

Street Names in Baghdad, Iraq

(Part II)

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OF THE FIVE SQUARES none bear the old names.²⁷

The 27 palaces have long since given way to new construction.²⁸ The palace used by the royal family from 1923 to 1958 was formerly a Turkish Government Building.

The sixteen monasteries have given way to new construction.²⁹

Of the twenty-four markets or *sūqs*,³⁰ one still exists in name: *Souq-al-Ghazil*, "The Thread Bazaar," which is now applied to an area of several blocks near the physical center of the city, between *Shorja* and *Bāb-al-Shaikh*.³¹

Of the sixty-three gates³² two remain: *Bāb-al-Mu'azzam* (earlier the *Bāb-as-Sultān*) or today *Bāb-al-Mu'adhim*, and *Bāb-al-Sharqī* (earlier called *Bāb-al-Başaliyah*).³³

²⁷ *Viz.*, Square of Khuld Palace, of Kufah Gate, of Palace Mosque, of Suwayd, and Palace Square.

²⁸ See List No. 6. See also Guy Le Strange, "A Greek Embassy to Baghdād in 917 AD," in *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, January, 1897, pp. 35–45.

²⁹ See List No. 7.

³⁰ See List No. 8. Reuben Levy ("The Nizamiya Madrasa at Baghdad" in *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, July, 1928, 265–270) adds a *Perfume Bazaar* (*Sūq-al-'Iṭr*) missed by Le Strange.

³¹ Reuben Levy, "A Baghdad Chronicle," 132. Falkenhorst (*op.cit.*, 200) estimated the number of *sūqs* or bazaars at 1,200 in 1901.

³² See List No. 9.

³³ "There are six gates in the entire wall: three to each portion of the city as divided by the Tigris. The largest and finest is the Talism Gate, which, according to Oriental custom, was walled up when Sultan Murad IV had passed through it on his return to Constantinople after he had recovered Bagdad from the Persians. It has never since been opened." — "Bagdad," in *The Penny Magazine* 14 (January 4, 1845) 9–11. Unfortunately the author failed to name the other gates. Another 20th-century writer who seemed interested in the picturesqueness of Baghdad also only named two, neither of the two that are today the most significant; she only reported the Golden Gate and the Gate of Good Fortune. — Janet Miller, *Camel Bells of Baghdad*, Boston (Houghton-Mifflin), 1934, p. 18. While the name *Bab-al-Mu'adhim* is normally thought of as directional, another explanation is that it

The twenty-four canals which furnished water to the ancient city have disappeared with their names,³⁴ and the several canals that exist now outside the city for irrigation purposes remain outside the present study. A system of small canals which now carry free river water to parts of the residential area are of relatively recent origin and have nothing to do with the large canals of the ancient city.

In view of the existence of street names from the earliest years, it is remarkable that so little use was made of them in the relatively copious documentation of the physical aspect of the city. At the same time the same documentary material shows wide use of other means of locating places within the city. For example, a two-year diary kept by an educated Baghdadi, Abū 'Alī ben al-Bannā' al-Ḥanbālī, 1068 to 1069 A.D., speaks of a street only once: "The Hanbalites are in the Mosques and in the Market Streets." Even in this single case the chances are that the term is a generic designation. Aside from this example the writer of the diary designated locations within the city by the Quarter (21 references) or the Gate (18 references), by numerous references to the mosques and to a few cemeteries (4), canals, and temples.³⁵

The only street name that escaped the careful research of Le Strange is 'Aun Street, evidently an early equivalent of Bank Street, and very likely near the location of the Bank Street of today.³⁶

Several writers described the great Mosque of al-Manṣūr, but none named the street which it faced. Rather they indicated its location by reference to the nearby Hurāsān (Khorasan) Gate.³⁷

comes from the tomb of Abū Hanīfah (El-A'ḏhem) = 'The greatest of Divines.' — Lt. H. Blosse Lynch, "Note on a Part of the River Tigris between Baghdad and Sámarrāh," in *Journal of the Royal Geographical Society* 9 (1839) 471.

³⁴ See List No. 10. For an account of the canal system in 1866 see Lt. J. B. Bewsher, "On Part of Mesopotamia Contained between Sheriat-al-Beytha on the Tigris and Tel Ibrahim," in *Journal of the Royal Geographical Society* 37 (1866) 160 to 182.

³⁵ G. Madkisi, "An Eleventh-century Historian of Baghdad," in *Bulletin of the School of Oriental Studies* (University of London), 18 (1956) 9–31, 239–260, 19 (1957) 13–48, 281–303, 426–443. See page 45.

³⁶ Walter Fischel, "The Origins of Banking in Medieval Islam," in the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, 1933, pp. 339–352, especially page 350.

³⁷ K. A. C. Creswell, "The Great Mosque of al-Manṣūr at Baghdad," in *Iraq* 1 (1934) 105–111.

