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LIST OF ARABIC TRANSLITERATION SYSTEM

THE ARABIC ALPHABET: CONSONANTS

Name	Isolated	Initial	Medial	Final	Transliteration	Sound	Pronunciation
'alif	ا			ا	' / ā	long unrounded low central back vowel	'a' as in 'father'
Bā'	ب	بـ	بـ	بـ	B	voiced bilabial stop	'b' as in 'bed'
Tā'	ت	تـ	تـ	تـ	T	voiced aspirated stop	't' as in 'tent'
Thā'	ث	ثـ	ثـ	ثـ	Th	voiceless interdental fricative	'th' as in 'think'
Jīm	ج	جـ	جـ	جـ	J	voiced palatal affricate	'j' as in 'jam'
Hā'	ح	حـ	حـ	حـ	H	voiceless pharyngeal constricted fricative	only in Arabic; a constricted English 'h'
Khā'	خ	خـ	خـ	خـ	Kh	voiceless velar fricative	'ch' as in German 'Bach'
Dāl	د			د	D	voiced dental stop	'd' as in 'deer' (approx.)
Dhāl	ذ			ذ	Dh	voiced interdental fricative	'th' as in 'there'
Rā'	ر			ر	R	voiced dental trill	'r' as in 'run' (approx.)
Zāy	ز			ز	Z	voiced dental sibilant	'z' as in 'zoo' (approx.)
Sīn	س	سـ	سـ	سـ	S	voiceless dental sibilant	's' as in 'sit'
Shīn	ش	شـ	شـ	شـ	Sh	voiceless palatal sibilant	'sh' as in 'shut'
Ṣād	ص	صـ	صـ	صـ	Ṣ	voiceless post-dental sibilant emphatic	the counterpart of <i>Sīn</i> ; all the 'emphatics' are pronounced with the back of the tongue slightly raised
Dād	ض	ضـ	ضـ	ضـ	Ḍ	voiced post-dental emphatic stop	the counterpart of <i>Dāl</i>
Ṭā'	ط	طـ	طـ	طـ	Ṭ	voiceless post-dental emphatic stop	the counterpart of <i>Tā'</i>
Zā'	ظ	ظـ	ظـ	ظـ	Z	voiced post-interdental emphatic fricative	the counterpart of <i>Dhāl</i>
ʿayn	ع	عـ	عـ	عـ	ʿ	voiced pharyngeal fricative	purely Arabic -- a constriction of the throat and an expulsion of the breath with the vocal cords vibrating
Ghayn	غ	غـ	غـ	غـ	Gh	voiced uvular fricative	close to a French 'r' as in 'Paris' -- like a gentle gargling
Fā'	ف	فـ	فـ	فـ	F	labio-dental voiceless fricative	'f' as in 'free'
Qāf	ق	قـ	قـ	قـ	Q	voiceless unaspirated uvular stop	'k' in the back of the throat; compare 'cough' with 'calf'
Kāf	ك	كـ	كـ	كـ	K	voiceless aspirated palatal or velar stop	'k' as in 'king'
Lām	ل	لـ	لـ	لـ	L	voiced dental lateral	'l' as in 'lift'
Mīm	م	مـ	مـ	مـ	M	voiced bilabial nasal	'm' as in 'moon'
Nūn	ن	نـ	نـ	نـ	N	voiced dental nasal	'n' as in 'net'
Hā'	هـ	هـ	هـ	هـ	H	voiceless glottal fricative	'h' as in 'house'
Wāw	و			و	W	voiced bilabial glide	'w' as in 'wonder'
Yā'	ي	يـ	يـ	يـ	Y	voiced palatal glide	'y' as in 'yellow'
Hamza	ء				'	voiceless glottal stop	not a phoneme in English but found in some exclamations -- e.g. 'oh-oh'

THE ARABIC ALPHABET: VOWELS

Name	Character	Explanation	Pronunciation	Transcription
Damma	◌َ	<i>Damma</i> is an apostrophe-like shape written above the consonant which precedes it in pronunciation. It represents a short vowel u (like the "u" in "but").	/du/	but
Wāw	◌ِ	<i>Wāw</i> is the long vowel ū (like the "oo" in "moon"). It also represents the consonant w. When <i>Waw</i> is used to represent the long vowel, <i>damma</i> appears above the preceding consonant.	/du:/	būt
Fatha	◌َ	<i>Fatha</i> is a diagonal stroke written above the consonant which precedes it in pronunciation. It represents a short vowel a (a little like the "u" in "but"; a short "ah" sound).	/da/	bat
Alif	◌ِ	<i>Alif</i> is the long vowel ā (a long "ahh" sound as in English "father").	/ā/	bāt
Kasra	◌ِ	<i>Kasra</i> is a diagonal stroke written below the consonant which precedes it in pronunciation. It represents a short vowel i (like the "i" in English "pit").	/di:/	bit
Ya'	◌ِ	<i>Ya'</i> is the long vowel ī (like the "ee" in English "sheep"). It also represents the consonant y. When <i>Ya'</i> is used to represent the long vowel, <i>kasra</i> appears above the preceding consonant.	/ī/	bīt
Sukūn	◌ْ	Whenever a consonant does not have a vowel, it receives a mark called a <i>sukūn</i> , a small circle which represents the end of a closed syllable (CvC or CvVC). It sits above the letter which is not followed by a vowel.	/aj/	bintu
Shadda (or tashdīd)	◌ّ	<i>Shadda</i> represents doubling (or gemination) of a consonant. Where the same consonant occurs twice in a word, with no vowel between, instead of using consonant + <i>sukūn</i> + consonant, the consonant is written only once, and <i>shadda</i> is written above it.	/dd/	thabbata

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

DA	: Discourse Analysis
DTS	: Descriptive Translation Studies
E	: Explication
ID	: Identification
InC	: Informational Core
IU	: Intralingual Untranslatability
PU	: Pragmatic Untranslatability
RU	: Referential Untranslatability
SL	: Source Language
SLT	: Source Language Text
ST	: Source Text
T	: Transformation
TL	: Target Language
TLT	: Target language Text
TT	: Target Text

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