

INDEX OF NAMES

There are a number of both practical and academic problems associated with proper names found in the cycles. In the case of foreign names the audiences were obviously prepared to accept exoticism as a hallmark of authenticity. Not infrequently European or Persian elements or compounds can be traced in these and a history of their corruption, based on manuscript evidence, might help to throw light on the development of their cycles. No attempts are made here to emend what can be thought of as mistakes. A further difficulty can be found in names that are common throughout the Middle East, but whose pronunciation or spelling is frequently distorted in accordance with colloquial usage or by European custom. In the case of personal names, with few exceptions transliterations have been used; this is generally done in the case of invented or unfamiliar place names, while others, such as Cairo and Baghdad, are normally left in their European spelling. To ease the problem of unfamiliarity it has not been thought necessary to give the full form of all names that are prefixed in the originals by the definite article, while in the English versions, as an aid to discrimination, different components of the names of characters have been used.

In the headings of the Index of Names, A, added after the name of the work, refers to the epitomes given in Volume Two, while B refers to names only found in the versions given in Volume Three. In all cases it is section numbers that are given.

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