Benjamin of Tudela wrote a report of a trip through the Middle East, including Baghdad, in 1173 A.D., but the nearest he came to a place-name was the Bašra Gate and Dār-al-Māristān (the insane asylum).³⁸

A contemporary of Benjamin was Ibn Jubayr, who described the city in more detail. He noted that Baghdad was divided into seventeen quarters, each a separate town, though he failed to name them, except for al-Qurayah, the largest. He also named four gates that do not match other sources: Bāb-as-Sulṭān, Bāb-al-Safariya, Bāb-al-Ḥalbah, and Bāb-al-Bašaliyah, and elsewhere Bab Bādr, Bāb Bašrah, Bāb-aṭ-Ṭagh ‘Gate of the Arch,’ and the ‘al-Shariq Quarter.’³⁹

The play “Hassan,” by James Elroy Flecker, refers to the ‘Street of Felicity,’ evidently fictional.⁴⁰

Fictional also is the Street of the Minārehs or Minarets in the *Thousand and One Nights*.⁴¹

At present the city may be described as one of many streets and few accepted names, if acceptance means common knowledge and use. Speaking now from personal inquiries, it seems that even the people who live in a given street may not know its name, nor in general do they use a name to identify it. The inhabitants commonly identify their residence by reference to a landmark other than street signs, such as well-known buildings, squares, or stores. Foreign residents who do much entertaining or have frequent visitors and need to describe the location of their home to others do so either by sending a messenger to show the visitor the way or else prepare and

³⁸ Marcus Nathan Adler, *The Itinerary of Benjamin of Tudela, Critical Text, Translation, and Commentary*. London (Henry Frowde), Oxford University Press, 1907.

³⁹ R. J. C. Broadhurst, *The Travels of Ibn Jubayr. Being a Chronicle of a Mediaeval Spanish Moor Concerning His Journey to the Egypt of Saladin, the Holy Cities of Arabia, Baghdad the City of the Caliphs . . .* Translated from the Original Arabic by . . . London (Jonathan Cape) 1952.

⁴⁰ James Elroy Flecker, *Hassan: The Story of Hassan of Baghdad and How He Came to Make the Golden Journey to Samarkand*, London (William Heineman) 1924, I; other place-names were the Basra Gate [real], the Fountain of the Two Pigeons, and the Gate of the Moon [both fictitious]; cf. James Ferguson, “In Search of Scheherazade,” in *Blackwood’s Magazine* 253 (October, 1945) 274–276.

⁴¹ William Edward Lane, *Arabian Society in the Middle Ages. Studies from the Thousand and One Nights*. Edited by Stanley Lane-Poole. London (Chatto and Windus, Piccadilly) 1883.

even print a card or sheet of paper showing a sketch of the area, tying it in with prominent features, such as an embassy or a park or public building.

This practice does not mean that streets have no names, only that they are not commonly used by the average inhabitant. In my own inquiries about street names and in efforts to gain access to a cadastral map of the city or an official listing, I visited first the Office of the Development Board, where I was referred to the Mutaşarrif office; there I was referred to the City Hall, and there referred to the Development Board, all by courteous public servants trying to help. At that point I spoke of the matter with some of my students, one of whom was an employee of the Development Board, and told them of my interest in learning something of the system of street names. This young man insisted that each street has a name given by the engineering authorities, and that a large map in the Development Board, at least, shows all of the names. He promised to obtain a copy of the map for me, but later he reported that only one existed, and that it had recently been sent to England for lithographing. Whether it has been returned, I have not found out.

Nonetheless it is clear that cadastral maps exist and are available to the police, the postoffice, and tax offices, and that new streets receive both names and numbers; but that information does not become general. Few street signs exist, and those mostly on the most prominent streets. As for the smaller streets, in many cases at the corner of an intersection, particularly at the beginning of a street, the name and identifying number is painted or printed on a nearby wall. In some of the older and more established streets both lot number and house number are painted on the wall or near the gates. In some cases there are small, engraved discs or metal plates fastened to the wall or gate. At some time in the past when a numbering system was imposed or revised, the numbers were given in a sequence; and for this reason there are stretches where the numbers run consecutively for some distance. This is also true in new areas, such as government housing projects, where all houses have consecutive numbers, and streets have clearly designated names. In other streets, where large estates have been broken up to allow the construction of extra houses or *mushtamals*, and other houses are torn down, the possession of a house and street number does not

necessarily mean that you can find the house, since the numbers are given very much in the order in which the houses are built, within a district, not based on the numbers of the nearby houses. Of course, to governmental officials who are privy to the overall picture, the system makes much more sense, and all indications are that an efficient and accurate account is kept of landholdings, house construction, and occupancy. But to the large percentage of illiterate inhabitants and to the large number of foreigners, who share some of the disadvantages of the illiterates, the existing arrangement seems highly erratic.⁴²

This apparent confusion in street names and numbers apparently does not extend to the mail carriers. Mail delivery in modern Baghdad under normal conditions is efficient. Air-mail letters from Texas to Baghdad in 1957 were delivered sometimes in as few as five days after the date on the stamp. There is always a temptation to explain the efficient house delivery by saying that the volume of mail is small and the postman quickly learns the names of all individuals along his delivery route. However, it seems equally clear that the use of subdivisions in the address is a help in sorting the mail, and long antedates the numbered postal zones which we now use.

The standard address on a letter requires three numbers. For example, the address of the American Language Institute was until recently Bustan Kubba 85/n3/1, Battaween, Baghdad, Iraq. Explaining this, we may say that Battaween represents one of the larger subdivisions of the city. Bustan Kubba, a section of Battaween, is an area, not a street, while the 85 represents not the street but the area number, n3 the block number, sometimes the street number, and 1 the house number. Note that no mention is made of Sa'adoon Street, the street which the building faces.

