



# So-called Italianisms and their Etymological Status in Modern Standard Turkish Dictionaries

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**ABSTRACT:** Italian-Turkish encounters date back to the 15th century and the first studies on language contacts between Italian and Turkish appeared in the 1890's. With approximately 600 loanwords, Italian ranks fourth among donor languages for Turkish following Arabic, Persian and French. Italian is given as the source of 865 headwords in total in the dictionaries of modern standard Turkish that we have examined for this study, and 297 of their origin varies from one dictionary to another. The reason of this uncertainty is that it is sometimes very difficult to distinguish the direct donor language from one that only acted as an intermediary. We offer examples for future lexicographic studies to demonstrate how structure of the lemma is used as an origin indicator leaning on the semantics.

**KEYWORDS:** Italianisms, Modern Standard Turkish, lexicography, etymology.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Being the official language of the Ottoman Empire, Turkish had been in contact with numerous languages for centuries throughout a vast territory. There are 30 donor languages recorded as the source of loanwords in the *Turkish Dictionary* (TS) compiled by the Turkish Language Association (TDK Türk Dil Kurumu), and Italian occupies the 4<sup>th</sup> place among them with nearly 600<sup>1</sup> borrowings in Modern Standard Turkish (MST), following Arabic, Persian and French.<sup>2</sup>

Italian-Ottoman direct language contact first occurred in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, after Ottomans gained control of the eastern shores of the Mediterranean. Almost all researchers who wrote on Italianisms in Turkish draw attention to Greek mediation. It is obvious that some of the borrowings of Italian origin entered Turkish indirectly, most commonly via Greek thanks to the geographical vicinity and Greek speaking minorities under the Ottoman sovereignty (Kahane and Kahane 1942, 239), and/or via Romance languages, such as Romanian, Spanish or French (Klein 2018, 169-170; Kartalhoğlu 2016, 54). Doublets also occur when the same item is borrowed directly from Italian to Turkish as well as via Greek or another language (Kahane, Kahane, and Tietze 1958, 39).<sup>3</sup>

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1 Due to uncertainty of the etymologies which we will explain below, 600 is an approximate number, rather than a precise one.

2 For the list of the donor languages and the number of the borrowings from each language according to TS see: İşıhara 2005, 4-5.

3 Ven. *mante* > Tksh. *manti*; Ven. *manto* > Gk. *μάντρος* > Tksh. *mandoz*. Ven. *marangón* > [a] Tksh. *marangon*, *marangun*; [b] Gk. *μαραγκός* > Tksh. *marangos*, *marangoz*. It. *orza!* > Tksh. *orsa*, Gk. *ὀρτσάρισελ* > Tksh. *orsariz* (Kahane, Kahane and Tietze, 1958, 39).



### 1.1. PREVIOUS WORKS

Studies on Italian elements in Turkish from both historical and lexicographical perspectives date back to Gustav Meyer's *Türkische Studien* (Meyer 1893). Kahane and Kahane (1942) reexamined the lemmas presented in Meyer's work and extended the list in their article on Turkish nautical terms of Italian origin where they analysed 208 items. The most remarkable work on the topic is *The Lingua Franca in the Levant* (LFL) which was devoted to the nautical terms, again, borrowed from Mediterranean languages to Turkish (Kahane, Kahane, and Tietze 1958). It discusses 878 words in total, of which 724 are considered to be Italianisms and 154 Hellenisms, with different phonetic variants found in the Turkish dictionaries and literary works. Stachowski's article expanded the contents of a number of entries from LFL, with further attestations from various sources (Stachowski 1988). Rocchi's comprehensive paper, on the other hand, focuses on specifically Italian borrowings found in Ottoman Turkish texts written in the Latin script, from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> century (Rocchi 2013). Schweickard's valuable contributions deal with the Turkisms in European languages (Schweickard 2011a and 2014) and specifically in Italian (Schweickard 2011b). A relatively old study focuses on bidirectional borrowings between Turkish and Italian (Kundakçı 1978).

