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Working Paper on Proposal of Abbreviations for Some Generic Terms

Submitted by Lebanon**

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WORKING PAPER ON
PROPOSAL OF ABBREVIATIONS FOR SOME GENERIC
TERMS

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There is a need to have common abbreviations for the Romanized generic terms used on maps for three main reasons:

1. To avoid confusion between false generic terms where the term is a part of the place name like (Jabal ‘Amil) and the real generic term (Jabal) that means mountain.
2. To minimize clutter on maps and make them more neat and legible.
3. To offer gazetteers the means for grouping and dissemination of data.

The following table shows the proposed Romanized abbreviations of the generic terms to be used on topographic maps in Lebanon.

GENERIC TERM		ABBREVIATIONS	DEFINITION
ROMANIZED	ARABIC		
‘Aqabah	عقبة	‘aqb	<i>Pass, saddle , slope, ridge</i>
‘Arīd	عريض	‘ard	<i>Slope, hill, spur, mountain , peak</i>
‘Āmūd	عامود	‘āmd	<i>monument</i>
‘Ayn	عين	‘ayn	<i>Spring , Well</i>

Aktāf	أكتاف	aktf	<i>Slope</i>
Āthār	آثار	āthr	<i>Ruins</i>
Bāb	باب	bāb	<i>Pass, defile, gorge</i>
Bahr	بحر	bahr	<i>Sea, bay</i>
Bi'r	بئر	bi'r	<i>Well, cistern, spring</i>
Birkah	بركة	brkh	<i>Pond, pool , intermittent lake</i>
Buḥayrah	بحيرة	bḥrh	<i>Reservoir</i>
Burj	برج	brj	<i>Tower</i>
Darb	درب	drb	<i>Road , Trail</i>
Dahr	ضهر	dhr	<i>Mountain, hill, upland ,cliff</i>
Dayr	دير	dyr	<i>Monastery, convent, church</i>
Duhūr	ضهور	dḥūr	<i>Mountain, cliff, peaks</i>
Ghābah	غابة	ghbh	<i>Forest</i>
Hursh	حرش	hrsh	<i>Forest, woods, scrubland</i>
Hajar	حجر	hjr	<i>rock</i>
Harf	حرف	hrf	<i>Mountain ,hill,peak</i>
Jabal	جبل	jbl	<i>Mountain ,hills, peak</i>
Jibāl	جبال	jbāl	<i>Mountains</i>
Jisr	جسر	jsr	<i>Bridge</i>
Jūn	جون	jūn	<i>Bay</i>
Jūrah	جورة	jrḥ	<i>Depression, sinkhole, gap</i>
Juwar	جور	jwr	<i>Depression , headwater basin</i>

Juzur	جزر	jzr	<i>Islands</i>
Jall	جَلّ	jall	<i>Terrace, slope, cliffs</i>
Jāmi‘	جامع	jm‘	<i>Mosque</i>
Jazīrah	جزيرة	jzrh	<i>Island</i>
Jubb	جَبّ	jbb	<i>Depression</i>
Junaynah	جنيته	jnnh	<i>Gardens</i>
Jurd	جرد	jrd	<i>Mountain, hill, plateau</i>
Kahf	كهف	khf	<i>Cave</i>
Katif	كتف	ktf	<i>Spur, ridge, slope, mountain peak</i>
Khallah	خلة	khlh	<i>Wadi , valley</i>
Khalwat	خلوات	khlwt	<i>Druze lodge</i>
Kanīsat	كنيسة	knst	<i>Church, chapel</i>
Khalīj	خليج	khlj	<i>Bay</i>
Kharāb	خراب	khrb	<i>Ruin</i>
Kū‘	كوخ	kū‘	<i>Road bend</i>
Khandaq	خندق	khndq	<i>Ditch, irrigation canal</i>
Kurūm	كروم	krm	<i>Vineyards</i>
Lizāq	لِزاق	lzq	<i>Terrace side</i>
Maghā’r	مغائر	mgħ’r	<i>Cave(s)</i>
Ma‘had	معهد	m‘hd	<i>College, school</i>
Makhfar	مخفر	mkhfr	<i>Police post</i>
Mal‘ab	ملعب	ml‘b	<i>Stadium</i>
Marāḥ	مراح	mrh	<i>Sheepfold</i>

Markaz	مركز	mrkz	<i>Police post</i>
Masahh	مصحّ	Ms h	<i>Sanatorium</i>
Mathanah	مطحنة	Mthnh	<i>Mills</i>
Mazār	مزار	mzr	<i>Shrine, tomb</i>
Mu‘askar	معسكر	m‘skr	<i>Military camp</i>
Mukhayyam	مخيّم	mkhym	<i>Refugee camp</i>
Mafrāq	مفرق	mfrq	<i>Road junction</i>
Maghārah	مغاره	mghrh	<i>Cave</i>
Maḥattah	محطة	mḥth	<i>Railroad Station</i>
Mahbasah	محبسة	mbsh	<i>Hermitage</i>
Maqbarah	مقبرة	mqbrt	<i>Cemetery</i>
Matār	مطار	mtr	<i>Airfield</i>
Mazra‘ah	مزرعة	mzr‘h	<i>Farm</i>
Mīnā’	ميناء	mn’	<i>Cove, bay</i>
Muhāfadḥah	محافظة	mhf dh	<i>First order administrative division</i>
Nab‘	نبع	nb‘	<i>Spring</i>
Nahr	نهر	nhr	<i>Stream, canalized stream</i>
Qabr	قبر	qbr	<i>Tomb, Shrine</i>
Qadā’	قضاء	qd’	<i>Second order administrative division</i>
Qal‘ah	قلعة	ql‘h	<i>Castle</i>
Qasr	قصر	qsr	<i>Fort, palace</i>
Qimmah	قمة	qmh	<i>Hill</i>

Qurnah	قرنة	qrnh	<i>Peak, mountain, hill</i>
Ra 's	رأس	r 's	<i>Cape, headland</i>
Sāḥah	ساحة	shh	<i>City Square</i>
Sadd	سدّ	sdd	<i>Dam</i>
Sāḥāt	ساحات	sḥt	<i>City square</i>
Sahl	سهل	shl	<i>Plain, valley</i>
Sāqiyah	ساقية	sqyh	<i>Stream, irrigation canal</i>
Shīr	شير	shr	<i>Rock fall, cliff</i>
Shiyār	شيار	shyr	<i>Cliff</i>
Sh'ab	شعاب	sh'ab	<i>Wadi</i>
Sijn	سجن	sjn	<i>Prison</i>
Shuwār	شوار	shwr	<i>Ridge, slope</i>
Sūq	سوق	sūq	<i>Market place</i>
Tall	تلّ	tll	<i>Hill</i>
Tallah	تلة	tllh	<i>Hills</i>
Tawāḥīn	طواحين	Twhn	<i>Mills</i>
Tāḥūn	طاحون	Tḥn	<i>Mills</i>
Tarīq	طريق	trq	<i>Road, trail</i>
'uyūn	عيون	'uyn	<i>Spring(s)</i>
Wādī	وادي	wād	<i>Valley</i>