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From ‘flaying’, ‘Ascension’ and ‘red garden-beet’ to ‘wolves’ and ‘sweet dishes’: The Stunning Semantic Variety in the Arabic Root SLQ as a Touchstone for Arabic Etymologists

Abstract The following article can serve as yet another report from the workshop of an Etymological Dictionary of Arabic (*EtymArab*).¹ Work on a ‘zero version’ of such a dictionary has seen (slow but) steady progress since several years now. Taking the root $\sqrt{\text{SLQ}}$ as an example, this contribution gives an idea about the high potential of such a project, but also shows its clear actual limits. The enormous spectrum of semantic values covered by $\sqrt{\text{SLQ}}$ —one may distinguish more than thirty meanings that, at first sight, do not seem related to each other—provides a fine illustration of the complex composition of the modern as well as the classical lexicon. The current state of affairs in Arabic etymology allows us, to a certain degree, to ‘sort out things’ and bring some order into this confusing complexity. In many cases, however, research also remains ‘hanging in the air’.

Keywords loanwords, reflexes of protSem *š- causative, root extension, figurative use, semantic expansion

¹ For earlier such ‘reports’, cf., among others, Guth (2015–2018).



1 The semantic spectrum of √SLQ

1.1 In Modern Standard Arabic (according to Wehr and Cowan [1976])

The vb. I *salaqa*, *u* (*salq*), comes with a number of values that we are treating separately here, for systematic reasons (see below):

- [¹SLQ] ¹*salaqa* ‘to lacerate the skin (*h* of s.o.; with a whip)’;
- [²SLQ] ²*salaqa* ‘to remove with boiling water (s.th.)’;
- [³SLQ] ³*salaqa* ‘to boil, cook in boiling water’; unquestionably here belong also the PP *maslūq* ‘cooked, boiled (meat, egg, vegetable)’ and the nominalized PP.f *maslūqāt* (pl. *masālīq*) ‘bouillon, broth’;
- [⁴SLQ] ⁴*salaqa* ‘to scald (plants; said of excessive heat)’;
- [⁵SLQ] ⁵*salaqa* ‘to hurt (s.o., *bi-lisānihī*, with one’s tongue, i.e., give s.o. a tongue-lashing)’, together with *salāqāt*, n.f., ‘vicious tongue, violent language’.

Alongside with these values we find also quite a few that—at first sight at least—do not seem to be related to the preceding ones:

- [⁶SLQ] *al-sullāq*, n., ‘Ascension of Christ’; obviously related to this item are the vb. V ¹*tasallaqa* ‘to ascend, mount, climb, scale (s.th.); to climb up (plant)’ as well as its vn. *tasalluq* ‘climbing; ascent’ and the PA *mutasalliḡ*, lexicalized in Wehr/Cowan only in the combination *al-nabātāt al-mutasalliḡāt* ‘climbing plants, creepers’.
- [⁷SLQ] EgAr *salq*, MSA ¹*silq*, n., ‘a variety of chard, the leaves of which are prepared as a salad or vegetable dish’.

Like *salaqa*, also the n.f. *salīqāt* (pl. *salāʔiq*) comes with more than one value:

- [⁸SLQ] ¹*salīqāt* ‘dish made of grain cooked with sugar, cinnamon and fennel (SyrAr)’;
- [⁹SLQ] ²*salīqāt* ‘inborn disposition, instinct’.

Finally, unrelated to any of the above we find also:

- [¹⁰SLQ] *salaqūn* and *salāqūn*, n., ‘red lead, minium’, and
- [¹¹SLQ] ¹*salūqī*, var. *salaqī*, n., ‘saluki, greyhound, hunting dog’.

1.2 Widening the perspective: pre-MSA values, now obsolete

A quick glance into Badawi and Abdel Haleem's *Dictionary of Qur'anic Usage* (2008), which for each Qur'anic root gives the spectrum of (genuine, non-borrowed) values attached to it in Classical Arabic, suffices to understand that most of the above meanings found in MSA can be traced back to earlier times; there is, however, at least one that has become obsolete:

[[†]]to throw on the back, [^{1SLQb}]to flay with a whip; [^{2SLQ}]to insult; [^{4SLQ}]to scald; [^{1SLQa}]to lacerate the skin; [^{3SLQ}]boiling, cooking lightly by boiling; [^{8SLQ}]intrinsic nature.²

Interestingly enough, the authors group the extinct value [†]'to throw on the back' as forming a unit with 'to flay with a whip', while Wehr and Cowan grouped the latter together with 'to lacerate the skin'³—a first indication of two obviously different etymological assumptions informing the presentation (resp. omission) of lexicographical data. Another hint at choices evidently motivated by (unexplained) etymological hypotheses is the fact that values ⁶SLQ–⁸SLQ and ¹⁰SLQ–¹¹SLQ are missing from Badawi and Abdel Haleem's list; the authors seem to regard these as foreign, not genuine.

As we shall see below, there is a great deal of truth to their views and decisions (though some may be doubted). Before we go into this discussion, however, let us first follow the track of values that have been 'lost' in MSA, i.e., become obsolete or extinct, but may provide useful—if perhaps complicating and confusing—additional information as to the semantic history of SLQ items.

Data mining from standard dictionaries of Classical Arabic, such as Hava (1899, for quick reference), Freytag (1838), Kazimirski (1860), Lane (1863–1893), and Wahrmund (²1887) provides indeed ample evidence of the fact that [†]'to throw on the back' is not the only value that was lost in the course of time, and probably particularly during the period of modernization and reform that Arabic went through all over the 'long nineteenth century'. Here comes what a consultation of these sources yields.⁴

For some of the modern values, interesting complementary material can be found:

² Badawi and Abdel Haleem 2008: 449. In square brackets the corresponding value number from our above list.

³ This is why I used ¹SLQa and ¹SLQb for what in Wehr and Cowan (1976) is simply one value [¹SLQ].

⁴ Where no source is indicated, values are given as in Hava (1899) (after cross-checking with Lane etc.). For values not mentioned in Hava (1899), references are provided in parentheses.

ad [⁵SLQ]: cf. also †*sallāq*, †*mislaq*, †*mislāq* ‘eloquent (speaker); sharp’;

ad [⁸SLQ]: cf. also (Wahrmund 1887) †*salīq* ‘geschälte Gerste u. Speise daraus’ (peeled barley and dish made from it).

Values not covered by Wehr and Cowan (1976) any longer and therefore considered obsolete in MSA include:

†[¹²SLQ] ‘to prostrate s.o. on the back of his neck, throw s.o. down; to push, repell’: †⁶*salaqa*, *u* (*salq*), and †*salqā* (vn. *silqā?*).

†[¹³SLQ] ‘to pierce (with a spear)’: †⁷*salaqa*, *u* (*salq*).

†[¹⁴SLQ] ‘to leave prints (on the soil: foot)’: †⁸*salaqa*, *u* (*salq*); cf. also †*salā?iq^u* (pl., from sg. †³*salīqai*) ‘marks made by the feet of men and by the hoofs of horses or the like on the road (and to these the marks made by the [plaited thongs called] *ʔansāf* upon the belly of the camel are likened)’; also probably belonging here: DaʔAr *slq*, *u*, ‘to cultivate, plough, till’, *sāliq* (pl. *sawāliq*) ‘sillon (où se trouve déjà la semence du *ʔaṣām*)’, *silāqai* ‘cultivation, tillage’ (Landberg 1942).

†[¹⁵SLQ] ‘to oil, grease (a leathern water-skin, etc.), smear (a camel all over with tar)’: †⁹*salaqa*, *u* (*salq*).

†[¹⁶SLQ] ‘(al-*ḡuwāliq^u*) to insert one of the two loops of the sack called *ḡuwāliq* into the other’; ‘(al-*ṣūd fi l-ṣurwai*) to insert the stick into the loop [of the *ḡuwāliq*]: †¹⁰*salaqa*, *u* (*salq*).

†[¹⁷SLQ] ‘to call out, cry out, shout vehemently (esp. after the death of a person or at a calamity); to slap and scratch one’s face (mourning woman)’: †¹¹*salaqa*, *u* (*salq*); cf. also †*silqai* (pl. *sulqān*, *silqān*, *silq*) and *sāliqai* (pl. *sawāliq^u*) ‘weeping loudly (woman), slapping her face; long-tongued and vehemently clamorous, foul, evil, lewd’.

†[¹⁸SLQ] ‘to run’: †¹²*salaqa*, *u* (*salq*); cf. also †*saylaq* ‘quick, swift (she-camel)’.

†[¹⁹SLQ] ‘to collect herbs’: *sallaqa*, vb. II.

†[²⁰SLQ] ‘to be(come) restless, agitated, in a state of commotion, fret (from grief, anxiety, pain)’: †²*tasallaqa* (vb. V).

†[²¹SLQ] ‘red garden-beet’: †²*silq* (pl. *sulqān*).

†[²²SLQ] ‘wolf’: †³*silq* (pl. *sulqān*, *silqān*); f. †³*silqai* ‘she-wolf’.

†[²³SLQ] ‘female lizard; female locust when she has laid her eggs’: †²*silqai*.

†[²⁴SLQ] ‘water-course, channel in which water flows, between two tracts of elevated, or elevated and rugged, ground’: †⁴*silqai*.

†[²⁵SLQ] ‘even plain, smooth, even tract, of good soil, depressed, even plain in which are no trees; low tract, or portion, of land that produces herbage, meadow’: †*salaq* (pl. *ʔaslāq*, *sulqān*).

