

Geographic Names Standardization Policy for Saudi Arabia

United States Board on Geographic Names – Foreign Names Committee



June 2014

1. Introduction

This geographic names standardization policy has been prepared as an aid to those geographic names experts who are the working staff for the United States Board on Geographic Names (BGN) in the standardization of the geographic names of Saudi Arabia for United States Government use. The BGN and its staff work to effect consistent treatment of geographic name spellings in U.S. Government databases, publications, maps, and charts. The country policies are intended to satisfy, in part, the statutory requirements levied upon the BGN in Public Law USC 80-242 to develop principles, policies and procedures for geographic names standardization, and to promulgate decisions with respect to the principles of geographic nomenclature and orthography.

2. Languages and Language Policy

a. Demographics

Saudi Arabia's population numbers 27.3 million, with 5.5 million being foreign nationals.¹ The ethnic composition of Saudi nationals is approximately 90% Arab and 10% Afro-Asian. Foreign nationals are mostly from South Asia and insular Southeast Asia. However, there are also large populations from Egypt, Jordan, Sudan, Syria, Turkey, and Yemen.

b. Languages

Arabic is the official language of Saudi Arabia. Although multiple regional dialects are spoken in the country, Modern Standard Arabic (arb) is the dialect used in formal communication. Vernacular dialects include Hejazi Arabic (acw) (6 million), Najdi Arabic (ars) (8 million), Egyptian Arabic (arz) (300,000), and Gulf Arabic (afb) (200,000). Arabic belongs to the Semitic sub-group of the Afro-Asiatic language family. Non-Arabic languages spoken in the country include Filipino (fil) (700,000), Rohingya (rhg) (400,000), and Urdu (urd) (380,000) among others.

c. Geographic Names Standardization

Saudi Arabia does not have an official geographic names authority. The *de facto* authority is the Saudi Geological Survey. Saudi Arabia participates in the Arabic Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN).

3. Toponymic Policies

a. Script and Orthography

Toponyms are written in the script and orthography of Modern Standard Arabic.

¹ CIA World Factbook: Saudi Arabia. 2014.

b. Romanization

Arabic geographic names are to be romanized using the BGN/PCGN Romanization System for Arabic (see Appendix A).

Source materials containing romanized names may be consulted for short vowel romanization.

c. Generics

A generic is a term that describes the feature associated with a place name. Examples include words such as 'river,' 'hill,' and 'lake.' A generic term associated with a specific is considered a true generic unless map symbology indicates otherwise. Generics are not recorded separately for populated places.

For a glossary of Arabic generic terms, see Appendix B.

d. Hyphenation and Capitalization

Hyphenation is rare in Saudi geographic names. If a hyphen does occur, it is included in the approved romanized form of the name.

Romanized geographic names are written in upper- and lower-case letters, following the standards detailed in the BGN/PCGN Romanization System for Arabic (see Appendix A).

e. Short Forms

Short forms of geographic names are collected for the country name and administrative divisions, whether in Roman script or Arabic script.

f. Numbers

Numerals are collected in their expanded forms. However, unexpanded forms may be collected in variants, whether in Arabic script (e.g., ١, ٢, ٣, etc.) or in Roman script (e.g., 1, 2, 3, etc.).

h. Abbreviations

Abbreviations are not generally found in the geographic names of Saudi Arabia. However, if present they will be expanded to their full form and romanized accordingly.

i. Unique Linguistic Situations

Due to dialectal differences in pronunciation, in sources with romanized names, *g* may be used in place of *q* and *j*.²

² PCGN's *Brief Guide to Understanding Toponyms in the Arab World*

4. Political Geography Policy

a. Country Name

Conventional Short Form	Saudi Arabia
Conventional Long Form	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Arabic Short Form – Romanized	Al ‘Arabīyah as Su‘ūdīyah
Arabic Long Form – Romanized	Al Mamlakah al ‘Arabīyah as Su‘ūdīyah
Arabic Short Form – Native Script	العربية السعودية
Arabic Long Form – Native Script	المملكة العربية السعودية

b. Capital Name

Conventional Short Form	Riyadh
Arabic – Romanized	Ar Riyāḍ
Arabic – Native Script	الرياض

c. First-order Administrative Divisions

Saudi Arabia is comprised of 13 regions (Minṭaqah or Minṭaqat).

