

## The Arabic Origins of "Family Words" in English and European Languages: A Lexical Root Theory Approach

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**Abstract:** *This paper investigates the Arabic cognates and/or origins of family terms in English, German, French, Latin, Greek, and Sanskrit from a lexical root theory viewpoint. The data consists of 107 terms or so such as mother, father, brother, sister, son, daughter, relative, wife, husband, couple, marriage, affiliation, friendship, and so on. The results show that all such words have true Arabic cognates, with the same or similar forms and meanings. Their different forms, however, are all shown to be due to natural and plausible causes of linguistic change. For example, English mother, German Mutter, French mere, and Latin matra derive from Arabic mar'a(t) 'woman, wife' via lexical shift, reordering, and turning /t/ into /th (Ø); English son and German Sohn 'son' come from Arabic Sinu 'son, brother, uncle' via narrowing and turning /S/ into /s/. As a result, this entails, contrary to Comparative Method claims, that Arabic, English and all (Indo-)European languages belong to the same language, let alone the same family. Because of their phonetic complexity, huge lexical variety and multiplicity, Arabic words are the original source from which English and all the others stemmed. This proves the adequacy of the lexical root theory according to which Arabic, English, German, French, Latin, Greek, and Sanskrit are dialects of the same language with the first being the origin.*

**Keywords:** *Family words, Arabic, English, German, French, Latin, Greek, Sanskrit, historical linguistics, lexical root theory*

### 1. Introduction

The lexical root theory (Jassem 2012a-f, 2013a-j) first emerged as a rejection of the classification of the comparative 'historical linguistics' method that Arabic belongs to a different language family than English, German, French, and all (Indo-)European languages in general (Bergs and Brinton 2012; Algeo 2010; Crystal 2010: 302; Campbell 2006: 190-191; Crowley 1997: 22-25, 110-111; Pyles and Algeo 1993: 61-94). It firmly established, instead, the inextricable genetic relationship between Arabic and such languages on all levels: phonetically, morphologically, grammatically, and lexically or semantically (Jassem 2012a-f, 2013a-j).

Thus far sixteen studies have been conducted. Lexically, nine studies have successfully traced the Arabic origins of English, German, French, Latin, Greek and Sanskrit words in key semantic fields, including numeral words (Jassem 2012a), common religious terms (Jassem

2012b), *water* and *sea* terms (Jassem 2013d), *air* and *fire* terms (Jassem 2013e), *celestial* and *terrestrial* terms (Jassem 2013f), *animal* terms (Jassem (2013g), *body part* terms (Jassem 2013h), *speech* and *writing* terms (Jassem 2013i), and *time* words (Jassem 2013j). Morphologically, three studies established the Arabic origins of English, German, French, Latin, and Greek inflectional 'plural and gender' markers (Jassem 2012f), derivational morphemes (Jassem 2013a), and negative particles (Jassem 2013b). Grammatically, three papers described the Arabic origins of English, German, French, Latin, and Greek personal pronouns (Jassem 2012c), determiners (Jassem 2012d), and verb *to be* forms (Jassem 2012e). Phonologically, Jassem (2013c) outlined the English, German, French, Latin, and Greek cognates of Arabic back consonants: i.e., the glottals, pharyngeals, uvulars, and velars. In all the papers, the phonetic analysis is essential, of course.

The remainder of this paper has four sections, which tackle (i) the research methods, (ii) the results, (iii) the discussion, and (iv) the conclusion.

## 2. Research Methods

### 2.1 The Data

The data consists of 107 *family* words or so such as *mother*, *father*, *brother*, *sister*, *son*, *daughter*, *relative*, *wife*, *husband*, *couple*, *marriage*, *affiliation*, *friendship*, and so on. Their selection has been based on the author's knowledge of their frequency and use and English thesauri. For quick reference, they have been arranged alphabetically alongside of brief linguistic notes in (3.) below. All etymological references to English below are for Harper (2012) and to Arabic for Altha3aalibi (2011: 133-140, 251-54), Ibn Seedah (1996: 1/15-50, 3/118-158, 4/1-60), and Ibn Manzoor (2013) in the main.

Although transcribing the data uses normal spelling for practical purposes, certain symbols were used for unique Arabic sounds. These include /2 & 3/ for the voiceless and voiced pharyngeal fricatives respectively, /kh & gh/ for the voiceless and voiced velar fricatives each, capital letters for the emphatic counterparts of plain consonants /t, d, dh, & s/, and // for the glottal stop (Jassem 2013c).

The above *family* words can make up natural texts on their own, e.g.,

Carl is a husband and father; Carla is a wife and mother. They have been married for twenty years; they have sons, daughters, nieces, nephews, cousins, grandsons, great grandsons, and in-laws; they are aunts, uncles, grandmothers, godmothers, grandfathers. They are a good couple and good parents of a good family. They are all relatives; they are not allowed to marry each other in English law.

### 2.2 Data Analysis

### 2.2.1 Theoretical Framework: The Lexical Root Theory

The lexical root theory will be used as the theoretical framework in this study. To save on space and effort and avoid redundancy, the reader is referred to earlier papers for a full account of it (Jassem 2012a-f, 2013a-i).

