

Adaptation of Sports Related Arabic Loanwords in Farsi Language

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Abstract: One of characteristics of a language is the extent of influence it has received from loanwords. There is almost no pure language in this world today. The important issue about loanwords is the extent a language has been able to maintain its originality and its capacity to provide equivalents for loanwords. This paper takes various views to study how Farsi language has acquired sports related loanwords from Arabic language. It examines the borrowing aspects of Farsi and Arabic languages by comparing the two languages and discusses how equivalent words and phrases are made.

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Methodology

This study started by examining a randomly selected sports article from Iran Newspaper titled *Ian Ulrich is the most favorite sportsman in Germany*¹. This article had many loanwords from Arabic language such as "فاتح - winner", "رقابت - competition", "محبوبترین - most favorite", "حال حاضر اشغال کرده اند" - presently occupied". After studying all Arabic origin words and phrases, no sport related one was found.

Another news article titled *Armenia's Billfold Manager: World does not come to an end by a defeat* was selected and studied. This article had 190 Arabic loanwords including "نظرات - opinions", "مطرح - recognized", "مدیر - Manager", "تعجب - surprise", "تاسف زیاد - high regret", "اختلاف امتیاز - score difference", "صدر جدول - top ranking", "مشاهده - observation", "ملحق - joined", "اتفاق مهم - important event", "نتایج مختلف - different results", "تیمهای مطرح جهان" - world recognized teams". None of words found in this article with Arabic origin was sport related either.

Several other sport articles were selected and studies with the objective to find sports related Arabic loanwords. These articles were:

- 1) *Zagalo: I hope Italian Team Would Succeed*², with 175 loanwords;
- 2) *Iran Basketball Team Would Attend Ramadan International Competition in Dubai*³, with 55 loanwords;
- 3) *Iran International Women Volleyball Competition*⁴, with 45 loanwords;

- 4) *Real Basketball Players Rebound*⁵, with 90 loanwords;
- 5) *Asian Junior Track Competition*⁶, with 95 loanwords;
- 6) *World Field Championship for Iran Self-believing in Greco-Roman Wrestling*⁷, with 485 loanwords;
- 7) *Faezeh Hashemi on opening of Islamic Conference: Islamic Women Competitions Shall Advance Islamic Belief in Tehran*⁸, with 200 loanwords;
- 8) *Australian Football Federation Director: Tehran Match would be worrisome*⁹, with 365 loanword.

None of the loanwords in these articles were sport related.

Another source was sought for further study. Book titled *معجم المصطلحات الرياضية - Foreign Sports Glossary*¹⁰ was examined as a new source. Several pages of this book was randomly selected and studied. Many Arabic loanwords were found but none was sport related.

Search continued to clarify one point: in spite of the fact that there are many sports names in Arabic

¹ Iran Newspaper, V. 3, N. 794, October 27, 1997

² Iran Newspaper, V. 3, N. 794, October 29, 1997

³ Iran Newspaper, V. 3, N. 794, October 29, 1997

⁴ Iran Newspaper, V. 3, N. 794, October 29, 1997

⁵ Iran Newspaper, V. 3, N. 801, November 4, 1997

⁶ Iran Newspaper, V. 3, N. 801, November 4, 1997

⁷ Iran Newspaper, V. 3, N. 807, November 11, 1997

⁸ Iran Newspaper, V. 3, N. 801, November 4, 1997

⁹ Iran Newspaper, V. 3, N. 801, November 4, 1997

¹⁰ Shamsabadi, H, Taghizadeh, H, Mahayekhi, S (1385/2006), Saralah Publishing

language with Arabic origin, why none of these names had entered Farsi language as sports loanwords. The study was expanded to examine article in all sports fields including football, volleyball, basketball, wrestling, badminton, and the like.

The assumption for this study was that sport fields have been influenced by Arabic language the same way other fields such as politics, economics, culture, have been influenced by acquiring loanwords. But the findings of this study indicate that Arabic sports words used in Farsi language are rather rare (lower than the number of fingers in one's hand).

The reason for the low number of Arabic loanwords may rest in the fact that none of sports fields were originated or preexisted in Arab World. Of course, words such as "صعود - rise", "رقابت - competition", "score difference", "اختلاف امتیاز", "صدر نشین - top ranking", "دیدارهای مقدماتی", "تساوی - a draw game" have more applications in sports but none of them are specific to sports.

For example, the word "صعود - rise" with meanings like "climbing and elevation"¹¹ has applications in many fields besides sports. Examples are: "Why bubbles rise?", "How rockets rise?", "The bubbling rise of gold continues". Words like "صعود - rise", "صدر نشین - top ranking", "اختلاف امتیاز - score difference", and "رقابت - competition" have frequent applications in sports news but none of them are specific to sports. These words are used in scientific, cultural, and social fields as well. In reviewing different sports related words and titles to find out why Arabic sports words have not entered Farsi language to two following conclusions were reached:

- A) Many sports words and names have originated in England, USA, Greece, China, France, and other countries as mentioned in the next section. Almost no sports name has originated in an Arabic country, i.e., these words were created in non-Arabic speaking countries.
- B) Most sports terminologies have entered in Farsi language without any change. But, they were changed to their equivalent in Arabic language. For example, football was originated in England and has entered in Farsi without change, but it was named "كرة القدم" in Arabic language. Or the name volleyball is used in Farsi without change, but named as "كرة الطائرة" in Arabic. And there are many other examples like these.