†[²⁶SLQ] ‘pimples, pustules that come forth upon the root / on the tip of the tongue (Lane 1872); Lösung des Zahnfleischs (Wahrmund 1887); lip-pitude of the eyelids (Hava 1899) | 1 Tumeur qui se forme sur les bords

des paupières et fait tomber les cils; 2 déchaussement des dents, maladie des gencives, qui fait que les dents n'étant plus retenues par les gencives tombent; 3 tubercule à la racine de la langue; 4 enflure': †*sulāq*. – Cf. also †*al-ʔasāliq* 'what is next to the *lahawāt* [pl. used as sg., meaning the 'uvula'] of the mouth, internally, or the upper parts of the interior of the mouth, those to which the tongue rises' (BK); also vb. I, pass., †*suliqat il-ʔafwāh...* 'the mouths broke out with pimples, or small pustules'; and †*ʔnsalaqa*, vb. VII, '[...]; to be(come) affected with what is termed *sulāq*'.

†[²⁷SLQ] 'what falls off from trees (leaves, etc.)': †²*salīq*.

†[²⁸SLQ] 'honey which the bees build up along the length of their hive, or habitation': †³*salīq*.

†[²⁹SLQ] 'pot herbs | Kücherkräuter': †⁴*salīq*.

†[³⁰SLQ] 'side of a road': †⁵*salīq*.

†[³¹SLQ] '(a sort of) coat of mail': †²*salūqī*.

†[³²SLQ] 'sitting-place of the *rubbān* [or captain] of a ship, sitting-place of a pilot': †*salūqiyyā*.

†[³³SLQ] 'natte de folioles de palmier': DaʔAr *salqa* (pl. *salaq*), ʔAdan and Ḥaḍramawt Ar *silqa* (pl. *silaq*) (Landberg 1942).

†[³⁴SLQ] 'ruines': DaʔAr *mislāq* (Landberg 1942).

†[³⁵SLQ] 'solecism, incorrect language': (*kalām*) †*salīqī* (Lane 1872).

2 Analysis/Discussion

How get out of this 'mess'? Earlier experience with similar cases has shown that the stunning semantic diversity in such highly polysemantic roots typically is due to a merger of foreign and intrinsic elements, combined with overlappings with and/or influence of phonologically close lexemes, changes like metatheses, as well as the old age of the genuine elements, an age that allows original values to diversify. Earlier research made on a root or some of its items can then help to form a first idea of the situation.

This is the case here, too. Scattered over a number of dictionaries of Semitic languages and both older and quite recent studies we find fragments of information that allow us to sketch a rather complex map.

Let us start the discussion with the SLQ lexemes for which a foreign origin has been suggested—first those of non-Semitic provenance, then the inner-Semitic borrowings.

2.1 Words of non-Semitic origin

[¹⁰SLQ] *salaqūn*, var. *salāqūn*, ‘red lead, minium’. An indicator of the word’s foreign origin is the fact that it is found in several variants: in addition to the two mentioned in Wehr and Cowan directly *sub radice* SLQ there are also *saliqūn* or *sariqūn* as well as, in EgAr, *salaqōn* and *zalaqōn* (Badawi and Hinds 1986, s.vv.). Given the obvious variability of R₁ (s/z) and R₂ (l/r), a relation to Ar *zarqūn* ‘bright red’ does not seem unlikely. Badawi and Hinds think the EgAr words may be from Tu *sülüğen/süleğen* ‘minium’, but the reverse is probably the case, i.e., the Tu words are from Ar (or both from Pers *zargūn* ‘gold-coloured’). In contrast, Nişanyan (s.v. Tu *süleğen*, 1 July 2017) does not exclude an origin in Grk συρικόν *syrikón*, which would suggest an interpretation of minium as ‘the Syrian (mineral), the (red) substance from Syria’, an idea that could be corroborated by the Ru Ukr name for minium, *сyрик súrik*. But Nişanyan adds himself that such an etymology is rather uncertain (the mineral is first mentioned in Tu sources in the anonymous *Câmiſü’l-Fürs*, 1501, as *sülegen*). – For the time being, we are unable to decide which of the proposed etymologies of *sala/āqūn*—Pers, Tu, Grk?—may be correct; personally, I tend to favour the Pers origin because the Tu word can be suspected to be itself a loanword, and a Grk origin is unlikely because ‘minium’ in Grk usually is rendered by κιννάβαρι *kinnābari*, itself of oriental origin (cf. Pers *zingāfr*, *zenğefreh* ‘cinnabar, minium’).

Unlike *salaqūn*, for which Pers, Tu or Grk etymologies have been proposed, the items ¹*salūqī*, ^{†2}*salūqī*, and [†]*salūqiyyā* [¹¹SLQ, ^{†31}SLQ, ^{†32}SLQ, respectively], which, morphologically, all are *nisba* formations, obviously refer to, and are taken from, names of locations rendered by the Arabs as ‘*Salūq*’.

[¹¹SLQ] ¹*salūqī*, var. *salaqī*, ‘saluki, greyhound, hunting dog’. The term for a specific kind of ‘Oriental’ greyhound or hunting dog, which was loaned also into English (*saluki*, *sloughi*),⁵ is attributed by ClassAr lexicographers to a town they generally locate in Yemen (not far from Taʿizz). But there are also other places (in modern Armenia, Turkey, Iraq, Iran) that may be identified with this *Salūq* or *Salūqi(y)ā*, e.g., Silifke or towns close to Antioch or Baghdad; ultimately, there may be a connection with ‘Seleucia’ and the Seleucid Empire (312 BC–65 AD).⁶

⁵ According to <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sloughi>, *Saluki* is used (in English) for the *Persian Greyhound*, while the *Sloughi*, the *Arabian Greyhound*, is a different breed.

⁶ The discussion seems to be summarized rather reliably in the English Wikipedia entry ‘*Saluki*’. Accessed February 2022. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saluki>.

†^[31SLQ] †²*salūqī* 'a sort of) coat of mail'. Like ¹*salūqī*, this ²*salūqī* may originally be *'the one/thing from *Salūq*', i.e., from a town of uncertain location (see preceding paragraphs). – Cf., however, the Hbr Hiph'ʿil (Sem *Š-stem) *hislīq* 'to hide (arms) in a cache' and modHbr *sʿlīq* 'arms cache', which Klein (1987) regards as belonging to Hbr √SLQ 'to go up, ascend' (cf. Ar ¹*tasallaqa* 'to ascend, mount, climb', i.e., value [6SLQ]; see discussion below in section 'Inner-Semitic borrowings'), without however elaborating on the exact nature of such an assumed relation.

†^[32SLQ] †*salūqiyyā* 'sitting-place of the *rubbān* [or captain] of a ship, sitting-place of a pilot'. Like ¹*salūqī* and ²*salūqī*, †*salūqiyyā* is obviously either a nisba from **salūq* or refers to one of the two *salūqīs*. But details remain obscure: Was this sitting-place associated, for some reason, with the town of 'Salūq', or with the saluki-type of dog, or with a coat of mail? Or is there yet another etymology?

†^[35SLQ] (*kalām*) †*salīqī* 'natural, or untaught, speech; speech whereof the desinential syntax is not much attended to, but which is chaste and eloquent respect of what has been heard, though often tripping, or stumbling, in respect of grammar; speech which the dweller in the desert utters according to his nature and his proper dialect, though his other speech be nobler and better'; †*salīqiyyā* 'dialect in which the speaker thereof proceeds loosely, or freely, according to his nature, without paying much attention to desinential syntax, and without avoiding incorrectness'.⁷ According to Olivieri (2020), the origin of this term is Grk σολοικισμός *soloi-kismós* 'incorrectness in the use of language, solecism', so called, allegedly, after the people of Soli, Cilicia (modern-day South Turkey), whose language the ancient Athenians considered as grammatically incorrect. Olivieri further assumes that the Arabs followed (Stoic) Grk tradition when they calqued the term *ʿiṣrāb* (*'to make Arabic') on the model of Grk *hellēnismós* ('to use correct "Hellenic" language'), as the positive normative counter-concept of *salīqī*, resp. *soloi-kismós*.

†^[23SLQ] †²*silqat* 'female lizard; female locust, when she has laid her eggs'. This value can perhaps be connected to Eg *šrk.t* '(the scorpion-goddess) Serket'⁸ (Selkis), 'scorpion'.⁹ If this etymology is valid, the Ar word

⁷ *salāʿiq* is also attested in the positive sense of being able to speak perfectly, without any formal training, like a true Bedouin, cf. Larcher (2005). This shows that the 'natural' speech of the Bedouin came to be interpreted ambiguously: 'raw' and uneducated on the one hand, and beautiful and eloquent on account of this very same naturalness, on the other.

⁸ Gardiner 1957: 478; full name in the Pyramid texts *Šrkt-ḥtw* 'she-who-relieves-the-windpipe', cf. also Erman (1921: 166).

⁹ TLA lemma-no. 139870, based on Erman and Grapow (1930: IV, 204.1–3). Cf. Borg 2021: 191.

would have retained from ancient Egyptian the *female* character of the denoted animal as well as the idea of *relieving* something—the Egyptian word is based on Eg *śrk* ‘to relieve, admit breath to (*ḥtyt* windpipe)’, while at least one of the meanings found in ClassAr dictionaries for ²*silqat* specifies the ‘female locust’ as one that ‘has laid her eggs’ (which she does by ‘relieving’ them through a kind of ‘pipe!’).¹⁰ – With the notion of ‘relieving, letting go, getting rid of’, this value comes close to other SLQ values, discussed below, all of which share the basic idea of *‘scraping, scratching, lacerating (and, hence, leaving marks, on s.th., or leaving it bare/barren)’.

