ROMANIZATION SYSTEMS
AND
ROMAN - SCRIPT
SPELLING CONVENTIONS

**Prepared by the
U.S. Board on Geographic Names
Foreign Names Committee Staff**

**Published by the
Defense Mapping Agency**

1994

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

This publication contains all of the romanization systems and Roman-script spelling conventions that are currently approved by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) and its British counterpart, the Permanent Committee on Geographical Names for British Official Use (PCGN). It therefore supersedes the publication, Romanization Guide, which was last issued in April 1972. Each romanization system and spelling convention presented is identified as being either a BGN/PCGN system or a BGN/PCGN agreement, with the date of its joint adoption by the BGN and the PCGN indicated in most cases.

Within the U.S. Government, BGN/PCGN romanization systems and agreements are used primarily for the purpose of establishing standardized Roman-script spellings of those foreign geographic names that are written in non-Roman scripts or in Roman alphabets that contain special letters. Geographic names that have been romanized and names originally written in Roman script are made available for general use in a series of gazetteers published by the Defense Mapping Agency. The gazetteers, which cover virtually every foreign country in the world, provide information as to the name, type, and location of every geographic feature listed, as well as variant spellings of names for finding purposes.

In most cases, familiarity with the writing system of a given language is all that is needed in order to apply the appropriate BGN/PCGN romanization system or agreement correctly. In some cases, however, a thorough knowledge of both the language and its writing system is an absolute requirement. The latter category includes the systems for Arabic, Hebrew, Pashto, and Persian, i.e., systems for languages in which vowels are not ordinarily represented in the script. The BGN/PCGN romanization systems for those languages and for the other languages represented in this publication generally contain elements of **transliteration**—the process of recording the graphic symbols of one writing system in terms of the corresponding graphic symbols of a second writing system—and of **transcription**—the process of recording the phonological and/or morphological elements of a language in terms of a specific writing system.[*]

Some BGN/PCGN romanization systems, e.g., those for Bulgarian and Georgian, exhibit a high degree of reversibility; i.e., the Roman letters that serve as the equivalents of the non-Roman characters of the source script may be converted to the original characters almost unambiguously. Other BGN/PCGN systems and agreements, e.g., those for Amharic and Korean, are not easily reversible. The BGN/PCGN romanization system for Thai provides an extreme example of a non-reversible system; in that system, the Roman letter **t** is used to represent a total of 19 different Thai characters in syllable-final position. The Thai romanization system, therefore, can be said to be underdifferentiated, since it contains several instances of a single Roman letter or letter combination serving as an equivalent of more than one Thai character.

---

[*] These definitions were agreed upon in 1971 by the U.N. Working Group on a Single Romanization System for Each Non-Roman Writing System and were included in that group's report in the U.N. document, Second United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, London, 10-31 May 1972, vol. II, p. 115.

The Roman letters and letter combinations that are shown as equivalents of the non-Roman characters in the BGN/PCGN romanization systems generally reflect the letters and letter combinations that are used in English orthography. In many cases, however, the number of Roman-letter equivalents needed for a particular system exceeds the number of appropriate letters and letter combinations available in English orthography. As a result, several Roman letters may be shown with diacritical marks in order to provide the necessary differentiation of graphic symbols and insure proper reversibility. In the Persian alphabet, for example, there are four different characters that are pronounced like the letter z in English. In order to differentiate the romanizations of those four characters, the BGN/PCGN system for Persian utilizes the ordinary letter z and three z's with diacritical marks, i.e., z̄, z̲, and ẕ. In addition to their use in Roman-letter equivalents in this publication, diacritical marks are used with Roman letters and with non-Roman characters in many languages of the world; e.g., the cedilla (˛) is used with the letter c to form ç in French, and the breve (˘) is used with the character и to form й in Russian. Diacritical marks are just as important as the basic letters and characters of any orthography or romanization system and, therefore, should never be omitted. Modifying marks that occur internally in both Roman letters and non-Roman characters, e.g., the horizontal bar in the Serbocroatian letter đ and the vertical bar in the Azerbaijani Cyrillic character ҹ, are not generally considered to be diacritical marks but are just as significant and, therefore, should always be retained.

It should be noted that for clarity of presentation and ease of reference the terms **character** and **letter** have been used in a mutually exclusive way throughout this publication. The term **character** has been used to refer to a graphic symbol used only in a non-Roman-script writing system, thereby restricting the term **letter** to a graphic symbol used only in a Roman-script writing system or in a set of romanization equivalents.

