# **Ligatures**

Ethiopic calligraphic manuscripts will often feature ligatures where two or more letters will be joined to form a single glyph. This practice is considered a shorthand convenience that saves a little time and ink for the working scribe. Some ligatures are ultimately idiosyncratic to a particular scribe. A few however are found regularly and are clearly representative of a broader practice presenting a norm of writing.

It is suggested here that the regularly found ligatures be provided in fonts provided by vendors serving the Ethiopic manuscripts and ancient texts communities.

Ge’ez : ኤል፡



English: Ethiopic Ligature Syllable   
Glottal “EE” With Sylalble “LE”

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Letter Name:** | ETHIOPIC LIGATURE SYLLABLE GLOTTAL EE WITH SYLLABLE LE |
| **Description:** |  |
| **Recommended Encoding:** | Ligature. |
| **Contextual Sample:** | *TBD* |
| **Usage:** | The  glyph is entirely interchangeable with and sequence of independent ‘ኤ’ and ‘ል’ letters. The decision to use the ligature form is left entirely to the descrection of the scribe. |
| **Glyph Notes:** |  |
| **References:** |  |
| **Validation:** |  |

Ge’ez : ግዚ፡



English: Ethiopic Ligature Syllable   
“Ge” With Syllable “Zi”

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Letter Name:** | ETHIOPIC LIGATURE SYLLABLE GE WITH SYLLABLE ZI |
| **Description:** |  |
| **Recommended Encoding:** | Ligature. |
| **Contextual Sample:** | እአብር፡ለዮ፡ለኢየሳ፡ንተ፡  Ziq p. 22 |
| **Usage:** | The  glyph is entirely interchangeable with and sequence of independent ‘ግ’ and ‘ዚ’ letters. The decision to use the ligature form is left entirely to the descrection of the scribe. |
| **Glyph Notes:** |  |
| **References:** | Ziq p. 11, 19, 22, 25, 26, 40, 42, 49, 54, 55, 81, 99, 226, 227 Zimamie p. 10, 34, 49, 135 Zimarie Wemewasit (Z) p. 4, 6, 7, 11 (M) p. 14 |
| **Validation:** |  |