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The Extended List of Turkish Loanwords in English Language

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to examine the Turkish loanwords in English language whether they are common or archaic. Loanwords (can also be spelled loan words or loanwords) are words adobted by the speakers of one language from a different language. Borrowing is a consequence of cultural contact between two language communities. Loanwords can go in both directions between the two languages in contact, but often there is an asymmetry, that more words go from one side to the other. English language has gone through many periods in which large numbers of words from a particular language were borrowed. These periods coincide with times of major cultural contact between English speakers and those speaking other languages. The waves of borrowing during periods of especially strong cultural contacts are not sharply delimited, and can overlap. For example, the Norse influence on English began already in the 8th century and continued strongly well after the Norman Conquest. This study extendedly lists of Turkish loanwords which are used in English language.

Keywords: Loanwords, Turkish loanwords, borrowed words, Turkish borrowed words

-A-

Afshar

from Turkic Afshar, "a Turkic tribe living majorly in Kerman province of Iran". A Shiraz rug of coarse weave.

Aga or Agha

from Turkish ağa, a title of rank, especially in Turkey.

Aga Khan

from Turkic agha and khan, the divinely ordained head of the Ismaili branch of Shiism.

Agaluk

from Turkish Ağalık, a feudal unit of the Ottoman Empire

Airan

from Turkish ayran

Akbash

from Turkish akbaş, literally "a whitehead"

Akche

from Turkish akçe, also asper, an Ottoman monetary unit consisted of small silver coins.

Akhissar

from Turkish Akhisar, a city in Manisa Province, Turkey near İzmir. A kind of heavy modern carpet made at Akhisar, Turkey.

Altai

from Altay Mountains, range in Central Asia, which is from Turkic-Mongolian altan, meaning "golden". . An Asiatic breed of small shaggy sturdy horses. . An animal of the Altai breed.

Altilik

from Turkish altılık. A coin, originally of silver and equivalent to piasters, formerly used in Turkey

Araba

(from Arabic: عربة, araba or Turkish: araba) (also arba or aroba). A horse driven carriage or car.

Arnaut

from Turkish arnavut, "an Albanian". An inhabitant of Albania and neighboring mountainous regions, especially an Albanian serving in the Turkish army.

Aslan

from Turkish Aslan, "lion".

Astrakhan

from Astrakhan, Russia, which is from Tatar or Kazakh hadžitarkhan, or As-tarxan (tarkhan of As or Alans) Karakul of Russian origin or a cloth with a pile resembling karakul.

Atabeg

from Turkic atabeg, from ata, "a father" + beg "a prince".

Atabek

from Turkic, an alternative form of Atabeg.

Ataghan

from Turkish yatağan, an alternative form of Yataghan.

Ataman

from Russian, from South Turkic ataman, "leader of an armed band" : ata, "father" + -man, augmentative suffix.

Aul

from Russian, from Kazan Tatar & Kirghiz.

Ayran

see Airan

-B-

Bahadur

from Hindi bahādur "brave, brave person", from Persian, probably from Mongolian, cf. Classical Mongolian baγatur, which is from Turkic, perhaps originally a Turkic personal name.

Bairam

from Turkish bayram, literally "a festival"

Baklava

from Turkish baklava

Balaclava

from Balaklava, village in the Crimea, which is from Turkish balıklava. A hoodlike knitted cap covering the head, neck, and part of the shoulders and worn especially by soldiers and mountaineers.

Balalaika

from Russian balalaika, of Turkic origin.

Balkan

from Turkish balkan "a mountain chain", relating to the states of the Balkan Peninsula, or their peoples, languages, or cultures.

Bamia

from Turkish bamya.

Ban

from Romanian, from Serbo-Croatian ban, "lord", which is from Turkic bayan, "very rich person": bay, "rich" + -an, intensive suff.

Barbotte

from Canadian French barbotte, which is from Turkish barbut. A dice game

Barchan/Barkhan

from Russian, which is from Kirghiz barkhan. A moving sand dune shaped like a crescent and found in several very dry regions of the World.

Bashaw

from Turkish başa, a variant of pasha

Bashi-bazouk

from Turkish başıbozuk

Bashlyk

from Turkish başlık, "a hood", from baş, "a head"

Batman

from Turkish batman. Any of various old Persian or Turkish units of weight

Beetewk

from Russian bityug, bityuk, which is from Turkic bitük, akin to Chagatai bitü, Uzbek bitäü. A Russian breed of heavy draft horses.

