

Assamese

Vowels and Diphthongs (see Note 1)

অ	a	ঋ	r̄
আ	ā	ৗ	l̄
ই	i	এ	e
ঐ	ī	ঐ	ai
উ	u	ও	o
ঊ	ū	ঔ	au
ঋ	r̄		

Consonants (see Note 2)

Gutturals		Palatals		Cerebrals		Dentals	
ক	ka	চ	ca	ট	ṭa	ত	ta
খ	kha	ছ	cha	ঠ	ṭha	ৎ	t̪
গ	ga	জ	ja	ড	ḍa	থ	tha
ঘ	gha	ঝ	jha	ড়	ṛa	দ	da
ঙ	ṅa	ঞ	ña	ঢ	ḍha	ধ	dha
				ঢ়	ṛha	ন	na
				ণ	ṇa		

Labials		Semivowels		Sibilants		Aspirate	
প	pa	য	ya	শ	śa	হ	ha
ফ	pha	য়	ya	ষ	sha		
ব	ba	ৰ	ra	স	sa		
ভ	bha	ল	la				
ম	ma	ৱ	wa				

Anusvāra

ং ṁ

Bisarga

ঃ ḥ

Candrabindu (anunāsika)

(see Note 3)

ঁ ṇ̇, ম̣ ṃ̇

Abagraha (see Note 4)

ু ' (apostrophe)

Notes

- Only the vowel forms that appear at the beginning of a syllable are listed; the forms used for vowels following a consonant can be found in grammars; no distinction between the two is made in transliteration.

2. The vowel *a* is implicit after all consonants and consonant clusters and is supplied in transliteration, with the following exceptions:
 - a) when another vowel is indicated by its appropriate sign; and
 - b) when the absence of any vowel is indicated by the subscript symbol (_̣) called *hasanta* or *birāma*.
3. *Candrabindu* before guttural, palatal, cerebral, and dental occlusives is transliterated *ṁ*. Before labials, sibilants, semivowels, the aspirate, vowels, and in final position it is transliterated *m̐*.
4. When doubled, *abagraha* is transliterated by two apostrophes (").

Wikipedia:Indic transliteration



This page documents an English Wikipedia guideline. It is a generally accepted standard that editors should follow, though it should be treated with common sense, and occasional exceptions may apply. Changes made to it should reflect consensus. When in doubt, discuss your idea on the talk page.

This is a guideline for the transliteration (or Romanization) of writings from Indic languages and Indic scripts for use in the English-language Wikipedia. It is based on ISO 15919, and is applicable to all languages of south Asia that are written in Indic scripts.

All transliteration should be from the written form in the original script of the original language of the name or term. The original text in the original script may also be included for reference and checking.

Formal transliteration

The formal transliteration may be used to accurately and unambiguously present the phonetic content of the original script. It should be provided for reference whenever reference to the original source is needed.

The scheme is based on ISO 15919 for Indic scripts. This is very close to IAST with minor differences to accommodate non-Devanagari scripts. The differences are:

- ए - IAST: e, ISO: ē
- ओ - IAST: o, ISO: ō
- अं - IAST: ṁ, ISO: ṁ (ṁ is used to specifically represent Gurmukhi Tippi^०)
- ऋ - IAST: ṛ, ISO: ṛ
- ॠ - IAST: ṝ, ISO: ṝ

Simplified transliteration

A set of simplified transliteration symbols is provided here. These are not part of the ISO standard. They have been devised for Wikipedia, and they may be used to avoid the use of diacritic marks. Simplified transliterations should not be considered to be authoritative, and may result in ambiguous transliteration.

Inherent vowel

When the source script does not indicate the removal of the inherent 'a' and it is not pronounced in the original source language then such unpronounced 'a's are removed.

The inherent vowel is always transliterated as 'a' in the formal ISO 15919 transliteration. In the simplified transliteration, 'a' is also normally used except in the Bengali, Assamese, and Oriya languages, where 'o'/'ô' is used. See Romanization of Bengali for the transliteration scheme set for Bengali on Wikipedia.

Vowels

Vowels are presented in their independent form on the left of each column, and combined with the corresponding consonant *ka* on the right. An asterisk indicates that the letter or ligature exists, but has not been encoded in unicode or is archaic/obsolete.

ISO 15919	Simplified	IPA	Devanagari	Bengali/Assamese	Gurmukhi	Gujarati	Oriya	Tamil	Telugu	Kannada	Malayalam	Sinhala
a	a	ə/ɐ/ä/ɔ/o	अ क	অ ক	ਅ ਕ	ઁ ં	ଅ କ	அ க	అ క	ಅ ಕ	അ ക	අ ක
ā	a	aː/a	आ का	আ কা	ਆ ਕਾ	ઁ ં	ଆ କା	ஆ கா	ఆ కా	ಆ ಕಾ	ആ കാ	කා
æ	ae	?	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	ආ
ǣ	ae	?	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	ආ
i	i	i	इ कि	ই ক়ি	ਇ ਕ੍ਰਿ	ઈ કિ	ଈ କି	இ கி	ఇ కి	ಇ ಕಿ	ഇ കി	ඈ කි
ī	i	iː/i	ई की	ঈ কী	ਈ ਕੀ	ઈ કી	ଈ କି	ஈ கீ	ఱి కి	ಱಿ ಕಿ	ഈ കി	ඈ කී
u	u	u	उ कु	উ কু	ਉ ਕੁ	ઁ ં	ଊ କୁ	உ கா	అ కు	ಅ ಕು	അ കു	ඊ කු
ū	u	uː/u	ऊ कू	ঊ কু	ਊ ਕੂ	ઁ ં	ଊ କୁ	ஊ கா	ఱు కు	ಱು ಕು	ഊ കൂ	ඊ කූ
ē	e	æ/ɛ	एँ कँ	- -	- -	- -	- -	அஎ	కఱె	- -	- -	- -
e	e	e	ऐ के	- -	- -	- -	- -	எ	కె	ఎ	ఏ	എ
ē	e	eː/ɛ/ɛ	ए के	ঐ কৈ	ਏ ਕੇ	ઁ ં	ଐ କେ	ஏ	కఱే	ఏ	ఱే	ഐ
ai	ai	ɛː/əj/æ/ɔj/oj	ऐ कैं	ঐ কৈ	ਏ ਕੈ	ઁ ં	ଐ କୈ	ஐ	కఱై	ఱై	ఱై	ഐ
ō	o	ɔ	औ कौ	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
o	o	o	ओ को	- -	- -	- -	- -	ஒ	కొ	ఒ	ఱొ	ഓ
ō	o	oː/o	ओ को	ঔ কৌ	ਔ ਕੋ	ઁ ં	ଔ କୌ	ஔ	కొ	ఱొ	ఱొ	ഓ
au	au	ɔ/əw/ɔw/ow	औ कौ	ঔ কৌ	ਔ ਕੋ	ઁ ં	ଔ କୌ	ஔ	కొ	ఱొ	ఱొ	ഓ
ṛ	ri	ɾ/ri/ru	ऋ कृ	ঋ কৃ	ਕ੍ਰ ਕ੍ਰ	- -	ଋ କୃ	- -	ఱు	ఱు	ఱు	ഋ
ṝ	ri	ɾː/riː/ruː/ri	ऋ कृ	ঋ কৃ	ਕ੍ਰ ਕ੍ਰ	- -	ଋ କୃ	- -	ఱు	ఱు	ఱు	ഋ
ṛ̥	?	ɽ	ॠ कृ	ৠ কৃ	ਕ੍ਰ ਕ੍ਰ	- -	ଠ କୃ	- -	ఱు	ఱు	ఱు	ഠ
ṝ̥	?	ɽː	ॠ कृ	ৠ কৃ	ਕ੍ਰ ਕ੍ਰ	- -	ଠ କୃ	- -	ఱు	ఱు	ఱు	ഠ

Consonants

See also *Brahmic family#Consonants*.

ISO 15919	Simplified	IPA	Devanagari	Bengali/Assamese	Gurmukhi	Gujarati	Oriya	Tamil	Telugu	Kannada	Malayalam	Sinhala
k	k	k	क	ক	ਕ	ક	କ	க	క	ಕ	ക	ක
kh	kh	kʰ	ख	খ	ਖ	ક	ଖ	கஃ	ఖ	ಖ	ഖ	ක
g	g	g	ग	গ	ਗ	ગ	ଗ	க	గ	ಗ	ഗ	ග
gh	gh	gʱ	घ	ঘ	ਘ	ઘ	ଘ	கஃ	ఘ	ಘ	ഘ	ඝ
ṇ	n	ɳ	ङ	ঙ	ਙ	ઙ	ଙ	ங	జ	ಜ	ജ	ඞ
c	ch	tʃ/s	च	চ	ਚ	ચ	ଚ	ச	చ	ಚ	ച	ච
ch	chh	tʃʰ/s	छ	ছ	ਚ	ચ	ଚ	சஃ	ఛ	ఛ	ഛ	ඡ
j	j	dʒ/z	ज	জ	ਜ	જ	ଜ	ஜ	జ	ಜ	ജ	ජ

jh	jh	ɟʒ/z	झ	झ	झ[1]	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
ñ	n	ɲ/n/-	ञ	ञ	ञ	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
t	t	t̪/t	ट	ट	ट	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
th	th	tʰ/tʰ	ठ	ठ	ठ	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
d	d	d̪/d	ड	ड	ड	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
dh	dh	dʰ/dʰ	ढ	ढ	ढ[1]	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
ṇ	n	ɳ/n	ण	ण	ण	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
t	t	t̪/t	त	त	त	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
th	th	tʰ/tʰ	थ	थ	थ	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
d	d	d̪/d	द	द	द	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
dh	dh	dʰ/dʰ	ध	ध	ध[1]	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
n	n	ɳ/n[2]	न	न	न	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
ṇ	n	n	ॢ	-	ॢ	𑌕	-	ॢ	-	-	ॢ [3]	ॢ.[4]
p	p	p	प	प	प	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
ph	ph	pʰ/f	फ	फ	फ	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
b	b	b	ब	ब	ब	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
bh	bh	bʰ	भ	भ	भ[1]	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
m	m	m	म	म	म	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
y	y	j/dʒ	य	य	य	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
r	r	r̪/r[5]	र	र/ॠ[6]	र	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
ṛ	r	r	ॠ	-	ॠ	𑌕	-	ॠ	ॠ	ॠ	ॠ	ॠ.[4]
ṛ[7]	r	r	ॡ	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
l	l	l	ल	ल	ल	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
l̥	l	l̥	ळ	-	ळ	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
ḷ	l	ḷ	ॢ	-	-	𑌕	-	ॢ	-	ॢ	ॢ	ॢ.[4]
v	v	ʋ/w[8]	व	व[9]	व	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
ś	sh	ʃ/s/ʃ/x	श	श	श	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
ṣ	sh	ʃ/s/ʃ/x	ष	ष	-	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
s	s	s/ʃ/x	स	स	स	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
h	h	ɦ	ह	ह	ह[11]	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
q	q	q	क	क	क	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
kh	kh	x	ख	ख	ख	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
g	g	ɣ	ग	ग	ग	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
z	z	z	ज	ज	ज	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
r	r	ɽ	ड	ड	ड	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕
ṛh	rh	t̪ʰ	ढ	ढ	ढ	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕	𑌕

f	f	f	ਫ	ফ़	ਫ਼	फ़	ଫ	ಫ	-	-	ഫ	ಫ
y	y	j/e	ਯ	য়	ਯ	य	ଯ	-	-	-	-	-
t	t	t	ਤ	ত	ਤ	ट	ଡ	-	-	-	-	-
s	s	s	ਸ	স	-	स	ସ	-	-	-	-	-
h	h	h	ਹ	হ	ਹ	ह	ହ	-	-	-	-	-
w	w	w	ਵ	ৱ[12]	ਵ	व	ଵ	ච	-	-	-	-
ṭ	t	t	t	-	-	-	-	ඨ	-	-	ඨ[13] (්)	-

