



## THE ARABIC ORIGINS OF "CUTTING AND BREAKING TERMS" IN ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN LANGUAGES: A LEXICAL ROOT THEORY APPROACH

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### ABSTRACT

This paper examines the Arabic origins or cognates of *cutting* and *breaking terms* in English, German, French, Latin, and Greek from a lexical root theory perspective. The data consists of 145 terms or so such as *cut*, *chop*, *grind*, *mince*, *coarse*, *fine*, *crush*, *crash*, *divide*, *split*, *segregate*, *mash*, *smash*, *squeeze*, *join*, *knife*, *sword*, *chisel*, *gun*, *arrow*, 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 *cut* derives from Arabic *qadda* or *qaTTa* 'cut', turning /q & d (T)/ into /k & t/; English *break* (*breach*, *broach*) and German *brechen* 'break' come from Arabic *baqar* 'break, open' via reordering and turning /q/ into /k/. 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, and Greek are dialects of the same language with the first being the origin.

**Keywords:** Cutting & breaking words, Arabic, English, German, French, Latin, Greek, historical linguistics, lexical root theory

### INTRODUCTION

The lexical root theory (Jassem 2012a-f, 2013a-l) was first proposed 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; Yule 2006; Crowley 1997: 22-25, 110-111; Pyles and Algeo 1993: 61-94). On the contrary, it firmly established the

inextricable genetic relationship between Arabic and such languages on all levels: phonetically, morphologically, grammatically, and lexically or semantically (Jassem 2012a-f, 2013a-l).

Seventeen studies have been conducted thus far. Phonetically, Jassem (2013c) outlined the English, German, French, Latin, and Greek cognates of Arabic back consonants: i.e., the glottals, pharyngeals, uvulars, and velars. Besides, the phonetic analysis is

essential in all the papers, of course. 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, Greek, and Sanskrit personal pronouns (Jassem 2012c, 2013l), determiners (Jassem 2012d), and verb 'to be' forms (Jassem 2012e). Lexically, ten 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), time words (Jassem 2013j), and family words (Jassem 2013k).

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

## RESEARCH METHODS

### *The Data*

The data consists of 145 *cutting* and *breaking* words or so such as *cut, chop, grind, mince, coarse, fine, crush, crash, divide, split, segregate, mash, smash, squeeze, join, knife, sword, chisel, gun, arrow,* 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: 257-67, 276-83), Ibn Seedah (1996: 13/31-50, 6/16-79), and Ibn Manzoor (2013) in the main.

Transcribing the data uses normal spelling for practical purposes; nevertheless, 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 *cutting* and *breaking* words can make up natural texts on their own, e.g.,

Knives cut; scissors incise; arrows pierce; swords saw; saws slice; chisels sculpt; razors shave; arms injure; hammers smash; pins, needles inject; butchers slay, kill, and mince; stones crush and grind; drills bore; sheep regurgitate; axes dig; shovels excavate; shredders tear; shirts tear and wear. Shakespeare, an Anglo-Saxon, shakes spears as a Yemeni. In short, this terse description links English and Arabic precisely and concisely.

This today's English text is also Arabic 100% as will be shown in the analysis below.

## DATA ANALYSIS

### **Theoretical Framework: The Lexical Root Theory:**

The lexical root theory (Jassem 2012a-f, 2013a-l) will be used as the theoretical framework for data analysis here. It is so called because of employing the lexical (consonantal) root in examining genetic relationships between words like the derivation of *explanation* from *plain* (or simply *pln*). The main reason for that is because the consonantal root carries and determines the basic meaning of the word regardless of its affixation such as *explain, explanation*. Historically speaking, classical Arabic dictionaries (e.g., Ibn Manzoor 1974, 2013) used consonantal roots in listing lexical entries, a practice first founded by Alkhaleel (Jassem 2012e).

Structurally, the lexical root theory is simple, comprised of a theoretical construct, hypothesis or principle and five practical procedures of analysis. The principle states that:

Arabic and English as well as the so-called Indo-European languages are not only genetically related but also are directly descended from one language, which may be Arabic in the end. In fact, it claims in its strongest version that they are all dialects of the same language, whose differences are due to natural and plausible causes of linguistic change.

To prove that, five applied procedures are used in the analysis: namely, (i) methodological, (ii) lexicological, (iii) linguistic, (iv) relational, and (v) comparative/historical. As all have been reasonably described in the above studies (Jassem 2012a-f, 2013a-l), a brief summary will suffice here.

To start with, the methodological procedure concerns data collection, selection, and statistical analysis. Apart from loan words, *all* language words, affixes, and phonemes are amenable to investigation, and *not only* the core vocabulary as is the common practice in the field (Crystal 2010; Pyles and Algeo 1993: 76-77; Crowley 1997: 88-90, 175-178). However, data selection is practically inevitable since no single study can do that in one go, however ambitious it might be. The most appropriate way for approaching that goal would be to use semantic fields such as the present and the above topics. Cumulative evidence from such findings will aid in formulating rules and laws of language change at a later stage (cf. Jassem 2012f, 2013a-f). The statistical analysis employs the percentage formula (see 2.2 below).