### 2.2.2 Statistical Analysis

The percentage formula is used in calculating the ratio of cognate words, which is obtained by dividing the number of cognates over the total number of investigated words multiplied by a 100. For example, suppose the total number of investigated words is 100, of which 90 are true cognates. The percentage of cognates is calculated thus:  $90/100 = 9 \times 100 = 90\%$ . Finally, the results are checked against Cowley's (1997: 173, 182) formula to determine whether such words belong to the same language or family (for a survey, see Jassem 2012a-b).

## 3. Results

**Abba** via Greek and Latin *abba* 'father' from Arabic *abb*, *aba* 'father'.

**Affiliation** (*filial*, *affiliate*) via Latin *fili(us/a)* 'son, daughter' from Arabic *filu* 'baby (horse)' via lexical shift.

**Ancestor** (*ancestry*) via French *ancestre* and Latin *antecessor*, *antecedere* (v) 'to precede' (*ante* 'before' + *cedere* 'to go, leave' from Arabic *qiddaam*, *aqdam* 'before, in front' via reordering, merging /q & d/ into /t/, and turning /m/ into /n/ or *amaam*, *imaamat* 'before, in front' where /m/ became /n/ and *qaDa* 'go, die', *kadda* 'walk', *Sadda/sadara* 'walk away' where /q (k)/ became /s/.

**Attribute** (*attribution*, *tribe*) from Arabic *qareeb(at)* 'near, relative', *yaqrab/yataqarrab* (v) 'become near, relate to' where /q/ became /t/. See **tribe**.

**Aunt** via French (*t*)*ante*, Latin *amita*, and Greek *amma* from Arabic *amma(t)* 'aunt' via /3/-loss and /m/-mutation into /n/.

**Baby**(*babe*) from Arabic *bu3bu3* 'baby; early (childhood)' via /3/-loss or *Sabi* 'boy, infant' where /S/ passed into /b/.

**Bachelor** from Arabic *bikr* 'first child, virgin, early'; /k/ turned into /ch/ while /l/ split from /r/.

**Bear** (*born*, *birth*) from Arabic *abarra* 'to give birth to (good children)' or *bara'a* 'create' (cf. *bubr* 'lion' (Jassem 2013g)).

**Belong** (*belongings*) (*be* 'intensive prefix' + *longen* 'to go') via Old English from *longian* 'pertain to' from Arabic *malaka*, *mulk* (n) 'possess' via reordering and turning /m & k/ into /n & g/ or *naqal* 'leave, go' via reordering and turning /q/ into /g/.

**Boy** via Greek *pais* 'boy, servant' from Arabic *Sabi* 'boy' where /S & b/ merged into /b/; *baw(i)* 'baby camel' or *bu33a(t)* 'baby camel' via /3/-loss and lexical shift; *ba3aabi3a(t)* 'worthless people' via /3/-loss, reduction, and lexical shift.

**Breed** from Arabic *rabba*, *ribiat/tarbiat* (n) 'bring up, breed' via reordering and turning /t/ into /d/ or *bara'a(t)* 'give birth to; create' where /t/ passed into /d/; *bazr*, *bazzar* (v) 'children, to have children' via reordering and turning /z/ into /d/. See **pregnant**.

**Bride** (*bridegroom*; German *Braut*) from Arabic *baayera(t)* 'unmarried (girl)', *burrat*, *baarrat* 'pure, kind, and gentle woman' where /t/ became /d/, or *biTreera(t)* 'happy, proud woman' via reordering and turning /T/ into /d/. See **groom**.

**Brother** (*federal*, *federation*, *confederation*, *fraternal*, *friar*) via Latin *frater* 'brother' and Greek *phrater* 'brother' from Arabic *faraT* 'child' via lexical shift and turning /f & T/ into /b & th/, *bin(t)* 'son (daughter)' via lexical shift and turning /n & t/ into /r & th/ besides /r/-insertion; *baarr(at)* 'good child', *barara(t)* (pl.) 'angels', *abarra* (v) 'produce good children' via lexical shift.

**Carl** (*Carla*, *Caroline*; *Charles*, *Charlotte*, *Charlene*) via Latin *Carolus* 'male, husband' from Arabic *rajul* 'man, husband' via reordering and turning /j/ into /k (ch)/.

**Child** via Old English *cild* 'fetus, infant, unborn, newly born' from Arabic *jild* '(dead) baby camel; body' via lexical shift and passing /j/ into /ch/; *jadee* '(goat's) kid' via lexical shift and /l/-insertion (cf. **kid**).

**Celibate** (*celibacy*) via Latin *caelibatus* 'lit. living alone; being unmarried', *caelebs* 'unmarried' (*cael* 'alone' + *lib(h)s* 'living' from Arabic *2aal* (*la2aali*) 'alone, self' where /2/ became /k/ and *alabba* 'live, stay'; or *shabal(at)*, *mushbilat* (n) 'a woman who stays unmarried after a dead husband' via lexical shift, reordering, and turning /sh/ into /s/.

**Commune** (*community*) from Arabic *qaum* 'community'; /q/ became /t/ and /n/ split from /m/.

**Companion** (*company*, *accompany*) from Arabic *Saa2ib*, *muSaa2ib* (adj), *Su2baan* (pl.) 'friend'; /S & 2/ merged into /k/ while /m/ split from /b/.