Let us study more sports fields to prove and explain the two points of this study.

¹¹ Moeen, M (1375/1996), *Farsi Dictionary*, 10th Edition, Tehran: Amir Kabir Publishin, p. 2146

- 1- Horseback Riding: The Farsi name for this sport is "اسب سواری" or "سوارکاری" which is a compound name, but the Arabic name is a single word "الفروسیه". This sport was historically originated in Egypt¹² and among South American Indians, and later entered into other countries.
- 2- Squash: This sport was started in 1817 in England. So, its origin is England. This sport is called "اسکواش" in Farsi. The same is the case in Arabic where it is called "سکواش" in three syllables.
- 3- Water Ski: This sport was started in 1927 in Norway and its original name was Norwegian. This sport is called "اسکی روی آب" in Farsi which is a compound name made of English word "ski" written as "اسکی", plus "آب" meaning "water" linked by a place adverb "روی" meaning "on". This sport in Arabic language is made of two Arabic words and called as "التزلج المانی". It has less number of syllables compared to Farsi and made of a noun and an adjective.
- 4- Skate: This is an English word and it is used in Farsi without change. This sport is called "التزلج" or "التزلج" in Arabic language, which is an indicative name with two syllables.
- 5- Physical Warm Up: This sport is called body building as well. The Farsi equivalent is "آمدگی جسمانی" which is made of two words: with the first one being Farsi and the second one being Arabic (جسم), together with a connecting letter "ی". The equivalent name in Arabic is a made of a noun and an adjective "اللياقة البدنية", both of them being Arabic.
- 6- Badminton: This sport is originated from England. So, badminton is an English word¹³ with three syllables. The sport is called by its English word in Farsi¹⁴. Its Arabic equivalent is a genitive compound name "كرة الريشة" with five syllables¹⁵.
- 7- Body Building: Fitness exercises (تناسب اندام), warm up (آمدگی جسمانی), and body building

¹² Alah Bakhsh, A. R. (1386/2007), *Sports words and Terms Development*, MS Thesis, Azad University, p. 249

¹³ Alah Bakhsh, A. R. (1386/2007), *Sports words and Terms Development*, MS Thesis, Azad University, p. 263

¹⁴ Moeen, M (1375/1996), *Farsi Dictionary*, 10th Edition, Tehran: Amir Kabir Publishin, p. 487

¹⁵ Assi, M, Badi, Y, *Almajam Mofasal fe Loghat va Adab*, V. 2, Darolelm al Malabin Publishing, p. 432

- (بدنسازى) are different forms of a single sport. This sport in Arabic language is called "اللياقة البدنية" and is the equivalent of the original name with more number of syllables compared to its Farsi name.
- 8- Basketball: This sport was invented by James Naismith in 1891 in the United State¹⁶. This sport is called by the same name in Farsi, with the same syllables. It is called "كرة السلة" in Arabic language which is the equivalent name with more number of syllables.
- 9- Boxing: This is an English word registered in England in 1743. The equivalent word for boxing¹⁷ in Farsi in recent years has been "مشت زنى"¹⁸. It is called "الملاكمة" in Arabic language which is the equivalent name with more number of syllables.
- 10- Fishing: This sport is as old as human race but it was recognized as sport in 1732 in North America¹⁹. Its Farsi name (ماهیگیری) and Arabic name (صيد الاسماك) are the equivalent of the original name. Both names are made of a noun and a genitive with the same numbers of syllables.
- 11- Bowling: this sport is called "البولينغ" in Arabic language, with phoneme / g / or /گ/ at the end changed to phoneme / غ /. One way of making equivalent for foreign (non-Arabic) words is by changing one letter to another like change letter گ in Farsi to letter ج in Arabic²⁰. Buddhist and Egyptians invented this sport more than 6000 years ago. British started to play this sport in today's format in eleventh century²¹. Its Arabic name has the same number of syllables as its British name.
- 12- Baseball. This sport was originated in USA. Arabic and Farsi languages do not have equivalent word for this sport and use the same foreign word with minor changes in sounds and number of syllables. Arabs call this sport "بيسبول". Perhaps, the reason for using the same name in Arabic language was because it was a new sport. If general public accepts and plays this game, Arabs may find a suitable equivalent for it.
- 13- Billiard: Chinese played this game as a lawn sport. It was later registered in England and the United States. Afterwards, other countries started playing it gradually. The name of this sport in Farsi is with one phoneme "ى" less than the original name. It is called by the same original name in Arabic²².
- 14- Hammer Throw: This sport was originated in England and the United States²³. Its Farsi equivalent is "پرتاب با چکش" which is a compound name made of an infinitive and a noun. Its Arabic equivalent is "رمى المطرقة" which is an Arabic genitive compound with less number of syllables.
- 15- Discus Throw: This is similar to hammer throw and was originated in England and the United States. Its Farsi equivalent is "پرتاب دیسک" which is made of English noun "disc" and a Farsi infinitive "پرتاب" meaning "throwing". The Arabic equivalent is "رمى القرص" which is a genitive compound name made of two Arabic words, with less number of syllables²⁴.
- 16- Javelin and Bow Throw²⁵: This sport was originated in England and the United States like other throwing games. It has gradually tuned into world class competitions. Its Farsi equivalent is "پرتاب نیزه و کمان" which is a compound name made of one infinitive and two nouns. It is called "رمى الرماح و القسى" in Arabic language which is also a compound name made from one infinitive and two nouns but with less number of phonemes and syllables.