- ^ See special notes for Punjabi, specifically voiced aspirates.
- ^ In Indo-Aryan languages, this letter is theoretically pronounced as a dental nasal, but it is actually alveolar. In Tamil and Malayalam, it is a dental nasal and the alveolar nasal has a separate letter (*ṇ*: see note below).
- ^ This letter is obsolete. See the Malayalam language article for further details.
- ^ In languages that contrast two rhotic consonants, this is generally [r]. In Indo-Aryan languages that do not make this distinction but have [ɾ] and [r] as allophones, the /r/ phoneme is generally pronounced [r] when following a voiced consonant (although there are exceptions, such as the consonant j /*ਯ*/) and [ɾ] in most other environments.
- ^ Use when the distinction between the reph and eyelash form of Ra is required; otherwise transliterate as 'r'.
- ^ Used when writing Tamil in Sinhala script.
- ^ Use *ৱ* for Bengali and Manipuri, and *৺* for Assamese.
- ^ Assamese and Manipuri only.
- ^ May be pronounced 'w' in some languages.
- ^ Also the Tamil ligature SRI (ஸ்ரீ = ஸ்ரீ or, prior to Unicode 4.1, ஸ்ரீ = ஸ்ரீ) should be transliterated as *śrī* with ś, although *srī* may be also acceptable. See [14] and [15].
- ^ See special notes for Punjabi. Specifically 'ha'.
- ^
- ^ This is the symbol for the geminate consonant - the letter for the single [t], *ṭ* , has become obsolete.

Assamese velar fricatives

ISO 15919	Simplified	IPA	Assamese
ś	x	x	শ
ṣ	x	x	ষ
s	x	x	স

Sinhalese half-nasals

ISO 15919	Simplified	IPA	Sinhala
ṅg	ng	ng	ඟ
jṅ[16]	jn	gn	ඟ්
ñj	nj	nɟʑ	ඟ්
ṅḍ	nd	nɖ	ඟ්
ṇḍ	nd	nɖ	ඟ්
m̃b	mb	mb	ඟ්

- ^ This character is technically a conjunct, but is encoded separately in Unicode.

Sindhi/Western Punjabi consonants

ISO 15919	Simplified	IPA	Devanagari	Gurmukhi
gg[17]	gg	ɡ	ग (ग)	ਗ
jj[18]	jj	ʃ	ज (ज)	ਜ
dd[19]	dd	ɖ	ड (ड)	ਡ
bb[20]	bb	ɓ	ब (ब)	ਬ

- ^ Represents Sindhi/Western Punjabi bbē (𑆑).
- ^ Represents Sindhi/Western Punjabi jjē (𑆑).
- ^ Represents Sindhi dd.ē (𑆑) or Western Punjabi dd.āl (𑆑).
- ^ Represents Sindhi ggē (𑆑) or Western Punjabi ggāf (𑆑).

Special notes for Punjabi

Punjabi is rather unique for an Indo-European language in that tones are a prominent feature of speech. As such, the IPA conversion is not accurate for Punjabi. Fortunately, there is a direct correlation between certain aspirated consonants and use of subscript /ha/ to represent different tones.

Voiced aspirates

The consonants that are employed for voiced aspirates in other Indian languages are not pronounced as such in Punjabi. In Punjabi these consonants are used to mark changes in tone. The table below indicates how each consonant is pronounced based on its position within a word.

Consonant	Beginning of word	All other positions
क	क [k]	ग [g]
च	च [tʃ]	ज [ɟʑ]
ट	ट [t]	ड [ɖ]
प	प [p]	ब [ɓ]

At the beginning or middle of a word, a voiced aspirate indicates a low tone on the following vowel. Examples:

- ਘੋੜਾ [gʰoːʈaː] is actually pronounced [kòːʈaː]
- ਪਘਾਰਨਾ [pəgʰaːrnaː] is actually pronounced [pəgàːrnaː]
- ਮਘਾਣਾ [məgʰaːɳaː] is actually pronounced [məgàːɳaː]

At the end of the word (stem-final), the voiced aspirates indicates a high tone on the preceding vowel. Examples:

- ਕੁੜ [kudʒʰ] is actually pronounced [kúʈʒ]

Ha

At the beginning of a word, ਿ indicates [ha].

In the middle or at the end of a word, ha indicates a high tone on the preceding vowel. Examples:

- ਚਾਹ [tʃaːh] is actually pronounced [tʃáː]

Subscript ha also indicates a high tone on the preceding vowel. Examples:

- ਪੜ੍ਹ [pəʈʰ] is actually pronounced [pə́ʈ]

The following conventions apply apart from at the beginning of a word:

- ਹਿ converts into a high tone ^ˆ (e.g. ਸਹਿਤ is pronounced ਸੇਤ [séːt]).
- ੁਹ converts into a high tone ^ˆ (e.g. ਸੁਹਣਾ is pronounced ਸੋਣਾ [sóːɳaː]).
- ਹਿ converts into a high tone ^ˆ (e.g. ਸੁਹਰਿ is pronounced ਸੈਰ [śér]).
- ੁਹ converts into a high tone ^ˆ (e.g. ਬਹੁਤ is pronounced ਬੋਤ [bóʈ]).

References

- Teach Yourself Panjabi ISBN 1-07143161-6 (p16, 19-21)
- [21]
- [22]
- [23]

Nasalisation

ISO 15919	IPA	Devanagari	Bengali	Gurmukhi	Gujarati	Oriya	Tamil	Telugu	Kannada	Malayalam	Sinhala
m̐[24]	?	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣[25]	◌̣
m̐[24]	?	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣
m̐[26]	?	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣
ṁ	?	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣	◌̣

- ^ The signs m̐ and m̐ are essentially identical. However, Gurmukhi has two separate nasal characters and if this distinction is to be retained separate identifiers must be used.
- ^ For Malayalam, it is transliterated as 'm' at the end of a word. There is no actual phonemic nasalisation in Malayalam. This symbol only indicates nasalisation when Malayalam script is being used to write Sanskrit. Otherwise, it represents either consonantal /m/ (without the inherent vowel) or consonantal /ɳ/ (without the inherent vowel), mostly in borrowed Sanskrit words that originally had nasalisation. Some of these borrowed words are pronounced with /m/ and others with /ɳ/, and, because of analogy, this symbol has come to represent these phonemes (when the vowels are suppressed - otherwise the normal letters would be used) in native words as well.
- ^ When applied to a semivowel (y, r, l, ɭ or v), in contrast to its application to a vowel, candrabindu is placed before the semivowel. For example, सयँन्ता is written *sa:m̐yāntā* and not *saym̐yāntā*.

The standard nasal signs (ṁ and ṡ) are only to be used at the end of words OR when it is crucial to keep the distinction between Bindi and Tippi use in Gurmukhi. Otherwise, the following rules should be enforced:

When followed by	ISO 15919	IPA
k, kh, g, gh or ṅ q, ṅh, or ḡ	ṅ	ŋ
c, ch, j, jh or ñ z	ñ	ɲ
ṭ, ṭh, ḍ, ḍh, or ṇ	ṇ	ɳ
t, th, d dh, or n	n	n
p, ph, b bh, or m f	m	m
y, r, l, v, ś, ṣ, s, h ṡ	n	n

References

- Transliteration of Non-Roman Scripts ^[27]
- Transliteration of Indic scripts: How to use ISO 15919 ^[28]

Script specific resources

- The Sindhi Alphabet ^[29]
- The Western Punjabi Alphabet ^[30]
- Sinhala to International Phonetic Alphabet Transliteration Scheme ^[31]
- Free Online Indic Transliteration in all Indian Languages and to image conversion ^[32] Bengali - Hindi - Kannada - Malayalam - Oriya - Punjabi - Tamil - Gujarati - Punjabi\Gurmukhi & Telugu

References

- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_consonant-gur-vasp
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_consonant-n
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_consonant-n2
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_consonant-sin-tamilchar
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_consonant-r
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_consonant-ben-r
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_consonant-r3
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_consonant-v
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_consonant-ben-v
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_tamil-sha
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_consonant-gur-h
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_consonant-ben-w
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_consonant-mal-t
- <http://unicode.org/faq/tamil.html#12>
- <http://std.dkuug.dk/jtc1/sc2/wg2/docs/n2617.pdf>
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_consonant-jn
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_consonant-gg
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_consonant-jj
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_consonant-dddd
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_consonant-bb
- <http://books.google.com/books?vid=ISBN3110106000&id=bZi640i8mDMC&pg=PA98&lpg=PA98&dq=Panjabi+tones&sig=MpZMVUsRicAux4I1U5KHlyuzQJs>
- <http://books.google.com/books?vid=ISBN0415183448&id=DGQoeGxtjKsC&pg=PA68&lpg=PA68&dq=Panjabi+tones&sig=rWMja6QjjmmOKSJnlXoRbWSyKKA>

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- [23] <http://www.amazon.com/gp/reader/0195079930&pageID=S0CG&checksum=Sa6y3hOsEuN9nhFQP3DTiBTROxIFSyxvZVvnRorWCXg=>
 - [24] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_nasal-binditippi
 - [25] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_nasal-mal
 - [26] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Indic_transliteration#endnote_nasal-candrabindu
 - [27] <http://transliteration.eki.ee/index.html>
 - [28] <http://homepage.ntlworld.com/stone-catend/trind.htm>
 - [29] <http://www.unics.uni-hannover.de/nhtcapri/sindhi-alphabet.html>
 - [30] <http://www.unics.uni-hannover.de/nhtcapri/western-panjabi-alphabet.html>
 - [31] http://www.nongnu.org/sinhala/doc/transliteration/sinhala-transliteration_4.html
 - [32] <http://typepad.datavw.com>
-

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Assamese alphabet

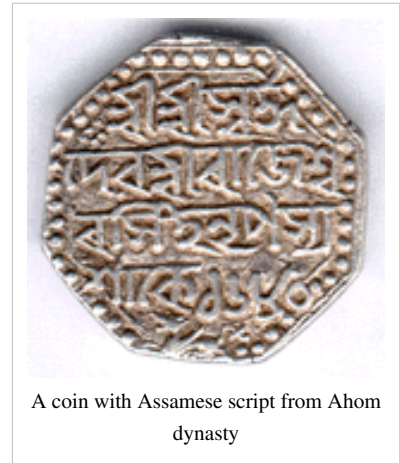
Assamese abugida	
অসমীয়া লিপি	
Type	Abugida
Languages	Assamese
Time period	8th Century to the present
Parent systems	Proto-Sinaitic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phoenician <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aramaic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brāhmī <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gupta script <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Siddham <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assamese/Bengali <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assamese abugida