House residents and smaller stores normally give as address a nearby reference point if the street is not clearly marked or known. The Telephone Directory for 1956 gives only about 165 streets clearly marked; otherwise people with telephones give their address in various ways. Thirty-four *sūqs* or bazaars (markets) were names

⁴² This does not mean that the governmental agencies at any period were vague about property lines or ownership: "... the Arabs were, for their time, skillful land surveyors, practising the art for fiscal assessment and for the laying down of the irrigation canals." — Guy Le Strange, *op. cit.*, 325–326.

used as reference points by one or more business concerns.⁴³ Thirty-two show as address *khāns* or warehouses, whose locations are likely to be known to those interested.⁴⁴ In eight cases Bustān or "orchard" is used, but in some of these cases the reference is clearly to a street, such as Bustān-al-Khass, which is both street and the area about the street.⁴⁵ Twelve designations are squares,⁴⁶ sixteen are prominent buildings,⁴⁷ three are roads,⁴⁸ and four are "gates" which today amount to little more than "squares."⁴⁹ Other designations are such as Near A'dhamiya Cinema, Anwār Cinema, Near Hamra' Cinema, Tal (Tel) in Kadhimain, Opposite Metro Cinema, Near Old Races, Near Orfan School, Near Old Orosdibach Building, and Behind the American Embassy.

The street names actually used often refer to individuals,⁵⁰ rarely to self-descriptive elements,⁵¹ or to topographical features.⁵²

These designations only represent a little more than half of the entries in the 1956 Telephone Book. For the other entries the mailing address shows the district, sub-district or Mahalla, and the

⁴³ See List No. 11.

⁴⁴ See List No. 12.

⁴⁵ *Viz.*, Bustan Aswad, Bustan al Attar, Bustan Baqouri, Bustan Hassoun Agha, Bustan al Khass, Bustan Kubba, Bustan Mamo, Bustan al Shaikhli. They lie in relatively new area and evidently represent garden tracts taken over by the expansion of housing construction. A few years ago (1950) they were primarily residential, but now commercial building is growing up on the principal streets.

⁴⁶ *Viz.*, Amin Square, Anter Square, Al-Fath Square, Morjan Square, Muqadam Antar Square, Old Races Square, Regent Square, Siba' Square, Swaidi Square, Al-Taj Square, Tayaran Square, and Sahat al-Naser.

⁴⁷ *Viz.*, Custom Building, Damerchi Building, Iskander Stifan Building, Kadhim Makiya Building, Mohammed Tayed Building, Mun'in al-Khudhairi Building, Naji al-Khudairi Building, Nuri Fatah Building, Pachachi Building, Qubanchi Building, Shamash Building, Soofair Building, and Thikair Building — all office buildings. Others are Sha'ab (Newspaper) Press, Qahwat Shukar (a *cefé*), and Qasr Rihab (a residence for visiting dignitaries).

⁴⁸ *Viz.*, Baghdad al-Jadida Road, Mu'askar Road, and Mu'askar al-Rashid Road.

⁴⁹ *Viz.*, Bab-al-Seef, Bab-al-Shaikh, Bab-al-Sharqui (called South Gate), and Bab-al-Mu'adham (North Gate). Bab-al-Agha is an area.

⁵⁰ See List No. 13.

⁵¹ Bank Street, Court Street, Law College Street, Officers' Street, and Sarai Street. In some cases the street or the Mahalla name is self-descriptive in an ethnic sense. This is particularly true of areas whose names derive from tribes whose members, when in Baghdad, tend to concentrate in their own areas. Examples: Azza, Aqailat, Dooriyin, Kollat, Kraimat, Okailat, and Twailat.

⁵² (*Street* is omitted) Nassa, Ras al Jisir, River, Aqid Rukn, and Sadda.

block and house numbers; but they serve the purpose represented in Western cities by street names and numbers.⁵³

Among the streets with well-known names, a few deserve special mention because they appear so often in fiction and travel descriptions.

Abu-al-Nawas Street seems to be named for the poet of the Harun-al-Rashid days, although its location, stretching along the river south of South Gate, indicates that it is relatively modern, that is, that it dates from the British occupation of 1917. In the early '40's the houses along this street were pointed out as the homes of wealthy Jews, and indeed the construction showed considerable taste and artistry. For at least the last ten years the houses have been taken over for increasing use as cabarets, hotels, and tea-houses. One writer has referred to this street as the Broadway of Baghdad, but the metaphor requires considerable imagination.⁵⁴

River Street simply follows the eastern bank through the heart of the city from the King Feisal II Bridge to the North Gate, jammed with small shops all along the way.

Bank Street is a very short street that begins near the entrance to Shorja Sūq and extends some two blocks toward the river. Nearly all banking interests in Iraq have offices or building space along this street.

By far the most famous is Rashid Street, which begins at the South Gate and runs almost straight to North Gate. This is generally thought of as the center of town, the main business district, and certainly is the street with the largest percentage of leading business offices.⁵⁵ The first impression a newcomer gets is that of age, and

⁵³ These areas, districts, Mahalla, or blocks are not mutually exclusive. Some are subdivisions of others, but in common usage boundaries and sub-classifications are not standardized. See List No. 14. One other section, between Raṣāfa and Kadhimain, called Turumbah, is reported from the 19th century. — Lieutenant J. T. Jones, "Journal of a Steam Voyage to the North of Baghdad, in April, 1846," in *Journal of the Royal Geographical Society* 18 (1848) 1–19. See p. 1.

⁵⁴ J. Wechberg, "Letter from Baghdad," in *The New Yorker*, 28 (September 13, 1952) 118.