¹⁶ Sohaily, R., *Basketball for Everyone*, 3rd Edition, Astan Ghods Razavi Publication

¹⁷ Alah Bakhsh, A. R. (1386/2007), *Sports words and Terms Development*, MS Thesis, Azad University, p. 279

¹⁸ Moeen, M (1375/1996), *Farsi Dictionary*, 10th Edition, Tehran: Amir Kabir Publishin, p. 605

¹⁹ Alah Bakhsh, A. R. (1386/2007), *Sports words and Terms Development*, MS Thesis, Azad University, p. 300

²⁰ Assi, M, Badi, Y, *Almajam Mofasal fe Loghat va Adab*, V. 2, Darolelm al Malabin Publishing, p. 433

²¹ Alah Bakhsh, A. R. (1386/2007), *Sports words and Terms Development*, MS Thesis, Azad University, p. 280

²² Alah Bakhsh, A. R. (1386/2007), *Sports words and Terms Development*, MS Thesis, Azad University, p. 254

²³ Alah Bakhsh, A. R. (1386/2007), *Sports words and Terms Development*, MS Thesis, Azad University, p. 276

²⁴ Malof, L, (1365/1986) *Almonjad fel Loghat val Elam*, 2nd Edition, Esmaelian Publishing, p. 281

²⁵ Alah Bakhsh, A. R. (1386/2007), *Sports words and Terms Development*, MS Thesis, Azad University, p. 276

- 17- High Jumping: The first part of the Farsi name is infinitive of "پريدن" (to jump)²⁶ and the second part is an Arabic infinitive in "باب افتعال" (Height/ارتفاع). Its Arabic name is "القفز العالی", which is an adjective compound name made of two Arabic words, with less number of phonemes and syllables²⁷.
- 18- Hurdle Race²⁸: Hurdle Race is a jumping sport. Its Farsi equivalent is "پرش با اسب از موانع" which is made of two parts, one in Farsi and another in Arabic. This sport is called "فروسية القفز من" "العقبات" or "رياضة القفز من العقبات" in Arabic language, which are genitive compound names and governed by a preposition.
- 19- Hot Air Ballooning: This sport was invented by the Frenchmen Joseph-Michel and Jacques-Etienne Montgolfier²⁹. Its Farsi equivalent is "پرواز با بالن" which is a compound name made of an infinitive and a foreign word connected together by the preposition "با". The Arabic equivalent is "الطيران بالمنطاد" which is a compound name made of an abstract trilateral infinitive representing motion and excitement in Arabic language³⁰ plus another word governed by a preposition.
- 20- Glider Ride: This sport was designed in Sweden. The first gliding plane was built by George Cayley in England. This plane flew 500 meters. Its Farsi name is "پرواز گلايدر" which is a compound name made of one infinitive plus an English word. Its Arabic name is an adjective compound name "الطيران الشراعى" which is made of one infinitive representing motion and excitement plus a noun connected by "ى"³¹.
- 21- Walking: The equivalent Farsi name for this sport is a compound name "پياده روى" and its equivalent in Arabic is "المشى"³².
- 22- Ping Pong: This sport was played by two British officers for the first time about 120 years ago in 1881. It seems that it is a "sound name" taking from natural sound of this game. Its Arabic equivalent name is "كرة الطاولة" which is a genitive compound name made of two Arabic words for ball and table³³. The name of this game in Farsi has recently been changed to "تنيس روى ميز" which is a compound name made of an English word plus a Farsi noun connected to each other by a place adverb.
- 23- Free Style (Lawn) Tennis: This sport was invented and registered by Walter Clopton Wingfield of England in 1847³⁴. Its Arabic equivalent is "التنس المفتوح" which is a compound name made of an English word and an Arabic passive participial adjective.
- 24- Shooting: This game was first introduced as a sport in Sweden in 1466. Its Farsi equivalent is a compound name "تيراندازى". Its Arabic equivalent is "الرمى"³⁵ which is an abstract trilateral infinitive with one syllable.
- 25- Archery: Its Farsi equivalent is "تيراندازى با" "تيركمان" which is a compound name with an attributing "ى". Its names in Arabic are "القوس و" "النشاب"³⁶ and "رمى السهم" both as conjunction and genitive compound.
- 26- Judo. This sport stated in Japan in 1650. This sport is called by the same name in Farsi and Arabic.
- 27- Cycling: This sport dates back to 1885 when bicycle was invented. This sport was originated in Europe. Its Farsi equivalent is "دوچرخه سوارى" which is a translation of the original name. Bicycle is made of two parts. The first part is "bi" meaning "two" in Latin and "دو" in
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- ²⁶ Moeen, M (1375/1996), *Farsi Dictionary*, 10th Edition, Tehran: Amir Kabir Publishin, p. 745
- ²⁷ Alah Bakhsh, A. R. (1386/2007), *Sports words and Terms Development*, MS Thesis, Azad University, p. 275
- ²⁸ Selsele Zakerin, A. M. (1387/2009) *Hurdle Jumping Rules and Referee Guidelines*, Kaneh Ma Publishing
- ²⁹ Davis, J. R., *Aviation Medicine Principles*, Translated by Farzampour, S., Shervin Rad, M. R., Jahad Daneshgahi Publishing, p. 18
- ³⁰ Assi, M, Badi, Y, *Almajam Mofasal fe Loghat va Adab*, V. 2, Darolelm al Malabin Publishing, p. 1154
- ³¹ Alah Bakhsh, A. R. (1386/2007), *Sports words and Terms Development*, MS Thesis, Azad University, p. 270
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- ³² Tonji, M. (1969) *Al Mojam al Zahabi Farsi-Arabi*, Darolelm Lelmalabin, p. 167
- ³³ Alah Bakhsh, A. R. (1386/2007), *Sports words and Terms Development*, MS Thesis, Azad University, p. 288
- ³⁴ Brown, J *Tennis Book: A Step to Success*, Translated by Fathei Rezaee, Bileh Jani, H., Sa'adati, N., (1386/2007), 1st Edition, Nashr Publishing, p. 3
- ³⁵ Malof, L, (1365/1986) *Almonjad fel Loghat val Elam*, 2nd Edition, Esmaelian Publishing, p. 281
- ³⁶ Malof, L, (1365/1986) *Almonjad fel Loghat val Elam*, 2nd Edition, Esmaelian Publishing, p. 808