Secondly, the lexicological procedure is the initial step in the analysis. Words are analyzed by (i) deleting affixes (e.g., *explained* → *plain*), (ii) using primarily consonantal roots (e.g., *plain* → *pln*), and (iii) search for correspondence in meaning on the basis of word etymologies and origins as a guide (e.g., Harper 2012), to be used with discretion, though. The final outcome is Arabic *baien*, *baan* (v) 'clear, plain' via /l/-insertion or split from /n/ (Jassem 2013i).

Thirdly, the linguistic procedure handles the analysis of the phonetic, morphological, grammatical and

semantic structures and differences between words. The phonetic analysis examines sound changes within and across categories. In particular, consonants may change their place and manner of articulation as well as voicing. At the level of place, bilabial consonants ↔ labio-dental ↔ dental ↔ alveolar ↔ palatal ↔ velar ↔ uvular ↔ pharyngeal ↔ glottal (where ↔ signals change in both directions); at the level of manner, stops ↔ fricatives ↔ affricates ↔ nasals ↔ laterals ↔ approximants; and at the level of voice, voiced consonants ↔ voiceless.

Similarly, vowels may change as well. Although the number of vowels differ greatly within and between English (Roach 2008; Celce-Mercia et 2010) and Arabic (Jassem 2012g, 1987, 1993), all can be reduced to three basic long vowels /a: (aa), i: (ee), & u: (oo)/ (and their short versions besides the two diphthongs /ai (ay)/ and /au (aw)/ which are a kind of /i:/ and /u:/ respectively). They may change according to modifications in (i) tongue part (e.g., front ↔ centre ↔ back), (ii) tongue height (e.g., high ↔ mid ↔ low), (iii) length (e.g., long ↔ short), and (iv) lip shape (e.g., round ↔ unround). In fact, the vowels can be, more or less, treated like consonants where /i:/ and /u:/ are a kind of /j (y)/ and /w/ or vice versa. Their functions are mainly phonetic such as linking consonants to each other in speech and grammatical such as indicating tense, word class, and number (e.g., *sing*, *sang*, *sung*, *song*; *man*/*men*). Thus their semantic weight is little, if not at all. For these reasons, vowels are marginal in significance which may be totally ignored in the analysis because the limited nature of the changes do not affect the final semantic result at all.

Sound changes result in natural and plausible processes like assimilation, dissimilation, deletion, merger, insertion, split, syllable loss, resyllabification, consonant cluster reduction or creation and so on. In addition, sound change may operate in a multi-directional, cyclic, and lexically-diffuse or irregular manner (for detail, see Jassem 2012a-f, 2013c).

As to the morphological and grammatical analyses, there exists some overlap. The former examines the inflectional and derivational aspects of words in general (Jassem 2012f, 2013a-b); the latter handles grammatical classes, categories, and functions like determiners, pronouns, nouns, verbs, and case (Jassem 2012c-e). Since their influence on the basic meaning of the lexical root is marginal, they may be ignored altogether.

Regarding the semantic analysis, it examines meaning relationships between words, including lexical stability, multiplicity, convergence, divergence, shift, split, change, and variability. Stability means that word meanings have remained constant over time. Multiplicity denotes that words might have two or more meanings. Convergence means two or more formally and semantically similar Arabic words might have yielded the same cognate in English. Divergence signals that words became opposites or antonyms of one another. Shift indicates that words switched their sense within the same field. Lexical split means a word led to two different cognates. Change means a new meaning developed. Variability signals the presence of two or more variants for the same word.

Fourthly, the relational procedure accounts for the relationship between form and meaning from three perspectives: formal and semantic similarity (e.g., *three*, *third*, *tertiary* and Arabic *thalath* 'three' (Damascus Arabic *talaat* (Jassem 2012a)), formal similarity and semantic difference (e.g., *ship* and *sheep* (Jassem 2012b), and formal difference and semantic similarity (e.g., *quarter*, *quadrant*, *cadre* and Arabic *qeeraaT* '1/4' (Jassem 2012a)).

Finally, the comparative historical analysis compares every word in English in particular and German, French, Greek, and Latin in general with its Arabic counterpart phonetically, morphologically, and semantically on the basis of its history and development in English (e.g., Harper 2012; Pyles and Algeo 1993) and Arabic (e.g., Ibn Manzour 2013; Altha3aalibi 2011; Ibn Seedah 1996) besides the author's knowledge of both Arabic as a first language and English as a second language. Discretion should be

exercised here due to uncertainties and inaccuracies, especially in Harper's work, though.

### STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

The percentage formula is used in calculating the ratio of cognate words or shared vocabulary, 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).