Finally, it may be well to point out that although the romanization systems and agreements contained in this publication have been approved by the BGN and the PCGN for application to geographic names, the systems are equally applicable to personal names and to text and have been used for such purposes for many years by organizations both inside and outside the U.S. Government.

It is requested that users of this publication aid in its correction for future printings by reporting errors and changes to either of the organizations listed below. References to or copies of the sources upon which the proposed changes are based should be included.

BGN Executive Secretary for Foreign Names
Defense Mapping Agency (A-20)
8613 Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA 22031-2137

or

Director
DMA Hydrographic/Topographic Center
ATTN: Geographic Names Branches (MCD2/3/4)
Bethesda, MD 20816-5003

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR AMHARIC
BGN/PCGN 1967 System

The BGN/PCGN system for Amharic was designed for use in romanizing names written in Amharic characters. The Roman letters and letter combinations shown as equivalents to the Amharic characters reflect modern Amharic pronunciation. Different consonant characters in three groups are pronounced alike in modern Amharic and are therefore romanized identically for use in geographic names.

BASIC CHARACTERS

	1st order	2nd order	3rd order	4th order	5th order	6th order [1]	7th order
1 [2]	ሀ hā	ሁ hu	ሂ hī	ሃ ha	ሄ hē	ህ h, hi	ሆ ho
2	ለ le	ሉ lu	ሊ lī	ላ la	ሌ lē	ል l, li	ሎ lo
3 [2]	ሐ hā	ሑ hu	ሒ hī	ሓ ha	ሔ hē	ሕ h, hi	ሖ ho
4	መ me	ሙ mu	ሚ mī	ማ ma	ሜ mē	ም m, mi	ሞ mo
5 [2]	ሠ se	ሡ su	ሢ sī	ሣ sa	ሤ sē	ሥ s, si	ሦ so
6	ረ re	ሩ ru	ሪ rī	ራ ra	ሬ rē	ር r, ri	ሮ ro
7 [2]	ሰ se	ሱ su	ሲ sī	ሳ sa	ሴ sē	ስ s, si	ሶ so
8	ሸ she	ሹ shu	ሺ shī	ሻ sha	ሼ shē	ሽ sh, shi	ሾ sho
9 [3]	ቀ k'e	ቁ k'u	ቂ k'ī	ቃ k'a	ቄ k'ē	ቅ k', k'i	ቆ ቈ k'o
10	በ be	ቡ bu	ቢ bī	ባ ba	ቤ bē	ብ b, bi	ቦ bo
11	ተ te	ቱ tu	ቲ tī	ታ ta	ቴ tē	ት t, ti	ቶ to
12	ቸ che	ቹ chu	ቺ chī	ቻ cha	ቼ chē	ች ch, chi	ቾ cho
13 [2]	ኀ hā	ኁ hu	ኂ hī	ኃ ha	ኄ hē	ኅ h, hi	ኆ ኈ ho
14	ነ ne	ኑ nu	ኒ nī	ና na [4]	ኔ nē	ን n, ni	ኖ no
15	ኘ nye	ኙ nyu	ኚ nyī	ኛ nya	ኜ nyē	ኝ ny, nyi	ኞ nyo
16 [5]	አ ā, 'ā	ኡ u, 'u	ኢ ī, 'ī	ኣ a, 'a	ኤ ē, 'ē	እ i, 'i, or not romanized	ኦ o, 'o
17	ከ ke	ኩ ku	ኪ kī	ካ ka	ኬ kē	ክ k, ki	ኮ ኰ ko
18 [2]	ኸ he	ኹ ḫu	ኺ ḫī	ኻ ha	ኼ hē	ኽ h, hi	ኾ ho