2.2 Inner-Semitic borrowings

[⁶SLQ] ¹*tasallaqa* ‘to ascend, mount, climb, scale’. The common opinion is that Ar ¹*tasallaqa* is denominative from *sullāq* ‘Ascension (of Christ)’, itself with all likelihood¹¹ loaned into Ar from Aram *sūlqā* ‘id.’, *slaq* ‘to ascend’ (so already Fraenkel 1886: 277). – There is also Hbr **sālaq* ‘to ascend’, but this is very rare (a *hapax* in the Bible, only 1sg.impf.) and probably itself borrowed from Aram (so BDB 2010, Kogan 2015 and others), a fact that would appear to make protAram **slk* ‘to go up, come up’ (> BiblAram **slēq*, Palm *slq*, Syr *sleq*) as an isolated item within Semitic.¹² Furthermore, the BiblHbr *hapax* shows a ‘highly peculiar morphological behavior, viz. the unexpected assimilation **-sl-* > *-ss-* [*?ässaq* (‘if I ascend’) instead of **?äslaq*’ (Kogan 2015: 386, #15). According to Kogan (*ibid.*), this behaviour probably betrays the secondary origin of *-l-* so that the initial *sl-* in protAram **slk* can be suspected to be the result of a splitting of an original

¹⁰ A variant with initial š (*šilqat*) documented, among others, by Hava (1899), is said to mean ‘lizard’s eggs’.

¹¹ As Kogan (2015: 386) remarks, the isolated position of Ar *tasallaqa* ‘to ascend, mount, climb, scale’ (as also of ClassAr *šsalaqa* ‘do.’) within Ar ‘makes one wonder about a possible Aramaic origin’ of these items.

¹² Dolgopolsky (2012: #300) obviously does not treat the Hbr and Ar vb.s as loans from Aram but regards them as genuine cognates, which allows him to reconstruct a (C)Sem *√SLK ‘to ascend, climb’. In his view, the latter is ancestor not only of Ar *tasallaqa* ‘id.’, but also of [¹⁸SLQ] *šsalaqa* ‘to run’ and perhaps—deglottalization?—even *salaka* ‘to travel, go along’, to which the author then juxtaposes IndEur (NaIE) **slenk* (~ **sleng*) ‘to creep, crawl, trudge, amble’ (which gave, among others, AngSax *slincan* ‘to creep’ > nEngl ‘to *slink*’, oHGe *slango*, nHGe *Schlange* ‘snake’; oHGe *zuo-slingan* ‘to slide away’, mHGe *slingen* ‘to crawl along’, etc.), all ultimately from a hypothetical Nostr **c’oLk^v* (~ **c’oLk^v*) ‘to advance with effort (to creep, crawl, climb etc.)’. Personally, I am reluctant to accept the author’s hypotheses; in my opinion, they are based on too many unlikely correspondences and sound shifts.

lateral *ś into the combination *s-l* at an early stage.¹³ If this hypothesis is valid, the Aram forms (as well as the Hbr and Ar ones that are borrowed from Aram) can perhaps be seen together with Akk *šaḫu* 'to grow high, rise, ascend' and Ar √ŠQY 'to grow', *šāqin* 'high, inaccessible', etc. (a view put forward already by Haupt 1910: 712-3).¹⁴

[⁷SLQ] EgAr *salq*, also *salqāya* (Badawi/Hinds 1986), ClassAr ¹*silq*. The word for 'a variety of chard' seems to be identical with †[²¹SLQ] †²*silq* 'red garden-beet', as both are varieties of the same plant, *beta vulgaris*. According to Fraenkel, †²*silq* (pl. *sulqān*) for 'red garden-beet' is from Aram Syr *silqā* 'id.', itself of unknown origin. Some have argued that it might be a borrowing from Grk *sikelós* 'Sicilian',¹⁵ and the remark, made in the Arabic Wikipedia entry on ¹*silq* 'chard', that the plant, popular all over the Mediterranean, originally came from Sicily,¹⁶ makes it tempting indeed to assume a relation to this island. However, such an etymology is not unproblematic—not because it assumes a metathesis **q-l* > *l-q* (which would be a rather common phenomenon) but because it fails to explain the transformation of the Grk relational adj. *sikelós* into a Sem *faʕl/fiʕl* pattern.¹⁷ The specifications *silq al-barr* 'Rumex, sour-dock' and *silq al-mā?* 'Potamogeton, pond-weed' (Lane, Hava) do not provide additional insight. Nevertheless, the foreign origin of [⁷SLQ] 'chard' / †[²¹SLQ] 'red garden-beet' is hardly questionable, as the words cannot reasonably be connected to any of the other SLQ values. The closest (to 'chard', as a type of 'leaves') might be †[²⁷SLQ] †²*salīq* 'what falls off from trees (leaves, etc.)', †[²⁹SLQ] †⁴*salīq* 'pot herbs' and †[¹⁹SLQ] †*sallaqa* 'to collect herbs'; but while all the latter may belong together (see below), none of them displays semantic features that would be sufficient to establish a convincing etymological link to 'chard' (and even less to 'red garden-beet'). – However, while we probably can exclude a relation with the latter, shouldn't

¹³ According to Kogan (2015: 386), a 'fine illustration of such a split is provided by JBA *šarsālā* "hammock" < protSem **šarś*, extensively discussed in [R.] Steiner [*The Case for Fricative-Laterals in Proto-Semitic*, New Haven] 1977: 130–136'.

¹⁴ Yet another view is put forward in BDB (2010) where the authors interpret values [⁶SLQ] 'to ascend' and [⁴SLQ] 'to scald, burn' as interdependent, associating Hbr **šālaq* 'to kindle, burn', (*Š-stem) *hiššiq* ~ *hiššīq* 'to make a fire, burn' with Aram *slaq* 'to ascend', (*Š-stem) 'to cause to go up (in flame), offer sacrifice'.

¹⁵ See, e.g., Fraenkel (1886: 143), as also Dozy (1881, s.v.), where the author remarks that already 'Théopraste dit que la variété blanche de la Beta vulgaris s'appelle *sicilienne*'.

¹⁶ See <http://ar.wikipedia.org/wiki/سَلَق>. Accessed 1 May 2022.

¹⁷ Some scholars even seem to assume a *direct* borrowing from Grk into Ar. But this would pose the additional problem that *silq* shows initial /s/ while the Ar name for Sicilia, *šiqilliy(y)ā*, usually has emphatic /ṣ/. This problem does not arise with the Aram hypothesis; here, *silq* (with /s/) is from Aram, while *šiqilliy(y)ā* (with /ṣ/) is from Grk (with Grk *s* > Ar ṣ under the influence of following *q*).

one consider Pers *šalgām* ‘turnip, rape’ as a possible source—at least for ^{†2}*silq* in the meaning of [†][²¹SLQ] ‘red garden-beet’? It is right that Pers *šalgām* also has a more direct (or perh. via Tu *šalgam*?) reflex in Ar *salḡam* ‘turnip’, EgAr ‘rape’, but it could well be the origin of Aram Syr *silqā* and only from there have passed into Ar. One and the same Pers word, *šalgām*, may thus have been borrowed into Ar twice: once via Aram, and once via Tu (or directly from Pers). This may have been caused by independent local factors, or because the garden-beets had temporarily become unpopular and been forgotten, for whatever reason. – Ultimately, we may thus even have to distinguish the two items that, at first sight, looked identical (and, botanically, also *are* more or less the same), i.e., ‘chard’ and ‘red garden-beet’; one of them may have a background in the Mediterranean (Sicily), the other in Iran. Unfortunately, there is not sufficient evidence to corroborate or exclude any of these speculations.

2.3 Major semantic complexes derived from Semitic roots

While many values in √SLQ have, as we saw above, their origin outside Semitic and some are very likely borrowings from Aram (or via Aram from non-Sem languages), the largest group can be traced back to ‘genuinely’ Sem roots.¹⁸ Within this complex we may differentiate four sub-groups. One of these has preserved a Sem root (*√ŠLK) almost unchanged, while the others may be the result of metathesis (*QLS > SLQ) or of influence from phonologically similar roots (√SLḤ ‘to skin, flay’ < Sem *√ŠLḤ ‘skin, hide’; [†]√SLQ ‘to shout, shriek; to writhe about’), or reflect an old Sem *š causative. Let us start the discussion with the non-*√ŠLK items. Among these, the last-mentioned is probably the most interesting.