### RESULTS

**Abrade** (*abrasion*, *abrasive*) from Arabic *barada* 'abrade'.

**Amputate** via Latin *ambiputare* (*ambi-* 'about' and *putare* 'trim, prune' from Arabic *batara* (*inbatara*), *mabtoor* (adj) 'to cut', *batta* (*inbatta*) 'cut', or *baTTa* (*inbaTTa*) 'burst open, cut'.

**Anatomy** via Latin and Greek *anatomiā* (*ana* 'up, on, again, throughout' from Arabic *3an* 'on, about' via /3/-loss + *temnein* 'cut' from Arabic *qaTam* (*inqaTam*) 'to cut the top' where /q & T/ merged into /t/ while /n/ split from /m/.

**Anglo** (*Angles*, *England*, *Anglo-Saxon*, *English*; *angle*) 'people of Angul, 'a hook-shaped region' via Greek *ankylos* 'bent, crooked' and Latin *angure* 'fold' from Arabic *manjal*, *najal* (v) 'sickle', merging /m & n/ and turning /j/ into /g/ or *3aaal* 'bend, fold', turning /q & 3/ into /g & n/.

**Archer** (*arch*) from Arabic *qurS* 'arch' via reordering and merging /q & S/ into /ch/.

**Arm** (*army*) from Arabic *rum2* 'arrow' via lexical shift and /2/-loss, *raami* 'soldier, trooper, thrower' via reordering and turning /S/ into /s/, and/or

*yameen* 'right hand' via reordering and turning /n/ into /r/.

**Arrow** from Arabic *rum2* (*al-rum2* pronounced *arrum2*) '(the) arrow' via /2 & m/-merger into /w/.

**Axe** from Arabic *fa's* 'axe' via reordering and turning /f/ into /k/.

**Beat** from Arabic *Tabba* 'beat' via reversal or *baTa2a* 'knock down' via /2/-loss.

**Bite** from Arabic *baDa3a* 'to cut (the meat)' via lexical shift, /3/-loss, and turning /D/ into /t/; *badha2a* 'cut through' via lexical shift, /2/-loss, and turning /dh/ into /t/; or *baTTa* 'to burst open', turning /T/ into /t/.

**Blunt** from Arabic *baarid* 'of knives, not sharp; cold', turning /r & d/ into /l & t/ or *ballad* 'blunt' via /n/-insertion.

**Bore** from Arabic *ba2ar* 'to bore, to cut; sea' via /2/-loss.

**Break** (*breach, broach*) from Arabic *baqara* 'to break, to open' via reordering and turning /q/ into /k/.

**Bruise** from Arabic *barasha* 'to scrape'; /sh/ changed to /s/.

**Butcher** from Arabic *baTasha* 'beat, kill'; *dhaba2a* 'kill, cut' via reordering and turning /dh & 2/ into /t & ch/; or *baqara* 'kill', splitting /q/ into /t & ch/.

**Capsize** from Arabic *kaba* (*kabkaba*) 'capsize' where /k/ split into /s & z/; or *ghabbaS* 'to wade through' via lexical shift and /S/-split into /s & z/.

**Carve** from Arabic *qawara* 'to carve, to empty the inside' via reordering and /q & w/-mutation into /k & v/ or *qaraf* 'to break, to carve' via /q/-mutation into /k/.

**Chisel** from Arabic *jaazool, jazal* (v) 'cutter', turning /j/ into /ch/ or *qaSal* 'cut (the outer part)', turning /q & S/ into /ch & s/.

**Chop** (*chip*) from Arabic *jabba* 'cut', turning /j/ into /ch/.

**Choke** from Arabic *ghaSSa* 'hoke' via reordering and changing /gh & S/ into /ch & k/.

**Cleave** (*cleavage*) from Arabic *falaq* or *falakh* 'to split' via reversal and turning /q (kh)/ into /k/.

**Clip** from Arabic *kallab* 'clip'.

**Club** from Arabic *kilaab* 'club'.

**Coarse** (*coffee*) from Arabic *jarsh* 'crushed', turning /j & sh/ into /k & s/ or *kharash* 'coarse, rough' where /kh & sh/ became /k & s/.

**Collapse** from Arabic *zaqlab* or *shaqlab* 'to fall' via reordering and turning /z (sh) & q/ into /s & k/ or *qalab* 'to turn over or upside down' where /q/ split into /k & s/.

**Collect** from Arabic *laqaT* 'collect', turning /q & T/ into /k & t/; for **col-** (**com-**), see below.

**Combine** from a combination of Arabic *ma3a* 'together, com-' via reversal and turning /3/ into /k/ and *bana* 'build' (Jassem 2013a).

**Concise** from Arabic *jazza* or *qaSSa* 'to cut'; /j, S, & q/ developed into /s/ all. See **incision**.

**Connect** via Latin *conectere* (*com-* + *nectere* 'tie, bind') from Arabic *3aqad* 'tie, bend', turning /3, q, & d/ into /n, k, & t/; or *3anaq* (*3unuq*) 'link (neck)', splitting /q/ into /kt/ and deleting /3/.