1

	1st order	2nd order	3rd order	4th order	5th order	6th order[1]	7th order
19	ወ we	ዉ wu	ዊ wī	ዋ wa	ዌ wē	ው w, wi	ዎ wo
20	ዐ 'ā	ዑ 'u	ዒ 'ī	ዓ 'a	ዔ 'ē	ዕ ', 'i	ዖ 'o
21	ዘ ze	ዙ zu	ዚ zī	ዛ za	ዜ zē	ዝ z, zi	ዞ zo
22	ዠ zhe	ዡ zhu	ዢ zhī	ዣ zha	ዤ zhē	ዥ zh, zhi	ዦ zho
23	የ ye[6]	ዩ yu	ዪ yī	ያ ya	ዬ yē	ይ y, yi	ዮ yo
24	ደ de	ዱ du	ዲ dī	ዳ da	ዴ dē	ድ d, di	ዶ do
25	ጀ je	ጁ ju	ጂ jī	ጃ ja	ጄ jē	ጅ j, ji	ጆ jo
26	ገ ge	ጉ gu	ጊ gī	ጋ ga	ጌ gē	ግ g, gi	ጎ ጐ go
27	ጠ t'e	ጡ t'u	ጢ t'ī	ጣ t'a	ጤ t'ē	ጥ t', t'i	ጦ t'o
28	ጨ ch'e	ጩ ch'u	ጪ ch'ī	ጫ ch'a	ጬ ch'ē	ጭ ch', ch'i	ጮ ch'o
29	ጰ p'e	ጱ p'u	ጲ p'ī	ጳ p'a	ጴ p'ē	ጵ p', p'i	ጶ p'o
30[2]	ጸ ts'e	ጹ ts'u	ጺ ts'ī	ጻ ts'a	ጼ ts'ē	ጽ ts', ts'i	ጾ ts'o
31[2]	ፀ ts'e	ፁ ts'u	ፂ ts'ī	ፃ ts'a	ፄ ts'ē	ፅ ts', ts'i	ፆ ts'o
32	ፈ fe	ፉ fu	ፊ fī	ፋ fa	ፌ fē	ፍ f, fi	ፎ fo
33	ፐ pe	ፑ pu	ፒ pī	ፓ pa	ፔ pē	ፕ p, pi	ፖ po
34	ቨ ve	ቩ vu	ቪ vī	ቫ va	ቬ vē	ቭ v, vi	ቮ vo

COMBINATIONS WITH W

3rd order	4th order	5th order	6th order
ቊ kwī	ቋ k'wa	ቌ k'wē	ቍ k'wi
ኊ hwī	ኋ hwa	ኌ hwē	ኍ hwi
ኲ kwī	ኳ kwa	ኴ kwē	ኵ kwi
ጒ gwī	ጓ gwa	ጔ gwē	ጕ gwi

COMBINATIONS WITH WA

৯	lwa	ቧ	bwa	ዧ	zwa	ጧ	t'wa
ሟ ኟ ዃ	mwa	ቷ	twa	ዧ	zhwa	ጯ	ch'wa
ሯ	rwa	ቿ	chwa	ዿ	ywa	ጿ	ts'wa
ሷ	swa	ኗ ኟ	nwa	ዷ	dwa	ፏ ፚ ፏ	fwa
ሿ	shwa	ዟ	nywa	ጇ	jwa		

<table>
<tr><td>COMBINATIONS WITH YA</td><td>SPECIAL INITIAL</td></tr>
</table>

ፚ ፘ rya	ፙ ፙ mya	ፚ fya	ኤ e

NUMERALS

፩	፪	፫	፬	፭	፮	፯	፰	፱	፲	፲፩	፳	፳፩	፴	፵	፶	፷	፸	፹	፺	፻
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	20	21	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

NOTES

1. The 6th-order characters should be romanized either with or without the letter **i**, depending on pronunciation.

2. For documentation purposes, the characters romanized with **h** in rows 1, 3, 13, and 18 may, instead, be romanized with **h**, **ḥ**, **ḫ**, and **ẖ**, respectively; the characters

   romanized with **s** in rows 5 and 7 may, instead, be romanized with **š** and **s**, respectively; and the characters romanized with **ts'** in rows 30 and 31 may, instead, be romanized with **ts'** and **ṯs'**, respectively.

3. The character **ፐ** which occurs only in the writing systems of the Tigre and Tigrinya languages, should be romanized with **k'** in geographic names but may be romanized with **ḵ'** in documentation.

4. When the character **ነ** in row 14 is known to represent the Amharic word meaning "and," its romanization (**na**) should always be separated from the preceding and following words by spaces and should never be capitalized, e.g., **Raya na K'obo**.

5. The vowel characters in row 16 should be romanized **ā**, **u**, **ī**, **a**, **ē**, **i**, and **o** initially and **'ā**, **'u**, **'ī**, **'a**, **'ē**, **'i**, and **'o** in all other positions.