Italian elements in MST are usually mentioned in studies which deal with the borrowings from Western languages (Vural, Böler 2008; Kartallıoğlu 2016; Şimşek 2019; Uysal 2020). Italian elements in Turkish slang are another topic worth attention. Klein published a list of such words which he collected from slang dictionaries (Klein 2018).

### 1.2. ITALIAN ELEMENTS IN MST

Different editions of TS reflect the discord about the source language of some borrowings. Their origins have been recorded in a contradictory fashion beginning from the very first dictionaries of MST (Ergene 2014). For example, in the 1945 edition of TS, 351 items are attributed to Italian, while in the 2005 edition, this number rose to 623 (Vural and Böler 2008, 61). The difference is caused by a change in what is considered to be the donor language.

### 1.3. SOURCES AND METHODOLOGY

In this paper I will target etymologies given in three dictionaries of MST: TS, KL, and DDS. As the first step I extracted from each dictionary those headwords whose origin is said to be Italian. This preparatory step showed that dictionaries agree on the etymology from time to time. I focused my attention on those entries where at least one dictionary gives a different origin than the others.

In order to find the origins of those borrowings I will apply etymological principles and methods as described by Stachowski (2011, 89-90). Henceforth, the term "Italianism" will denote solely those words which have been borrowed directly from Italian languages to Turkish even if they ultimately stem from another language.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> This concept which I will follow in this paper, is explained in detail by Stachowski (2011, 34-35).



Let us begin with a description of those dictionaries of MST from which I have extracted Italianisms in this research.

TS is being published in printed form and updated online by *Türk Dil Kurumu* (TDK Turkish Language Association) the highest official authority dedicated to Turkish language researches since 1932. TDK's first MST dictionary was published in 1945; 11<sup>th</sup> and the latest edition of the TDK dictionary contains more than 92 thousand headwords. I have searched both TS and TBKS (available from TDK's website <https://sozluk.gov.tr/>)

Another MST dictionary I have scanned for Italianisms is KL. It was first published in 2010 by *Kubbealtı Vakfı* (Kubbealtı Foundation). It contains 93 thousand headwords including idioms and terms not only from standard Turkish but also from dialects. KL's website also allows users to search the dictionary: <http://lugatim.com/>.

DDS is the third dictionary that I have examined. It is published by *Dil Derneği* (Language Society). The latest, fourth edition of DDS was published in 2018. It is not specified how many entries there are in the dictionary. The online version of DDS is accessible on the Society's website: <http://www.dilderneği.org.tr/TR,274/turkce-sozluk-ara-bul.html>.

There is a significant difference between these three dictionaries with regard to the numbers of languages from which Turkish has borrowed words. TS lists 30 donor languages; KB raises this number to 47, and DDS lowers it to 17. Lack of consensus about the donor language can also be observed regarding Italianisms in Turkish. The number of Italian borrowings, as interpreted by these dictionaries, is as follows: 679 headwords in KL, 602 in TS, and 595 in DDS. (Compounds and derivatives of Italianisms have not been included.) In total, an examination of these three dictionaries yielded a list of 865 suspected Italianisms.

#### 1.4. ITALIANISMS IN MST FROM THE LEXICOGRAPHIC POINT OF VIEW

The first step in my research was to prepare a list of headwords which are attributed to Italian in at least one of the three dictionaries examined here. A sample of the material so collected is shown in tab. 1.

Table: 1. A sample of headwords attributed to Italian in at least one Turkish dictionary. Missing items are marked as “---”; items featured but given without etymology are marked as “?”.

