

Re: "th" sounds in loanwords

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- *From:* "G. Leo Sahakian" <glsah@xxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 1 May 2005 06:09:48 +0200
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<ranjit_mathews@xxxxxxxx> a écrit dans le message de news:
1114864028.376855.179670@xxx
>[...]
> India's Delhi would have to be spelt <Dilli> in order to be pronounced
> correctly and even then, among Europeans, only Italians would pronounce
> it properly with both a dental [d] and geminate [ll].

I am not convinced; isn't the 1st i lax and open (like en. i in sit, not an it. sound)? it. i is closed; then they (the Ital.) would stress the 1st syllable, which, I think, is not the case in hi.; lastly the last i would be short (as all unstressed vowels) in it., whereas it is long in hi. [dilli:].
the spelling delhi is due to the alternative de:hli:, pers. dehlî; does lh look "better" for the british than hl? or the h in hl is more liable to be lost in pronuniation than in lh? cf. alhambra, calhoun, mulhearn, philhamonic, etc.
this is half as bad as the fr. [kalkyta] calcutta or [lykno] lucknow!

regards,
G. Leo Sahakian

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Be kind to animals; they owe you nothing. Let them live in peace, unless your life is at risk.
<http://www.pour-les-animaux.de/>.

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- *Follow-Ups:*
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