

2. English Transliteration Systems

A. Encyclopaedia Iranica

Persian and Arabic

The system employed here aims to achieve simplicity and accuracy. It has been jointly adopted by the Corpus Inscriptionum Iranicarum, *Encyclopaedia Iranica*, The Persian Heritage Series, The Persian Studies Series, and the Modern Persian Literature Series.

Some common personal titles and frequently cited place names are given in anglicized form; all other terms are transliterated.

	Consonant		Consonant		Vowel	
	Persian	Arabic	Persian	Arabic	Persian	Arabic
ا	'		ž	d	ā	
ب	b		č		ā	
پ	p		ž		ū	
ت	t		'		ī	
ث	ṭ, ṣ	ṭ	g		a	
ج	j		f		o	
چ	č		q		e	
ح	h		k		a, e	a
ک	k		g		aw, ow	aw
گ	g		l		ay, ey	ay
د	d		m			
ذ	d, z	d	n			
ر	r		v	w		
ز	z		h			
ژ	ž		y			
س	s					
ش	š					
ص	ṣ					

The letter ṣ is represented as *h*.

When Abū or the Arabic preposition *fi* is followed by the article *al-*, the macron is omitted and the vowel letter remains unchanged, i.e., Abu'l-, *fi'l-*.

Other Languages

Avestan. Titles of entries which are Avestan words follow the forms of C. Bartholomae, *Altiranisches Wörterbuch* (Strassburg, 1904).

Middle Persian. Titles of entries which are Middle Persian words follow the phonemic forms of D. N. MacKenzie, *A Concise Pahlavi Dictionary* (London, 1968). The texts of articles, however, may employ

other systems pertinent to the period under discussion.

Turkish. For representation of the modern language, the official transcription is used. Articles on medieval history may sometimes cite Turkish proper names in persianized or arabicized forms.

Russian. The following system of transliteration is used:

а	а	І	р
ō	б	р	r
В	в	с	s
г	г	Т	t
Д	д	у	u
е	е	Ф	f
ë	о	х	kh
Ж	zh	у	ts
з	z	ч	ch
И	i	Ш	sh
Й	ī	Щ	shch
К	k	б	-
Л	l	бІ	y
М	m	б	•
Н	n	з	è
о	o	Ю	yu
		Я	ya

Anglicized Forms

Some commonly used Arabic and Persian terms and proper names are cited in the articles in English forms rather than in transliteration. The following are most frequent.

Titles

amir, emir	Il-khan	pasha	shaikh
aqā	jagirdar	shah	sultan
atabeg	khan		

Religious Terms

Ash'arite	imam	Koran	Mu'tazilite	Sufi
darvish, dervish	Isma'ili	Malikite	sayyed	Sunna
Hadith	isnad	molla	Shafe'ite	Sunni
Hanbalite	jihad	Muslim	Shi'ite, Shi'i	ulema, olama

Place Names

Azerbaijan	Iran	Khorasan	Mosul	Tashkent
Baghdad, Bagdad	Iraq	Mecca	Samarkand	Tehran
Bukhara, Bokhara	Isfahan	Medina, Madina	Samarra	Turkestan
Herat	Kabul		Shiraz	

Names of dynasties are regularly anglicized, even when they are not given an English suffix. For example, Mughal, Omayyad, and Saljuq, as well as 'Abbasid, Buyid, Ghaznavid, Safavid, Samanid, Taherid, Timurid, Ziarid. In addition to the above place names, those of medieval India also are anglicized.

B. Library of Congress System

Persian Romanization

The romanization table which follows has been approved by the American Library Association, the Canadian Library Association, and the Library of Congress. It supersedes the table published in *Cataloging Service*, Bulletin 59.

Letters of the Alphabet

Initial	Medial	Final	Alone	Value	Initial	Medial	Final	Alone	Value
ا	آ	آ	ا	omit ¹	ص	ص	ص	ص	s
ب	ب	ب	ب	b	ض	ض	ض	ض	z
پ	پ	پ	پ	p	ط	ط	ط	ط	t
ت	ت	ت	ت	t	ظ	ظ	ظ	ظ	z
ث	ث	ث	ث	s	ع	ع	ع	ع	'
ج	ج	ج	ج	j	غ	غ	غ	غ	gh
چ	چ	چ	چ	ch	ف	ف	ف	ف	f
ح	ح	ح	ح	h	ق	ق	ق	ق	q
خ	خ	خ	خ	kh	ک	ک	ک	ک	k ²
د	د	د	د	d	گ	گ	گ	گ	g ²
ذ	ذ	ذ	ذ	z	ل	ل	ل	ل	l ⁵
ر	ر	ر	ر	r	م	م	م	م	m
ز	ز	ز	ز	z	ن	ن	ن	ن	n
ژ	ژ	ژ	ژ	zh	و	و	و	و	v ³
س	س	س	س	s	ه	ه	ه	ه	h ⁴
ش	ش	ش	ش	sh	ی	ی	ی	ی	y ³

1. For the use of | (*alif*) to support ء (*hamzah*) and ~ (*maddah*) see rule 1(a). For the romanization of ء and ~ see rules 4 and 5 respectively. For the use of | to represent the long vowel romanized *a* see the table of vowels and diphthongs, and rule 1(b).
2. Final ک and گ (often written ی and گ) may have the form ک, without the distinguishing upper stroke or strokes. The two letters a, e always distinguished in romanization.
3. For other values of و and ی see the table of vowels and diphthongs, and rules 2, 3, and 7.
4. ة (dotted ة) when used as an alternative to ت is romanized *t*.
5. Vowel points are not printed on Library of Congress cards.