⁵⁵ "Modern Baghdad is a city of contrasts. On its main street, called al-Rashid, the horns of up-to-date American and British limousines and trucks vie with the braying of donkeys and the cries of their native drivers." — Elsie Morgan, "Baghdad — 'City of Peace,'" in *Christian Science Monitor Magazine*, December 3, 1949, p. 14. "There is a faintly English flavour of the 'High Street' about the one

the name of al-Rashid Street is naturally given even by old residents as a reference to the famous Caliph Harun-al-Rashid of *Thousand and One Nights* fame. The reference here is likely correct, but it would be misleading to think as some foreigners now do that the street itself goes back to the days of that ruler. Maps of early periods, that is, before the Mongol invasions, indicate that only in spots did a street exist along this route. Le Strange's study, which reviews the names very thoroughly, shows no such name as Rashid Street. Indeed, the truth is quite different. The street is a relatively modern creation.

We have already seen that in the nineteenth century Baghdad had no straight streets, only winding alleys. Efforts have been made to credit the Germans⁵⁶ and the British⁵⁷ with the development of the streets, but there is no reason to withhold such credit from the Turkish administration, even allowing for considerable impetus from the World War I adversaries.

About the turn of the century the Turkish Governor, Nāzīm Pasha, tried to improve the streets and planned to build a sort of boulevard through the center of town. Demolition was actually started with a callous disregard for property rights but halted when demolition reached the British residency.⁵⁸ During the First World War, when German officers and engineers were in Baghdad, working on railroad construction, they advised the authorities of the need for wider streets for military purposes as well as for the movement of construction equipment. At this time British property rights also could be disregarded, presumably with impunity. A new

tarred road which runs the length of the town." — Freya Stark, *Beyond Euphrates*, London (John Murray) 1951, p. 94. See also description, not name, in Geoffrey Morey, "City of Arabian Nights," in *The Field*, November 5, 1938, p. 1100.

⁵⁶ Le Bon, *op. cit.*, p. 23; also Alex Waugh, "Baghdad," in *New English Review*, February, 1949, p. 86.

⁵⁷ "Having compensated the property owners adequately, the new overlords of Mesopotamia drove heavy tanks straight through the middle of the section along the Tigris. They split Baghdad wide open, as you might say, but the result was a broad, straight avenue of benefit to everybody." — "City of Caliphs," in *Christian Science Monitor Magazine*, July 20, 1938. The accuracy of this account is to be questioned.

⁵⁸ W. Warfield, "Bagdad, City of the Kalifs," in *Harper's Magazine*, 131 (November, 1915) 905–913. The main street, evidently this one, is reported to have an asphalt surface as early as 1916. — Edgar Stern, "Kino in Bagdad," in *Kölnische Zeitung*, No. 975 (September 24, 1916) p. 4.

start was made but then, in 1915, when military government replaced civil, and more aggressive measures were in order, the work was speeded up on the stretch between North and South Gate; and houses that blocked the way were demolished. The military authorities also gave the street the name Khalil Pasha in honor of the local commander, credited with the victory over the British at Kūt. The name did not last long. On March 11, 1917, after the Turkish withdrawal, British troops entered from the south, covering both banks. Edmund Candler, a journalist with General Maud's army, described the entry thus: "We came along a nameless road to a dilapidated bund. Here stood the ruins of the Southern Gate."⁵⁹

The British made immediate use of the road: "By a stroke of irony the road that was built to memorise our reverse at Kūt was completed just in time to afford us a passage through Baghdad."⁶⁰

Under the new government, which finished the work already near completion, the name Khalil Pasha went out, and the result was the application of that frequent but most prosaic name of New Street.⁶¹ This name was used for the main thoroughfare from 1917 to about 1932, when Iraq became an independent nation. As one indication of its independence and revival of indigenous tradition the government changed the name of New Street to ar-Rashid and that of Bridge Street to Mamun, after the famous caliph and his son.⁶² By 1942 the name had taken over completely, and the name New Street had been forgotten.⁶³

⁵⁹ Candler, *The Long Road to Baghdad*, II, 99.

⁶⁰ Candler, *op.cit.*, II, 101; Le Bon, *op.cit.*, 23; Eugen Wirth, *op.cit.*, 310; "Bagdad, which up to 1914 had no main street at all, but was just a maze of alleyways, as in the days of the Great Caliph, is now becoming a city of open streets and gardens . . ." — "The Changing Face of Baghdad," in *Britain and the Far East*, 58 (May 1, 1941) 4.

⁶¹ Another designation that seems to be just that rather than a name is *The Street that Runs Straight*. — Leland Rex Robinson, "Up the Tigris to Baghdad," in *Travel*, 36 (November, 1920) No. 1, p. 38. The name *Main Street* also appears. — Le Bon, *op.cit.*, 23.

⁶² Le Bon, *op.cit.*, 23.

⁶³ Writing about 1931, Freya Stark said: "I used to walk either along the narrow path that hangs above the river . . . or across the Tigris and along New Street, busy with its dingy morning toilet and still comparatively empty." — Freya Stark, *Baghdad Sketches*, London (John Murray) 1946, p. 55.

Writing in 1932: ". . . as I had no car and could not afford a conveyance every day, I would walk across the bridge of boats to New Street, now called Rashid." —

For some twenty years al-Rashid (New) Street remained the main thoroughfare for motor vehicles. Then with considerable abandon of property rights another street was cut through existing houses and gardens in a huge semicircle but again beginning at the South Gate and swinging inland from the river and returning to the river near the North Gate, thus roughly parallel to Rashid Street.⁶⁴ The south end was called Nāzim Pasha, the rest by other names. In the '50's another street, wider and longer, was cut through the city from South to North Gate by curving still further to the east. This is called Shaikh Omar Street. Parts of buildings and walls and open rooms still show scars from this engineering surgery.

