

A COMPARATIVE STUDY IN LEXICAL MATERIAL RELATING TO NICKNAMES AND SURNAMES

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WE read in verse 19 of Chapter II of Genesis that 'The Lord God having formed out of the ground all the beasts of the earth and all the fowls of the earth brought them to Adam to see what he would call them: For whatsoever Adam called any living creatures the same is its name'. This is the first historical record of man as a name-giver. As a name places a living, or non-living, creature, a thing or an idea, or any intellectual abstraction, within a context of recognizable reality of human experience in a way that it can be distinguished from others existing within the same, or different or kindred, category, we can say that names individuating realities or subjective reactions are indicative labels. In a sense the name is the thing or the person itself.

Indeed, amongst savages the name is considered as an integral part of the person that bears it. As a rule, therefore, the savage prefers to be known rather by his substituted name than by his real name, the reason being that while one cannot harm him through the substituted name one can reach him and do him harm through his own name, which is his real personal identity. Hence the Maltese saying *skond laqmek ghamlek* 'As you are so is your surname'. Latin *nomina omina* 'names are omens', and a Kirundi saying *Izina niryo muntu* 'Le nom c'est l'homme' given by F.M. Rodegem in his book *Sagesse Kirundi* (Tervuren, 1961).

Man's earliest attempt at name-giving was also his first attempt at the compilation of a working vocabulary which, in the course of the centuries, increased its resources to make possible the individuation of the largest number of things or, as one might also say, of every single component of human knowledge and experience. Man not only gave a name to every living creature as we read in the passage from the Bible, but to everything that formed an object of observation, to everything his eyes saw and his other senses and memory recorded for future reference. Words and man have been travelling together along the high road of civilization from the very beginning described in Genesis.

Personal names become necessary as social labels or tags to make it possible to tell one man or family, tribe or clan from another. Such was the early practice amongst the Old Egyptians, Biblical Hebrews, Greeks

and Romans who bore a name apparently invented for them to commemorate a circumstance or coincidence attending the child's birth or some personal or physical quality or a cherished hope in the child's future. Hence the maxim *Bonum nomen bonum omen*. As in time the social structure of multiplied humanity became more complex, also naming became a more complex social ritual. To the individual's name in order to facilitate greater identification was added later the father's name or that of his country, place of origin or profession, or some flattering and often unflattering descriptive. The Romans adopted the threefold system of (1) *praenomen* (the individual's first name; ex. Publius +), (2) *nomen* (the stock or tribe to which the individual belonged, ex. Cornelius +) (3) *cognomen* (the particular part of the tribe to which the individual belonged, ex. Scipio). Hence the threefold label Publius Cornelius Scipio.

The fifth century grammarian Diomedes defines *agnomen*, which, incidentally, is short for *ad hoc gnomen* (the old form of *nomen*) thus: *agnomen est quod extrinsecu cognominibus adjici ex aliqua ratione vel virtute quaesitum ut est Africanus, Numantinus et similia*. Further examples of such *agnomina* are Barbutus (It. surname Barbuto, Gozo nickname *Ta' Sufa*), Hispanus (It. surname Spagnolo, also M. *Spanjol*), and Africanus (It. surname Africano). But also *cognomina*, the equivalents of our surnames (M. *kunjomijiet*) contained allusions to physical aspects. Such examples are Rufus (It. surname Rufo. Cp. also Rosso and M. nickname *Tal-Ahmar*, Eng. Redman); Cocles 'one-eyed' (Cp. M. *L-Aghwar*); Crispus (It. and M. Crispi, S.M. Chetcuti); Balbus (It. Balbo), 'stammering'; Carus 'Beloved' (It. and M. surname De Caro); Agricola (It. surname Agricola); Camillus, a boy and girl free born whose parents were alive, employed in religious rites (It. surname Camillo); Pastor 'shepherd' (It. surname Pastore); Pictor 'painter' (It. Pittore). Very often the cognomen was used as an adjective with case-ending *o* (genitive *onis*, with accusative *onem* whence corresponding Italian surname in *one*).

Such examples are Naso, nickname of a man having a prominent nose (It. surname Naso, also Nasoni, pl. form); Cicero 'warty' (It. surname Cicerone, Ciceroni, Ciceri); Scipio 'leaning on a staff' (It. Scipione, Scipioni); Cato 'shrewd' (It. surname Catone, Catoni); Nero 'mighty, powerful' (It. surname Neroni). By means of the suffix *inus* (m) and *ina* (f), the Romans obtained a number of patronymic and matronymic surnames. Here are some examples: Carinus, made up of Car(us) + *inus* = son of Carus; Messalina, made up of Messal(a) + *ina* = daughter of Messala. My surname Aquilina, a matronymic surname less common in Italy than Aquilino, should, therefore mean 'daughter of Aquila', though I think it is more likely a later diminutive form of Aquila 'eagle' as the Lat. family name

was Aquilius, the name of a Roman gens.

The Arabs similarly used individual names indicating the father of the child; so also did the highlanders of Scotland (ex. MacArthur = the Son of Arthur). Irish examples are O'Hara and O'Neale meaning 'grandson of Hara and Neale'. The Old Normans attached the word Fitz (Lat. Filius; ex. Fitzgerald), while the peasantry of Russia suffixed the termination witz (ex. Peter Paulowitz = Peter, the Son of Paul) and the Poles suffixed sky (ex. James Petrowsky = James, the son of Peter).

Civilised man was not content with just a simple nickname (some ancient kings bore their nickname too) or family name; he gradually evolved a more or less complicated system which, for reasons of social prestige or easier identification, indicated his parentage, his personal or family rank, his social status, his religious membership and other aspects of social ranking that are dear to man who instinctively seeks the lime-light for himself and his own and does not want to be confused with the common herd. This explains the aristocracy of the names of the ruling classes. Thus in time arose trade and occupational names as well as others connected with one's place of origin.

As words increased the volume of the human lexical material, so also the nicknames, single or composite, that were drawn from the resources of this lexical material increased the variety of human speech forms. Dauzat, saying of French surnames what we could say of Maltese family names, and naturally what others could say of their peoples' family names, wrote: *Les noms de personnes font partie de patrimoine linguistique au même titre que les mots du vocabulaire.*

Of the first known settlers, who were the Phoenicians and later the Carthaginians, whose settlement is historically attested by Diodorus Siculus (1st Cent. B.C.) and the Acts of the Apostles (1st Cent. A.D.), we have no record of personal names except that of their god Melkart, Lord of Troy who, as we can tell from the bilingual Cippi found at Marsaxlokk in 1696, was extensively venerated in Malta.

The name of this deity, the tutelary god of Tyre, identified by the Greeks with Hercules, is made up of two words *malak* (Cp. Heb. מַלְאָךְ 'king' + *qaret* (Cp. Heb. עִיר) 'city'; hence the composite name which means 'The King's or Lord's City', *Civitas Domini (Regis)* as one might say in Latin. Phoenician and later personal names must have followed the style of Hebrew composite, or simple and mainly descriptive personal names with a religious content, with the difference that the divine nomenclature was, naturally, polytheistic. Here are a few examples: 'UR, (Cp. Heb. אֱלֹהִים) 'light', the name of a god of light as Lucifer was the name of a light-bearing angel; and composite Abbacal, the Lord's Father, (*Pater*

Domini) which the Greeks turned into Abibalas.

Composite names made up of AB (Cp. Heb. אבִי) 'father', Abi, (my father) are very common in Biblical Hebrew. Examples are: EL is (my) father (Cp. Heb. אֱלִיָּא); my father has gathered (Cp. Heb. אֲבִי־אֶסְדָּף); my father is judge; (Cp. Heb. אֲבִי־דָן); He is father (Cp. Heb. אִי־הוּא־אֲבִי); 'The exalted one is my father' etc. (Cp. Heb. אֲבִי־יִשְׁרָאֵל).

Examples of composite names made up of 'Son' Ben (Cp. Heb. בֶּן) + are: Son of my sorrow (בֶּן־אֲוֶן) personal name given to Benjamin by his mother; Son of mercy (בֶּן־חַסֵּד); Son of (my) right hand etc.

Examples of other composite surnames made up of Bat (בת) 'daughter' are: Daughter of multitudes (בַּת־רַב־יָמִים), Daughter of oath (בַּת־שְׁוָרָה), the wife of Uriah, and Daughter of Opulence (בַּת־שִׁשְׁבַּץ) the name of David's wife Solomon's mother.

Under the Romans, Carthaginian names must have survived amongst the lower classes in the colloquial form, while those of the few leading families must have been Latinised or Hellenised. We deduce this from parallel instances of similarly Latinised or Hellenised onomatology elsewhere, especially amongst the Hellenised Jews.

From Cicero's diatribe against Verres, the corrupt Governor of Sicily of which Malta formed part, (*In Verrem*), we know that one of the victims of Verres's rapacity was one Maltese capitalist Diodorus who at that time lived in Lilybaeum, Cape Bono, in the more westerly promontory of Sicily. Another distinguished Maltese mentioned by Cicero in the said oration was Aulus Lucinius Aristotelis, a follower of Pompey in the civil war against Caesar. Names of other distinguished Maltese are Marcus Vallius; Caius Vallius; Vallius Postumius; Lucius Castricius; Elia Flavia; Ampele; Dicanilia; Celia and others. The list bears out what I said so often, namely that the distinguished Maltese families had their family name Romanized, or Hellenised, according to the general practice when Greece and Rome dominated the world, the former intellectually and the latter militarily. On the other hand, from Diodorus's description of the people under the Romans there is no doubt that they were ethnically Phoenicians or Carthaginians because he described Malta and Gozo as both Phoenician colonies. The extinct unrecorded names of the inhabitants must have been humble nicknames befitting humble artisans, weavers, land-tillers and fishermen.

The Acts of the Apostles mention by name a distinguished canonised Governor of Malta who flourished in 60 A.D. That governor was Publius, the leading citizen of the island. Now Publius was a Roman praenomen. If Publius was the chief of the island he was so as a Roman official. Was he really Maltese, or was he just a Roman official, the governor of the island like the British Governor who represents Her Majesty in our time?

As we read in the Catholic Commentary on Holy Scripture (Nelson) the phrase 'the chief man of the island' was the title of the representative of the Praetor of Sicily, and is found in inscriptions. Once he had possessions in the Island, and had his father with him, he may have established his home in the island for good, but it is not likely that he was a member of the native community described as Barbarians by St. Luke because they spoke neither Latin nor Greek. In any case, the name Publius is historically one of the earliest Roman praenomina we come across and which, after all, now we can consider as much Maltese as we consider later established surnames of foreign origin.