**Comrade** 'originally one sharing the same room in Spanish' via Latin *camera* 'room' from Arabic *qamra(t)* 'room'; /q/ turned into /k/.

**Concubine** via Latin *concumbere* (*com* 'with' + *cubare* 'to lie down') 'to lie with' from Arabic *ma3* 'with' via reversal and turning /3/ into /g/ (Jassem 2013a) and *kaba*, *inkabba* 'lie down';

*2ibb, 2abeeb, mu2ibb* 'lover' in which /2/ became /k/; or *qa2b(at)* 'lewd woman' via /q & 2/-mutation into /k & Ø/.

**Consort** via French *consort* and Latin *consortem (consors)* 'partner, wife, brother, sister' from Arabic *qaaSirat* 'girl, woman, wife' via /n/-insertion or *sariat* 'girlfriend'.

**Couple** from Arabic *qabeel* 'companion, kissed one' where /q/ became /k/ (cf. *copulation* from Arabic *qabbal* 'kiss', *taqbeel* (n), *qubul* 'vagina', or *2abal, ta2beel* (n) 'pregnancy' where /q & 2/ became /k/.

**Cousin** via Latin *consobrinus* 'mother's sister's son' from Arabic *akh, ikhwaan* (pl.) 'brother' via lexical shift and /kh/-split into /k & s/ or as a compound of Arabic *akhu* 'brother' and *Sinu* 'son, brother, uncle' via lexical shift and /k/-mutation into /k/.

**Cupid** via Latin *Cupido* 'god of love; love, desire', *cupere* (v) 'love' from Arabic *2ibb(at), 2abeeb(at)* 'lover' in which /2 & t/ became /k & d/.

**Dad** (*daddy*) via Latin, Greek, (and) Sanskrit *tata(h)* from Arabic *dada* 'child' or *jadd* 'grandfather' via lexical shift and turning /j/ into /d/.

**Daughter** via Old English *dohtor* and German *Tochter* from Arabic *ukht* 'sister' via lexical shift, reordering and turning /t & kh/ into /d & gh/ besides /r/-insertion.

**Deliver** (*delivery*) from Arabic *walada* 'deliver, give birth to' via reordering, turning /w/ into /v/, and /r/-insertion.

**Divorce** from Arabic *firaaq, tafreeq* 'divorce, separation, division' where /t & q/ passed into /d & s/ (cf. **diverge, fork, bifurcate** from the same root in Jassem (2013c).

**Eam** ('uncle' in Old English, German *Ohm*) from Arabic *3amm* via /3/-loss or mutation into /h/. See **uncle**.

**Elder** (*old, older*) 'father, parents in Old English, German *Eltern*' from Arabic *waalid(an)* 'father, mother' where /r/ split from /l/.

**Family** (*familial, familiarity*) via Latin *familia* 'household, servants', *familus* 'servant' from Arabic *zameel* 'friend, servant', *zumla(t)* (pl) 'friendship, group' where /z/ became /f/ (cf. *zaamil*, 'azamil (n) 'arrows' and *missile*); *failam* 'strong man' or *ghulam* 'servant' through reordering and turning /gh/ into /f/.

**Father** (*pa, papa, Pope, papal, papacy, paternal, paternity, patrimony*) via Old English *fæder*, Latin/Greek *pater*, French *pere*, Old Irish *pita, pa* 'baby speak' from Arabic *ba(ba), abb, abat* 'father' where /b & t/ turned into /f & dh/ besides /r/-insertion or *biTreer* 'proud man' where /b & T/ changed to /f & th/. (N.B. *-ter* is kinship suffix).

**Fellow** via Old English *feolga* from Arabic *wali* 'fellow, follower'; /w/ became /f/.

**Female** (*feminine, femininity*) via French *femme* from Latin *femina* 'woman', *femella* 'young girl (dim.)' from Arabic *untha, mu'annath* (adj.) 'female, woman' via reordering and turning /th & n/ into /f & m/; *fa3ma(t)* 'full-legged woman' via /3/-loss.

**Foster** (*foster-mother*) via Old English *fostrian* 'to supply with food, nourish' from Arabic *faTara* 'to milk'; /T/ split into /st/.

**Friend** via Old English *freond* 'friend', present participle of *freogan* 'to love, to favour' and German *Freund* from Arabic *far2aan(at), fari2a* (v) 'happy' via lexical shift and turning /2/ into /g (Ø)/; *rafeeq, murafiq* (adj.), *rufqaan* (pl.) 'friend, gentle, kind' via reordering and turning /q/ into /d/.

**Genealogy** (*gene, genus, genetic, genetics*) from Arabic *jins* 'sex, genus, kind'; /s/ merged into /j/.

**Girl** via Old English *gyrle* 'child of either sex' from Arabic *jaaria(t)* 'young girl'; /j/ became /g/ while /l/ is a diminutive insertion.

