel, as *sf* or *fl*. Foreign words, which commence with a syllable of this sort, on passing into the Arabic language, take an additional vowel (*alif*)<sup>17</sup>, **usually before the first consonant**; as σπογγος → إسفنج, Πλατον → أفلاطون and ξηριον → إكسير). Sometimes the final ending of the Greek substantive is elision such as ξηριον → إكسير or left such as ασαρον → أسارون

σταξ → استقص (pl. استقصات) = **drop**

σταξ, perhaps from σταγων, ονος, η *drop* (irreg. Nom pl. σταγες) (see Apollonius Rhodius Epicus (iii BC.) 4.626). It is to be noticed that the Arab scientists used this substantive in its plural form. So استقصات was arabicised by using **the**



*pluralis fractus* (جمع تكسير) which alters singular to plural by adding *alif* and *t* since the substantive is of foreign origin such as سرادق → سرادقات (awnings, tents) and بیمارستان → بیمارستانات. (Hospitals) It is to be noticed also the exchanging of the letter ζ to ص which terminates the substantive since they are of the same group (the sibilants' letters ز، س، ص).

μυρσινη → آس (in Egypt called مرسين) = myrtle

μυρσινη, η, myrtle, (L. *Myrtus communis*), (see *Inscriptiones Graecae* 1<sup>2</sup>.313.150, 2<sup>2</sup>.949.18, 1235.14, Theophrastus Philosophus (iv/iii BC.) *HP*1.14.4, etc. Archilochus Lyricus (vii BC.) 29, Lysippus Comicus (v BC.) 9, Alexander Rhetor (ii AD.) 98.25, Aristoteles Philosophus (iv BC.) *HA*627<sup>b</sup>18, and μυρσιννος, η, ον = μύρρινος, of myrtle, *Dsc*.1.39, and μυρσινων, ωνος, ο, myrtle-grove, *Id.Ra*.156, Aesopus Fabularum Scriptor 194, Philostratus Sophista (ii/iii AD.) *Im*.2.1.



It may be noticed also the similarities in Arabic to Greek words: on meeting κραιμβη, you may notice that the Arabic for "cabbage" *kromb*<sup>18</sup>.

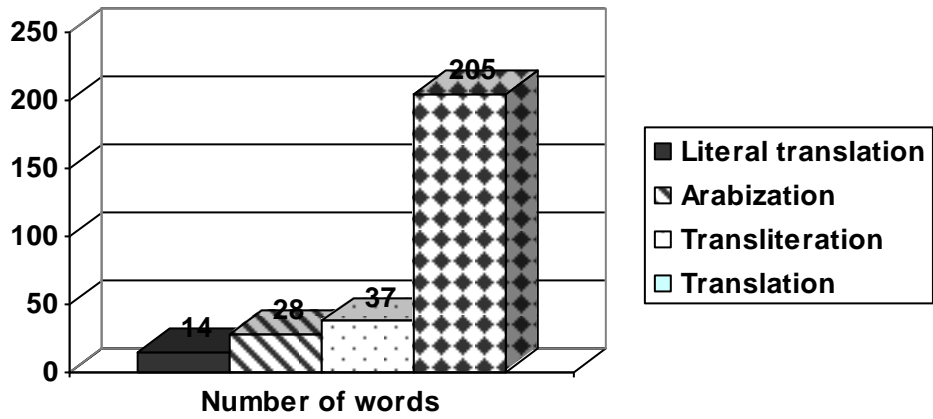
Taking **Avicenna**'s second book "Simple medicament" as an example, and by analysis of the botanic names presented in this book showed that literal translation was found in 14 words (4.964539 %), Arabization was found in 28 words (9.929078 %), transliteration was found in 37 words (13.12057 %) and translation was found in 205 words (72.69504 %). The following table and figures summarizes these results.



