

Tazkira Translation Tips

If you want to use your Tazkira for your immigration case, you must have a certified full English translation. These tips will help you present the best possible translation.



Hi, I'm Zahra. I recently had my Tazkira translated into English as part of my asylum application. I would like to share some important things that I learned during this process. I hope this helps you get your case approved and avoid legal delays and extra costs.



About the Translator

Who can translate a Tazkira into English?

Anyone who is not involved in your case can help you. It is not recommended for you to translate your own Tazkira.

Important! Translations must be accurate. USCIS may verify the translation and any error or inaccuracy could delay or complicate your case.



Will the translator need to appear in person for my case?

Anyone who does translation for you may be contacted to appear in an interview or legal hearing if USCIS has any questions.



The Translation Process

What should be translated into English?

All written words, including any text on government stamps and seals, should be translated.

Can I use a computer translation (like Google Translate)?

No. USCIS requires a signed certification statement from the translator with their signature in ink.

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I have an e-Tazkira that has English translation. Do I need a translation done on paper?

The e-Tazkira comes with partial English translation, but it does not include the father's name, grandfather's name, religion, or ethnic group. The translator should include all information fully translated for submission to USCIS.



Are there English translation templates to help my translator?

Your translator may find a template online or create their own.

What should I do if there are spelling differences on my Tazkira and other legal documents used in my case?

Your lawyer will assist you with explaining any differences in spelling to USCIS. English words should always be spelled the same way as they appear in your other legal papers.

My **Father** and **Grandfather** do not have a first, middle, and/or last name. What should the translator enter?

All translated names should always match what is written on the original Tazkira. This includes any special title and/or the family name. If a middle or last name are not there, it is acceptable to write "(blank)."

My translator found a template to use, but it has a few boxes for information that are not on my Tazkira. Can they still use it?

Yes, it is recommended to use "(blank)" in any boxes where information was not indicated on the Tazkira. **Here is an example** using a template:

Brown	Hair Color
(blank)	Type of Disability

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I do not know my real birth date. The date on my Tazkira was entered according to how old I looked at that time. Is that ok?

Yes. Keep the birth date as written on the Tazkira. The date should match all other legal papers used in your case. Your lawyer can provide a note to USCIS if additional detail is needed.

My birth date needs to be changed to the U.S. calendar format. Where can I get help?

A birth date can be easily changed from the Islamic (Persian) calendar format to the U.S. (Gregorian) format using this website: ahg.af/moore/calc.html

Important! The U.S. calendar is very different from Afghanistan. There are also differences in the way the date should be written.

EXAMPLE:

Gregorian Date:

2024 June 7 - Leap Year | **Weekday:** Friday

Afghan Date:

1403 3-Jawza 18 - Normal Year | **Weekday:** Jomeh



Document Certification

What is a “certified” translation?

This means that the person who translated your Tazkira has typed a statement that they speak and understand both Dari (or Pashto) and English. They will put their name, signature (in ink), and contact information. USCIS will not accept a stamped or typed signature.



EXAMPLE:

I, Abdul Ilsaadi, certify that I am fluent in English and Pashto, and that the attached document is an accurate translation of the attached Tazkira.

Signature: *Abdul Ilsaadi*

Date: May 2, 2025

Address: 211 ICF Blvd., Hartford CT 06199

Phone: 899-578-0022

Email: ailsaadi21@yahoo.com

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Does the translator need to sign the translation with an ink signature, or can this be done electronically?



An ink signature from the translator is required to certify that the information they provided is accurate.

Does the certification statement need to be on the same page as the translation?

The certification statement can be on a different page if there is no room on the translated document.



Other Information

What if I don't have a Tazkira? Can I use another ID?

Yes, many people do not have one. You can use another ID from the Afghan government that has your picture on it like a passport, driver's license, or military ID.

Tip: If you do not have an ID and are unable to get a new one, don't worry. You can work with your lawyer to add a statement on your application to explain why.



My Tazkira has a title that I no longer have. (i.e. student, military officer, etc.). Is that ok?

The translator should translate the title as stated on the Tazkira. It is ok if you no longer hold that title.

Do I send copies or originals of my Tazkira?

You should always send copies of all documents unless the instructions tell you to send an original document.

Important! If you send original documents when they are not required or asked for, you may not be able to get them back. Your lawyer will help you with sending your documents.