Beg

from Turkic beg, an alternative form of bey

Beglerbeg

from Turkish beylerbeyi, a variant of beylerbey

Begum

from Urdu begam, which is from East Turkic begüm

Behcet

from the name of Turkish scientist Hulusi Behçet, a multisystem, chronic recurrent disease.

Bektashi

from Turkish bektaşi

Bergamot

from French bergamote, from Italian bergamotta, ultimately from Turkish bey armudu, literally, "the bey's pear"

Bey

from Turkish bey

Beylerbey

from Turkish beylerbeyi

Beylik

from Turkish beylik

Binbashi

from Turkish binbaşı, "chief of a thousand", bin "thousand" + bash "head". (Mil.) A major in the Turkish army.

Bogatyr

from Russian bogatyr "hero, athlete, warrior", from Old Russian bogatyri, of Turkic origin; akin to Turkish batur "brave"

Borek

from Turkish böreği, ultimately from root bur-, "twisted"

Borunduk

from Russian burunduk, which is from Mari uromdok or from Turkic burunduk. A Siberian ground squirrel.

Bosa or boza

from Turkish boza, a fermented drink

Bosh

from Turkish boş, which means "nonsense, empty" (Bosh on wiktionary)

Bostanji

from Turkish bostancı, literally "a gardener"

Bouzouki

from modern Greek mpouzoúki, which is from Turkish bozuk "broken, ruined, depraved" or büzük "constricted, puckered".

Boyar

from Russian boyarin, from Old Russian boljarin, from Turkic baylar, plural of bay, "rich"; akin to Turkish bay, "rich, gentleman".

Bridge game

the word came into English from the Russian word, biritch, which in turn originates from a Turkic word for "bugler" (in modern Turkish: borucu, borazancı) or might have come from a Turkish term bir, üç, or "one, three"

Bugger

from Middle English bougre, "heretic", from Old French boulgre, from Medieval Latin Bulgarus, from Greek Boulgaros, "Bulgarian", probably ultimately from Turkic bulghar, "of mixed origin, promiscuous" or "rebels", from bulgamaq, "to mix, stir, stir up".

Bulgar

from Bolgar, Bolghar, former kingdom on the Volga river around Kazan (see bugger). A Russia leather originally from Bolgar.

Bulgur

from Turkish bulgur, which means "pounded wheat"

Buran

from Russian buran, of Turkic origin, probably from Tatar buran

Burka

from Russian, probably from buryi "dark brown (of a horse)", probably of Turkic origin; akin to Turkish bur "red like a fox"; the Turkic word probably from Persian bor "reddish brown"; akin to Sanskrit babhru "reddish brown".

-C-

Cafeneh

from Turkish kahvane, kahvehane "a coffee shop, café", from kahve "coffee" + hane "house"

Caïque

from Turkish kayık

Caiquejee

alteration (influenced by caique) of earlier caikjee, from Turkish kayıkçı, "a boatman"

Calpack

from Turkish kalpak

Caracal

from Turkish karakulak, which means "black ear"

Caraco

from French, perhaps from Turkish kerrake "alpaca coat". A woman's short coat or jacket usually about waist length.

Caracul

from Uzbek karakul, an alteration of karakul

Caragana

from New Latin, of Turkic origin; akin to Kirghiz karaghan "Siberian pea tree".

Caramoussal

from Turkish karamürsel, karamusal, perhaps from kara "black" + mürsel "envoy, apostle"

Casaba

from a town called Kasaba (now Turgutlu) in Turkey

Cassock

from Middle French casaque "long coat", probably ultimately from Turkic quzzak "nomad, adventurer" (the source of Cossack), an allusion to their typical riding coat. Or perhaps from Arabic kazagand, from Persian kazhagand "padded coat".

Cham

from French, which is from Turkish khan, "lord, prince"

Chekmak

from Turkish, a Turkish fabric of silk and cotton, with gold thread interwoven.

Chelengk

from Ottoman Turkish çelenk, a bird's feather used as a sign of bravery

Chiaus

from Turkish çavuş.