In the matter of Latin names we are even better off than in Maltese words. We have come across a few Maltese personal names in Latin or Greek garb, but there is not one word in the Maltese language or toponymy that I could refer back to this time.¹

As in the case of words of Semitic origin, we move on firmer ground when we come to the period of the Arabic domination. Are there Arabic equivalents of Maltese nicknames and surnames found, say, in Tunis, Egypt and other parts of the Arab world? There are only a few ones like *Saliba* well known in Palestine amongst the Christian Arabs, a reminder of the Crusaders; but as a rule Maltese Semitic surnames have evolved in Malta. Some of the Maltese Semitic surnames are met with also as nicknames or sobriquets of distinguished names in Arabic Literature. Such are: صَمُوت (cp. M. Sammut) 'the silent', the surname of an ancient Arab poet 'Amr b. Ghânem; طَيِّب (Cp. M. Bono in Debono) the sobriquet of Mourrah b. Charahil el-Hamdâni, so called for his edifying good life; عَاشِقُ بَنِي مَرْوَانَ (Cp. M. Ghaxaq) 'the lover of B. Marwân,' 'the surname of Yazîd II, son of 'Abd el Melîk, the 9th Caliph Omayyad who ruled from 101 to 105 of the Hegira. الْكَبِيرُ وَاْنِي (Cp. M. Caruana) 'the man from Kairawan', the sobriquet of an Arab grammarian of the 5th Century of the Hegira; صَعِيد (Cp. M. Said) 'happy' a common Arabic surname, مَلَكْتَان (Cp. M. Sultana) 'Sultan', the surname of two or three ancient Arab poets; ذُو الْمَنَار (Cp. M. Manara) 'the man with the lantern', the surname of two or three ancient Arab poets; ابْنُ الرُّومِي (Cp. M. Grech) 'son of a Greek', which is the name of Abou 'l-Hasan 'Ali, a poet of the 3rd Century of the Hegira; جَرَادَة (Cp. M. Gerada) 'cricket', the sobriquet of Maslemah, son of Caliph 'Abd el-Melik; مُعَوِّذُ الْفِتْيَان (Cp. M. Fiteni) 'the surname of Nadjyah El-Djarmi; مَنَتُوف (Cp. M. Mintoff), 'plucked' (feathers), the surname of 'Abd Allah b. 'Ayyâch; ابْنُ الْعَجُوز (Cp. M. Agius) 'the son of the old woman', the epithet applied by the

¹ Vide *Influenze Arabe sulla toponomastica Maltese*, G. Aquilina (1961).

Arabs to the prophet Ezekiel; بُرْدِي (Cp. M. Borda), the sobriquet of Abou Mohammed Mousa b. Haroun, so called *parce qu'il portait habituellement le manteau classique chez les Arabes qu'on nommait bordah* (Kechf. fol. 6r^o; Dozy, Vêtements, p. 59).

Examples of extinct Arabic names surviving as place-names are: مَيْمُونَة (ta' Meymuna, Gozo), حَامِص (Ta' Hamet, Gozo), حَسَن (Cp. M. Ghar Hasan, Malta) meaning 'the handsome'; دَيْبَاج (Cp. M. Ta' Dbiegi name of a hill in Gozo), meaning 'brocade'. ذُو الْبُرْدَيْن (Cp. M. place-name Imbordin) 'two silk tunics', ذُو الدَّمْعَةِ (Cp. M. Dimech) 'the tearful'; طَيَّار (Cp. M. Jewish surname Tayar meaning 'cotton').

Examples of Maltese nicknames agreeing with Arabic ones are: L-Aghwar, 'blind of one eye', (Munxar, Gozo), Arabic اَعْوَر the sobriquet of 'Abd Alla b. El' a'war) and Butwila 'the very tall', Arabic اَبُو طَوِيلَة . However, the total number of Semitic surnames is very small indeed as compared with the much larger number of Romance surnames mainly Sicilian, the number of which is still increasing through intermarriage.

Abela in his *Malta Illustrata* (1647) gave an interesting list of distinguished Maltese families who owed their origin to the Normans. Most of these families are extinct, either because they died out or because they returned to Sicily. The list of extinct surnames shows the prevalence of the foreign settlers making their home in Malta, but a few Semitic surnames like *Axiaq* and *Attard* amongst the distinguished Maltese families show that the pushful pre-Arabic families did compete with their foreign rulers for high-ranking posts in the administration of the country. The number is rather small, but the fact remains that the native surnames crop up with the newly imported foreign ones even among the nobility. Needless to say, that a good number of such surnames then considered foreign has now been incorporated into the Maltese onomatology very much as loanwords from Sicily and Italy have since been incorporated into the language and become an integral part of spoken and written Maltese.

There are now only a few Jewish families in Malta. No more than ten families, I think, but there was a time when they formed a substantial part of the population. Several place-names still recall their existence: *Għajn Lhudin* 'Jews' Fountain'; *Gnien Lhudi* 'Jewish Garden', *Ta' Lhud* 'Jewish Ghetto' (Birgu), *Qabar il-Lhud* 'Jews' Grave', *Għar il-Lhud* 'Jews' Cave' and a few others. Giliberto in his report to Frederick II (1240) said there were twenty eight Jewish families in Gozo on a population of 203 Christian families and twenty five Jewish families in Malta on a population of 471 families.

In order to understand why a number of Maltese personal surnames have been considered as originally of Jewish origin, one should bear in

mind the following few facts: While pre-Exilic Jews used Biblical names or native ones evolved from within the language, the post-Exilic Jews preferred the use of foreign names. Jewish, Greek and Roman names are quite usual. In the Talmudic period Hebrew names were often translated into the foreign languages. Thus Heb. *Zadok* became Latin *Justus*; Heb. *Tobu* became Greek *Ariston*; and Heb. *Hayyim* became Greek *Zosimos*, Jewish family names died out in the Talmudic times.

In the post-Talmudic times the Jews began to draw upon foreign languages to form their personal names. Such names were generally Biblical. Jews were prone to adopt names ending in *el* and sometimes Christian names or surnames. The choice of a civic name was generally made from a local place-name, which was added to their second name. The general trend of nomenclature among Jews in the Middle Ages was to adopt that of the countries in which they lived. Sephardic, that is linguistically Romance, names are largely local. This explains the large number of toponymic surnames in Malta and Italy.

In this paper I am going to treat Maltese surnames as so many additions to, or extensions from, the lexical material of the Maltese Language. To conform to the structural pattern of the language, I am going to divide Maltese surnames into two major linguistic divisions as I did in my book *The Structure of Maltese* (1959). These two linguistic structures are (a) the earliest Maltese surnames which belong to the Semitic Stock as well as (b) later Maltese surnames belonging to the Romance Stock which, in their turn, are divided into two categories, namely (i) Romance surnames which, in all probability, go back to the early times of the Normans or later Romance linguistic influences accumulating through ethnic admixtures and (ii) those which are comparatively modern and go back to recent times.

It is remarkable that though the Maltese tongue is, as I have repeatedly pointed out, basically Semitic with a Romance superstructure, the number of Semitic surnames is no more than about fifty. But these fifty surnames are significant because, though small in number, each one of them is borne by a large number of Maltese families in Malta and Gozo, whereas many of the more modern Romance surnames, though far more numerous when taken singly or as a whole, are borne each by a smaller number of families, in some cases by just a few families.

I am now going to give the whole list of Semitic Maltese surnames with the Semitic origin in their alphabetical order so that one may also understand the meaning of surnames which have ceased to mean anything to us because the original meaning has been lost in Maltese.

The Maltese Semitic surnames alphabetically arranged are:

A

Abela: Cp. Heb. אָבֵל 'to mourn'. The Abelas, originally Jewish family-names, were of Spanish origin. **Abdilla** < Ar. عَبْد 'servant slave' + اَللّٰه 'God'; hence the whole surname means 'servant or slave of God'. **Aber** Heb. אֶבֶר 'quill, wing-feather'; **Agius** Ar. عَجُوز 'old woman'; **Axiaq**, This is a village name – and may be either Ar. عَشَق plural of عَشَقَة 'bindweed' or Ar. adj. عَاشِق (both masculine and feminine) meaning 'loving passionately'; **Azzopardi** Heb. Hassefardi, indicating the Jews of Spain and the other Latin countries; **Attard** Ar. اَتَّار 'perfumer, druggist' + Lat. adj. suffix *dus* (pl. *i*) It. *do*; pl. *i*, whence surname Attardi.

B

Bajada Ar. بَيَاضَة 'good layer: hen', or fem. of بَيَاض 'egg-seller, white clay'; **Borg** Ar. بُرْج 'tower'; **Bugeja**, the name of the seaport known as Bougie in the department of Constantine (Algeria); **Buhagiar** Ar. أَبُو (a word meaning causality or possession) + حَبْر 'cavem, deep hole'; **Busuttil** Ar. أَبُو + سِتِّين for 'sixty', the full meaning being the leader (or possessor) of sixty (men). (Cp. nickname *Il-Buhames* أَبُو خَمْس 'father of five', Qala, Gozo 'possibly suggesting the rare occurrence of quintuplets' (J. Cassar Pullicino, *Social Aspects of Maltese Nicknames*, 1956, p. 15); **Buttigieg** Ar. أَبُو + دَجَاج 'hens'; 'the owner of hens, fowls'.

C

Caruana < Ar. كَيْرَوَان the name of a holy city of the Moslems of Tunisia in North Africa, founded about 670 A.D.; **Casha** < Ar. قَصْعَة 'wooden bowl for ten persons'; 'filling a terrace'; **Cassar** from Sic. *Cassaru* 'the name of a district of Noto (Sicily)', < Ar. قَصْر 'castle'; 'palace'; **Chetcuti**: Ar. كَتْكُوت, 'chicken newly hatched', cp. also كَتْكُوت 'poulet' (Kaz.); **Chircop**, also a place name, of doubtful origin. Cp. Eng. Kirkup; **Cuschieri** perhaps connected with Ar. كَشْكَارَة (Tunis); **Cutajar** Ar. كَيْتَر homme généreux et bienfaisant (Kazimirski); **Curmi** Ar. كُرْمِي de noblesse, de générosité appartenant au caractère noble, (Kaz.), cp. also قَرَامِي pl. of قَرْمِيَة 'stump of a tree', gurni 'jasmin jaune' (Beaus.).

D

Dimech: Some believe this surname to be originally Maltese *dmugh* 'tears' Ar. دُمُوع but it is very likely of It. origin. Cp. It. surname Dimecca 'of Mecca'. There are no certainly Semitic surnames beginning with 'D' in Maltese.

E

Ebejer (cp. M. 'Ghebejjer' pl. of 'ghabura', Ar. عَبُورَة pl. عَبَائِر 'a one-

year old goat'; **Ellul** Syriac Ar. *Elul* 'September'.

F

Farrugia Ar. *فَرُوج* 'chicken'; **Fenech** 'rabbit' < Ar. *فَنَك* 'kind of fox; marten', a word of Persian origin. According to Dozy *فَنَك* may mean 'any furred animal'; **Fiteni**: cp. Ar. *فَاتِن* 'misleading, disturber, tempter, seducer, alluring, captivating'; **Fsadni**, perhaps this is a composite surname made up of 'fasad' (< Ar. *فَسَد*) also figuratively, 'he made me lose my temper and I flared up', + Verbal pronominal suffix, first person singular *ni* 'me', 'he bled me'.

G

Galea, cp. Ar. *عَلِيَاة* 'a high place'; **Gauci**, perhaps Sicilian notaries' transcription of *Għawdxī*, 'Gozitan'.

H

Haber Heb. *חֵבֶר* 'companion'; **Hammet**, perhaps derives from M. place-name *ta' Hamet* in the limits of Gozo; Ar. *خَامِد*. Cp. Western Palestinian place-name *وَادِي الْخَامِد* 'the valley of Hamed'; **Hili**: perhaps a Maltese version of Ar. name 'Al-Hilli. Cp. also *هَلِيَّة* 'flock of goats', 'strength', whence M. *hila* 'strength, ability'; hence *Hili* 'the strong or able one'.

M

Meilaq: Ar. *مَيْلَق* (M. pl. *mwielaq*) *pierre de touche, pierre à aiguiser*, (Dozy); also the current M. word for 'strop'; **Mercieca**: mimated noun perhaps from Ar. *رَشَق* 'to throw a missile'; but more likely from semiticised *rexaq* < Sic. *rascari*, 'to strike off the overmeasure of corn' (Falzon); **Micallef** from Ar. *مُحَلِّف* active participle of *halef* (< Ar. *حَلَف*) 'to swear' (by God), the form being phonetically sicilianised; **Mifsud** past participle of *fasad* < Ar. *فَسَد* 'to be corrupt' or 'vicious' (cp. *bajda mifsuda* 'an addled egg'); or it may also be the past participle of Ar. *فَسَد* 'to bleed'; **Mintoff**, notarial modification of *mintuf*, past participle of *nitef* 'to pluck out feathers' < Ar. *نَتَف*; **Muscat**: this is the Ar. place-name Muscat, the town on the South coast of the gulf Oman.

