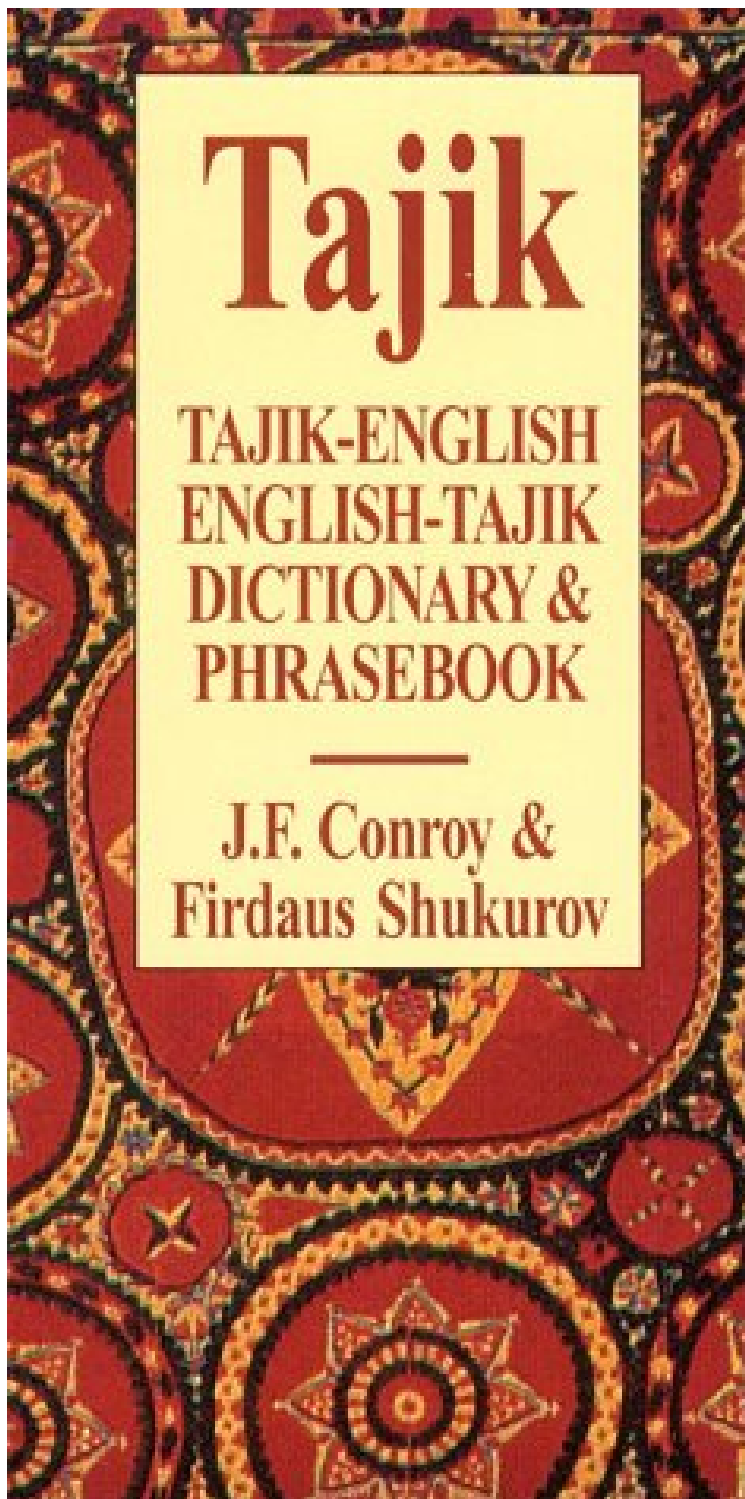


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## Tajik-English/English-Tajik Dictionary Phrasebook (Hippocrene Dictionary Phrasebook)

*Joseph Conroy, Firdaus Shukurov*

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**Joseph Conroy, Firdaus Shukurov : Tajik-English/English-Tajik Dictionary Phrasebook (Hippocrene Dictionary Phrasebook)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Tajik-English/English-Tajik Dictionary Phrasebook (Hippocrene Dictionary Phrasebook):

13 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Not a very useful dictionary  
By Brian Bird  
I purchased this book before leaving for a two year job contract in Tajikistan. I was very excited to find this pocket dictionary. Unfortunately it was never very helpful to me. My new Tajik friends felt that it was inaccurate in many places. It rarely seemed to have the words or phrases that I needed. And finally, the transliteration system didn't seem to correctly reflect the pronunciation used by natives (I was living in the capital, Dushanbe.) To be fair to the authors there was nothing else available at the time they published this and the situation in Tajikistan was one of violent transition. Tajikistan has become much more stable now and there are now a few more resources available in English. Although there was discussion in Tajikistan at one time about making either Persian or Roman script official alphabets, Cyrillic is still the official alphabet and the one used by Tajiks 99% of the time. To be really useful a Tajik-English phrase book should use Cyrillic, which this one does not. The most effective method I found for learning the Tajik language was making Tajik friends who spoke a little English and learning to speak Tajik from them. I also got a lot of help from two books published by STAR: The Official Beginner's Guide to Tajiki, by Azim Baizoyev Standard Tajik-English Dictionary, by Randall and Rochelle Olsen  
3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. It is not an accurate representation of the Tajik Language  
By A Customer  
I was very happy to find the book, but after purchasing the book and reviewing the materials, I discovered not one or two but numerous mistakes ranging from misspellings to certain words that do not make sense at all. Now, the reason I know this fact is because I am a native speaker of the Tajik language and yes I do feel that the authors should have done a better job. After all, no one should write any language using the Esperanto language because it has many and many problems - the biggest one being the lack of one on one meetings between the two authors of this dictionary. Also, I think the book has failed at representing the actual language (alphabet) of the country of the Republic of Tajikistan. After all, while it maybe helpful to learn a new language using the Roman alphabet, the people of Tajikistan do not write or speak using the Roman alphabet, but rather the Cyrillic. Nonetheless, I do want to thank both authors for the time that it required to complete this project and ask to present an accurate Tajik-English Dictionary. Thank You.  
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Ignoring contemporary Tajik script is incorrect  
By ilgemino  
The authors should definitely get a credit for writing a book on such a rare language as Tajik. However, I am not sure what to think about the script used throughout the book. It is not clear what script Cyrillic, Romance or Arabic will be used for this language in the future. However, even if the Romance alphabet is approved for use, it will probably look different from what is presented by the authors. I doubt that digraphs like GH, KH, SH, and ZH will be in use. We also do not know how the Tajik are going to use the Romance alphabet to present their vowels. So, ignoring the modern Tajik alphabet lowers the value of this book. E.g., what if the reader finds an authentic Tajik sentence? Then, knowing all the words and grammar, will not help figure out what it is about. So, I believe that the authors should have given a table presenting contemporary Tajik script at least for references.

This dictionary contains a two-way dictionary, a brief survey of Tajik grammar and a phrasebook section with ready-made sentences for everyday situations. There are also comments on Tajik culture and lifestyle. The language used in this book reflects the Tajik used in Dushanbe, the capital located in the central eastern region of Tajikistan.

About the Author  
Firdaus Shukurov is a university instructor in Dushanbe, the capital of Tajikistan. He is a native speaker of Tajik. J.F. Conroy is the chairman of the World Languages department at a high school in Philadelphia, PA. He is author of several books in French and Esperanto, and has also written dictionaries and phrasebooks for Hippocrene in the Breton and Basque languages. He came to Tajik through his studies in Farsi (Persian). Both authors used Esperanto as the bridge-language in creating this book.