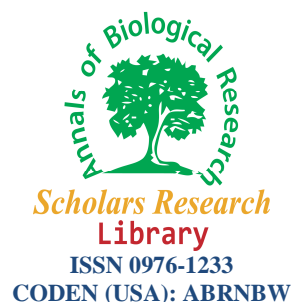




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# The lizards of Iran: An etymological review of families *Gekkonidae*, *Eublepharidae*, *Anguidae*, *Agamidae*

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## ABSTRACT

*The etymology of the reptiles, especially the lizards of Iran has not been completely presented in other published works. Iran is a very active geographic area for any animals, and more especially for lizards, due to its wide range deserts and ecology. We have attempted to ascertain, as much as possible, the construction of the Latin binomials of all Iranian lizard species. We believe that a review of these names is instructive, not only in codifying many aspects of the biology of the lizards, but in presenting a historical overview of collectors and taxonomic work in Iran and Middle East region. We have listed all recorded lizards of Iran according to the order of the scientific names in the latter book; (Although two species have been left unnumbered in the book, we have included both in the numerical order). All lizard species and types have been grouped under their proper Families, and then they have been alphabetically ordered based on their scientific binominal nomenclature. We also examined numerous published works in addition to those included in the original papers presenting each binomial.*

**Key words:** Lizards, etymology, Iran, genera, species, taxonomy, Middle East.

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## INTRODUCTION

The observation and study of lizards has been long a fascinating interest for at least one of the authors of this article. The book of Anderson, *The Lizards of Iran* (Anderson, 1999) turned our attention to study the lizards more deeply, especially the ones occur in Iran. At the first step we focused on the common English, Farsi and scientific names of the lizards. According to our knowledge, there is an evident lack of such a reference in the literature about the etymological review on the nomenclature of all up-to-now discovered, collected and recorded lizards of Iran (also for other Asiatic countries). The published paper of Braun and Mares (Braun, 1995) provided a substantial template for our idea to accomplish this aim. Then publication of the book "Field guide to the reptiles of Iran, volume 1: lizards" (Rastegar-Pouyani *et al.* 2006) guided and

facilitated our project. We believe that a review of these names is instructive, not only in codifying many aspects of the biology of the lizards, but in presenting a historical overview of collectors and taxonomic work in Iran and Middle East region. This article is to be continued in another one for the Families of *Lacertidae*, *Scincidae*, *Uromastycidae*, *Varanidae*, by the same authors.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### *Taxa*

The listing of lizards of Iran was based primarily on *The Lizards of Iran* (Anderson, 1999), and supplemented with other experience with the species comprising the fauna of Iran, including *Field guide to the reptiles of Iran, volume 1: lizards* (Rastegar-Pouyani *et al.* 2006). We also examined numerous published works in addition to those included in the original papers presenting each binomial, all listed in the reference section. We represent in this article the explanations of the Families: *Gekkonidae*, *Eublepharidae*, *Anguidae*, *Agamidae*.

### *Methods*

Taxa are listed in systematic order following *The Lizards of Iran* (Anderson, 1999). Orders, families, and subfamilies, if appropriate, are given. Genera and species are arranged alphabetically. The authority and date are given after each species name. Whenever possible, derivations of names are given. Original literature also was consulted for explanations of names or for clues in the descriptions. We have listed all recorded lizards of Iran according to the order of the scientific names in the latter book; (Although two species have been left unnumbered in the book, we have included both in the numerical order). All lizard species and types have been grouped under their proper Families, and then they have been alphabetically ordered based on their scientific binominal nomenclature. The lizards were numbered from 1 to 59 within brackets. We have presented current scientific name, the author named the species with the date, the synonym(s) if present, the English and Farsi [Fa.] names and a main reference especially dealt with that specific species or type. Then we have analyzed all of the Genera and also the epithets as they encountered. The original source of the word roots and their meanings have been mentioned from Greek (Gr.), Latin (L.) or other languages, e.g. Spanish (Sp.), Arabic (Ar.) etc. The additional explanations added if appropriate.

### **Etymology of Scientific Names:**

#### **Family: *Agamidae***

In zoological Family names, the suffix *-idae* represents the plural of L. *-ides*, indicating 'descendant of', from Gr. *-ides*. It takes the place of the genitive suffix in the name of the most important or best-known genus of animals, e.g.: *Equidae*, from *equi*, the genitive singular of *equus*, a horse (Partridge, 1966). Hence *Agamidae* is a family of lizards with *agama* as its prototype.