Headword	TS	KL	DDS
<i>balina</i>	<b>It.</b>	<b>It.</b>	Lat.
<i>balyemez</i>	<b>It.</b>	Gk.	<b>It.</b>
<i>berber</i>	Pers.	<b>It.</b>	<b>It.</b>
<i>dümen</i>	<b>It.</b>	<b>It.</b>	<b>It.</b>
<i>kırlent</i>	Fr.	Fr.	<b>It.</b>
<i>lavanta</i>	<b>It.</b>	<b>It.</b>	<b>It.</b>
<i>manivela</i>	<b>It.</b>	<b>It.</b>	<b>It.</b>
<i>pantolon</i>	Fr.	Fr.	<b>It.</b>
<i>tıpa ~ tapa</i>	<b>It.</b>	<b>It.</b>	<b>It.</b>



<i>zibin</i>	?	<b>It.</b>	?
<i>zoka</i>	Gk.	<b>It.</b>	Gk.
<i>number of Italianisms total: 865</i>	<i>in TS: 602</i>	<i>in KL: 679</i>	<i>in DDS: 595</i>

As the second step I checked all the words from tab. 1 in Stachowski (2000, 2019), Rocchi (2013) and Eren (2019), and added a column to my list for the etymologies they suggest.

Table: 2. A sample of headwords supplemented with notes from etymological sources.

<b>Headword</b>	<b>TS</b>	<b>KL</b>	<b>DDS</b>	<b>Etymological note</b>
<i>balina</i>	It.	It.	Lat.	It. < Lat. < Gk. (KEWT, 77)
<i>balyemez</i>	It.	Gk.	It.	Ger. (KEWT, 78)
<i>berber</i>	Pers.	It.	It.	It. (Rocchi 2013, 892)
<i>dümen</i>	It.	It.	It.	Ven. (KEWT, 136)
<i>kirlent</i>	Fr.	Fr.	It.	It. (KEWT, 147)
<i>lavanta</i>	It.	It.	It.	It. (Rocchi 2013, 906)
<i>manivela</i>	It.	It.	It.	Fr. (Stachowski 2000, 174)
<i>pantolon</i>	Fr.	Fr.	It.	Fr. (ETDES, 409)
<i>tipa ~ tapa</i>	It.	It.	It.	Gk. (ETDES, 495)
<i>zibin</i>	?	It.	?	Ven. (KEWT, 371) It.<Ven. (ETDES 590) It. (Rocchi 2013, 923)
<i>zoka</i>	Gk.	It.	Gk.	Ven. (ETDES, 592)

Having prepared the table, I extracted from those items whose etymology varies between the three dictionaries. Some of those items have already been discussed in previous studies.

The focus of my examination are those words whose origins have not as yet been scrutinised in previous studies. In order to keep the analysis within the boundaries of a journal article, I will only target selected loanwords rather than attempt to find the origins of all of the so-called Italianisms in Turkish.

## 2. ETYMOLOGIES OF SELECTED WORDS

I collected a total of 865 entries which are attributed to Italian by at least one of the three dictionaries. Of this number, 297 are words where the dictionaries are not unanimous about the origin. 139 of those cases have already been discussed and explained in the etymological studies referenced above. This leaves 158 lemmas to explain. I will not attempt to provide definitive answer about the origins of all of those 158 words: I will merely make suggestions about the possible source of a selected group of them, in order to illustrate our method.



## 2.1. Phonetics

## 2.1.1. Specific sounds

## 2.1.1.a. It. [dʒ]

Headword	TS	KL	DDS	Suggested origin
<i>acyo</i> ‘agio’	Fr.	Fr.	It.	<b>It.</b>

Fr. *agio*. It. *aggio*. The presence of a voiced post-alveolar affricate is evidence of Italian origin, since such a consonant does not exist in French (Tranel 1998, 127). Neither phonetics nor the circumstances of language contact support the French origin in this case: since *acyo* is an economic term, it must have been borrowed by the educated class. If the borrowers had encountered the French version first, they would have easily adopted the [ʒ] sound which they were familiar with, unlike the lower classes who usually converted the sound to its affricate counterpart.