S

Said < Ar. *صَعِيد* 'happy', 'canal of irrigation'; **Saydon**: this is the Ar. place-name Sidon, the name of a coastal town of Lebanon; **Saliba** < Ar. *صَلِيب* 'cross'; **Sammut** (less common variant *Samut*) (< Ar. *صَمُوت* 'silent' from *صَمَت* 'to remain silent' (Cp. M. use of *nsamat* in the sense of 'he remained dumbfounded, did not utter a word'). Notice that the Maltese surname has geminated the medial radical; **Sultana** < Ar. *سُلْطَان* 'ruler, Sultan' (cp. Eng. 'King').

T

Tabone (variant *Tabona*): this surname seems to be made up of *ta'* (of) + *Bona*, for place-name Bone, 'a sea-port of Algeria', 280 miles East of Algiers; **Tewma** < Ar. ثوم 'a head of garlic'; belongs to the spoken language in this sense.

X

Xerri < Ar. شرّ 'evil, bad, wicked'; **Xiberras**: for etymology, see p. 235 of my *Papers in Maltese Linguistics* (1961); **Xriha**: cp. Ar. شَرَهَة long shred of meat'; **Xuereb** < Ar. شوارب pl. of شارب 'moustache'.

Z

Zahra < Ar. زَهْرَة 'a flower, beauty, brightness'; **Zammit** < Ar. زَمِيْت *puissant, considérable par le rang qu'il occupe et par l'autorité (homme, personnage)*, and زَمِيْت *homme très-grave dans son maintien*, Kazi-mirski; **Zarb** < Ar. زَرْب 'enclosure for cattle', 'hunter's booth, entrance'; **Zerafa** Ar. زَرَّافَة 'giraffe'.

That is the whole list, not a very long one considering the larger variety of Maltese surnames from Sicilian and Italian and, in our time, also from English. The historical reason is that the native population of these islands which multiplied itself in the course of time was originally very small and therefore these surnames were similarly few in number. The investigating Commissioners sent out to Malta by Grand Master De L'Isle Adam in 1530 to report on the prospects of Malta, as the new headquarters of the Order of St. John expelled from Rhodes found 12,000 inhabitants in Malta and 5,000 inhabitants in Gozo, most of them poor peasants living in primitive villages.

The list of Semitic surnames which I have given when classified under different headings throws light on the social background, the mentality of the primitive Maltese families who called one another by some significant nickname as they still do in the villages in Gozo and Malta. These Semitic surnames can be grouped under the following headings:

(i) Nationality Names – Examples:

(a) *Hebrew origin*: **Attard**, **Azzopardi**, **Bernard**, **Ellul**, **Haber**, **Saydon** and **Sejsun**.

(b) *Arabic origin*: **Bajjada**, **Axiaq**, **Borg**, **Fenech**, **Saliba**, etc.

(ii) *Place-Names*: **Bugeja**, **Caruana**, **Gauci** if it stands for *Għawdx*, 'Gozitan'.

(iii) *Trade or Craft Names*: **Abela**, if it originally meant professional or hired mourner, 'keener', **Bajada** (if it means egg-seller), **Attard**, **Buhagiar**.

- (iv) *Rank Names*: **Busuttil, Micallef, Sultana, Zammit.**
 - (v) *Instruments*: **Mejlaq, Mercieca.**
 - (vi) *Land Fortification*: **Borg, Galea** (if from *Għolġa*, 'hill'), **Cassar, Zarb.**
 - (vii) *Time-word*: **Ellul** < Heb. **עֵלּוּל** (Elul August 8 – September, cp. Assyrian *u-lu-lu*) which, in the Middle Ages, became the month of repentance.
 - (viii) *Animals*: **Ebejer, Farrugia, Fenech, Zerafa.**
 - (ix) *Food-word*: **Cuschieri**, if it stands for Egyptian **كُشَاكِر**, 'food made of lentils and rice'.
 - (x) *Plant Names*: **Axiaq**, if the meaning is 'bind-weeds', **Psaila, Susano, Sejsun, Theuma, Zahra.**
 - (xi) *Descriptives* (a) *physical*, (b) *moral*: (a) **Agius, Chetcuti, Xuereb**, (b) **Cummi, Cutajar, Fiteni, Axiaq, Iili, Mifsud, Said, Sammut, Xerri.**
- Of these **Saliba, Sultana, Agius** and **Axiaq**, if it is not the pl. of Ar. **عَشَق**, are matronymic, that is, names originally borne by the mother of the family.

Though the classification of Semitic Maltese surnames is fairly varied, naturally as the total number is small, inevitably small also is the number included under each category. The fewness of such categories shows that these surnames go back to the time when Maltese Society was more simply graded than it is in our time, or, anyhow than it began to be from the time of the Normans onwards. The five rank-words, apart from **Zammit** which may have retained the original meaning, very likely indicated no more than a metaphorical extension of the original rank. Thus the fact that there are so many **Sultanas** in Xaghra (Gozo) does not mean that they all go back to some royal family or princess. The surname may have originated as a nickname to indicate the first woman that gave herself airs, or that may have originally belonged to a ruling class. Metaphor plays a great part also in surnames as in the extension of meaning from literalness to figurativeness in general.

The word-pattern is a basic character of the Maltese language. All the surnames which were included in the above list conform to one or other of the nominal and descriptive patterns of the language which I exemplified *in extenso* on pages 147-219 of my book *The Structure of Maltese* (1959), comparative references to which are indicated below by the abbreviation ST.M. followed by the number of the page and sometimes by the section letter.

These are:

- (1) **QaTL** (Cp. Ar. and M. *bard* 'cold', No.1, B. ST.M. p.147): **Zarb**;
- (2) **QaTLa** (Cp. M. *għajra* Ar. **غَيْرَة**), **Casha**; (3) **QoTL** (Cp. M. *roħs*,

Ar. رُخْس 'cheapness' No.4 ST.M. p.148): Borg; (4) QeTeL (Cp. M. *semen* 'butter', Ar. صَمْن, No.8 ST.M. p.150): Fenech; (5) QeTLa (Cp. M. *tewba*, 'penance', Ar. ثَوْبَة, No.12 ST.M. p.152), Theuma; (6) Qeta:la (This word-structure has not survived in Maltese.) Cp. Ar. Pattern (i) QiTa:La, No.24c ST.M. p.157). Example, Ar. خِيَانَة, M. *ħjiena*, 'treachery': Zerafa; (7) QTī:La (Cp. M. *ftira*, 'pancake' Ar. فُطِيرَة, No.26b ST.M. p.159): Xriha; (8) QaTi:La (Cp. Ar. and M. *ħadida*, 'piece of iron' No.1 ST.M. p.186): Saliba; (9) QaTu:L (Cp. M. *ħaruf*, 'lamb', Ar. حَرْوف No.20b ST.M. p.155): Agius; (10) QaTTu:l (Cp. M. *ghajjur*, 'jealous', Ar. غَيُّور, No.25 ST.M. p.198; for reduplication of medial radical, cp. Ar. حَرْوب M. *ħarrub*, 'carob, carob trees': Sammut; (11) QaTTu:la (Cp. M. *ħarruba*, 'carob-tree', Ar. حَرْوْبَة, No.25b ST.M. p.199): Farrugia; (12) QuTTa:L (Cp. M. *ħurtān*, 'bromegrass' ST.M. p.206): Muscat; (13) QiToLL (No such example survives in the Maltese Vocabulary): Kirkob, pronounced *Kirkopp* (stress on the second syllable); (14) QaTTa:la (A feminine formation describing a trade or craft, Cp. M. *tajjar*, 'cotton', Ar. طَيَّارَة 'child's kite', (M. *tajra*), No.20 ST.M. p.194): Bajjada;² (15) Qa:TaL (Cp. M. *batal* (ba:tal), 'useless', Ar. بَاطِل, No.4 ST.M. p.187): Axiag; (16) Qa:TeL (Cp. M. *gharef*, 'wise', 'learned', Ar. عَارِف, No.4(i) ST.M. p.187: Haber and Aber; (17) QoTLi (Cp. M. *ħotbi*, 'hunchbacked'), Ar. أَدَب, No.32 ST.M. p.201: Cummi; (18) QeTLu:li (Cp. M. *ferfuxi*, 'scatter-brained', No.45 ST.M. p.005: Chetcuti; (19) QeTli (Cp. M. *Xemxi*, 'sunny', Ar. شَمْسِي, No.30(i) ST.M. p.201): Xerri; (20) QaTLi (Cp. M. *ghaqli*, 'prudent', Ar. عَقْلِي, No.29 ST.M. p.200): Gauci; (21) QaTTi:L (Cp. M. *qassis*, 'priest', Ar. قَسَّيس, No.24 ST.M. p.198): Zammit; (22) QuTlieLi (see note on formation of relative adjectives on p.199 ST.M. and Bo.20(i) p.203): Cuschieri; (23) QuTLa:na (Cp. M. *xurbana*, 'drunk', fem. form of No.39 ST.M. p.203): Sultana; (24) QaTLa:na (Cp. M. *ghatxana*, 'thirsty', Ar. عَطْشَان, fem. form of No.34 ST.M. p.202): Caruana.

DIMINUTIVE FORMATIONS

(25) QeyFal: the only Maltese word in the language conforming to this pattern is *Mejlaq* 'a strop' which is also the surname *Meylaq*. See No. 48(ii) ST.M. p.209); (26) QuTayaL: no such example exists in modern Maltese. (Cp. M. *zghajjar*, 'rather young', Ar. صَغِير No.46 ST.M. p.208): Cutajar; (27) QTayla: this is the feminine formation of previous

² If *Bellia* stands for M. *belliegħa* (Ar. بِلَاعَة, balla:ʿa) 'whirlpool', it can be included as a pattern conforming to QaTTa:La with inflection of *a* into *ie*. But while *Bellia* could morphologically be a phonetic modification of *belliegħa*, one must note that the surname exists also in Italy.

pattern which in Maltese becomes **QTayLa**, Ar. **QuTayLa**, (Cp. M. *sgajra*, 'a small tree', Ar. شَجِيرَة No. 46 ST.M. p. 208): **Psaila**; (28) **QeyTu:l**: no such pattern exists in modern Maltese. This is a phonetic modification of **QayTu:L** (+a, fem.) (Cp. place-name in Gozo *Ta' Majmuna*): **Sejsun**.

With Preformative 'm'

(29) **maQTila** (Cp. M. patterns Nos. 71, 72 and 73 ST.M. p. 220): **Mallia**, but this is more likely from *Mallia*, place-name in Salento; (30) **miQTu:l** (Past participle formation, Cp. M. *mifruq*, 'separated', Ar. مَفْرُوق No. 65 ST.M. p. 216): **Mifsud**; (31) **meQTieLa** (Noun of instrument *meqtieL* +a; cp. M. *mebries* (+a), 'pestle', Ar. مِسْرَاس 'mortar', No. 66 ST.M. p. 217): **Mercieca**.

The only plural formation in the list of Semitic surnames is **Ebejer** which is still used in the language as the plural of *ghabura* 'a one-year old sheep'. In the list there are also a few composite surnames the prefix of which *Bu* from Ar. أَبُو indicates possession or causality.

We now pass on to a more numerous and linguistically not less interesting list of surnames. These are the surnames which originated from outside the Semitic linguistic stock coming to Malta with generally Sicilian or Italian men who married Maltese women.

The following is the alphabetical list not of all existing non-Semitic surnames which continue to increase with the ever-increasing tempo of mixed marriages, but of the older non-Semitic surnames given (and grossly mishandled etymologically!) by Annibale Preca in his book *Malta Cananea* (1904).