[1] *Calotes versicolor* (Daudin 1802), Indian garden lizard [Fa. *Sūsmār-e-bāghī-e-hendī*], Synonyms: *Agama versicolor* Daudin 1802, *Calotes cristatus* Jaquemont 1844; (Asana, 1931). *Calotes*—Gr. *kalótes* beauty (Liddell, 1885); referring to the *beautiful* external appearance of the species.  
*versicolor*—L. *versi-* turning, changing + L. *color* color (Lewis, 1969).  
*Agama*—Sp. *agama* a kind of lizard, a word of Caribbean origin (Klein, 1983).  
*cristatus*—L. *crista* crest + L. suffix *-at* having (Borrer, 1988), hence 'crested'; referring to the nuchal crest of the species.

In Farsi *sūs-mār* (meaning lizard): the final part means 'snake' and the initial part may relate to Pahlavi (or middle Persian) *sōsyâ* horse (Dehkhodâ, 1998), hence literally meaning 'a snake, running like a horse'.

[2] *Laudakia caucasia* (Eichwald 1831), Caucasian agama, [Fa. *āgāmāy-e-ghafghāzī*],  
Synonyms: *Stellio caucasius* Eichwald 1831, *Laudakia caucasicus* Baig & Böhme 1995;  
(Macey, 1998).

*Laudakia*—laudak-, of unknown origin, a place/person name.

*caucasius*—The different forms of epithet *caucasius*, *caucasia* and *caucasicus* denote Caucasian region. *L. caucasius* is a standard adjective form of *L. Caucasus*. The rest two forms have been formed by adjective suffixes *-ic* and *-ia*.

*Stellio*—*L. stellio* newt, stallion; literally meaning: 'having star-like spots on its back', and originally it was considered to be related to *Lacerto gecko* Linnaeus. It is finally derived from *L. stella* meaning 'a star' (Lewis, 1969).

Persian noun *Ghafghāz*, is an Ar. loanword, which perhaps is an arabicized form of Gr. *Kaúkasos*.

[3] *Laudakia erythrogastra* (Nikolsky 1896), Khorasan agama, [Fa. *āgāmāy-e-khorāsānī*],  
Synonyms: *Stellio erythrogaster* Nikolsky 1896, *Laudakia erythrogastra* Macey et al. 2000;  
(Anderson, 1999).

*erythrogaster* (masculine) and *erythrogastra* (feminine)—erythr-, Gr. *eruthros* red + gastr-, Gr. *gaster* stomach, belly (Partridge, 1966; Maggenti, 2005); referring to a red hue or color in the ventral scales of the species.

Farsi name refers to the geographical distribution of the species, namely Khorasan, where is an Eastern region of Iran, meaning 'the place of sun rising', formed from *khūr-* the sun + old form *ās-* (compare with modern Persian *āy-* to come [up]) to rise + toponym suffix *-ān*.

[4] *Laudakia microlepis* (Blanford 1874), Small-scaled rock agama, [Fa. *āgāmā-e-sakhreī-e-fals kūchak*],

Synonyms: *Stellio microlepis* Blanford 1874, *Agama microlepis* Boulenger 1885; (Cheatsazan, 2008).

*microlepis*—micro-, Gr. *micros* small + Gr. *lepis* scale, in genitive as *lepidis* (Maggenti, 2005).

[5] *Laudakia nupta* (De Filippi 1843), Large-scaled rock agama, [Fa. *āgāmā-e-sakhreī-e-fals dorosht*],

Synonyms: *Agama nupta* De Filippi 1843, *Stellio nupta* Blanford 1876; (Faizi, 2007).

*nupta*—The epithet *L. nupta* is the past participle of L. verb *nūbo*, indeed meaning *to cover, veil*, but as transferred meaning: *to wed marry*; hence *nupta* means 'one who hides herself (perhaps within rock slits)', but more correctly 'a bride-woman (who veils herself for bridegroom)' (Lewis, 1969), hence denotes the beauty and a crown-like crest in the head region of the species, representing a bride crown.

[6] *Phrynocephalus arabicus* Anderson 1894, Arabian toad-headed agama, [Fa. *āgāmā-e-sar-vazaghī-e-arabī*]; (Wittenberg, 1992).

*Phrynocephalus*—phryn-, Gr. *phrýnē* toad + cephal-, Gr. *cephalos* head (Liddell, 1885), hence a toad-headed lizard.

*arabicus*, Arabian, is the adjective form of *L. Arabia* (Lewis, 1969).

[7] *Phrynocephalus helioscopus* (Pallas 1771), Sunwatcher, [Fa. *āgāmā-e-āftābī*],

Synonyms: *Lacerta helioscopa* Pallas 1771, *Phrynocephalus helioscopus* Eichwald 1831; (Schleich, 1976).

*Lacerta*—English ‘lizard’ is finally derived from L. *lacerta* lizard, from Indo-European base \*lĕq- meaning *to bend, twist* (Klein 899).

