United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

Working Paper No. 74

Seventeenth Session New York, 13-24 June 1994

Item 5
of the Provisional Agenda

REPORTS OF THE DIVISIONS

Geographical Place Names in the Sultanate of Oman

# 17TH SESSION OF THE UN GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHIC PLACE NAMES (UNGEGN) NEW YORK 13-24 JUNE 1994

## SULTANATE OF OMAN

# GEOGRAPHICAL PLACE NAMES IN THE SULTANATE OF OMAN

# **ABSTRACT**

This report updates the situation with regard to Geographical Place Names in the Sultanate of Oman, and gives an over view of the progress made, and the matters still outstanding at this time.

KBK\BD-151

### 1. INTRODUCTION

In our previous report of two years ago to the 6th UN Conference on the Standardisation of Geographical Names, we drew attention to the general situation pertaining in the Sultanate of Oman. Since than a number of tangibles have developed and I particularly like to draw attention to the following facts.

# 2. PLACE NAME COLLECTION

At the present time, geographic place names are still collected and verified on an "ad hoc" basis; according to the requirements of new mapping programmes.

However it is planned to direct new impetus, to a comprehensive programme to deal with this aspect on a Sultanate-wide basis in the very near future.

# DUAL TEXT REQUIREMENT

We see the need within the Sultanate to enhance the use of map products by the population at large. To this end all maps are being scripted in Arabic text. The national map series at 1:100,00 scale comprisinf of 138 separate titles in total, is currently under conversion to Arabic text. Under this programme 40 map sheets previously in English text only have been Arabised and thus a total of 69 map sheets, more than half of the series maps issued have a version with Arabic text. It is hoped to complete this programme over the next year and a half.

### 4. NATIONAL BODY FOR GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

In order to establish a satisfactory depiction o Sultanate particularly cartographically correctness of names, a controlling body, The Committee for the Control over Maps of Oman Before Publication (CCMOBP) established been to ensure that certain minimum standards are met prior to the publication of any product.

As an adjunct to this committee, a sub-committee, the Oman Permanent Technical Committee for Geographic Names established. (OPTCGN) has been with the purpose controlling the use and form of geographic place names, ensuring uniformity and historical continuity. It is hoped that one day, this committee will develop into a full national body responsible for Geographic Place Names; when we would be able to hand over responsibility to such a body; however that is some time into the future.

# 5. TRANSLATION OF TEXT

Within the Sultanate, there is often a disparity between the Arabic form of a geographic place name, and the English transliteration, basically because of the non centralisation for such an activity. There is a lot of room for improvement.

To expedite the map making process, we have in the National Survey Authority (NSA) standardised the transliteration process in the following manner, namely:-

- 5.1 Diacritical signs are not used.
- 5.2 Differentiation of sun and moon letter is followed.
- 5.3 The definite article in a three part name, is given in the lower case, e.g.

# Ghuwayfat al Habb

### 6. ACHIEVEMENTS

We have embarked on establishing a computer data base, to set down the origins and basis of use, of Geographic Place Names within the Sultanate. We anticipate that this information would require entry in up to 22 entry fields and would encompass between 4,000 and 8,000 place names. We anticipate this programme would be largely completed by the end of 1997. a specimen of the spread sheet is attached.

# 7. FUTURE UPGRADE OF INFORMATION

Our programme on Geographic Place Names including the computer data base takes due cognisance of the fact that in the future a more precise correlation between the Arabic and English texts may be achieved.

However at this time, our greatest priority is to produce new maps or digital map data, and the majority of our resources are directed towards that aim.

### 8. PUBLICATIONS

A number of publications and maps related to Geographical Place Names in the Sultanate have been published to date, and we would like to draw attention in particular to the following namely:-

- 8.1 Series K668 maps at 1:100,000 scale.77 map sheets in total.
- 8.2 Series K6611 maps at 1:100,000 scale.
  137 sheets in total.

Adopted as the basis of the new national series, and increased to 138 map titles.

- 8.3 Gazetteer of Oman.

  Published by the Defense Mapping Agency in March 1976 revised in January 1983: approximately 1510 settlement place names taken from Series K668 maps.
- 8.4 Gazetteer of Wilayats and Tribes.
  Published by the Ministry of the Interior. Publication entirely in Arabic text with over 1880 settlement places listed.
- 8.5 Gazetteer of Wilayats and Tribes.
  In English vernacular; not transliterated; internal
  Ministry of Defence Publication.