With an imperfect in *u* (*yasluq^u*) and a vn. *salq*, the vb. ^{†6}*salaqa* [¹²SLQ] looks as if it were not different from the other *salaqa*-s listed at the beginning of this article. But the meaning ‘to prostrate s.o. on the back of his neck, throw s.o. down; to push, repel’ can hardly be connected to any of these. Strangely enough, Lane (1872) and Badawi and AbdelHaleem (2008) mention this meaning as the first value of *salaqa*, as though it were the primary one. However, unlike many lexemes with primary values, this one does not seem to have cognates in Sem or outside. A clue to its

¹⁸ If (as discussed above) [⁶SLQ] ¹*tasallaqa* ‘to ascend, mount, climb, scale’ is denom. from *sullāq* ‘Ascension’ and the latter is from Aram *sūlqā* ‘do.’, *slaq* ‘to ascend’, and if the underlying protAram **slk* ‘to go up, come up’ goes back, as suggested by Kogan (2015: 386, #15), via dissociation, to protSem **šk* (> Akk *šaku* ‘to grow high, rise, ascend’, Ar *šāqi* ‘high, inaccessible’), then also this item could, of course, be counted among the ones based on ‘genuinely’ Sem roots.

etymology may be the fact that the vb. appears with this meaning also in the variant $\dagger salqà$ (vn. $silqā?$ ¹⁹), which can hardly be analysed as belonging to a quadrilateral $\sqrt{*SLQY}$ or as a strange $*FasLà$ form from \sqrt{SLQ} . Much more likely is the assumption that we are dealing with the reflex of an archaic $*\check{S}$ -stem, a causative from \sqrt{LQY} , giving more or less the same meaning as the common vb. IV, $\?alqà$ (vn. $\?ilqā?$) 'to throw', from $laqiya$ 'to find'. Cf. also the corresponding intr. vb.s, as rare and unusual as $\dagger salqà$ itself: ClassAr $\dagger\check{s}lanqà$ (traditionally interpreted as formed along an $\check{i}F\check{s}anLà$ pattern) 'to lie, or sleep, prostrate on one's back', with the var. $\check{i}stalqà$, which latter can be analysed as a t -stem of both $\dagger salqà$ and $\?alqà$ ($< *šalqà$). In conclusion, we may assume that $\dagger^6salaqa$ is a variant of $\dagger salqà$, probably from $*ša-lqà$, archaic $*\check{S}$ -stem of $laqiya$ 'to find'. The meaning 'to prostrate, throw down' is thus originally a causative $*\check{S}$ 'to make to be found (lying on earth)'. With this, $\dagger^6salaqa$ can serve as a further example of 'traces of a non-weakened causative prefix $s-$ '²⁰ in Ar, i.e., reflexes of Sem $*\check{S}$ -stems, the best-known of which is probably $sabaqa$ 'to precede, do previously', from $*sa-bqà$, same as $\?a-bqà$ 'to cause to stay (behind)', caus. of $baqiya$ 'to stay, remain'.²¹

In [\sqrt{SLQ}] $\dagger^5salaqa$ 'to hurt (s.o., *bi-lisānih* with one's tongue), insult' (esp. Qurʾān 33:19), we possibly have the result of a metathesis: Zammit (2002) and Leslau (2006) tend to regard this item (and its Gz 'sister', *tasālaqa* 'to joke, scoff at, deride, mock, ridicule, make fun of s.o./one another')²² as cognate, via metathesis, to NWSem $*QLS$ ($>$ Ug $qlš$ 'verhöhn-en', Hbr *qilles* 'to jeer at', Aram *qallāsā* 'shouting, derision'). However, while the semantic parallels may be rather convincing in this view, the assumed twisting $*QLS > SLQ$ is not very probable (though not inconceivable), especially in the light of the fact that there are 'easier' solutions to the question of this item's etymology. One of these would regard $\dagger^5salaqa$

¹⁹ Cf. also *salqāi* 'a certain mode of compressing, on the back' (Lane 1872).

²⁰ Edzard 2011.

²¹ Mentioned already in Lipiński (1997: 389 [§41.10]). The author rightly adds that 'the preformative $\check{s}/s-$ is not productive' in Arabic (nor in Aramaic which, like Arabic, shows some traces, too). It cannot be inherited directly from Proto-Semitic (because the protSem caus. $*\check{S}$ - became $h-$, then $\?-$ in Arabic), so how can we explain the phenomenon? Two explanations are possible: either they are due to some inner-Semitic borrowing (as may be the case in Aramaic, for which Lipiński assumes 'Assyro-Babylonian influence', *ibid.*; but which language could it be in the case of Arabic?), or it could be a back-formation based on $\check{i}stalqà$, i.e., a form X where Sem $*\check{S}$ - is retained regularly in combination with the self-referential $-t$ - infix. If that is the case, the language may have (mis-)interpreted $\check{i}stalqà$ as a form VIII $*\check{i}st-alqà$ (instead of form X, $\check{i}st-alqà$), then produced $salqà$ as a corresponding form I (not IV), then 'corrected' the strange $salqà$ into a more regular-looking $salaqa$.

²² Leslau (2006) remarks that Margoliouth (1939: 61) would even derive the Qurʾanic $\dagger^5salaqa$ from this Gz (*ta*) $\check{s}ālaqa$.

‘to hurt, insult’ as a variant (with metaphorical meaning) of †*šalaqa* (with emphatic *š-*) ‘to attack (a tribe); to smite s.o. (sun); to strike’. This theory can find some support from the existence of a few SLQ~ŠLQ parallels, such as †*mislaq*~†*mišlaq* and †*mislāq*~†*mišlāq* ‘eloquent (speaker); sharp (tongue)’ (Lane 1872; Hava 1899). Phonologically, though, a dissimilation *ŠLQ > SLQ is less likely than a partly assimilation (velarization) **s* > *š* (under the influence of following *q*), so that †*šalaqa* is more likely to be secondary than ⁵*salaqa*. And even if we assume the variant with *š* to be primary, this †*šalaqa* would still remain without cognates in Sem. – Yet another (and more plausible?) explanation is given by ClassAr lexicographers. They would interpret ⁵*salaqa* ‘to insult’ as figurative use of †[¹³SLQ] †⁷*salaqa* ‘to pierce (with a spear)’ (see below). But why go as far as that and not simply assume it to be figurative use of [¹SLQ] ¹*salaqa* ‘to lacerate the skin (with a whip)’ (> ‘to hurt’ > ‘to insult’)?

For the discussion of most of the remaining values that are likely to be traceable to Sem ancestors, the three values given first in the above list are the most relevant. Among these, we have two ‘extremes’—[¹SLQ] ¹*salaqa* ‘to lacerate the skin (with a whip)’ and [³SLQ] ³*salaqa* ‘to boil, cook in boiling water’—and one that could represent a ‘middle value’, a semantic bridge between the two: [²SLQ] ²*salaqa* ‘to remove (s.th., e.g., hair, skin, etc.) with boiling water’. Unfortunately, a widening of the perspective into Semitic does not bring much light to the question whether we are dealing with two distinct values or whether one of them—and if so which—may be dependent on the other. With opening the Sem ‘box’, the problem is only taken to the next-earlier stage.

To start with [³SLQ] ³*salaqa* ‘to boil, cook in boiling water’, this item has rather obvious cognates in Akk *salāku*, JudAram (> postBiblHbr) *šlq*, Syr *šlq*, all ‘id.’; with some likelihood one should also include DaṭAr *salaq* ‘griller de façon que la viande ne soit ni crue ni à point, mais entre les deux; donner au pain une caisson légère’ (Landberg 1942), and probably also Tña *šälākā* ‘to be burned; to simmer’ (Kogan 2011). The etymon of the fairly widely attested vb. is reconstructed by Kogan (2011) (as ‘prot-Sem’) and Dolgopolsky (2012) (as ‘CSem’) **šlq* ‘to boil, cook’.²³ If the

²³ According to Dolgopolsky (2012: #2053), this CSem **šlq* ‘to cook, broil, boil’ is akin to (and an extension in **-k* from?) WSem **čly* (**-čly-*) ‘to roast’ which gave Ar *salā* ‘to roast, broil, fry’, *šaliya* ‘to burn, be exposed to the blaze of s.th.’, BiblHbr *čālā* (√*čly*), JudPalAram, JEA *čālā* (√*člw|y*) ‘to roast (meat)’, SamAram √*šly* ‘to roast’, and also has cognates in Berb (Kab *asli* ‘cuire rapidement’) and ECush (Brj *sal-* ‘to cook by boiling, bake’, Kmb *šol-*, Hd *sar* ‘id.; to fry, roast’; Sa *sōl-* ‘braten, rösten auf dem brennenden Feuer’, *sōlā* ‘Fleisch auf heißen Steinen gebraten; Feuerbrand’, Af *sola* ‘campfire for roasting meat’, Som *sōl-* ‘to grill, toast, roast’; Som *šil-* ‘to fry’, Or *sil-awu* ‘affumigarsi, arruginirsi, ossidar-si’, ultimately from a hypothetical Nostratic **šil?Lʷ* ‘to roast, fry, cook’.

DatAr and Tña evidence are to be taken into account, the original value may have oscillated between *'to boil, cook' and *'to roast', an aspect that could give some more substance to Dolgopolsky's hypothesis of a relation to the basic notion of 'roasting' (see preceding footnote).

However, in spite of the fairly reliable deeper Sem dimension and, thus, a rather old age of value [³SLQ] 'to boil, cook in boiling water', ³*salaqa* does not seem to have generated more than a very few semantic extensions. The above-mentioned [²SLQ] ²*salaqa* 'to remove (hair, etc.) with boiling water' may be one of them (but it could also be from ¹*salaqa* 'to peel, skin, loosen flesh from the bones', see below). Another one is probably [⁴SLQ] ⁴*salaqa* 'to scald (plants; said of excessive heat)'; this value is with all likelihood a special use of [³SLQ], perh. in its earlier/alternative meaning of *'to roast, burn' (see above, with fn. 23). Either from [³SLQ] 'to boil, cook in boiling water' or from [²SLQ] 'to remove (hair, etc.) with boiling water' is [⁸SLQ] (SyrAr) ¹*salīqāt* 'dish made of grain cooked with sugar, cinnamon and fennel', as the preparation of this dish involves both cooking/boiling *and* peeling. Morphologically, the word (as well as its m. variant, registered in Wahrmund (1887) as †¹*salīq* 'geschälte Gerste u. Speise daraus') is a quasi-PP, i.e., originally probably *'boiled food (herbs, leguminous plants, and the like); what is cooked with hot water (and then peeled)'. However, the more specific usage is attested already in ClassAr; e.g., in addition to the general meaning, Lane (1872) also mentions 'millet bruised and dressed by being cooked with milk; a preparation of dried curd with which are mixed certain plants'.

