

Re: Arabic Loan Words in Turkish

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- *From:* "Yusuf B Gursev" <ybg@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 26 Aug 2006 20:16:11 -0700
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Peter T. Daniels wrote:

noesy_parker wrote:

Lee Sau Dan <danlee@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in
news:87mz9s9oeo.fsf@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx:

"Peter"
==
Peter
T
Daniels
<grammatim@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
writes:

Peter> It's a request; do requests need to be in the form of a
Peter> question?

Peter> "Would you please list all the Arabic loanwords in
Peter> Turkish?"

What a request!

Would you also please list all the Chinese loanwords in
English?

Now that would be an interesting request. There can't be that many, can
there? Fewer than 100, I guess?

Doubtless there are thousands. But they are easily searched, because
any number of electronic dictionaries exist with searchable etymology
sections. It's less likely that such resources yet exist for Turkish,
and if they do, they are unlikely to yet encompass the full Ottoman
vocabulary.

Re: Arabic Loan Words in Turkish

the high register of ottoman turkish was "open" to classsial arabic and persian. any arabic or persian word – no matter how obscure – was fair game to an ottoman writer. but when the intention was to convey information – rather than show off the educaion of the writer, a plainer language was used.

More interesting is how many of the expressions and phrases used in English are originally Chinese? I've always suspected that "good egg/bad egg" in English meaning a good or bad person comes originally from the Chinese "bad egg", but I'm not sure.