# Attachment:

Annex A: Spread Sheet of Computer Data Base Information.

### N.O.0

Files: MOD/NSA/1301/2/6/2

MOD/NSA/1301/20/9

MOD/NSA/1318/47/1

# SULTAVATE OF DIVAY GEOGRAPHIC PLACE NAME DATA BASE COMPILED BY THE NATIONAL SURVEY AUTHORITY

																														نغ	ماريز					c		
£ .	7		4	٤	3	ŧ	i i	3	Ł		Ė	٤	į	نغ	į	Ě	ì	<u>د</u>	المعطداد الطولفن	£	٤	£	3	ŧ	ŧ	Ę	Ja.	يغ	فنعند	جنوب النماريز	شدق قدماريز	ر الا	4	فديذة	ي تند	نو ضرون	ç	
Mary N Constitu	23 74-164	Al Umpad	Al 'Unmyded	A Umph	Al · Aumabi	Al 'Aquel	A) Autom	2 12	Al 'Aspir	24.74	Al Uqdah	M.Y.	Al Annells	A 'Aming	Al Umoyesh	4 .Ve	A Abder	2 2	Al Abadh	day.vs	A Changens	Appear to State	AI /AI AI	Appeter to English	A Na	Ajayaa'	š	Ale'ayer	Ad Dubayski	Sauth ad Daharig	North and Deshapely	Al Abyad	Abe Siles	Alpe Baquak	Abs on Halthoys (Abs as Nathers)	Abe Deres	Ì	
ĺ	Ē	į	\$	Š	Į.	Van g	√Bage	Se aga	ş	\$ 8	á	Į.	√3 tage	-	ş	ś	√e e e e	ş	į	Si aga	į	Se o	Š.	ş	Se Se	ý g	Ş	¥ See	Value of the last	Village	Ę	\Bage	ž.	Yalaga	Vange	ş	ĺ	
ĭ	5 28 U	2 2	2 34 43	24 918 7G	F 75 d	E 313 14	DM 74 213	DK 838 70	DE 919 70	8 2	CM 905 217	EF 254 851	900 PKC 7%	2 5	Du 03 38	# # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # #	0, 44 65	D 274 78	82 83 87	DN 688 918	2 9 1	DE 908 KD	DI 40 60	DI 40 60	DL 913 74	Me (50 M	E 528 23	20 ME 28	2 44 55	70 and 27	9 M 9	P	01 88 53	DH 402 SH -	42 mm 74	PK 248 MQ	-	
*	20 20 20	E 4 5	R 31.75	N N (5	3 K CS	8 9: S	2 3	2 2 2	=	¥ 2 4	80 0 8	80 11 SB	2 2	# # #	2 3 3	27 28 M	E 27 4	82 16 88	10 10 4	# A	K IZ PS	* 12 22	SE 12 PE	. 54 27 38	X 25	¥	A 8 A	15 14 30	* * *		24 X	. E CJ #	28.55	* X X 35	8 M 3	1 1		I
24 75 10	20 2	24 25 18	22 23 28	23.0	20 TH 18	23 27 28	23 4 1	23 15 25	23 4 8	23 23 88	23 A M	31 85 62 9	22 25 26	24 11 36	24 88 88	23 23 56	23 13 28	23 16 88	24 22 88	24.23.38	23 M E	23 18 10	24 M W	24 88 88	8 34 63 18 38 58	54 17 40 17 11 67	23 27 30	_	_	-	- 4	) <u>f</u>	2 1 2	24 53 18	4 D L2 0	24 77 28	24 26 36	
76 414	4 RC	84	Med A	2002	M Della	7 0 d 30	2000 AV	4 868	14 8 ESC	829-02 AN	10'00'0	36 e e e e	NF 800C	14 00 pt	76 #1A	14 6 63D	14 0 0X	4 640	75 0 A	NO 614	14 a-ax	N# 40-43#	NG 8-18	16 8 1 K	14 6 Gg*		300 At (	NE SPORT	23-00 M M 01 E2	14 40-01D3	17 8270 NE 8-0103		A 400%	NG 49-149	3000 04		Marie.	