- Farsi. And the second part is "cycle" which translates into "چرخ" in Farsi. Its Arabic equivalent is "دراجة"³⁷.
- 28- Marathon Running: This sport originated and dates back to Iran and Rome conflict³⁸. This sport is called in Farsi "دو ماراٲن" or "دو صحرا" "نوردی". The latter one is a compound name made with Arabic word "صحرا"³⁹.
- 29- Track and Field: This sport dates back to 30 centuries ago. It was first turned into sport in China, India, and Crete Island. Its Farsi equivalent is "دو و میدانی"⁴⁰ which is made of infinitive "نودن" (to run) with a conjunction to word "میدانی" (related to field)⁴¹. Its Arabic equivalent is "دو استقامت" "العاب القوى" (resistance running), "دو سرعت" (speed running), and "دو نیم سنگین" (half marathon running) are names for different types of running sports in Farsi.
- 30- Rugby: This sport was originated in the United States in 19th century⁴². It is called by the same name in Farsi. Its sport is called "كرة الرجبی" in Arabic which is its original name with minor change, i.e. letter "ج" is used instead of letter "گ". In other word, an equivalent is made by changing one letter for another.
- 31- Gymnastic: Fredrick Ian of Germany was the founder of this sport⁴³. The same name is used in Farsi without alteration. Its equivalent names in Arabic are "جمباز" and "ریاضة بدنیة".
- 32- Sledding: This sport has an English name and was originated in Alaska. Farsi equivalent for this sport is "سورتمه سواری" which is a compound name made of a Turkish loanword "سورتمه"⁴⁴. Arabic equivalent names for this sport are "زلجات"⁴⁵, "مزلقه", and "مزلقه".
- 33- Fencing: This sport is one of martial arts with several thousand years of history. It was registered in Egypt. Its Farsi name is a compound name "شمشیر بازی" which is made of a noun and an infinitive. Its equivalent in Arabic is "المبارزه".
- 34- Swimming: This sport was originated in England. The first swimming competition was held in London in 1838. Its Farsi name is "شنا" with two phonemes. Its Arabic name is "السباحة"⁴⁶ with four phonemes taking from verb "سبح" "یسبح"⁴⁷.
- 35- Butterfly Swimming: It is called "شنای پروانه" in Farsi and "سباحة الفراشة" in Arabic.
- 36- Breaststroke Kick: It is called "شنای قورباغه" in Farsi and "سباحة الصدر" in Arabic.
- 37- Backstroke Swimming: It is called "شنای کرال" "پشت" in Farsi and "سباحة الظهر" in Arabic.
- 38- These are different forms of swimming that are named in Farsi and Arabic accordingly.
- 39- Diving: This sport was originated in Greece and later in Italy. Its Farsi equivalent is "شیرجه"⁴⁸ and Arabic equivalent is "الغطس"⁴⁹.
- 40- Backward Diving: Its Farsi equivalent is "شیرجه" "پشت" which is a compound name made of two Farsi words. Its Arabic equivalent is "غطسة خلفية" which is an adjective compound name made of two Arabic words.
- 41- Forward Diving: Its Farsi equivalent is "شیرجه" "جلو" which is a compound name and like "شیرجه" "پشت" is made of two Farsi words. Its Arabic equivalent is "غطسة امامیة" and like "غطسة خلفية"
- ³⁷ Malof, L, (1365/1986) *Almonjad fel Loghat val Elam*, 2nd Edition, Esmaelian Publishing, p. 210
- ³⁸ Moeen, M (1375/1996), *Farsi Dictionary*, v. 2, 10th Edition, Tehran: Amir Kabir Publishin, p. 1567
- ³⁹ Jalali, M., Bagherzadeh, F., Shaikh, M. (1386/2007) *Track and Field Learning and Practices*, Bamdad Publishing, p. 18
- ⁴⁰ Moeen, M (1375/1996), *Farsi Dictionary*, v. 2, 10th Edition, Tehran: Amir Kabir Publishin, p. 1567
- ⁴¹ Jalali, M., Bagherzadeh, F., Shaikh, M. (1386/2007) *Track and Field Learning and Practices*, Bamdad Publishing, p. 1
- ⁴² Alah Bakhsh, A. R. (1386/2007), *Sports words and Terms Development*, MS Thesis, Azad University, p. 291
- ⁴³ Alah Bakhsh, A. R. (1386/2007), *Sports words and Terms Development*, MS Thesis, Azad University, p. 294
- ⁴⁴ Moeen, M (1375/1996), *Farsi Dictionary*, v. 2, 10th Edition, Tehran: Amir Kabir Publishin, p. 1949
- ⁴⁵ Malof, L, (1365/1986) *Almonjad fel Loghat val Elam*, 2nd Edition, Esmaelian Publishing, p. 304
- ⁴⁶ Tonji, M. (1969) *Al Mojam al Zahabi Farsi-Arabi*, Darolelm Lelmalabin, p. 379
- ⁴⁷ Malof, L, (1365/1986) *Almonjad fel Loghat val Elam*, 2nd Edition, Esmaelian Publishing, p. 317
- ⁴⁸ Mehrdad, *Diving Lessons*, Iran Diving Federation Publishing, p. 3
- ⁴⁹ Malof, L, (1365/1986) *Almonjad fel Loghat val Elam*, 2nd Edition, Esmaelian Publishing, p. 555