**Godmother** (*godfather, god-*) from Arabic *jadd* 'grandfather'; /j/ changed to /g/ (Jassem 2012b). See **mother**.

**Grandmother** (*grandfather, grandson, grandchild*) via Latin *grandis* 'big, great, full' from Arabic *ghundar* 'soft servant, child; fat and tough; proud and beautiful' via lexical shift, reordering, and turning /gh/ into /g/; *qadeer, muqaddar* 'able, dignified, honoured, respectable' via reordering, turning /q/ into /g/, and inserting /n/ (cf. *grand* '1000' from Arabic *qinTaar* '1000, huge amount' via reordering).

**Groom** (*bridegroom*) from Arabic *qarm* 'great master; male' where /q/ changed to /g/ or *ghulam* 'boy, servant' where /gh & l/ turned into /g & r/. See **bride**.

**Group** from Arabic *baqara(t)* 'group; cow; break, open' via reordering and turning /q/ into /g/ (cf. *break, breach, broach*); *qaneeb* 'group' where /q & n/ became /g & r/; *rab3* 'group' via reordering and turning /3/ into /g/; or *sirb* 'group' where /s/ became /g/.

**Have** (*has, had*) via German *haben* 'have' from Arabic *wahab* 'give' via lexical shift, /w & h/-merger, and turning /b/ into /v/.

**Holy See** via Old English *halig* 'holy, sacred' and German *heilig* 'holy' from Arabic *Saali2* 'righteous, holy' where /S & 2/ turned into /h & g (y)/; **See** via Latin *sede(m/s)* 'seat, abode', *sedere* (v) 'to sit' from Arabic *jatha* 'sit' where /j & th/ became /s & d/ or *qa3ad* 'sit', *maq3ad* (n) 'seat' via reordering and merging /q & 3/ into /s/ or *sheikh* 'chief, ruler' in which /sh & kh/ merged into /s/ (Jassem 2012b).

**Human** (*humane; humanity; man, woman*) via Latin *humanus* 'human, gentle, kind, polite, learned, refined', *humanitas* (n) 'kindness' from Arabic *nama*, '*anaam* (pl.) 'child, human, man' via reversal and turning /' into /h/ or '*insaana* 'human, humane, gentle, kind' where /' became /h/ while /s & n/ merged into /m/ (cf. German **Mensch** from Arabic '*insaana* 'human' via reordering and turning /n & s/ into /m & sh/; **animal** in Jassem (2012d, g)).

**Husband** (*husbandry*) via Old English compound *hus* 'house' from Arabic *khushsha(t)* 'room, house' or *2aush* 'house (court)' in which /kh (2) & sh/ became /h & s/ and *bondi* 'householder, peasant' from Arabic *rabb(at)* 'owner' via reordering and turning /r & t/ into /n & d/ or *baani(at)* 'builder, marry' via lexical shift and turning /t/ into /d/; *2aseeb*, *2usbaan* (pl) 'in-law, computing' where /2/ became /h/ or *naseeb* 'in-law' via reordering and /h/-split from /s/; *3azab*, *3uzbaan* (pl) 'unmarried' via lexical shift and turning /3/ into h/.

**Infant** from Arabic *faTeem*, *mafToom*, *infaTam* (v) 'weaned baby' via reordering and turning /m/ into /n/ or *faraT* 'baby' where /r/ became /n/.

**Junior** via Latin *iunior* (comp. of *iuvenis* 'young'), Sanskrit *yuva* 'young' as in **juvenile**.

**Juvenile** via French *jeune* 'young' and Latin *iuvenis* 'young' from Arabic *yafan* 'young or old man' via lexical shift, *yaafi3* 'adolescent' where /3/ turned into /n/, or *ibn* 'son' in which /i & b/ became /j & v/ (cf. *janeen* 'embryo, small child' via lexical shift and turning /n/ into /r/).

**Kid** from Arabic *jadee* '(goat's) kid' via lexical shift and turning /j/ into /k/ (cf. *You're kidding* from Arabic *Da2ik* 'laugh, kid' via reversal and /2/-deletion or *jaddee* 'serious' via lexical shift and turning /j/ into /k/).

**Kin** (*kindred, kinship*) via Old English *cynn* 'family, race, kind, sort, rank, sex, gender' from Arabic *ikhwaan*, *ikhwat* 'brothers, relatives' in which /kh & t/ changed to /k & d/ or *jins* 'sex, race' where /j & s/ merged into /k/ (cf. *khamman* 'group' where /kh/ became /k/ and /m & n/ merged).

**Knave** via Old English *cna(f/p)a* 'boy, youth, servant' and German *Knabe* from Arabic *naqeeb* 'leader, servant' via reordering and turning /q & b/ into /k & v/; *naSeef* 'servant' via reordering and turning /S/ into /k/; or *qaani3* 'servant' where /q & 3/ became /k & v/.

**Lad** (*lass*) from Arabic *walad* 'boy, child'; /w/ merged into /l/.

**Lady** (*lord*) from Arabic *waalida(t)* 'mother; lady' or *waalid* 'father'; /w/ merged into /l/ (cf. Jassem 2012b).

**Lass** from Arabic *nisa* 'woman' where /n/ became /l/ or *qaaSir* '(lit. shortened); girl, child, woman' via reversal, merging /q & S/ into /s/, and turning /r/ into /l/. See **lad**.