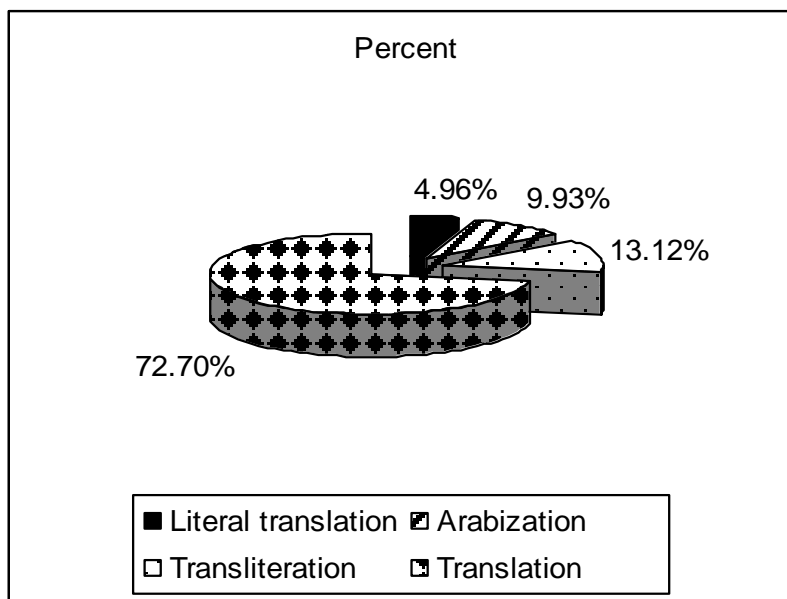
**Table 1: Methods of transfer of medical terms**

Methods of transfer	Number of words	Percent
Literal translation	14	4.964539 %
Arabization	28	9.929078 %
Transliteration	37	13.12057 %
Translation	205	72.69504 %

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**Fig 1: Methods of transfer of medical terms by number of words**



**Fig 2: Methods of transfer of medical terms by percent**



Full analysis of the only Botanic Greek<sup>19</sup> terms in Ibn Sina' Al-Canon fi Al-Tib<sup>20</sup>, the second book, the second tractate is shown in the following tables:

Literal translation 14 words		Arabization 28 words			
μυος ωτα	آذان الفار	μυρσινη	مرسين (in Egypt), آس	γεντιανη	جنطيانا
αστηρ Αττικος	أسطاروس أطيقوس	σκιλλα	أشقىل وهو سقلا	αμωμον	حماما
Ποταμογειτων	جار النهر	αγαλοχον	أغالوجى	δαυκος	دوقوا
ελλεβορος λευκος	خرىق أبيض	επιθυμον	افىثمون	ζιγγιβερι	زنجبىل
ελλεβορος μελας	خرىق أسود	αψιπιθιον	افسنطين	σαγαπηνον	السكىبىذ
πεντεφυλλον	خمسة أوراق	ακαπιθιον	أقسون	σιλλυβον	سلوثن
ιππουρις	ذنب الخىل	ακαπιθιον	أقسون	σησαμον	سمسم
τριχομανες	شعر الغول	ιρις	ايرسا	καπιναβις	قنب
σικυς ημερος	قثاء بستانى	πεπλος	بابلس	καππαρις	كبر
σικυς αγριος	قثاء برى قثاء الحمار	παπυρος	برى	καρω	كراويا
κραμβη αγρια	كرنب برى	βαλσαμον	بلسان	κοπινον	كمون
βουγλωσσον	لسان الثور	ποντικα	بندق	μηον	مو
αρνογλωσσον	لسان الحمل	θερμος	بندق	ναρκισσος	نرجس
αμυδαληγλυκει	لوز حلو	θαψια	تفسيا	ροδα	ورد
α					

<b>Transliteration</b>			
<b>37 words</b>			
εβενος	أبنوس	σισαρον	σεισαρον
ασαρον	أسارون	σεσελις	σεισαλιος
στοιχας	الأسطوخودوس	σιον	σιον
ιτεα	أطا	τριφυλλον	طريفلون
ακακια	أقاقيا	αγαρικον	غاريقون
αλυσσον	ألوسن	γαλιον	γαλιον
αναγαλλις	أناغالς	πρασιον	φρασιον
ηδυσαρων	ايدوصارون	πιστακια	فستق
αιησον	انيسون	πετροσελιον	فطراسαλιον
βρεττανκη	برطانيقى	φου	فو
βολβος	بليوس	καρδαμωμον	قرمانا
χελιδονιον	خالιδونيون	κοστος	قسط
χαμαιλεων	خامالاون	κισσος	فسوس
χονδρος	خندروس	κενταυρειον	κνταυρειον
δρυοπτερις	درويπταρς	χαμαιδρυς	κμαδριος
σφονδυλιον	سفندوليον	χαμαιπιτυς	κμαφιτυς
σκαμμωνια	سقمونيا	λοβια	لوبيα
σκορδιον	سقورδιον	λειμωνιον	λειμωνιον
συμφυτον	سومفوطون		

