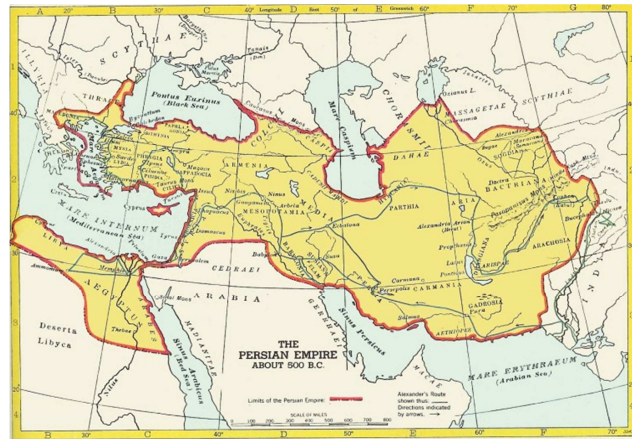


**Persian Gulf** is a crescent-shape groove which has demonstrated the encroachment of the Indian Ocean waters (Gulf of Oman) in a span of 900 km long and 240 km wide in the inferior folds of southern Zagros Mountains. The Persian Gulf and its neighboring countries constitute almost one ninth of the 44 million square km span of the Asian continent.



The Persian Gulf is a waterway that stretches far back into history; it was from its shores that the mighty Persian Empire, the world's first and greatest civilization, rose to conquer what was then, the known world. By its shores, the ships of the ancient world traded, and paid homage to the mighty Empire for whom this Gulf was named.

In the 5th century BC, [Darius the Great](#) of the [Achaemenid](#) dynasty called the Persian Gulf "Draya ty a haca parsa Aitiy", meaning, "The sea which goes from Persian." In this era, some of the Greek writers also called it "Persikonkaitas", meaning the Persian Gulf. Claudius Ptolemaeus, the celebrated Greco-Egyptian mathematician/astronomer in the 2nd century called it "Persicus Sinus" or Persian Gulf. In the 1st century AD, [Quintus Curtius Rufus](#), the Roman historian, designated it "Aquarius Persico" – the Persian Sea. [Flavius Arrianus](#), another [Greek](#) historian, called it "Persiconkaitas" (Persian Gulf). During the [Sassanian dynasty](#) and the time of the Islamic Prophet [Muhammad](#) and the 4 caliphs, the name invariably used was the "Persian Sea." This was continued by the Umayyads and Abbassids, both "Persian Gulf" or "Persian Sea" was used.



The Persian Gulf has been a valuable waterway since the beginning of history and as the venue of the collision of great civilizations of the ancient east; it has a background of several millenniums. Since centuries ago, the Ilamites used the Port of Boushehr and the Kharg Island for dwelling, shipping and ruling over the coasts of the Persian Gulf as well as transaction with the West Indies and the Nile Valley. In the Latin American geography books the Persian Gulf has been referred to as More Persicum or the Sea of Pars.

When the armies of the Macedonian King Alexander rampaged



Darius the Great

through the Orient, he stopped at the Persian Gulf, and believed it to be the end of the world. The river Oceanus he thought, circled the world from here, to the Caspian and then onto the Mediterranean.

The Latin term "Sinus Persicus" is equivalent to "Persicher golf" in French, "Persico qof" in Italian, "Persidskizalir" in Russian and "Perusha Wan" that all mean "Pars".

Witness to thousands of years of civilization, war, success and tragedy, the Persian Gulf entered the modern era becoming the world's largest source of fossil fuels and thus enshrining its importance as the world's most strategic waterway.

Today, the most common Arabic works refer to the sea in south Iran as the "Persian Gulf", including the world famous Arabic encyclopedia 'Al-Monjad' which is the most reliable source in this respect.

Even in agreements with the participation of Arabs there is a mention of "Al-Khalij al-Farsi" in the Arabic texts and "Persian Gulf" in English texts, such as the document for the independence of Kuwait which was signed on June 19, 1961 between the emir of Kuwait and representatives of the British government in the Persian Gulf.



Anyone who has taken the trouble to look at [antique maps](#), contemporary writings, research documents, historical accounts of the region and encyclopedias written by western or eastern observers and scholars would conclude that there is but one single name that is applicable to the Persian Gulf.

In recent years, revisionism from certain groups has seen an attempt to change the name and history of this ancient gulf. The first time "Persian Gulf" was called A.r.a.b.i.a.n Gulf was by Gamal-Abdel Nasser. Nasser with his Pan-Arab vision was going to "eat breakfast at Cairo, lunch at Tel-Aviv and dinner at Tehran" but apparently choked on breakfast and didn't make it.

The Arab States of the “Persian Gulf” region, whose history of formation do not go back to more than a century ago, have during the past few years tried to gain an identity and expand their cultural and political domain by altering the names of the areas belonging to other countries into Arabic names, in order to pursue their political plans. Changing the historic name of “Persian Gulf” into A.r.a.b.i.a.n Gulf is one of their selected maneuvers used in the region's biology studies.

As mentioned before, throughout history, educators, travelers and geographers always referred to this region as “the Persian Gulf,” not only because of vast Empire or the number of its Persian/Iranian inhabitants, but simply, and in their own words, to recognize the noble notion that, the Persians were the first to have developed and greatly improved this part of the earth.



Although using the A.r.a.b.i.a.n Gulf instead of the "Persian Gulf" has no basis and will not be accepted in any culture or language, however, it will not diminish our responsibility in expressing the reality and eliminating ambiguities as the main and oldest inhabitants of the region.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Persian\\_Gulf](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Persian_Gulf)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DssJpQzZEMM> (Watch this video)

<http://www.persiangufonline.org/maps.htm> (A lot of historical maps)

<http://azargoshnasp.net/main.htm>

<http://www.myskypenglish.com/en/entries/view/10> (Beautiful Pics)

<http://www.persiangufonline.org/takeaction/sample8.htm>