Chibouk

from Turkish çubuk.

Choga

from Sindhi, of Turko-Mongol origin; akin to Turkish çuha "cloth". A long-sleeved long-skirted cloak for men worn mainly in India and Pakistan.

Chouse

perhaps from Turkish çavuş "a doorkeeper, messenger"

Coffee

from Ottoman Turkish kahve

Corsac

from Russian korsak, from Kirghiz karsak, "a small yellowish brown bushy-tailed fox"

Cosaque

from French, literally, "Cossack", from Russian Kazak & Ukrainian kozak, which is from Turkic Kazak. A cracker.

Cossack

from Turkic quzzaq which means "adventurer, guerilla, nomad" (Cossack on wiktionary)

-D-

Desemer

from German, from Low German, alteration of Middle Low German bisemer, besemer, of Baltic origin; akin to Lithuanian bezmnas, of Slavic origin; akin to Old Russian bezmenu "desemer, small weight", Polish bezmian, przezmian "balance without pans", perhaps of Turkic origin; akin to Turkish batman "small weight". An ancient balance.

Devshirmeh

from Turkish devşirme, which means "gathering"

Dey

from Turkish dayı, literally "a maternal uncle"

Dolma

from Turkish dolma, which means "filled" or "stuffed"

Dolman

ultimately from Turkish dolaman, a robe, from dolamak "to wind"

Dolmus, also Dolmush

from Turkish dolmus, a share taxi

Domra

from Kazakh dombra, a musical instrument

Doner kebab

(Canadian: donair) from Turkish döner kebap

Donmeh

from Turkish dönme, which literally means "a convert"

Donum

from Turkish dönüm, an alternative form of dunam

Doodle

from German dudeln "to play (the bagpipe)", from dudel "a bagpipe", from Czech or Polish dudy "a bagpipe", from Turkish düdük "a flute".

Dunam

from Turkish dönüm, from dönmek "go round"

-E-

Elchee or elchi

from Turkish elçi, which means "an ambassador".

Eleme figs

from Turkish eleme "selected, sifted". Smyrna figs of superior quality packed flat.

-G-

Galiongee

from Turkish kalyonçi, kalyoncu, "a Turkish sailor", from kalyon, Italian galeone + çi or cu, the Turkish suffix.

Ganch

modification of Turkish kancalamak "to put on a hook", from Turkish kanca "large hook", modification of Greek gampsos "curved" + Turkish suffix -lamak.

Giaour

from Turkish gâvur

Gilet

from French, from Spanish gileco, jaleco, chaleco, from Arabic jalikah, "a garment worn by slaves in Algeria", from Turkish yelek "waistcoat, vest"

-H-

Hadjuk

from Ottoman Turkish haydut, "bandit, soldier"

Harambaša

from Turkish haramibaşı, "bandit leader" (from harami, "bandit" + baş, "head")

Haremlik

from Turkish haremlik, from harem (from Arabic harim & Arabic haram) + the Turkish suffix -lik "a place"

Horde

from Turkic ordu or orda ("khan's residence") (Horde on wiktionary)

Hun

from Medieval Latin Hunni, apparently ultimately from Turkic Hun-yü, the name of a tribe.

-I-

Imam bayildi

from Turkish imambayıldı, "the imam fainted", an eggplant dish prepared with olive oil.

Imbat

from Turkish imbat, a cooling etesian wind in the Levant (as in Cyprus).

-J-

Janissary

from Turkish yeniçeri, which means "a new soldier" (janissary on wiktionary)

Jarlig

from Mongolian: зарлиг, zarlig via Russian iarlyk

Jelick

from Turkish yelek, the bodice or vest of a Turkish woman's dress.

Jettru

from Turkic, a union of seven Turkic peoples of Central Asia formed at the end of the th or beginning of the th century under one khan.

-K-

Kadiluk

from Ottoman Turkish kadı, "judge"

Kaftan

from Turkish kaftan (also in Persian)

Kaique

from Turkish kayık, an alternative form of caïque.

Kalderimi

from Ottoman Turkish kaldırım, "paved road"

Kalpak

from Turkish kalpak

Kangal

from Turkish kangal or sivas kangal köpeği

Karabagh

A type of rug, named after the Karabagh region in the Caucasus.

