

اللغات العربية الجنوبية المعاصرة
اللغة والبيئة

Modern South Arabian:
Language and Nature

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إطار المحاضرة

Outline

The Modern South Arabian languages

Documentation of continental MSAL

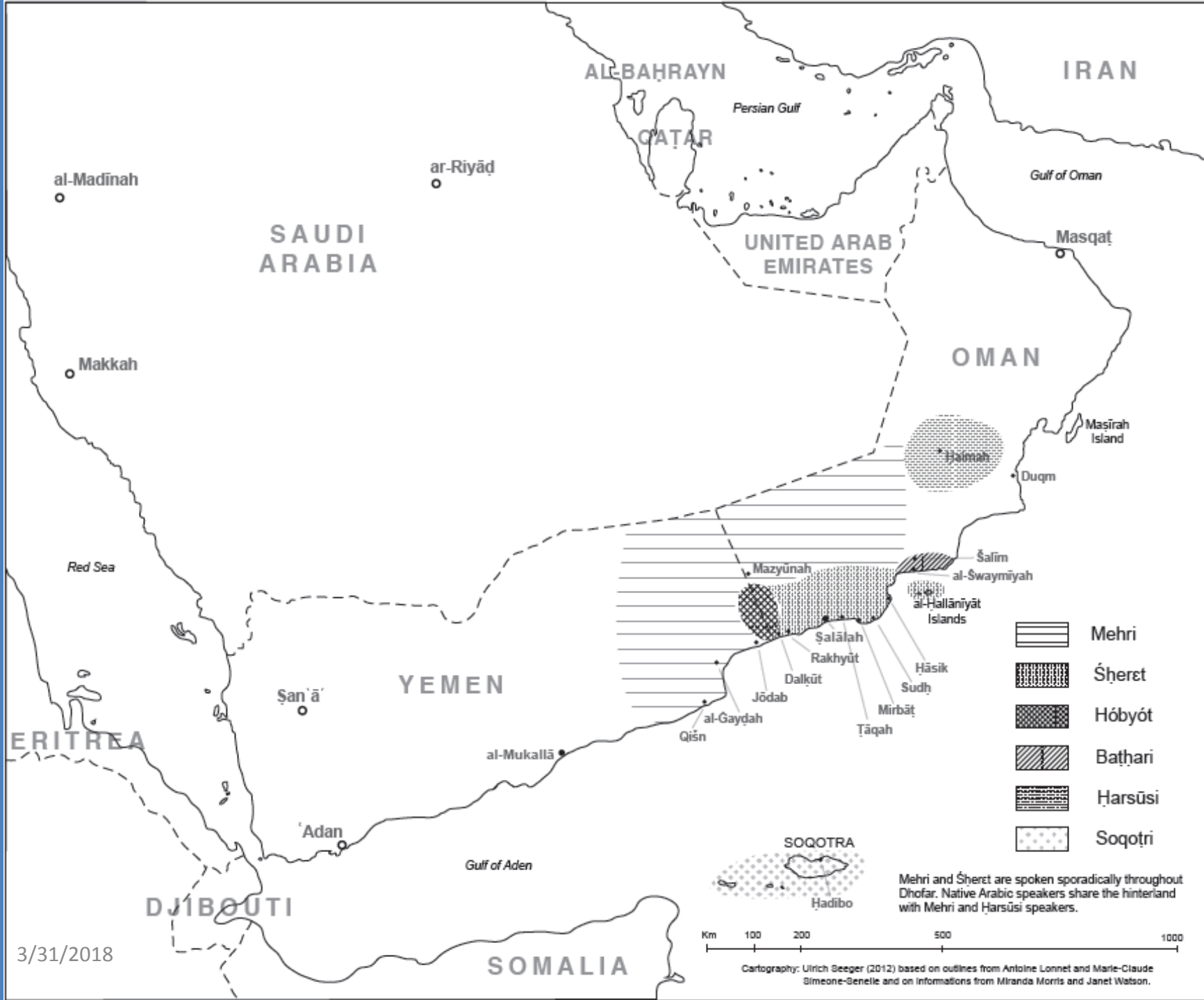
Climate of Dhofar

Language and nature

Children's e-books on nature for
revitalisation of language and nature

اللغات العربية الجنوبية المعاصرة

MODERN SOUTH ARABIAN



Retraction of area

The Gulf in Historical Maps 1478-1861. 1996 (1999) ed. Sultan Muhammad AlQasim



التهديدات اللغوية في المنطقة

Endangerment factors

Unwritten languages

A literary, high-prestige, national language, Arabic

Urbanisation and education

Population movement – immigration, emigration, tourism

Communication – media, roads, airports, technology

Less prestigious MSAL (Hobyot, Harsusi & Bathari)
losing out to more prestigious Mehri & Šherēt

برنامج توثيق اللغات

MSAL documentation project

Funded by Leverhulme Trust, Jan. 2013–December 2016

Watson (PI), Miranda Morris (St Andrews), Domenyk Eades (Melbourne), Alec Moore (fauna consultant, Chester), Alex Bellem (Durham), Saeed al-Mahri, Ali al-Mahri, Ahmad Hardan, Abdullah al-Mahri & other local RAs

Collection of over 200 hours of audio, 10 hours audio-visual data from Modern South Arabian (MSAL), backed by still photographs

Archive of annotated audio, audio-visual and photographic material in ELAR, SOAS (London)

