

Transcription	FINAL (no-join to R)	FINAL (joins to R)	MIDDLE (joins to L + R)	INITIAL (joins to L)	INITIAL (no-join to L)	Name	Hebrew	Arabic	Origins of Letter Names
ʿ	ܐ	ܐ			ܐ	ܐܠܦܐ	א	ا	ʿalp = ox
b	ܒ	ܒ	ܒ	ܒ		ܒܝܬܐ	ב	ب	beyt = house
g	ܓ	ܓ	ܓ	ܓ		ܓܡܠܐ	ג	ج	gaml = throw-stick
d	ܕ	ܕ	ܕ		ܕ	ܕܠܬܐ	ד	د	digg = fish daleth = door
h	ܗ	ܗ	ܗ		ܗ	ܗܝܐ	ה	ه	hō = man calling?
w	ܘ	ܘ	ܘ		ܘ	ܘܪܝܐ	ו	و	waw = peg
z	ܙ	ܙ			ܙ	ܙܝܢܐ	ז	ز	zên = weapon / olive tree
ḥ	ܚ	ܚ	ܚ	ܚ		ܚܝܬܐ	ח	ح	ḥêt = fence
ṭ	ܬ	ܬ	ܬ	ܬ		ܬܝܬܐ	ט	ط	ṭêt = spindle?
y	ܝ	ܝ	ܝ	ܝ		ܝܕܐ	י	ي	yad = hand/arm
k	ܟ	ܟ	ܟ	ܟ		ܟܦܐ	כ	ك	kapp = palm of hand
l	ܠ	ܠ	ܠ	ܠ		ܠܡܐܕܐ	ל	ل	lamd = ox-goad
m	ܡ	ܡ	ܡ	ܡ		ܡܝܡܐ	מ	م	mêm = water
n	ܢ	ܢ	ܢ	ܢ		ܢܗܫܐ	נ	ن	naḥš = snake [nun = fish]
s	ܣ	ܣ	ܣ	ܣ		ܣܡܟܐ	ס	س	samk = prop?
ʿ	ܥ	ܥ	ܥ	ܥ		ܥܝܢܐ	ע	ع	ʿên = eye
p	ܦ	ܦ	ܦ	ܦ		ܦܝܬܐ	פ	ف	pê = corner
š	ܫ	ܫ	ܫ		ܫ	ܫܐܕܐ	ש	ص	šad = plant
q	ܩ	ܩ	ܩ	ܩ		ܩܘܦܐ	ק	ق	qup = ?
r	ܪ	ܪ	ܪ		ܪ	ܪܝܫܐ	ר	ر	raʾš = head
š	ܬܝܢܐ	ܬܝܢܐ	ܬܝܢܐ	ܬܝܢܐ		ܬܝܢܐ	ת	ش	ṭann = bow [šin = tooth]
t	ܬܘܐ	ܬܘܐ	ܬܘܐ		ܬܘܐ	ܬܘܐ	ת	ت	taw = mark

## Standard Ligatures

Tāw + Ālaph ( ت + ا ) = ث (when tāw is attached to preceding letter).

If tāw is not attached to preceding letter, usually written as: ت or ﺕ .

## Vowels

Vowel	Name	West Syriac	Greek	East Syriac	Examples
a	<i>ptāḥā</i>	ⲡ or ⲓ	A	ⲁ	ⲁⲓ ⲁⲓ <i>ba</i>
ō (< ā)	<i>zqāpā</i>	ⲟ or ⲡ	O	ⲟ	ⲟⲓ ⲟⲓ <i>bā / bō</i>
e	<i>zlāmā pšîqā</i>	ⲉ or ⲓ	E	ⲉ	ⲉⲓ ⲉⲓ <i>be</i>
ē	<i>zlāmā qašyā</i>			ⲉ	ⲉⲓ ⲉⲓ <i>bē</i>
i / ī	<i>ḥvāšā</i>	ⲓ or ⲓ	I	ⲓ or ⲓ	ⲓⲓ ⲓⲓ <i>bī</i>
o / ō	<i>rwāḥā</i>			ⲟ	ⲟⲓ ⲟⲓ <i>bō</i>
u / ū	<i>rvāšā</i>	ⲓ or ⲓ	OY	ⲟ	ⲟⲓ ⲟⲓ <i>bū</i>
ə / <sup>a</sup>	<i>mhagyānā</i>			ⲓ	ⲓⲓ ⲓⲓ <i>bə / b<sup>a</sup></i>

In the Eastern dialect only: *Mhagyānā*: When two letters without vowels come together in a word, if the second letter is any one of the nine letters **هـ ث ذ ز س ص ض ط ظ**, then the first letter receives a half-vowel, ‘shewa’ (ə), called *mhagyānā*. e.g. **هـ ك م ت**, *hekamtā*, ‘wisdom’; **م د ن هـ**, *madənḥā*, ‘east’; **س ب ل ت**, *sebaltā*, ‘ladder’; **د هـ ل ت**, *deḥaltā*, ‘fear’. Before a guttural (**ح خ ع**) the half-vowel is pronounced as /<sup>a</sup>/: e.g. **ت ر هـ**, *tur<sup>a</sup>tā*, ‘breach’.

## Other signs

1. Of the BeGaDKePhaTh letters, BGDKT ( **حججحه** ) have a dot above them when not aspirated (*qushāyā*) and a dot below when aspirated (*rukākā*). Aspirated **ح** is written **ح** and is pronounced ‘w’.
2. Two dots (*syāmē*) over a noun or (emphatic) adjective (or PF verbal forms) indicates it is a plural form: e.g. **حَتِّب**, ‘books’. If there is a Rēš in the word, the double dots replace this letter’s single dot: e.g. **حَتِّب**, ‘seeds’.
3. A line over a letter (*mbaṭlānā*) indicates that it is not to be pronounced: e.g. **حَدْبَتَا** (cf. **حَدْبَتَا**), ‘city’.

## Diacritical marks used for Neo-Aramaic and Garshuni transcriptions of non-Syriac phonemes

(Marks which are not points may be found above or below letters.)

پ or پ	w	ظ	ظ (ظ)	ض	د (ض)
چ or چ	j (ج)	خ	خ (خ)	چ or چ or چ	ž
ج	ġ (غ)	چ or چ	č	ج	ţ (ث)
د	d (ذ)	ف	f (ف)		