Brāhmī
<i>The Brahmic script and its descendants</i>

The **Assamese script** (অসমীয়া লিপি *Ôxômiya Lipi*)^[1] is a writing system of the Assamese language. A variant of the Eastern Nagari alphabet it used to be the script of choice in the Brahmaputra valley for Sanskrit as well as other languages such as Bodo (now Devanagari), Khasi (now Roman), Mising (now Roman) etc. The current form of the script has seen continuous development from the 5th-century Umachal/Nagajari-kanikargaon rock inscriptions written in an eastern variety of the Gupta script, adopting significant traits from the Siddham Script along the way. By the 17th century three styles of Assamese script could be identified (*baminiya*, *kaitheli* and *garhgaya*) that converged to the standard script following typesetting required for printing. The present standard is identical to the Bengali script *except for three letters*.^[2]

Buranjis were written during Ahom dynasties in Assamese language using Assamese script. The earliest evidence of Assamese script is found in the Charyapada, the Buddhist songs. They are supposed to have been composed within a time-frame of four hundred years from 8th century AD to 12th century AD. In the 14th century Madhava Kandali used Assamese script to compose the famous Kotha Ramayana which is the first translation of Ramayana in a regional Indian language after Valmiki Ramayana in Sanskrit. Later, Srimanta Sankardeva used it in the 15th and 16th centuries to compose his oeuvre in Assamese and Brajavali the language of the Bhakti poems (Borgeets) and Dramas (Ankiya naat).

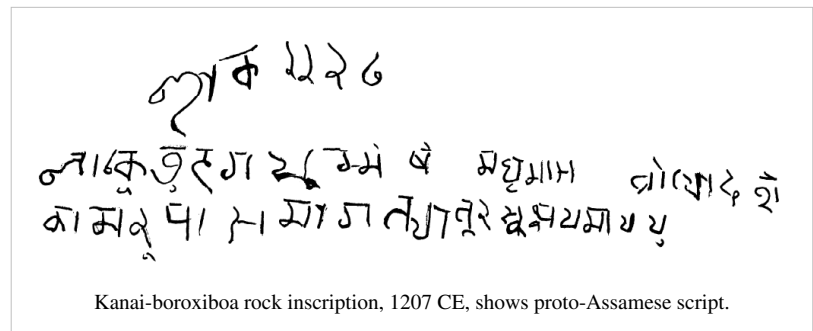
Ahom king Chakradwaj Singha, (1663–1670 AD) was the first ruler who started issuing Assamese coins for his kingdom (see figure for a sample coin). Similar script with minor differences are used to write Maithili, Bengali, Manipuri and Sylheti language.



A coin with Assamese script from Ahom dynasty

History

The Umachal rock inscription of the 5th century evidences the first use of a script in the region. The script was very similar to the one used in Samudragupta's Allahabad Pillar inscription. Rock and copper plate inscriptions from then onwards, and *Xaansi* bark manuscripts right up to the 18th–19th centuries show a steady



Kanai-boroxiboa rock inscription, 1207 CE, shows proto-Assamese script.

development of the Assamese script. The script could be said to develop proto-Assamese shapes by the 13th century. In the 18th and 19th century, the Assamese script could be divided into three varieties: *Kaitheli* (also called *Lakhari* in Kamrup region, used by non-Brahmins), *Bamuniya* (used by Brahmins, for Sanskrit) and *Garhgaya* (used by state officials of the Ahom kingdom)—among which the *Kaitheli* style was the most popular, with medieval books (like the *Hastir-vidyarnava*) and sattras using this style. In the early part of the 19th century, Atmaram Sarmah designed the first Assamese script for printing in Srerampore, and the Bengali and Assamese lithography converged to the present standard that is used today.

Assamese symbols

Vowels

The script presently has a total of 11 vowel letters, used to represent the eight main vowel sounds of Assamese, along with a number of vowel diphthongs. All of these are used in both Assamese and Bengali, the two main languages using the script. Some of the vowel letters have different sounds depending on the word, and a number of vowel distinctions preserved in the writing system are not pronounced as such in modern spoken Assamese or Bengali. For example, the Assamese script has two symbols for the vowel sound [i] and two symbols for the vowel sound [u]. This redundancy stems from the time when this script was used to write Sanskrit, a language that had a short [i] and a long [i:], and a short [u] and a long [u:]. These letters are preserved in the Assamese script with their traditional names of *hōrswô i* (lit. 'short i') and *dirghô i* (lit. 'long i'), etc., despite the fact that they are no longer pronounced differently in ordinary speech.

Vowel signs can be used in conjunction with consonants to modify the pronunciation of the consonant (here exemplified by ক, kô). When no vowel is written, the vowel 'অ' (ô or o) is often assumed. To specifically denote the absence of a vowel, () may be written underneath the consonant...

Letter	Name of letter	Vowel sign with [ক] (ক)	Name of vowel sign	Transliteration	IPA
অ	ô	ক (none)	(none)	kô	kɔ
অ or অ'	o	ক (none) or ক'	(none)	ko	ko
আ	a	কা	akar	ka	ka
ই	hôrswô i	কি	hôrswôikar	ki	ki
ঈ	dirghô i	কী	dirghôikar	ki	ki
উ	hôrswô u	কু	hôrswôukar	ku	ku
ঊ	dirghô u	কূ	dirghôukar	ku	ku
ঋ	ri	কৃ	rikar	kri	kri
এ	e	কে	ekar	kê and ke	kɛ and ke
ঐ	ôï	কৈ	ôikar	kôï	kɔj
ও	û	ক়ে	ûkar	kû	kɔ
ঔ	ôu	কৌ	ôukar	kôu	kɔw

।+ Vowels

Consonants

The names of the consonant letters in Assamese are typically just the consonant's main pronunciation plus the inherent vowel ô. Since the inherent vowel is assumed and not written, most letters' names look identical to the letter itself (e.g. the name of the letter ঘ is itself ঘ ghô). Some letters that have lost their distinctive pronunciation in Modern Assamese are called by a more elaborate name. For example, since the consonant phoneme /n/ can be written ন, ণ, or ঞ (depending on the spelling of the particular word), these letters are not simply called nô; instead, they are called ন *dôntiyô nô* ("dental n"), ণ *mudhôinnô nô* ("cerebral n"), and ঞ *niô*. Similarly, the phoneme /x/ can be written as শ *talôibbô xô* ("palatal x"), ষ *mudhôinnô xô* ("cerebral x"), or স *dôntiyô xô* ("dental x"), the phoneme /s/ can be written using চ *prôthôm sô* ("first s") or ছ *ditiyô sô* ("second s"), and the phoneme /z/



The text says: "Shri Shrimat Siva Singha Maharaja". The "র" is used as "ৰ" in this 18th century manuscript, just as in modern Mithilakhar.

can be written using **জ** *bôrgiyô zô* ("row z" = "the z included in the five rows of stop consonants") or **য** *ôntôsthô zô* ("z situated between" = "the z that comes between the five rows of stop consonants and the row of sibilants"), depending on the standard spelling of the particular word.

Consonants

Letter	Name of Letter	Transliteration	IPA
ক	kô	k	k
খ	khô	kh	k ^h
গ	gô	g	g
ঘ	ghô	gh	g ^h
ঙ	ngô	ng	ŋ
চ	prôthôm sô	s	s
ছ	ditiyô sô	sh	sh
জ	bôrgiyô zô	z	z
ঝ	jhô	zh	zh
ঞ	niô	y	j
ট	murdhônnyô tô	t	t
ঠ	murdhônnyô thô	th	t ^h
ড	murdhônnyô dô	d	d
ঢ	murdhônnyô dhô	dh	d ^h
ণ	murdhônnyô nô	n	n
ত	dôntyô tô	t	t
থ	dôntyô thô	th	t ^h
দ	dôntyô dô	d	d
ধ	dôntyô dhô	dh	d ^h
ন	dôntyô nô	n	n
প	pô	p	p
ফ	phô	ph	p ^h
ব	bô	b	b
ভ	bhô	bh	b ^h
ম	mô	m	m
য	ôntôsthô zô	z	z
ৰ	rô	r	ɹ
ল	lô	l	l
ৱ	wô	w	w
শ	talôibbô xô	x and s	x~s

ষ	murdhōnyô xô	x and s	x~s
স	dôntyô xô	x and s	x~s
হ	hô	h	h
ক্ষ	khyô	khy	k ^h j
ড	dôre řô	ř	ř
ঢ	đhôre řô	ř	ř
য	ôntôsthô yô	y	j

Consonants clusters

According to Dr. G. C. Goswami the number of two-phoneme clusters is 143 symbolised by 174 conjunct letters. Three phoneme clusters are 21 in number, which are written by 27 conjunct clusters. A few of them are given hereafter as examples:

Conjunct letters	Conjunct letters (Latin interpretation)	[Phoneme clusters (with phonetics)]
ক + ক	(ka+ka)	ক্ৰ kka
ঙ + ক	(na+ka)	ঙ্ৰ ñka
ল + ক	(la+ka)	ল্ৰ lka
স + ক	(sa+ka)	স্ৰ s̥ka
স + ফ	(sa+pha)	স্ফ spha
ঙ + খ	(ña+kh)	ঙ্ৰ ñkha
স + খ	(sa+kh)	স্ৰ skha
ঙ + গ	(ña+ga)	ঙ্ৰ ñga
ঙ + ঘ	(ña+gha)	ঙ্ৰ ñgha
দ + ঘ	(da+gha)	দ্ৰ dgha
শ + চ	(śa+ca)	শ্ৰ śca
চ + ছ	(ca+cha)	চ্ৰ ccha
ঞ + ছ	(ña+cha)	ঞ্ৰ ñcha
ঞ + জ	(ña+ja)	ঞ্ৰ ñja
জ + ঞ	(ja+ña)	জ্ৰ jña
ল + ট	(la+ṭa)	ল্ৰ ṭa
ণ + ঠ	(ṇa+ṭha)	ণ্ৰ ṇtha
ষ + ঠ	(ṣa+ṭha)	ষ্ৰ ṣtha
ণ + ড	(ṇa+ḍa)	ণ্ৰ ṇḍa
ষ + ণ	(ṣa+ṇa)	ষ্ৰ ṣṇa
হ + ন	(ha+na)	হ্ৰ hna
ক + ষ	(ka+ṣa)	ক্ৰ kṣa
প + ত	(pa+ta)	প্ৰ pta
স + ত	(sa+ta)	স্ৰ sta
ক + ত	(ka+ta)	ক্ৰ kta