**Law** (*son-in-law; legal, legality, legalize; allow, allowance*) via Old English/Old Norse *lagu* 'law; lit. something laid down, fixed' from Arabic *2ill, 2alaal, a2alla* (v) 'lawful, permitted; living, arrived' via reversal and turning /2/ into /w (g)/ or *laa2a, law2* (n) 'lay down' via /2/-loss (cf. Latin *lex* 'law', *legere* (v) 'to gather, read' from Arabic *qara'a* 'gather, read' via reordering and turning /r/ into /l/ (Jassem 2013i).

**Line** from Arabic *nasl* 'line, genealogy' via reversal and /n & s/-merger.

**Ma** (*mamma, mammal, mum, mummy*) from Arabic *ma(ma)* or *umm* 'mother'. See **mother**.

**Mac** (*Mc., McMillan, Macdonald*) 'son of' via Old Celtic (Scottish and Irish) *makko-s* 'son' and Old English *mago* 'son, servant', *magth* 'maid' from Arabic *maashia(t), mawaashi* 'child(ren)', turning /sh/ into /k/.

**Madam** via French *ma dame* 'my lady' and Latin *mea domina* (*Madonna; dominate*) 'owner of a brothel' from Arabic *ana* 'I, me, my, mine' (Jassem 2012c) and *daana* 'dominate' via lexical shift and splitting /m/ from /n/ (Jassem 2012b); or *taiyem* 'lover' where /t/ became /d/.

**Maid** via Old English *magden, mæden*, dim. of *mag(e)th* 'virgin, girl, woman, wife' and German *Magd* from Arabic *khaadim* 'servant' via reordering and turning /kh/ into /g/ or *amat* 'maid' where /t/ turned into /d/. See **Mac**.

**Male** (*masculine*) via French *masle* and Latin *masculus* 'male, adult' (*mas* 'male person/animal' from Arabic *mar'* 'man' where /r/ became /s/ l/ + *-culus* 'dim. suf.' from *qaleel* 'little' where /q/ became /k/; *zalama(t), zulm* (pl.) 'man, male' via reordering and /z/-split into /s & k (Ø)/ (cf. *maj* 'old man' where /j/ became /s/).

**Man** from Arabic *nama, 'anaam* (pl.) 'child, man, human' via reversal or *mar'*, *imri* 'man' via /r/-mutation into /n/. See **human & woman**.

**Marry** (*marriage, marital*) via Latin *maritus* 'married man, husband; having a woman', *maritare* (v) 'take a woman' from Arabic *mar'a(t)* 'woman' via lexical shift.

**Masculine** (*masculinity*) See **male**.

**Mate** via German *Maat* 'lit., one eating at the same table' from Arabic *maa'ida(t)* 'table' via lexical shift and turning /d/ into /t/, *nadeem* 'mate, (drinking) friend' via reordering, /n & m/-merger, and turning /d/ into /t/, or *nidd* 'mate, rival' where /n & d/ became /m & t/ (cf. **checkmate** 'King died' from Arabic *shaikh* 'chief' where /kh/ became /k/ and *maata* 'died'; **mat-a-dor** in Jassem 2013g).

**Miss** (*Ms.*) from Arabic *anisa(t), nisaa'* (pl) 'girl' where /n/ turned into /m/ (cf. *nasee* 'forget' where /m/ passed into /n/).



**Mother** (*maternal, maternity, matrimony, matrix*) via Latin *mater*, Greek *meter*, French *mere* 'woman, mother', German *Mutter* 'mother' from Arabic *mar'a(t)* 'woman' via lexical shift, reordering, and turning /t/ into /th/; *umm, umma(ha)t* (pl.), *amat* 'mother, maid' in which /t/ became /dh/ besides /r/-insertion (cf. German **Frau** 'woman' from Arabic *mar'a(t)* 'woman' where /m/ became /f/).

**Monogamy** (*monogamous, polygamy*) via Latin and Greek *monogamia* (*monos* 'single' + *gamos* 'marriage') from Arabic *jimaa3* 'marriage, intercourse'; /j & 3/ became /g & (s) Ø/.

**Mr.** (*master, mister, mistress, Mrs.*) via Old English *mægester* 'one having authority' and Latin *magister* 'chief, head, teacher' from Arabic *musaiTir* 'master, writer' via syllable reduction, /g/-split from /s/, and turning /T/ into /t/. (Cf. German *Herr* from Arabic *3air* 'owner' or *2urr* 'free' where /3 (2)/ became /h/.)

**Mum** (*mummy, mommy*) from Arabic *umm, mama* 'mother'.

**Nephew** (*nepotism*) via Latin *nepos/neptia* 'sister's son/daughter' and Sanskrit *napat* from Arabic *bin(t)* 'son (daughter)' through lexical shift, reordering, and turning /b/ into /f/.

**Niece** via Old English *nift* from Arabic *aanisa(t), niswat* (pl.) 'girl, Miss' or *bint* 'girl' via reordering, merging /b & n/, and turning /t/ into /s/.

**Nun** (*nunnery*) via Greek *nanna* 'aunt' and Latin *nonna* 'nun, tutor' from Arabic *mamma* 'mother' or *3amma(t)* 'aunt' via /3/-loss and turning /m/ into /n/ (cf. *mu3allim* 'tutor' via /3/-loss and /m & l/-merger into /n/).