## 2.1.1.b. Fr. [ʒ]

Headword	TS	KL	DDS	Suggested origin
<i>arpej</i> ‘arpeggio’	Fr.	Fr.	It.	<b>Fr.</b>

Fr. *arpège* > Tksh. *arpej*. The [voiced post-alveolar fricative](#) consonant [ʒ] is missing from Italian (Rogers, d’Arcangeli 2004, 117-118); for this reason *arpej* must be considered a borrowing from French.

<i>jakuzi</i> ‘jacuzzi’	?	It.	Fr.	<b>Fr.</b>
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Fr. *Jacuzzi* must be viewed as a loanword from French for the same reason, the presence of [ʒ].

## 2.1.2. Word-final vowels:

Another phonetic clue are word-final vowels. The presence of a word-final vowel in a borrowing often suggests Italian origin while lack of it generally points to French.

## 2.1.2.a. Fr. -Ø

The majority of French and Italian loanwords in Turkish reflect fairly closely the pronunciation of the original language.

Headword	TS	KL	DDS	Suggested origin
<i>bilet</i> ‘ticket’ Fr. <i>billette</i> , It. <i>biglietto</i> .	Fr.	Fr.	It.	<b>Fr.</b>
<i>kasiyer</i> ‘cashier’ Fr. <i>casier</i> , It. <i>casiere</i> .	It.	It.	Fr.	<b>Fr.</b>
<i>korist</i> ‘chorister’	Fr.	Fr.	It.	<b>Fr.</b>



Fr. *choriste*, It. *corista*.

<i>konsül</i> ‘consul’	Fr.	Fr.	It.	<b>Fr.</b>
Fr. <i>consul</i> , It. <i>cònsole</i> .				
<i>lav</i> ‘lava’	Fr.	Fr.	It.	<b>Fr.</b>
Fr. <i>lave</i> , It. <i>lava</i> .				
<i>liret</i> ‘lire’	Fr.	It.	It.	<b>Fr.</b>
Fr. <i>lirette</i> , It. <i>lirétta</i> .				
<i>mandolin</i> ‘mandolin’	Fr.	Fr.	It.	<b>Fr.</b>
Fr. <i>mandoline</i> , It. <i>mandolino</i> .				
<i>pedal</i> ‘pedal’	Fr.	Fr.	It.	<b>Fr.</b>
Fr. <i>pédale</i> , It. <i>pedale</i> .				
<i>pomat</i> ‘ointment, salve’	Fr.	Fr.	It.	<b>Fr.</b>
Fr. <i>pommada</i> , It. <i>pomata</i> . Fr. -d > Tksh. -t.				
<i>şarlatan</i> ‘charlatan’	Fr.	Fr.	It.	<b>Fr.</b>
Fr. <i>charlatan</i> , It. <i>ciarlatano</i> .				

## 2.1.2.b. Fr.: -V

The above does not mean that French borrowings can never have a final vowel. The examples below do, and their French origin can be established based on the phonetic similarity of other segments of the word.

Headword	TS	KL	DDS	Suggested origin
<i>konserve</i> ‘canned (food)’	Fr.	It.	Fr.	<b>Fr.</b>

Tksh. *konserve* < Fr. *conservé* (past participle of *conserver* ‘to conserve’), It. *conservato* (past participle of *conservare* id.). The fact that the first canned food factory in Turkey was founded by a Swiss-British enterprise in 1894 (Kürkçüoğlu 2017, 41) also points to French as the source.

<i>lake</i> ‘lacquered’	Fr.	Fr.	It.	<b>Fr.</b>
Fr. <i>laqué</i> (past participle of <i>laquer</i> ‘to lacquer’), It. <i>laccata</i> (past participle of <i>laccare</i> id.).				
<i>maki</i> ‘maquis’	Fr.	It.	It.	<b>Fr.</b>

Fr. *maquis/makis*, It. *macchia*.

## 2.1.2.c. It.: -V

In the following examples, word-final *-a* indicates the Italian origin.