Name	GEC	GENC	Seat
Al Bāḥah الباحة	SA02	SA-11	Al Bāḥah الباحة
Al Ḥudūd ash Shamālīyah الحدود الشمالية	SA15	SA-08	‘Ar‘ar عرعر
Al Jawf الجوف	SA20	SA-12	Sakākā سكاكا
Al Madīnah al Munawwarah المدينة المنورة	SA05	SA-03	Al Madīnah al Munawwarah (Medina) المدينة المنورة
Al Qaṣīm القصيم	SA08	SA-05	Buraydah بريدة
Ar Riyāḍ الرياض	SA10	SA-01	Ar Riyāḍ (Riyadh) الرياض
Ash Sharqīyah الشرقية	SA06	SA-04	Ad Dammām الدمام
‘Asīr عسير	SA11	SA-14	Abhā أبها
Ḥā’il حائل	SA13	SA-06	Ḥā’il حائل
Jāzān جازان	SA17	SA-09	Jāzān جازان
Makkah al Mukarramah مكة المكرمة	SA14	SA-02	Makkah al Mukarramah (Mecca) مكة المكرمة

Najrān نجران	SA16	SA-10	Najrān نجران
Tabūk تبوك	SA19	SA-07	Tabūk تبوك

d. Conventional and Anglicized Names

Conventional Names

<i>Name</i>	<i>UFI</i>	<i>UNI</i>	<i>Designation</i>
Rub' al Khali	-3098686	-4373401	DSRT
Strait of Tiran	-3100128	-4376295	STRT
Ras Tanura	-3098582	-4373169	PPL
Saudi Arabia	-3099121	14066181	PCLI
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	-3099121	-4374273	PCLI
Mecca	-3096949	-4370065	PPLA
Jeddah	-3096108	-4368283	PPL
Dhahran	-3093628	-4363115	PPL
Medina	-3092186	-4360316	PPLA
Abqaiq	-3094116	-4364043	PPL
Abqaiq	-3094115	-4364041	OILF
Asir	-3093240	-4362378	RGN
Riyadh	-3093009	-4361969	PPLC
Al Hasa	-3091295	-4358541	RGN
Al Hasa Oasis	-3091190	-4358297	OAS
Hejaz	-3091808	-4359589	RGN
Syrian Desert	-2548117	-3509268	DSRT
Gulf of Bahrain	-784882	-1129402	GULF

Anglicized Variant Names

<i>Name</i>	<i>UFI</i>	<i>UNI</i>	<i>Designation</i>
Northern Border	-3091829	14723588	ADM1
Medina	-3092185	-4370668	ADM1
Riyadh	-3093008	-4373356	ADM1
Eastern	-3093178	14723590	ADM1
Mecca	-3096950	-4370661	ADM1

e. Unique Geopolitical Situations

Note: For the latest country specific boundary dispute information, visit the U.S. Department of State's Boundaries and Sovereignty Encyclopedia, or B.A.S.E., at <http://base.us-state.osis.gov/>.

5. Source Material

a. Preferred Sources

The preferred sources for Saudi Arabia map and geospatial products are those produced by the General Commission for Survey (GCS), followed by older products released by the Aerial Survey Department within the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources and the Deputy Ministry for Mineral Resources (DMMR). What follows is a list of authoritative map and other geographic data sources released by these bodies as well as non-authoritative sources produced by third-parties such as the US Geological Survey (USGS) and the Arabian-American Oil Company (Aramco). They are listed in order of preference based on their authoritativeness, presence of Arabic-script toponyms, scale, and utility.

Primary Sources:

- General Commission for Survey – Maps are available on the web site of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia General Commission for Survey (<http://www.gcs.gov.sa/Home.aspx>).
 - 1:25,000 – Detailed Topographic Map published by the General Commission for Survey. Meant for general purpose uses, these maps are produced on customer order and for specific areas
 - 1:50,000 – Base Map published by the General Commission for Survey. A bilingual map (Arabic/English) meant for general purpose uses.
 - 1:50,000 – Sacred Sites Map published by the General Commission for Survey. Bilingual (Arabic/English) Guidance Maps for Cities and Urban Areas
 - 1:100,000 – Ortho Image Map 100K published by the General Commission for Survey. It is a bilingual (Arabic/English) Ortho Image Map produced from Satellite Imagery.
 - 1:2,000,000 – Official Map of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia published by the General Commission for Survey. It is a general topographic map available in an Arabic and English version.
 - 1:3,000,000 – Road Map published by the General Commission for Survey. It is a bilingual (Arabic/English) map showing the road networks of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
 - 1:4,000,000 – General Map of the KSA (1:4,000,000) was published by the General Commission for Survey. It is a general map used for guidance and the map is available in an Arabic and English version.
 - 1:8,000,000 – General Plastic Map of the KSA published by the General Commission for Survey. It is a small scale 3D General Map used for guidance and school location reference, and the map is available in Arabic.

