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Judges in a web of normative orders: judicial practices at the Court of First Instance Tunis in the field of divorce law

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Notes on transliteration

In my transliteration I make a distinction between the transcription of Modern Standard Arabic (*fusha*) on the one hand and Tunisian Arabic (*al-lahja al-tunisiyya*) on the other. Modern Standard Arabic is used in legislation, court decisions and the literature as well as during the court hearings, while Tunisian Arabic is employed in reconciliation sessions and interviews. Also, for the transliteration of Tunisian names I use Tunisian Arabic as a starting point as Tunisians themselves do this when they write their names in Roman characters. Terms that are included in the Oxford English dictionary, such as 'Quran' and 'sharia', shall not be transcribed following this system but will follow the transcription in this dictionary.

For the transliteration of Modern Standard Arabic I follow the rules employed by the *Encyclopaedia of Islam* (EI), with a few adaptations. With regard to vowels, I do not make a difference between short and long vowels. With regard to emphatic consonants (*sad*, *dad*, *ta'*, and *za'*), I do not make use of a point below the character. The same is true for the *ha'*. This means that the reader cannot see the difference between for example the *sad* and the *sin*, and between short and long vowels. This choice is made because I find it unnecessarily complicated for non-Arabists to indicate such details, while the readers who are Arabists know how the words should be written in Arabic.

b=ب
t=ت
th = ث
j = ج
h = ح
kh = خ
d = د
dh = ذ
r = ر
z = ز
s = س
sh = ش
s = ص
d = ض
t = ط
z = ظ
' = ع
gh = غ
f = ف
q = ق
k = ك
l = ل
m = م
n = ن
h = ه
w = و
y = ي

Short: a = ' ; i = ِ ; u = ُ
Long: a = ا ; i = ي ; u = و
Diphthong: ay = اي ; aw = او

For the transcription of Tunisian Arabic I employ the French transcription as employed in the journal *L'Année du Maghreb* and in Tunisia itself. Here, the rules are the same as described above, with the following exceptions:

ch = ش

k = ق

ou = و

Short ُ = ou

Long و = ou

Diphthong: او = aou