<b>Translation 205 words</b>					
βραθυ	أبهل	ευζωμον	جرجير	περιστεριον	رعى الحمام
φυτον	أترج	σταφυλιος	جزر	ελαφοβοσκον	رعى الأبل
κοκκυμηλεα	آجاص	πολιον	جعدة	ροα	رمان
σχοινος	أذخر	σησαμοειδες	جلبهنك	αριστολοχεια	زراوند
βρυον	أشنة	βαλαυστιον	چلنار	μεσπιλον	زعرور
παρθενιον	أقحوان	συκαμορον	جميز	κροκος	زعفران
μελιλωτος	أكليل	καρυα βασικικα	جوز	αλισμα	زمانة الراعى
	الملك				
παλιουρος	أم غيلان	θυμος	حاشا	ανθυλλις	الزهره

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οξυακανθα	أنيريارس	δαφνιδες	حب الغار	υσσωπος	زوفابايس
σιλφιον	انجدان	τερμινθος	حبة الخضرا	πανακες Ασκληπι<ει>ον	زوفρα
ακαληφη	أجرة	σκολυμος	حرفش	αγριελαια	زيتون
ανθεμις	بابونج	καρδαμον	حرف	μαλαβαθ-ρον	सानج
ακανθα λευκη	باذاورد	πηγανον αγριον	حرمل	πηγανον	سذاب
μελισσοφυλλον	بادرنجويه	τριβολος	حسك	λυχις στεφανοματικη	سراج القطرب
ωκιμον	بانرج	ελξινη	حشيشة الزجاج	πτερις	سرخس
κυαμοςΕλληνικος	بقلا	λυκιοι	حوض	ανδραφαξυς	سمرق
βαλανος	بان	τηλις	حلبه	κυπαρισσος	سرو
αδιαντον	برسياوشان	λαπαθον	جماض	βηχιοι	سعالى
αρτεμισια	برنجاسف	ερεβινθος	حمص	θυμβρα	سعتر
ψυλλιοι	بزرقطونا	κυπρος	حناء	κυπερος	سعد
λινοσπερμον	بزر كتان	λωτος	حندقوقى	κυδωνια	قودنيا
μακιρ	بسياسه	πυροι	حنظه	ασπληνος	سقولوبنداريون
κουραλιοι	بسد	κολοκυνθα αγρια	حنظل	σευτλον	سلق
πολυποδιον	بسفايج	λευκη	حور	κασσιας	سليخة
κρομμυον	بصل	αιγειρος	حور رومى	ρους	سماق
πολυγονον	ببطاط	μολοχη	خبازى	συμυριοι	سمرنيون
τερμινθος	بطم	σινηπι	خردل	ναρδος	سنبل
πεπων	بطيخ	κερατια	خرنوب	κολχικον	سورنجان
ανδραχη	بقلة حمقاء	θριδαξ	خس	κρινον	سوسن
βλιτον	بقلة يمانية	μηκων	خشخاش	καπνος	شاهترج
δρυς	بلوط	σατυριοι	خصى الثعلب	ανηθον	شبت
υοσκυαμος	بنج	ορχις	خصى الكلب	πιτυουσα	شبرم
αγιος	بنجنكشت	αλθαια	خطى	κεδρος	شربين
ον	بنفسج	ασφοδελος	خنثى	αλφιτον	شعير
αφακη	بيقية	Περσικα μηλα	خوخ	ανεμωνη	شقائى
νασκαφθον	بنك	ασπαλαθος	دار شيشعان	ακτη	شل
βουθαλαμον	بنك	κιναμωμον	دار صينى	γογγυλη	شلجم
φλομος	بوصير	ιξος	ديق	αγχουσα	شنجار
μηλεας	بوصير	πελεας	دردار	μελανθιοι	شونيز
μορεα	توت	νηριοι	دقلى	σεριφον	شيج
ερυσιμον	تودرى	πατανος	دلب	λεπιδιοι	شيطرج
συκα	تين	αιγλωψ	دوسر	αιρα	شيلم
σκορδου	ثوم	μαραθον	رازيانج	αλυη	صبر
αγρωστις	ثيل	αλενιοι	راسن	στροβιλοι	صنوبر
κενχρος	جاروس	ρα	راوند	φακος	طحلب
πανακες	جاوشير	μηδικη	رطبه	μυρικη	طرفاء

