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Item 11 of the agenda

WRITING SYSTEMS
TRANSFER OF NAMES FROM ONE WRITING SYSTEM TO ANOTHER
TRANSLITERATION OF JAPANESE WRITING

LON.72-272

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U.N. Group of Experts on the Standardization of Geographical Names
Committee on Romanization

The attached comparative table sets forth in addition to the Kunrei and Modified Hepburn transcriptions, a precise transliteration (in column B), which helps clarify the Kana for those who do not read it easily.

Other transcription systems, such as the Nihon (or Nippon) have not been included. The Nihon style is the same as the Kunrei (column C) except in lines 2, 3, and 8-17 of vertical set III, where the indented forms are read di du dyū dyū dya dyō dyu dyū dyo dyō dyō dyō, respectively, thus carrying the Kunrei to a sort of logical conclusion.

Insofar as I am aware, only Kunreishiki and Modified Hepburn have been extensively employed in toponymy, the former mainly in Japan, and the latter mainly elsewhere.

The following table is taken from Beginners Dictionary of Chinese-Japanese Characters, A. Rose-Innes (Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1944), but has been modified in several respects.

hannigori	nigori				base character												
A	バ	バ	ダ	ザ	ガ	ワ	ラ	ヤ	マ	ハ	ナ	タ	サ	カ	ア	A Katakana	
A'	ば	ば	だ	ざ	が	わ	ら	や	ま	は	な	た	さ	か	あ	A' Hiragana	
B	pa	ba	da	za	ga	wa	ra	ya	ma	ha	na	ta	sa	ka	a	B Precise transliteration	
A	ピ	ビ	チ	ジ	ギ	キ	リ			ミ	ヒ	ニ	チ	シ	キ	イ	
A'	ぴ	び	ち	じ	ぎ	き	り			み	ひ	に	ち	し	き	い	
B	pi	bi	di	zi	gi	wi	ri			mi	hi	ni	ti	si	ki	i	
A	ブ	ブ	ヅ	ズ	グ		ル	ユ	ム	フ	ヌ	ツ	ス	ク	ウ		
A'	ぶ	ぶ	づ	ず	ぐ		る	ゆ	む	ふ	ぬ	つ	す	く	う		
B	pu	bu	du	zu	gu		ru	yu	mu	hu	nu	tu	su	ku	u		
A	ベ	ベ	テ	ゼ	ゲ	エ	レ			メ	ヘ	ネ	テ	セ	ケ	エ	
A'	べ	べ	て	ぜ	げ	え	れ			め	へ	ね	て	せ	け	え	
B	pe	be	de	ze	ge	we	re			me	he	ne	te	se	ke	e	
A	ボ	ボ	ド	ゾ	ゴ	ヲ	ロ	ヨ	モ	ホ	ノ	ト	ソ	コ	オ		
A'	ぼ	ぼ	ど	ぞ	ご	を	ろ	よ	も	ほ	の	と	そ	こ	お		
B	po	bo	do	zo	go	wo	ro	yo	mo	ho	no	to	so	ko	o		

ン (Kata-kana), ん (Hira-gana) n (end of syllable).

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V					VI				VII			
	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D
1	ナ	na	-	-	マ	ma	-	-	ラ	ra	-	-
2	ニ	ni	-	-	ミ	mi	-	-	リ	ri	-	-
3	ヌ	nu	-	-	ム	mu	-	-	ル	ru	-	-
4	ネ	ne	-	-	メ	me	-	-	レ	re	-	-
5	ノ	no	-	-	モ	mo	-	-	ロ	ro	-	-
6	ナウ	nau	nō	-	マウ	mau	mō	-	ラウ	rau	rō	-
7	ナフ	nahu	nō	-	マフ	mahu	mō	-	ラフ	rahu	rō	-
7a	X	X	X	X	マフ	mawo	mō	-	X	X	X	X
8	ニウ	niu	nyū	-	ミウ	miu	myū	-	リウ	riu	ryū	-
9	ニフ	nihu	nyū	-	ミフ	mihu	myū	-	リフ	rihu	ryū	-
10	ニヤ	*niya	nya	-	ミヤ	*miya	mya	-	リヤ	*riya	rya	-
11	ニヤウ	niyau	nyō	-	ミヤウ	miyau	myō	-	リヤウ	riyau	ryō	-
12	ニユ	*niyu	nyu	-	ミユ	*miyu	myu	-	リユ	*riyu	ryu	-
13	ニユウ	*niyuu	nyū	-	ミユウ	*miyuu	myū	-	リユウ	*riyuu	ryū	-
14	ニヨ	*niyo	nyo	-	ミヨ	*miyo	myo	-	リヨ	*riyo	ryo	-
15	ニヨウ	*niyou	nyō	-	ミヨウ	*miyou	myō	-	リヨウ	*riyou	ryō	-
16	ネウ	neu	nyō	-	メウ	meu	myō	-	レウ	reu	ryō	-
17	ネフ	nehu	nyō	-	メフ	mehu	myō	-	レフ	rehu	ryō	-
17a	X	X	X	X	メフ	mewo	myō	-	X	X	X	X
18	ノウ	*nou	nō	-	モウ	*mou	mō	-	ロウ	*rou	rō	-
19	ノフ	nohu	nō	-	モフ	mohu	mō	-	ロフ	rohu	rō	-

VIII				IX				X				
	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D
1	ア	a	-	-	ヤ	ya	-	-	ワ	wa	-	-
2	イ	i	-	-	X	X	X	X	ヰ	wi	i	-
3	ウ	u	-	-	ユ	yu	-	-	X	X	X	X
4	エ	e	-	-	X	X	X	X	ヱ	we	e	-
5	オ	o	-	-	ヨ	yo	-	-	ヲ	wo	o	-
6	アウ	au	ō	-	ヤウ	yau	yō	-	ワウ	wau	ō	-
7	アフ	ahu	ō	-	ヤフ	yahu	yō	-	ワフ	wahu	ō	-
8	イウ	*iu	yū	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
9	イフ	*ihu	yū	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
10-15	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
16	エウ	eu	yō	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
17	エフ	ehu	yō	-	X	X	X	X	ヱフ	wehu	X	yō
18	オウ	*ou	ō	-	ヨウ	*you	yō	-	ヲウ	*wou	wō	-
19	オフ	ohu	ō	-	ヨフ	yohu	yō	-	ヲフ	wohu	wō	-

	A	B	C	D
22	ン	+n (ñ)	{ +n' before a vowel in the same word; n elsewhere.	{ m before <u>b</u> or <u>p</u> in the same word; n elsewhere.
23	ツ	tu	{ t before <u>t</u> in gemination. s before <u>s</u> in gemination. p before <u>p</u> in gemination. k before <u>k</u> in gemination.	{ t before <u>t</u> , <u>ts</u> , or <u>ch</u> in gemination. s before <u>s</u> , or <u>sh</u> in gemination. p before <u>p</u> in gemination. k before <u>k</u> in gemination.
24	キ	ki	X	k before <u>k</u> in gemination.
25	ク	ku	X	k before <u>k</u> in gemination.
26	グ	v	v	v
27	丨	repeat preceding vowel.	} in both Kunreishiki and Modified Hepburn.	
28	一	repeat preceding vowel.		
29	ゝ	repeat preceding syllable.		
30	く	repeat more than one syllable.		

+The form in parentheses is sometimes used in academic work.

*Kunreishiki is sometimes cited with hyphen in place of apostrophe.