As for [¹SLQ] ¹*salaqa* 'to lacerate the skin (with a whip)', the picture is rather confusing, esp. in the light of the absence of undisputable Sem cognates. Several suggestions have to be discussed.

The first has already been mentioned: One could think of a development along the line *'[³SLQ] > [²SLQ] > [¹SLQ]', i.e., *'to boil, cook in boiling water > to cook/boil in order to remove skin, hair, husk, etc. > to peel > to scrape off, lacerate the skin', perhaps under the influence of *salāḥa* 'to skin, flay, etc.' (see below). Given the absence of immediately obvious Sem cognates meaning 'to lacerate, skin, etc.', such a semantic development is not inconceivable. However, an argument against the validity of such a hypothesis could be the existence of quite a few items that seem to be dependent on the notion of 'scraping, peeling' rather than on that of 'boiling, cooking';²⁴ the high degree of diversification would point to a relatively

²⁴ Such as [⁹SLQ] *salīqāt* 'inborn disposition, instinct', †[¹⁴SLQ] †⁸*salaqa* 'to leave (foot\ hoof) prints (on the soil)', †[²⁵SLQ] †*salaq* 'even, plain, smooth, even tract of good soil, depressed land, meadow', †[²⁷SLQ] †²*salīq* 'what falls off from trees (leaves, etc.)'—see below.

old age, an aspect that could make a secondary origin of ‘scraping, peeling, lacerating’ appear quite unlikely (though not impossible).

Another suggestion was made by Leslau (2006). He would see Ar ¹*salaqa* ‘to peel off (flesh) from (the bone)’ as cognate to Akk *šalāqu* ‘to cut open, split, cut’ and Gz *šalaqa*~*salaqa* ‘to grind fine, crush, peel, husk’ (as well as evidence from other EthSem languages²⁵). If ¹*salaqa* indeed belonged here, one might reconstruct protSem *ŠLḲ ‘to cut, crush, peel off’, which, however, would be homonymous with the above-mentioned (and quite reliably reconstructed) protSem *ŠLḲ ‘to boil, cook’—rather unlikely, esp. so in light of the semantic distance between ‘cutting, splitting’ and ‘scraping, peeling’. Therefore, it would probably make more sense to see the Akk and EthSem items together with Ar *šalaqa* (*u, šalq*) ‘to split lengthwise’ (< protSem *ŠLQ?) rather than with ¹*salaqa* ‘to lacerate, flay, etc.’.

A third view is presented by Ehret (1989: #21). In this theory, ¹*salaqa* has the basic meaning ‘to loosen the flesh from the bones’ and is analyzed as the result of an extension in *-ḵ from a biconsonantal ‘pre-protSem’ *√SL²⁶ ‘to draw out or off’ (> Ar *salla* ‘to draw out slowly’),²⁷ adding a notion of intensity (with regard to the action’s effect). According to the author, there are many more such extensions:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| + ‘concisive’ *-ʔ | → <i>salaʔa</i> (<i>salʔ</i>) ‘to purify butter, press sesame oil’ |
| + ‘finitive fortative’ *-b | → <i>salaba</i> (<i>salb</i>) ‘to take from with violence, rob, plunder, steal’ |

²⁵ Tña *säläqä*, Amh *sälläqä*, Gur *säläqä* ‘to grind fine’, Amh *šäläqqäqä* ‘husk, shell, hull’, etc.

²⁶ Perhaps better *√SL/ŠL—see the following two footnotes.

²⁷ Perhaps akin to Ar *salil* ‘male foetus, embryo; descendant, scion, son’, *sulälai* ‘progeny, offspring; family; race’, as well as items showing final *-Y, which go back to protSem *ša/ily(-at)- / *sa/ily(-at)- ‘afterbirth, fetal membrane’ (Militarev and Kogan 2000 #246; Fronzaroli 1964: 246 and 262-263, had *šily(-at)- ‘placenta’, *šalil ‘embrione’). If such a relation is valid, the ‘placenta, afterbirth’ may be interpreted as *(s.th.) drawn out slowly’, and the corresponding vb. (Orel and Stolbova 1994 #2274: protSem *šul- < AfrAs *sol- ‘to pull’) could be assigned the more general basic meaning of ‘to (make) pass gently through a narrow opening’ (as in fact posited by Gabal [2012] for the Ar root nucleus *SL-). The n. is widely attested throughout Sem [Akk *silitu, šelitu, šalitu* ‘afterbirth; womb (poet.)’, Hbr *šilyā* ‘afterbirth’, postBibIHbr *šälil* ‘embryo’, JudAram *šilyätā, šilyā; silyätā, silätā* ‘afterbirth’; *šillulā* ‘embryo, birth’, Syr *šalitā* ‘secundina; membrana foetum tegens’, Mnd *šulita*, Ar *sala* ‘membrane enveloping the foetus’, Gz *sayl* ‘foetus, embryo’ (metathesis *-ly > -y!)], Te *sälät* ‘placenta, afterbirth’, Tña *šälät* ‘placenta o seconda delle bestie’, *šäl* ‘feto ancora nel ventre della madre’, Amh *šäl* ‘foetus, embryo, conception’, etc.], where some of the Akk and JudAram forms show unexpected s- instead of regular š- (Militarev and Kogan 2005: *ibid.*), so that the reconstructed protSem forms oscillate between initial *š- and *-s-. Accordingly, Ehret’s reconstruction of an underlying biconsonantal nuclear root √*SL should perhaps be modified into √*SL/ŠL.

+ 'durative' *-t	→ <i>salata</i> (<i>salt</i>) 'to draw one thing from another'
+ 'iterative' *-h	→ <i>salaha</i> (<i>salh</i>) 'to drop excrement'
+ 'extendative fortative' *-h	→ <i>salaha</i> (<i>salh</i>) 'to skin, flay, throw off the slough; to undress'
+ 'sunderative' *-f	→ <i>salifa</i> (<i>salaf</i>) 'to split, cleave'
+ 'iterative' *-p	→ <i>salafa</i> (<i>salp</i>) 'to harrow, level, plane, make even, prepare for sowing (land)'

The semantic proximity among these values is indeed striking and gives strong support to Ehret's argumentation.²⁸

In conclusion we may perhaps say that Leslau's idea (from *'to cut, split') as well as a derivation from 'to boil, cook' probably should be discarded while a development along the lines sketched by Ehret seems to be very well conceivable. If the true origin should be 'cooking, boiling', the semantics may have been influenced by *salaha* (*salh*) 'to skin, flay, throw off'.

How ever that may be, [¹SLQ] ¹*salaqa* 'to loosen the flesh from the bones; (hence also) to lacerate the skin (with a whip)' appears to have generated a number of new values. In these, several aspects inherent in, or accompanying, this type of action, such as 'scratching, scraping off, carving', 'making plain, bare, clean', 'hurting' and others, including the above-mentioned 'peeling, removing skin/husk', are foregrounded.

We have already mentioned [⁵SLQ] ⁵*salaqa* 'to hurt (with words), insult' and the possibility that this item is neither from Gz *tasālaqa* (as assumed by Margoliouth [1939]), nor (with metathesis) from NWSem *QLS (Zammit's and Leslau's suggestion), nor a dissimilating variant of †*salaqa* (with velarized š-), but simply the result of a semantic development from ¹*salaqa* 'to lacerate the skin (with a whip)' > 'to hurt' > 'to insult'. ClassAr lexicographers often make ⁵*salaqa* 'to hurt, insult' dependent on †[¹³SLQ] †⁷*salaqa* 'to pierce (with a spear)', but this may itself be specialized use of ¹*salaqa*, though perhaps under the influence of (or even by contamination with) †*salaqa* (š-!) 'to attack (a tribe); to smite s.o. (sun); to strike s.o. (bi-with a stick)'.

²⁸ One should perhaps add here items showing initial š- rather than s-, such as *šalaha* (*a, šalh*) 'to take off (*tīyābahū* one's clothes), undress; to shed the cloth (-h), renounce the ministry, apostatize (monk, priest)' (Wehr and Cowan 1976); †(pre-MSA, according to Hava [1899], also:) 'to change feathers (bird)'; †(LevAr) 'to throw off, reject s.th.', as well as †*šalaha* (*a, u, šalh*) 'to split s.th.' (Hava 1899). These may be Aramaisms, but if not, the regular reconstruction of the corresponding protSem roots should start with Š̄-, not S-, which would provide another good reason for complementing Ehret's √*SL with an alternative √*ŠL (see the preceding two footnotes).

[⁹SLQ] ²*salīqāt* ‘inborn disposition, instinct’ may at first sight seem to be completely unrelated to any of the other SLQ items.²⁹ Yet, taking into account morphology and the fact that ²*salīqāt* is a quasi-PP, formed on the *Fašl-at* pattern, it is not difficult to imagine that ‘instinct, inner nature, essence’ is properly *‘what remains, or becomes visible, after “skinning”, “peeling or scraping off” the outer layers of s.th.’, thus a semantic modification of an original [¹SLQ] ‘to loosen the flesh from the bones, scrape/peel off the skin/husk’ or from [²SLQ] ‘to remove (hair, etc.) with boiling water / through boiling in water’ (the semantic ‘bridge’ between [¹SLQ] and [³SLQ] ‘to boil, cook in boiling water’—see above).

