



b. <b>Uighur:</b>	bina	building	mäsulat	harvest
	ziyapät	party	tarixiy	historical

## 2. Palatalised consonants in loan words in Turkish

Certain consonants are usually associated with front vowels. Consonants in loan words from Arabic were perceived historically as either front, back or undecided. Front or back consonants should be followed by a suitable vowel, but there are many mismatches. In particular, in some loan words a back vowel follows a palatalised consonant. Once again, it is the Arabic long vowels **a:** and **u:** that follow the wrong consonant. In modern Turkish orthography these vowels were often marked with a circumflex, although this is no longer necessarily the case in recent dictionaries. The preceding consonants are palatalised.

(3)	emlâk	property	lâzım	necessary
	kâmil	perfect	mahkûm	condemned
	mevlût	the Prophet's birthday	vilâyet	province

The same also happens in Uighur for example where k generally occurs with e and q with a, as in kamil "perfect" instead of the expected qamil.

## 3. Failure of a~i alternation in Uighur

In Uighur, historically long Arabic vowels have a further effect. A~i alternation occurs regularly when suffixes are added to a word (4a), (if a single consonant separates the suffix vowel from the last vowel in the word). Sometimes the alternation fails although the context appears to be suitable. A long vowel in an Arabic loan word blocks the alternation (4b).

(4)	<b>Uighur</b>				
a.	bala	child	b.	bala	calamity
	balilar	children		balalar	calamities
	balilirim	my children		balalirim	my calamities

In conclusion, I suggest that I, not U, is the only regular element head in Turkish and Uighur, whilst (A) and (U) occur exceptionally in certain loan words. I harmonises as a head, but is blocked by another element head. We are no nearer to explaining or predicting U-harmony other than stating that it spreads into an empty nucleus with or without I to accompany it, but in exchange we have a link between element heads and other phenomena in the languages.

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