Karabash

from Turkish karabaş, literally "a blackhead"

Karadagh

from Azeri Karadagh, a mountain range in Azerbaijan province, northwestern Iran. a Persian rug having a bold design and rich coloring.

Karagane

from Russian karagan, which is from Turkic karagan. A species of gray fox found in Russia.

Karakul

from Uzbek karakul, literally a village in Uzbekistan

Karakurt

from Russian, of Turkic origin, karakurt, "a venomous spider".

Kasseri

from New Greek kaseri, from Turkish kaşer, kaşar

Kavass

from Turkish kavas

Kazak

from Kazak, a town in Azerbaijan, an Oriental rug in bold colors with geometric designs or stylized plant and animal forms.

Kefir

from Russian, probably ultimately from Old Turkic köpür, "milk, froth, foam", from köpürmäk, "to froth, foam".

Kelek

from Turkish kelek, a raft or float supported on inflated animal skins.

Kendyr

from Russian kendyr, from Turkish kendir. A strong bast fiber that resembles Indian hemp and is used in Asia as cordage and as a substitute for cotton and hemp.

Ketch

probably from Middle English cacchen "to capture", or perhaps from Turkish kayık "a boat, skiff".

Khagan

from Turkic kaghan, an alternative form of khan

Khan

from Turkic khan, akin to Turkish han (title meaning "ruler")

Khanum

from Turkic khanum, akin to Turkish hanım, "a female derivation of Khan"

Khatun

from Turkic khatūn, perhaps from Old Turkic or from Sogdian kwat'yn, "a queen"

Kibitka

from Russian, of Turkic origin; akin to Kazan Tatar kibit "booth, stall, tent", Uyghur käbit.

Kielbasa

from Polish kiełbasa, from East and West Slavic *kŭlbasa, from East Turkic kül bassï, "grilled cutlet", from Turkic kül bastï : kül, "coals, ashes" + bastï, "pressed (meat)" (from basmaq, to press)

Kilij

from Turkish kılıç, a Turkish saber with a crescent-shaped blade.

Kiosk

from Turkish köşk, an open summerhouse or pavilion

Kipchak

from Russian, which is from Chagatai. . One of the ancient Turkic peoples of the Golden Horde related to the Uyghurs and Kyrgyz. . The Turkic language of the Kipchaks.

Kis Kilim

from Turkish kızkilim, a kind of carpet.

Kizilbash

from Turkish kızılbaş, literally "a red head"

Knish

from Yiddish, from Ukrainian knysh, probably of Turkic origin.

Kok-saghyz

from Russian kok-sagyz, from Turkic kök-sagız, from kök "root" + sagız "rubber, gum"

Komitadji

from Turkish komitacı, a rebel, member of a secret revolutionary society.

Konak

from Turkish konak, a large house in Turkey.

Krym-saghyz

from Russian krym-sagyz, of Turkic origin, from Krym "Crimea", + sagız "rubber, gum".

Kulah

from Turkish Kula, a town in western Turkey. A Turkish rug that is often a prayer rug and that uses the Ghiordes knot.

Kulak

from Russian kulak "a fist", of Turkic origin; akin to Turkish kol "arm".

Kulan

from Kirghiz kulan, "the wild ass of the Kirghiz steppe".

Kumiss

from Turkic kumyz or kumis (kumiss on wiktionary)

Kurbash

from Turkish kırbaç

Kurgan

from Russian, of Turkic origin; akin to Turkish kurgan "fortress, castle"

Kurus

from Turkish kuruş, a Turkish piaster equal to / lira.

-L-

Lackey

from French laquais, from Spanish lacayo, ultimately from Turkish ulak, which means "runner" or "courier".

Ladik

from Turkish Ladik, a village in Turkey. A rug of fine texture woven in and near Ladik in central Anatolia.

Latten

from Middle English latoun, laton, from Middle French laton, leton, from Old Provençal, from Arabic latun, of Turkic origin; akin to Turkish altın "gold"

Lavash

from Armenian, which is originally taken from Turkish lavaş.

Lokshen

from Yiddish, plural of loksh "noodle", from Russian dial. loksha, of Turkic origin; akin to Uyghur & Kazan Tatar lakca "noodles", Chuvash läskä.

