

Lalezar

A multi-script display typeface for popular culture.

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During the 1960s and 1970s a genre of filmmaking emerged in Iran, which was commonly known as FilmFarsi. The main focus of the films produced in this period was on popular subjects such as, sexual romances, musicals and unrealistic heroic characters. The movie posters designed to represent these films were also intended to exaggerate these elements by the use of provocative imagery and a particular type of display lettering. These bold and dynamic letterforms were so popular and widely used that perhaps one can consider them the most significant component of film posters in that period.

The current project is an attempt to revive the appealing qualities in this genre of lettering and transform them into a modern Arabic display typeface and a suitable Latin companion. Although the main inspiration comes from a style of lettering that was used to represent the Persian language, inhere the objective is to design a typeface that can be used for most of the languages that use Arabic script for their written communication.

During the coming months I shall provide the relevant visual and written material, which are effective in the development of this project. Additionally, there will be a deliberate attempt to clarify the objectives behind the design decisions that will be made. I would very much welcome any contribution or input that can improve this process and its outcome.