(Preca's list of surnames is also incomplete. The following, marked with an asterisk, are listed as names of Sicilian nobility by Antonino Mango di Casalgerardo in his two volumes *Il Nobiliario di Sicilia* (Palermo, MCMXV). Additional surnames in brackets are those not included in Preca's book, but are included in Mango's. One need hardly say that linguistics and heraldry are two separate studies, and that not every bearer of a surname borne by a noble family is himself necessarily of noble origin!)

A

* *Alagona*; * *Alaimo*; * *Albano*; *Allegritto*; *Almanara*; * *Amato*; * *Anastasi*; *Apap*; *Aquilina*; *Armenin*; *Armenia*; *Avola*; *Axisa*; *Azzopardi*. (* *Abela*; * *Acciaiolì*; * *Albanes* [M. *Albanese*]; * *Amodeo*; * *D'Ancona*; * *Arena*; * *Arrigo*.)

B

Bagnolo; *Baldacchino*; * *Baldes*; * *Balzan*; * *Barbara*; * *Bartolo*; *Bellhuomo*;

* Bellia; Bezzina; Bigeni; Bologna; Bonanno; Bonavia; Bonavita; Bondin;
* Bonello; Bonnici; Bonomo; Bordino; Briffa; Brincat; Bugaci. (*Bajada;
* Bellanti; * Biancardi; * Biasini; * Bisazza; * Bonamico; * Bonelli;
* Burlò.)

C

Cachia; Calleja; Callus; Camenzuli; Camilleri; Carbonese; * Cardona;
Carrobeni; Caspan; Cassia; *Castelli; *Catania; Cauchi; Chabica;
Chetcuti; Chircop; Ciangura; Ciantar; Ciappara; Cicala; Cilia; Cini;
Cippollazzo; Cordina; Cortis; * Cumbo; Cuschieri; Cutajar. (*Cacopardi;
(cp. M. *Cacopardo*); * Cali; * Caraffa; * Carbonaro; * Caro (de); * Cassar;
* Castelletti; * Cesareo; * Ciancio; * Conti; * Corvaia (cp. M. *Ncorvaia*);
* Cremona.)

D

Dalli; Damato; Darmanin; Darmania; Debono; De Cali; Deguara; Delicata;
De Naso; Deidun; Diacono; Dimech; Demicoli; Dingli; Duca; Duzzina.
(* Drago; * D'Agostino; * D'Andrea [cp. M. *Dandria*]; * De Martino; * De
Maria; * Denaro; * Di Domenico [cp. M. *Dedomenico*].

E

(* Enriquez.)

F

Falca; Falzon; Fantin; Fasoij; Faraci; Felice; * Formosa; Frendo. (* Fava;
* Felice; * Ferla [La]; * Ferrante; * Ferro; * Ferruggia [Cp. M. *Farrugia*];
* Forno.)

G

Gafa; Galdes; * Galea; Gambin; Garsin; Gatt; Gellel; Gerada; Giappone;
Giardina; Giordimaina; Gravagna; Grech; Grima; Grixti; Grungo; Gulia;
Gusman. (* Galia, [cp. M. *Galea*]; * Genovese.)

H

Habica.

I

Imbroll; Inguanez; (* Isfar, [Cp. M. *Asphar* (Semitic), a single family
surname of Indian origin]; * Licari; * Lombardo).

L

Laimo; Lanzon; * La Rosa; Lia.

M

* Magri; Mamo; * Manduca; Manfredi; Mannara; Mannarino; Manuele; Mazzara; Meli; Mercieca; Messina; Mileto; Mirabelli; Miràbita; Mizzi; Mula; Musci. (* Mallia; * Mangione; [Cp. M. *Mangion*]; * Maniscalco; * Massa; * Miceli; * Montalto; * Morana.)

N

* Nani; Napoletano; Napuleone; Natale; Naudi; Navarra; * Navarro. (* Natoli.)

O

* Oliveri [Cp. M. *Olivieri*].

P

* Pace; Paglia; Pajas; Pantalleresque, Parisio; Pellegrini; Peresso; Pirota (Cp. Sic. * *Perrotta*); * Pisani; Pollacco; Polidano; Portughis; Portugues; Portelli; * Pulis; (Cp. Sic. *Puglisi*); * Pullicino. (* Pavia; * Peralta; * Pisci [Cp. M. * *Pesci*]; * Pizzuto; * P oulet [Cp. M. *Pulé*]; Pulverenti.)

Q

Quattromani.

R

Rapa; Refalo; Rizzo; Rocca. (* Rossi.)

S

* Sacco; Saguna, (Cp. Sic. *Sigona*); Sapiano; Sajan; Sant; Sarreo; * Saura; Schembri; Scicluna; * Sciortino; Sghendo; Sillato; Solimella; Soria; Spagnol; Spiteri, (Cp. Sic. *Spitaleri*); Stieni; Stivala; Susano, (Cp. Sic. *Susinno*). (* Salamone; * Sapienza; * Sciberras; * Soler; * Spinola; * Stabile; * Stagno; * Stefano [de].)

T

Taliana; Tanti; * Tedesco; Tellus; Tonna. (* Tagliaferro; * Testa; * Testa-ferrata; * Tommasi; * Trapani; * Trigona.)

U

(* Ulloa [Cp. M. *Ullò*].)

V

Vaccaro; Vagnolo; *Vassallo; *Vella (Cp. Sic. *Vella-Varrios*; and *Vella di Comitini*). (* *Valenza* [Cp. M. *Valenzia*]; * *Vigo*.)

W

Wuzzini

X

Xara; Xicluna.

Z

Zurki.

The list of Sicilian surnames in Maltese is comparatively much larger than that of Semitic Maltese. There are two strains, so to say, of Romance surnames in the language: one which is very much older and goes back to the times of the Normans and another more recent which came with comparatively recent marriages. While the Semitic surnames may go back to pre-Norman times though not necessarily so, the Older Romance surnames are generally post-Arabic and, some of them at least, may go back to Norman times.

Maltese surnames of Italian or Sicilian origin may be listed under different headings, the main ones being:

I. *Place-Names*:

- (i) Albanese; Ascolese; Avellino; Cremona; De Piro; Dandria; Denaro; Formosa; Genuis; Giappone; Lucchese; Messina; Monreal; Padovani; Pantalleresco; Pavia; Penza; Pisani; Pulis; Salerno; Savona; Taliana; Tanti; Trapani.

(ii) *Country of Origin*:

Spain: Calleja; Cardona; Corrado; Enriquez; Flores; Galdes; Galizia; Ganado; Herrera; Inguanes; Navarro; Soler; Spagnol; Vidal.

Portugal: Carmona; Coleiro (original spelling Calheiro); Portughes.

English: Joslin; England; (cp. also Ingles); Mortimer (Mortimer in Normandy).

Irish: Burgess; Craig; DeGray; Dougall; Dowling; Holland; Jones; Lowell Munro; O'Brien; Turner; Warrington.

French: Bouvett; Doublesin; Gouder; Guillaumier; Lauron; Lautier; Marguerat; Randon; Rigeaud.

Jewish: Amato; Bondin; Gasan; Kissaun; Marks.

Greek: Cachia; Callus; Calamatta; Colombos; Filippidis; Grech; Salinos.

German: Huber; Mizzi; Tedesco; Wetz; Wirth.

Slavonic: Pugliesevich; Mitrovich; Robinich.

II. *Place where the action took place:* Esposito; Spiteri.

III. *Christian Names:* Domenico; Gabriele; Giuliano; Orlando; Raimondo, Ruggier; Vincenti.

IV. *Family Names:* Debattista (=De + Battista); Debrincat; Degiorgio (=De + Giorgio); Demarco (=De + Marco); Denaro (=De + Naro, place-name in Sicily); DeStefano (=De + Stefano).

V. *Relatives:* German; Cousin.

VI. *Ranks:* Conti (Cp. Eng. Count); Diacono; Duca; Monseigneur; Palmier (cp. Eng. Palmer); Piscopo; Podestà; Schiavone; Vassallo.

VII. *Land and Forts:* Barbara; Castello; Drago; Montanaro.

VIII. *Trade:* Ciantar; Maniscalco; Polidano.

IX *Descriptives:*

(a) *Physical:* Biancardi; Magri; Pizzuto.

(b) *Moral:* Cortis; Sapiano.

X. (i) *Plants and Fruits:* Castagna; Ciappara; Fava; Giardina; Olivieri; Palmier; Rapa.

(ii) *Trees:* Cassia.

XI. *Qualities of Character:*

(a) *Good:* Bonavia; Compagno; Felice; Giusti; Mansueto; Pace; Sant; Ventura.

(b) *Bad:* Briffa; Cachia; Gixti; Criminale.

XII. *Animals:*

(a) *Sea:* Cippollazzo; Pesci; Tonna;

(b) *Land:* Gatt; Pullicino; Zampa.

Examples of Maltese nicknames, (i) Semitic (S.N. for short) or (ii) Romance (R.N. for short), the meaning of which corresponds to that of Maltese and/or foreign surnames are:

(i) *Surnames of Semitic Origin:*

S.N. *L-għannej*, 'the singer' / R.S. **Ciantar** < Lat. Cantor; S.N. *l-aħmar*, 'red' / R.S. **Rossi**; S.N. *Gerrej*, 'rider' / It. S. **Corridore**; S.N. *Tabibu*, 'doctor' / It. S. **Medici**; S.N. *Hadidu*, 'iron' / R.S. **Ferro**; S.N. *Tal-Qaddis*, 'Saint' / R.S. **Sant**; S.N. *Tas-Sewda*, 'black' / It. S. **Negri**; S.N. *Butwila*, 'long, tall' / It. S. **Longo**, 'long'; S.N. *Tal-Hoxna*, 'fat, stout', / It. S. **Grasso**; S.N. *Tan-Niexef*, 'dry, lean', / It. S. **Secco**; S.N. *Tat-Trux*, 'deaf' / Fr. S. **Sourd** or **Lesourd**; S.N. *Ta' Harruba*, 'carob-tree' / It. S. **Carruba**; S.N. *Tal-Kemmin*, 'cumin' / It. S. **Cumino**; S.N. *Tat-Tajjara*, 'cotton' / It. S. **Cotone**; S.N. *Tal-Flieles*, 'chicks' / R.S. **Pullicino**; Fr. **Poulet**; S.N. *Tal-Hawwiefa*, 'swallow' / Eng. S. **Swallow** (Lincolnshire); S.N. *Ta' Dorbies*, 'lion' / It. S. **Leone**; S.N. *Tal-Ksiba* also *Gelluxa*,

'bull' / It. S. **Toro**; S.N. *Tal-Ghabajjar*, 'year-old ewes', M.N. *Ebejjer*, / It. S. **Capri** (sing for Capra); S.N. *Ta' Dip*, 'wolf' / R.N. **Lupi**, It. **Lupo**; S.N. *Ta' Żarmuġ*, 'young rabbit' / It. S. **Coniglio**; S.N. *Tal-Ġurdien*, 'mouse' / It. S. **Sorci**, Fr. **Souris**; S.N. *In-Nemes*, 'ferret' / It. S. **Furetta**; S.N. *Ix-Xidja* also *Ta' Dubbinuwa*, 'horsefly' / It. S. **Mosca**; S.N. *In-Naħli* / It. S. **Api**; S.N. *Tal-Farfett*, 'butterfly' / Fr. S. **Papillion**; S.N. *Ta' Ġħakrex*, 'snail or slow-moving' / It. S. **Lumacaci**.

(ii) *Surnames of Romance Origin:*

R.N. *Tad-delfin*, 'dolphin', / It. S. **Delfino**; R.N. *Ta' Frawla*, 'strawberry' / It. S. **Fragola**; R.N. *Tal-Gardell*, 'goldfinch' / It. S. **Cardellino**; R.N. *Tal-Faħal*, 'stallion' / It. S. **Stallione**.

