



# BĀQLAVĀ I. THE WORD

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## i. The Word

The etymology of the word *bāqlavā*, found in Arabic (*baqlāwa*), Turkish (*baklava*), and Greek (*mpaklabās*), has not yet been determined. According to G. Doerfer (p. 255), the word does not seem to be from Turkish. A Persian origin is suggested by the suffix *-vā*, perhaps the Persian suffix *-vā/-bā* found in terms for food and cuisine and deriving from *-/βāγ < pāk*, cf. *poḵtan* “to cook” (cf. *Grundriss I/2*, p. 79; and *EIr.*, s.v. āš); however, the first element of the word is of unknown origin (a derivation from *balg*, a common dialect form of *barg* “leaf,” or from Ar. *baql* “herb” is unlikely).