Headword	TS	KL	DDS	Suggested origin
<i>dama</i> ‘checkers’	It.	It.	Fr.	<b>It.</b>
Fr. <i>damer</i> , It. <i>dama</i> .				
<i>forma</i> ‘form’	It.	It.	Fr.	<b>It.</b>
Fr. <i>forme</i> , It. <i>forma</i> .				
<i>üniforma</i> ‘uniform’	It.	Fr.	Fr.	<b>It.</b>



Fr. *uniforme*, It. *uniforme*. It. -e > Tksh. -a might be an influence of vowel harmony.

<i>karabina</i> ‘carbine’	It.	It.	Fr.	<b>It.</b>
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Fr. *carabinade*, It. *carabina*.

<i>yarda</i> ‘yard’	It.	En.	En.	<b>It.</b>
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En. *yard*, It. *iarda*.

<i>sonda</i> ‘probe’	It.	Fr.	Fr.	<b>It.</b>
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Fr. *sonde*, It. *sonda*.

It. -CCa > Tksh. -Ca

Word-final vowels are the indicator for Italian origin in the examples below:

Headword	TS	KL	DDS	Suggested origin
<i>Sele</i> “bike saddle”	Fr.	It.	Lat.	<b>It.</b>

Fr. *selle*, It. *selle*, Lat. *sella*. It. -ll- > Tksh. -l-

<i>Sera</i> “greenhouse”	It.	It.	Fr.	<b>It.</b>
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Fr. *serre*, It. *serra*. It. -rr- > Tksh. -r-.

It. -o > Tksh. -a:

Turkish speakers have an inclination to add a word-final *-a* to European borrowings since they frequently encounter this sound in the final position in Italian etyma (Stachowski 1986, 112-113). The same mechanism underlies the It. -o > Tksh. -a change.

Headword	TS	KL	DDS	Suggested origin
<i>entrika</i> “intrigue”	Fr.	It.	It.	<b>It.</b>

Fr. *intrigue*, It. *intrico*.<sup>5</sup>

<i>kumanda</i> ‘control’	Fr.	It.	It.	<b>It.</b>
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Fr. *commande*, It. *comando*.

<i>romatizma</i> ‘rheumatism’	It.	Fr.	Fr.	<b>It.</b>
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Fr. *rhumatisme*, It. *reumatismo*.

Word-final -o and -e have also been preserved in several Italianisms:

-o

Headword	TS	KL	DDS	Suggested origin
<i>kriko</i> ‘lifting jack’	It.	It.	Fr.	<b>It.</b>

Fr. *cric*, It. *crizzo*.

<i>kadaastro</i> ‘cadastre’	Fr.	Fr.	It.	<b>It.</b>
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Fr. *cadastre*, It. *cadaastro*.<sup>6</sup>

-e

<sup>5</sup> According to Kamil Stachowski (p.c.) both the -V, and the -k- suggest Italian, but on the other the en- looks very much like a rendering of French nasal *ẽ-*.

<sup>6</sup> *cadaastro* is an obsolete form of *catasto* in modern Italian.



Headword	TS	KL	DDS	Suggested origin
<i>liste</i> ‘list’ <i>Fr. liste, It. liste.</i>	It.	It.	Fr.	<b>It.</b>
<i>freze</i> ‘milling cutter’ <i>Fr. frasié, It. fresa. It. -a &gt; Tksh. -e was caused by vowel harmony.</i>	It.	Fr.	Fr.	<b>It.</b>
<i>vizite</i> ‘visit’ <i>Fr. visite, It. visita. It. -a &gt; Tksh. -e was caused by vowel harmony.</i>	Fr.	It.	It.	<b>It.</b>

## 2.1.3. Other phonetic changes:

## 2.1.3.a. Gk. -Vs &gt; Tksh. -Ø

Headword	TS	KL	DDS	Suggested origin
<i>fiyonk</i> ‘bow tie’	Gk.	It.	It.	<b>Gk.</b>