6. When the character **የ** in row 23 is known to represent the Amharic preposition, its romanization (**Ye**) should always be capitalized and written together with the following word, which should also be capitalized, e.g., **YeWiha Shet'**.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR ARABIC
BGN/PCGN 1956 System

This system was adopted by the BGN in 1946 and by the PCGN in 1956 and has been applied in the systematic romanization of geographic names in Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen, all of which have been covered by published BGN gazetteers.

Uniform results in the romanization of Arabic are difficult to obtain, since vowel points and diacritical marks are generally omitted from both manual and machine writing. It follows that correct identification of the words which appear in any particular name, knowledge of its standard Arabic-script spelling including proper pointing, and recognition of dialectal and idiosyncratic deviations are essential.

In order to bring about uniformity in the Roman-script spelling of geographic names in Arabic-language areas, the system is based insofar as possible on fully pointed modern standard Arabic.

CONSONANT CHARACTERS

	Arabic				Romanization	Examples and Remarks	
	Final	Medial	Initial	Independent			
1				ء	not romanized in word-initial position	ابو كمال	Abū Kamāl
					'in all other positions	بئر زيت	Bi'r Zayt [2]
						صنعاء	Şan'ā'
2	ﺎ			ا	not romanized in word-initial position	ام العمد	Umm al 'Amad [3]
3	ـب	ـبـ	بـ	ب	b	البحرين	Al Baḩrayn
4	ـت	ـتـ	تـ	ت	t	الكوت	Al Kūt [4, 5]
5	ـث	ـثـ	ثـ	ث	th	الثليثوات	Ath Thulaythuwāt [5]
6	ـج	ـجـ	جـ	ج	j	الجزيرة	Al Jazīrah
7	ـح	ـحـ	حـ	ح	ḩ	المحمودية	Al Maḩmūdīyah [6]
8	ـخ	ـخـ	خـ	خ	kh	خيبر	Khaybar [5]
9	ـد			د	d	دمنهور	Damanhūr [5]

5

	Arabic				Romanization	Examples and Remarks
	Final	Medial	Initial	Independent		
10	ـذ			ذ	dh	ذهب Dhahab [5]
11	ـر			ر	r	الروضة Ar Rawḍah
12	ـز			ز	z	الزاوية Az Zāwīyah
13	ـس	ـسـ	سـ	س	s	سليمانية Sulaymānīyah [5]
14	ـش	ـشـ	شـ	ش	sh	الشام Ash Shām [5]
15	ـص	ـصـ	صـ	ص	ş	قيصومة Qayşūmah [6]
16	ـض	ـضـ	ضـ	ض	ḍ	ضور Ḍawr [6]
17	ـط	ـطـ	طـ	ط	ṭ	القنيطرة Al Qunayṭirah [6]
18	ـظ	ـظـ	ظـ	ظ	z̧	ابو ظبي Abū Z̧aby [6]
19	ـع	ـعـ	عـ	ع	'	ابو عريش Abū 'Arīsh
20	ـغ	ـغـ	غـ	غ	gh	بغداد Baghdād
21	ـف	ـفـ	فـ	ف	f	الفرات Al Furāt
22	ـق	ـقـ	قـ	ق	q	قطر Qaṭar
23	ـك	ـكـ	كـ	ك	k	الكويت Al Kuwayt [5]
24	ـل	ـلـ	لـ	ل	l	حلب Ḩalab
25	ـم	ـمـ	مـ	م	m	مكة Makkah
26	ـن	ـنـ	نـ	ن	n	نخل Nakhl
27	ـه	ـهـ	هـ	ه	h	جبل هارون Jabal Hārūn [4,5]
28	ـو			و	w	وادي غضا Wādī Ghaḍā
29	ـي	ـيـ	يـ	ي	y	اليمن Al Yaman [2,7]