As we have said at the outset, surnames are an integral part of the spoken language, some of the forms being obsolete or obsolescent like some part of the spoken or written vocabulary of the language. In order to give an idea of the origin of Maltese surnames generally as nicknames, I am going to classify a considerable list of Italian surnames to which may or may not correspond Maltese surnames incorporated into Maltese ethnography compared with French and English correspondences.

The correlation of surnames will help us to illustrate the origin of most surnames from nicknames as expressions of the psychological reactions of common folk who, as many still do in Gozo, prefer to call their friends and families not by their surnames, but by their nicknames. The nickname is still so popular in the countryside that at the Mnarja folk-ballad competition held every year on the feast of SS. Peter and Paul, some of the singers prefer to be announced to the listeners by their nicknames. This shows how spontaneous is the growth of a nickname which originates from a variety of motives such as affection, respect, and sometimes even contempt, indeed quite a number of motives which can be exemplified by the following lists of Italian surnames given under separate headings.

In order to show that surnames as so many words belong to the Dictionary of the Language, I have grouped them under separate headings, as in a Vocabulary by subjects:

Explanation of Symbols & References:

- (I) + after a surname indicates that there are other forms besides that given; multiple variants.
- (ii) + pl. *i* indicates the surname is in the plural form.
- (iii) * before a surname means that it is also found in Malta and or/Goza.
- (iv) - means that there is no corresponding surname in the language

preceding it.

- (v) Dauzat = Albert Dauzat, author of *Dictionnaire Étymologique Des Noms De Famille et Prénoms de France* (Paris).
(vi) P.H.R. = P.H. Reaney, author of *A Dictionary of British Surnames* (London).

I. Religion (including names derived from ecclesiastical dignities)

(a) It. *Abbate* (+ pl. *i*), Eng. *Abbot*, Fr. *Abbé*, *Labbé*; It. *Apostoli*, Fr. *Apostol*; [Cp. nickname *l-Appostlu* (Cospicua)]; It. *Cappellano* (+ pl. *i*), Fr. *Chapelain* +; Eng. *Chaplain* +; It. *Cappuccino* (+ pl. *i*); *Cardinale* (+ pl. *i*), Fr. *Cardinal* +; It. *Chierico* (+ pl. *i*), Fr. *Clerc*, *Leclerc*, Eng. *Clerk* +; It. *Chiesa* (+ pl. *i*), Fr. *Église*, *L'Église*, Eng. *Church*; also *Kirk* + "also *Sanctuary* +; It. *Diaconale* (Cp. with *M. Diacono* which is not in my Italian list) Fr. *Diacre*, Eng. *Deacon* +; It. *Cristiano* (+ pl. *i*), Fr. *Chrétien* +; Eng. *Christian* +; It. *Cristo* (+ pl. *i*) (Cp. *M. Nickname Tar-Rumi*) < Ar. *رُومِي* 'Christian'; Fr. *Christy*; Eng. *Christy* +; It. *Fede* (+ pl. *i*); Fr. *Feau* 'loyal'; Eng. *Faith*. It. *Festa*; Fr. *Festal* -; Eng. -; It. *Frate* (+ pl. *i*); Fr. *Moine*, *Lemoine*, (Cp. nickname *Tal-Patri*, *Victoria*, *Gozo*); Eng. *Monk* and *Friar* +; It. *Gesuita*; Fr. -; Eng. -; It. *Massone* (+ pl. *i*); Fr. *Maçon*, variant *Masson*; Eng. *Mason* +, (Cp. *M. nickname Tas-Settier*, *Ghajnsielem*); It. *Messa*, Fr. *Messe*, *Messant*; Eng. -; It. *Natale* (+ pl. *i*), also + *Natoli*; Fr. *Noël*; Eng. *Christmas*; It. *Palmiero* +; (Cp. *Palmier* in *Malta*); Eng. *Palmer* (+ *i*); It. *Papa* (+ pl. *i*); Fr. *Pape*, *Lepape*; Eng. *Pope*; It. *Pagano* (+ pl. *i*), whence diminutive form of famous surname *Paganini*. Fr. *Payen*; Eng. *Pagan*, *Pain* +; It. *Paradiso* (pl. *i*); Fr. *Paradis*, *sumom probable d'un acteur des Mysteres*, (cp. *Enfes nom de lieu d'origine or sumom d'après un rôle joué dans les Mysteres*. Dauzat. Eng. *Heavens* is variant of *Evans*, Welsh form of *John* dating from about 1500 (P.H.R.); It. *Pellegrino* (+ *i*); Fr. *Pèlerin*; Eng. *Pilgrim*; It. *Sacerdote* (pl. *i*) or *Prete*; Fr. *Prêtre* +; Eng. *Priest* +; *Cohen*; < Heb. *כֹּהֵן* ; It. *Santo* (+ pl. *i*), Fr. *Sant*; (Cp. *M. nickname Tal-Qdejdes* and also *Tal-Qaddis*, *Xaghra*, *Gozo*); Eng. *Saint*, *Sant*; It. *Sinistri*, also *Sinistrario*, Fr. *Gauche* +; Eng. -; (Cp. nickname, *lx-Xellugi*, 'the leftist', *Xewkija*, *Gozo*); It. **Speranza*, Fr. -; Eng. *Hope(s)* (from *Hope* or from residence in or new-raised land in a fen or small enclosed valley OE. *Hop*; It. *Spirito* (+ pl.), (P.H.R.); Fr. -; Eng. *Ghost* (< OE. *gaest* 'demon'); It. *Templo*; Fr. *Temple*; It. *Vescovo* (+ pl. *i*) and *Piscopo*; Fr. *Evêque* *Lévêque*; Eng. *Bishop*.

(b) *Nicknames*: *Il-Qassis* (Rabat) 'priest'; *Il-Papas* 'priest of the Orthodox Church', (*Siggiewi*); *Geswit* 'Jesuit', (*Siggiewi*).

II. *The World and its Elements*

(a) It. **Dell'Acqua** +; Fr. **Aiguier**, Eng. **Water(s)**, **Waterer**, **Bywater(s)**; It. **Caldi**; Fr. **Chaud**; Eng. **Warm**; It. **Freddo** +; Fr. **Froidure**; Eng. -; It. **Geli**; Fr. **Gelé**; Eng. **Frost(e)**; It. **Ghiaccia**; Fr. **Glace** +; Eng. **Snow**; It. **Luci**; Fr. **Lumière**, Eng. **Light**, **Lyte**; It. **Lucente** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Brillant** +; It. **Luna**; Fr. -; but Eng. **Moon(e)** < Anglo-French noun, *mun*, monk, (P.H.R.); It. **Mari**, Fr. -; Eng. **Seaborn** + (< OE. 'seaborn, sea-warrior'); It. **Mondo** (+ pl. *i*); Fr. -; Eng. -; It. **Nebbia**, Fr. **Brouillard** +; Eng. -; It. **Nuvoli**; Fr. -; Eng. -; It. **Polvere**; Fr. **Poussière** +; Eng. **Dust**; **Doust**, It. **Stella**, Fr. **Détoile**, **Estoile**; Eng. **Star**; (< M.E. *Sterre* 'star') It. **Tempesta** (+ pl. *i*); Fr. -; Eng. **Storm(s)**, **Stormes**, also **Tempest**; It. **Terra**; Fr. *Terre entre dans de nombreux noms a valeur topographique etc.*, (Dauzat); Eng. **Land**.

(b) *Nicknames*: **Sebghin Dinja** 'Seventy Worlds' (Siggiewi); **Tal-Qamar** 'moon' (Mellieha); **Ta' Bela' d-Dinja** (Qormi); **Tal-Mondu** (Qormi); **Tal-Ilma** (Marsalforn); **Ta' L-Akkwa** (Mqabba).

III. *The Winds*

(a) It. **Brezza** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. -; Eng. **Breese**, **Breeze**, nicknames from OE. *Bréosa* 'a gadfly' (P.H.R.), with which cp. M. nickname *Dubbinuwa*.

(b) *Nicknames*: **Taž-ziffa** 'breeze' (St. Julian's); **Ta' Venven** (St. Julian's), 'to blow strongly = wind'; **ta' l-Orjenti** (Victoria, Gozo), 'Orient'; **Tax-Xlokk** (Gozo); **Tar-Riħ** (Gozo).

IV. *Land and Water*

(a) It. **Argilli**; Fr. **Glaise** +; Eng. **Clay(e)**; It. **Collet**; Fr. **Col**; **Colline**; Eng. **Hill(s)**, **Hille**; It. **Costa**, Fr. **Coste(s)**; Eng. **Shore(s)**; It. **Fiume** +; or **Riva**; Fr. **Rivière** +, Eng. **Rivers** (doubtful etymology); It. **Giardino** +; Fr. **Jardin** +; Eng. **Garden**, **Gardyne**; It. **Isola**, Fr. **Lisle**, *l'Île* whence **Lille**; Eng. **Isles**, **Iles** +, It. **Lago** +, Fr. **Lac**, but generally composite as in **Dulac** or **Dellac**, Eng. **Lake(s)** 'dweller by the stream' (P.H.R.); It. **Monte** (+ pl. *i*); Fr. **Mont**, also **Montaigne** +; Eng. **Mount**; It. **Montanaro**; Fr. **Montagnier**; Eng. **Mounter**; It. **Pantano** +; Fr. **Marais** +; Eng. **Bogg**; It. **Roccia** +; Fr. **Roche** +; Eng. **Rock(s)**; **Roke**; It. **Valle** +; Fr. **Val**; (generally preceded by the definite article as in **Laval**; or a preposition, as in **Duval**), Eng. **Valley**.

(b) *Nicknames*: **Belliegħa** 'whirlpool' (Birgu), **Ta' Nofs Tomna** 'half a tumolo' (Gozo); **Tal-Qortina** 'wasteland'; **Tas-Sienja** 'water-wheel'; **Tal-Gabillot** 'landlord'.

V. Minerals and Metals

(a) It. **Acciario** +; Fr. -; Eng. **Steel(s)**, **Steele**; It. **Argento** +; Fr. -; Eng. **Silver**; It. ***Carbone**, Fr. **Charbon** (rare), **Charbonnier**, Eng. **Cole(s)**, **Coal**, **Coales**; It. **Diamanti** +; Fr. **Diamant**, Eng. -; It. **Ferro** +, Fr. **Fer**. **Dufer** *patronyme assez rare pour désigner un marchand de fer* (Dauzat); Eng. **Ironmonger** (also **Smith**, the commonest name in the British Isles). It. **Granito** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. and Eng. -; It. **Mercurio** (+ pl. *i*) Fr. and Eng. -; It. **Metallo** +, Fr. -, Eng. -; It. **Oro**, Fr. -; Eng. **Gold**, **Gould**, **Goold** (cp. also **Goldsmith**); It. **Ottone** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. -, Eng. **Brassett**; It. **Piombino** Fr. -, Eng. **Plumb(e)**.

(b) *Nicknames*: **Ta' Hadidu** 'iron' (Rabat); **Tad-Djamant** 'diamond', (Rabat Gozo, and Siggiewi).

