

**THE PUS'HTO MANUAL:
COMPRISING A CONCISE
GRAMMAR; EXERCISES AND
DIALOGUES; FAMILIAR PHRASES,
PROVERBS, AND VOCABULARY**

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The Pus'hto Manual: Comprising a Concise Grammar; Exercises and Dialogues; Familiar Phrases, Proverbs, and Vocabulary by H. G. Raverty

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THE PUSHTO MANUAL.

COMPRISING

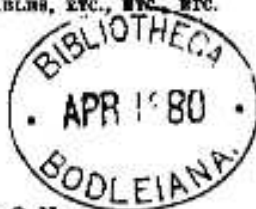
A CONCISE GRAMMAR; EXERCISES AND
DIALOGUES; FAMILIAR PHRASES, PROVERBS, AND
VOCABULARY.

BY

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TRANSLATION), ASOOP'S FABLES, ETC., ETC. ETC.



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PREFACE.

WE have now probably emerged for good from the Peshāwar side of the Khaibar, and its "Pukštū," and left "Pasto" and "Pakhhto" in the rear for ever, and entered the parts closely bordering the old seats of the Puštānah. The Puštō therein spoken, as far west as the boundary of the province of Hirāt extends in that direction, is very different from the "frontier dialects" contaminated with Peshāwari provincialisms and Panjābī.

This little book has been prepared at the express desire of the enterprising publishers, to meet the present demand for manuals of the vernaculars of India. My desire has been to make it useful, in the hope that it will meet the wishes of those who desire speedily to gain some acquaintance with the important language of Afghānistān.

I would impress the necessity of acquiring the correct pronunciation of each letter from a true Afghān's lips.

H. G. R.

January 1st, 1880.

PUSHTO MANUAL.

PART I.

GRAMMAR.

THE Pushto language is written in the Naskh character of the Arabic, to some of which letters diacritical marks are added to express other sounds peculiar to Pushto.

The following is the alphabet, and an indication of the sounds of the letters:—

Shape.	Name.	Trans- literation.	Description.
ا	alif	a, ā, i, u,	As in English.
ب	bey	b	do.
پ	pey	p	do.
ت	tey	t	do.
ټ	tey	t	By reverting the point of the tongue to the palate. Like Sanskrit ॢ
س	sey	s	As <i>th</i> in <i>thing</i> , or lisped <i>s</i> .
ټس	tzey.	ts or tz	As <i>ts</i> or <i>tz</i> .
ج	jim.	j	As <i>j</i> in <i>judge</i> .
چ	chey	ch	As in <i>church</i> .

Shape.	Nama.	Trans- literation.	Description.
ح	hey	h	Strongly aspirated, as in double <i>h</i> .
خ	khey	kh	Guttural, as <i>ch</i> in Scotch <i>loch</i> .
د	dāl	d	As in <i>dear</i> .
ډ	ḍāl	ḍ	Harsh, as double <i>d</i> , or Sanskrit दृ
ز	zāl	z	As in <i>zeal</i> .
ر	rey	r	As in <i>run</i> .
ړ	rey	ṛ	As broad Northumbrian <i>r</i> .
ړ	zey	z	As in English.
ځ	ḍzey	ḍs or ḍz	As <i>ds</i> or <i>dz</i> would be in English.
ژ	jzey	jz	As <i>s</i> in <i>pleasure</i> , or soft French <i>j</i> .
ږ	jzey	jž	By reverting the point of the tongue on the palate. It is a slight degree harsher than the Persian <i>ž</i> .
س	sin	s	As in <i>sense</i> .
ش	shīn	sh	As in <i>shell</i> .
ښ	shēy or k'hīn	sh (W.) or k'h (E)	Peculiar to Pushto. Pronounced by bringing the tip of the tongue to the roof of the mouth. The Eastern Afghāns pronounce it k'h; the Westerns give it the softer sound of sh.
ص	ṣwād	ṣ	As <i>ss</i> in <i>dissolve</i> .
ض	ẓwād	ẓ	As in English.
ط	toey	t	English <i>t</i> , with slight aspiration.
ظ	zoey	z	do. <i>z</i> do.
ع	'ain	'a, 'i 'u,	Guttural, changing with the vowel point.
غ	ghain	gh	Guttural.

Shape.	Name.	Trans- literation.	Description.
ف	fey	f	As in English.
ق	ḳāf	ḳ	Guttural.
ك	kāf	k	As in <i>king</i> .
غ	gāf	g	As in <i>give</i> .
ل	lām	l	As English <i>l</i> .
م	mīm	m	do.
ن	nūn	n	do.
ر	rūn	rū	Pronounced rūn, a combination of the sounds of ر and ن Peculiar to Pushto and Sindhi.
و	wāo	w, ū, o, ow.	According to the vowel points.
ه	hey	h	Slightly aspirated.
ي	yey	y, e, i, ai, ae, a'i, or ey	According to the vowel points.
ء	hamzah	—	As another form of <i>alif</i> .

There are ten Arabic letters which never occur in pure Afghān words, to wit ف, ع, ط, ض, ص, ذ, ح, ص, ق, and ق, therefore the language really contains but thirty letters, including the eight peculiar to itself, namely, ش (ts), ذ (dz), ه, and ن or ن.

The Eastern Afghāns, or Lar Pushtānah, often change the خ occurring in Persian words, used in Pushto, into ه which they pronounce k'hin, and they also use the letter د for د*.

* A Ghalzī Mullā, writing on the jargon spoken by the tribes about Peshāwar, gives the following specimen of a pure Afghān sentence after it has undergone the Peshāwarī transmutation. It is: "Plār mī khūjz wuh :

In the same manner the Western Afghāns, or Bar Pushtānah, invariably give **پ** the softer sound of *shay*, and use **پ** in the place of **ک**. The Ghazīs and some other tribes substitute **ج** for **خ**; and there are a few other minor local peculiarities of pronunciation which appear difficult at first, but a little practice makes these familiar to the speaker.

THE VOWELS.

There are three short vowels in Pushto: *a*, as in *America*; *i* as in *pin*; and *u* as in *put*. When followed by the letters 'alif,' 'yey,' and 'wāo' respectively, they become long, viz., 'ā' as in *far*, 'ī' as in *police*, and 'ū' as in *rule*. When *a* short is followed by the letters 'yey' or 'wāo,' a diphthong is produced, making 'ay' or 'ai,' as in *aiste*, and 'au,' like 'ou' in *sound*. A peculiar sound, shorter than short *a*, is in this book represented by *æ* diphthong.

It must be borne in mind that *all* letters must be sounded in Pushto; thus *khwāri*, 'humility;' *khwāshay*, 'a wife's mother.' Words of this formation drop the sound of *w* in Persian; but this is not the case in Pushto.

THE PARTS OF SPEECH.

THE ARTICLE.

The Pushto language contains no article. The article is supposed to be inherent in the noun, or is expressed by

sajz maṣ shah," "My father was ill: this year he died." This in the "Pasto," "Pukshto," or "Pakhhto" that we hear about would be "Plār mī khūg wuh: sag maṣ shah." As Persian words are commonly used in the language, the translation is really, "My father was a *hog*: the *dog* died!"