	Arabic	Romanization	Examples and Remarks	
1	◌َ	a	البصرة	Al Baṣrah
2	◌ِ	i	الرياض	Ar Riyāḑ
3	◌ُ	u	القدس	Al Quds
4	◌َا	ā	باب المندب	Bāb al Mandab [3]
5	◌ِي	ī	المدينة	Al Madīnah
6	◌ُو	ū	صور	Ṣūr
7	◌َى	á	مرسى مطروح	Marsá Maṭrūḥ
8	◌ْ	not romanized		
9	◌َيْ	ay	صيدا	Ṣaydā
10	◌َوْ	aw	الدوحة	Ad Dawḩah
11	◌ً	a^n		See note 8.
12	◌ٍ	i^n		See note 8.
13	◌ٌ	u^n		See note 8.
14	◌ّ	doubling of consonant letter		See note 9.
15	أ	'		See note 10.
16	آ	ā in word-initial position	آلبو معيط	Ālbū Muʻayṭ [11]
		' ā in word-medial position	قرآن	Qurʼān

NUMERALS

٠	١	٢	٣	٤	٥	٦	٧	٨	٩
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Although Perso-Arabic script is written from right to left, numerical expressions, e.g., ١٩٥٦ → **1956**, are written from left to right.

NOTES

1. The symbol ▢ represents any Arabic consonant character.

2. *Hamzah* (ﺀ) is written in Arabic over all initial *alifs* except those which belong to the definite article **al** or bear a *maddah*. (See note 10.) When the purpose is to indicate the presence of a glottal stop, *hamzah* is written over medial and final *alif* (ﺍ), *wāw* (ﻭ), and *yā'* without dots (ﻯ). *Hamzah* following *kasrah* (▢) is written ئ. Almost always the *yā'* is in the initial or medial form and the dots are omitted. Example: بئر . *Hamzah* following *ḍammah* (▢) is written ؤ . *Hamzah* following a long vowel is written without a bearer and is positioned on the line of print like a regular character. The romanization of *hamzah* (') should always be carefully distinguished from that of *'ayn* (').

3. *Alif* as such is not romanized when it is a bearer of *hamzah*, but see *fatḥah alif* (ﺍ▢) and *alif maddah* (آ) in the vowel table. See also note 1 above and note 10.

4. In certain endings, an original *tā'* (ﺕ) is written (ة), i.e., like *hā'* with two dots, and is known as *tā' marbūṭah*. It is romanized **h**, except in the construct form of feminine nouns, where it is romanized **t**, instead. Example: *hamzah, hamzat al qat'* . The ending *fatḥah hā'* (ة▢) may be romanized **a·h** when the character *hā'* (ﻩ) is not silent. Example: **Muntaza·h**. See also note 4.

5. Occasionally, the character sequences تﻪ , كﻪ , دﻩ , and سﻪ occur. They may be romanized **t·h**, **k·h**, **d·h**, and **s·h** in order to differentiate those romanizations from the digraphs **th**, **kh**, **dh**, and **sh**. See also note 3.

6. Where special considerations are paramount, the sub-dot (▢) may be used in place of the cedilla.

7. The character *yā'* (ﻱ) is also used in writing *alif maqṣūrah*, in which the dots are omitted. See *alif maqṣūrah* (ﻯ▢) in the vowel table.

8. The classical Arabic grammatical endings written with the nunation symbols (*tanwīn*) may be romanized, when necessary, by **a^n, i^n, u^n**. In modern Arabic, these endings have become silent and should not be romanized: classical *alifu^n*, modern *alif*.

9. Doubled consonant sounds are represented in Arabic script by placing a *shaddah* (▢) over a consonant character. In romanization the letter should be doubled. When the definite article **al** precedes a word beginning with one of the "sun letters" — **t, th, d, dh, r, z, s, sh, ṣ, ḍ, ṭ, ẓ, l,** or **n** — the **l** is assimilated in the pronunciation, thus yielding **tt, thth**, etc., in romanization. Example: **An Nīl**, not **Al Nīl**.

10. *Hamzat al waṣl* (ا), which is utilized only in the pointing of classical Arabic, is romanized ', as illustrated in the classical form of its name *hamzatu 'l waṣli*.

11. Since *maddah* (~), which is placed over *alif* (ا), nearly always occurs in word-initial position, no confusion results from the use of ā for *alif maddah* (آ) as well as for *fatḥah alif* (اَ) .

SPECIAL RULES

1. Initial definite articles and prepositions should be capitalized and hyphens should not be used to connect parts of names, e.g., **Ash Shāriqah** and **Tall al Laḥm**.

2. If any evidence is found for the use of the definite article in a name, the article should be used in the name chosen.