Gk. *φινόκος*, It. *fiocco*. Turkish must have borrowed the word from Greek with a deletion of final *-Vs*, as it can be seen in some other Hellenisms in Turkish: *εργάτης* > *ırgat* ‘windlass’, *καλαφάτης* > *kalafat* ‘caulk’, etc. However this is not an exceptionless rule, some of the final *-Vs* have been preserved: *κόρφος* > *körfez* ‘gulf’, *σταυρός* > *istavroz* ‘cross’, *νότος* > *lodos* ‘southern wind’.<sup>7</sup>

## 2.1.3.b. Epenthesis:

Headword	TS	KL	DDS	Suggested origin
<i>madalyon</i> ‘medallion’	Fr.	It.	It.	<b>Fr.</b>

Fr. *médaille*, It. *medaglione*. Since Turkish has the tendency to preserve word-final vowels in loanwords from Italian as it was explained above in section 2.1.2.c, *madalyon* appears to be a French borrowing. Turkish speakers must have seen the connection between (Fr. *médaille*) *\*medayon* and *madalya* ‘medal’, so one can assert that the two words blended in Turkish in that the word-initial *\*me-* was changed > *ma-* due to vowel harmony and, besides, the *-l-* was inserted (epenthesis) under the influence of *madalya*, itself an Italianism in Turkish.

## 2.1.4. Uncategorised examples.

Headword	TS	KL	DDS	Suggested origin
<i>avanta</i> ‘pickings’	It.	Fr.	It.	It. ?

ETDES explains Tksh. *avanta* as follows: Fr. *avantage* ‘advantage, benefit’ > *\*avantajcı* > *avantacı* ‘sponger, freeloader’ and dropping the derivational suffix of *-cı* > *avanta*. Klein (2018, 171), on the other hand, suggests a more direct route: It. *vantaggio* ‘advantage, benefit’ > Tksh. *avanta*.

With the meaning of ‘profit, advantage’ It. *avanzo* could also be a candidate for the source of Tksh. *avanta*. It. *-z-* [ts] > Tksh. *-t-* might have been influenced by an old naval term *avanti/avanta* ‘forward!’ (LFL, 81) and/or French loanword *avantaj* ‘advantage, benefit’ in Turkish. For It. *-o* > Tksh. *-a* see section 2.1.2.c. above.

<sup>7</sup> For more examples see Kahane, Kahane, Tietze, 1958, 476-597.



<i>fagot</i> ‘bassoon’	Ger.	It.	Gk.	<b>Ger.</b>
<i>Ger. Fagott, Gr: φαγκότο, It. fagotto.</i>				
<i>funda</i> ‘shrub’	Gk.	It.	?	<b>Gk.</b>
Gk. <i>φούντα</i> ‘tuft’ is closer to Tksh <i>funda</i> both semantically and phonetically than Italian <i>fionda</i> ‘sling’.				
<i>laterna</i> ‘barrel organ’	It. <sup>8</sup>	It.	Lat.	<b>Gk.</b>
Gk. <i>λατέρνα</i> , Lat. <i>lāterna</i> . TS and KL suggest It. <i>lanterna</i> but this means ‘lantern’; Gk. <i>λατέρνα</i> ‘barrel organ’ is a much closer fit semantically, and also phonetically (-n-).				
<i>kolonya</i> ‘eau de Cologne’	It.	It.	Köln	<b>It.</b>
It. <i>acqua di Colonia</i> > Tksh. <i>kolonya</i> .				
<i>roka</i> ‘rucola’	Gk.	It.	Lat.	<b>Gk.</b>
Gk. <i>ρόκα</i> , It. <i>rucola</i> ~ <i>ruca</i> , Lat. <i>eruca</i> .				