In a similar vein, also the pl. n. †[¹⁴SLQ] †*salāʔiq* (from a less common sg. †³*salīqāt*) ‘marks made by the feet of men and by the hoofs of horses or the like on the road, or marks made by thongs upon the belly of a camel etc.’ and the corresponding vb. †⁸*salaqa* ‘to leave prints (on the soil, or road; said of human feet, or animals’ hoofs), leave marks upon the belly of a camel etc. (thongs, etc.)’, are with all likelihood developments from [¹SLQ]—a transfer of meaning from the human body on which flaying leaves its marks to the body of a camel, or a road, etc.³⁰ To the same complex of *‘scratching, scraping, etc.’ belong quite certainly also DatAr *salaq, u*, ‘to sow; cultivate, plough, till’, *sāliq* (pl. *sawāliq*) ‘furrow (where the seed of the food is already found)’, and *silqāt* ‘cultivation, tillage’ (Landberg 1942), as all these can easily be derived from the notion of *‘to make furrows in the soil, “scratch, lacerate” the ground’.

Perhaps also †[²⁴SLQ] †⁴*silqāt* ‘water-course, channel in which water flows, between two tracts of elevated, or elevated and rugged, ground’ and †[²⁵SLQ] †*salaq* ‘even, plain, smooth, even tract of good soil, depressed land, meadow’ are related to the above complex: †⁴*silqāt* ‘water-course, channel, etc.’ could well be, originally, a *‘furrow carved in the earth/soil (by the running water)’, and †*salaq* may be a *‘tract of land from which most vegetation on the surface has been “scraped off”, “lacerated” region’. However, both these etymologies cannot be taken for granted. For *silqāt*, one may also think of a relation with †[¹⁸SLQ] †¹²*salaqa* ‘to run’, †*saylaq* ‘quick, swift (she-camel)’ (see below), in which case the ‘water course, channel, etc.’ would be *‘the running one, the quick, swift one’.

²⁹ Is modHbr *salqāh* ‘natural (music)’ (Klein 1987) related, or even a cognate?

³⁰ Cf. the fact that one detailed explanation of the meaning of ¹*salaqa* connects it directly to ‘leaving traces’: ‘to peel off (flesh from the bone), remove its hair or fur (with hot water, leaving the traces thereof remaining [!])’—Lane (1872: IV, 1410). The old n. †*salq* ‘mark/scar (of a gall), sore, on the back of a camel, when it has healed, and the place thereof has become white; mark made by the [plaited thong called] *nisf* upon the side of the camel, or upon its belly, from which the fur becomes worn off’ (*ibid.*) matches very well here, too.

And †*salaq* 'even plain, low tract that produces herbage, meadow' (Lane 1872) is perhaps not from SLQ but a variant of, or contaminated by, (a more original?) †*salaq* (with initial š-) 'id.', itself of obscure etymology. For the latter, compare also †*salīq* 'even, smooth' and the n.f. (nominalized adj.?) †*ṣalīqat* (pl. *ṣalāʔiq*^u) 'thin bread; slice of roasted meat' (Hava 1899), both displaying a notion of plainness and evenness that is similar to that of †*salaq*~*ṣalaq*.

Another lexeme that should perhaps be connected to the complex of *'scraping, scratching, lacerating, etc.' is †[³⁰SLQ] †⁵*salīq* 'side of a road'. In the absence of reliable attestations for this item,³¹ any statement will, of course, remain highly speculative; but if we are allowed to speculate a little bit we may assume that, originally, with 'side of the road' may have been meant the *'bare slopes' or the *'furrows' along a road. In a similar vein, the DaʔAr item †[³⁴SLQ] *mislāq* 'ruins', listed by Landberg (1942), is perhaps actually simply *'barren land(scape), "lacerated" place'.

The quasi-PP *salīq(at)* which comes with a broad variety of meanings, some of which already discussed above,³² is registered in the dictionaries with yet another value that may equally well be related to *'scraping, scratching, lacerating (and, hence, leaving marks on s.th., or leaving it bare/barren)', namely †[²⁷SLQ] †²*salīq* 'what falls off from trees (leaves, etc.)'. It is not unlikely that this value developed from a basic *'what has been "scratched off" (from a tree, and left it bare, like lacerated skin)'. In contrast, *Tāǧ al-Ṣarūs* explains it as dependent not on [1SLQ] 'scraping, scratching, lacerating' but on [4SLQ] 'burning, scalding (said of excessive heat, or cold)'—which I think is equally convincing. – Perhaps also [³³SLQ] DaʔAr *salqat* 'natte de folioles de palmier' (Landberg 1942) belongs here (< *'palm leaves having fallen down and left the tree bare?'). – †[²⁹SLQ] †⁴*salīq* 'pot herbs' may be pertinent, too, unless it is akin to the loanword [7SLQ] ¹*silq*, EgAr *salq* 'variety of chard' (see above), or simply a quasi-PP meaning *'what is going to be cooked in hot water' (from ³*salaqa* 'to boil, cook in boiling water'). – The vb. II †[¹⁹SLQ] †*sallaqa* in the sense of 'to

³¹ It features in the ClassAr dictionaries I consulted, but a search in DHDA yielded no result. That means that a modern revision of the ClassAr lexicon either does not confirm the existence of the value at all, or only for the period covered by the project so far (up to the end of the 3rd century AH—as of May 2022).

³² See above [⁸SLQ] †¹*salīq* 'peeled barley and dish made from it', SyrAr ¹*salīqat* 'dish made of grain cooked with sugar, cinnamon and fennel'; [⁹SLQ] ²*salīqat* 'inborn disposition, instinct'; †[¹⁴SLQ] †*salāʔiq*^u (sg. †³*salīqat*) 'marks made by the feet\hoofs etc. on the road, marks made by thongs upon the belly of a camel etc.'; †[³⁰SLQ] †⁵*salīq* 'side of a road'.

collect herbs' is probably denominative, either from †^[27SLQ] †²*salīq* 'what falls off from trees (leaves, etc.)' or from †^[29SLQ] †⁴*salīq* 'pot herbs'.³³

Another word related to the idea of *'falling out/off and leaving "bare"' seems to be †^[26SLQ] †*sulāq* 'tumor/swelling/pustule on the edges of the eyelids or on the gum, causing eyelashes or teeth to fall out'.³⁴ Like in the preceding item, the focus here is less on 'scraping, scratching, peeling, etc.' but on the effect of such an activity, i.e., the bareness resulting from the act of *salq*.

Given the high degree of variation among the items expressing an essential 'bareness, barrenness, evenness, plainness'—a variation that needs time to evolve and thus points to a very old age of this basic notion—and given that the above-mentioned †^[25SLQ] †*salaq* 'even, plain, smooth, even tract of good soil, depressed land, meadow' is perhaps the only genuine Ar noun in the root that, apart from the vb. I, shows a basic structure, without morphematic additions,³⁵ one may even be tempted to posit *this* notion as the one that should be assigned etymological primacy within the complex of related items, including ¹*salaqa* 'to loosen the flesh from the bones, to skin, peel, lacerate, scratch, scrape off, etc.'. But such an assumption would, of course, have to compete with Ehret's (rather convincing) idea of deriving ¹*salaqa* via extension in **k* from an earlier bi-consonantal *SL 'to draw out or off', as well with the oscillation between *salaq* and *šalaq*.

³³ Orel and Stolbova (1994: #380) think they found 'cognates' of Ar *slq* 'to gather' in Eg *s:k* (*-l > -s) 'do.' and CCh *caḳal* (metathesis) 'to gather, collect'; therefore, they venture to posit a Sem **s^vl^vk* 'to gather' and even reconstruct an AfrAs vb. **calak* 'to gather'. Highly speculative—the basis for such a reconstruction is too weak.

³⁴ The most comprehensive description of this items is probably the one in BK (1860): '1 tumeur qui se forme sur les bords des paupières et fait tomber les cils [tumor that forms on the edges of the eyelids and causes the eyelashes to fall out; (Hava 1899:) lippitude of the eyelids]; 2 déchaussement des dents, maladie des gencives, qui fait que les dents n'étant plus retenues par les gencives tombent [loosening of teeth, gum disease, which causes teeth no longer held by the gums to fall out; (Wahrmund 1887:) Lösung des Zahnfleischs]; 3 tubercule à la racine de la langue [tubercle at the root of the tongue; (Lane 1872, Hava 1899:) pimples, pustules that come forth upon the root \ on the tip of the tongue]; 4 enflure [swelling; cf. also †*al-ʔasāliq* "what is next to the *lahawāt* (pl. used as sg., meaning the 'uvula') of the mouth, internally, or the upper parts of the interior of the mouth, those to which the tongue rises' (Lane 1872)].

³⁵ Other such words would only be ¹*silq* 'a variety of chard' and †²*silq* 'red garden-beet' ([⁷SLQ] and †^[21SLQ]), which, as we saw above, are very likely non-Ar borrowings; †²*silqat* 'female lizard; female locust when she has laid her eggs' †^[23SLQ], of obscure origin, but probably a borrowing, too; and †³*silq* 'wolf' †^[22SLQ] ...

2.4 Less prominent values of probably Semitic/Arabic origin

There remain a few items that seem to be of Semitic or at least genuine Arabic origin but can hardly be connected to the above main values (though perhaps to some other, non-SLQ roots).