3. The Arabic word for God should be written **Allāh**.

4. Names which consist of noun phrases should be written as separate words. The definite article within such names should be romanized **al**, not **ul**, e.g., **'Abd Allāh, 'Abd ar Raḥmān, Dhū al Faqār**.

5. The Arabic word بن should be romanized **Bin** rather than **Ibn** wherever written without *alif*, that is, between two proper nouns, e.g., **'Umar Bin al Khaṭṭāb**.

6. The Turkish word Paşa should be romanized from Arabic script as **Bāshā**; the Turkish word Bey should be romanized as **Bey** in Egyptian names, no matter how it is written in Arabic-language sources, but in other Arabic areas it should be romanized as **Bak** where written بك and as **Bayk** where written بيك .

7. The modern colloquial word **Sīdī** should be given precedence over the classical form **Sayyidī**. This does not preclude the spelling **Sayyidī** if the latter is indicated by the Arabic script or other evidence — for instance, if the *yā'* is written with a *shaddah* (ّ).

8. The colloquial word **Bū** should not be changed to the standard form **Abū**.

9. The colloquial word for water, written مية on Arabic maps, should be romanized **Mayyat**.

10. Romanized place names of Aramaic origin in Lebanon and Syria often contain initial consonant clusters consisting of **b** plus another consonant, such as **l** or **h**. In romanization, the clusters **bl**, **bh**, etc., should be so represented.

11. In names containing the Arabic word for back, ridge, or hill, appearing as either ظهر or ضهر in Arabic sources, the word should be romanized to reflect the particular Arabic spelling shown.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR ARMENIAN
BGN/PCGN 1981 System

The BGN/PCGN system for Armenian was designed for use in romanizing names written in the Armenian alphabet. The Roman letters and letter combinations shown as equivalents to the Armenian characters reflect the eastern variety of Armenian, i.e., the language spoken in the Republic of Armenia.

	Armenian		Romanization		Armenian		Romanization
1	Ա	ա	a	21	Յ	յ	y
2	Բ	բ	b	22	Ն	ն	n
3	Գ	գ	g	23	Շ	շ	sh
4	Դ	դ	d	24	Ո	ո	o/vo [2]
5	Ե	ե	e/ye [1]	25	Չ	չ	ch'
6	Զ	զ	z	26	Պ	պ	p
7	Է	է	e	27	Ջ	ջ	j
8	Ը	ը	y	28	Ռ	ռ	rr
9	Թ	թ	t'	29	Ս	ս	s
10	Ժ	ժ	zh	30	Վ	վ	v
11	Ի	ի	i	31	Տ	տ	t
12	Լ	լ	l	32	Ր	ր	r
13	Խ	խ	kh	33	Ց	ց	ts'
14	Ծ	ծ	ts	34	Ու ու		u
15	Կ	կ	k	35	Փ	փ	p'
16	Հ	հ	h	36	Ք	ք	k'
17	Ձ	ձ	dz	37	Եվ ev		ev/yev [3]
18	Ղ	ղ	gh	38	Օ	o	o
19	Ճ	ճ	ch	39	Ֆ	ֆ	f
20	Մ	մ	m				

11

1. The character *ե* should be romanized **ye** initially and after the vowel characters *ш*, *է*, *ը*, *ո*, *օ*, *ո*, *ու*, and *о*. In all other instances, it should be romanized **e**.

2. The character *ո* should be romanized **vo** initially except in the word *ով*, which should be romanized **ov**. In all other instances, it should be romanized **о**.

3. The character *և* should be romanized **yev** initially, in isolation, and after the vowel characters *ш*, *է*, *ը*, *ո*, *օ*, *ո*, *ու*, and *о*. In all other instances, it should be romanized **ev**.

ROMANIZATION OF AZERBAIJANI CYRILLIC
BGN/PCGN 1993 Agreement

Azerbaijani is the official language of Azerbaijan. In 1991, the Azerbaijani government adopted a Roman alphabet to replace the existing Cyrillic alphabet. The Azerbaijani Cyrillic alphabet contains nine characters not present in the Russian alphabet: г, ә, j, к, ө, ү, h, ч, and '.