গ + ন	(ga+na)	ঘন gna
ম + ন	(ma+na)	মন mna
শ + ন	(śa+na)	শন śna
স + ন	(sa+na)	সন sna
হ + ন	(ha+na)	হন hna
ত + থ	(ta+tha)	ত্থ ttha
ন + থ	(na+tha)	ন্থ nthā
ষ + থ	(ṣa+tha)	ষ্থ ṣtha
ন + দ	(na+da)	ন্দ nda
ব + দ	(ba+da)	ব্দ bda
ম + প	(ma+pa)	ম্প mpa
ল + প	(la+pa)	ল্প lpa
ষ + প	(ṣa+pa)	ষ্প ṣpa
স + প	(sa+pa)	স্প spa
ম + ফ	(ma+pha)	ম্ফ mpha
ষ + ফ	(ṣa+pha)	ষ্ফ ṣpha
দ + ব	(da+ba)	দ্ব dba
ম + ব	(ma+ba)	ম্ব mba
হ + ব	ha+ba)	হ্ব hba
দ + ভ	(da+bha)	দ্ব্ dbha
ম + ভ	(ma+bha)	ম্ব্ mbha
ক + ম	(ka+ma)	ক্ম kma
দ + ম	(da+ma)	দ্ম dma
হ + ম	(ha+ma)	হ্ম hma
ম + ম	(ma+ma)	ম্ম mma

Digits

Hindu-Arabic numerals	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Assamese numerals	০	১	২	৩	৪	৫	৬	৭	৮	৯
Assamese names	xuinnô	ek	dui	tini	sari	pas	sôy	xat	ath	nô
	শূণ্য	এক	দুই	তিনি	চাৰি	পাচ	ছয়	সাত	আঠ	ন

l+ Digits

Three distinct variations of Assamese script from the Bengali

Letter	Name of letter	Transliteration	IPA	Bengali
ৰ	rô	r	ɽ	– bôesunnô rô
ৱ	wô	w	w	– (Absent)
ক্‌ষ	khyô	khy	kʰj	– juktokkhyô

⌈ *Assamese unique characters* Though ক্‌ষ is used in Bengali, it has a different pronunciation.

Assamese keyboard layout

- In-script keyboard layout:*

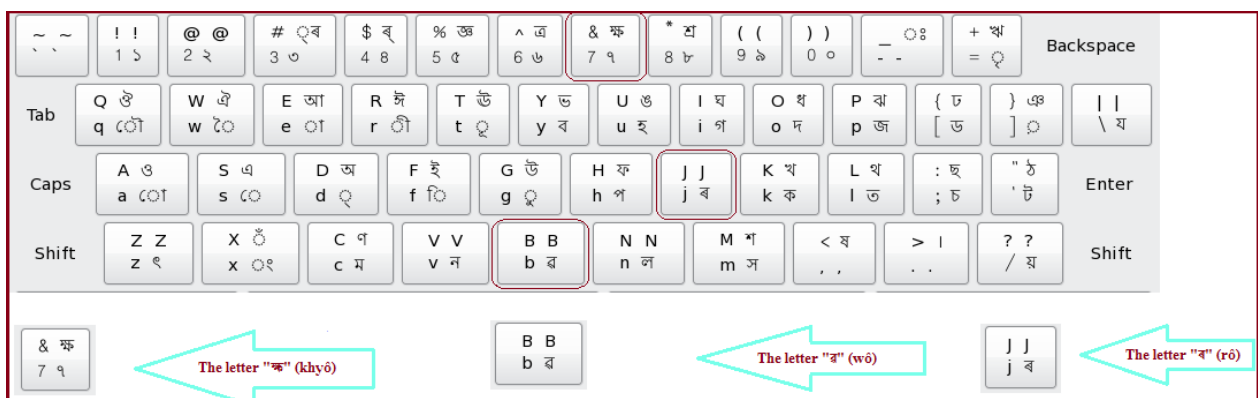


- Phonetic keyboard layout:*



- The unique alphabet identifiers:*

The keyboard locations of three characters unique to the Assamese script are depicted below:



- ITRANS characterisation:*

The "Indian languages TRANSliteration" (ITRANS) the ASCII transliteration scheme for Indic scripts here, Eastern Nagari – Assamese; the characterisations are given below:

Keyboard Sequence	Character
k	ক্
kh	খ্
g	গ্
gh	ঘ্
~N	ঙ্
N^	ঙ্
ch	চ্
Ch	ছ্
chh	ছ্
j	জ্
jh	ঝ্
~n	ঞ্
JN	ঞ্
T	ট্
Th	ঠ্
D	ড্
Dh	ঢ্
N	ণ্
t	ত্
th	থ্
d	দ্

Keyboard Sequence	Character
dh	ধ্
n	ন্
p	প্
ph	ফ্
b	ব্
bh	ভ্
m	ম্
y	য্
r	ৰ্
l	ল্
v	ৱ্
w	ৱ্
sh	শ্
Sh	ষ্
shh	ষ্

s	স্
h	হ্
.D	ড়্
.Dh	ঢ়্
Y	য্
yh	য়্

Keyboard Sequence	Character
GY	জ্ঞ্
dny	জ্ণ্
x	ক্‌ষ্
a	অ
aa	আ
A	আ
i	ই
ii	ঈ
I	ঈ
u	উ
uu	ঊ
U	ঊ
RRi	ঋ
R^i	ঋ
LLi	ৠ

Keyboard Sequence	Character
L^i	ৡ
e	এ
ai	ঐ
o	ও
au	ঔ
RRI	ঋ
R^I	ঋ
LLI	ৠ
L^I	ৡ
.N	ন্
.n	্ন
M	্ন
H	ঃ
.h	্

Keyboard Sequence	Character
0	০
1	১
2	২
3	৩
4	৪
5	৫
6	৬
7	৭
8	৮
9	৯
#	, ব
\$	ব
^	ত্ৰ
*	শ্ৰ
	.

Notes

[1] The name ' **first appears in Ahom coins and copperplates where the name denoted the Ahom script**

[2] <http://rajivkonwar100.blogspot.com/2011/07/assamese-experts-question-sahitya-sabha.html>

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External links

- Assamese alphabet (<http://www.assam.org/node/2330>)
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The Assam Tribune

Guwahati, Sunday, March 5, 2006

EDITORIAL

The 'X' sound in Assamese language

— Rajen Barua

Assamese is the eastern-most member of New Indo Aryan (NIA) languages in India, and is spoken in the Brahmaputra valley in Asom. It is also the easternmost member of the Indo-European group of languages which is the largest language group in the world with a total number of speakers of more than half of the world population. All the modern European languages as well as those of Iran, India and Pakistan fall into this Indo-European group. Amongst the NIA languages, Assamese bears some unique characteristics which are not found in other Indian languages.

Assamese is a very ancient language, a fact not very well recognized even by the Assamese. From that ancient past, the Assamese language evolved in partial isolation from mainland India, and developed some distinct characteristics. Being the farthest outpost of Aryan migration towards the east, Assamese falls in the outer belt or in the peripheral Indo-Aryan languages. As such Assamese has retained certain characteristics of the parent Indo-European (IE) languages which have been lost in other parts of India.

Besides the absence of the cerebrals, Assamese has the unique /x/ sound which is absent in Sanskrit and other NIA languages. This was duly observed by the Baptist Missionaries in the early nineteenth century when they encountered the language and has opined correctly that Assamese has the unique /x/ sound which is similar to the Greeks. Phonetically, this /x/ sound is pronounced somewhat in between the sounds /s/, /kh/ and /h/ and is similar to the German sound /ch/ as pronounced in the word 'Bach' or the Scottish sound as found in the word 'Loch'. Thus in Assamese, all the three Indo-Aryan Sibilants: s, s' and s'' are pronounced as /x/. This is a unique characteristic of the Assamese language. On this point, Dr. Suniti Kumar Chatterjee, the leading Indian philologist, remarked, "The change of initial, intervocal and final (sibilants) to the glotal spirant x in Assamese is something remarkable and is paralleled by what we see in Singhalese and Kashmiri. This is also noticeable in Iranian, Hellenic and Celtic." In many languages this original Indo-European /x/ sound was lost which either evolved to s, kh or h. According to Kaliram Medhi, "The Assamese pronunciation of the sibilants is peculiar in Assamese, and evidently a relic of pre Vedic Aryan pronunciation." Dimbeswar Neog also agrees, "Next to the above peculiarities is the Asamiya X pronunciation of the sibilants which also must have been brought by the Early Aryans called the Mediterranean." Thus we see that this x sound in Assamese is not something which developed in Assam, nor it is a sound which was inherited from any of the non-Aryan languages in Asom, but it simply marks an earlier Indo-European pre Vedic heritage. The /x/ sound was there in the pre-Vedic Aryan language also before the evolution of the classical Sanskrit language. Dr Suniti Kumar Chatterjee, writes "It seems that in certain forms of OIA (Old Indo-Aryan languages the /x/ sound was the actually one employed for S as can be inferred from a medieval pronunciation of S as /kh/ being the nearest approximation to the traditional /x/". Dimbeswar Neog further writes, "When the Nordic of Vedic Aryan immigration into India took place in the second millennium B.C., the /x/ sound as in Asamiya was prominent. Chatterjee thinks that "tatax kim" was the actual pronunciation at the time of the Rig Veda. It came to be pronounced as "tatah kim" in later times owing to the loss of /x/ sound due to non-Aryan influence predominating over the Aryan. But it remained almost intact in the Dardic or Pisaci speech which like the Asamiya is a language of the outer band."

Scholars have now correctly identified this unique Assamese sound to be a 'veller fricative' sound. Dr. Banikanata Kakoty, states that in Assamese it is an 'unvoiced velar fricative' sound. Dr Golok Ch

Goswami describes it as a “velar voiceless aspirant”. The International Phonetic Association (IPA), has identified all the sounds of all the languages in the world and have assigned some unique symbols. The IPA symbol of the ‘velar fricative’ sound as found in Assamese and other languages is the Roman letter X. (See IPA Chart).

Some of the Indo-European languages have retained this sound although today in each language, the actual pronunciation is slightly different. In the European languages this sound is spelled either as x or ch. In the Greek language it is spelled as x as in the word Xarish (meaning favor). In the Russian language it is spelled as x as in the words Xrushchev or Chexov. In the German language it is spelled as ch as in the words Dach (meaning roof) or Bach (meaning brook). In Scottish language also this sound is there, and is spelled, like the Germans, as ch as in the word Loch (meaning hole).

Thus our Assamese language is a unique language which is one of the few which has still retained this X sound. It is believed that in Assam we have this sound from the early days of Narakaxura who belongs to an Axura tribe which is an earlier pre-Vedic Aryan group, the main branch of which immigrated to Persia and later established the worship of the supreme deity, Ahura Mezda as the formless God. It is interesting to note that even today Assamese culture has some striking correspondence with the old Persian culture as found in Zend-Avesta. The Persian language has also some correspondence with the Assamese language in many respects including the common /x/ sound.

From these ancient past, the Aryan roots of the Assamese language has greatly assimilated various other elements into its body in Assam, notably of Bodo group of the Tibeto-Burman family; and the old Assamese language evolved as the dialect of the of the common people. In course of time, several waves of Aryan immigrants entered Assam. According to one theory, these early immigrants were Alpine Aryans from the Mediterranean. “During the third millennium B.C.the Alpine immigration poured into India, one branch of them moving toward the western coast of India through the Indus valley and the other branch pushing towards Eastern India.” They must have come through the foothills of the Himalayas bypassing the mainland India. Assamese language bears some interesting correspondence to some languages of the Himalayan foothills. It is also probable that some of them came through one of the northern trade routes thru Tibet and Bhutan, which were in common use in those times.