†^{[17]SLQ} †¹¹*salaqa* 'to call out, cry out, shout vehemently (esp. after the death of a person or at a calamity); to slap and scratch one's face (mourning woman)'. ClassAr lexicographers often interpret the meaning 'to slap...' as secondary, dependent on 'to call out...'; yet it might be just the other way round, so that also the corresponding nouns, †¹*silqat* (pl. *sulqān*, *silqān*, *silq*) and *sāliqat* (pl. *sawāliq*¹¹) for 'weeping loudly (woman), slapping her face' would in the first place have denoted *(woman) *scratching* (her face)', given that mourning is accompanied, in many parts of the world, and so also in the Middle East and North Africa, by a ritualistic scratching of the face, typically performed by professional female mourners. There could thus be a connection of †^{[17]SLQ} 'to call out, cry' to †^{[1]SLQ} 'to lacerate (the skin, etc.)' and, more specifically, the derived †^{[14]SLQ} 'to make marks/leave prints on the road/soil/belly/body', DaṭAr 'furrow' etc. With the additional notion of 'long-tongued and vehemently clamorous, foul, evil, lewd', †¹*silqat* comes close also to †^{[5]SLQ} 'to hurt (with one's tongue), insult'. While the latter, too, may depend on †^{[1]SLQ} 'to lacerate (the skin, etc.)', it may also be influenced by †*šalaq* (pl. *ʔašlāq*) 'shriek of distress' (> denom. †*tašallaqa* 'to scream in child-birth') and †*šalaqa* (i, *šalq*) 'to call out, cry out, shout vehemently; to raise one's voice on the occasion of a calamity, and of a death' (Lane 1872).

†^{[20]SLQ} †²*tasallaqa* 'to be(come) restless, agitated, in a state of commotion, fret (from grief, anxiety, pain)' is perhaps due to confusion with †*tašallaqa* (with -š-) 'id.', unless the reverse is the case. The latter is probably denominative from †*šalaq* 'shriek of distress', mentioned in the preceding paragraph and without proper etymology either.

†^{[22]SLQ}: The terms †³*silq* (pl. *sulqān*, *silqān*) for 'wolf' and †³*silqat* for 'she-wolf' look as if they were very basic words. However, the common Sem term for 'wolf' is protSem **diʔb* (> Ar *diʔb*), so that †³*silq*, f. †³*silqat*, can be suspected to be figurative use of some other SLQ item, pointing to a characteristic feature of the animal. From among the value spectrum covered by √SLQ, two values could be promising candidates: a 'wolf' may either be *(the mangy one', from †^{[1]SLQ} 'to lacerate the skin' (see also †*salq* 'mark/scar, sore, on the back of a camel, when it has healed; mark left on the skin by a thong making the fur looking worn off', cf. †^{[14]SLQ}), or *(the howling one', akin to †^{[17]SLQ} 'to call out, cry out, shout vehemently'. The latter seems to be more likely, as ClassAr has the proverbial expression *ʔašlat¹¹ min silqat* 'more clamorous than a she-wolf' where

‘shouting, howling’ is regarded as a characteristic, ‘proverbial’ feature; moreover, some ClassAr lexicographers would regard *silqat* in the sense of ‘clamorous (woman), shouting vehemently, long-tongued, foul, evil, lewd’ as dependent on ‘she-wolf’ (Lane 1872: ‘she-wolf... hence [!], a woman...’).³⁶ – However, if none of these assumptions should be valid, a foreign origin of ^{†3}*silq* is not unlikely, given that there are no Sem cognates and no immediately evident relation to other SLQ values. If foreign and non-Sem, what could it be? The only option that comes to my mind would be Grk λύκος *lýkos* ‘wolf’. Like most of the other etymologies, this option, too, is unprovable; but if one does not exclude a metathesis **sḳl* > *slq* in the case of [7SLQ] EgAr *salq*, MSA ¹*silq* ‘(variety of) chard’, allegedly from Grk *sikelós* ‘Sicilian’ (see above), well, then one could also dare to suggest *Grk *lýkos* > Ar *silq*, with a metathesis **lks/lqs* > *slq*...

2.5 Of obscure etymology

†[15SLQ] ^{†9}*salaqa* ‘to oil, grease (a leathern water-skin, etc.), to smear (a camel all over with tar)’. Unless akin to, or dependent on, †[25SLQ] [†]*salaq* ‘even plain, smooth, even tract, of good soil’ (which does not seem very likely), the item could be a misreading for [†]*salafa* (*u, salaf*) ‘to grease (a skin)’. – Or should one consider Hbr ²*šālaq* ‘to make smooth, trim’ (Klein 1987) as a cognate? According to Klein, the item is of uncertain origin, perhaps a *šiphfel* formation from *ḥālaq* ‘to be smooth’.

†[16SLQ] ^{†10}*salaqa* ‘(*al-ḡuwāliq^a*) to insert one of the two loops of the sack called *ḡuwāliq* into the other’; ‘(*al-ḡūd fī l-ḡurwat*) to insert the stick into the loop [of the *ḡuwāliq*]’. Etymology obscure.

†[18SLQ] ^{†12}*salaqa* ‘to run’, [†]*saylaq* ‘quick, swift (she-camel)’. Barth (1902) had no doubt that the value had to be seen together with [6SLQ] *tasallaqa* ‘to climb’, interpreting *saylaq* as, properly, *‘the climbing one’ (‘stark laufende [eigentl. “steigende Kamelin”]’). But this is little convincing, although the *Fayṣal* pattern certainly expresses intensity.

†[28SLQ] ^{†3}*saliq* ‘honey which the bees build up along the length of their hive, or habitation’. Etymology obscure. – Any relation with †[14SLQ] ^{†8}*salaqa* ‘to leave prints (†*salāʔiq^u*, sg. ^{†3}*saliqat*) (on the soil/road; said of feet, hoofs, etc.), leave marks upon the belly of a camel etc. (thongs, etc.)’, DaʔAr *sāliq* ‘furrow (where the seed of the food is already found)’, *salaq* ‘to sow; cultivate, plough, till’?

³⁶ Unfortunately, Ullmann’s seminal study *Das Gespräch mit dem Wolf* has no data that would help bring light to the ^{†3}*silq* question.

3 Conclusion

As the above discussion hopefully was able to show, earlier etymological research provides many approaches, inspiring ideas and individual suggestions that can help a modern etymologist bring some light even into Arabic roots that show as broad and diverse a spectrum of semantic values as that assembled under the 'roof' of $\sqrt{\text{SLQ}}$. At the same time, it is evident that there are clear limits to what can be said with some plausibility, limits beyond which we enter the realm of unfounded and hardly tenable speculation.

An attempt to come with a short summary of our findings should perhaps start with the items that still are in use in MSA (according to Wehr and Cowan 1976). Already here, we meet a coexistence of oldest Semitic layers, several semantic developments from these (direct derivatives as well as figurative use), and borrowings, both inner-Semitic and others:

¹*salaqa* 'to lacerate the skin (with a whip)': According to Ehret (1989), the vb. with the primary value 'to loosen the flesh from the bones' is the result of an extension in $*-k$ from a 'pre-protSem' $*\sqrt{\text{SL}}/[\text{ŠL}]$ (Orel and Stolbova 1994: protSem $*\text{šul-}$ < AfrAs $*\text{sol}$) 'to draw out or off', preserved in Ar *salla* 'to draw out slowly' and with all likelihood related to items such as *salil* 'male foetus, embryo; descendant, scion, son', *sulālāt* 'progeny, offspring; family; race', as well as Ar *sala*ⁿ 'membrane enveloping the foetus' etc., reflecting protSem $*\text{ša}/\text{ily}(-\text{at})-$ / $*\text{sa}/\text{ily}(-\text{at})-$ 'afterbirth, fetal membrane, placenta' < $*(\text{s.th.})$ drawn out slowly', prob. from a more general $*(\text{to make})$ pass gently through a narrow opening' (Gabal 2012). The value 'to lacerate (the skin)' may have developed under the influence of another extension of protSem $*\sqrt{\text{SL}}/[\text{ŠL}]$, namely *salaḥa* 'to skin, flay' < protSem $*\text{ŠLḤ}$ 'skin, hide'.

Fig.: ⁵*salaqat* 'to hurt (*bi-lisānihi* with one's tongue)', *salāqat* 'vicious tongue, violent language' [interpreted by others as a borrowing, with metathesis, from NWSem $*\text{QLS}$ 'to deride, jeer at, shout at', by yet others as a variant, with fig. meaning, of ¹*salaqa* (š!) 'to attack (a tribe); to smite s.o. (sun); to strike']

Deriv.: ²*saliqat* 'inborn disposition, instinct': prob. a quasi-PP of ¹*salaqa* in the sense of 'to strip', thus orig. $*(\text{what remains after stripping off the outer layers, inner kernel, nucleus})$

²*salaqa* 'to remove with boiling water': seems to be the result of a merger of ¹*salaqa* 'to remove (the skin)' and ³*salaqa* 'to boil, cook in boiling water'

Deriv.: ¹*salīqat* ‘dish made of [peeled] grain cooked with sugar, cinnamon and fennel (SyrAr)’

³*salaqa* ‘to boil, cook in boiling water’: from protSem/CSem *šlk ‘to boil, cook; (?to roast)’

Deriv.: *maslūq* ‘cooked, boiled’, *maslūqat* ‘bouillon, broth’

Fig.: ⁴*salaqa* ‘to scald (plants; said of excessive heat)’

al-*sullāq* ‘Ascension of Christ’: from Aram *sūlqā* ‘id.’, *slaq* ‘to ascend’ (prot-Aram *šlk), accord. to Kogan (2015) perh. result of a splitting *š- > s-l, thus possibly related to Akk *šaḫu* ‘to grow high, rise, ascend’, Ar *šāqi* ‘high, inaccessible’, etc.

