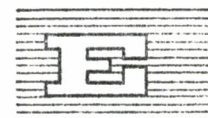


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SECOND UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE
STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
London, 10-31 May 1972
Item 11 of the provisional agenda

WRITING SYSTEMS
TRANSFER OF NAMES FROM ONE WRITING SYSTEM INTO ANOTHER

TRANSLITERATION OF PERSIAN WRITING

LON.72-267

3. Systems. The following are commented upon below:

Iran = Transliteration of Farsi geographic names to Latin alphabet. [Tehran, 1966] (title-page in Persian and English) (a document presented to the United Nations Conference on Geographical Names, Geneva, 1967; its adoption was recommended by the Conference in its Resolution 12).

UK/US = U.S. Department of State. Romanization Guide, 1967. Shows the jointly agreed --in 1958-- system used by the [U.S.] Board on Geographic Names and the [U.K.] Permanent Committee on Geographical Names for British Official Use; pages 57-61.

Budapest = Staatsamt für Geodäsie und Kartographie der Ungarischen Volksrepublik. Schreibung der Geographischen Namen auf der Weltkarte 1: 2 500 000. Budapest, [1962]; pages 62-63.

LC = [U.S.] Library of Congress. Processing Department. Cataloging Service. Bulletin 59, July 1963.

Prussian = Instruktionen für die alphabetischen Kataloge der preussischen Bibliotheken vom 10. 5. 1899; 2nd edition, 1908; reprint, Wiesbaden, 1964. Annex II. (Still authoritative in German-speaking countries).

Budapest and UK/US are the same.


Note: Columns A, B, C and D represent, respectively, the form of the letter when it stands alone; when it is joined to the preceding letter (sometimes called final); when it is joined to both the preceding and the following letter (sometimes called medial); when it is joined to the following letter (sometimes called initial). Letters not shown in columns C and D are never joined to the following letter.

No.	Form of Persian letter				Iran	(Only when different from Iran)		
	A	B	C	D		Budapest	LC	Prussian and UK/US
1	ا	ا			initial: omit; initial with maddah (آ), medial and final: ā			
2	ب	ب	ب	ب	b			
3	پ	پ	پ	پ	p			
4	ت	ت	ت	ت	t			
5	ث	ث	ث	ث	ṯ		<u>s</u>	<u>t</u>
6	ج	ج	ج	ج	j			<u>g</u>
7	چ	چ	چ	چ	ch			<u>c</u>
8	ح	ح	ح	ح	ḥ		ḥ	ḥ
9	خ	خ	خ	خ	kh			ḫ
	letters 25 + 31				k/h		kḥ	
10	د	د			d			
11	ذ	ذ			z		<u>z</u>	<u>d</u>
12	ر	ر			r			
13	ز	ز			z			
14	ژ	ژ			zh			<u>z</u>
	letters 13 + 31				z/h		zḥ	
15	س	س	س	س	s			
16	ش	ش	ش	ش	sh			<u>s</u>
	letters 15 + 31				s/h		sḥ	

No.	Form of Persian letter				Iran	(Only when different from Iran)		
	A	B	C	D		Budapest and UK/US	L.C.	Prussian
17	ص	ص	ص	ص	s		š	š
18	ض	ض	ض	ض	z		ž	ž
19	ط	ط	ط	ط	t		ṭ	ṭ
20	ظ	ظ	ظ	ظ	z		ž	ž
21	ع	ع	ع	ع	'			'
22	غ	غ	غ	غ	gh			g̃
	letters 26 + 31				g/h			
23	ف	ف	ف	ف	f			
24	ق	ق	ق	ق	q			
25	ك	ك	ك	ك	k			
26	گ	گ	گ	گ	g			
27	ل	ل	ل	ل	l			
28	م	م	م	م	m			
29	ن	ن	ن	ن	n			
30	و	و			v (see also numbers 38 and 39)			w
31	ه	ه	ه	ه	h		h ([dotted when used as an alternative to [number 4] is transliterated t)	
32	ی	ی	ی	ی	y (see also numbers 40, 41 and 42)			j
33	ی				e			i
34	ا				a			
35	و				o			u
36	Ā (alef maddeh) when medial and represents phonetic combination 'ā:				ā			
					no indication	ā	ā	
37	ا				ā			
38	و				ū			
39	و				ow			av
40	ی				ī			
41	ی				ey			ey

Form of Persian letter Iran

(Only when different from Iran)
Budapest L.C. Prussian
and UK/US

(or )

á

ā

initial:
elsewhere:

omit
' (apostrophe)

' (see
Note)

(Note for LC: except as noted below: a) when used as a mark of izāfah: -'i
see also number 47 ; b) when used to mark the indefinite article: 'i)

double the consonant or digraph
concerned

or

oⁿ

no indica-
tion

eⁿ

" "

in

and

aⁿ

" "

an

no indication omit no indi-
cation

When two words are associated in the relation known as ezāfah (or izāfah), the
first may (these endings, followed by a space, are added at
the end of the first word:)

a) bear no special mark

-e

-i

b) be marked by the addition of number 43 at the end

-ye

-'i

c) be marked by the addition of number 32 at the end

-ye

-yi

Note: For signs 9, 14, 16 and 22, Working Paper 19, "Report of Iran", presented
to the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on the Standardization of Geographical Names,
New York, 10-20 March 1970, proposes, respectively, kh, zh, sh, and gh (instead
of kh, zh, sh, and gh).

Proposal. To continue supporting the Iran system (see under 3.).

G. Gómez de Silva,
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Nations.

ROMANIZATION OF PERSIAN

1. Persian, the modern language of Iran and western Afghanistan (also used in Pakistan, and by Indian Muslims as a literary language) is written in an alphabet based on the Arabic script. This alphabet's relationship to the pronunciation of modern Persian is slight: The letters are --as in Arabic and Hebrew-- primarily consonants; a few are also used secondarily to represent certain vowels, but full indication of vowels, when provided at all, is by means of a system of dots or strokes adjacent to the consonantal characters.

2. Problems. Because Persian orthography is based on tradition, it often shows differences which do not exist in pronunciation. The systems given below are mainly based on spelling.