In keeping with the IPA (International Phonetic Association) this sound should be represented by the letter X. Assamese should start writing this sound in their many words which have this sound. Thus the correct spelling of the word Assam in Assamese should be OXOM. There has been some attempt to write the word with the spelling ASOM. Needless to say that the spelling ASOM does not represent the proper Assamese pronunciation.

Romanization of Telugu

There are several systems for romanization of the Telugu script.

Vowels

Independent	With క (k)	ISO	IPA	Independent	With క (k)	ISO	IPA
అ	క (ka)	a	/a/	ఆ	కా (kā)	ā	/aː/
ఇ	కి (ki)	i	/i/	ఈ	కీ (kī)	ī	/iː/
ఉ	కు (ku)	u	/u/	ఊ	కూ (kū)	ū	/uː/
ఋ	కృ (kr̥)	r̥	/ru/	ౠ	కౄ (kr̄)	r̄	/ruː/
ౡ		l̥		ౢ		l̄	
ఎ	కే (ke)	e	/e/	ఏ	కే (kē)	ē	/eː/
ఐ	కై (kai)	ai	/aj/	ఒ	కో (ko)	o	/o/
ఓ	కొ (kō)	ō	/oː/	ఔ	కౌ (kau)	au	/aw/
అం	కం (kṁ)	m̐		అః	కః (kḥ)	ḥ	

Consonants

ISO	k	kh	g	gh	ṇ	c	ch	j	jh	ñ	ṭ	ṭh	ḍ	ḍh	ṇ	t	th	d	dh	n	ṇ	p	ph	b	bh	m	y	r	ṛ	l	ḷ	ḷ	v	ś	ṣ	s	h
IPA	k	k ^h	g	g ^h	ɳ	tʃ	tʃ ^h	dʒ	dʒ ^h	ɲ	ʈ	ʈ ^h	ɖ	ɖ ^h	ɳ	t̪	t̪ ^h	d̪	d̪ ^h	n	ɳ	p	p ^h	b	b ^h	m	j	r	ṛ	l	ḷ	ḷ	v	ʃ	ʂ	s	h
Telugu	క	ఖ	గ	ఘ	జ	ఛ	ఞ	ట	ఠ	డ	ఢ	ణ	త	థ	ద	ధ	న			ప	ఫ	బ	భ	మ	య	ర	ఱ	ల	ళ			వ	శ	ష	స	హ	

Irregular Consonants

Telugu	ISO 15919	ITRANS
కష	kṣa	kSa/kSha/xa
జ్ఞా	jña	GYa/j~na

Note: శ్రీ(śra) and త్రా(trā) occurs by combining consonants in Telugu script unlike other Indic scripts.

Other diacritics

- **Virama** (̣) mutes the vowel of a consonant, so that only the consonant is pronounced. Example: క + ̣ → క̣ or [ka] + [Ø] → [k].
- **Anusvara** (̣) nasalize the vowels or syllables to which they are attached. Example: క + ం → కం or [ka] + [m] → [kaṁ]
- **Candrabindu** (̣) also nasalize the vowels or syllables to which they are attached. Example: క + ఁ → కఁ or [ka] + [n] → [kaṅ].
- **Visarga** (ḥ) adds a voiceless breath after the vowel or syllable it is attached to. Example: క + ḥ → కః or [ka] + [h] → [kaḥ]

UN romanization for geographical names

The United Nations romanization systems for geographical names (approved 1972, I1/11; amended in 1977 IH/12) was based on a report prepared by D. N. Sharma.^[1]

The UN romanization uses macrons for long vowels ā ī ū, a dot under ṛ for vocalic r, and caron on ě and ǒ.

ka kā ki kī ku kū kṛ kṛ̣ kṛ̣̣ ke kai kō ko kau

ISO

There are differences between the UN system and the ISO transliteration standard ISO 15919: 2001^[2]

ITRANS

ITRANS also has transliteration for Telugu.^[3]

RTS

Used in Vemuri Rao's *English-Telugu Dictionary* (2002) Rice University's Reverse Transliteration System (RTS) (created by Ramarao Kanneganti and Ananda Kishore) can be used for the transliteration of Telugu into Roman script as an alternative to phonetic alphabet.^[4]

- RTS represents short vowels by the lower case English character and long vowels by the corresponding upper case character. a A etc.
- Unaspirated consonant-vowel pairs are represented by a lower case letter followed by a suitable vowel.

The result is a phonetic representation only suitable for dictionaries. Examples:

- vaiDUryaM
- gOmEdhikaM

References

- [1] Technical reference manual for the national standardization of ... 2007- Page 39 " ... Nations recommended system was approved in 1972 (I1/11) and amended in 1977 (IH/12), based on a report prepared by D. N. Sharma. ... There is no evidence of the use of the system either in India or in international cartographic products. Telugu uses an alphasyllabic script whereby each character represents a syllable rather than one sound. Vowels and diphthongs are marked in two ways: as independent characters (used syllable-initially) and in an abbreviated form,
- [2] <http://www.unicode.org/charts/PDF/U0C00.pdf>
- [3] Information Systems for Indian Languages: International ... - Page 131 Chandan Singh, Gurpreet Singh Lehal, Jyotsna Sengupta - 2011 "Table 1. The Indian Language Transliteration (ITRANS) symbols of phonemes common to three languages Hindi, Tamil and Telugu Manual labeling of the recorded data has been carried out."
- [4] English-Telugu Dictionary - Page li isbn 8120616367 Vemuri Rao - 2002 "Transliteration of Telugu using RTS This dictionary uses RTS (Rice University's Reverse Transliteration System) for the transliteration of Telugu using Roman script. The RTS is defined below. (1) Represent short vowels by the lower case ..."

External links

- Library of Congress Telugu romanization table (<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsa/romanization/telugu.pdf>)

Article Sources and Contributors

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Telugu

Vowels and Diphthongs (see Note 1)

అ	a	ఐ	ī
ఆ	ā	ఎ	e
ఇ	i	ఏ	ē
ఈ	ī	ఐ	ai
ఉ	u	ఒ	o
ఊ	ū	ఓ	ō
ఋ	ṛ	ఔ	au
ౠ	ṝ		

Consonants (see Note 2)

Gutturals

క	ka
ఖ	kha
గ	ga
ఘ	gha
ఙ	ṅa

Palatals

చ	ca
ఛ	ċa
ఞ	cha
జ	ja
ఝ	j̥a
ఞ్	j̄a
ఝ	jha
ఞ	ña

Cerebrals

ట	ṭa
ఠ	ṭha
డ	ḍa
ఢ	ḍha
ణ	ṇa

Dentals

త	ta
థ	tha
ద	da
ధ	dha
న	na

Labials

ప	pa
ఫ	pha
బ	ba
భ	bha
మ	ma

Semivowels

య	ya
ర	ra
ల	ṛa
ల	la
ళ	ḷa
వ	va

Sibilants

శ	śa
ష	ṣa
స	sa

Aspirate

హ	ha
---	----

Sunna (see Note 3)

ఠ	ṭ
---	---

Visarga

ః	ḥ
---	---

Ardhasunna (see Note 4)

ఠ, ఠ్	ṭ̣
-------	----

Notes

1. Only the vowel forms that appear at the beginning of a syllable are listed; the forms used for vowels following a consonant can be found in grammars; no distinction between the two is made in transliteration.
2. The vowel *a* is implicit after all consonants and consonant clusters and is supplied in transliteration, with the following exceptions:
 - a) when another vowel is indicated by its appropriate sign; and
 - b) when the absence of any vowel is indicated by the superscript sign ([॑]) called *valapalagilaka*.
3. Exception: *Sunna* is transliterated by:
 - a) *ṇ* before gutturals,
 - b) *ṇ̄* before palatals,
 - c) *ṇ̆* before cerebrals,
 - d) *n* before dentals, and
 - e) *m* before labials.
4. *Ardhasunna* before gutturals and palatal, cerebral, and dental occlusives is transliterated *ṇ̄*. Before labials, sibilants, semivowels, the aspirate, vowels, and in final position it is transliterated *n̄*.

Tamil

Vowels and Diphthongs (see Note 1)

அ	a	எ	e
ஆ	ā	ஏ	ē
இ	i	ஐ	ai
ஈ	ī	ஒ	o
உ	u	ஔ	ō
ஊ	ū	ஔ	au

Consonants (see Note 2)

க	<u>k</u> a	ம	ma
க	ka	ய	ya
ங	ṅa	ர	ra (see Note 3)
ச	ca	ல	la
ஞ	ña	வ	va
ட	ṭa	ழ	<u>l</u> a
ண	ṇa	ள	<u>l</u> a
த	ta	ற	<u>r</u> a
ந	na	ன	<u>n</u> a
ப	pa		

Sanskrit Sounds

ஜ	ja	ஸ	sa
ஸ	śa	ஹ	ha
ஷ	ṣa		

Notes

- Only the vowel forms that appear at the beginning of a syllable are listed; the forms used for vowels following a consonant can be found in grammars; no distinction between the two is made in transliteration.
- The vowel *a* is implicit after all consonants and consonant clusters and is supplied in transliteration, with the following exceptions:
 - when another vowel is indicated by its appropriate sign; and
 - when the absence of any vowel is indicated by the superscript dot (◌̣) called *puḷḷi*.
- This letter has the same form as the vowel sign for *ā* appearing after a consonant. Where ambiguity arises, it is written ஶ̣ .

Tamil script

Tamil தமிழ்	
விக்கிப்பீடியா	
Type	Abugida
Languages	Tamil Sanskrit Saurashtra
Parent systems	Brāhmī <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southern Brahmi Tamil
Sister systems	Malayalam Tulu script Grantha Vatteluttu
ISO 15924	Taml, 346
Direction	Left-to-right
Unicode alias	Tamil
Unicode range	U+0B80–U+0BFF ^[1]

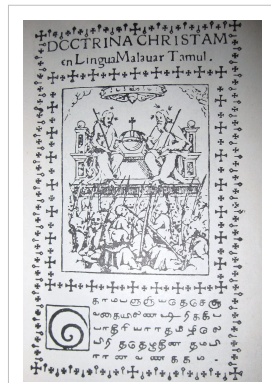
The **Tamil script** (தமிழ் அரிச்சுவடி *tamiḻ ariccuvaṭi*) is an abugida script that is used by the Tamil people in India, Sri Lanka and elsewhere, to write the Tamil language, as well as to write the liturgical language Sanskrit, using consonants and diacritics not represented in the basic script.^[2] Certain minority languages such as Saurashtra, Badaga, Irula, and Paniya are also written in the Tamil script.