340-lexeme comparative cultural glossary of MSAL for publication with *Journal of Semitic Studies*

Community documentation of biocultural diversity in al-Mahrah, Yemen

Funded by Endangered Languages Documentation Programme, SOAS: October 2017 – September 2018

Researchers: Janet Watson, Saeed al-Qumairi, Ahmad Mujib, Anwar Kalshat, Ali al-Mahri, Ahmad Musallam al-Mahri, Abdullah al-Mahri, Jack Wilson

Working with Mehri Center for Research and Studies

Conductive educational approach to community training in documentation, ethical methods, data sharing, annotation, translation

Aims: produce archive of c. 20 hours of audio and audio-visual recordings relating to the human – nature relationship

Annotate and translate c. 20% of material

مجالات دلالية

Semantic fields

- Personal
- Environmental – water, land, toponyms, flora, fauna, directions
- Occupational – livestock husbandry, frankincense, fishing, construction
- Trade – weights and measures, bartering
- Material culture – use of environment in creation of material culture
- Stories – stories and metaphors relating to the environment

ظواهر لغوية مهمة في اللغات

SALIENT LINGUISTIC FEATURES IN THE LANGUAGES

اقدم لغات سامية حية؟

Three plain sibilants – s, ś, š – one of which is lateral

Dual pronouns for all persons

akay ‘me & one other’, *atay* ‘you & one other’, *hay* ‘s/he & one other’

kluh-ki ‘both you/me & one other’, *klay-hi* ‘both him/her & him/her’

syar-k ‘I/you m.s. went’, *syar-ki* ‘we/you & one other went’,
sīr-oh ‘they m. dual went’, *sīra-t-oh* ‘they f. dual went’

gihm-ōna ‘m.s. will go’, *gihm-ōni* ‘m. dual will go’, *gihm-īta*
‘f.s. will go’, *gihm-awti* ‘f. dual will go’

Şherēt

ʔ	ʔ
b	b
t	t
ṭ	ṭ
d	d
ḍ	ḍ
r	r
z	z
g	g
ž	ž
ḥ	ḥ
x	x
s	s
ś	ś
š	š
ṣ̌	ṣ̌
ṣ	ṣ
ṣ̣	ṣ̣
ṭ	ṭ
ṭ̣	ṭ̣
ʕ	ʕ
g̣	g̣
f	f
k	k
l	l
ž	
k	k
m	m
n	n
h	h
w	w
y	y

Mehri

ʔ	ʔ
b	b
t	t
ṭ	ṭ
d	d
ḍ	ḍ
r	r
z	z
g	g
ž	ž
ḥ	ḥ
x	x
s	s
ś	ś
š	š
ṣ̌	ṣ̌
ṣ	ṣ
ṣ̣	ṣ̣
ṭ	ṭ
ṭ̣	ṭ̣
ʕ	ʕ
g̣	g̣
f	f
k	k
l	l
ž	
k	k
m	m
n	n
h	h
w	w
y	y

Mehri**مهرییت**

ś	پ - پیووط
š	ض - ضیفت
ṣ̌	ص - صمرئت
ṭ	ط - طاد , طور
ṣ̌	ض - ضنیف , ضلیل
ṭ̣	ظ - آظمیتی
ḳ	ق - قیظ , قبیلت

Şherēt**پحرات**

ṣ̌	ش - شرکک
š	پش - پشوم
ṣ̌	ض - فض
ž	ت - هیر ات اور

Arabic

ʔ
b
t
ṭ
d
ḍ
r
z
j
ḥ
x
s
ś
š
ḍ
ṭ̣
ḍ
ʕ
g̣
f
ḳ
l
k
m
n
h
w
y

اللغة والبيئة

LANGUAGE AND NATURE

المناخ Climate

الفصول الأربعة
Four seasons
الأمطار والنجوم
Rains and stars



اللغة والبيئة - الأسماء

Language and nature: Names

الإبل – حقيقتين وپحريتین وسيحيتین ورمليتین ونجديتین

Camels – coastal, mountain, gravel desert, sand
desert

تسمية الأماكن بمفردات لغوية محلية حسب التشبيه

Naming of places according to appearance

تعابير ملك الأراضي والمياه – حوز وحيكر

Terms of land and water possession – Hawz and
Haykar

اوقات النهار والليل بالمهرية

Measurement of time: Mehri

كلئيني	كفيجر
غسرّون	فهج ذحيوم
غسارين	كپرق - پرق ذحيوم
كاجزاء	باد پرق
كابصر - باد اجزاء	صوابيحن
حاويل ذاصر	كصوبح
بحليّ	ذئوبن
نهديت ذاصر	ذواليبن
فقح ذاصر	نهورن
تولي ذاصر	كلعصر

حساب السنوات حسب الحوادث البيئية

Working out years and ages according to climatic events

- سنيت ذلحيمر
- سنيت ذاغرقايت

الاتجاهات

Reference points and direction

Topographical – direction
of the flood waters, sea,
mountains, desert
*flān yigōrab lḥaḳ min
umṣa? lā* ‘so-and-so
doesn’t know upstream
from downstream’



صناعة كتب رقمية للأطفال باللغات العربية الجنوبية المعاصرة

Production of children's e-books in MSAL

- http://www.leeds.ac.uk/arts/info/125219/modern_south_arabian_languages/2376/resources

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