*helioscopus* (masculine), *helioscopa* (feminine)—heli-, Gr. *helios* the sun + *scopus* watcher, from Gr. *skopein* to examine; hence ‘sunwatcher’.

[8] *Phrynocephalus maculatus* Anderson 1872, Black-tailed toad agama, [Fa. *āgāmā-e-sar-vazaghī-e-dom siyāh*],

Synonym: *Phrynocephalus spiniventris* Nikolsky 1896; (Ross, 1989).

*maculatus*—L. *macul-* (small) spots + L. *-at* having (Borrer, 1988).

*spiniventris*—spin-, L. *spina* a thorn, spines + ventr-, genitive L. *ventris* the belly (Braun, 1995).

[9] *Phrynocephalus mystaceus* (Pallas 1776), Toad-headed agama, [Fa. *āgāmā-e-sar-vazaghī*],

Synonyms: *Lacerta mystacea* Pallas 1776; (Krasovskiy, 1932).

*mystaceus*—The appearance of this species is fascinating like *a sorcerer*; the epithet *mystaceus* is an masculine adjective formed from suffix L. *-ace* ‘of the nature of’, hence ‘resembling’ and L. *mysta* (relating to mystery) meaning ‘a priest of the mysteries and secret rites of divine worship’; *mystacea* is feminine (Partridge, 1966; Lewis, 1969).

[10] *Phrynocephalus ornatus* Boulenger 1887, Striped-toad agama, [Fa. *āgāmā-e-sar-vazaghī mokhattat*]; (Golubev, 1998).

*ornatus*—English name and Farsi equivalent denote the remarkable ornamentations of the species; the epithet L. *ornatus* means *an adornment, decoration*, and in transferred voice meaning *an splendid dress, attire* (Lewis, 1969).

[11] *Phrynocephalus persicus* De Filippi 1863, Persian toad agama, [Fa. *āgāmā-e-sar-vazaghī īrānī*],

Synonym: *Phrynocephalus helioscopus* Boulenger 1885; (Ananjeva, 2007).

*persicus*—The epithet *persicus* is the adjective of L. *Persia* or *Persis* meaning ancient kingdom of Persia (Lewis, 1969), hence Iran or Iranian Plateau.

[12] *Phrynocephalus scutellatus* (Olivier 1807), Grey-toad agama, [Fa. *āgāmā-e-sar-vazaghī khākestarī*],

Synonyms: *Agama scutellata* Olivier 1807; (Anderson, 1999).

*scutellatus*—scut-, L. *scutum*, shield (Maggenti, 2005).

Although the English and Farsi names denote the color of the species, the epithets *scutellatus* (masculine) and *scutellata* (feminine) refer to the *scut-* dorsal shield-like form of the trunk of the species. Hence *scutellatus* literally means ‘having (-at) a small (-ell-) shield (*scut-*)’.

[13] *Trapelus agilis* (Olivier 1804), Steppe agama, [Fa. *āgāmā-e-estepī*],

Synonyms: *Agama agilis* Olivier 1804, *Agama isolepis* Boulenger 1885; (Rastegar-Pouyani, 2000c).

*Trapelus*—L. *trapelus*, from Gr. *trapelós* meaning: easily turned (Liddell, 1885), may be considered another synonym for *Lacerta*, meaning: *bending, twisting* (Klein, 1983).

*agilis*—The epithet L. *agilis* denotes again *that can be easily moved, that moves quickly*, hence *nimble, agile, quick* (Lewis, 1969).

*isolepis*—iso-, Gr. *isos* equal + Gr. *lepis* scale (Maggenti, 2005).

[14] *Trapelus lessonae* (De Filippi 1865), Horny-scaled agama, [Fa. *āgāmā-e-fals-shākhī*],

Synonyms: *Agama ruderata* Olivier 1804, *Trapelus lessonae* Rastegar-Pouyani 2000; (Torki, 2006).

*lessonae*—Named after Michele Lessona, an Italian zoologist.

*ruderata*—ruder-, *ruderis* genitive of L. *rudus* small stones for paving floors + suffix L. -at having (Lewis, 1969).

Considering English and Farsi names of this species, the epithet *ruderata* derived from *ruder*- meaning *stone fragments, rubble*.

[15] *Trapelus megalonyx* Günther 1864, Afghan ground agama, [Fa. *āgāmā-e-zaminī-e-afghānī*], Synonyms: *Agama microtypanum* Werner 1895, *Trapelus megalonyx* Rastegar-Pouyani 2000; (Ataev, 1994a).

*megalonyx*—megal-, from Gr. *megas* large + Gr. *onyx* claw, nail (Maggenti, 2005). The combining form of the latter is as *onych*-.

