

Abstract – AFRAR

Project of a toponymic dictionary of Libya

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Toponymic science, a branch of linguistics, is slowly starting to attract the attention of researchers and, at the same time, to strengthen its own scientific status and research methodology. In Italy, however, the field of toponymic studies regarding Arabic-speaking countries has been almost completely neglected by scholars. For this reason our work aims at compiling a toponymic dictionary of Libya, a country which has already been studied by Carlo Alfonso Nallino in 1915 and which is, in our opinion, particularly important for us, due to the shifting relationships with our country and to last century's well known events.

The project, articulated in three years, will start with the collection of all the available scientific works and of maps in Arabic and other languages. Atoui [1996] provides us with one of the few studies concerning a North African country (Algeria), while Ababneh [2009] contains a methodologically very interesting analysis of place-names in the Irbid Governorate of Jordan. Great attention will also be paid to methodological issues. The working plan will continue with a long stay in the field, in order to check all previously gathered data and to elaborate a grid of research that may also include micro-toponymy (*Flurnamen*). In the third year, finally, we will compile our toponymic dictionary, with the above-mentioned micro-toponymic research and an essay of historical and linguistic interpretation.

References

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