

13 May 2002
English
Arabic/English only

**Eighth United Nations Conference on the
Standardization of Geographical Names**
Berlin, 27 August-5 September 2002
Item 4 of the provisional agenda*
**Reports by Governments on the situation in their countries
and on the progress made in the standardization of
geographical names since the Seventh Conference**

**National report of Qatar on the standardization of
geographical names**

Submitted by Qatar**

* E/CONF.94/1.

** Prepared by Yousuf E. Ebrahim, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture.



The State of Qatar participated for the first time in the 6th United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Place Names held in New York in 1992. Guided by the resolutions of that Conference, the State of Qatar undertook a comprehensive project to collect, standardize and document the geographical place names in the country.

A committee of experts on language and folklore had been established to review, correct and authenticate the names, and a field team of professional surveyors had been formed to collect the field data.

The project was executed in two phases, and the following steps were taken:

1. The country was divided into four major sections, and certain natives to the area were designated by the committee as guides to the place names.
2. Early morning the field team will go out with the designated guide to the places he is familiar with, and the team will record all the information on that place given by the guide in writing and sound and video recording as well as the coordinates using a GPS device.
3. When one section of the country is covered, the data collected would be submitted to the Committee who in turn would hold meetings with the head of municipality of that area and with the natives to verify the names and document the exact spelling and pronunciation of the names.
4. The field team then moves to the next section, and the same steps above were repeated.

That was the first stage of the project, in which, a total of about 3,500 names were collected and this is not a small number if we know that Qatar is only 11,437 sq kms in area. And the second stage involved the following:

1. The data collected were compiled into computer databases using the Microsoft Office applications.
2. The names were categorized according to the nature of the geographic feature (hill, well, oasis, village ... etc.).
3. Standardizing the local spelling of the names, as there is some alphabet letters spelled differently among some people of the country.
4. Romanization of the Geographic Names based on the Beirut System with some variations.
5. Toponomic maps were produced with new named on the GIS system.
6. A CD-ROM multimedia disc was produced for public use.
7. The national gazetteer was prepared as in the attached sample.

To obtain more information on above, please visit the following sites:

1. <http://www.gisqatar.org.qa/>
2. <http://www.gisqatar.org.qa/>

أسماء المواقع الجغرافية في قطر

GEOGRAPHIC PLACE NAMES OF QATAR

NAME	TYPE	ALTITUDE	LONGITUDE	EASTING	NORTHING	الصفحة	الإسم
Aba Arhas	Oasis	25 51 34.4	51 13 54.2	201509	456145	روضة	أبا ارحاس
Aba Askhal	Oasis	25 45 28.7	51 07 17.0	190441	444895	حري	أبا اسخال
Aba Al Broj	Oasis	25 15 00.7	51 07 41.7	191092	388642	روضة	أبا البرج
Aba Al Baer	Coastal Area	25 26 04.8	51 31 23.0	230821	409110	منطقة ساحلية	أبا البعر
Aba Al Tamnim	Oasis	25 15 43.8	51 06 21.9	188860	389970	روضة	أبا التميم
Aba Al Tamnim Al Gherbi	Oasis	25 12 55.8	51 03 04.9	183341	384806	حري	أبا التميم الغربي
Aba Al Tharaim	Oasis	25 14 40.4	50 58 05.3	174960	388037	حري	أبا التميم
Aba Al Jithiyath	Oasis	25 47 56.7	51 01 13.3	180312	449460	حري	أبا الجيثيات
Aba Al Jithiyath	Oasis	25 04 21.9	51 14 42.1	202861	368982	روضة	أبا الجيثيات
Aba Al Jeh	High Ground	24 54 18.5	50 58 33.1	175671	360436	حرم	أبا الجح
Aba Al Jahazil Al Saqneer	Oasis	25 26 37.1	51 14 08.7	201920	410069	حري	أبا الجحزال الصقر
Aba Al Jahazil Al Gharbi	Oasis	25 40 49.6	51 08 52.9	193109	436304	حري	أبا الجحزال الغربي
Aba Al Jahazil Al Qaay'a	Oasis	25 41 50.0	51 11 02.6	196727	438161	حري	أبا الجحزال القاعية
Aba Al Jahazil Al Kabeer	Oasis	25 26 58.9	51 14 37.8	202732	410740	حري	أبا الجحزال الكبير
Aba Al Jahazil Jari Khalifa	Oasis	25 49 19.1	51 05 44.6	187873	451987	حريان	أبا الجحزال جري خليفة
Aba Al Jahazil Rawdat Al Habara	Oasis	25 46 13.4	51 11 06.9	196848	446267	حري	أبا الجحزال روضة الحبارة