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Translation (Cont.)					
205 words					
στροβιλοι	صنوبر	κολοκυνθα εδωδιμος	قرع	λαθυρις	ماهيدانة
φακος	طحلب	καλα.μων	قصب الذريرة	φιλυρα	محلّب
μυρικη	طرفاء	καλα.μος αρωματικος	قصب	μελια	مران
πυρεθρος	عافر قرحا	ασκληπιας	قنابرى	σαμψουχον	مرزنجوش
φακος	عس	αβροτονον	قيصوم	μελισσοφυλλον	مرو
λεοντοπεταλον	عزطنيثا	λιγυστικον	كاشم	δικταμνον	مشك طرامشير
αρκευθις	عرعر	στρυχνον	كائنج	Αρμεινακα μηλα	شمش
χελιδονιον μεγα	عروق	βατραχιον	كبيكنج	σχινος	مصطكى
	الصباغين				
κηκις	عفص	τραγακανθα	كثيرا	σταφισ αγρια	ميويج
βατος	علق	πρασον κεφαλωτον	كراث	αμι	نانخواه
σταφυλη	عنب	οροβος	كرسنة	φοιγιξ	نخل
στρυχνον	عنب	σελινον	كرفس	ηδυσομον	نعناع
	الثعلب				
ραμνος	عوسج	αμπελος οινοφορος	كرم	ερπυλλος	نمام
δαφνη	غار	κοριον	كزبرة	βρομος	هرظمان
ευπατοριος	غافت	ακακαλλις	كزمازك	νυμφαια	نيلوفر
ιτεα	غرب	υδνον	كمأة	σερις	هندبا
αμπελος λευκη	فاشرا	απιος	كمثرى	ασπαραγος	هليون
αμπελος μελαινα	فاشرستين	στρουθιον	كندس	ακορον	وج
γλυκυσιδη	فاوانيا	κισθος	لاذن	ιστατις	وسمه
ραφανις	فجل	περσαια	اللبخ	μαναδραγορας	يبروح
πεπερι	فلفل	ελξινη	لبلاب	τιθυμαλλον	يتوع
ακιος	فلنجمشك	αρον	لوف	ακορον	ينبوت
καλαμινη	فوننج	χαμελαια	مازριον		
ερυθροδανον	قوة	γλαυκιον	ماميثا		
	الصباغين				

## Notas

- <sup>1</sup> *The Cambridge History of Science: Eighteenth-century science* / edited by Roy Porter, et al. Published by Cambridge University Press, 2003, Page 670.
- <sup>2</sup> Rahman, A. 1996. A Perspective of Indian Science of Tenth-Eighteenth Centuries. In *Science Philosophy and Culture- Multi Disciplinary Explorations* (Part I) Edited by D.P. Chattopadhyaya and Ravinder Kumar. New Delhi: PHISPC. Pp. 396-426.
- <sup>3</sup> Charles S. F. Burnett, Danielle Jacquart (eds.), *Constantine the African and ʿAlī Ibn Al-ʿAbbās Al-Magūsī: The Pantegni and Related Texts*. Leiden: Brill, 1995.
- <sup>4</sup> Malaria was a common and endemic disease in the Classical era (see Sallares R. *Malaria and Rome*, Oxford, University Press, 2002, 1-123). Asclepiades (2nd century BC), while confirming the high incidence of periodic fevers in Rome, stressed the seriousness of quotidian fevers which often caused serious brain disease. (see Retief FP, Cilliers L. *Malaria in Graeco-Roman times*. *Acta Classica* 2004; 67: 127-137.). In the 1st century the encyclopaedist, Celsus, clearly described three kinds of periodic fevers which almost certainly were malaria, viz. quotidian, *tertian* and *quartan* fevers. In an extraordinary observation he mentioned that tertian fevers would be mild when days between fever peaks were a pyrexia (benign tertian malaria), but more serious when fever never completely abated – malignant tertian malaria according to the classical description given above, and called *hemitritaion* (semi-tertian fever) by himself. Pliny the Elder (Pliny the Elder, *Natural History*, 28. 23, 83; 29.17.63; 30.98) summarized existing therapeutic regimens, including herbal remedies and magical procedures (see Francois Retief, Louise Cilliers, Pyrexia and Malaria in Antiquity, 2006, Vol. 96, No. 8 SAMJ p. 687 ff.).
- <sup>5</sup> καλον, το, wood, καλον εν ιαρω πεφυκος *Berl.Sitzb.*1927.157 (Cyrene); elsewhere only in pl. καλα = ξυλα, logs, for burning, καγκανα κ. *h.Merc.*112; παλαιθετα κ. *Call.Fr.*66c; τα κ.και τους ανθρακας *Ion Trag.*29; also, timber for joiner's work, επικαμπυλα κ. *Hes.Op.*427; esp. of ships, ποττα καλα (καλα cod.) *Ar.Lys.*1253; ερρει τα καλα the ships are lost (καλα codd.), *X.HG1.*1.23, *Plu.Alc.*28. (καλον and κηλον (q.v.) perh. fr. ).
- <sup>6</sup> Suidas Lexicographus (x AD.) vs. καλοπδαρια.
- <sup>7</sup> *Edictum Diocletiani*, ed. T. Mommsen & H. Blümner, *Der Maximaltarif des Diocletian*, Berlin 1893; suppl. *CIL* iii pp. 1926 ff., 2208 ff, 2328<sup>57</sup> ff.: cited where possible by Mommsen's chaps. & lines, recently found portions by place of discovery *Diokletians Preisedikt. Texte und Kommentare*, S. Lauffer, Berlin 1971.; (*Aeg.* = Aegira; *Clit.* = Clitor; *Delph.* = Delphi; *Troezen.* = Troezen); *Geronthr.* = *IG5(1)*1115; *Gyth.* = *5 (1)*1148.
- <sup>8</sup> Collins English Dictionary (1979), vs. pistachio.
- <sup>9</sup> In ancient times, epilepsy was known as the "Sacred Disease" because people thought that epileptic seizures were a form of attack by demons, or that the vision experienced by persons with epilepsy were sent by the gods.(see Epilepsy, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Epilepsy>, and Harper, Douglas (2001). "epilepsy". Online Etymological Dictionary. Retrieved on 2005-06-05.).