VI. Animals

(a) It. **Agnello** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Agneau** +, Eng. **Lamb**; It. **Animali**, Fr. **Best(e)**, rare, Eng. -, It. **Asinari**, Fr. -, Eng. -; It. **Aquila**, ***Aquilina**, (Maltese form), Fr. **Aigle**, Eng. **Eagle(s)**. It. **Cameli**, Fr. -; Eng. **Camel(l)** +; It. **Cane**, Fr. **Chiennard**, Eng. **Doggett**; It. **Cavallo** +, Fr. **Cheval**, Eng. **Horsenail** +; It. **Colombo** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Pigeon** +, Eng. **Dove**, also **Pigeon** or **Pidgen** +; It. **Coniglio**, Fr. **Lièvre**, **Lelièvre**, (*le lièvre était le symbole de la poltronerie* (Dauzat), cp. surname **Fenech** < Ar. فَنَكْ 'marten', Eng. **Hare(s)**, **Rabbit(s)**, hypocoristics of **Robert** (P.H.R.); It. **Gallo** (+ pl. *i*) Fr. **Coq** +; Eng. **Cock(e)** (es), **Cox**; It. **Leopardi**, Fr. -; Eng. **Leopard**, **Lippard** +; It. **Lepre** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Lièvre** +; Eng. **Hare(s)**. It. **Lupo** (pl. *i*), Fr. **Loup** +; Eng. **Wolfe(e, es)**; It. **Maialetti**, Fr. **Cochon**, Eng. **Pigg**, also **Hogg**, It. **Paperi**, Fr. **Jar(s)**, **Jarsaillon**, Eng. **Goose**; It. **Pecora** +, Fr. **Brebis** (very rare) also **Mouton** +, Eng. **Sheep** and **Sheepmonger**; It. **Pellicano**, Fr. -, Eng. -; It. **Pesce** (+ pl. **i*), Fr. **Poisson**, Eng. **Fish** +; It. **Pernice** +, Fr. **Perdrix** +, Eng. **Partridge**; It. **Polli**, also **Pollina**, Fr. **Poussin**, **Poulain**, Eng. **Chicken**; It. **Rondinella** +, Fr. -, Eng. **Swallow**; It. **Scimia**, also **Scimmi**, Fr. **Singelin** +, Eng. -; It. **Sorci**, Fr. **Souris**, Eng. -; It. **Tacchini**, Fr. -, Eng. -; It. **Quaglia**, Fr. **Caille** +, Eng. **Quail(e)** also **Quayle**; It. **Uccello** also **Uccella** (+ *i*), Fr. **Oiseau** +, Eng. **Bird(s)**, **Byrd(e)**; It. **Vacca**, whence ***Vaccaro** extinct in Maltese, Fr. **Vacher** +; Eng. **Coward**, 'cowherd'; It. **Visco** +, Fr. -; Eng. -; It. **Vitelli**, Fr. **Veaux**, **Leveau**, Eng. **Veel**, **Veal(e)**, **Veall** also **Calf**, **Callf**; It. **Volpe** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Renard** +, Eng. **Fox**.

(b) *Nicknames*: **Tal-Fenek** 'rabbit', (Rabat, Munxar, Gozo); **Tal-Muċċu** 'cony' (Żebbuġ); **Taž-Žarmuġ** 'small rabbit' (Nadur, Gozo); **Tal-Qattus**

'cat' (Victoria, Gozo); *Ta' Dorbies* 'lion' (Siggiewi); *Ta' Dieb* 'wolf', (Għargħur); *Tal-Wizzu* 'gander' (Xaghra, Gozo); *Tal-Għabejjer* 'one year old ewes' (Għarb, Gozo); *Ta' Xaqra* 'red-haired goat'; *Il-felwa* 'silly', *Tal-Flieles* 'chickens' (Xewkija, Gozo); *Tal-Huttaf* 'swallow'; *Tal-Ġurdiën* 'rat' (Victoria, Gozo); *Il-Ġreġden* 'the little mouse' (Għajnsielem, Gozo); *Ta' Sorci* 'mice' (Rabat, Malta); *Is-Summiën* 'quail' (Mellieħa, and Munxar, Gozo); *Tal-Għasfur* 'bird', (Munxar, Gozo); *Ta' Robb* 'quarter of a carcass' (Luqa); *Iċ-Ċaneg* 'butcher blocks' (Nadur, Gozo); *Tal-Għoġol* 'bull' (Victoria, Gozo); *Tal-Baġħdan* 'pigeon hawk', (Mqabba); *Iz-zakak* 'white wagtail', (Mqabba); *Tal-Merill*, 'thrush'; (Qormi); *Tal-Kwakk*, 'heron'; (Rabat, Gozo); *Tal-Barbaġann*, 'barn owl' (Hal Qormi).

VII. Reptiles and Insects

(a) It. **Api**, Fr. **Abeille** + (Cp. nickname *In-Naħli*, Għarb, Gozo), -Eng. **Bee**, used for industrious person (P.H.R.); It. **Cimica**, Fr. **Pou**, Eng. **Bugg(s, e)** 'hobgoblin, bogy, scarecrow'; It. **Falena** (+ pl. *i*) (moth); Fr. —; Eng. —; It. **Formica** (+ pl. *chi*), Fr. **Fourmi** + (very rare), also **Fermigier**, Eng. —; It. **Mosca** (+ pl. *chi*); Fr. **Mouche** +; Eng. —; It. **Ragno** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Araigne** +, Eng. —; It. **Rani**, Fr. **Grenouille** + 'rare' *symbol du bavardage et du commerage* (Dauzat) Eng. —; It. **Vespa**, Fr. **Guepe**, Eng. **Waspe(e)**.

(b) Nicknames: *Tax-Xidja* 'horsefly', (Kercem); *Tan-Nemusa* 'mosquito', Għasri); *Ta' Hanfusa* 'beetle', (Siggiewi); *Tal-Farfett*, (Munxar, Gozo); *Ta' Għakrex* 'snail' or 'sluggard', (St. Julians and Xewkija, Gozo); *Tal-Bilbel* 'lark', (Għarb, Gozo); *Tal-Pespus* 'little bird', (Sannat, Gozo). *Tal-Bekkacc* 'woodcock'; (Cp. Eng. surname **Woodcock(s)** and Fr. **Bécasse**, *la bécasse symbolisait la bêtise*, Dauzat); *Il-Gruna* or *Laqrwa*, *Tal-Grew* (Victoria, Gozo), 'crane'; cp. Eng. nickname **Crane**, Fr. **Gruet** +, diminutive form of *grue*.

VIII. Fruit-Trees, Flowers, etc.

(a) It. **Albero** (+ pl. *i*); Eng. **Tree**, pl. form **Trewyn**, It. **Aglione**, (augmentative of It. **Agljo**), Fr. **Aillet** +, Eng. **Garlic** +; It. **Caroti**, 'carrots'; Fr. —; Eng. —; It. **Cannella** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. —; Eng. —; It. **Cavola** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Chou** +, Eng. —; It. **Erba**, Fr. **Herbier** +, Eng. —; It. **Fiore** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Fleur**, Eng. **Flower(s)**, It. **Fruttero**, Fr. **Fruchon** + *marchand de fruits* (Dauzat), also **Fruit**, **Fruitier**, Eng. —; It. **Garofani**, Fr. —; Eng. —; It. **Grano** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Blé** (rare), **Dublé**, Eng. **Wheat** + <OE *bwaet* 'active, bold, brave', (P.H.R.); It. **Limone** and **Lumia**, Fr. —; Eng. —; It. **Mazzi**, Fr. **Bouquet** +, Eng. —; It. **Noccioli**, also **Noci**, Fr. **Noix** +, Eng. **Nutman** + 'dealer of nuts' or 'servant of Nott' (P.H.R.); It. **Orzi**, Fr. —; Eng. —; **Barley**, **Barlee**; It. —; It. **Pera** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Poirier** +, Eng. —; It. **Pomi** +;

Fr. **Pomme**, **Pomes**, Eng. —; It. **Quercia**, Fr. **Chêne** +, Eng. **Oak** +; It. **Rosa**, Fr. **Rose** +; Eng. **Rose** +; It. **Susini**, Fr. **Pruneau** +, Eng. —; It. **Uva**, Fr. **Raisin**, Eng. —; It. **Melone** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Melon** +, Eng. —; It. **Carruba** or **Carrubba**, Fr. —, Eng. —; It. **Ginestra**, Eng. —, Fr. **Genet** +; It. **Oliva** or **Olivo** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Olivier** +, Eng. **Olive**, **Ollive**, **Oliver**, **Olliver**, **Olivier**. The French **Olivier** recorded in 1011 was at first southern and later became common through the influence of the *Chanson de Roland*. Dauzat takes it as symbolic from *Olivier* 'an olive branch' the emblem of peace (P.H.R.); It. **Cipolla** (+ pl. *i*), or **Cipolletta** with which cp. M. surname **Psalla**, Fr. —; Eng. **Onion(s)**; It. **Fieno**, Fr. **Foin** +, Eng. **Hay** (e, s) +; It. **Pioppo**, Fr. **Peuplier** (rare), also **Pouplier**, Eng. —.

(b) *Nicknames*: **Tal-Bukkett** 'bouquet' (Munxar, Gozo), **Ta' Harruba** 'carob tree', (Għaxaq), **Tas-Simara** 'common rush', (Għajnsielem, Gozo and Siggiewi); **Tal-Bajtar** 'prickly pears' (Mellieħa); **Ta' Frawla** 'strawberry', (Mellieħa); **Karfusa** 'celery' also devil's humorous nickname, (Rabat); **Tal-Parsott**, 'a kind of fig', with which cp. It. surname **Parisotti**; **Il-Qanbu** 'hemp' (Żebbuġ, Gozo); **Ta' Kemmun**, (Xagħra, Gozo); **Tajjara** 'cotton wool'; (Bormla).

IX. *The Human Body*

(a) It. **Corpi** +, Fr. **Corpel**, Eng. —; It. **Pelle**, Eng. **Skin**, **Skinner**, Fr. **Peau** + (rare); It. **Capo**, also **Testa**, Eng. **Head(s)**, Fr. **Tests** +, **Tête**; It. **Capello** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Pellet**, Eng. —; It. **Visone** or **Faccia** (pl. *i*), Fr. **Vis**, **Visage**, Eng. —; It. **Fronte** (occurring in **Fronterot**, **Frontali**), Fr. **Frontel** +, Eng. —; It. **Occhi** (occurring in surname **Occhibelli**, **Occhi-grossi**, **Occhi d'Oro** and **Occhini**), Eng. **D'Eye**, **Deye** from 'eye' (Hereford in Northern Suffolk or from residence near low-lying land), OE.; Fr. **Ouillet**; It. **Naso** (+ pl. *i*), Eng. —; Fr. **Nez**; It. **Linguitti**, from *lingua* 'tongue', Eng. **Tongue** (< 'dweller in the Town of Tongue', P.H.R.), Fr. **Langue**, *marchand de langues* (de boeuf, etc.) *plutôt qu'une mauvaise langue*; It. **Orecchio**, **Orecchia**, Fr. **Oreillard**, *homme a grands oreilles*, Eng. —; It. **Quattromani**, Fr. and Eng. —; It. **Collo** (< pl. *i*) Fr. **Coue**, *pourvu d'une queue* also **Col** 'colline' (Dauzat), Eng. **Neck**; It. **Dorso** 'back' if it stands for Italian **dorso**, Fr. —; Eng. **Back(es)**, **Bax**; It. **Panza**, also **Pancia**, (occurring also as M. **Panza Vecchia**), Fr. **Ventre** +, Eng. —; It. **Stinchelli**, Eng. **Schinn**, **Schym**, **Shinner**; It. **Piedimonte** (place-name), Fr. **Pied** also **Piet**, Eng. **Foot(e)**; It. **Bracci**, Fr. —; Eng. **Armstrong** with which cp. It. surname **Bracciaforte**; It. **Manodori**, **Manucci**, Fr. **Bras** +, Eng. **Hands**); It. **Ungolo**, from Lat. **Ungla**, Fr. **Griffe**, Eng. **Hoof** (perhaps < Original meaning); It. **D'ito**, Fr. and Eng. —; It. **Pollice** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. and Eng. —; **Thumb**; It. **Cilea**, (M. and Sic. **Cilia**), Fr. and Eng. —; It. **Dente**

(+ pl. *i*), Fr. —; Eng. **Tooth**; It. **Barba**, Fr. **Barbe**, Eng. **Beard**; It. **Sanguini**, from *sangue*, Fr. **Sanguin**, Eng. **Blood**, It. **Mortale**, also **Omo** in composite **Omodeo** (+ pl. *i*), variant of **Amadeo** (Fr. **Homo**, mot *latin* *homme*, surnom d'après la reproduction du Christ di *Ecce Homo* (Dauzat). Eng. **Man** (names occurring also in **Harriman**, **Ladyman**); It. **Vivi**, **Vivante** etc., Fr. **Vivant**, Eng. **Vivian**.