**Nurse** (*nursery*) via Latin *nutriciam, nutrire* (v) 'to suckle' from Arabic *nazoor* 'childless woman' or *razaan* 'stable woman' via lexical shift, reordering, and turning /z/ into /s/; *mu3Sir* 'young girl' via reordering and /3 & S/-merger into /s/; or *murDi3* 'suckling mother' via /3/-loss and turning /m & D/ into /n & s/.

**O'Neill** via Irish *au/ua* 'descendant' from Arabic *il, aal* 'descendants, relationship, family' via /l/-mutation into /o/ or *walad* 'son' via reduction, /l & w/-merger and /d/-loss (cf. *wa'i* 'swift horse').

**Offspring** from Arabic *bizraan* 'children'; /b/ split into /f & p/ (sse Jassem 2013d, 2013j).

**Own** (*owe*) via Old English *agen* 'possessed by', *geagnian* 'to own' and German *eigen* 'own' from Arabic *qana* 'possess' via /q/-mutation into /w/.

**Pa** (*papa, Pope, papal, papacy, paternal, paternity, patrimony, patriarchy; father*) via Latin *papa* 'father', *pa* 'baby speak' from Arabic *baa(ba), abb* 'father'. See **father**.

**Parent** (**elder** in Old English) via Latin *parentem* 'father or mother', *parere* (v) 'give birth to, bring forth, produce' from Arabic *rabbat* 'father, mother', *murabbiat* 'carer, mother', *rabba* (v) 'bring up' via reordering and /n/-split from /r/; or *bara'a*, *baari* (n) 'create, give birth to'.

**Partner** (*partnership, partition, part*) via Latin *partitio(nem)*, 'division, distribution' from Arabic '*abtar* 'childless person; cut', *batar* (v) 'cut, divide' via reordering.

**Person** (*personality*) via Latin *persona* 'human being, person' from Arabic *bashar* 'person, human' via reordering, turning /sh/ into /s/, and /n/-insertion.

**Pregnant** via Latin *praegnare* 'to make pregnant' (*prae-* 'before' and *gnasci* 'to be born' from Arabic *qabl* 'before' via reversal and /q & l/-merger into /r/ (Jassem 2013g) and *janeen* 'embryo' via lexical shift; or *bazraa'*, *mubzir* 'woman with many children', *bazzar* (v) 'to have children' via reordering and turning /z/ into /g/.

**Queen** via Greek *gyne* 'woman' from Arabic *qain* or *ghaani* 'young woman; queen; singer'; *nisa* 'woman, wife' via reversal and turning /s/ into /k (g)/.

**Relative** (*relate, relation, relative, relativity, relativism*) from Arabic *walad*, *wiladat* (n) 'boy, to be born' via lexical shift and turning /d/ into /t/ or *latta* 'relate to, connect to'.

**Senior** (*seniority, senile*) via Latin *senex* 'old (man)' and French *signor* from Arabic *sin*, *musin* (adj.) 'tooth, old' via lexical shift and /s/-split into /s & k (g)/; *jann* 'to go mad, (senile)' where /j/ became /s/; or *3aani(s)* 'old man/woman' where /3/ became /s/ (see Jassem 2013j).

**Servant** (*serve, service, servile, servility, servitude*) from Arabic *sakhkhar*, *sukhra(t)* (n) 'serve, work for' via reordering and turning /kh/ into /v/ (Jassem 2012b).

**Sibling** via Old English *sibb* 'kinship, relationship; love, friendship' from Arabic *Saa2ib* 'friend, lover' where /S & 2/ merged into /s/; *2ibb* 'love', *2awb(at)/2eeba(t)* 'maternal relatives' where /2/ became /s/ (cf. *shibl* 'baby lion; kid' in which /sh/ became /s/).

**Single** (*singularity*) via Latin *singulus* 'one, individual, separate, unmarried, unbroken' (*sim-* 'one, together' + dim. suf. *-gul* 'little') from Arabic *jamee3* 'together' via /3/-loss and /j/-mutation into /s/ and *qal(eel)* 'little' where /q/ became /g/; or *3azal*, *in3azal* 'separate' via reordering and turning /3 & z/ into /g & s/.

**Sir** from Arabic *sari*, *saraat* (pl.) 'chief, noble' or *ra'ees* 'chief, head' via reversal.

**Sister** (*sorority*) via Latin *soror* 'sister' and German *Schwester* from Arabic *sareera(t)* 'happy, secret, wife' or *surriya(t)* 'owned female love slave' via lexical shift and /s/-split; *jaaria(t)* 'young girl' via lexical shift and turning /j/ into /s/; *qaaSirat*, *quSSar* (pl.) 'dependent (f)' via reordering and merging /q & S/ into /s/.

**Society** (*social, sociable, associate, association*) via Latin *societat(em/as)*, *socius* 'companion' from Arabic *saas, sawaas* 'leader, chief; equals', *saayas* (v) 'deal gently with'; *suwaqat* 'commoner(s), follower(s)' in which /q/ became /s/; *SooS* 'miser; lone and stealthy eater' via lexical shift; *sukaaka(t)* 'a self-opinionated person' via lexical shift (cf. *sukaak* 'sky air; sky' and **sky** 'originally cloud' and Old Norse *skuggi*).

