



The CJKI Arabic Verb Conjugator

نظام لتصريف الأفعال العربية



*The CJK Dictionary Institute is proud to present the ultimate tool to master the complexities of the Arabic verb system: the **CJKI Arabic Verb Conjugator**, or **CAVE**, for the iOS platform. CAVE is an easy-to-use Arabic-English conjugator that provides exhaustive coverage of linguistically accurate conjugation paradigms for over 1700 Arabic verbs.*

Distinctive Features

- ❑ instant access to over 410,000 inflected forms
- ❑ concise English translations for all Arabic inflected forms
- ❑ precise romanization system that indicates word stress
- ❑ functionally designed user friendly interface
- ❑ clearly pronounced audio in a beautiful voice
- ❑ immediate access from any inflected form, dictionary form, root or English
- ❑ search for verbs in Arabic script, Roman script, or English
- ❑ highly effective learning aid that stimulates a desire to learn

THE ARABIC VERB SYSTEM

Many educators maintain that since Arabic grammar is based on a logical system of roots and patterns, it is easy to learn. The Arabic verb system does indeed have a logical structure, so that many of the numerous inflected forms can be predicted by those who make the supreme effort required to master the complex rules, subtle subrules, and numerous exceptions.

The fact is that the complexities and irregularities of the Arabic verb system are difficult to master. The number of non-native speakers who have mastered the system is no doubt small, and it is well known that even educated native speakers find it difficult to gain a full command of the system.

STUDYING ARABIC VERBS

Mastering a verb system as complicated as the Arabic one is a burdensome process that requires years of effort. Traditional tools for learning Arabic verbs, like grammar books and printed paradigm tables, make learning a chore so tedious that it often demotivates the learner from ever mastering the system. In fact, paradigm tables present long and boring lists of verbs, often in barely legible print and with poorly designed indexes, making learning laborious and ineffective.

Why Arabic Verbs are Difficult to Learn

- ❑ The conjugation rules are numerous and complex and have many exceptions (14 major conjugation patterns with 182 subtypes).
- ❑ Though some conjugation patterns are similar, most differ significantly so that conjugating by analogy often fails.
- ❑ Each verb subtype has 130 affirmative forms and about 110 negative forms, resulting in 240 inflected forms per verb.
- ❑ The number of inflected forms for the 182 subtypes combined is a staggering 42,480. Though many of these are similar, their sheer number is overwhelming.
- ❑ Traditional tools for learning Arabic verbs like printed paradigm tables are ineffective.

Although recent years have seen a sharp surge in the number of Arabic language learners throughout the world, effective learning aids for mastering the Arabic verb system have not been available. Never before has there been such a compelling need for a new, pedagogically effective tool for mastering the Arabic verb system.

THE ULTIMATE ARABIC VERB CONJUGATOR

The CJK Dictionary Institute (CJKI) is proud to present to the world the ultimate tool to master the complexities of the Arabic verb system: the **CJKI Arabic Verb Conjugator**, or **CAVE**, for short.

CAVE is a bilingual verb conjugator that offers a rich set of features for gaining instant access to a wealth of clear, accurate and exhaustive information on 170 conjugation paradigms for over 1700 of the most common verbs used in contemporary Arabic. It comes with a user friendly interface as well as with clearly pronounced audio for each of the over 410,000 inflected forms covered by CAVE.



CAVE was developed on the basis of the author's several decades of experience in learning fourteen languages and in compiling several popular learner's dictionaries that have become standard reference works, and also draws heavily on extensive experience in developing various linguistic tools such as verb conjugators and transcription systems. The developers have spared no effort to ensure that the process of looking up verb paradigms is not only easy and fast, but also enjoyable and motivating.

FOUR SEARCH MODES

CAVE provides four search modes to enable even complete beginners to quickly and effortlessly locate the conjugation paradigm for any verb from any of its inflected forms, from the dictionary form, from the root, or from the English meaning. For the first three modes, both Arabic and Roman input are supported.

Full Search: allows the user to input any inflected form of the verb, a major feature of CAVE that is very convenient for learners. For example, typing *yatii* or يَأْتِي (active imperfect) will directly locate the entry for أَتَى 'atā 'to come' and does not require the user to know the dictionary form (أَتَى) nor the root (أ-ت-ي).

Verb Search: enables searching from the dictionary form, e.g. inputting *kataba* or كَتَبَ displays كَتَبَ *kātaba*, quickly zooming in on the desired entry.

Root Search: allows the user to input the root to find the dictionary forms of all the corresponding verbs, e.g. typing *Eml* or عمل displays عَمِلَ *éámila* 'work', عَمَلَ *éámala* 'treat', اِتَّعَمَلَ *taéámala* 'deal with', and others. This mode is convenient for advanced users who know the root of the verb.