## 2.2. Morphology

### 2.2.1. Metanalysis (perintegration)

Headword	TS	KL	DDS	Suggested origin
<i>Ringa</i> ‘herring’	Ger.	It.	Ger.	<b>It.</b>

Ger. *Hering*, It. *aringa*. It is quite likely that when Turkish speakers heard this word for the first time, it was used with the definite article: *l'aringa*. It seems that the first syllable was reinterpreted and consequently deleted by Turks who assumed it to be the Italian feminine article *la*.<sup>9</sup> The morphophonetic evolution of *ringa* was thus as follows: It. *l'aringa* > Tksh. *\*la ringa* > *ringa*. Similar examples of perintegration are: Fr. (*la*) *boutique* ‘boutique’ < *\*l'aboutique* < *\*la aboutique* < Lat. *apotheca* ‘repository’ (KEWT 96); and Pol. *ogar* ‘hound’ < *agár* < *\*az agár* < Hung. *a zagár* < Hung. *zagár* (Stachowski 2011, 45-46).

### 2.2.2. Portmanteau word:

Headword	TS	KL	DDS	Suggested origin
<i>sunta</i> ‘chipboard’	Ar.+Pers.	It.	?	<b>Ar.+Pers.</b>

According to TS *sunta* is a portmanteau word which was made by blending *sun* <sup>7</sup> (Ar. ‘artificial’) and *tahta* (Tksh. ‘wood’ < Pers. ‘board; plank’).<sup>10</sup> Such blends can be found in Turkish, though in a limited number, eg. *gerzek* ‘“idiotic” (< *geri* ‘back; (figuratively) stupid’ + *zekâli* ‘with intelligence’); *kanka* ‘best friend’ (< *kan* ‘blood’ + *kardeş* ‘sibling’). Several trademarks have a similar structure: *Lassa* ‘a tyre company’ < *lastik* ‘tyre’ + *sanayi* ‘industry’, *finkır* ‘nutcracker’ (< *findık* ‘nut’ + *kıracağı* ‘cracker’). The portmanteau hypothesis might not reflect the reality accurately, but it

<sup>8</sup> *laterna* is specified as a Hellenism in TBKS.

<sup>9</sup> Since they don’t have any semantic importance, articles are usually deleted by the borrowers, if they recognize them (Stachowski 2011, 28-30).

<sup>10</sup> The first chipboard producer company’s name is *SUNTA Tahta Sanayi T.A.Ş.* ‘SUNTA Wood Industry and Trade inc.’ (Günel 1996, 6). I could not locate first appearance of *sunta* in dictionaries of MST since I was only able to access earlier editions of a couple of them.



seems at least to be more acceptable than KL's suggestion of It. *sunto*, since the only *sunto* that there is in Italian, means 'summary, compendium' (< past participle of Lat. *sūmere* 'to take') and this meaning is not compatible with 'chipboard'.

### 2.3. Semantics and phonetics

#### 2.3.1. Doublets

Headword	TS	KL	DDS	Suggested origin
<i>depozit</i> 'deposit'	It.	En.	It.	<b>En.</b>
<i>depozito</i> 'deposit'	It.	It.	It.	<b>It.</b>

*It. deposito > Tksh. depozito.*

<i>mandalina</i> 'mandarine'	It.	Port./Fr.	Sp.	Gk. ? It. ?
<i>mandalin</i> 'mandarine'	---	Port./Fr.	---	Sp.? Fr. ? En.?

Fr. *mandarine*, Gk. *μανταρινιά*, It. *mandarino*. Port. ?, Sp. *mandarino*. According to *Lugat-ı Nâcî* (Nâcî, 671) and *Kâmus-ı Osmânî* (Salâhî, 311), *mandalina* is a borrowing from French. All the potential European sources have *-r-*, so the decision must be made based on other features, especially the final vowel. From this point of view, *mandalina* may either be a Hellenism or an Italianism or even a Spanish loanword, and *mandalin* is either a borrowing from French or from English.

Port. *mandarim* 'Mandarin' is not fit semantically for Tksh. *mandalin*, *mandalina*.