- 1:10,000,000 – General Map of the KSA (1:10,000,000) published by the General Commission for Survey. It is a general map for used for guidance and school location reference. The map is available in Arabic.
- Maps published by older mapping services:
 - 1:50,000 K 763. Map sheets are compiled as photomaps in the desert areas and as line maps in the mountainous areas.
 - 1:100,000 K 663. Map sheets are compiled as photomaps in the desert areas and as line maps in the mountainous areas. Since 1965, the geological maps have been overprinted onto satellite imagery. Since 1975, the topographical maps have been systemically produced by the Military Survey Department.
 - 1:250,000 K 502, first compiled by the US Army Map Service (AMS), but only completed 25 of 160 sheets. A new series was produced by DMMR in cooperation with the USGS. Produced in three editions—Edition A: geological edition with satellite imagery; Edition B: geological edition without satellite imagery; Edition C: geographical edition on satellite imagery.
 - 1:500,000 K 462, 1954. Series is based on aerial photography, and compiled by the USGS using local reconnaissance by Aramco. Two editions produced between 1957 and 1964—Edition A: geological edition with geographical information; Edition B: geographical edition published in four colors. It has been maintained by the DMMR, and there has been a more recent edition from 1972-1982.
 - 1:2,000,000, 1963. General map, which covers the entire Arabian Peninsula.

Appendix A. BGN/PCGN Romanization System for Arabic, 1956³

This System was adopted by the BGN in 1946 and by the PCGN in 1956 and is applied in the systematic romanization of geographic names in Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.

Uniform results in the romanization of Arabic are difficult to obtain, since vowel points and diacritical marks are generally omitted from both manual and machine writing. It follows that for correct identification of the words which appear in any particular name, knowledge of its standard Arabic-script spelling including proper pointing, and recognition of dialectal and idiosyncratic deviations are essential.

In order to bring about uniformity in the Roman-script spelling of geographic names in Arabic-language areas, the system is based insofar as possible on fully pointed modern standard Arabic. In the interest of clarity, vowel pointing has been applied to the examples below. Arabic is written from right to left, and does not make a distinction between upper and lower case.

CONSONANT CHARACTERS

	Arabic				Romanization	Examples and Remarks	
	Final	Medial	Initial	Independent			
1.	ء				<i>not romanized in word-initial position</i>	أبو كَمَال	Abū Kamāl
					' in all other positions	بَيْرُ زَيْت	Bi'r Zayt ₂
						صَنْعَاء	Ṣan'ā'
2.	ل		ا		<i>not romanized in word-initial position</i>	أم العَمَدُ	Umm al 'Amad ³
3.	ب	ب	ب	ب	b	الْبَحْرَيْنُ	Al Baḥrayn
4.	ت	ت	ت	ت	t	الْكُوْتُ	Al Kūt

³ http://earth-info.nga.mil/gns/html/Romanization/Romanization_Arabic.pdf

5.	ث	ث	ث	ث	th	الثُّلَيْوَاتُ	Ath Thulayt huwāt
6.	ج	ج	ج	ج	j	الجَزِيرَة	Al Jazīrah
7.	ح	ح	ح	ح	h	المَحْمُودِيَة	Al Maḥmūd īyah
8.	خ	خ	خ	خ	kh	خَيْبَر	Khaybar
9.	د		د		d	دَمَنْهَوْر	Damanh ūr
10.	ذ		ذ		dh	دَهَب	Dhahab
11.	ر		ر		r	الرَّوَضَة	Ar Rawḍah
12.	ز		ز		z	الزَّاوِيَة	Az Zāwīyah
13.	س	س	س	س	s	سُلَيْمَانِيَة	Sulaymā nīyah
14.	ش	ش	ش	ش	sh	الشَّام	Ash Shām
15.	ص	ص	ص	ص	ṣ	قَيْصُومَة	Qayṣūm ah
16.	ض	ض	ض	ض	ḍ	ضَوْر	Ḍawr
17.	ط	ط	ط	ط	ṭ	القُنَيْطِرَة	Al Qunayṭir ah
18.	ظ	ظ	ظ	ظ	ẓ	أَبُو ظَبِي	Abū Ẓaby
19.	ع	ع	ع	ع	‘	أَبُو عَرِيْش	Abū ‘Arīsh