- is an adjective compound name made of two Arabic words.
- 42- Chess: This sport was originated first in India and next in Iran. This sport became popular in Europe after Renaissance with extensive changes made to chessman roles⁵⁰. This sport is called "شطرنج" in Farsi which is a Persian word. The origin of this name was "شترنگ"⁵¹ meaning six colors. This name was given to this game because it originally was made of six pieces. These pieces had the main role in this game. It is believed that it was taken from "چاتورانگا" which is a Sanskrit word. Arabic equivalent is also "شطرنج". This is a Farsi loanword in Arabic language. Another name for this sport in Arabic is "لعبة الملوك".
- 43- Rock Climbing: The equivalent name for this sport in Farsi is "صخره نوردی" which is a compound name made of an Arabic noun "صخره" meaning "rock or huge stone" and a Farsi word "نورد". Its equivalent name in Arabic is "تسلق الصخور" which is a compound name made of "تسلق"⁵² meaning "صعد يصعد" and "صخور" meaning "rock or large stone". Therefore, both languages have selected suitable equivalents for this sport.
- 44- Desert Riding: The equivalent name for this sport in Farsi is "صحرائوردی" which is a compound name made of an Arabic noun "صحراء" meaning "desert" and a Farsi infinitive "نورد"⁵³ meaning "to pass the way"⁵⁴.
- 45- Tug-of-War: The Farsi equivalent of this sport is "طناب کشی"⁵⁵ has not taken influence from its origin. The origin of "طناب" is Arabic. This loanword has been used for purposes other than sport and was not entered Farsi language as a sports word. Its Arabic equivalent is "شد الحبل".
- 46- Scuba Diving: The Farsi equivalent for this sport is "غواصی". It has taken from Arabic word "الغوص" and therefore is a loanword. Al-monjed defines "غواص" as: «كثير الغوص، مَنْ يُغَوِّصُ فِي الْبَحْرِ، وَاللَّوْءُ وَالْإِسْفَنْجُ» It is possible to state that this word has directly entered from Arabic into Farsi. However, this word has been used before this sport became popular in Iran.
- 47- Golf: This sport was originated in Scotland and the first match was held in 1675 between England and Scotland⁵⁶. The Arabic name for this sport is "جلف" and made by changing letter "گ" for "ج".
- 48- Parachuting: This sport was originated in Germany. Its Farsi equivalent is "فرود با چتر" and is also referred to as "چتربازی". Its Arabic equivalent is "الهبوط بالمظلة" which is a compound name made of one infinitive and one preposition.
- 49- Football: The rules for this sport were first established in England in 1863. The original rules were later changed⁵⁷. This sport is called by the same name in Farsi. Its equivalent in Arabic is "كرة القدم" which is a compound name.
- 50- Beach Football: This sport was first registered in the United State as a sport⁵⁸. Its Farsi equivalent is "فوتبال ساحلی". Its Arabic equivalent is "كرة القدم الشاطئية" which is a genitive and adjective compound name.
- 51- Futsal: The origin of this sport is Uruguay and Brazil⁵⁹. This sport is called by the same name in Farsi without any change. Its equivalents in Arabic are "كرة الصالات، كرة القدم داخل الصالات" and "وكرة القدم الخماسية".
- 52- Boating (Rowboat): The origin of this sport is England⁶⁰. Its Farsi equivalent is "پارونزی".
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- ⁵⁰ Titius, B, *The Chess Symbolism*, Translated by Godarzi, Abbas (1388/2009) 3rd Edition, Hekmat Publishing
- ⁵¹ Malof, L, (1365/1986) *Almonjad fel Loghat val Elam*, 2nd Edition, Esmaelian Publishing, p. 387
- ⁵² Malof, L, (1365/1986) *Almonjad fel Loghat val Elam*, 2nd Edition, Esmaelian Publishing, p. 346, 418
- ⁵³ Moeen, M (1375/1996), *Farsi Dictionary*, v. 2, 10th Edition, Tehran: Amir Kabir Publishin, p. 4839
- ⁵⁴ Moeen, M (1375/1996), *Farsi Dictionary*, v. 2, 10th Edition, Tehran: Amir Kabir Publishin, p. 1567
- ⁵⁵ Malof, L, (1365/1986) *Almonjad fel Loghat val Elam*, 2nd Edition, Esmaelian Publishing, p. 473
- ⁵⁶ Alah Bakhsh, A. R. (1386/2007), *Sports words and Terms Development*, MS Thesis, Azad University, p. 309
- ⁵⁷ Moeen, M (1375/1996), *Farsi Dictionary*, v. 2, 10th Edition, Tehran: Amir Kabir Publishin, p. 2582-3
- ⁵⁸ Haghghat Joo, F., Mirhusaini, M. A., (1387/2008) *Beach Football Rules*, Navid Publishing
- ⁵⁹ Khorsani, E., *Futsal Lessons for Everyone*, Sonboleh Publishing
- ⁶⁰ Alah Bakhsh, A. R. (1386/2007), *Sports words and Terms Development*, MS Thesis, Azad University, p. 297