<i>mekanizma</i> 'mechanism'	It.	Fr.	Lat.	<b>It.</b>
<i>mekanizm</i> 'mechanism' (phil.)	Fr.	---	Fr.	<b>Fr.</b>

It. *meccanismo*, Fr. *mécanisme*, Lat. *mechanismus*. Based on the final vowel, *mekanizm* (a philosophical term) is probably a French borrowing, and *mekanizma* an Italianism. For It. *-o > Tksh. -a* see section 2.1.2.c. above.

<i>tema</i> 'theme'	It.	Fr.	Fr.	<b>It.</b>
<i>tem</i> 'theme'	Fr.	Fr.	Fr.	<b>Fr.</b>

Fr. *thème*, It. *tema*.

#### 2.3.2. Homonymy:

Headword	TS	KL	DDS	Suggested origin
<i>karanfil</i> 'dianthus'	Ar.	Pers.	Ar.	<b>Gk.</b>
<i>karanfil</i> 'pulley, tackle'	---	It.	---	<b>It.</b>

Ar. *qaranfil*, Pers. *qaranful*, It. *paranchino*. The name of the flower from the Caryophyllaceae family is a Hellenism: Tksh. *karanfil* < Gk. *καρυόφυλλι ~ καρφόφυλλον* (KEWT, 204).

According to ETDES, it was the influence of the name of a flower that caused It. *paranchino* 'pulley, tackle', a nautical term, to be rendered in Turkish as *karanfil* (ETDES, 261; LFL, 334).

The words below are shown as polysemy in TS and DDS when in fact they have different origins, i.e. they are homonyms. Only KL records them as separate headwords.



<i>maskara</i> ‘zany’ <i>maskara</i> ‘mascara’	Ar.	Ar. It.	It.	<b>Ar.</b> <b>It.</b>
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Ar. *mashara*, It. *mascara*. KEWT records the first *maskara* (‘zany’) as an Arabism. The etymon of the second one must be It. *mascara* ‘mascara’.

<i>palavra</i> ‘bragging’ <i>palavra</i> ‘deck’	Sp.	Sp. It.	Sp.	<b>Ladino</b> <b>It.</b>
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It. *ballauro*, Ladino *palavra*, Sp. *palabra*. There are two *palavra*’s in Turkish. The first one’s etymology is Tksh. *palavra* ‘bragging’ < Ladino *palavra* < Sp. *palabra* ‘word’ (ETDES, 407).

The second *palavra* in Turkish has been borrowed from It. *ballauro* ‘forecastle’ > Tksh. *palavra* “the main deck of a man-of-war” (LFL, 85), “lower deck” in MST.

<i>piyade</i> ‘infantry’ <i>piyade</i> ‘a small rowboat’	Pers.	Pers. It.	Pers.	<b>Pers.</b> <b>It.</b>
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It. *peata*, Pers. *piyāda*. *Piyade* with the meaning of “a foot-soldier” has been borrowed from Middle Persian (KEWT, 281; ETDES, 424), and the etymon is Pers. *piyāda* ‘footman’ (Steingass 1892, 262). Meanwhile, the sources of Tksh. *piyade* ‘a small rowboat’ are Old Ven. *piata* and Ven. *peata* ‘flat-bottomed barge’ (ETDES, 424; LFL, 348).

### 3. CONCLUSIONS

The suggestions made in this paper can be summed up as follows:

1. The majority of Italianisms preserve their word-final vowels in Turkish; hence the lack of a word-final vowel may be considered a sign of non-Italian origin.

2. Some vowel changes follow specific patterns for various languages due to the the borrowers’ perception. For example, It. *-V* tends to yield Tksh. *-a* because Turkish speakers identify word-final *-a* with Italianisms.

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### ABBREVIATIONS

Ar.	Arabic
Bulg.	Bulgarian
Ger.	German
Gk.	Greek
Hung.	Hungarian
It.	Italian
Lat.	Latin
Du.	Dutch
Pers.	Persian



Pol.	Polish
Port.	Portuguese
Serb.	Serbian
Sp.	Spanish
Tksh.	Turkish
Ven.	Venetian

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