

# Romanization Persian

Updated May 2018

## Consonants

In the old system, the consonants are based on Arabic. This is not the case in the new system.

| Persian | UKB (before 2015)       | ALA-LC (after 2015) | Or Persian script |
|---------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| ء       | ' (')                   | ' (')               |                   |
| ب       | b                       | b                   |                   |
| پ       | p                       | p                   |                   |
| ت       | t                       | t                   |                   |
| ث       | t̤ (t)                  | s̤ (s)              |                   |
| ج       | ǧ (g)                   | j                   |                   |
| چ       | č (c)                   | ch                  |                   |
| ح       | ḥ (h)                   | ḥ (h)               |                   |
| خ       | ḵ (k)                   | kh                  |                   |
| د       | d                       | d                   |                   |
| ذ       | ḏ (d)                   | z̤ (z)              |                   |
| ر       | r                       | r                   |                   |
| ز       | z                       | z                   |                   |
| ژ       | ž (z)                   | zh                  |                   |
| س       | s                       | s                   |                   |
| ش       | š (s)                   | sh                  |                   |
| ص       | ṣ (s)                   | ṣ (s)               |                   |
| ض       | ḏ (d)                   | z̤ (z)              |                   |
| ط       | ṭ (t)                   | ṭ (t)               |                   |
| ظ       | ẓ (z)                   | ẓ (z)               |                   |
| ع       | ' (')                   | ' (')               |                   |
| غ       | ǧ (g)                   | gh                  |                   |
| ف       | f                       | f                   |                   |
| ق       | q                       | q                   |                   |
| ک       | k                       | k                   |                   |
| گ       | g                       | g                   |                   |
| ل       | l                       | l                   |                   |
| م       | m                       | m                   |                   |
| ن       | n                       | n                   |                   |
| و       | w                       | v                   |                   |
| ه       | h (as a suffix: ignore) | h                   |                   |
| ی       | y                       | y                   |                   |

## Vowels

Vowels are based on Arabic in both systems. Take care when transcribing a word such as کتاب: this is transcribed as kitāb and not as ketāb.

| Persian  | UKB (before 2015) | ALA-LC (after 2015) |                   |
|----------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| اَ /æ/   | a                 | a                   | Or Persian script |
| اِ /ɛ/   | i                 | i                   |                   |
| اُ /o/   | u                 | u                   |                   |
| آ /p:/   | ā (a)             | ā (a)               |                   |
| اِی /i:/ | ī (i)             | ī (i)               |                   |
| اُو /u:/ | ū (u)             | ū (u)               |                   |

#### Other rules

- Diphthongs: aw, ay. Also the diphthong in words like کیوان and کی is transcribed as -ay- and not as -ey-
- For the combination خوا is maintained: kwā (old), khvā (new)
- The half space, where the next character is not attached to the former but where there is no space either, is displayed in the *old* system using a space, and in the *new* system using an apostrophe. Example: کتابها kitāb ha (old), kitāb'hā (new)
- Tanvin of Arabic words is transcribed as -un, -in and -an. Example: فعلا fi'lan
- The izāfah ending (اضافه) is transcribed as:
  - o -i, if the ending is not visible in Persian script. Example: کتاب بزرگ kitāb-i buzurg
  - o -yi, if the ending is visible in Persian script as یی. Example: خانه بزرگ kāna-yi buzurg (old), khānah-yi buzurg (new)
- The ه ending is transcribed as -a in the old system, and as -ah in the new system. Example: بچه bačča (old), bachchah (new)