(b) **Nicknames**:

(i) **Body** (physical qualities): exx. *Tal-Hoxna* 'stout'; *Tan-Niexef* 'lean'; *Ta' Sansun* 'Samson', 'strongly built'; *Tal-Ggantz* 'giant'; *Tal-Fartas* 'bald'.
 (ii) **Diseases** (physical defects): exx. *Tal-Pesta* 'plague'; *Tat-Trux* 'deaf'; *Taz-Zopp* 'lame'; *Ta' Hafifu* 'light-headed'.

X. Mankind and Family Relations

(a) It. **Donna**, and **Madonna**, Fr. **Dame**, Eng. **Lady** also **Ladyman**, **Lady's** servant; It. **Moglie**, Fr. and Eng. —; It. **Ragazzi**, Fr. **Enfant**, Eng. **Boys**; It. **Parente** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Parent** +, Eng. —; It. **Padre** in **Padrevecchi**, Eng. **Fathers**, Fr. **Pere**; It. **Figliuolo** +, Fr. **Fillon**, *petit garçon*, Eng. —; It. **Fratello** (+ pl. *i*), Eng. **Brothers**, Fr. **Frère**; It. **Femminelli**, Fr. **Fillaud** +, Eng. **Girl**; It. **Maschio** + (pl. *i*), Fr. **Male**, Eng. **Male(s)**, It. **Verginelli**, Eng. **Virgin**, Fr. —; It. **Vedovi**, Fr. **Vève**, also **Veuve**, Eng. **Widdows**; It. **Sposato**, Fr. **Fiance** (the Fr. surname derives from a marriage promise) also **sposi**, Eng. —; It. **Nigra**. **Nigro** or **Negro** + (pl. *i*), Fr. **Nègre**, Eng. **Blackman**.

(b) **Nicknames**: *Tat-Tewmin* 'twins' (Marsa); *Tal-Parent* 'relative'; *L-Armel* 'widower'; (Gharb, Gozo).

XI. Dress and Clothes

(a) It. **Mantelli**, Fr. **Manteau**, Eng. **Mantle** or **Mantol**; It. **Panciotti**, Eng. **Waistcoat** also **Waistcoat** (from *Westcot*, Berks.), or from residence at the West Cottage (P.H.R.); It. **Taschi**, **Borsarelli**, Fr. **Bourse**, Eng. **Purse**; It. **Bottone** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Boutone** +, Eng. **Button** also **Botten**; It. **Scarpa**, Fr. **Chausse**, also **Soulier**, Eng. **Shoemaker**; It. **Cappello** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Chapeau** +; Eng. **Hatt(s)**; It. **Calza**, Fr. —, Eng. **Stocking** (dweller of ground of *Stubbs*, P.H.R.); Fr. *Bas homme à jambes courtes*; It. **Stivaletti**, Fr. **Botte**, Eng. **Boot(e)**; It. **Pannella** (+ pl. *i*) also **Spazzolini**, Fr. **Brousse** Eng. —; It. **Pettine**, Fr. **Peigne**, Eng. **Combe** (place-name *Comb* from residence of a small valley); It. **Guanti**, Fr. **Gantier** +; Eng. **Glover**; It. **Saponaro**, Fr. **Savon** +, Eng. **Soaper** +; It. **Anello** + (pl. *i*), Fr. —, Eng. —; It. **Collari** and **Colletti**, Fr. —, Eng. —; It. **Stoffa**, Fr. **Drapier** also **Draper** Eng. **Clothier**; It. **Maletta**, Fr. —, Eng. **Lace**; It. **Ago**, Fr. —, Eng. **Needle**.

(b) *Nicknames*: *Figorini* 'fashion', 'modello' (Birgu); *Ċoffi* 'bows', (Birgu); *Il-Modi* 'fashions', (Żebbuġ); *Ta' Seba' Franelli* 'seven flannel-shirts', (Siggiewi).

XII. Food and Drink

(a) It. **Pepe**, Fr. **Poivre**, Eng. **Pepper** and **Peppar**; It. **Sinapi**, Fr. **Moutard** also **Moutardier**, Eng. **Mustard** or **Mustart**; It. **Aceti**, 'vinegar' also, Fr. **Vin** (rare), 'wine', Eng. —; It. **Salata** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. and Eng. —; It. **Crema** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. and Eng. —; It. **Zuccheri** +, Fr. and Eng. —; It. **Bottiglia**, Fr. **Bouteiller**, Eng. **Bottle**, **Bottel**, metonymic for 'botler'; It. **Cibo**, Fr. and Eng. —; It. **Salza**, cp. Fr. **Sauce**, but this is believed to be the original form of *saule*, 'willow' (P.H.R.); It. **Salsiccia**, Fr. **Saucisse** (rare), Eng. —; It. **Riso** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. and Eng. —; It. **Brodosì**, adj. form of *brodo*, Fr. **Bouillon**, Eng. —; It. **Farina**, Fr. **Farine**, Eng. —; It. **Minestra**, **Minestrini**, (diminutive form of *minestra*), Fr. and Eng. —; It. **Gnocchi**, Fr. and Eng. —; It. **Maccarone** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. and Eng. —; It. **Pane** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Pain** and **Boulangier**, Eng. **Bread** +, from Bread Hills near Edinburgh; It. **Bocaccia** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Gateau**, Eng. **Cake(s)**.

(b) *Nicknames*: *Tal-Inbid* 'wine' (Rabat); *Tas-Soppa* 'soup'; *Tal-Ponc* 'punch'; *Tal-Ġnibru* 'gin'; *Il-Legliegi* 'wine bibber'; *Tad-Dqiq* 'flour' and *Tal-Mabluta* 'a mixture of corn (*qamḥ*) and barley (*xgħir*'); *Tal-Hobż*, 'baker', (Żejtun).

XIII. Eating and Cooking

(a) It. **Piatto** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Plat** +, Eng. **Disher**; It. **Coltella**, Fr. **Couteau**, Eng. **Knife**; It. **Cucchiai** +, Fr. **Cuiller**, Eng. —; It. **Bicchieri**, Fr. **Tasse** +, Eng. **Glass**, **Glassman** (+ 'dealer in glassware'); It. **Pignatti**, Fr. —, Eng. **Pott** +; It. **Boccale** +, Fr. **Broc** +, Eng. —; It. **Scodellaro** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Jatel** +, Eng. **Bowler** +; It. **Forno** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Boulangier**, Eng. **Baker**, **Ovens**.

(b) *Nicknames*: *Il-Platt* 'plate' (Rabat); *Stanjata* 'coffee pot' (Rabat); *Tat-tigan* 'frying-pan'; *Tal-Lida* 'pestle'.

XIV. Homes and Furniture

(a) It. **Camera**, Fr. **Chambre**, Eng. **Room(e)**, from **Rome**; It. **Letta** (fem. form of *letto* 'bed' or fem. of *letto* 'read'), Fr. and Eng. —; It. **Porta** (Whence the diminutive form of M. surname **Portelli**), 'small door', Fr. **Porte** +, Eng. **Porter**; It. **Campana**, Fr. **Cloche**, **Clocher**, *boiteux en ancien français plutôt que «sonneur de cloches»* (Dauzat), Eng. **Bell**; It. **Muro**, Fr. **Mur**, Eng. **Wall(e, s)**; It. **Tettoni**, Fr. **Toitot**, Eng. —; It. **Tavolacci**, Fr. **Blanche** (+),

Eng. **Plant**; It. **Specchio** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Miroir**, Eng. -; It. **Materazzo** (from **Materasso** 'mattress'), Fr. and Eng. -; It. **Scopone** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Balai**, Eng. **Broom(e)**, **Brome**; It. **Popolani**, Fr. **Personne**, *a désigné la personnalité ecclésiastiques*. (Dauzat) Eng. **Folk(e, es)** +; It. **Boccali** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Broc** +, Eng. -; It. **Secchi**, Fr. -, Eng. **Pails**, metonymic from **Pale**, **Payler**, 'maker or seller of pails'; It. **Bacelli** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Bassin**, Eng. -; It. **Chiavetta**, Fr. -, Eng. **Key(s)**; It. **Chiodo** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Clavel**, Eng. -; It. -, Fr. **Maitre**, Eng. **Master(s)** +; It. **Mattone** (+ pl. *i*), also **Mattoneli**, Fr. **Briquet** +; It. **Cucina**, Fr. **Cuisin**, Eng. **Kitchen** +; It. **Cuoco**, Fr. **Cuisinier**, Eng. **Cook(e)** +.

(b) *Nicknames*: **Tas-Sigġijiet** 'chairs' (Qormi); **Taċ-Ċavett** (Qormi and Rabat, Gozo). **Il-Lampa** (Mqabba) 'the lamp'. **It-tubu** 'lamp, glass' (Mqabba). **Iċ-Ċimblor** 'lamp-float'. **Il-Ftila** 'the wick' (Mqabba).

XV. Town and Country

(a) It. **Citadini**, Fr. **Ville**, Eng. **Town(s)** +, (Cp. surname **Villa** 'country house' +; It. **Campagna**, Fr. **Campagne** +, *nom de lieu d'origine dans le Midi*; It. **Piazza** (pl. *i*) +, Fr. **Place**, Eng. -; It. **Mercati**, Fr. **Marche** also **Marchat**, Eng. -; It. **Torre** (+ pl. *i*) also **Torregiani** (Eng. **Tower** from OE **TaWain** 'to Taw' (P.H.R.); Cp. Fr. **Tour** +; M. **Torreggiani**; It. **Fossa**, Fr. **Pot** (+), **Poteau** + (Fr.); It. **Castello** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Château** + also **Chatêl**, Eng. **Castle**; It. **Campo** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Champ** +; Eng. **Field(s)** +; It. **Foresta** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Forest** also **Foret** +, Eng. **Forrest** 'dweller or worker in a forest', also **Forster** + 'officer in charge of a forest' (P.H.R.); It. **Ponte** (+ pl. *i*) +, Fr. **Pont** +, Eng. **Bridge** +; It. **Strada**, Fr. **Rue**, *maison située sur la rue*, (Dauzat), Eng. **Street(s, e)**.

(b) *Nicknames*: **Tal-Brazil** 'Brazil' (Birgu); **Il-Ġermaniż** 'German' (Munxar, Gozo); **Tal-Grieg** 'Greek' (Haż-Żebbuġ); **Tal-Lhudi** 'Jew' (Valletta); **Tas-Siciljan** 'Sicilian' (Xewkija, Gozo); **Tal-Qormi** 'Qormi' (Valletta).