Another of the well-known thoroughfares that we now need to record for posterity is the Bridge of Boats, for over a thousand years the chief means of movement between the eastern city and Karkh on the western bank. The construction is first described as the work of the famous Caliph Mansur himself, and is pictured as a series of longboats⁶⁵ held together by ropes and chains and fastened to each bank by heavy chains attached to thick pilings driven into the ground, and provided with a loose flooring of heavy boards. It could rise with the water level and still provide communication. It seems to have impressed all visitors to the city, and therefore its appearance through the centuries is well documented. The only designation shown, however, is that of Bridge of Boats.⁶⁶

In March, 1917, when the Turks evacuated the city, they had "broken up and destroyed" the bridge,⁶⁷ and British troops had to

Freya Stark, *Beyond Euphrates*, London (John Murray) 1951, p. 243. For pictures of New (Rashid) Street in its early days, see Leland Rex Robinson, "Up the Tigris to Baghdad," in *Travel*, 36 (November, 1920) No. 1, p. 7.

⁶⁴ Eugen Wirth, *op.cit.*, p. 310.

⁶⁵ 35 barges. It also had a handrail on each side; the bridge opened in the middle to let ships by. A toll was charged for automobiles and animals. — Janet Miller, *op.cit.*, p. 58. For a sketch of the Bridge of Boats in 1875, see Walter B. Harris, *From Batum to Baghdad via Tiflis, Tabriz, and Persian Kurdistan*. Edinburgh and London (Blackwood) 1896, p. 300.

⁶⁶ Later on there were as many as three of these bridges at different times. Nor could they withstand all levels of the River; "The bridge of boats, at best but rickety, from requiring to be taken to pieces when the river rises, was much blocked up with the ammunition-mules going out . . ." — "Baghdad on the Queen's Birthday," in *Blackwood's Magazine* 132 (November, 1882) 587–595.

⁶⁷ Candler, *op.cit.*, II, 107.

cross on *gufas* and individual boats. Within a year the new administration had restored the old Bridge of Boats and added another, a military pontoon bridge, which took the name Maud Bridge for the late commander.⁶⁸ These two bridges remained the only means of crossing the river except by raft, ferry, boat, or *gufa* until 1940, when the new King Feisal Bridge was constructed.⁶⁹ Then gradually the old Bridge of Boats declined in importance and in a few years was dismantled. Today the name Maud Bridge means nothing to the average Baghdadi, and other permanent bridges offer easy communication.⁷⁰

Political events of July, 1958, resulted in an effort to erase the memory of the Hashemite dynasty and its representatives. Thus in a few days after its installation the new government announced several changes. King Feisal Square became Victory Square, and Queen Aliya Bridge was changed to Republic Bridge. Other changes will very likely follow these. The tendency under the new regime seems to favor names that reflect ideas instead of honoring individuals. This tendency is a return to the practice under the Abbaside caliphs, when Baghdad went for a time under the name of Medīnat-as-Salām, or City of Peace.⁷¹

⁶⁸ Candler, *op.cit.*, II, 184.

⁶⁹ "Today housebreakers are demolishing the offices and shops in Rashid Street facing the King Feisal Bridge, which was opened less than a year ago." — "The Changing Face of Bagdad," in *Great Britain and the East* 58 (May 1, 1941) 3-4.

⁷⁰ "[Development] week started with the opening of the two new bridges in Bagdad. One of these is planned to take the load off the famous Rashid Street, until now the main artery of Bagdad, but in recent years completely choked with large, gaudily-coloured American cars, their Arab drivers incessantly tooting their strident horns in the stifling mile-long traffic jams." — "Rebuilding Bagdad," in *Illustrated London News*, 232 (January 18, 1958) 187.

⁷¹ J. A. Zahm, *From Berlin to Bagdad and Babylon*, New York (Appleton) 1922(?), p. 410. The origin of the name Bagdad itself has been studied elsewhere. — See A. Mingana, "Baghdad" in *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, July, 1922, pp. 429 to 430.

List No. 1

Transcription and Translation Correspondences

Conventional form:	Phonetic transcription:
Abū Naṭṭīha Street	Abū Naṭṭīh Street
Ben 'Aqil	Bin 'Aqil or Bin 'Aql
Abū-al-Nawas Street	Shāri' Abū Nuwās
Adhamiya	Al A'zamīyah
Alawi-al-Hilla	'Alwīyat al Ḥillah
Alwiya	Al 'Alwīyah
'Aun Street	Darb 'Awn
Bāb Baṣrah	Bāb al Baṣrah
Bāb-al-Halbah	Bāb al Ḥalabah
	(later on, Bāb aṭ Ṭillasm)
Bab-al-Safariya	Bāb aṣ Zafarīyah
	(later on, Bāb al Wastānī)
Bāb-al-Shaikh	Bāb ash Shaykh
Bāb-al-Sharqi	Al Bāb ash Sharqī
	(earlier was Bāb al Baṣaliyah)
Baṣra Gate	Bāb al Baṣrah
Battaween	Al Battāwīyīn
Bustan Kubba	Bustān al Qubbaḥ
Caliph Al Mansour	Caliph (Khalifa) Al Manṣūr
gufas	(singular) quffah
Haj Fathi	Hājj Fathī
Hamra'	Al Ḥamrā
Harun-al-Rashid	Hārūn ar Rashīd
Hassan al Sadar	Hasan aṣ Ṣadr
Hindiya	Hīndiyah
Hurāsān	Bāb Khurāsān
Kanṭarah	Qanṭarah
Karkh	Al Karkh
Karrāda Mariam	Karrādah Maryam
Kaṣr	Qaṣr
Khidr Elias	Khīdr Ilyās
Kadhimain	Al Kāzimīyah
King Feisal II Bridge	Jisr al Malik Fayṣal
Mamun	Ma'mūn
Mansour City	Madīnat al Manṣūr
Masbah	Al Masbah
Mosque of al-Manṣūr	Jāmi' al Manṣūr
New Baghdad	Baghdād al Jadīdah
Orfan School	'Irfān
al-Qurayah	Al Qurayyah
Raṣāfa	Ar Ruṣāfah
Rashid Street	Shāri' ar Rashīd
Round City	Al Madīnah al Mudawwarah
Sa'adoon Park	Sāhat as Sa'dūn
Salhyah	Aṣ Ṣalīḥiyah
Samarrai'	Sāmarrā'
Ṣarīfah	Ṣarīfah
Ṣarrafīya	Aṣ Ṣarrāfiyah
Shaikh Omar Street	Shāri' ash Shaykh 'Umar
Shalchiya	Ash Shālīkiyah
Shammasiyah	Ash Shammāsīyah
'al-Shariq Quarter	'Ash Shāriq
Shorja	Ash Shūrjah