- which is a compound name made of a noun and an infinitive plus a referring "ی". Its Arabic equivalent is "التجديف".
- 53- Boating: The first person who thought to make boating into a sport was an Englishman by the name of Joan Mc Giorgio. Its Farsi equivalent is "قایقرانی". Its Arabic equivalent is "سباق الزوارق".
- 54- Sail Boating: This sport was originated in England. Its Farsi equivalent is "قایقرانی بادبان دار". Its Arabic equivalent is "الرياضة الشراعية" which has less number of syllables compared to its Farsi name.
- 55- Karate: This sport dates back to 15th century. It became popular first in China and later in the United States. This sport is called by its original name in Farsi and Arabic. Its Arabic equivalent is "الكاراتيه" which has more number of syllables compared to its Farsi name.
- 56- Wrestling: This is the oldest sport in the world. Its history dates back to 5000 years ago. Some of wrestling rules and customs belonging to 1850 BC have been discovered in Egypt. Wrestling also has history in ancient Greece. Its Farsi equivalent is "کشتی". Its Arabic equivalent is "المصارعة"⁶¹ which is made from infinitive "صارع يُصارع"⁶².
- 57- Greco - Roman Wrestling: This type of wrestling became popular in Europe by French after French Revolution. Its Farsi equivalent is "کشتی فرنگی"⁶³. Its equivalent in Arabic is "المصارعة الرومانية" which is made based on its historical background.
- 58- Mountain Climbing: This sport has a long history but was first registered as a sport in 1854⁶⁴. Its Farsi equivalent is "کوهنوردی". Its Arabic equivalent is "تسلق الجبل" which is a genitive compound name.
- 59- Bullfighting: This sport was originated in Spain⁶⁵. Its Farsi equivalent is "گلوبازی". Its Arabic equivalent is "مصارعة الثيران" which is a compound name made of an infinitive and a plural noun. Arabs use word "المصارعة" for wrestling. Therefore, it is a suitable use of word for this sport because bullfighter in effect wrestles with bull to knock it down.
- 60- Luge: This sport was invented at the beginning of 20th century in St. Martin Island in France. Its Farsi name is "لوژ سواری". Its Arabic equivalent is "زلجة الانحدار" which is a compound name made of two parts.
- 61- Car Racing: This sport started with invention of automobile. The first car racing was held in Paris in 1895⁶⁶. Its Farsi name is "مسابقات ماشين". Its Arabic equivalent is "سوارى (تومبيل رانى)" which is a compound name with less phonemes.
- 62- Motorcycle Racing: The origin of this sport is Europe as its first race was held in France in 1907. Its Farsi name is "مسابقات موتور سواری" which is compound name made from Latin word "موتور - موتور" plus Farsi word "سواری". Its Arabic equivalent is "سباق الدراجات النارية" which is a compound name.
- 63- Horseback Racing: This is another name for horseback riding with Farsi equivalent of "مسابقه اسب دوانی".
- 64- Surfing: This sport was invented by Captain Cook in Tahiti in Hawaii. Its Farsi equivalent is "موج سواری". Its Arabic equivalent is "ركوب الامواج" which is a compound name.
- 65- Netball: This sport is women version of basketball was first introduced by an American woman by the name of Clara in 1985⁶⁷. This sport is called "نت بال" in Farsi which is its original name. Its Arabic equivalent is "كرة الشبكة" which is a compound name.
- 66- Water Polo: Water polo sport was added to diversify swimming in 1860. It was first added to Olympic Games in Paris held in 1900. Its Farsi name is taken from original name. Its Arabic equivalent is "كرة الماء".
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- ⁶¹ Tonji, M. (1969) *Al Mojam al Zahabi Farsi-Arabi*, Darolelm Lelmalabin, p. 468
- ⁶² Malof, L. (1365/1986) *Almonjad fel Loghat val Elam*, 2nd Edition, Esmaelian Publishing, p. 422
- ⁶³ Salehi, S., Keshavarz, L., *Roman - Greco Wrestling: Teaching Principles for Instructors, Coaches, Students, and Wrestlers*, Azad University Publishing
- ⁶⁴ Alah Bakhsh, A. R. (1386/2007), *Sports words and Terms Development*, MS Thesis, Azad University, p. 307
- ⁶⁵ Alah Bakhsh, A. R. (1386/2007), *Sports words and Terms Development*, MS Thesis, Azad University, p. 308
- ⁶⁶ Alah Bakhsh, A. R. (1386/2007), *Sports words and Terms Development*, MS Thesis, Azad University, p. 297
- ⁶⁷ Noori, Y., *Collection of Rules for 70 Sports Fields*, Payam Edalat Publishing, p. 13