XVI. Profession and Trades

(a) It. **Profeta** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. -, Eng. **Prophet**; It. **Scolaro**, Fr. -, Eng. **Scholar** + 'probably dweller by the shieling with a hut, O.N. **skali**, **erg**' (P.H.R.); It. **Dottore** (+ pl. *i*), cp. also It. **Medici**, Fr. **Medicin**, Eng. -; It. **Medicina**, It. **Guardiano**, Fr. **Leguet** 'guard', Eng. **Watcher**, **Wacher**; It. **Mercanti**, also **Mercante**, Fr. **Marchand**, Eng. **Merchant** and also **Mercer** 'merchant'; It. **Scrivano**, also **Scrittore**, Fr. **Scribe** +, Eng. **Scripture**, **Scribe**, It. **Libri** (cp. R.M. surnames **Libreri**), Fr. -, Eng. **Books** 'writer of books'; It. **Calzolari**, Fr. **Cordonnier** +, Eng. **Shoemaker** +; It. **Sarti**, Fr. **Tailleur**, Eng. **Taylor**; It. **Ferrario**, **Ferrante** +, (pl. *i*), Fr. **Forge** +,

Eng. **Smith**; It. **Barbieri**, Fr. **Barbier**, Eng. **Barber**; It. **Campagnola** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Paysan**, Eng. —; It. **Portieri**, Fr. **Portier** +, Eng. **Porter(s)**; It. **Servi**, Fr. **Servant**, Eng. **Servant**; It. **Marinaro** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Marin** +, Eng. **Mariner** +; It. **Signore** (+ pl. *i*) and **Gentile** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. —, Eng. **Gentle** +, **Gentleman**; It. **Guida** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Guidet**, Eng. —; It. **Schiavo** (+ pl. *i*), and **Schiavone**, (also Maltese), Fr. **Esclavy**, Eng. **Slaven**; It. **Fomaro** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Boulangier**, Eng. **Baker**; It. **Giardino** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Jard**, **Jardin**, Eng. **Garden**, **Gardyne**, **Gardener**, **Gardener**, **Gardinier**, **Gardiner**, **Gairdener** (Scottish); It. **Sensale**, Fr. **Courtier**, Eng. —; It. **Notari**, Fr. **Note** 'note' not 'note security' (P.H.R.), Eng. **Nutter** from OE *nōtere* 'Scribe, writer' or a derivative of O Fr. *note*; It. **Giurato**, Fr. **Jure**, Eng. —; It. **Giudice** (+ pl. *i*) Fr. **Juge**, cp. M. surname **Micallef**, Eng. **Judge**.

(b) *Nicknames*: **Fanali** or **Tal-Fanali** 'Lanterns – Lantern-maker' (Żejtun); **Tar-Rizzi** 'sea-urchins'; **Tal-Landier** 'tinker', (Rabat, Malta); **Tal-Furnar** 'baker' (Siggiewi); **Tal-Mastru** 'master' (Siggiewi); **Tal-Kmand** 'commander' **Tas-Sintku** 'syndic, mayor'.

XVII. Colours

(a) It. **Rosso** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Rouget**, **Lerouget**, Eng. **Redhead**; It. **Turchini**, Fr. **Bleu**, Eng. **Blouet**; It. —, Fr. **Jaune**, Eng. —; It. **Verde** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Vert**, **Levert**, Eng. **Green(e)**; It. **Bigli e Bigioni**, Fr. **Brun**, **Lebrun**, Eng. **Browne**); It. **Bianco**, Fr. **Blanc** or **Leblanc**, Eng. **White**; It. —, Fr. **Noir**, **Lenoir**, Eng. **Blackman**; It. **Grigioni**, Fr. **Gris** +, Eng. **Grey**, **Gray**.

(b) *Nicknames*: **Tal-Aħmar** 'ruddy' or red; **Il-Ġinġel** 'fair'; **Tal-!swed** 'black'.

XVIII. Ships and Shipping Instruments

(a) It. **Barcarolo**, also **Navicello** +, also **Vascellari**, also **Barca** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. —, Eng. —, **Shipman**, **Boatman**, **Bottman**; It. **Timoni**, Fr. **Gouvernail**, Eng. —; It. **Remi**, Fr. and Eng. —; It. **Ancora**, Fr. and Eng. —; It. **Pescatore** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Pêcheur**, archaic form **Pescheur**, Eng. **Fisher**.

(b) *Nicknames*: **Tal-Patrun** (Gozo); **Tal-Vaxxell**; **Tal-Barkun** and **Tal-Bar-kuna** (Victoria, Gozo).

XIX. Travelling

(a) It. **Viaggio** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. and Eng. —; It. **Capitani**, Fr. **Capitaine**, Eng. —; It. **Arrivabene**, Fr. and Eng. —; It. **Sacco** (+ pl. *bi*), Fr. **Sack** +, Eng. **Sack**, **Sacker**, **Secker** 'maker of sacks or coarse cloth sackcloth'; It. **Bagagli**, Fr. —; Eng. —; It. **Cuscini**, Fr. **Piedeloup** 'wolf foor' (P.H.R.), Eng. **Pillow**, also **Pedlo Pello** from Anglo-French *pie de leu*; It. **Sella** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Selle** + *nom de localité et d'ancien fief* (Dauzat), Eng. **Saddler**

+ , It. **Denaro**, Fr. — , Eng. **Money, Penny**.

(b) *Nicknames*: *Tal-Kaptan* (Rabat, Gozo); *Tal-Baħri*.

XX. *Writing and Writing Implements*

(a) It. **Carta**, Fr. **Paperin** — , Eng. — ; It. **Penna**, Eng. **Penne** < OE *penn* 'pen, fold' or 'hill' (P.H.R.); in the sense of 'feather' cp. Eng. and Fr. **Plume**; It. **Calamaio** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Calameu**, Eng. — ; It. **Sigillo**, Fr. **Sceaux** *nom de localite d'origine* (Dauzat), Eng. **Seal** + 'probably metonymic for sealer' (P.H.R.); It. **Busti** also **Bustelli**, Fr. **Bustel** + = *personne a long bust*, Eng. — ; It. **Chiodo**, Fr. — , Eng. — ; It. **Mola** (+ pl. *i*), Eng. **Grinder**, 'grinder of corn', 'miller'. In Mediaeval England the reference may have been to a sharpener of tools or to a grinder of colours of papers (P.H.R.), Fr. **Meulemans**, also **Meulenaer** *homme de la meule avec s, génetif de filiation* (Dauzat).

(b) *Nicknames*: *Ta' Karti* (Qormi), 'papers'; *Tan-Naqqax* (Qormi), 'scarifier of grinding stones'.

XXI. *Shooting Implements and Fishing Tackle*

(a) It. **Sega**, Fr. — , Eng. **Sawers**, also **Sawyer(s)**; It. **Schioppa**, Fr. **Fusil** also **Fusilier**, Eng. **Gun** + ; It. **Polvere**, Fr. — , Eng. — .

(b) *Nicknames*: *Kannizzatu* 'fishing-net' (Żejtun).

XXII. *Times and Seasons*

(a) It. **Giorno**, **Bongiorno** (+ pl. *i*), Eng. **Day** < OE *daege* (fem.) ME *Day(e)*, *Dey(e)* 'kneader of bread', 'bread-baker', later 'dairy-maid'. Day is also a pet name for David, (P.H.R.); Fr. **Jourd'heuil** + ; It. **Lunedì**, Fr. **Montag** (Alsatian, German), Eng. **Monday**, 'perhaps a name given to one born on Monday or to a holder of *Mondayland* which was 'land held on condition of working for the Lord on Mondays', (P.H.R.); It. **Marte** (+ pl. *i*) Fr. **Mars** (i) *Le nom de lieu d'origine* (ii) *alteration de la forme populaire de Médard* (iii) *le nom d'un enfant trouvé en mars*, Eng. — ; It. **Mercurio** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. and Eng. — ; It. **Giovedini**, Fr. **Jeudi** (i) *surnom d'un enfant trouvé un jeudi* (Dauzat), Eng. — ; It. **Venere**, Fr. — , Eng. **Friday(e)**, 'perhaps one born on that day', (P.H.R.). Fr. **Samedi**, *nom d'enfant trouvé un samedi* (Alsace), It. **Domenici**, **Domenicano**, **De Domenic**, Fr. **Dimanche**.

(b) *Nicknames*: *Ta' Xitwi* 'Wintry' (Luqa and Żebbuġ); *Tal-Harifa* 'Autumnal'; *Is-Sajfi* 'Summery'.

XXIII. *Embarrassing Surnames (including bodily or moral deformity)*

(a) It. **Basso** (+ pl. *i*) also **Bassotti**, Eng. **Short**, Fr. **Court**; It. **Castracane**, **Castrati**; Fr. —; Eng. —; It. **Falso**, Fr. **Faux**, *sumom de faucheur après son instrument*, ou. 'homme faux', Eng. —; It. **Pazzi** also **Folli**, Fr. **Fol** +, Eng. **Folley** +; It. **Lucifero**, Fr. —; Eng. **Devil**, **Devail**; It. **Poltrone**, Fr. —, Eng. **Slowly**; It. **Malfatto** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. —, Eng. **Wrong**; It. **Beffa**, Fr. —, Eng. —; It. **Bruti** also **Brutti**, Fr. —, Eng. —.

(b) *Nicknames*: **Tal-Babaq** (Žejtun); **Ta' Berbex** (Zejtun); **Kanalja** (Birgu); **Beżża' l-Art Haż-Żebbuġ**; **Beżża'** Malta (Mqabba); **Id-Dagħwa** (Mqabba); **Il-Flagell** (Mqabba and Qormi); **Is-Saħta** (Mqabba).

XXIV. *Surnames indicating Nationalities*

It. ***Albanese** and **Albano**, (+ pl. *i*); Fr. **Albin**, Eng. **Alban** +; It. **Armenia** (M. **Armenia** and **Darmenia**), Fr. —; Eng. —; It. **Formosa**, Fr. —, Eng. —. It. **Moscato** (+ *i*) (M. **Muscat**), Fr. **Muscat** +, *proprement 'musqué', surnom de marchand ou de producteur de ce vin* (Dauzat), Eng. —; It. **Navarra** (and ***Navarro**), Fr. **Navarre**, Eng. —; It. **Napoletano**, Fr. —; Eng. —; It. **Pisano** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. —, Eng. —; It. **Portughesi** (M. **Portughes** and **Portughis**), Fr. —; Eng. —; It. **Spagnolo** (+ pl. *i*; M. **Spagnol**), Fr. **Lespagnol** +; Eng. **Spain**; It. **Tedesco** (pl. *chi*), Fr. **Alleman** +; Eng. **German**.

XXV. *Numbers (i) Cardinals (ii) Ordinals*

(i) It. **Quattro** (+ *mani*, *occhi*, etc.), Fr. **Quatre** (+ *boeufs*, *arbres*, etc.), Eng. **Four** (+ *acre*); It. **Sette** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Sept** (+ *idi*, *fonds*). Eng. **Seven** (+ *oaks*); It. **Otto**, Fr. **Huit**, Eng. —; It. **Venti**, Fr. —; Eng. —; It. **Trenta**, Fr. —, Eng. —; It. **Quaranta**, Fr. —, Eng. —; It. **Cento** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. —, Eng. —; It. **Mille** (+ *fior*), Fr. —, Eng. —.

(ii) It. **Primo** (+ pl. *i*), Fr. **Primaud** +, Eng. —; It. **Secondo**, Fr. **Second**, Eng. —. (N.B. French and English, as far as I could check, do not seem to have the corresponding surnames for It. **Terzi**, **Quarto**, **Quinto**, **Sesto** (Fr. has **Six**); **Settimo**, and **Ottaviano** (+ pl. *i*).

The general purpose of this study has been an illustration of the interdependence existing between nicknames and surnames in time and place and, under this aspect, the contribution to the lexical material of the language which the individual surnames constitute. Indeed, further linguistic study might have explored also grammatical peculiarities such as in the formation of Italian surnames the frequent plural formation in *i*, also of singular nominal and adjectival surnames ending in *a*, as well as the multiple forms which the same surnames may assume, some of which may represent old grammatical forms that have died out since. The ex-

amples could be increased to cover other aspects of a people's vocabulary but the list I have given is long enough and it would be quite unnecessary to increase the number of surnames for my purpose. The comparative study could be enlarged by adding examples from other languages. One would find that Man fundamentally thinks and feels alike everywhere. Examples from other languages would fit the illustrations as well as those from French, Italian and Maltese.