**Crack** from Arabic *kharq* 'to crack'; /kh & q/ both became /k/.

**Crash** (*crush*) from Arabic *jarash* 'to crush', turning /j/ into /k/; or *kasar* 'to break' via reordering and turning /s/ into /sh/.

**Crunch** from Arabic *qarash, inqarash* 'to crush by teeth' via reordering and changing /q/ to /k/.

**Crush** (*crash*) See **crash**.

**Cursor** from Arabic *khuraS* 'short arrow', turning /kh & S/ into /k & s/.

**Curve** from Arabic *2araf* 'curve; bend'; /2/ passed into /k/.

**Cut** from Arabic *qadda* 'cut', *qaTTa* 'cut', or *qaTa3a* 'cut' via /3/-loss and turning /q & d/ into /k & t/.

**Dagger** from Arabic *Tiraq* 'dagger, sword iron' via reordering and turning /T & q/ into /d & g/ or *khanjar* 'dagger', substituting /g & d/ for /kh & j/.

**Dig** from Arabic *daq* 'dig; knock; to prick', changing /q/ to /g/.

**Digest** (*digestion*) from Arabic *Taqash(at)* 'crush by teeth'; /T, q, & sh/ changed to /d, g, & s/.

**Dissection** from Arabic *shaqq(at), tashaqqaq* (v) 'dissection, split'; /sh & q/ became /s & k/. See **section**.

**Diverge** (*divergence*) from Arabic *faraq, tafarraq* 'to divide; to fork'; /q/ became /k/ (cf. **divorce**, **diverse** in Jassem 2013c).

**Divide** (*division*) from Arabic *fatta, tafattat* 'divide, break' or *faDDa, tafaDDaD* 'break' via reordering and changing /t & D/ to /d/.

**Drill** via Dutch *drillen* 'turn around, whirl, bore a hole' from Arabic *daar, dawaraan* (n) 'turn around' via /l/-split from /r/.

**-Ectomy** from Arabic *qaTam* 'cut (the top)', turning /q & T/ into /k & t/.

**Engrave** from Arabic *qaraf (inqaraf)* 'break' or *2afar (in2afar)* 'engrave, dig' via reordering and passing /2/ into /g/.

**Erode** (*erosion*) from Arabic *jarada* 'scrape, peel' via reordering and merging /j/ into /d/.

**Excavate** (*cave, cavity*) from Arabic *kahf* 'cave' via /h & f/-merger; *jauf, jawwaf* (v) 'inside (hollow)' where /j/ became /k/; or *qa2af* 'shovel away' where /q & 2/ merged into /k/.

**Explode** via Latin *explauder* (*ex-* 'out' from Arabic *aqSa* 'far, out' where /q & S/ became /k & s/ (Jassem 2013a) + *plauder* 'clap') from Arabic *Tabal* 'beat up, drum up' via reordering and turning /T/ into /d/ or *balaj* 'to explode', turning /j/ into /d/.

**Extract** (*extraction*) via Latin *extrahere* (*ex-* 'out' from Arabic *aqSa* 'far, out' where /q & S/ became /k & s/ (Jassem 2013a) + *trahere* 'draw, drag, pull' from Arabic *jarra* 'draw' where /j/ split into /t & h/); *Taraq(a)* 'strike off', turning /T & q/ into /t & k/; or *Tara2a(t)* 'throw away', turning /2/ into /k/.

**Fault** from Arabic *falq(at)* 'split', turning /q/ into /t/.

**Fall** (*fell*) from Arabic *afala* 'fall, set, disapper'.

**Fell** (*felling*) from Arabic *fala3* 'fell, uproot' via /3/-loss.

**File** from Arabic *falla* 'file, cut'.

**Fine** (*coffee*) from Arabic *faram* 'mince', merging /r & m/ into /n/; *fara* 'cut small', turning /r/ into /n/; *sa2an* 'to mince, make powder' via /s & 2/-merger into /f/; or *naa3im* 'fine' via reversal and merging /3 & m/ into /n/.

**Fissure** from Arabic *faSar (fasar)* 'roll out' or *fazar* 'split (from the inside out), break open', turning /S (z, s)/ into /sh/.

**Flake** from Arabic *falq* 'flake, division', mutating /q/ into /k/.

**Fork** (*bifurcate*) from Arabic *far(r)aq* 'divide; to fork'; /q/ became /k/.

**Fracture** (*fraction*) from Arabic *farkath* 'of bread, to break' where /th/ became /t/, *farq(at)* 'division,

break', *farSakh(at)* 'fracture', merging /S & kh/ into /k/, *farazdaq* 'of bread, a broken piece' via /z & q/-merger into /k/ and turning /d/ into /t/, or *kasr(at)* 'fracture' via reordering and turning /s/ into /f/.