- 67- Volleyball: This sport was created by Coach William G. Morgan in 1894. The first world championship was held in Manila, Philippine in 1913⁶⁸. Its Farsi name is taken from original name. Its Arabic equivalent is "كرة الطائرة".
- 68- Beach Volleyball: The first World Championships of this sport was held in Ipanema, Brazil for two players. Its Farsi equivalent is "والبيال ساحلى" which is a genitive compound name with a referring "ى". Its Arabic equivalent is "كرة الطائرة الشاطئية" which is a compound name.
- 69- Lifting: It is an ancient sport in the history of human being. Men lifted large stone for body building. The first competition of this sport was held in Athena Olympic Games. Its Farsi equivalent is "وزنه بردارى". Its Arabic equivalent is "رفع الاثقال".
- 70- Ice Hockey: This sport was originated in France. Its first Olympic Competition was in London in 1908 when the initial rules were devised for this sport⁶⁹. Its Farsi equivalent is "هاكى روى يخ". Its Arabic equivalent is "هوكى على الثلج" which is a compound name with "a" sound in "Hockey" changed to "o" sound in "هوكى". It is a verbatim translation.
- 71- Hockey: This sport was also originated in France. Its Farsi name is the same as the original (هاكى). Its Arabic equivalent is "هوكى" which is pronounced with "o" instead of "a" sound.
- 72- Handball⁷⁰: This sport played with current format playing with hands and goal was originated in Germany. Its Farsi name is the same as original name and written "هندبال". Its Arabic equivalent is a compound name "كرة اليد" with two more syllables.

Discussions and Conclusions

Studies on the relevant sports related linguistics and semantics issues are rare or non-existent. Seyed Hussein Seyedi in Ahmad Mokhtar Omar book on semantics wrote: "Semantic research has been conducted in many fields to find meanings of words used various applications including family relationship, colors, plants, illnesses, medications, cooking, pots,

sounds, motion, domestic appliances, thoughts, ideologies, aesthetics, proverbs, religion, feudalism, pro-monarchism, epics, business, antagonism, transportation, security, pets, life, and body organs⁷¹. But, there is no research on linguistic and semantics as applied to athletic sciences, and there is no comparative study on Farsi and Arabic sports nomenclature.

This research, in a way, was a comparative study of Farsi and Arabic sports terminology. The researcher find very few references about the subject including a book titled "المصطلحات الرياضيه" authored by Shams Aabadi, Taghizadeh, and Mashayekhi published by Thar al-Allah Publishing in 1385 (2006). Another source was a thesis written by Allah Bakhsh which was available in Science and Research Library at Islamic Azad University. Many references used in this research are taken from this thesis.

Following conclusions are made after considering the fact that most sports nomenclature and terminology are originated in western countries:

1. This research shows that Arabic language is more capable of providing equivalent names than Farsi is. Or put it another way, one can say that Arabs have produced more equivalent sports names compared to Farsi. We can assume that this is attributed to the higher ability of Arabic language and Arabic speaking experts in developing equivalent names and terms for sports as compared to Farsi language and Farsi speaking experts.