Overview

Characteristics

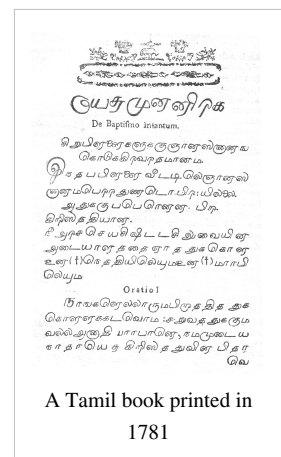
The Tamil script has 12 vowels (உயிரெழுத்து *uyireluttu* "soul-letters"), 18 consonants (மெய்யெழுத்து *meyyeluttu* "body-letters") and one character, the *āytam* ஃ (ஆய்தம்), which is classified in Tamil grammar as being neither a consonant nor a vowel (அலியெழுத்து *aliyeluttu* "the hermaphrodite letter"), though often considered as part of the vowel set (உயிரெழுத்துக்கள் *uyireluttukkal* "vowel class"). The script, however, is syllabic and not alphabetic.^[3] The complete script, therefore, consists of the thirty-one letters in their independent form, and an additional 216 combinant letters representing a total 247 combinations (உயிர்மெய்யெழுத்து *uyirmeyyeluttu*) of a consonant and a vowel, a mute consonant, or a vowel alone. These combinant letters are formed by adding a vowel marker to the consonant. Some vowels require the basic shape of the consonant to be altered in a way that is specific to that vowel. Others are written by adding a vowel-specific suffix to the consonant, yet others a prefix, and finally some vowels require adding both a prefix and a suffix to the consonant. In every case the vowel marker is different from the standalone character for the vowel. The Tamil script is written from left to right.

The modern Tamil script does not, however, descend from this script. In 7th century, the Pallava dynasty created a new script for Tamil, which was formed by simplifying the Grantha script (which in turn derived from Southern Brahmi), and adding to it the vatteluttu letters for sounds not found in Sanskrit. By the 8th century, this new script supplanted vatteluttu in the Chola and Pallava kingdoms which lay in the north portion of the Tamil-speaking region. Vatteluttu continued to be used in the southern portion of the Tamil-speaking region, in the Chera and Pandyan kingdoms until the 11th century, when the Pandyan kingdom was conquered by the Cholas.



Tampiran Vanakkam (Doctrina Christum) was the first book in Tamil, printed on 20 October 1578

Over the next few centuries, the Chola-Pallava script evolved into the modern Tamil script. The use of palm leaves as the primary medium for writing led to changes in the script. The scribe had to be careful not to pierce the leaves with the stylus while writing, because a leaf with a hole was more likely to tear and decay faster. As a result, the use of the *pulli* to distinguish pure consonants became rare, with pure consonants usually being written as if the inherent vowel were present. Similarly, the vowel marker for the *kurriyal ukaram*, a half-rounded *u* which occurs at the end of some words and in the medial position in certain compound words, also fell out of use and was replaced by the marker for the simple *u*. The *pulli* did not fully reappear until the introduction of printing, but the marker *kurriyal ukaram* never came back into use, although the sound itself still exists and plays an important role in Tamil prosody.



A Tamil book printed in 1781

The forms of some of the letters were simplified in the nineteenth century to make the script easier to typeset. In the twentieth century, the script was simplified even further in a series of reforms, which regularised the vowel markers used with consonants by eliminating special markers and most irregular forms.

Relationship with other Indic scripts

The Tamil script differs from other Brahmi-derived scripts in a number of ways. Unlike every other Indic script, it uses the same character to represent both an unvoiced plosive and its voiced equivalent. Thus the character க *k*, for example, represents both [k], and [g]. This is because Tamil grammar treats only unvoiced stops as being "true" consonants, treating voiced and aspirated sounds as euphonic variants of unvoiced sounds. Traditional Tamil grammars contain detailed rules, observed in formal speech, for when a stop is to be pronounced with and without voice. These rules are not followed in colloquial or dialectal speech, where voiced and unvoiced versions of a stop are, in effect, allophones, being used in specific phonetic contexts, without serving to distinguish words.

Brāhmī
<i>The Brahmic script and its descendants</i>

Also unlike other Indic scripts, the Tamil script rarely uses special consonantal ligatures to represent conjunct consonants, which are far less frequent in Tamil than in other Indian languages. Conjunct consonants, where they occur are written by writing the character for the first consonant, adding the *pulli* to suppress its inherent vowel, and then writing the character for the second consonant. There are a few exceptions, namely க்ஷ *kṣa* and ஸ்ரீ *śrī*.

Tamil letters

Basic consonants

Consonants are called the 'body' (*mei*) letters. The consonants are classified into three categories: *vallinam* (hard consonants), *mellinam* (soft consonants, including all nasals), and *idaiyinam* (medium consonants).

There are some lexical rules for formation of words. *Tolkāppiyam* describes such rules. Some examples: a word cannot end in certain consonants, and cannot begin with some consonants including 'r' 'l' and 'll'; there are two consonants for the dental 'n' - which one should be used depends on whether the 'n' occurs at the start of the word and on the letters around it. (Historically, one 'n' was pronounced alveolarly, as is still true in Malayalam.)

The order of the alphabet (strictly abugida) in Tamil closely matches that of the nearby languages both in location and linguistics, reflecting the common origin of their scripts from Brahmi.

Consonant	ISO 15919	Category	IPA
க்	k	vallinam	[k], [ɡ], [x], [ʎ], [h]
ங்	ṅ	mellinam	[ŋ]
ச்	c	vallinam	[t͡ʃ], [d͡ʒ], [ʃ], [s], [ʒ]
ஞ்	ñ	mellinam	[ɲ]
ட்	ṭ	vallinam	[t̪], [d̪], [ɖ]
ண்	ṇ	mellinam	[ɳ]
த்	t	vallinam	[t̪], [d̪], [ɖ]
ந்	n	mellinam	[n]
ப்	p	vallinam	[p], [b], [β]
ம்	m	mellinam	[m]
ய்	y	idaiyinam	[j]
ர்	r	idaiyinam	[r]
ல்	l	idaiyinam	[l]
வ்	v	idaiyinam	[ʋ]
ழ்	ɻ	idaiyinam	[ɻ]
ள்	ɭ	idaiyinam	[ɭ]
ற்	ɽ	vallinam	[ɽ], [t̪], [d̪]
ன்	ṇ	mellinam	[n]

Consonants of Modern Tamil

The Tamil speech has incorporated many phonemes which were not part of Tholkappiyan classification. These characters called "grantha" are part of modern Tamil. They are taught from elementary school and incorporated in Tamil Nadu Government encoding called TACE 16 (Tamil All Character Encoding).

Consonant	ISO 15919	IPA
ஸ்	ś	[ɕ], [ʃ]
ஜ்	j	[d͡ʒ]
ஷ்	ṣ	[ʂ]
ஸ்	s	[s]
ஹ்	h	[h]
க் ஷ்	kṣ	[kʂ]

The letter ஸ் is used only for words borrowed from Sanskrit (e.g. ஸாரதா śārādā), but is included in Unicode for rendering the common ligature 'Sri' (ஸ்ரீ śrī), which is made up of ஸ் ரீ. க்ஷ் is technically a ligature of க் ஷ்.

In recent times, three combinations of Tamil basic letters are generally used to depict sounds of English letters 'f', 'z', and 'x'. This is for writing English and Arabic names and words in Tamil. The combinations are ஃப for f, ஃஜ் for z and ஃக்ஸ் for x. For example: asif = அசிஃப், aZaarudheen = அஃஜார்ஹீன், rex = ரெஃக்ஸ்.

Vowels

Vowels are also called the 'life' (*uyir*) or 'soul' letters. Together with the consonants (which are called 'body' letters), they form compound, syllabic (abugida) letters that are called 'living' letters (*uyirmei*, i.e. letters that have both 'body' and 'soul').

Tamil vowels are divided into short and long (five of each type) and two diphthongs.

Isolated form

Vowel	ISO 15919	IPA
அ	a	[ʌ]
ஆ	ā	[ɑ:]
இ	i	[i]
ஈ	ī	[i:]
உ	u	[u], [ɯ]
ஊ	ū	[u:]

Vowel	ISO 15919	IPA
எ	e	[e]
ஏ	ē	[eː]
ஐ	ai	[ʌj]
ஒ	o	[o]
ஓ	ō	[oː]
ஒள	au	[ʌʋ]

Compound form

Using the consonant 'k' as an example:

Formation	Compound form	ISO 15919	IPA
க் + அ	க	ka	[kʌ]
க் + ஆ	கா	kā	[kɑː]
க் + இ	கி	ki	[ki]
க் + ஈ	கீ	kī	[kiː]
க் + உ	கு	ku	[ku], [kʷ]
க் + ஊ	கூ	kū	[kuː]
க் + எ	கெ	ke	[ke]
க் + ஏ	கே	kē	[keː]
க் + ஐ	கை	kai	[kʌj]
க் + ஒ	கொ	ko	[ko]
க் + ஓ	கோ	kō	[koː]
க் + ஒள	கௌ	kau	[kʌʋ]

The special letter ூ (called *akh*) is the *visarga*. It traditionally served a purely grammatical function, but in modern times it has come to be used as a diacritic to represent foreign sounds. For example, ூ௩ is used for the English sound *f*, not found in Tamil.

The long (*nedil*) vowels are about twice as long as the short (*kuRil*) vowels. The diphthongs are usually pronounced about one and a half times as long as the short vowels, though some grammatical texts place them with the long (*nedil*) vowels.

As can be seen in the compound form, the vowel sign can be added to the right, left or both sides of the consonants. It can also form a ligature. These rules are evolving and older use has more ligatures than modern use. What you actually see on this page depends on your font selection; for example, Code2000 will show more ligatures than Latha.

There are proponents of script reform who want to eliminate all ligatures and let all vowel signs appear on the right side.

Unicode encodes the character in logical order (always the consonant first), whereas legacy 8-bit encodings (such as TSCII) prefer the written order. This makes it necessary to reorder when converting from one encoding to another; it is not sufficient simply to map one set of codepoints to the other.

Compound table of Tamil letters

The following table lists vowel (*uyir* or life) letters across the top and consonant (*mei* or body) letters along the side, the combination of which gives all Tamil compound (*uyirmei*) letters.