Shorja Sūq	Sūq ash Shūrjah
Sūq-al-Jadīd	As Sūq al Jadīd
Souq-al-Ghazil	Sūq al Ghazil
Ṭarīk	Ṭarīq
Tel Mohammed	Tall Muḥammad
Wazīriya	Al Wazīriyah
Ya'kubi	Ya'qūbi

List No. 2

Streets (Medieval Period)

Street of the Horse Guards	Shari'-al-Maydān (Street of the Square)
Street of the Water Carriers	Shari'-al-'Aqḍayn
Shari' Abu Hanifah	(Street of the two Archways)
Shari' Mu'adhhdhin (Crier to Prayers)	Shari' Dər-ar-Rakik
Shari' Amr-ar-Rūmi	(Street of the Slaves' House)
Shari' Karm-al-'Arsh	Shari'-al-'Azam
(Street of the Climbing Vine)	(Street of the Great Road)
Shari'-al-Kuhātibah	Shari' Sa'ud-al-Harashī
Shari'-al-Muṣawwir	
(Street of the Painters)	

List No. 3

Roads (Medieval Period)

Ṭarīk-az-Zawāri	Ṭarīk-al-Ghamish	Ṭarīk Mahdi Canal
Ṭarīk-al-Jisr	Ṭarīk Ibn Abu 'Awn	Ṭarīk Sa'd
Ṭarīk Mustakīm		

List No. 4

Alleys (Medieval Period)

Darb-al-Ajurr	Darb-al-Kayyār	Darb-an-Nūrah
(one on each bank)	Darb-al-Lawziyah	Darb-ash-Sha'ir
Darb-al-Akfāṣ	Darb-al-Mas'ūd	Darb-at-Ṭawil
Darb-al-Ḥijārah	Darb-al-Munīrah	Darb-Siwār
Darb-al-Kaṣṣārīn	Darb-an-Nahr	Darb-Sulaymān

List No. 5

Canal Bridges (Medieval Period)

Ḳanṭarah Abu-l-Jawn	Ḳanṭarah-al-'Ushnān	Ḳanṭarah-Bani-Zurayk
Ḳanṭarah-al-'Abbās	Ḳanṭarah-al-Yahūd	Ḳanṭarah-Baradān
(one on each bank)	Ḳanṭarah-al-Yāsiriyah	Ḳanṭarah-Bīmāristān
Ḳanṭarah-al-'Anṣār	Ḳanṭarah-ar-Rūmiyah	Ḳanṭarah-Darb-al-
Ḳanṭarah-al-'Atīkah	Ḳanṭarah-ar-Rummān	Ḥijārah
Ḳanṭarah-al-Bustān	Ḳanṭarah-ash-Shawk	Ḳanṭarah-Dimminā
Ḳanṭarah-al-Jadidah or	Ḳanṭarah-aṣ-Ṣinfiyāt	Ḳanṭarah-Ruḥā-al-
al-Ḥadīthah	Ḳanṭarah-at-Ṭabbānīn	Batrīk
Ḳanṭarah-al-Ma'badī	Ḳanṭarah-az-Zayyātin	Ḳanṭarah Ruḥā-al-
Ḳanṭarah-al-Maghīd	Ḳanṭarah-az-Zubd	Umm-Ja'far
Ḳanṭarah-al-		
Muhaddithīn		

List No. 6

Castles and Palaces (Medieval Period)

Dar-al-Amîr	Dar-ar-Rûm	Kasr-at-Taj
Dar-al-Baṭṭîk	Dar-ar-Rûmîyîn	(later period)
Dar-Fîl	Dar-ash-Shajarah	Kasr-at-Tin
Dar Hasan of the Golden Palaces	Dar-ash-Shâtibîyah	Kasr-Firdûs
Dar-Jawz	Dar-as-Saltanah	Kasr-Humayd
Dar-Ḳaṭṭân	Dar-at-Tawâwîs	Kasr-Îsâ
Dar Ḳazz	Dar-Faraj	Kasr Ja'farî
Dar Khilâfah	Dar-Ja'far	Kasr-Mahdi
Dar Ḳuṭn	Dar Ka'yûbah	Kasr-Maydan Khâlis
Dar Ḳuṭunîyah	Dar Khâtun	Kasr Raḳḳah Kalwâdha
Dar Mamlakah	Dar Sa'id-al-Harashî	Kasr-Sâbûr
Dar Mudhahhabah	Dar Sa'id-al-Khatib	Kasr-'Umm Habîb
Dar-ar-Rakîk	Kasr-al-Kâmil	Kasr-'Umm Ja'far
Dar-ar-Rayhânîyîn	Kasr-al-Khuld	Kasr-Waḳḳah
Dar-ar-Rikhâm	Kasr-ath-Thurayyâ	(East Bank)
	Kasr-at-Tâj	Kasr Waḳḳah
	(early period)	(West Bank)