English Search: allows the user to quickly find a verb from any of its English meanings, including partial and included matches. For example typing *return* or *back* will locate such entries as اِعْتَدَ *aeáda*



OTHER IMPORTANT FEATURES

- ❑ All forms are fully romanized using **CARS**, a new system designed for learners that indicates pronunciation with great precision.
- ❑ For the first time, **word stress** and neutralized vowels are indicated, e.g. لَا أُكْتُبُ *la 'áktubu* (*á* is the stressed syllable and *á* is a shortened vowel).
- ❑ The flexible **Roman Input Mode** allows the user to input many of the most common romanized spellings. For example, the word إِخْضَرَ *'ikhḍarra* 'be green' can be input as *ikhDarra*, *ikhDarra*, *'ikhDarra*, *'ikhdarra*, etc.
- ❑ The **Arabic Input Mode** allows inputting Arabic in vocalized, or partially vocalized Arabic.
- ❑ The **English meanings**, which have been carefully selected and fine-tuned to the needs of the learner, are clear, concise and listed in order of importance.
- ❑ Incremental search displays a list of candidate matches while typing.
- ❑ A history of all search keywords. Bookmarks can be added, deleted and quickly accessed.



FUNCTIONAL USER INTERFACE

The functionally designed clean user interface has been streamlined to ensure maximum user-friendliness and rapid access.

- ❑ Category Selector provides quick access to all verbs of a specific category
- ❑ various filters limit display to subsets like plurals
- ❑ harmonious blend of easy-to-read fonts and colors
- ❑ search engine fine-tuned for maximum speed
- ❑ Arabic pronounced in a clear and pleasant voice
- ❑ support for Arabic, Roman and English input



Rich Filtering Features

Several filtering features limit the display to a specific subset, giving quick access to the desired forms only.

- ❑ **Polarity Button:** gives access to negative forms, e.g. *lan ʾáktuba* 'I will not write' is the negative of *saʾáktubu* 'I will write'.
- ❑ **Number Button:** displays various subsets of the 13 personal forms: singular, dual, plural or all forms.
- ❑ **Language Button:** toggles between English and romanized Arabic.
- ❑ **All Button:** displays all inflected forms for each tense for a given person, enabling comparison of differences.



EFFECTIVE LEARNING AID

CAVE has been designed from the ground up to be a highly effective learning aid that promotes understanding and stimulates a desire to learn. The ease of use, richness of content and functional user interface provided by CAVE give the learner instant access to detailed information on every inflected form of verbs used in contemporary Arabic, including clearly enunciated audio for each form. Just typing an inflected form in Arabic or in any common romanization immediately displays a list of candidate matches.

Memorizing the detailed rules and exceptions for hundreds of verb conjugation patterns is a daunting task. Though it is a good idea to learn the major rules for the most common patterns, the advantage of using CAVE is that it provides the learner with a quick way to access all inflected forms and their meanings without knowing any rules. As the learner is increasingly exposed to Arabic using CAVE as a learning aid, he or she gradually internalizes the rules by osmosis, rather than through a conscious process of rote memorization. Eventually, producing the correct form becomes an automatic, mostly unconscious, process.

“ *This well-designed and practical app provides quick access to a full range of Arabic verb conjugations, and is useful and beneficial for mastering Arabic verbs and their numerous inflected forms.* ”

— Karin Ryding

Professor Emerita, Georgetown University

Author, *A Reference Grammar of Modern Standard Arabic*

CAVE puts at the user’s fingertips a wealth of detailed information on every aspect of Arabic verb conjugation. In fact, Arabic teachers have praised CAVE as a powerful learning tool that is likely to revolutionize Arabic pedagogy for both native and non-native speakers alike.

To download the application, please search the Apple iTunes App Store for “CJKI Arabic”.

ABOUT THE CJK DICTIONARY INSTITUTE

The CJK Dictionary Institute, Inc. (CJJI) specializes in CJK and Arabic computational lexicography, and is one of the world's prime sources for CJK and Arabic lexical resources. The institute creates and maintains CJK (Chinese, Japanese and Korean) and Arabic lexical databases currently covering over 24 million entries. Located in Saitama, Japan, CJJI is headed by Jack Halpern, editor-in-chief of the world-renowned New Japanese-English Character Dictionary and of various other dictionaries and learning tools.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jack Halpern (春遍雀來), CEO of CJJI, is a lexicographer by profession. For sixteen years he compiled the New Japanese English Character Dictionary, and is editor-in-chief of several learners' dictionaries, which have become standard reference works.



Jack Halpern, who has lived in Japan over 35 years, was born in Germany and has lived in six countries including France, Brazil, Japan and the United States. An avid polyglot who specializes in Japanese and Chinese lexicography, he has studied 14 languages (speaks nine fluently) and has devoted several decades to the study of linguistics and lexicography.

Jack Halpern has published over twenty books and dozens of articles and academic papers, mostly on the Japanese writing system and CJK information processing, has given over 600 public lectures on Japanese language and culture, and has presented dozens of papers at international conferences.

On a lighter note, Jack Halpern loves the sport of unicycling. Founder and long-time president of the International Unicycling Federation, he has promoted the sport worldwide and is a director of the Japan Unicycling Association. Currently, his passion is playing the quena and improving his Chinese, Esperanto and Arabic.

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