20.	غ	غ	غ	غ	gh	بَغْدَادُ	Baghdād
21.	ف	ف	ف	ف	f	الْفُرَاتُ	Al Furāt
22.	ق	ق	ق	ق	q	قَطْرُ	Qaṭar
23.	ك	ك	ك	ك	k	الْكُوَيْتُ	Al Kuwayt
24.	ل	ل	ل	ل	l	حَلَبُ	Ḥalab
25.	م	م	م	م	m	مَكَّةُ	Makkah
26.	ن	ن	ن	ن	n	نَخْلُ	Nakhl
27.	ه	ه/هـ	هـ	ه	h	جَبَلُ هَارُونَ	Jabal Hārūn
28.	و		و		w	وَادِي غُضَا	Wādī Ghaḍā
29.	ي	ي	ي	ي	y	الْيَمَنُ	Al Yaman

VOWEL CHARACTERS AND DIACRITICAL MARKS

	Arabic	Romanization	Examples and Remarks	
1.	اَ	a	البَصْرَة	Al Baṣrah
2.	إِ	i	الرِّيَاضُ	Ar Riyāḍ
3.	أُ	u	الْقُدْسُ	Al Quds
4.	آ	ā	بَابُ الْمَنْدَبِ	Bāb al Mandab ³
5.	إِي	ī	الْمَدِينَة	Al Madīnah
6.	أُو	ū	صُورُ	Ṣūr
7.	أَي، يِ	á	مَرَسِي مَطْرُوحُ	Marsá Maṭrūḥ ⁷
8.	اَ	not romanized	Indicates absence of a short vowel.	

9.	يَ	ay	صَيِّدَا	Şaydā					
10.	وَا	aw	الدَّوْحَة	Ad Dawḥah					
11.	اَ	a ⁿ	See note 8						
12.	اِ	i ⁿ	See note 8						
13.	اُ	u ⁿ	See note 8						
14.	ا	doubling of consonant letter	See note 9						
15.	آ	,	See note 10						
16.	آ	ā in word-initial position	الْبُومُعَيْطُ	Ālbū Mu‘ayṭ ^{3,11}					
		'ā in word-medial position	قُرْآن	Qur'ān ³					
NUMERALS									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0

Although Perso-Arabic script is written from right to left, numerical expressions, e.g., 1956 - 1956 are written from left to right.

NOTES

1. The symbol ○ represents any Arabic consonant character.
2. *Hamzah* (ء) is written in Arabic in association with most instances of initial *alif*, except those which belong to the definite article **al** or which bear a *maddah* (see note 11). *Hamzah* is written above the *alif* if the accompanying short vowel is a *fathah* (أ) or *ḍammah* (إ) and below the *alif* if the accompanying short vowel is a *kasrah* (إ). When the purpose is to indicate the presence of a glottal stop, *hamzah* is written over medial and final *alif* (أ), *wāw* (ؤ) and *yā'* without dots (ئ). *Hamzah* following *kasrah* (إ) is written (ئ). Almost always the *yā'* is in the initial or medial form and the

dots are omitted: example: (بئر). *Hamzah* following *ḍammah* ((َ◌◌◌ is written (ض). *Hamzah* following a long vowel is written without a bearer and is positioned on the line of print like a regular character. The romanization of *hamzah* (') should always be carefully distinguished from that of 'ayn (').

3. *Alif* as such is not romanized when it is a bearer of *hamzah*, but see **fatḥah alif** (ا◌◌◌) and *alif maddah* (آ) in the vowel table. See also notes 2 and 11.
4. In certain endings, an original *tā'* (ت) is written (ة), i.e., like *hā'* with two dots, and is known as *tā marbūṭah*. It is romanized **h**, except in the construct form, where it is romanized **t** instead. Example: hamzah, hamzat al qaṭ ' . The ending **fatḥah hā'** (◌◌◌◌◌) may be romanized **a·h** when the character *hā'* (ه) is not silent. Example: **Muntaza·h**. See also note 5.
5. Occasionally, the character sequences كـهـ, دـهـ, تـهـ, and سـهـ occur. They may be romanized **k·h**, **t·h**, **d·h**, and **s·h** in order to differentiate those romanizations from the digraphs **kh**, **th**, **dh**, and **sh**. See also note 4.
6. Where special considerations are paramount, the sub-dot (◌◌◌◌◌) may be used in place of the cedilla.
7. The character *yā'* (in final form but without dots) preceded by the vowel point *fatḥah* is a combination known as *alif maqṣūrah*. See character 7 in the vowel table.
8. The classical Arabic grammatical endings written with the nunation symbols (*tanwīn*) may be romanized, when necessary, by **aⁿ**, **iⁿ**, **uⁿ**. In modern Arabic, these endings have become silent and should not be romanized: classical *alifuⁿ* modern *alif*.
9. Doubled consonant sounds are represented in Arabic script by placing a *shaddah* (◌◌◌◌◌) over a consonant character. In romanization the letter should be doubled. However, the combination of the consonant character *yā'* with a *shaddah* preceded by a *kasrah* (◌◌◌◌◌) is romanized **īy** rather than **iyy**. e.g. (يـيـة) is romanized **īyah** and not **iyyah**.