List No. 7

Monasteries (Medieval Period)

Dayr-al-Adhârâ	Dayr-az-Zuaykiyah	Dayr Midyân
Dayr-al-Âsiyah	Dayr-Darmâlis	Dayr Sâbûr
Dayr-al-Ḳîbâb	Dayr Durta	Dayr-Samâlû
Dayr-ar-Rûm	Dayr Jâthilik	Dayr Sarkhis
Dayr-Ashmûnâ	Dayr Jurjis	Dayr Zandaward
Dayr-ath-Tha'âlib		

List No. 8

Bazaars and Markets (Medieval Period)

Sûḳ-ad-Dawwâbb	Sûḳ-ar-Riyy	Sûḳ Ghâlib
Sûḳ-al-'Atîkah	Sûḳ-aş-Şâghah	Sûḳ Haytham
Sûḳ-al-'Aṭsh	Sûḳ-aş-Şarf	Sûḳ Ja'far
Sûḳ-al-Bîmâristân	Sûḳ-aş-Şultân	Sûḳ-Khâlid
Sûḳ-al-Ghazl	Sûḳ-ath-Thalâthah	Sûḳ-Naşr
Sûḳ-al-Mâristân	(East Bank)	Sûḳ Abu-l-Ward
Sûḳ-al-Warrâkîn	Sûḳ-ath-Thalâthah	Sûḳ Tutush
Sûḳ-an-Nizâmîyah	(West Bank)	Sûḳ Yahya
Sûḳ-ar-Rayhânîyîn	Sûḳ-Baghdâd	

List No. 9

Gates (Medieval Period)

Bâb Abraz	Bâb-al-'Âmmah	Bâb-al-Badrîyah
Bâb Abu Ḳabisah	Bâb-al-'Arḩâ (Arjâ)	Bâb-al-Başaliyah
Bâb-ad-Dawlah	Bâb-al-'Atabah	Bâb-al-Bustân
Bâb-ad-Dawwâmât	Bâb-al-'Âzaj	(East Bank)
Bâb-adh-Dhahab		

Bâb-al-Bustân (West Bank)	Bâb 'Ammâr	Bâb Kaṭrabbul
Bâb-al-Firdûs	Bâb 'Ammûriyah	Bâb Kḥurâsân (Mukhanin)
Bâb-al-Gharabah	Bâb Anbâr	Bâb Kḥurâsân (New Baghdad)
Bâb-al-Ḥadid	Bâb-ash-Sha'ir (north)	Bâb Kḥurâsân (Round City)
Bâb-al-Ḥalbah	Bâb-ash-Sha'ir (south)	Bâb Kūfah
Bâb-al-Ḥaram	Bâb-ash-Shâm	Bâb Muḥawwal
Bâb-al-Hujrah	Bâb-ash-Shammâsiyah	Bâb Muḥayyar
Bâb-al-Jisr	Bâb-ash-Sharkî	Bâb Mukharrim
Bâb-al-Karkh	Bâb-aṣ-Ṣafariyah	Bâb Naḥḥâsin (or Nakhkhâsin)
Bâb-al-Kaṭi'ah (or Zubaydiyyah)	Bâb-as-Sultân	Bâb Naṣr
Bâb-al-Khalaḥ	Bâb-aṭ-Ṭâk	Bâb Nûbî
Bâb-al-Khâṣṣah	Bâb-at-Talim	Bâb Sûḳ-ad-Dawwâb
Bâb-al-Khuluj	Bâb-at-Tibn	Bâb Suḳ-ath-Thalâtha
Bâb-al-Marâtib	Bâb-az-Zafariyah	Bâb Sûḳ-at-Tamr
Bâb-al-Mu'azzam	Bâb Baradân	Bâb 'Ullayân
Bâb-al-Wustânî	Bâb Baṣrah	
Bâb-al-Yâsiriyah	Bâb Bîn	
	Bâb Kalwâdhâ	
	Bâb Kaṭi'ah Mushkîr	

List No. 10

Canals (Medieval Period)

Nahr Abu-'Attâb	Nahr Ishâkiyah	Nahr Mâlik
Nahrawân	Nahr Ja'fari (or Ja'fariyah)	Nahr Mu'allâ
Nahr Baṭâṭiyâ	Nahr Kallâyîn	Nahr Mûsâ
Nahr Bazzâzin	Nahr Karkhâyâ	Nahr Razîn
Nahr Bîn (or Nahrabîn)	Nahr Kilâb	Nahr Rufayl
Nahr Bûḳ	Nahr Kûthâ	Nahr Sarât (Great)
Nahr Dajâj	Nahr Mahdî	Nahr Sarât (Small)
Nahr Fadl		Nahr Ṣarṣar
Nahr 'Îsâ		

List No. 11

Bazaars and Markets (1956)

(Transliteration is that of the Baghdad Telephone Directory, English Edition)