**Fragment** from Arabic *faraq (farrag)*, *mutafarriq* (adj) 'to divide'; /q/ evolved into /g/.

**Gallows** from Arabic *qala3* 'uproot, kill' via /3/-loss and turning /q/ into /g/ or *qaSal* 'cut', merging /q & S/ into /g/.

**Gather** from Arabic *qara'a*, *qiraa'at* 'gather, read' via reordering and turning /q & t/ into /g & th/; or *kathura*, *katheer* (adj) 'to become more or larger', turning /k/ into /g/.

**Go off** from Arabic *faqa3* 'to explode' via reordering and /3/-loss.

**Grind** (*ground*) from Arabic *qaraTa (inqaraT)* 'to grind', turning /q & T/ into /g & d/.

**Grit** (*grits*) from Arabic *qarT(at)* 'crush, cut', turning /q & T/ into /g & t/.

**Gun** from Arabic *qana* 'spear, arrow' via lexical shift and turning /q/ into /g/ or *sinaan* 'arrow (head)', replacing /s/ by /g/.

**Hammer** from Arabic *jamra(t)* 'stone, spark' via lexical shift and turning /j/ into /h/ or *qaddoom* 'hammer' where /q/ became /h/ and /d/ merged into /m/.

**Hang** from Arabic *shanaq* 'hang' or *khanaq* 'suffocate', passing /sh (kh) & q/ into /h & g/.

**Hew** from Arabic *2affa* 'cut (the edge)' or *haffa (halafa)* 'cut', turning /2 & f/ into /h & w/.

**Hook** from Arabic *3akfia(t)*, *3akaf* (v) 'hook; handle-bent stick', merging /3 & f/ into /h/; or *3ukkaaz* 'hook' where /3/ became /h/ while /k & z/ merged.

**Incision** (*concise, precise; scissors*) from Arabic *qaSSa (inqaSSa)* 'cut', or *jazza (injazza)* 'cut', *2azza (in2azza)* 'slice' where /q (j & 2)/ changed to /s/ all.

**Inject** from Arabic *shaqqa(t) (inshaqqat)* 'cut', turning /sh & q/ into /j & k/; or *shakhat (inshakhat)* 'cut' where /sh & kh/ became /j & k/.

**Injure** from Arabic *jar2 (injara2)* 'injure' via /2/-loss.

**Issue** from Arabic *juz'* 'part, issue', merging /j & z/ into /s (sh)/.

**Jam** from Arabic *jama3* 'join, gather' via /3/-loss.

**Join** (*Joint*) from Arabic *jama3* 'join, gather' via /3/-loss.

**Kill** from Arabic *qatal* 'kill' via /q & t/-merger, *qala3* 'uproot, kill' or *khala3* 'remove, kill' via /3/-loss and /kh/-mutation into /k/.

**Knife** from Arabic *sikkeen* 'knife' via reordering and turning /s/ into /f/.

**Lance** from Arabic *naSl* 'arrow' via reordering and turning /S/ into /s/.

**Liaison** from Arabic *waSal (inwaSal)* 'link, arrive' via reordering and turning /S/ into /s/.

**Link** from Arabic *3allaq* 'link' via reordering and turning /3 & q/ into /n & k/ or *waSal (inwaSal)* 'link, arrive' via reordering and turning /S/ into /k/.

**Mash** from Arabic *ma3as* 'mash', merging /3 & s/ into /sh/.

**Mill** (*Mull*) via Latin *molere* 'to grind' from Arabic *mala3* 'dislodge' via /3/-loss or *mil2* 'salt, turn into salt' via /2/-loss.

**Mull** (*Mill*) via Latin *molere* 'to grind' from Arabic *mala3* 'dislodge' via /3/-loss.

**Mince** from Arabic *mazzaq (inmazaq)* 'to tear apart' via reordering and turning /q/ into /s/.

**Missile** from Arabic *izmeel* 'chisel' via lexical shift, reordering and turning /z/ into /s/, *misalla(t)* 'large needle' via lexical shift, or *sihaam* 'arrows' via reordering, merging /h/ into /s/, and /l/-insertion.

**Needle** from Arabic *naSl* (*naDI*) 'sword iron, needle, arrow' via lexical shift, reordering and turning /S (D)/ into /d/.

**Partition** (*part*) from Arabic *batara* 'to cut' via reordering.

**Peel** from Arabic *lubb* 'pulp, inside' via lexical shift (divergence).

**Piece** from Arabic *bijja(t)* 'piece, a cut', *bajja* (v) 'to tear', turning /j/ into /s/ or *baqia(t)* '(remaining) piece', mutating /q/ into /s/.