When the definite article (al) precedes a word beginning with one of the “sun letters” **t**, **th**, **d**, **dh**, **r**, **z**, **s**, **sh**, **ṣ**, **ḍ**, **ṭ**, **z**, **l**, or **n** – the **l** is assimilated in pronunciation and romanization, thus yielding **tt**, **thth**, etc., in romanization. Example, **An Nīl**, not **Al Nīl**.

10. *Hamzat al waṣl* (◌◌◌◌◌), which is utilized only in the pointing of classical Arabic, is romanized ' as illustrated in the classical form of its name *hamzatu'l waṣli*.
11. Since *maddah* (◌◌◌◌◌), which is placed over *alif* (ا), nearly always occurs in word-initial position, no confusion results from the use of **ā** for *alif maddah* (◌◌◌◌◌) as well as for **fatḥah alif** (◌◌◌◌◌).
12. The ligatures لـا and لـا represent *lām-alif*, and should be romanized **lā**.

SPECIAL RULES

1. Initial definite articles and prepositions should be capitalized and hyphens should not be used to connect parts of names, e.g., Ash Shāriqah and **Tall al Laḥm**.
2. If any evidence is found for the use of the definite article in a name, the article should be used in the name chosen.
3. The Arabic word for God should be written **Allāh** .الله.
4. Names which consist of noun phrases should be written as separate words. The definite article within such names should be romanized **al**, not **ul**, e.g., ‘Abd Allāh, ‘Abd ar Raḥmān, Dhū al Faqār.
5. The Arabic word بن ٍ should be romanized **Bin** rather than **Ibn** whenever written without *alif*, that is between two proper nouns, e.g., ‘Umar **Bin al Khaṭṭāb**.
6. The Turkish word **Paşa** should be romanized from Arabic script as **Bāshā**. The Turkish word **Bey** should be romanized as **Bey** in Egyptian names, no matter how it is written in Arabic-language sources, but in other Arabic areas it should be romanized as **Bak** where written بك and as **Bayk** when written بيك.
7. The modern colloquial word **Sīdī** should be give precedence over the classical form **Sayyidī**. This does not preclude the spelling **Sayyidī** if the latter is indicated by the Arabic script or other evidence – for instance, if the *yā*’ is written with a *shaddah* (◌◌◌).
8. The colloquial word **Bū** should not be changed to the standard form **Abū**.
9. The colloquial word for water, written مية on Arabic maps, should be romanized **Mayyat**.
10. Place names of Aramaic origin in Syria often contain initial consonant clusters consisting of **b** plus another consonant such as **l** or **h**. In romanizing such place names in Syria and Lebanon, the clusters **bl**, **bh**, etc., should be so represented.
11. In names containing the Arabic word for back, ridge, or hill, appearing as either ظهر or ضهر in Arabic sources, the word should be romanized to reflect the particular Arabic spelling shown.

