

## Glossary of Local Terms

The terms below are defined only in their local context, which may be a variant or extension of meanings given in standard dictionaries of the languages involved. Unless specifically ascribed to a particular language, terms are interethnic and cross-linguistic in usage.

*Alaqadari*. Smallest unit in the Afghan administrative hierarchy

*Armoniā*. The harmonium in its Indian form

*Bačabāzi*. Activity associated with dancing boys

*Bāi*. A wealthy land and/or livestock owner

*Bāijura*. An Uzbek secular tale of Afghan Turkestan

*Bājaxāna*. A municipal police or military band

*Baxši*. (1) Among Turkmens: honorific title added to the name of a master musician

(2) In some towns: a shaman (male or female)

(3) Among Uzbeks of Uzbekistan: a reciter of epic tales

*Buniyāt-i Palewān*. An interethnic secular tale of Afghan Turkestan

*Buzkaši*. Afghan and Transoxanian horsemanship contest

*Čang* (Persian). Jew's harp

*Čangkobuz* (Uzbekistan). Jew's harp

*Čangko'uz* (Afghan Uzbek; sometimes merely *ko'uz*). Jew's harp

*Cārbaiti*. Quatrain song text

*Dambura*. (1) Long-necked two-stringed fretless lute of Afghan Turkestan

(2) Similar but smaller lute of Afghan Badaxšan

*Damburači*. Dambura player

*Dili-tüidük*. Turkmen single-reed pipe

*Doira*. Large single-headed frame drum (tambourine)

*Dombra*, also *dumbura*. Long-necked two-stringed fretless lute of southern Uzbekistan

*Dümbra*, *dömbra*. Kazakh long-necked two-stringed fretted lute

*Dumbrak*. Soviet Tajik name for Badaxšani dambura

- Dutar*. (1) Large Uzbek long-necked two-stringed fretted lute of Uzbekistan and northern Afghanistan  
 (2) Shorter Turkmen lute of same type  
 (3) Similar lute-type of Herat and Xorasan (Iran)
- Felak*. Vocal and instrumental genre of Badaxšan and adjacent regions of Tajikistan
- Ĝaribi*. Lit. poverty; connotation: poor man's work, any work
- Ĝaribi-šowqi*. Music making as part-time or occasional labor
- Ĝazal*. Form of Persian and Uzbek poetry based on couplets; generally urban in provenience
- Ĝerĝeranak*. Ratchet; children's toy
- Ĝičak*. (1) Two-stringed fiddle with tin-can resonator of mountain Tajiks, spread to other ethnic groups in Afghanistan  
 (2) Four-stringed fiddle with wooden resonator of Uzbekistan and urban Tajiks
- Guroĝli*. Mountain Tajik version of the Turkic Koroĝlu epic tale
- Ješen*. Afghan national holiday, celebrated in late August
- Kesp* (n.), *kespi* (adj.). Profession, trade, especially manual labor
- Komuz*. Kirghiz three-stringed fretless lute
- Koroĝlu*. An heroic epic tale widespread among several Turkic peoples
- Landai*. Paštun folk couplet verse-form
- Madā*. Religious street singer or street singing
- Maqām*. Form of classical music of Transoxania, principally of Buxara
- Mašreqi*. Eastern Afghanistan (Kabul to Khyber Pass)
- Mohajer, mohajerin* (pl.). Émigré, refugee, usually applied to one who has left the Soviet Union
- Naĝma*. Instrumental tune, usually for dance, of Afghan Turkestan
- Nai*. Any flute; most often a transverse flute of Pakistani/Indian origin
- Na't, na'tiya*. Religious song, generally of higher social status than mada
- Nowruz*. New Year's in the Persian solar calendar (vernal equinox, around March 21)
- Qairāq*. Stone castanets of Transoxania, rarely found in Afghanistan
- Qišlāq*. Village
- Qobuz*. (1) Two-stringed horsehair fiddle of the Kazakhs and Kirghiz  
 (2) Fiddle of similar description quite rarely found in certain towns of Turkestan, played only by male shamans
- Qošnai*. Uzbek paired single-reed aerophone
- Robab*. (1) Paštun short-necked variably-strung lute, rarely found in northern Afghanistan; called Afghan robab in Tajikistan  
 (2) Pamir short-necked six stringed lute of different shape and construction, found only in the Pamir area of Afghanistan and Tajikistan

- Samowād.* Teahouse (from Russian, “samovar”)
- Setār.* Tajikistani long-necked, fretted multi-stringed lute
- Sowq.* A hobby or intense preoccupation with a specific type of diversion, including music
- Šowqi.* (1) A man engrossed by a specific šowq  
(2) Specifically, a musician whose vocational or avocational interest in music is not hereditary or occupation-related
- Tabla.* North Indian paired drum, generally associated with Kabul-Mašreqi music and musicians
- Tal.* Small finger-cymbals of Turkestan
- Tanbur.* (1) Long-necked fretted lute, with sympathetic resonating strings, of Afghanistan  
(2) Similar lute, without sympathetic resonating strings, of Tajikistan and Uzbekistan
- Tüidük.* Long Turkmen open end-blown flute
- Tüsak* (Uzbek). See *tal*.
- Ustād.* (1) A master at any craft or trade; an artisan  
(2) One of a small group of Kabul singers associated with court music and with North Indian light classical music
- Uzduridan.* Turkmen songs specific to one performer
- Woleswāli.* Medium unit of administration in Afghanistan between alaqadari and province
- Xalqi.* Turkmen songs of stock rather than individual repertoire with song texts by renowned poets
- Zang.* See *tal*.
- Zang-i kaftar.* A group of small round crotals tied on a string and wrapped around a damburači's knuckles to produce accessory jingling during play
- Zibājān.* An Afghan Uzbek romantic tale
- Zirbağali.* Single-headed pottery or wooden goblet-shaped drum

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