**Pierce** from Arabic *baqara* 'cut into' via reordering and turning /q/ into /s/.

**Pin** from Arabic *ibra(t)*, *ibar* (pl.) 'needle', turning /r/ into /n/.

**Pound** from Arabic *dabba* (*indabba*) 'to pound' via reordering.

**Powder** from Arabic *turaab* 'dust, powder' via reordering and turning /t/ into /d/ or *ramaad* 'dust' via reordering and turning /m/ into /p/.

**Prune** from Arabic *bara* (*inbara*) 'sharpen, trim' via reordering.

**Pulverize** via Latin *pulvis* 'dust, powder' from Arabic *mil2* 'salt, dust, very tiny' via lexical shift and turning /m & 2/ into /p & v/.

**Puncture** from Arabic *baqaT*, *inbaqaT* 'puncture, make a hole' via reordering, turning /q/ into /k/, and /r/-insertion.

**Razor** (*raze*) from Arabic *reesha(t)* 'small knife; feather', turning /sh/ into /z/ and inserting /r/; or *shafra(t)* 'razor' via reordering and merging /sh & f/ into /z/.

**Regurgitate** (*regurgitation*) from Arabic *qarqaT(at)* 'of animals, to eat; crush by teeth' via reordering and changing /q & T/ to /g & t/.

**Rend** from Arabic *ratam* 'break, crush' via reordering and turning /t & m/ into /d & n/ or *damar* 'destroy' via lexical shift, reversal, and substituting /n/ for /m/.

**Rip** from Arabic *araba* 'fall' or *ra'ab* 'mend, fix' via lexical shift or divergence (cf. **rape** from Arabic *irb* 'intercourse, vagina'; **pray** from Arabic *ariba* 'prostrate' (cf. Jassem 2012b).

**Ruin** from Arabic *inhaar* 'to ruin' via reordering and /h/-loss or *radam* 'ruin, destroy' via /d & m/-merger into /n/.

**Rupture** from Arabic *baraT* 'rupture' via reordering.

**Saxon** via Old English *seax* 'knife' from Arabic *seekh*, *seekhaan* (pl.) 'large knife'; /kh/ split into /ks/.

**Saw** from Arabic *saif* 'sword' via lexical shift and changing /f/ to /w/ or *2azz* 'to slice', merging /2 & z/ into /s/ (cf. *shaaf* 'see' where /sh & f/ became /s & w/; *see-saw* from Arabic *shaa2* 'swing' via reduplication and merging /sh & 2/ into /s/).

**Scar** via Latin *eschara* and Greek *eskhara* 'sab formed after a burn; literally hearth, fireplace' from Arabic *saqar* 'fire' or *2arq* 'a burn; fire' via reordering and turning /2 & q/ into /s & k/; or via Middle English *skar* 'cut, incision, crack' from Arabic *sharkh* 'cut, crack' or *jar2* 'wound' via reordering and turning /j (sh) & 2 (kh)/ into /s & k/ or *kasar* 'break, fraction' via reordering and lexical shift.

**Schism** from Arabic *qism* 'division', turning /q/ into /sh (sk)/.

**Scissors** (*incision*) from Arabic *qaSSa*, *qaSSaaS(at)* (n) 'cut, cutter', turning /q & S/ into /s/ and inserting /r/ or *shaqaS*, *mishqaS* (n) 'cut' via reordering and mutating /sh, q, & S/ into /s/ all.