Appendix B. Glossary of Generic Terms

<u>Generic</u>	<u>Feature Designation</u>	<u>Designation Code</u>
Ābār	spring(s), wadi, well, wells, waterhole(s)	SPNG, WAD, WLL, WLLS, WTRH
‘Abd	cone(s), hill	CONE, HLL
Abraq	butte(s), cliff(s), hill, peak, ridge(s), rocks	BUTE, CLF, HLL, PK, RDGE, RKS
Adāmah(t)	hill, hills	HLL, HLLS
‘Afjah(t)	grazing area, sabkha(s)	GRAZ, SBKH
‘Alāmāt	hills	HLLS
‘Awjah(t)	wadi bend	WADB
‘Ayn	oasis(-es), spring(s), well, wells	OAS, SPNG, WLL, WLLS
‘Aythah(t)	plain(s), stony desert	PLN, REG
Bā‘ijat	valley, wadi, wadi mouth	VAL, WAD, WADM
Baḥarah(t)	intermittent pond, wadi, wadi mouth	PNDI, WAD, WADM
Bandar	bay, bight(s)	BAY, BGHT
Barbak	pond, intermittent pond, intermittent ponds, well	PND, PNDI, PNDSI, SBKH, WLL
Barqā‘	hill, hills, mountain, rocks, escarpment	HLL, HLLS, DPR, MT, RKS, SCRP
Baṭḥā‘	plateau	PLAT
Bī‘r	well, hill, water tank, spring(s), wadi, well, abandoned well, wells	WLL, HLL, SPNG, WAD, WLLQ, WLLS
Bīḥār	salt ponds, wadies	PNDSN, WADS
Binīyat	building(s), dune(s), rocks	BLDG, DUNE, RKS
Bulaydah(t)	interdune trough(s)	TRGD
Būr	sand area	SAND
Buwayb	hill, pass	HLL, PASS
Buwaytāt	interdune trough(s)	TRGD
Da‘īṣah(t)	dune(s)	DUNE
Ḍab‘	hill	HLL
Daḥl	sabkha(s), sinkhole, well, wells, waterhole(s)	SBKH, SINK, WLL, WLLS, WTRH
Dārah(t)	sand area	SAND
Darb	road, trail	RD, TRL
Ḍi‘lān	hill	HLL
Dikāk	hill, hills, plain(s)	HLL, HLLS, PLN
Ḍulay‘ah(t)	hill, hills, ridge(s)	HLL, HLLS, RDGE

Duwaydāt	depression(s), hill	DPR, HLL
Fāḍah(t)	sabkha(s)	SBKH
Fāj	wadi	WAD
Falq	depression(s), dune(s), interdune trough(s)	DPR, DUNE, TRGD
Farīdah(t)	hill, hills, mountain	HLL, HLLS, MT
Farsh	depression(s), plain(s)	DPR, PLN
Fasht	reef(s)	RF
Fayḍah(t)	depression(s), intermittent lake, intermittent lakes, pan, intermittent pond, intermittent ponds, intermittent pool, sabkha(s), wadi junction, wadi mouth, intermittent wetland, waterhole(s)	DPR, LKI, LKSI, PAN, PNDI, PNDSI, POOLI, SBKH, WADJ, WADM, WTLDI, WTRH
Fazr	pass	PASS
Furḍah(t)	pier	PIER
Ghār	cave(s), canyon, depression(s), ravine(s)	CAVE, CNYN, DPR, RVN
Ghubbah(t)	bay, cove(s)	BAY, COVE
Ghuḍūf	slope(s)	SLP
Habīyah(t)	waterhole(s)	WTRH
Haḍbah(t)	hill, plateau, ridge(s)	HLL, PLAT, RDGE
Hadhlūl	valley	VAL
Ḥafīrah(t)	depression(s), well	DPR, WLL
Ḥājiz	ridge(s)	RDGE
Ḥajrah(t)	area, populated locality	AREA, PPLL
Ḥālāt	hills, lava area, rocks	HLLS, LAVA, RKS
Ḥatīfah(t)	area, locality	AREA, LCTY
Ḥayr	shoal(s)	SHOL
Ḥayy	section of populated place	PPLX
Ḥifnah(t)	well, waterhole(s)	WLL, WTRH
Ḥijrah(t)	escarpment	SCRP
Ḥīsh	palm grove	GRVP
Huḍaybah(t)	butte(s), hill, hills, mesa(s), butte(s)	BUTE, HLL, HLLS, MESA
Hudhaylīl	wadi	WAD
Ḥufrah(t)	depression(s)	DPR
Huzūm	hill, sand area, hills, dune(s), ridge(s)	HLL, SAND, HLLS, DUNE, RDGE
‘Iblah(t)	hill	HLL
‘Idd	depression(s), well, wells	DPR, WLL, WLLS
‘Iqlah(t)	intermittent ponds, waterhole(s)	PNDSI, WTRH