-M-

Mammoth

from Russian mamot, mamont, mamant, perhaps from a Yakut word derived from Yakut mamma "earth"; from the belief that the mammoths burrowed in the earth like moles.

Martagon

from Middle English, from Old French, from Old Spanish, from Ottoman Turkish martagan, "a kind of turban".

Merdiban

an accounting method used by the Ottoman Empire, Abbasid empire, and the Ilkhanate; from a word meaning "Ladder" or "Staircase".

-N-

Nagaika

from Russian, of Turkic origin; akin to Kirghiz nogai

-0-

Oda

from Turkish oda, literally "a room, chamber". A room in a harem.

Odalisque

from French, which is from Turkish odalık, from oda, "a room"

Oghuz or Ghuz

from Turkic oghuz. A descendant of certain early Turkic invaders of Persia.

Osmanli

from Turkish osmanlı, from Osman, founder of the Ottoman Empire + lı "of or pertaining to"

Ottoman

from French, adjective & noun, probably from Italian ottomano, from Turkish osmani, from Osman, Othman died , founder of the Ottoman Empire

-P-

Paklava

modification of Turkish baklava

Parandja

from Uzbek, a heavy black horsehair veil worn by women of Central Asia.

Pasha

from Turkish paşa, earlier basha, from bash "head, chief" which equates to "Sir"

Pashalic

from Turkish paşalık, "title or rank of pasha", from paşa: the jurisdiction of a pasha or the territory governed by him

Pastrami

from Yiddish pastrame, from Romanian pastrama, ultimately from Turkish pastırma

Petcheneg

from Russian pecheneg, which is from Turkic. Member of a Turkic people invading the South Russian, Danubian, and Moldavian steppes during the early Middle Ages.

Pilaf

from Turkish pilav, and ultimately from Sanskrit pulāka- (प्लाक), "lump of boiled rice"

Pirogi

from Yiddish, from Russian, plural of pirog (pie), perhaps borrowed from Kazan Tatar, (cf. Turk. börek)

Pul

from Persian pul, which is from Turkish pul. A unit of value of Afghanistan equal to / Afghani.

-Q-

Qajar or Kajar

from Persian Qajar, of Turkish origin. A people of northern Iran holding political supremacy through the dynasty ruling Persia from to .

Quiver

from Anglo-French quiveir, from Old French quivre, probably ultimately from the Hunnic language, kubur in Old Turkish

-R-

Rumelia

from Turkish Rumeli, "land of Romans"

-S-

Sabot

from Old French çabot, alteration of savate "old shoe", probably of Turkish or Arabic origin.

Saic

from French saïque, from Turkish shaika.

Saiga

from Russian saĭgá(k), from Turkic; cf. Chagatai sayğak

Saker

through Old French from Arabic saqr, probably from Turkic songur, which means "a falcon".

Samiel

from Turkish samyeli, sam, "poisonous" + yel, "wind".

Sanjak

from Turkish sancak, which means "a banner"

Sarma

from Turkish sarma, which means "wrapping"

Saxaul

from Russian saksaul, which is from Kazakh seksevil. A leafless xerophytic shrub or tree of the family Chenopodiaceae of Asia that has green or greenish branches and is used for stabilization of desert soils.

Selamlik

from Turkish Selamlık.

Seljuk

from Turkish Selçuk, "eponymous ancestor of the dynasties". Of or relating to any of several Turkic dynasties that ruled over a great part of western Asia in the th, th, and th centuries.

Seraskier

from Turkish serasker, from Persian ser "head, chief" + Arabic asker "an army".

Sevdalinka

originally Arabic sawda, via Turkish sevda, "black bile". Genre of Balkan folk-music

Sevruga

through Russian sevryuga ultimately from Tatar söirök.

Shabrack

from French schabraque, from German schabracke, from Hungarian csáprág, from Turkish çaprak

Shagreen

from Turkish sağrı, which means "the back of a horse"

Shaman

from Turkic word šamán.citation needed

Shashlik

from Russian шашлык, which is from Crimean Tatar şışlık, which means "shish kebab"

Shawarma

ultimately from Turkish çevirme, which literally means "turning"

Shish

from Turkish şiş, which literally means "a skewer"

Shish kebab

from Turkish şiş kebabı

Shor

from Russian, of Turko-Mongol origin; akin to Kalmyk & Mongolian sor "salt", Turkish sure "brackish soil". A salt lake in Turkestan, a salina.