- Scrape** from Arabic *bashar* 'scrape' via reordering and splitting /sh/ into /sk/ (cf. *scrap* from Arabic *kharib* 'scrap, useless, destroyed', splitting /kh/ into /sk/).
- Scratch** from Arabic *qarTash (qaTash)* 'cut', splitting /q/ into /sk/.
- Screw** from Arabic *gharz* 'stick in' via reordering and changing /gh & z/ to /k & s/ or *Sarr* 'small, stabilizing stones fitted between larger ones', splitting /S/ into /sk/.
- Sculpt** from Arabic *Salab(at)* 'strong, hard stone; to crucify' via lexical shift and turning /S/ into /sk/.
- Section** (*dissection, sect, sectarian*) from Arabic *shaqq(at), tashaqqaq (v)* 'to dissect'; /sh & q/ became /s & k/.
- Segment** (*segmentation*) from Arabic *qasam(at) (inqasam(at))* 'segment' via reordering and turning /q/ into /g/.
- Segregate** (*segregation*) from Arabic *sharaqq(t) (sharshaqq(at)), tasharraq (v)* 'to split thin and small, to segregate' via reordering and turning /sh & q/ into /s & g/ or *shaqshaq(at)* 'to split up' via /r/-insertion.
- Separate** from Arabic *zabar(at)* 'to cut', turning /z/ into /s/.
- Sever** (*severance*) from Arabic *sha3ara (insha3ara)* 'to hair-split', *za3ar (inza3ara)* 'to cut (the tail)', or *zabara (inzabara)* 'cut', turning /sh (z) & 3/ into /s & v/.
- Shakespeare** from a combination of Arabic *shaaki* '(of weapons) wearing, brandishing' and *sibaal* 'arrows' via /l/-mutation into /r/ *shibria(t)* 'small, hand-size knife', replacing /sh/ by /s/.
- Sharp** from Arabic *jarrab, mujarrab* (adj) 'of knives, sharp' via /j/-mutation into /sh/.
- Shatter** (*shutter*) from Arabic *shaTara* 'split', turning /T/ into /t/.
- Shave** from Arabic *shaffa* 'to cut (branches)'.
- Shear** from Arabic *sha3ara (insha3ara)* 'to hair-split' or *za3ar* 'to cut (the tail)', merging /sh (z) & 3/ into /s/.
- Shorten** (*short; Kurtz*) from Arabic *qaSeera(t), inqaSar (v)* 'short', merging /q & S/ into /sh/.
- Shovel** from Arabic *rafsh* 'shovel; kick' via reversal and changing /r/ to /l/.
- Shred** (*shredder*) from Arabic *sharaTa* 'shred', turning /T/ into /d/.
- Slam** from Arabic *lakam* 'hit' via reordering and turning /k/ into /s/.
- Slash** from Arabic *qaSala* 'cut' or *jazala* 'cut' via reordering and turning /q (j) & z/ into /s & sh/.
- Slay** (*slaughter*) from Arabic *salakh* 'to skin, to kill', turning /kh/ into /g (y)/.
- Slice** from Arabic *shalakh* 'cut' where /sh & kh/ became /s/; or *jazala* 'cut' via reordering and turning /j & z/ into /s/.
- Slim** from Arabic *Salam* 'cut', turning /S/ into /s/.
- Slit** from Arabic *zalaT* 'to wound', turning /z & T/ into /s & t/.
- Smack** from Arabic *Samaq (maSaq)* 'smack, hit', substituting /s & k/ into /S & q/.
- Smash** from Arabic *Sama3a (maSa3)* 'cut out, hit' via reordering and turning /S & 3/ into /s & sh/ or *hashama* 'smash' via reordering and substituting /s/ for /h/.
- Snip** (*snipe, sniper*) from Arabic *nashab, nushshab (n)* 'of arrows, to hit-cut' via lexical shift and turning /sh/ into /s/; *shanab* 'of teeth, sharp' via lexical shift and changing /sh/ into /s/; or *zabar* 'to snip' via reordering and mutating /z & r/ into /s & n/.

**Spade** from Arabic *Saabba(t)* 'a digging tool, a spade', turning /S & t/ into /s & d/.

**Spear** from Arabic *sibaal* 'arrows', turning /l/ into /r/ or *shibria(t)* 'small, hand-size knife', replacing /sh/ by /s/.

**Spike** from Arabic *shawk* 'thorn' via lexical shift and turning /sh & w/ into /s & p/ or *qaSab* 'reed' via lexical shift, reordering, and turning /q & S/ into /k & s/.

**Splinter** via Middle Low German *splint* 'thin piece of iron' from Arabic *sabalat* 'arrow head' via /r/-insertion.

**Split** from Arabic *bazal(at)* 'cut', *tabSeel* 'removal', or *faSal(at)* 'to split' via reordering and turning /z (S)/ into /s/.

**Squeeze** from Arabic *qaSa3a* 'press down, suppress, kill by fingernails' via lexical shift, reordering, and turning /3/ into /z/, *ja3aSa* 'suppress', *faghaSa* 'smash' where /f, gh, & S/ became /s, k, & z/, or *3aSSa (3aSaSa)* 'hold tight, press hard' where /3 & S/ became /s & k/.

**Stake** from Arabic *khaazooq* 'stake' via reordering, turning /q, z, & kh/ into /k, t, & s/; *seekh* 'large knife', turning /kh/ into /k/ and inserting /t/.

**Stick** from Arabic *ghazza(t)* 'stick in' via reordering and turning /gh & z/ into /s & k/ or *3aSaat* 'a stick' via reordering and turning /3 & S/ into /s & k/.

**Sting** from Arabic *naghaza(t)* 'to sting' via reordering and turning /gh & z/ into /g & s/.

**Strike** from Arabic *Taraq* 'strike', splitting /T/ into /st/.

**Sunder** (*asunder*) from Arabic *shaTar (inshaTar)* via reordering and mutating /sh & T/ into /s & d/ or *jadhar (injadhar)* 'cut, uproot' via reordering and turning /j & dh/ into /s & d/.

**Surgery** (*surgeon, surgical*) from Arabic *sharaq* 'cut', *shara2* 'cut', or *sharkh* 'cut' via reordering and turning /sh & q (2, kh)/ into /s & g/ or *qashar*

'remove (skin)' via reordering and /q & sh/-mutation into /s & g/.