'Irq	depression(s), dune(s), ridge(s), sand area , shoal(s)	DPR, DUNE, RDGE, SAND, SHOL
Jabal	butte(s), cone(s), crater(s), hill, hills, lava area, mesa(s), mountain, mountains, peak, promontory(-ies), ridge(s), rock, upland, wadi, escarpment	BUTE, CONE, CRTR, HLL, HLLS, LAVA, MESA, MT, MTS, PK, PROM, RDGE, RK, UPLD, WAD, SCRPR
Jāl	ridge(s), cliff(s), hills, promontory(-ies), escarpment	RDGE, CLF, HLLS, PROM,
Jāmi'ah(t)	college	SCHC
Jazīrah(t)	island, hammock(s)	ISL, HMCK
Jidhāyib	desert	DSRT
Jilh	plain(s)	PLN
Jisr	bridge, causeway	BDG, CSWY
Jisrah(t)	dune(s)	DUNE
Kahf	cave(s)	CAVE
Kasr	depression(s), pool(s), intermittent pool	DPR, POOL, POOLI
Khabārī	depression(s), mud flat(s), intermittent lakes, intermittent pool, sabkha(s), waterhole(s)	DPR, FLTM, LKSI, POOLI, SBKH, WTRH
Khabb	depression(s), hills, plain(s), ridge(s), interdune trough(s)	DPR, HLLS, PLN, RDGE, TRGD
Khafaq	depression(s), sabkha(s)	DPR, SBKH
Khalīj	gulf, bay	GULF, BAY
Khalīqah(t)	waterhole(s), well	WTRH, WLL
Khaṭṭ	road, trail	RD, TRL
Khawr	lagoon, bay, cove(s), depression(s), inlet, plain(s), intermittent pool, sabkha(s), wadi, wadies, well, wells, waterhole(s)	LGN, BAY, COVE, DPR, INLT, PLN, POOLI, SBKH, WAD, WADS, WLL, WLLS, WTRH
Khayṭ	dune(s)	DUNE
Khubayrā'	pool(s)	POOL
Khundūq	depression(s), slope(s), valley	DPR, SLP, VAL
Khurb	hill	HLL
Khushūm	hills, peak, promontory(-ies)	HLLS, PK, PROM
Khuwaymāt	camp(s)	CMP
Kūlat	hill	HLL
Kutayfah(t)	cone(s)	CONE
Mā'	waterhole(s)	WTRH
Madārat	hill	HLL

Madīnat al 'Askariyah	military base	MILB
Madīnat Ṭubbīyah	medical center	CTRM
Maḍīq	strait	STRT
Maghāyir	cave(s)	CAVE
Maḥaṭṭah(t)	railroad station, abandoned railroad station	RSTN, RSTNQ
Maḥīr	depression(s), intermittent pool, sabkha(s), waterhole(s)	DPR, POOLI, SBKH, WTRH
Makhfar Ḥudūd	boundary marker	BP
Makhtam	ridge(s)	RDGE
Manjam	mine(s)	MN
Manqa'	depression(s), pan	DPR, PAN
Maqbarah(t)	cemetery	CMTY
Marbakh	grazing area, sand area	GRAZ, SAND
Markaz	police post, border post	PP, PSTB
Marsá	anchorage, bay, cove(s), inlet	ANCH, BAY, COVE, INLT
Masjid	mosque	MSQE
Maşmad	intermittent pool, waterhole(s)	POOLI, WTRH
Matnah(t)	mesa(s)	MESA
Mazra'ah(t)	agricultural facility, farm	AGRF, FRM
Mihīr	waterhole(s), sabkha(s)	WTRH, SBKH
Mīnā'	port	PRT
Minṭaqah(t)	first-order administrative division, administrative division, industrial area, first-order administrative division, locality	ADM1, ADMD, INDS, ADM1, LCTY
Mughāṭīyah(t)	intermittent pond	PNDI
Mulayḥah(t)	well	WLL
Munīfah(t)	dune(s)	DUNE
Muqayrāh(t)	waterhole(s)	WTRH
Mushāsh	well, wells, waterhole(s)	WLL, WLLS, WTRH
Mustanqa'	marsh(es)	MRSH
Muwayh	well	WLL
Nabwah(t)	hill	HLL
Nafūd	dune(s)	DUNE
Naghar	interdune trough(s)	TRGD
Naq'ah(t)	marsh(es), pan, waterhole(s)	MRSH, PAN, WTRH
Naqā	dune(s), hill, hills	DUNE, HLL, HLLS
Naşlah(t)	hill, hills	HLL, HLLS