Som

from Kirghiz, "crude iron casting, ruble"

-T-

Taiga

from Russian taiga, of Turkic origin; akin to Teleut taiga "rocky, mountainous terrain", Turkish dağ "mountain"; Mongolian origin is also possible.

Taramasalata

from modern Greek taramas "preserved roe", from Turkish tarama "preparation of soft roe or red caviar" + salata "salad".

Taranchi

from Chagatai Taranci, literally "a farmer".

Tarantass

from Russian tarantas, which is from Kazan Tatar tarintas.

Tarbagan

from Russian, which is from Teleut. A rodent

Tarbush

from Arabic tarbūsh, from Ottoman Turkish terposh, probably from Persian sarposh "headdress" (equivalent to sar "head" + pūsh "covering"), by association with Turkish ter "sweat". A tasseled cap of cloth or felt, usually red, that is worn by Muslim men either by itself or as the inner part of the turban.

Tarkhan

from Old Turkic tarkan, a privileged class.

Tarpan

from Russian, which is from Kirghiz or Kazakh tarpan.

Tartar

from Persian Tatar, of Turkic origin. A ferocious or violent person.

Tau-saghyz

from Russian tau-sagyz, from Turkic tau-sagız, from tau "mountain" + sagız "gum, rubber".

Tayla

from Turkish tavla, a version of the board game backgammon.

Tekke

from Turkish tekke, a dervish monastery.

Tenge

from Kazakh tenge "coin, ruble".

Tepe

from Turkish tepe, literally "a hill, summit". An artificial mound.

Terek

from Terek, river of southeast Russia, which is from Balkar Terk. A sandpiper of the Old World breeding in the far north of eastern Europe and Asia and migrating to southern Africa and Australia and frequenting rivers.

Theorbo

from Italian tiorba, which is from Turkish torba "a bag".

Toman

from Persian ت ومان, which is from Turkic tümen, "a unit of ten thousand".

Tovarich

from Russian tovarishch, from Old Russian tovarishch, sing. of tovarishchi, "business associates", which is from Old Turkic tavar ishchi, "businessman, merchant": tavar, "wealth, trade" + ishchi, "one who works" (from ish, "work, business").

Tughra

from Turkish tuğra, an elaborate monogram formed of the Sultan's name and titles.

Tungus

from Russian, from East Turkic tunguz, "wild pig, boar", from Old Turkic tonguz.

Turk

from Turkish türk, which has several meanings in English.

Turki

from Persian turki, from Turk, "Turk", from Turkish Türk.

Turquoise

from Middle English Turkeys, from Anglo-French turkeise, from feminine of turkeis Turkish, from Turc Turkish.

Tuzla

from Turkish tuzla, from the name of Lake Tuz in Turkey. A central Anatolian rug.

Tzatziki

from modern Greek tsatsiki, which is from Turkish cacık.

-U-

Ugrian

from Old Russian Ugre, which means "Hungarians", of Turkic origin.

Uhlan

from Turkish oğlan "a boy, servant".

Urdu

from Hindustani Urdu "camp", which is from Turkic ordu (source of horde).

Urman

from Russian, which is from Kazan Tatar urman, "a forest", synonymous with taiga; Turkish word orman.

Ushak

from Ushak, Turkish Uşak, manufacturing town of western Turkey. A heavy woolen oriental rug tied in Ghiordes knots and characterized by bright primary colors and an elaborate medallion pattern.

-Y-

Yardang

from Turkic yardang, ablative of yar "steep bank, precipice".

Yarmulka

of Turkic origin; akin to Turkish yağmurluk which means "rainwear".

Yashmak or yashmac

from Turkish yaşmak.

Yataghan

from Turkish yatağan.

Yogurt

from Turkish yoğurt. (yogurt on wiktionary)

Yurt

from Turkic yurt, which means "a dwelling place".

Yuruk

from Turkish yürük, "a nomad". . One of a nomadic shepherd people of the mountains of southeastern Anatolia. . A Turkish rug from the Konya and Karaman regions, southeastern Anatolia.

-Z-

Zill

from Turkish zil "bell, cymbals", of onomatopoeic origin.