*microtypanum*—micr-, Gr. *mikros* small + tympan-, Gr. *tympanon* drum (Braun, 1995).

[16] *Trapelus ruderatus* (Olivier 1804), Persian agama, [Fa. *āgāmā-e-īrānī*],

Synonyms: *Agama persica* Blanford 1881, *Trapelus ruderatus* Rastegar-Pouyani 2000; (Rastegar-Pouyani, 2000b).

(See [14]).

[17] **Family: Anguidae**

*Anguis fragilis* Linnaeus 1758, Slow worm, [Fa. *kerm-e-tanbal*]; (Ali, 1950).

*Anguis*—a common word for *snake* or *serpent* in Latin.

*fragilis*—L. *easily broken, brittle* and *fragile* (Lewis, 1969).

Persian name, like English equivalent, describes the laziness of the species.

[18] *Pseudopus apodus* (Pallas 1775), Glass lizard, [Fa. *mārmūlak shīshehī*],

Synonyms: *Lacerta apoda* Pallas 1775, *Ophisaurus apodus* Mertens & Muller 1928; (Ananjeva, 2007).

*Pseudopus*—pseud-, Gr. *pseudēs* false + pus, Gr. *pous* foot, leg (Maggenti, 2005).

*apodus*—negative prefix L. *a-* not + pod-, Gr. *pous* foot, leg (Borror, 1988).

*Ophisaurus*—ophi-, Gr. *ophis* serpent + saur-, Gr. *sauros* lizard (Braun, 1995; Klein, 1983).

English and Farsi names denote the glistening scales of the species.

[19] **Family: Eublepharidae**

*Eublepharis angramainyu* Anderson & Leviton 1966, Western leopard gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-palangī-e-gharbī*],

Synonyms: *Eublepharis macularius* Boulenger 1885, *Eublepharis ensafi* Baloutch & Thireau 1986; (Tosunoğlu, 2004).

*angramainyu*—Avestan *angra mainyu* meaning destructive or evil spirit; perhaps referring to the native name of the species meaning 'small Satan'; compare with modern Persian word *Ahrīman* demon.

*Eublepharis*—Gr. *eu-* true, well + blephar-, Gr. *blepharon* eyelid (Partridge, 1966).

*ensafi*—Named after Alireza Ensafi, an Iranian zoologist, who served as volunteer medic, in Iraq-Iran war. He collected a lizard of this species from the war front, and sent it alive to Professor Baloutch in Tehran in July 1984. Then Baloutch and Thireau named this newly discovered species after him in 1986.

[20] *Eublepharis macularius* (Blyth 1854), Leopard gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-palangī*],  
Synonyms: *Cyrtodactylus macularius* Blyth 1854, *Eublepharis gracilis* Börner 1974;  
(Boulenger, 1890).

*macularius*—L. *macul-* (small) spots + L. *-arius* connected with, belong to, having (Partridge, 1966).

*Cyrtodactylus*—*cyrt-*, Gr. *kyrtos* curved + *dactyl-*, Gr. *daktylos* finger (Maggenti, 2005).

*gracilis*—L. *gracilis* thin, slender (Lewis, 1969).

[21] *Eublepharis turcmenicus* Darevsky 1977, Turkestan leopard gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-palangī-e-torkamanī*],

Synonyms: *Eublepharis macularius* Blyth 1854, *Cyrtodactylus macularius* Blyth 1854; (Auer, 2008).

*turcmenicus*—modern L. *turcmenicus* from Turkestan, central Asia (Gledhill, 2008).

[22] **Family: Gekkonidae**

*Agamura persica* (Duméril 1856), Blunt-tailed spider gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-'ankabūtī-e-īrānī*],

Synonyms: *Gymnodactylus persicus* Duméril 1856, *Agamura cruralis* Blanford 1874; (Alcock, 1897).

*Gekkonidae*—formed from gecko + *-n-* + *-idae*; gecko from Malay *gēkoq*, imitative of its cry (Klein, 1983). The infix *-n-*, has been inserted to avoid misreading as *'-oidae'*, meaning *similar to*.

*Agamura*—*agam-*, from *Agama* + *-ura*, Gr. *oura* tail (Maggenti, 2005).

*Gymnodactylus*—*gymn-*, Gr. *gymnos* bare + *dactyl-*, Gr. *daktylos* finger (Maggenti, 2005).

*cruralis*—*crur-*, L. *crus* leg + L. *-al* pertaining to (Lewis, 1969).

[23] *Asaccus elisae* (Werner 1895), Werner's leaf-toad gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-angosht-bargī-e-verner*],

Synonyms: *Gymnodactylus persicus* Duméril 1856, *Agamura cruralis* Blanford 1874; (Esterbauer, 1992).