The reason for this conclusion is that about 40 percent of sports related words and phrases used in Farsi language are taken exactly from the original sports names without change. But the figure is 12 percent in Arabic language. In other words, Farsi language has 28 percent more sports words and phrases that are taken from the original sports names. When one looks into about 90 different sport fields, this number is even higher in Farsi language because sports fields have brought many words and phrases with them. For example, football has about 40 specific words such as backer, halfback, corner, and the like. These words are used as original without change. One way to explain why some original names are used in Arabic language is that those sports are new in Arabic world. Perhaps, when these new sports become more popular in Arab world like football, volleyball, and basketball, Arabs would introduce equivalents for them. The reason for such statement is that all foreign sports fields that

⁶⁸ Alah Bakhsh, A. R. (1386/2007), *Sports words and Terms Development*, MS Thesis, Azad University, p. 313

⁶⁹ Alah Bakhsh, A. R. (1386/2007), *Sports words and Terms Development*, MS Thesis, Azad University, p. 315

⁷⁰ Haem, S. (1378/1999) *English-Farsi Contemporary Dictionary*, p. 396

⁷¹ Mokhtar, O. A., *Semantics*, Translated by Sa'eedi, S. H., Mashad: Ferdowsi University Publishing p. 76

were included in this study and Arabs use the original names and terms with no or minor changes are new to Arabic world. These new and undeveloped sports fields in Arab world include billiard, Judo, golf, bowling, squash, karate, and hockey.

The extent of equivalent substitution for foreign sport terms is different in various Arabic countries. Another research is required to find out how different they are.

2. The number of similar foreign words in both Farsi and Arabic languages is 8 percent and includes sports like billiard, Judo, golf, baseball, and hockey.
3. Farsi language uses many names and terms in original form that are substituted with equivalent in Arabic language. These represent the 28 percent difference between the two languages that was mentioned earlier. Examples are water polo (Arabic equivalent is "كرة الماء"), basketball (Arabic equivalent is "كرة السلة"), Netball (Arabic equivalent is "كرة الشبكة"), and ping pong (Arabic equivalent is "كرة الطاولة").
4. The only sport related Farsi word that has entered Arabic language is "شطرنج" for chess.
5. There are many Arabic names and terms that have sport usage in Farsi language, but they are not specific for sports and are used in other fields such as politics, science, culture, and the like. Examples are "صعود" (rise) and "بأخت" (defeat).
6. Selecting equivalents based on sports application is important in semantics. Linguistic specialists emphasize that considering application is important in development of equivalent names and terminologies. Weinstien in his *Studies of Philosophy* which was published after his death stated that the meaning of a word should be the same as its application in a language⁷². Bertrand Russell says: "The meaning of a word remains unclear until one looks at its application". We can see this fact in naming convention used in Latin based languages for sports like football, volleyball, basketball, handball, and water polo. The same principle is used in naming convention for sports name and terminology in Arabic and Farsi languages. Examples in Arabic language are:

⁷² Mokhtar, O. A., *Semantics*, Translated by Sa'eedi, S. H., Mashad: Ferdowsi University Publishing p. 67

كرة القدم، كرة الطائرة، رفع الاثقال، كرة الماء، تسلق الجبال، صيد الاسماك، سباق السيارات، سباق الدراجات النارية، ركوب الامواج، كرة الطاولة، كرة السلة .

Examples in Farsi language are:

- دوچرخه سواری، کوهنوردی، ماهیگیری، قایق سواری، اسب دوانی.
7. Another aspect used in naming convention is historical events⁷³. An example is the naming of Marathon running⁷⁴ which was based on running of a Roman messenger for 42 kilometers to deliver a message about victory in a conflict between Iran and Rome. This messenger drops dead when he reaches Marathon Village from exhaustion. Running Marathon was established for the same distance in the memory of that soldier.
 8. Using loanwords is customary in all language and there is no language that can claim to remain pure without influence of loanwords from other languages. This is especially true in case of influences languages have received from new terms in science and sports⁷⁵. Refer to the previous section, for example.
 9. There has been no specific emphasis on the number of phonemes and/or syllables in selection of words and equivalents. For example, some Arabic equivalent names have more phonemes and syllables when compared to originals terms or terms used in Farsi Language and some others have less. One important observation was that the number of phonemes and syllables is less than the equivalent names and terminologies in either Farsi or Arabic.

Considering that there are very few Farsi-Arabic and/or Arabic-Farsi dictionaries and together with the fact that sports activities are rapidly expanding in Arabic and Farsi speaking countries, therefore, linguistics and comparative literature instructors and specialists are recommended to encourage and direct students toward more scientific and field research in equivalent words and terminology development in different languages with especial attention given to Farsi and Arabic languages.

⁷³ Mokhtar, O. A., *Semantics*, Translated by Sa'eedi, S. H., Mashad: Ferdowsi University Publishing p. 79

⁷⁴ Moeen, M (1375/1996), *Farsi Dictionary*, v. 2, 10th Edition, Tehran: Amir Kabir Publishin, p. 1567

⁷⁵ Assi, M, Badi, Y, *Almajam Mofasal fe Loghat va Adab*, V. 2, Darolelm al Malabin Publishing, p. 436