**Son** (German *Sohn*) from Arabic *Sinu* 'son, brother, uncle; similar' or *Din'*, *Dana* (pl) 'son, child' where /D/ became /s/.

**Spinster** 'spinner of thread': *spin* + *ster* 'fem. suf.) from Arabic *zaabin, zaboona(at)* '(love) customer; proud', *za(w)ban* (v) 'push, beat' via lexical shift and turning /z/ into /s/.

**Spouse** via Latin *sponsus/sponsa* 'bridegroom, bride', *spondere* (v) 'to bind oneself to, promise solemnly' from Arabic *naseeb* 'in-law; belonging to' via reordering; *Sabia(t)* 'girl' in or *shaabba(t)* 'young girl' via lexical shift and turning /S (sh) & t/ into /s/; or *zawj* 'husband, wife, connected' where /z (j) & w/ became /s & p/.

**Team** from Arabic *qaum* 'group, community' or *fi'aam* 'group' in which /q & f/ turned into /t/.

**Tribe** (*tribal, tribalism; attribute, attribution*) from Arabic *qareeb, qaraaba(t)* (n) 'close, relative, relationship' in which /q/ became /t/ (cf. **tribute** from Arabic *Dareeba(t)* 'tax' where /D/ became /t/).

**Twin** from Arabic *taw('a)m* 'twin' where /m/ became /n/ (see Jassem 2012a).

**Uncle** (Old English *eam*) via French *oncle* and Latin *avunculus* (*avus* 'grandfather' and *-culus* 'small') from Arabic '*abb* 'father' or *3am* 'uncle' via /3/-loss and /b (m)/-mutation into /v/ and *qal(eel)* 'small, little' where /q/ became /k/ (cf. *khaal* 'mother's brother' in which /kh/ became /k/ whereas /n/ split from /l/). See **eam**.

**Virgin** (*virginity, Virginia*) from Arabic *bikr, bakra* 'virgin, first child' through reordering, turning /b & k/ into /v & g/, and /n/-insertion.

**Wed** (*wedding*) from Arabic *wiT* 'marriage, intercourse'; /T & /' became /d & Ø/.

**Widow** (*widower*) via German *Witwe*, Latin *vidua, vidus* 'bereft, void', and Sanskrit *vidhuh, vidhara* 'lonely, solitary' from Arabic *mu'tem (yateem, taiyem)* 'orphan; bereft' via reordering and passing /t & m / into /d & w/, *faaD(i)* 'void, dead', *mawt, maiet* 'death, dead' via lexical shift and turning /m (f) & t (D)/ into /w & d/; *wa2eed* 'alone; one' or *2aadd (mu2idd)* 'mourning (dead husband)' via /2/-loss; *faaqid* 'missing dead husband' where /f/ became /w/ and /q & d/ merged.

**Wife** via Old English *wif* 'woman' and German *Weib* from Arabic *haifaa'* (*muhaffaf*, *muhafhaf*) 'smooth-bellied woman' where /h/ became /w/; *wilf* '(female) companion' via /l/-loss; *3afeefa(t)* 'chaste, charitable woman' via /3 & f/-merger into /w/.

**Woman** via a compound of Old English *wif* 'woman' above + *man* above (cf. Arabic *ama(t)*, *imaa'* 'woman, maid'; /t/ turned into /n/; *imra'a(t)* 'woman' where /r/ became /n/; *aiyem* 'unmarried woman' and *'aimaan* 'widower, woman' via lexical shift).

**Young** (*youth*) via Old English *geong* 'young, youth', Latin *iunior*, Sanskrit *yuva* 'young', Old Irish *oac* from Arabic *anqooq* (*qooq*, *qeeq*, *qaaq*) 'tall person' via lexical shift, reordering, and turning /q/ into /g/; or *naashi'* 'adolescent, young' via reordering and turning /sh/ into /g (y)/.

**Youth** (*young*) via Old English *geoguth* 'youth' from the same Arabic cognate for **young** or from *yaafi3* 'young, youth' where /f/ became /th/ while /3/ was deleted.

**Zygote** (*zygotic*) via Greek *zygotos* 'yoked, joined together', *zygon* (v) 'yoke, join together' from Arabic *zawja(t)*, *zawjaan*, *zeeja(t)* 'a couple, marriage, joining'; /j/ became /g/.

As can be seen, the above *family* words amount to 107 or so; all have Arabic cognates. In other words, the ratio of shared vocabulary is 100%.

#### 4. Discussion

It can be clearly seen in the above results that *family* words in Arabic, English, German, French, Latin, and Greek are true cognates. Their differences, however, are due to natural and plausible causes of linguistic change at the phonetic, morphological and semantic levels. Semantically, three processes are worth noting in this respect. First, one notices the preponderance and frequency of lexical shift where words shifted their senses and meanings within the same general category such as Arabic *filu* 'baby horse' which led to Latin *fili(us/a)* 'son, daughter' and English *filial* (*affiliation*, *affiliate*). Such a phenomenon is common within the same language where the same word denotes different senses in different dialects; for example, *rafeef3* is 'tall' and *uqSur* (*ugSur*) is 'turn (the TV) down' in Qasseemi (Saudi) Arabic but 'thin' and 'shorten' in Syrian Arabic; *3iDhaam* is 'eggs' in Tunisian Arabic but 'bones' in Syrian Arabic; *Sannat* is 'scent, perfume' in Libyan Arabic but 'foul body sweat smell, malodour' in all Eastern Arabic. The list is endless. It seems that this is a major cause of language change in the long run (Jassem 2012a-g, 2013a-f).