Souq al Ahmadi	Souq al Gumrug	Souq Manahim Danial
Souq al Ajaimi	Souq Hamada	Souq al Masbagha
Souq al Allousi	Souq al Hamidiya	Souq al Muradiya
Souq el Aridh	Souq Hannoan	Souq Rajwan
Souq al Askajiya (Askachiya)	Souq Hannoan al Kabir	Souq al Sa'achiya
Souq al-Attariya	Souq al Haraj (Heraj)	Souq al Sadriya
Souq al Bazzazin	Souq al Haraj al Kabir	Souq al Safafafir
Souq al Brisam	Souq el Heyuss	Souq al Sarrafin
Souq al Chokhachiya	Souq Hmada	Souq al Thahab
Souq Danial	Souq al Istarabadi	Souq al Tijar
Souq al Ghazil	Souq al Ijaimi	Souq al Waqf
	Souq al Jadid	

List No. 12

Warehouses (1956)

(Transcription as in No. 11)

Khan al Assafi	Khan al Dhaheb	Khan al Muradiya al Kabir
Khan al Bahrani	Khan al Dijaj	Khan al Pasha al Kabir
Khan al Barazanli	Khan Hamid al Najjar	Khan al Pasha al Saghir
Khan al Barazanli al Saghir	Khan al Hariri	Khan Rahmat Allah al Kabir
Khan al Charkasi al Kabir	Khan al Kittan	Khan al Rimah
Khan al Cherkasi al Kabir	Khan al Komrak	Khan al Rimah al Kabir
Khan al Cherkasi al Kabir	Khan Kubba al Kabir	Khan Sasson Daniel
Khan al Charkasi al Saghir	Khan Lawand	Khan al Shabandar
Khan Dalla	Khan Mahmoud al Shabander	Khan Shamash
Khan Dalla al Kabir	Khan Makhzoumi	Khan al Thahab al Saghir
Khan Dalla al Saghir	Khan Mohammed Rahmatallah	Khan al Zoroor

List No. 13

Streets Named for Individuals (The word *Street* is omitted in each case)

(Transcription is as in No. 11)

Abbas Afandi	Gailani	Nuri al-Said
Abu Nattiha	Ghazi	Omar ben Abdul Aziz
Abu al Nawas	Haj Fathi	Othman Nuri
Abu Qlam	Hariri	Qais Ben Sa'ad
Abu Saifain	Hassan al-Sadar	Queen Aliya
Aba Ubaida	Hassan ben Thabit al Hussain	Rashid
Akhtal	Hussam al-Din	Rawaf
Albu Jum'	Jadid Hassan Pasha	al-Saffar
Albu Mufarij	Jami' Atta	Said al-Islam
Albu Shiya	Jami' al Khasaki	Salah al-Din
Amar	al-Jawad	Samaw'al
Amin	Khansa'	Sayad Abulla
Amir Abdul Ilah	Khayat	Shaikh Ali
Amir Zaid	Kard al-Pasha	Shaikh Bashar
Asffar	al-Khaza'ali	Shaikh Ma'roof
Askari	King Faisal II	Shaikhli
Assaf	Kollat	Sharif al Radhi
Aswad	Ma'ad Ben Jabal	Shibli al-Baghdadi
Attar	Madhat Pasha	Siba'
Badawi	Ma'moon	Sit Nafisa
Bahoshi	Mostansir	Taha
Ben Aqil	Mousa al Kadhim	Tariq ben Ziyad
Ben Dinar	Mu'askar	Um al-Rabi'ain
Dashty	Mutanabi	Zahawi
al-Douri	al-Mutawakil Ala Allah	Za'im
Fadhil		Zubaida
Faraj Allah		

List No. 14

Districts (Mahallat) 1954

(Transcription is as in List No. 11)

Alawi-al-Hilla	Hitawiyin	Ras al Qarria
Alwiya	Hwaidi	Ras al-Saqiya
Arasat al-Mumayiz	Iwadhiya	Rekhaita
Aqailat	Ja'aifer	Sababigh al-All
Aqd al Nasara	Jadid Hassan Pasha	Sabe' Qsoor
Aqouliya	Karentina	Sa'doon
Ardharomli	Karrada al-Sharqiya	al-Saffar
Attaiyya	Karradat Mariam	Safina
Awaina	Kasra	Salhiyah
Bab-al-Agha	Kharbanda	Sara Khatoon
Barrodiya	Khayat	Sarafiya
Battawin	Kidhr Elias	Saraj al-Din
Beni Si'eed	Kraimat	Sayed Sultan Ali
Bustan Aswad	Mahdiyah	Shaikh Ma'roof
Bustan al-Attar	Masbah	Shaikh Omar
Bustan Baqouri	Miadan	Shaikh Sandal
Bustan Hassoun Agha	Moshahida	Shalchiya
Bustan al-Khass	Murraba'	Shawaka
Bustan Kubba	Mushahada	Sheyukh
Bustan Mamo	Najib Pasha	Shorja
Bustan al-Shaikhli	Nassa	Shuyokh
Dabakhana	Okailat	Sinak
Dahana	Orfaliya	Slaikh (Sulaikh)
Dooriyin	Qais ben Sa'ad	Souq al Jadid
Dukan Shnawa	Qamber Ali	That al-Takya
Fahama	Qaplaniya	Tatran
Falahat	Quara Sha'ban	Tapat al Kurd
Gailani Camp	Qaterkhana	Tikarta (Tikarata)
Haibat Khatoon	Qattana	Tob
Haiderkhana	Qishel	Twailat
Hamam al-Maleh	Raghiba Khatoon	Waziriya
Harthiya	Rahmaniyah	Zuwiya (Zwiya)
Hindiya	Ras al-Hawash	

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