*Asaccus*—*a-*, L. *a-* negative prefix + *sacc-*, L. *saccus* bag, sack (Lewis, 1969); (For systematic of this genus see Rastegar-Pouyani, 2006).

*elisae*— Named after Elisa.

[24] *Asaccus griseonotus* Dixon & Anderson 1973, Grey spotted leaf-toad gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-angosht-bargī-e-khāldār*],

Synonyms: *Phyllodactylus ingae* Eiselt 1973, *Asaccus griseonotus* Rösler 2000; (Anderson, 1974).

*griseonotus*—*grise-*, modern L. *griseus* gray + *not-*, Gr. *notos* back (Maggenti, 2005).

*Phyllodactylus*—*phyll-*, Gr. *phyllon* leaf + *dactyl-*, Gr. *daktylos* finger (Maggenti, 2005), referring to the leaf like terminal subdigital lamellae (Beltz, 2006).

*ingae*—genitive of L. *Inga* a plant name (e.g. *Inga oerstediana*) (Wikipedia, 2010a), a plant as a host for some larvae of insects; This epithet perhaps refers to frequent occurrence of the species around this plant and feeding on its larvae and insects.

[25] *Asaccus kermanshahensis* Rastegar-Pouyani 1996, Kermanshah leaf-toad gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-angosht-bargī-e-kermānshāhī*],

Synonym: *Asaccus kermanshahensis* Rösler 2000; (Anderson, 1999).

*kermanshahensis*—So named as it is restricted in distribution to the western regions of Iran, Kermanshah province + L. suffix *-ensis* from, belonging to.

[26] *Bunopus crassicaudus* Nikolsky 1907, Thick-tailed tuberculated gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-dom koloft-e-zigildār*],

Synonyms: *Bunopus crassicauda* Rösler 2000; (Kluge, 1997).

*Bunopus*—bun-, Gr. *bounos* hill, height, mound (Liddell, 1885) + *pus*, Gr. *pous* foot, leg (Maggenti, 2005).

*crassicaudus*—crass-, L. *crassus* thick + *caud-*, L. *cauda* tail (Maggenti, 2005).

[27] *Bunopus tuberculatus* Blanford 1874, Baluch rock gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-sangī balūchī*],

Synonyms: *Alsophylax tuberculatus* Boulenger 1885, *Stenodactylus lumsdeni* Boulenger 1887; (Leptien, 1993).

*tuberculatus*—tuber-, L. *tuber* hump + *-cul*, L. diminutive suffix meaning: small + *-at*, L. *-at* having (Borrer, 1988).

*Alsophylax*—als-, Gr. *alsos* grove, a place grown with trees and grass + *phylax*, Gr. *phýlax* a watcher, guard (Liddell, 1885).

*Stenodactylus*—sten-, Gr. *stenos* narrow + *dactyl-*, Gr. *daktylos* finger (Maggenti, 2005).

*lumsdeni*—Named after Lumsden.

[28] *Carinatogekko aspratilis* (Anderson 1973), Iranian keel-scaled gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-fals tighēī īrānī*],

Synonyms: *Bunopus aspratilis* Anderson 1973, *Carinatogekko aspratilis* Rösler 2000; (Kami, 1999).

*Carinatogekko*—carin-, L. *carina* keel + L. *-at* having + *gekko*, from Malay *gēkoq*, imitative of its cry (Klein, 1983).

*aspratilis*—L. *aspratilis* with rough scales, from L. *asper* rough (Lewis, 1969).

[29] *Carinatogekko heteropholis* (Minton, Anderson, & Anderson 1970), Iraqi keel-scaled gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-fals tighēī erāghī*],

Synonyms: *Alsophylax persicus* Reed & Marx 1959, *Carinatogekko heteropholis* Rösler 2000; (Leviton, 1992).

*heteropholis*—heter-, Gr. *heteros* different + *phol-*, Gr. *pholis* horny scale (Borrer, 1988).

[30] *Crossobamon eversmanni* (Wiegmann 1834), Eversmann's fringe-toed gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-angosht-rīshedār-e-eversmān*],

Synonyms: *Stenodactylus lumsdenii* Boulenger 1887, *Crossobamon maynardi* Kluge 1967; (Yadgarov, 1988).

*Crossobamon*—cross-, Gr. *krossoí* tassels, fringe + Gr. *bamōn* walker (Liddell, 1885); referring to the toes.

*eversmanni*—Named after Eduard Eversmann (1794-1860), German physician and naturalist.

*maynardi*—Named after Dr. F. P. Maynard, the zoologist and explorer of amphibians and reptiles.

