

Note on Transliteration

Transliteration in a work that involves several Middle Eastern languages inevitably involves some solutions that may not satisfy everyone. We have tried to recognize differences in local pronunciations without overloading the text with variations. The system of transliteration used for Arabic, Persian, and Turkish is that of the *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, and for Urdu and Russian that of the Library of Congress, with some modifications. Vowels are *i* and *u* in Arabic, Turkish, and Urdu, and *e* and *o* in Persian (with Qizilbash and Isma`il as exceptions). Diphthongs are *ai* and *au* (*ei* in Turkish, as in the name Suleiman). Certain proper nouns, when they refer to persons or items important in Islamic history, are given a standard spelling: (Prophet) Muhammad, (Imam) Husain, Fatima, Quran. The definite article in Arabic is not normally assimilated to the noun, though it is assimilated in the terms Aya-tollah and Hojjatoleslam and in a modern Persian name such as Abol Hasan. The letter `ain is not rendered when it occurs at the beginning of a word. The silent *h* is given as *eh* in Persian but as *a* in Arabic and Urdu. No diacritical marks are used with transliterated forms. Names with an established English spelling appear in their anglicized forms: Uzbek, Khomeini, Khamenei, Mawdudi, Soroush, Dariush Mehrjui. Dates are given according to the Common Era calendar.