ஃ	அ	ஆ	இ	ஈ	உ	ஊ	எ	ஏ	ஐ	ஒ	ஓ	ஔ
க்	க	கா	கி	கீ	கு	கூ	கெ	கே	கை	கொ	கோ	கௌ
ங்	ங	ஙா	ஙி	ஙீ	ஙு	ஙூ	ஙெ	ஙே	ஙை	ஙொ	ஙோ	ஙௌ
ச்	ச	சா	சி	சீ	சு	சூ	செ	சே	சை	சொ	சோ	சௌ
ஞ்	ஞ	ஞா	ஞி	ஞீ	ஞு	ஞூ	ஞெ	ஞே	ஞை	ஞொ	ஞோ	ஞௌ
ட்	ட	டா	டி	டீ	டு	டூ	டெ	டே	டை	டொ	டோ	டௌ
ண்	ண	ணா	ணி	ணீ	ணு	ணூ	ணெ	ணே	ணை	ணொ	ணோ	ணௌ
த்	த	தா	தி	தீ	து	தூ	தெ	தே	தை	தொ	தோ	தௌ
ந்	ந	நா	நி	நீ	நு	நூ	நெ	நே	நை	நொ	நோ	நௌ
ப்	ப	பா	பி	பீ	பு	பூ	பெ	பே	பை	பொ	போ	பௌ
ம்	ம	மா	மி	மீ	மு	மூ	மெ	மே	மை	மொ	மோ	மௌ
ய்	ய	யா	யி	யீ	யு	யூ	யெ	யே	யை	யொ	யோ	யௌ
ர்	ர	ரா	ரி	ரீ	ரு	ரூ	ரெ	ரே	ரை	ரொ	ரோ	ரௌ
ல்	ல	லா	லி	லீ	லு	லூ	லெ	லே	லை	லொ	லோ	லௌ
வ்	வ	வா	வி	வீ	வு	வூ	வெ	வே	வை	வொ	வோ	வௌ
ழ்	ழ	ழா	ழி	ழீ	ழு	ழூ	ழெ	ழே	ழை	ழொ	ழோ	ழௌ
ள்	ள	ளா	ளி	ளீ	ளு	ளூ	ளெ	ளே	ளை	ளொ	ளோ	ளௌ
ற்	ற	றா	றி	றீ	று	றூ	றெ	றே	றை	றொ	றோ	றௌ
ன்	ன	னா	னி	னீ	னு	னூ	னெ	னே	னை	னொ	னோ	னௌ

Grantha compound table

Vowels → Grantha consonants ↓	அ	ஆ	இ	ஈ	உ	ஊ	எ	ஏ	ஐ	ஒ	ஓ	ஔ
ய்	ய	யா	யி	யீ	யு	யூ	யெ	யே	யை	யொ	யோ	யௌ
ஜ்	ஜ	ஜா	ஜி	ஜீ	ஜு	ஜூ	ஜெ	ஜே	ஜை	ஜொ	ஜோ	ஜௌ
ஷ்	ஷ	ஷா	ஷி	ஷீ	ஷு	ஷூ	ஷெ	ஷே	ஷை	ஷொ	ஷோ	ஷௌ
ஸ்	ஸ	ஸா	ஸி	ஸீ	ஸு	ஸூ	ஸெ	ஸே	ஸை	ஸொ	ஸோ	ஸௌ
ஹ்	ஹ	ஹா	ஹி	ஹீ	ஹு	ஹூ	ஹெ	ஹே	ஹை	ஹொ	ஹோ	ஹௌ
க்ஷ்	க்ஷ	க்ஷா	க்ஷி	க்ஷீ	க்ஷு	க்ஷூ	க்ஷெ	க்ஷே	க்ஷை	க்ஷொ	க்ஷோ	க்ஷௌ

Numerals and symbols

Apart from the numerals (0-9), Tamil also has numerals for 10, 100 and 1000. Symbols for day, month, year, debit, credit, as above, rupee, numeral are present as well.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	100	1000
௦	௧	௨	௩	௪	௫	௬	௭	௮	௯	௧௦	௧௦௦	௧௦௦௦

day	month	year	debit	credit	as above	rupee	numeral
௨	மீ	வரு	பு	௭	௭	௫	நீ

Tamil in Unicode

The Unicode range for Tamil is U+0B80–U+0BFF. Grey areas indicate non-assigned code points. Most of the non-assigned codepoints are designated reserved because they are in the same relative position as characters assigned in other South Asian script blocks that correspond to phonemes that don't exist in the Tamil script.

Like other South Asian scripts in Unicode, the Tamil encoding was originally derived from the ISCII standard. Both ISCII and Unicode encode Tamil as an abugida. In an abugida, each basic character represents a consonant and default vowel. Consonants with a different vowel or bare consonants are represented by adding a modifier character to a base character. Each codepoint representing a similar phoneme is encoded in the same relative position in each South Asian script block in Unicode, including Tamil. Although Unicode represents Tamil as an abugida all the pure consonants (consonants with no associated vowel) and syllables in Tamil can be represented by combining multiple Unicode codepoints, as can be seen in the Unicode Tamil Syllabary below.

In Unicode 5.1, named sequences were added for all Tamil pure consonants and syllables. Unicode 5.1 also has a named sequence for the Tamil ligature SRI (சரி), ஸ்ரீ . The name of this sequence is TAMIL SYLLABLE SHRII, and is composed of the Unicode sequence U+0BB6 U+0BCD U+0BB0 U+0BC0.

Tamil ^[1] Unicode.org chart ^[1] (PDF)																
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F
U+0B8x			ஃ	ஃ		அ	ஆ	இ	ஈ	உ	ஊ				எ	ஏ
U+0B9x	ஐ		ஓ	ஓ	ஓள	க				ங	ச		ஐ		ஞ	ட
U+0BAx				ண	த				ந	ன	ப				ம	ய
U+0BBx	ர	ற	ல	ள	ழ	வ	ஸ	ஷ	ஸ	ஹ					ர	ரி
U+0BCx	ஃ	ஃ	ஃ				ெ	ே	ை		ொ	ோ	ௌ	ஃ		
U+0BDx	ஃ						ள									
U+0BEx							௦	௧	௨	௩	௪	௫	௬	௭	௮	௯
U+0BFx	௧௦	௧௦௦	௧௦௦௦	௧௦௦௦௦	௧௦௦௦௦௦	௧௦௦௦௦௦௦	௧௦௦௦௦௦௦௦	௧௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦	௧௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦	௧௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦	௧௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦	௧௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦	௧௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦	௧௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦	௧௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦	௧௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦௦

Notes

1.^ As of Unicode version 6.3

Unicode Tamil Syllabary

Vowels → Consonants ↓	அ 0B85	ஆ 0B86	இ 0B87	ஈ 0B88	உ 0B89	ஊ 0B8A	எ 0B8E	ஏ 0B8F	ஐ 0B90	ஒ 0B92	ஓ 0B93	ஔ 0B94
க் 0B95 0BCD	க 0B95	கா 0B95 0BBE	கி 0B95 0BBF	கீ 0B95 0BC0	கு 0B95 0BC1	கு 0B95 0BC2	கெ 0B95 0BC6	கே 0B95 0BC7	கை 0B95 0BC8	கொ 0B95 0BCA	கோ 0B95 0BCB	கௌ 0B95 0BCC
ங் 0B99 0BCD	ங 0B99	ஙா 0B99 0BBE	ஙி 0B99 0BBF	ஙீ 0B99 0BC0	ஙு 0B99 0BC1	ஙு 0B99 0BC2	ஙெ 0B99 0BC6	ஙே 0B99 0BC7	ஙை 0B99 0BC8	ஙொ 0B99 0BCA	ஙோ 0B99 0BCB	ஙௌ 0B99 0BCC
ச் 0B9A 0BCD	ச 0B9A	சா 0B9A 0BBE	சி 0B9A 0BBF	சீ 0B9A 0BC0	சு 0B9A 0BC1	சு 0B9A 0BC2	செ 0B9A 0BC6	சே 0B9A 0BC7	சை 0B9A 0BC8	சொ 0B9A 0BCA	சோ 0B9A 0BCB	சௌ 0B9A 0BCC
ஞ் 0B9E 0BCD	ஞ 0B9E	ஞா 0B9E 0BBE	ஞி 0B9E 0BBF	ஞீ 0B9E 0BC0	ஞு 0B9E 0BC1	ஞு 0B9E 0BC2	ஞெ 0B9E 0BC6	ஞே 0B9E 0BC7	ஞை 0B9E 0BC8	ஞொ 0B9E 0BCA	ஞோ 0B9E 0BCB	ஞௌ 0B9E 0BCC
ட் 0B9F 0BCD	ட 0B9F	டா 0B9F 0BBE	டி 0B9F 0BBF	டீ 0B9F 0BC0	டு 0B9F 0BC1	டு 0B9F 0BC2	டெ 0B9F 0BC6	டே 0B9F 0BC7	டை 0B9F 0BC8	டொ 0B9F 0BCA	டோ 0B9F 0BCB	டௌ 0B9F 0BCC
ண் 0BA3 0BCD	ண 0BA3	ணா 0BA3 0BBE	ணி 0BA3 0BBF	ணீ 0BA3 0BC0	ணு 0BA3 0BC1	ணு 0BA3 0BC2	ணெ 0BA3 0BC6	ணே 0BA3 0BC7	ணை 0BA3 0BC8	ணொ 0BA3 0BCA	ணோ 0BA3 0BCB	ணௌ 0BA3 0BCC
த் 0BA4 0BCD	த 0BA4	தா 0BA4 0BBE	தி 0BA4 0BBF	தீ 0BA4 0BC0	து 0BA4 0BC1	து 0BA4 0BC2	தெ 0BA4 0BC6	தே 0BA4 0BC7	தை 0BA4 0BC8	தொ 0BA4 0BCA	தோ 0BA4 0BCB	தௌ 0BA4 0BCC
ந் 0BA8 0BCD	ந 0BA8	நா 0BA8 0BBE	நி 0BA8 0BBF	நீ 0BA8 0BC0	நு 0BA8 0BC1	நு 0BA8 0BC2	நெ 0BA8 0BC6	நே 0BA8 0BC7	நை 0BA8 0BC8	நொ 0BA8 0BCA	நோ 0BA8 0BCB	நௌ 0BA8 0BCC
ப் 0BAA 0BCD	ப 0BAA	பா 0BAA 0BBE	பி 0BAA 0BBF	பீ 0BAA 0BC0	பு 0BAA 0BC1	பு 0BAA 0BC2	பெ 0BAA 0BC6	பே 0BAA 0BC7	பை 0BAA 0BC8	பொ 0BAA 0BCA	போ 0BAA 0BCB	பௌ 0BAA 0BCC
ம் 0BAE 0BCD	ம 0BAE	மா 0BAE 0BBE	மி 0BAE 0BBF	மீ 0BAE 0BC0	மு 0BAE 0BC1	மு 0BAE 0BC2	மெ 0BAE 0BC6	மே 0BAE 0BC7	மை 0BAE 0BC8	மொ 0BAE 0BCA	மோ 0BAE 0BCB	மௌ 0BAE 0BCC
ய் 0BAF 0BCD	ய 0BAF	யா 0BAF 0BBE	யி 0BAF 0BBF	யீ 0BAF 0BC0	யு 0BAF 0BC1	யு 0BAF 0BC2	யெ 0BAF 0BC6	யே 0BAF 0BC7	யை 0BAF 0BC8	யொ 0BAF 0BCA	யோ 0BAF 0BCB	யௌ 0BAF 0BCC
ர் 0BB0 0BCD	ர 0BB0	ரா 0BB0 0BBE	ரி 0BB0 0BBF	ரீ 0BB0 0BC0	ரு 0BB0 0BC1	ரு 0BB0 0BC2	ரெ 0BB0 0BC6	ரே 0BB0 0BC7	ரை 0BB0 0BC8	ரொ 0BB0 0BCA	ரோ 0BB0 0BCB	ரௌ 0BB0 0BCC
ல் 0BB2 0BCD	ல 0BB2	லா 0BB2 0BBE	லி 0BB2 0BBF	லீ 0BB2 0BC0	லு 0BB2 0BC1	லு 0BB2 0BC2	லெ 0BB2 0BC6	லே 0BB2 0BC7	லை 0BB2 0BC8	லொ 0BB2 0BCA	லோ 0BB2 0BCB	லௌ 0BB2 0BCC
வ் 0BB5 0BCD	வ 0BB5	வா 0BB5 0BBE	வி 0BB5 0BBF	வீ 0BB5 0BC0	வு 0BB5 0BC1	வு 0BB5 0BC2	வெ 0BB5 0BC6	வே 0BB5 0BC7	வை 0BB5 0BC8	வொ 0BB5 0BCA	வோ 0BB5 0BCB	வௌ 0BB5 0BCC