[31] *Cyrtopodion agamuroides* (Nikolsky 1900), Nikolsky's spider gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-'ankabūtī-e-nikolskī*],

Synonyms: *Gymnodactylus agamuroides* Nikolsky 1900, *Cyrtopodion agamuroides* Kluge 1993; (Ataev, 1994).

*Cyrtopodion*—cyrt-, Gr. *kurtos* curved + Gr. *podion* little shoe, diminutive from Gr. *pous* foot.

*agamuroides*—*Agamura* (see above) + Gr. *-oid* like, similar to (Partridge, 1966).

[32] *Cyrtopodion brevipes* (Blanford 1874), Blanford's short-toed gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-angosht kūtāh-e-blānford*],

Synonyms: *Gymnodactylus brevipes* Blanford 1874, *Mediodactylus brevipes* Kluge 1991; (Rastegar-Pouyani, 2009).

*brevipes*—brev-, L. *brevis* short + L. *pes* leg, foot (Borrer, 1988).

*Mediodactylus*—medi-, L. *medius* middle + dactyl-, Gr. *daktylos* finger (Maggenti, 2005).

[33] *Cyrtopodion caspius* (Eichwald 1831), Caspian bent-toed gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-angosht kaj-e-khazarī*],

Synonyms: *Gymnodactylus caspius* Eichwald 1831, *Tenuidactylus caspius* Kluge 1993; (Rastegar-Pouyani, 2009).

*caspius* and *caspius*—L. *Caspium mǎre* the Caspian Sea, and adjective L. *caspius* meaning belonging to, or occurred in the regions around the Caspian Sea (Lewis, 1969).

*Tenuidactylus*—tenu-, L. *tenuis*, thin + dactyl-, Gr. *daktylos* finger (Maggenti, 2005).

[34] *Cyrtopodion gastrophole* (Werner 1917), Werner's bent-toed gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-angosht kaj-e-verner*],

Synonyms: *Gymnodactylus gastrophole* Werner 1917; (Rastegar-Pouyani, 2009).

*gastrophole*—gastr-, Gr. *gaster* stomach, belly + phole, Gr. *pholis* horny scale (Maggenti, 2005).

[35] *Cyrtopodion heterocercum* (Blanford 1874), Asia Minor thin-toed gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-angosht bārīk asi-yāy-e-saghīr*],

Synonyms: *Gymnodactylus heterocercum* Blanford 1874, *Mediodactylus heterocercus* Kluge 1993; (Sindaco, 2000).

*heterocercum*—heter-, Gr. *heteros*, different + cerc-, Gr. *kerkos*, tail (Maggenti, 2005); referring to the difference of scale forms of tail with the other parts of body.

[36] *Cyrtopodion kachhense* (Stoliczka 1872), Warty rock gecko, [Fa. *jeko sakhreī zegīldār*],

Synonyms: *Gymnodactylus kachhensis* Stoliczka 1872, *Cyrtopodion kachhensis* Kluge 1991; (Anderson, 1999).

*kachhense*—kachh-, *Kachchh* a local name in India + L. suffix *-ense* belonging to, from; *Cyrtopodion kachhensis* also called 'Kutch Gecko' is a species of gecko found in Pakistan (Sind, Baluchistan) and adjacent India (*Kachchh*) (Wikipedia, 2010b).

[37] *Cyrtopodion kirmanense* (Nikolsky 1900), Kerman bent-toed gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-angosht kaj-e-kermānī*],

Synonyms: *Gymnodactylus kirmanensis* Nikolsky 1900, *Gonydactylus kirmanensis* Kluge 1991; (Anderson, 1999).

*kirmanense* and *kirmanensis*—Latinized local name of Kermān region (in old dialect as Kirmān) in Iran with famous deserts (Kavīr and Dasht-e-Lūt etc.) + L. suffix *-ensis* belong to, from.

[38] *Cyrtopodion longipes* (Nikolsky 1896), Nikolsky's long-toed gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-angosht derāz-e-nikolskī*],

Synonyms: *Gymnodactylus longipes* Nikolsky 1896, *Tenuidactylus voraginosus* Kluge 1991; (Ataev, 1994b).

*longipes*—long-, L. *longus* long + L. *pes* leg, foot (Borrer, 1988).

*voraginosus*—L. *vōrāgīnōsus* full of pits, chasms, voraginous; from L. *vōrāgo* an abyss; and eventually from L. *vōro* to swallow up, eat greedily (Lewis, 1969); referring to the rough and rugged skin of the species.

[39] *Cyrtopodion russowii* (Strauch 1887), Zarudny's bent-toed gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-angosht kaj-e-zārūdī*],



Synonyms: *Gymnodactylus russowii* Strauch 1887, *Mediodactylus russowii* Kluge 1993; (Rastegar-Pouyani, 2009).