**Sword** from Arabic *saaToor, sawwaTeer* (pl.) 'big knife' via reordering and turning /T/ into /d/.

**Terse** from Arabic *qaSeer* 'short, brief' via reordering and turning /q & S/ into /t & s/.

**Tool** from Arabic *aalat* 'tool, device' via reordering.

**Trim** from Arabic *ratama* 'to break, smash' via reordering and lexical shift, *farama* 'mince, cut small' or *qarama (jarama)* 'cut the top', turning /f (q, j)/ into /t/.

**Tumble** from Arabic *qalab, maqloob* (adj) 'to tumble, turn over' via reordering and turning /q/ into /t/. See **collapse**.

**Tear** from Arabic *tarra (Tarra)* 'tear, cut'; *farra* 'unsew', turning /f/ into /t/; or *dha'ar* 'eye drop' where /dh/ became /t/

**Weapon** from Arabic *2arba(t)* 'lance' via lexical shift, reordering, and turning /2 & r/ into /w & n/.

**Wear** from Arabic *hara* 'wear out', turning /h/ into /w/ (cf. **Tear** and **Wear** from Arabic *tarr wa farr (harr)*).

**Wound** from Arabic *Tanna (aTanna)* 'cut' via reordering and substituting /d/ for /T/ or *damm, adma* (v) 'blood' via lexical shift, reordering, and splitting /m/ into /w & n/.

To sum, the total number of *cutting* and *breaking* words amount to 145 or so, all of which have true Arabic cognates: i.e., 100%.

## DISCUSSION

It can be clearly seen from the results above that *cutting* and *breaking* words in Arabic, English, German, French, Latin, and Greek are true cognates in the sense of having similar or identical forms and meanings; however, their differences are due to natural and plausible causes of linguistic change at the

phonetic, morphological and semantic levels. As a consequence, they agree with the findings of all previous studies in the area- namely, numeral words (Jassem 2012a), common religious terms (Jassem 2012b), pronouns (Jassem 2012c, 2013l), 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), *time* terms (Jassem 2013j), and *family* words (Jassem 2013k) in English, German, French, Latin, Greek, Sanskrit and Arabic which were all found to be rather dialects of the same language, let alone the same family. The percentage of shared vocabulary between Arabic and English, for instance, was 100% in all studies. This surpasses Cowley's (1997: 172-173) classification according to which an 80% ratio indicates membership to the same language- i.e., dialects.

Besides, the results support the adequacy of the lexical root theory for the current analysis. The main principle which states that Arabic, English, and so on are not only genetically related but also are dialects of the same language is, therefore, theoretically sound verifiably and true empirically. Relating English *cutting* and *breaking* words, for example, to true Arabic cognates on all levels of phonetic, morphological, grammatical, and semantic analysis proves that clearly.

Consider the short, exemplary *cutting* and *breaking* text in 2.1 above, which contains some very common words in the field. The analysis has shown that 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 (2012c) for pronouns, (2012d) for determiners, (2012e) for verb 'to be', (2012f) for inflectional morphemes, (2013a) for derivational morphemes, and (2013i) for personal names. Consequently, 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 (for detail, see Jassem (2012a-f, 2013a-i).

The implications of such a language picture for linguistic theory and language origin are immensely huge, interestingly (Jassem 2013l). On the one hand, it implies that the so-called proto-Indo-European language hypothesis is fictitiously groundless which should be rejected outright because all English words are traceable to Arabic sources; this renders it baseless and false for lacking solid foundations to stand upon. 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 emerged suddenly but became simpler and simpler over time. In other words, languages change very, very slowly over time as has been shown in Pagel et al (2013) in which it was found that some 27 common English core words (e.g., pronouns) have changed little in the last 15, 000.00 years!?! Reconstructing that source is still possible provided that that depends on ancient world language(s), which have survived into modern ones in different forms. 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, which could have maintained a great many features of that original language, technically known as proto-language (Harper 2012) or proto-world-language (Ruhlen 1987, 1994).

To sum up, the foregoing *cutting* and *breaking* words in Arabic, English, German, French, Latin, and Greek are true cognates with similar forms and meanings; Arabic can be safely said to be their origin all.

#### CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The main results of the study can be summed up as follows:

- i) The 145 *cutting* and *breaking* words or so in English, German, French, Latin, Greek, and

Arabic are true cognates with similar forms and meanings. However, their differences are due to natural and plausible phonological, morphological and/or lexical factors (cf. Jassem 2012a-f, 2013a-i).

- ii) Phonetically, the main changes included reversal, reordering, split, and merger; lexically, the recurrent patterns were stability, convergence, multiplicity, shift, and variability; the abundance of 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 *cutting* and *breaking* 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 *cutting* and *breaking* words in Arabic, English, German, French, Latin, and Greek.
- v) Finally, the current work supports Jassem's (2012a-f, 2013a-i) calls for further research into all language levels, especially vocabulary. The application of such findings, moreover, to language teaching, lexicology and lexicography, translation, cultural (including anthropological and historical) awareness, understanding, and heritage is badly needed for promoting and promulgating acculturation and cooperation.

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