ழ் 0BB4 0BCD	ழ 0BB4	ழா 0BB4 0BBE	ழி 0BB4 0BBF	ழீ 0BB4 0BC0	ழு 0BB4 0BC1	ழு 0BB4 0BC2	ழு 0BB4 0BC6	ழு 0BB4 0BC7	ழு 0BB4 0BC8	ழொ 0BB4 0BCA	ழோ 0BB4 0BCB	ழௌ 0BB4 0BCC
ள் 0BB3 0BCD	ள 0BB3	ளா 0BB3 0BBE	ளி 0BB3 0BBF	ளீ 0BB3 0BC0	ளு 0BB3 0BC1	ளு 0BB3 0BC2	ளு 0BB3 0BC6	ளு 0BB3 0BC7	ளு 0BB3 0BC8	ளொ 0BB3 0BCA	ளோ 0BB3 0BCB	ளௌ 0BB3 0BCC
ற் 0BB1 0BCD	ற 0BB1	றா 0BB1 0BBE	றி 0BB1 0BBF	றீ 0BB1 0BC0	று 0BB1 0BC1	று 0BB1 0BC2	று 0BB1 0BC6	று 0BB1 0BC7	று 0BB1 0BC8	றொ 0BB1 0BCA	றோ 0BB1 0BCB	றௌ 0BB1 0BCC
ன் 0BA9 0BCD	ன 0BA9	னா 0BA9 0BBE	னி 0BA9 0BBF	னீ 0BA9 0BC0	னு 0BA9 0BC1	னு 0BA9 0BC2	னு 0BA9 0BC6	னு 0BA9 0BC7	னு 0BA9 0BC8	னொ 0BA9 0BCA	னோ 0BA9 0BCB	னௌ 0BA9 0BCC
ஸ் 0BB6 0BCD	ச 0BB6	சா 0BB6 0BBE	சி 0BB6 0BBF	சீ 0BB6 0BC0	சு 0BB6 0BC1	சு 0BB6 0BC2	சு 0BB6 0BC6	சு 0BB6 0BC7	சு 0BB6 0BC8	சொ 0BB6 0BCA	சோ 0BB6 0BCB	சௌ 0BB6 0BCC
ஜ் 0B9C 0BCD	ஜ 0B9C	ஜா 0B9C 0BBE	ஜி 0B9C 0BBF	ஜீ 0B9C 0BC0	ஜு 0B9C 0BC1	ஜு 0B9C 0BC2	ஜு 0B9C 0BC6	ஜு 0B9C 0BC7	ஜு 0B9C 0BC8	ஜொ 0B9C 0BCA	ஜோ 0B9C 0BCB	ஜௌ 0B9C 0BCC
ஷ் 0BB7 0BCD	ஷ 0BB7	ஷா 0BB7 0BBE	ஷி 0BB7 0BBF	ஷீ 0BB7 0BC0	ஷு 0BB7 0BC1	ஷு 0BB7 0BC2	ஷு 0BB7 0BC6	ஷு 0BB7 0BC7	ஷு 0BB7 0BC8	ஷொ 0BB7 0BCA	ஷோ 0BB7 0BCB	ஷௌ 0BB7 0BCC
ஸ் 0BB8 0BCD	ஸ 0BB8	ஸா 0BB8 0BBE	ஸி 0BB8 0BBF	ஸீ 0BB8 0BC0	ஸு 0BB8 0BC1	ஸு 0BB8 0BC2	ஸு 0BB8 0BC6	ஸு 0BB8 0BC7	ஸு 0BB8 0BC8	ஸொ 0BB8 0BCA	ஸோ 0BB8 0BCB	ஸௌ 0BB8 0BCC
ஹ் 0BB9 0BCD	ஹ 0BB9	ஹா 0BB9 0BBE	ஹி 0BB9 0BBF	ஹீ 0BB9 0BC0	ஹு 0BB9 0BC1	ஹு 0BB9 0BC2	ஹு 0BB9 0BC6	ஹு 0BB9 0BC7	ஹு 0BB9 0BC8	ஹொ 0BB9 0BCA	ஹோ 0BB9 0BCB	ஹௌ 0BB9 0BCC
க்ஷ் 0B95 0BCD 0BB7 0BCD	க்ஷ 0B95 0BCD	க்ஷா 0B95 0BCD 0BBE	க்ஷி 0B95 0BCD 0BBF	க்ஷீ 0B95 0BCD 0BC0	க்ஷு 0B95 0BCD 0BC1	க்ஷு 0B95 0BCD 0BC2	க்ஷு 0B95 0BCD 0BC6	க்ஷு 0B95 0BCD 0BC7	க்ஷு 0B95 0BCD 0BC8	க்ஷொ 0B95 0BCD 0BCA	க்ஷோ 0B95 0BCD 0BCB	க்ஷௌ 0B95 0BCD 0BCC

Notes

[1] <http://www.unicode.org/charts/PDF/U0B80.pdf>

[2] at p. 324

[3] University of Madras Tamil Lexicon, page 148: « [(<http://dsal.uchicago.edu/cgi-bin/romadict.pl?table=tamil-lex&page=148&display=utf8>) n . < ¹ +. 1. The letter , as being regarded neither a vowel nor a consonant; . () 2. Consonants; »]

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External links

- Tamil Alphabet & Basics (<http://www.unc.edu/~echeran/paadanoool/pdf/introduction.pdf>) (PDF)
 - Phonetics of spoken Tamil (<http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/plc/tamilweb/book/chapter1/node5.html#SECTION00120000000000000000>)
 - Unicode Chart (<http://www.unicode.org/charts/PDF/U0B80.pdf>) - For Tamil (PDF)
 - TACE 16 (http://www.tamilvu.org/coresite/download/TACE16_Report_English.pdf) (PDF)
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Sinhalese

Vowels and Diphthongs (see Note 1)

අ	a	ඒ	ē
ආ	ā	ඔ	o
ඇ	ă	ඹ	ō
ඈ	â	ඹ෦	r
ඉ	i	ඹ෦෦	r̄
ඊ	ī	ඹ෦෦෦	↓
උ	u	ඹ෦෦෦෦	↓
ඌ	ū	ඹ෦෦෦෦෦	ai
එ	e	ඹ෦෦෦෦෦෦	au

Consonants (see Note 2)

Gutturals		Palatals		Cerebrals		Dentals	
ක	ka	ච	ca	ට	ṭa	ත	ta
ඛ	kha	ඡ	cha	ඪ	ṭha	ඪ	tha
ග	ga	ඣ	ja	ඬ	ḍa	ද	da
ඝ	gha	ඤ	jha	ඬ෦	ḍha	ධ	dha
ඞ	ṅa	ඞ෦	ṅa	ණ	ṇa	න	na
Labials		Semivowels		Sibilants		Aspirate	
ප	pa	ය	ya	ශ	śa	හ	ha
ඵ	pha	ර	ra	ෂ	ṣa		
බ	ba	ල	la	ස	sa		
භ	bha	ළ	ḷa				
ම	ma	ව	va				
<i>Anusvāra</i> (see Note 3)		<i>Visarga</i>		<i>Avagraha</i>		<i>Saññaka</i> (see Note 4)	
ං	ṁ	෧	ḥ	ඥ	' (apostrophe)	ඥ	

Notes

- Only the vowel forms that appear at the beginning of a syllable are listed; the forms used for vowels following a consonant can be found in grammars; no distinction between the two is made in transliteration.

2. The vowel *a* is implicit after all consonants and consonant clusters and is supplied in transliteration, with the following exceptions:
 - a) when another vowel is indicated by its appropriate sign; and
 - b) when the absence of any vowel is indicated by the sign ^{◌̣} called *virāma*.
3. Exceptions: *Anusvāra* is transliterated by:
 - a) *ṇ* before gutturals,
 - b) *ṅ* before palatals,
 - c) *ṇ* before cerebrals,
 - d) *n* before dentals, and
 - e) *m* before labials.
4. Exceptions:
 - a) when *saññaka* represents a nasal, it is romanized according to the rule for *anusvāra*.
 - b) when *saññaka* is combined with an aspirated consonant, the combination is romanized as a non-aspirated, followed by an aspirated consonant.

Malayalam

Vowels and Diphthongs (see Note 1)

അ	a	ഈ	ī
ആ	ā	ഞ	ṇ
ഏ	ā (see Note 2)	എ	e
ഇ	i	ഏ	ē
ഈ	ī	ഐ	ai
ഉ	u	ഒ	o
ഊ	ū	ഓ	ō
ഘ	ṛ	ഔ	au

Consonants (see Note 3)

Gutturals		Palatals		Cerebrals		Dentals	
ക	ka	ച	ca	ട	ṭa	ത	ta
ഖ	kha	ഛ	cha	ഠ	ṭha	ഥ	tha
ഗ	ga	ജ	ja	ഡ	ḍa	ദ	da
ഘ	gha	ഝ	jha	ഢ	ḍha	ധ	dha
ങ	ṅa	ഞ	ña	ണ	ṇa	ന	na
Labials		Semivowels		Sibilants		Aspirate	
പ	pa	യ	ya	ശ	śa	ഹ	ha
ഫ	pha	ര	ra	ഷ	ṣa		
ബ	ba	റ	ṛa	സ	sa		
ഭ	bha	റ റ	ṛa (see Note 4)				
മ	ma	ല	la				
		ള	ḷa				
		ഴ	ḷa				
		വ	va				

Anusvāra (see Note 5)

ം ṁ

Visarga

ഃ ḥ

Avagraha

∫ ' (apostrophe)

Notes

1. Only the vowel forms that appear at the beginning of a syllable are listed; the forms used for vowels following a consonant can be found in grammars; no distinction between the two is made in transliteration.
2. When ^{◌̣} is used in combination with the vowel *u* (u), the combination is also transliterated *ā*.
3. The vowel *a* is implicit after all consonants and consonant clusters and is supplied in transliteration, with the following exceptions:
 - a) when another vowel is indicated by its appropriate sign;
 - b) when the absence of any vowel is indicated by the superscript sign ^{◌̣} (also used for the vowel *ā*); and
 - c) when the following modified consonantal forms are used:

ക	k	ന	n	ല	l	ര	r
ങ	ṅ	ത	t	ഛ	!		

4. When *o* _o appears as a subscript in a cluster, it is transliterated *ṭa*.
5. Exception: *Anusvāra* is transliterated by:
 - a) *ṇ* before gutturals,
 - b) *ṅ* before palatals,
 - c) *ṇ* before cerebrals,
 - d) *n* before dentals, and
 - e) *m* before labials.