*russowii*—The species was named after M. Russow (Wikipedia, 2010c).

[40] *Cyrtopodion sagittifer* (Nikolsky 1900), Jazmurian bent-toed gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-angosht kaj-e-jāzmūriyān*],

Synonyms: *Gymnodactylus sagittifer* Nikolsky 1900, *Mediodactylus sagittifer* Welch 1983; (Rastegar-Pouyani, 2009).

*sagittifer*—sagitt-, L. *sagitta* arrow + L. *-fer* bearer; from L. *fero* to bear (Maggenti, 2005).

[41] *Cyrtopodion scabrum* (Heyden 1827), Keeled rock gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-sangī tīghedār*],

Synonyms: *Stenodactylus scaber* Heyden 1827, *Cyrtopodion scaber* Kluge 1991; (Rastegar-Pouyani, 2009).

*scaber* and *scabrum*—L. *scaber* rough (Maggenti, 2005).

[42] *Cyrtopodion spinicauda* (Strauch 1887), Keeled rock gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-angosht kaj-e-kopet dāgh*],

Synonyms: *Alsophylax spinicauda* Strauch 1887, *Mediodactylus spinicaudus* Kluge 1991; (Rastegar-Pouyani, 2009).

*spinicaudus* and *spinicauda*—spin-, L. *spina* a thorn, spines + caud-, L. *cauda* tail (Maggenti, 2005).

[43] *Cyrtopodion turcmenicum* (Szczerbak 1978), Turkmenian thin-toed gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-angosht bārik torkamanī*],

Synonyms: *Gymnodactylus turcmenicus* Szczerbak 1978, *Tenuidactylus turcmenicus* Kluge 1993; (Rastegar-Pouyani, 2009).

*turcmenicum*—neutral gender of adjective modern L. *turcmenicus* from Turkestan, central Asia (Gledhill, 2008).

[44] *Hemidactylus flaviviridis* Rüppell 1840, Yellow bellied house gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-shekam zard-e-khānegī*],

Synonyms: *Hemidactylus sericeus* Fitzinger 1826, *Hoplopodion coctaei* Fitzinger 1843; (Mahendra, 1936).

*Hemidactylus*—+ dactyl-, Gr. *daktylos* finger (Maggenti, 2005).

*flaviviridis*—flav-, L. *flavus* yellow + L. *viridis* green (Lewis, 1969); referring to the coloration on body.

*sericeus*—seric-, L. *sericus* silken (Borror, 1988).

*Hoplopodion*—hopl-, Gr. *hoplon* implement + Gr. *podion* little shoe, diminutive from Gr. *pous* foot (Jobling, 2010).

*coctaei*—from L. *cocta* or *coctum* cooked, water boiled, decoction (Lewis, 1969); referring to the external appearance of the species.

[45] *Hemidactylus persicus* Anderson 1872, Persian gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-īrānī*],

Synonyms: *Hemidactylus sericeus* Anderson 1872, *Hemidactylus sericeus* Rösler 2000; (Vyas, 2006).

(See [11] and [44]).

[46] *Hemidactylus turcicus* (Linnaeus 1758), Mediterranean gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-meditarāne*],

Synonyms: *Lacerta turcica* Linnaeus 1758, *Hemidactylus karachiensis* Murray 1884; (Salvador, 1981).

*turcicus*—adjective modern L. *turcicus* Turkish, or from Turkey (Gledhill, 2008).

*karachiensis*—Named after the locality of the species, Karachi in Pakistan.

[47] *Pristurus rupestris* Blanford 1874, Persian rock gecko, [Fa. *jeko sangī īrānī*],

Synonym: *Pristurus rupestris* Rösler 2000; (Ross, 1990).

*Pristurus*—prist-, Gr. *pristes* sawyer + -ura, Gr. *oura* tail (Lewis, 1969).

*rupestris*—living in rocks, from L. *rūpes* rock (Lewis, 1969).

[48] *Rhinogecko misonnei* De Witte 1973, Misonne's spider gecko, [Fa. *jeko-e-'ankabūtī-e-mison*],

Synonym: *Agamura misonnei* Szczerbak & Golubevi 1986; (Rastegar-Pouyani, 2009).

*Rhinogecko*—rhin-, Gr. *rhinos* nose + gecko, from Malay *gēkoq*, imitative of its cry (Klein, 1983).

*misonnei*—Named after Misonne.

[49] *Stenodactylus affinis* (Murray 1884), Iranian narrow-fingered gecko, [Fa. *jeko-angosht kutāh-e-īrānī*],

Synonyms: *Ceramodactylus affinis* Murray 1884, *Stenodactylus affinis* Rösler 2000; (Afrasiab, 1987).