The other two are convergence and multiplicity. The former means that two or more words have led to a particular cognate in English while the other signifies that a particular word may have more than one meaning. The reason is the same in both cases, which is the formal and semantic similarities between Arabic words themselves. The data is rife with examples.

In light of the above, the results agree with the findings of all former studies: namely, numeral words (Jassem 2012a), common religious terms (Jassem 2012b), pronouns (Jassem 2012c), determiners (Jassem 2012d), verb *to be* forms (Jassem 2012e), inflectional 'gender and plurality' markers (2012f), derivational morphemes (2013a), negative particles (2013b), back consonants (2013c), *water* and *sea* words (2013d), *air* and *fire* terms (Jassem 2012e), *celestial* and *terrestrial* terms (Jassem 2013f), *animal* terms (Jassem 2013g), *body part* terms (Jassem (2013h), *speech* and *writing* terms (Jassem 2013i), and *time* words (Jassem 2013j) in English, German, French, Latin, Greek, and Arabic. In all those studies, the percentage of shared vocabulary between Arabic and English, for instance, was 100%, which means they are dialects of the same language, let alone the same family. This ratio exceeds Cowley's (1997: 172-173) classification according to which an 80% ratio indicates membership to the same language- i.e., dialects.

Furthermore, the results support the adequacy of the lexical root theory for the current analysis. The main principle which states that Arabic, English, French, and so on are not only genetically related but also are dialects of the same language is, therefore, verifiably sound and empirically true. Relating English family words as well as all other types of words of all semantic fields, for example, to true Arabic cognates on all levels of phonetic, morphological, grammatical, and semantic analysis clearly manifests that.

Now consider the short family-based conversation in 2.1 above. It contains some very common *family* words, every single one of which has a true Arabic cognate, which can be checked in the results above and/or the relevant previous studies like Jassem (2012b) for biblical or religious terms, (2012c) for pronouns, (2012d) for determiners, (2012e) for verb *to be*, (2012f) for inflectional morphemes, (2013a) for derivational morphemes, and (2013i) for personal names. Thus, Arabic and English are dialects of the same language, with Arabic being the source or parent language owing to its phonetic complexity and lexical multiplicity and variety (see Jassem (2012a-f, 2013a-i).

Jassem (2013i) remarked that such a language picture has interesting and enlightening implications for linguistic theory and language origin. On the one hand, it implies that the so-called 'proto-Indo-European' language hypothesis should be rejected outright because all English words, for instance, are traceable to Arabic sources, which renders it baseless and fictitious, indeed. On the other hand, it implies, on a larger scale, that all human languages are related to one another, which in the end stem and descend from a single 'perfect' source, which became simpler and simpler over time. Recent research further substantiates such an assumption in which languages were found to change very, very slowly over time. More precisely, Pagel et al (2013) showed that some (27) common core words such as English pronouns changed little in the last 15, 000.00 years. This gives further backing to Jassem (2012d) who has already traced such pronouns in English, German, French, Latin, and Greek to their Arabic origins and cognates. Therefore, reconstructing that old, perfect source is still possible proviso that it centres around

ancient world language(s), which have survived into modern ones in different forms, though. Arabic is perhaps such a great survivor, which may be the best possible link to that old perfect language on which analysis should focus. Arabic can be said to be a great, great living linguistic inheritor and survivor, indeed, as it could have maintained a great many features of that original perfect language, technically known as proto-language or proto-world-language.

## 5. Conclusion and Recommendations

To conclude, the main results of the study are as follows:

- i) The 107 *family* words or so in English, German, French, Latin, Greek, and Arabic are true cognates with similar forms and meanings, whose different forms are due to natural and plausible causes of phonological, morphological, and lexical change (cf. Jassem 2012a-f, 2013a-j).
- ii) Phonetically, the main changes included reversal, reordering, split, and merger; lexically, the recurrent patterns included stability, convergence, multiplicity, shift, and variability; the recurrence of lexical shift, convergence, and multiplicity stem from the formal and semantic similarities between Arabic words from which English and European words emanated.
- iii) The phonetic complexity, huge lexical variety and multiplicity of Arabic *family* words compared to those in English and European languages point to their Arabic origin in essence.
- iv) The lexical root theory has been adequate for the analysis of the close genetic relationships between *family* words in Arabic, English, German, French, Latin, and Greek.
- v) Finally, the current work supports earlier calls for further research into all language levels, especially vocabulary (Jassem 2012a-f, 2013a-j). Moreover, applying such findings to language teaching, lexicology and lexicography, translation, cultural (including anthropological and historical) awareness, understanding, and heritage is badly needed for promoting human acculturation and cooperation.

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