Nawāzī	dune(s), sand area	DUNE, SAND
Naẓīm	hill, weir(s), well	HLL, WEIR, WLL
Nāziyah(t)	dune(s), mesa(s), plain(s), sand area	DUNE, MESA, PLN, SAND
Niqrah(t)	cone(s), depression(s), waterhole(s)	CONE, DPR, WTRH
Nukhayl	palm grove	GRVP
Qal'ah(t)	fort	FT
Qalīb	well, depression(s), hill, wells	WLL, DPR, HLL, WLLS
Qanāh(t)	marine channel	CHNM
Qarā'in	depression(s)	DPR
Qārah(t)	hill, butte(s), hills	HLL, BUTE, HLLS
Qaşār	reef(s)	RF
Qaşīmah(t)	hill	HLL
Qaşr	fort, ruin(s)	FT, RUIN
Qat'ah(t)	pass	PASS
Qirī	hills, valley, wadi	HLLS, VAL, WAD
Qīzān	hill, hills	HLL, HLLS
Qulaybāt	hills	HLLS
Qulumah(t)	well, abandoned well, wells	WLL, WLLQ, WLLS
Qūr	butte(s), hill, hills, peak, ridge(s)	BUTE, HLL, HLLS, PK, RDGE
Ra's	cape, headland, lava area, peak, point, spit	CAPE, HDLD, LAVA, PK, PT, SPIT
Rawḍah(t)	cultivated area, depression(s), intermittent lake, meadow, intermittent pond, intermittent ponds, intermittent pool, sabkha(s), wadi, wadi mouth, waterhole(s)	CULT, DPR, LKI, MDW, PNDI, PNDSI, POOLI, SBKH, WAD, WADM, WTRH
Rī'	gorge(s), hill, pass, ravine(s)	GRGE, HLL, PASS, RVN
Rīsh	hill, hills, ridge(s)	HLL, HLLS, RDGE
Riyāḍ	depression(s), intermittent pond, sabkha(s)	DPR, PNDI, SBKH
Riyāsh	hill, hills, spur(s)	HLL, HLLS, SPUR
Ruḍaymah(t)	boulder field, rock	BLDR, RK
Ruḥayyah(t)	hill, plain(s)	HLL, PLN
Sabkhah(t)	sabkha(s)	SBKH
Sāddat	hill	HLL
Şafrā'	rocks	RKS
Sahl	beach, plain(s)	BCH, PLN
Şahrā'	desert, sand area	DSRT, SAND
Şarāt	marsh(es)	MRSH
Sawḥ	depression(s), wadi	DPR, WAD
Şayhad	hill, sand area	HLL, SAND

Shajarah(t)	tree(s)	TREE
Shāmah(t)	sand area	SAND
Sharm	bay, cove(s), inlet	BAY, COVE, INLT
Shāṭi'	shore	SHOR
Shi'b	island, reef(s), ravine(s), shoal(s), wadi	ISL, RF, RVN, SHOL, WAD
Shiqqah(t)	depression(s), interdune trough(s), valley, interdune trough(s)	DPR, TRGD, VAL, TRGD
Sīḥān	intermittent ponds	PNSI
Sihl	intermittent pool	POOLI, DPR
Sihlah(t)	plain(s)	PLN
Ṣiyāhid	hills	HLLS
Subākh	sabkha(s)	SBKH
Sudd	dam	DAM
Ṣummān	rocks	RKS
Sūq	hill, market	HLL, MKT
Sūwād	rocks	RKS
Ṣūwanah(t)	hills	HLLS
Ṭa'īs	dune(s), hill	DUNE, HLL
Ṭaffah(t)	depression(s)	DPR
Tal'ah(t)	hills, promontory(-ies), sabkha(s), intermittent stream, wadi, hill	HLLS, PK, SBKH, STMI, WAD, HLL
Ṭarīq	road	RD
Ṭawq	plain(s)	PLN
Ṭibqah(t)	hill	HLL
Ṭurayfah(t)	spur(s)	SPUR
Ṭurqān	mud flat(s)	FLTM
'Ubayd	cone(s)	CONE
'Ubayl	hill	HLL
Ubayriq	dune(s)	DUNE
Ubaytir	ridge(s)	RDGE
'Uyūn	spring(s)	SPNG
Wādī	wadi, depression(s), island, ravine(s), valley	WAD, DPR, ISL, RVN, VAL
Zabnah(t)	trail	TRL
Ṣahrah(t)	hill, hills, island, ridge(s), escarpment	HLL, HLLS, ISL, RDGE, SCRP
Zawr	peninsula	PEN
Zubārah(t)	dune(s)	DUNE
Zuhayr	hills, ridge(s)	HLLS, RDGE
Zurayb	depression(s)	DPR