*affinis*—L. *affinis* related, adjacent; The epithet *affinis* implies 'a comparative or relative degree' (i.e. the species so designated are considered different from or similar to another species or group of species) (Jobling, 2010).

*Ceramodactylus*—ceram-, Gr. *kéramos* (potter's) clay + dactyl-, Gr. *daktylos* finger (Liddell, 1885; Maggenti, 2005).

[50] *Stenodactylus doriae* (Blanford 1874), Iranian narrow-fingered gecko, [Fa. *jeko-eangosht kutāh-e-khāvarmiyāne*],

Synonyms: *Ceramodactylus doriae* Blanford 1874, *Stenodactylus doriae* Rösler 2000; (Bouskila, 1987).

*doriae*—Named after J. Doria (Giuliano Doria), an Italian zoologist.

[51] *Teratoscincus bedriagai* Nikolsky 1899, Bedriaga skink gecko, [Fa. *jeko-saghanghor bedriyāgā*],

Synonym: *Teratoscincus bedriagai* Rösler 1995; (Ataev, 1994).

*Teratoscincus*—terat-, a combining form of Gr. *teras* monster + L. *scincus*, from Gr. *σκήκος* skink (Klein, 1983).

*bedriagai*—Named after Jacques von Bedriaga (1854-1906), Russian-born herpetologist.

[52] *Teratoscincus microlepis* Nikolsky 1899, Small-scaled skink gecko, [Fa. *jeko-saghanghor fals kūchak*],

Synonym: *Teratoscincus microlepis* Rösler 1995; (Mudrack, 1985).

(See [4]).

[53] *Teratoscincus scincus* (Schlegel 1858), Common skink gecko, [Fa. *jeko-saghanghor mamūlī*],

Synonyms: *Stenodactylus scincus* Schlegel 1858, *Teratoscincus scincus* Rösler 2000; (Abraham, 1985).

*scincus*—L. *scincus*, from Gr. *σκήκος* skink, of unknown origin (Klein, 1983).

- [54] *Tropicolotes helenae fasciatus* (Schmidtler & Schmidtler 1972), Schmidtler's dwarf gecko, [Fa. *mini-jeko-e-eshmitler*],  
Synonym: *Microgecko helenae fasciatus* Kluge 1991; (Torki, 2007).  
*Tropicolotes*—trop-, Gr. *trópis* keel (of a ship) + colotes, Gr. *κωλώτης* a variegated or spotted lizard (Liddell, 1885).  
*helenae*—Perhaps named after the mythological figure 'Helen of Troy', the daughter of Zeus; referring to the fascinating appearance of the species.  
*fasciatus*—L. *fasciatus* banded, bearing stripes; referring to dorsal stripes (Beltz, 2006).  
*Microgecko*—micr-, Gr. *mikros* small (Braun, 1995) + gecko (see [48]).
- [55] *Tropicolotes helenae helenae* (Nikolsy 1907), Khuzistan dwarf gecko, [Fa. *mini-jeko-e-khūzestānī*],  
Synonyms: *Microgecko helenae* Nikolsy 1907, *Tropicolotes helenae* Minton et al. 1970; (Anderson, 1999).  
(See [54]).
- [56] *Tropicolotes latifi* Leviton & Anderson 1972, Latifi's dwarf gecko, [Fa. *mini-jeko-e-latīfī*],  
Synonym: *Microgecko latifi* Kluge 1983; (Moravec, 1994a).  
*latifi*—Anderson in 1972 named this species after Dr. Mahmoud Latifi, who found it for the first time.
- [57] *Tropicolotes persicus bakhtiari* Minton, Anderson & Anderson 1970, Bakhtiari dwarf gecko, [Fa. *mini-jeko-e-bakhtiyārī*],  
Synonyms: *Tropicolotes helenae* Anderson 1961, *Alsophylax persicus* Tuck 1971; (Anderson, 1999).  
*bakhtiari*—Fa. Bakhtiārī, a tribe and ethnological group name of Iranian community; literally meaning: *blessed, fortunate*.
- [58] *Tropicolotes persicus persicus* (Nikolsy 1903), Persian dwarf gecko, [Fa. *mini-jeko-e-īrānī*],  
Synonyms: *Alsophylax persicus* Nikolsy 1903, *Microgecko persicus* Kluge 1983; (Anderson, 1999).  
(See [11], [27] and [54]).
- [59] *Tropicolotes steudneri* (Peters 1869), Steudner's dwarf gecko, [Fa. *mini-jeko-e-estyudner*],  
Synonyms: *Gymnodactylus steudneri* Peters 1869, *Tropicolotes steudneri* Kluge 1983; (Anderson, 1999).  
*steudneri*—Named after Hermann Steudner (1832-1863), naturalist and explorer.

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