Deriv.: ¹*tasallaqa* ‘to ascend, mount, climb, scale (s.th.); to climb up (plant)’; *tasalluq* ‘climbing; ascent’; *mutasalliḳ* in *al-nabātāt al-mutasalliḳat* ‘climbing plants, creepers’.

EgAr *salq*, MSA ¹*silq* ‘a variety of chard’: perh. same as ^{†2}*silq* ‘red garden-beet’ (botanically, both are *beta vulgaris*); accord. to Fraenkel (1886), the latter is from Aram Syr *silqā* ‘id.’ (from Grk *sikelós* ‘Sicilian?’); but perh. also Pers *šalgam* ‘turnip, rape’ played a role.

salaqūn~*salāqūn* ‘red lead, minium’: prob. (via Tu?) from Pers *zargūn* ‘gold-coloured’; others: from Grk *syrikón*, thus *‘the Syrian (mineral), the (red) substance from Syria’

¹*salūqi*~*salaqi* ‘saluki, greyhound, hunting dog’: from a town named *Salūq*, ultimately prob. Grk Seleukia.

Among the lexemes that have become obsolete in MSA the most interesting, from an etymological perspective, is probably ^{†6}*salaqa* ‘to prostrate s.o. on the back of his neck, throw s.o. down; to push, repel’: this item may reflect an old Sem caus. in *š- from √LQY ‘to find’, preserved in the variant [†]*salqā*, which is perh. a back-formation based on *īstalqā* ‘to throw o.s. on the ground, lie down, prostrate’.

As for the remaining values, some are clearly borrowings, some perhaps phonetic variants of roots with initial š, and some of completely obscure origin; the majority, however, seems to consist of developments from ‘to loosen the flesh from the bones [Ehret] > to lacerate the skin’. In contrast, the item with the clearest etymology, ³*salaqa* ‘to boil, cook in boiling water’ (< Sem *šlk ‘id.’), seems to have remained rather unproductive: apart from *salīqat* ‘dish made from cooked grain’ (see above) it has, apparently, not generated many new meanings, perh. only ^{†4}*salīq* ‘pot herbs’, which perh. is from *‘what is (going to be) cooked in hot water’.

Unlike ³*salaqa* ‘to boil, cook’, ¹*salaqa* ‘to loosen the flesh from the bones; (hence also) to lacerate the skin (with a whip)’ (see above, MSA values) appears to have produced a variety of new values, all of which build on partial aspects of the basic notion:

- to scratch, carve, leave traces/prints, make furrows in the soil:

†*salāʔiq*^u (sg. †*salīqat̄*) 'foot/hoof prints; marks made by thongs upon the belly of a camel etc.', †*salaqa*⁸ 'to leave (foot/hoof) prints (on the soil, or road, etc.), leave marks upon the belly of a camel etc. (thongs, etc.)' DatAr *salaq* 'to sow; cultivate, plough, till', *sāliq* (pl. *sawāliq*) 'furrow (where the seed of the food is already found)', and *silāqat̄* 'cultivation, tillage' Perh. also †*silqat̄*⁴ 'water-course, channel in which water flows, between two tracts of elevated, or elevated and rugged, ground' (? *'furrow carved in the earth/soil by the running water'), and †*salīq*⁵ 'side of a road' (? *'furrows' along a road)

- to scratch one's face (mourner) > to cry, shout, howl:

†*salaqa*¹¹ 'to call out, cry out, shout vehemently (esp. after the death of a person or at a calamity); to slap and scratch one's face (mourning woman)'; hence †*silqat̄*¹ and *sāliqat̄* 'weeping loudly (woman), slapping her face' (cf., however, †*šalaq* (š-!) 'shriek of distress', †*šalaqa* 'to call out, cry out, shout vehemently; to raise one's voice on the occasion of a calamity, and of a death')

†*silq*³ 'wolf', †*silqat̄*³ 'she-wolf': (unless lw., ? < Grk *lýkos* 'wolf') perh. *'the howling one'

- to lay bare, bareness, barrenness; to make clean, smooth, even, plain:

†*salaq* 'even, plain, smooth, even tract of good soil, depressed land, meadow': < *'tract of land from which most vegetation on the surface has been "scraped off", "lacerated" region'? But perh. simply a var. of †*šalaq* (š-!) 'id.'

†*sāliq*² 'what falls off from trees (leaves, etc.)': perh. *'what has been "scratched off" (from a tree, and left it bare, like lacerated skin)'; (hence?, denom.) †*sallaqa* 'to collect herbs'; perh. also DatAr *salqat̄* 'natte de folioles de palmier': < *'palm leaves having fallen down and left the tree bare'?

†*sulāq* 'tumor/swelling/pustule on the edges of the eyelids or on the gum, causing eyelashes or teeth to fall out'

²*salīqat̄* 'inborn disposition, instinct': prob. *'what remains, or becomes visible, after "skinning", "peeling or scraping off" the outer layers of s.th.' DatAr *mislāq* 'ruins': perh. *'barren land(scape), "lacerated" place'

- to insult, hurt:

⁵*salaqa* 'to hurt (with words), insult': see above (MSA values)

†⁷*salaqa* ‘to pierce (with a spear)’: may be specialized use of ¹*salaqa*, though perhaps under the influence of (or even by contamination with) †*šalaqa* (š-!) ‘to attack (a tribe); to smite s.o. (sun); to strike s.o. (bi- with a stick)’.

Among the *borrowings* we find (in addition to *sullāq* ‘Ascension’, *salq* / ¹*silq* ‘variety of chard’, *salaqūn*~*salāqūn* ‘red lead, minium’, and ¹*salūqī*~*salaqī* ‘greyhound, hunting dog’, which are still in use in MSA):

†²*salūqī* ‘(a sort of) coat of mail’, †*salūqiyyatī* ‘sitting-place of the captain/pilot’: both prob. from city name *Salūq* < Grk Seleukia

†²*silqatī* ‘female lizard; female locust, when she has laid her eggs’: perh. related to (or from?) Eg *šrk.t* ‘goddess Serket (Selkis), scorpion’, based on Eg *šrk* ‘to relieve, admit breath to’.

(*kalām*) †*saliqī* ‘incorrectness in the use of language, solecism’ (counter-concept of *ʔifrāb*): from Grk *soloikismós* ‘id. (counter-concept of *hellēnismós*)’.

The result of *phonological confusion* with ṢLQ may be:

†²*tasallaqa* ‘to be(come) restless, agitated, in a state of commotion, fret’: perh. var. of †*tašallaqa* ‘id.’

†*salaq* ‘even, plain, smooth, even tract of good soil, depressed land, meadow’: see above, but perh. simply a var. of †*šalaq* ‘id.’

The values for which I was unable to find convincing hints in earlier research on which to build own suggestions are:

†⁹*salaqa* ‘to oil, grease (a leathern water-skin, etc.), smear (a camel all over with tar)’

†¹⁰*salaqa* ‘(*al-ḡuwāliq*^a) to insert one of the two loops of the sack called *ḡuwāliq* into the other’; ‘(*al-ṯūd fi l-ṯurwat*) to insert the stick into the loop [of the *ḡuwāliq*]’

†¹²*salaqa* ‘to run’, †*saylaq* ‘quick, swift (she-camel)’

†³*saliq* ‘honey which the bees build up along the length of their hive, or habitation’

Abbreviations

* reconstructed, hypothetical form/value

† obsolete, no longer in use in MSA (as in Wehr/Cowan)
 √ root
 ~ variant

#	item no. ...	Lev	Levantine
adj.	adjective	lw.	loanword
AfrAs	Afroasia n, ~tic	m	middle...
Akk	Akkadian	Mhr	Mehri
Amh	Amharic	mod	modern...
AngSax	Anglo-Saxon	MSA	Modern Standard Arabic
Ar	Arab, ~ic, ~ian	n	new...
Aram	Aramaic	n.	noun
BDB	Brown, Driver, and Briggs (2010)	N	north(ern)
Berb	Berber	NaIE	Natural Indo-European
Bibl	Biblical	Nostr	Nostratic
BK	Kazimirski (1860)	o	old...
C	Central	PA	active participle
Can	Canaanite	Pal	Palestinian
CDG	Leslau (2006)	Pers	Persian
Chad	Chadic	PP	passive participle
ClassAr	Classical Arabic	prot	proto...
Copt	Copt	R ₁ , R ₂ , ...	1st, 2nd radical (root consonant)
DatAr	Datīni Arabic	S	south(ern)
deriv.	derivative (use)	Sab	Sabaic
DHDA	<i>Muṣṣam ad-Dawḥa at-tārīḥi li-l-luḡa al-ṣarabīya / The Doha Historical Dictionary of Arabic</i>	SAR	South Arabian
E	east(ern)	SED	Militarev and Kogan (2000; 2005)
Eg	Egyptian	Sem	Semitic
Engl	English	Soq	Soqoṭri
f.	feminine	Syr	Syriac
fig.	figurative (use)	Te	Tigre
Fr	French	TLA	<i>Thesaurus Linguae Aegyptiae</i>
Ge	German	Tña	Tigrīña
Grk	Greek	Tu	Turkish
Gur	Gurage	Ug	Ugaritic
Gz	Gəʕəz	vb.	verb
H	High	vn.	verbal noun, <i>maṣdar</i>
Hbr	Hebrew	W	west(ern)
IndEur	Indo-European	Yem	Yemini(tic)
Jib	Jibbāli		
Jud	Jewish, Judeo-		
l	late...		
L	Low...		
Lat	Latin		

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