- <sup>10</sup> **μυς**, ο, *mouse* or *rat*, and **ους**, το, gen. **ωτος**, *ear, auricle* (see LSJ vs. **μυς**, and **ους**).
- <sup>11</sup> Madwort is a low-growing Eurasian plant (*Asperugo procumbens*) having rough stems and small blue flowers. Alyssum, genus of low-growing, mostly perennial plants, also called madwort. Golden tuft, or rock madwort, and yellow tuft are spring-flowering.
- <sup>12</sup> Wright, W., *A Grammar of the Arabic Language*, Cambridge 1967, p. 7.
- <sup>13</sup> The **philosopher's stone** (*L. lapis philosophorum*; Gr. **χρυσοποιια**, η "*the making of gold*") is a legendary substance, supposedly capable of turning inexpensive metals into gold.; it was also sometimes believed to be an elixir of life, useful for rejuvenation and possibly for achieving immortality. In the 8th-century, Arab alchemist Jabir ibn Hayyan analyzed each classical element in terms of the four basic qualities of hotness, coldness, dryness, and moistness. Fire was both hot and dry, earth cold and dry, water cold and moist, and air hot and moist. He further theorized that every metal was a combination of these four principles, two of them interior and two exterior. From this premise, it was reasoned that the transmutation of one metal into another could be affected by the rearrangement of its basic qualities. This change would presumably be mediated by a substance, which came to be called *al-iksir* in Arabic. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philosopher%27s\\_stone#cite\\_note-3](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philosopher%27s_stone#cite_note-3)
- <sup>14</sup> Oxyrhynchus Papyri, 1142.7, ed. B. P. Grenfell & A. S. Hunt, London 1898. **ξηριον** (δραχμων) ιδ.
- <sup>15</sup> Alexander Trallianus Medicus [Alex.Trall.] (vi AD.) 1.15 κριθαι **ξηριον** επιπασσομεναι τοις ελκεσι.
- <sup>16</sup> Aethlius Historicus v B.C. (?) Aët.6.65, αι ανιον ωκιμου καρφη ξηρα κοπειντα μελανθιον λειον ξηρον η θυμον ζυ μη φυραα και ει τεφραν εγκρυψα, οταν οπτηθη, λειωα χρω.
- <sup>17</sup> Wright, W., op. cit. & 26 p. 20.
- <sup>18</sup> See W. G. Waddell, A Teacher of Classics in Egypt, *The Classical Journal*, Vol. 28, No. 7 (Apr., 1933), p 489.
- <sup>19</sup> For Greek botanic terms see Pedanius Dioscorides Anazarbeus, *De Materia Medica*, ed. Max Wellmann, Berolini 1907.
- <sup>20</sup> For Arabic botanic terms see Avicenna, *Al-Canon fi Al-ʿIlm bi-Ṭib*, Arabic version, ed. Boul@q 1284 AH./1877 AD.