11982	E 23	E& 17	1,392	2867	76611	11993	11953	14601	£	ŧ	Ē	16611	Ē	78611	£ 2	7611	rus 1	2617	76671	746717	7457	raen 1	REST1	E S	7 <b>6</b> 5.1	£	4431	¥	16931	¥	£	11321	443	KASTI	1982	11883	1000	
2	ž	Z	3	ā	نىرنى	ı	ı	Z	Z	ž	£	Z	Z	لطرن	2	2	ž	2	Z	ž	Z	ž	Z	3	ž	Z	ě	Z	ž	Z	ž	£	ě	ž	Z	Ē		
ž	ž	2	Z	ē	I	E	ě	E	ē	E	ĕ	Z	š	Į.	ē	Ē	Z	Ē	4	ě	ě	ī	Z	ě	š	ž	Ē	ě	ž	E	E	Ē	Ĕ	Ē	ĕ	E	£	
المهالك	لىولىر	المائد	العردان	٤	الولق	Ł	پرين پرين	الزق	Ł	Ł	لاست	E	, F	لغفرن	عيد ا	Ě	¥ ننر	J. Y	پر لنو. ا	£	لنه	£	£	Ë	لهو	لايوط	٤	لايريد	ş.	لدماريز	تعاريز	الأيهض	f	نود	لودنين	لو شورس	۴	
لايوط	الأموجة	لاسريد	لايومد	1 N N	عري	7 18 4	لايوش	ر بر بر	لايون	X 16 4.	لابوجة	الا بوط	(Keart)	فعفوات	لايومد	¥ يو جد	لا يو يڌ	ندمد	لايوجد	£	لنزية	لانوجة	لابرجد	لابوط	لإبرية	لأنورها		الا يواجد	Y S		* 2			X 25 G	A. 15 mg	لايوطا	\$ 10 mm	
ند. نع	لموابز	لمريث	لعويات	4	نوري	Ł	Yest	يري	£	Ŀ	Ė	Œ	K	لطفزات	ن	j)	ينفر	لاجال	الإفائش	444	منهه	F	£					*	4					į	3	خروس	ç	
3	370	140	140	240	3	Q.V.7	3	ş	3	957	Q.S.	QAT	Ę	941	947	3	OWT	3	3	947	044	947	947	OWT	34		3		<u>ح</u> ة	3	3			3	94		3	
À.		U	C. See	Al Umayo	[	A) Tapad	Albie	į	A.	منها لا	Ugdah	'Akur	denna	Al America	Al Umayint	Al Alegada	Al Aldadar	priery	MARKE	facility (		Table	PRESENT OF	A) Value	Alakie	Not Depoted	Σ	No Ospetad		Dahesie	2	A About	Ē	-	All Parket	Alber Change	I	Ī
TO TO	tes Dangelouse	New Companded	Nat Copicted	Van Depicted	e e	Name Department	Mad Degacteral	Ĭ	its (Impicate	personal and	Nat Daggiord	property and	Quality (v	Al Armed	Nad Depicted	And Despitated	Add Deprised	MAIN	des Despusad	el ellen	Nyi Dagigard	Not Companded	NgiDapicad	NutDepicted	<b>Capital</b>	NetDaymond	2	Ne Capided	Owner	National Control	P	ŧ	E C	A Day	Na Depoted	-tei Ongeiched	Pagi Deplaced Vana	
A. Umagana	خسستاله	Al Umqued	Nat Depicted	Al Comput	Ì	Al Yaguid	Net Capaded	Ĩ	Man Deproted	Not Department	C .	ŧ	and a	Aut Department	Has Depicted	Al Alagada	Al Aldedor	mero	Hasi Degationed	Not Depicted	Upmban	È	معنداند	A1 740000	Abres.	Tages	٤	}	2	South Ad Dabase	Page Ad Dates	Nu Doperad	Na Deputed	Ĭ	AL PARTY	Alas Danse	Ĭ	
E	P	Duvo	ž	DAMO	Dung	Owne	E	David	ž	3	David	David	Duag	ě	Z	David	P	Dung	Z	ž	Die	P	Die		P	10	P.	\$	E	£	2	E	E	Ę	E	9	2	
					-				_																													•
																										100			Ę	1004	§		1	1		1	1	
-	Н	-	-	-	-			-	-	-		-		-												5	7	4	5	ş	g		-	4	_	H	1	
		_	_	<b> </b>				-	_	_	<b> </b>		_		Ш	_	L	_		_		-				24754	_		ş	24.54	ZAS.					,		ľ