	Cyrillic				Roman		Cyrillic				Roman
1	А	а	*A*	*a*	a	18	Н	н	*Н*	*н*	n
2	Б	б	*Б*	*б*	b	19	О	о	*О*	*о*	o
3	В	в	*В*	*в*	v	20	Ө	ө	*Ө*	*ө*	ö
4	Г	г	*Г*	*г*	q	21	П	п	*П*	*п*	p
5	Ғ	ғ	*Ғ*	*ғ*	ğ	22	Р	р	*Р*	*р*	r
6	Д	д	*Д*	*д*	d	23	С	с	*С*	*с*	s
7	Е	е	*Е*	*е*	e	24	Т	т	*Т*	*т*	t
8	Ә	ә	*Ә*	*ә*	ə [1]	25	У	у	*У*	*у*	u
9	Ж	ж	*Ж*	*ж*	j	26	Ү	ү	*Ү*	*ү*	ü
10	З	з	*З*	*з*	z	27	Ф	ф	*Ф*	*ф*	f
11	И	и	*И*	*и*	i	28	Х	х	*Х*	*х*	x
12	Ы	ы	*Ы*	*ы*	ı	29	һ	һ	*һ*	*һ*	h
13	Ј	ј	*Ј*	*ј*	y	30	Ч	ч	*Ч*	*ч*	ç
14	К	к	*К*	*к*	k	31	Ҹ	ҹ	*Ҹ*	*ҹ*	c
15	К	к	*К*	*к*	g	32	Ш	ш	*Ш*	*ш*	ş
16	Л	л	*Л*	*л*	l	33	'	'	*'*	*'*	'
17	М	м	*М*	*м*	m						

NOTES

1. The special letter Ə ə, known as schwa, should be reproduced in that form whenever encountered. In those instances when it cannot be reproduced, however, the letter Ä ä may be substituted for it.

2. The obsolete characters й, э, ю, and я should be romanized ẏ, ė, yu̇, and yȧ.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR BULGARIAN
BGN/PCGN 1952 System

This system was adopted by the BGN in 1949 and by the PCGN in 1952. It reflects the much simplified Bulgarian orthography as officially revised in February 1945. The Bulgarian alphabet contains all of the characters present in the Russian alphabet with the exception of ё, ы, and э. Notes 1, 2, and 3 are applicable to sources predating the orthographic reform of 1945.

	Bulgarian		Romanization			Bulgarian		Romanization
1	А а	*А а*	a	16	П п	*П п*	p
2	Б б	*Б б*	b	17	Р р	*Р р*	r
3	В в	*В в*	v	18	С с	*С с*	s
4	Г г	*Г г*	g	19	Т т	*Т т*	t
5	Д д	*Д д*	d	20	У у	*У у*	u
6	Е е	*Е е*	e	21	Ф ф	*Ф ф*	f
7	Ж ж	*Ж ж*	zh	22	Х х	*Х х*	kh
8	З з	*З з*	z	23	Ц ц	*Ц ц*	ts
9	И и	*И и*	i	24	Ч ч	*Ч ч*	ch
10	Й й	*Й й*	y	25	Ш ш	*Ш ш*	sh
11	К к	*К к*	k	26	Щ щ	*Щ щ*	sht
12	Л л	*Л л*	l	27	Ъ ъ	*Ъ ъ*	ŭ
13	М м	*М м*	m	28	Ь ь	*Ь ь*	'
14	Н н	*Н н*	n	29	Ю ю	*Ю ю*	yu
15	О о	*О о*	o	30	Я я	*Я я*	ya

1. In modern Bulgarian orthography, the character ъ does not occcur in word-final position. It should be omitted in romanization when found in word-final position on older sources.

2. The obsolete character ѫ, which was replaced by ъ in 1945, should be romanized ŭ.

3. The obsolete character ѣ, replaced in 1945 by e or я according to local pronunciation, should be romanized as **e** or **ya**, accordingly, if the pronunciation is known; otherwise, as **ye**.

4. The character sequence тc may be romanized **t·s** in order to differentiate that romanization from the regularly occurring digraph **ts**, which represents the character ц.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR BURMESE
BGN/PCGN 1970 System

This system is an amplified restatement of the 1907 version of the Tables for the Transliteration of Burmese into English, published in 1908 by the Office of the Superintendent, Government Printing, Rangoon, Burma. The BGN has utilized the system mainly to supplement the body of place names published in Survey of India and other Roman-script maps and lists. It is considered inapplicable to names from other languages of Burma which are written in Burmese script.

CONSONANT CHARACTERS

	Burmese				Romanization	(See notes 2, 5, and 6.)
1	က	ခ			k, ka	(g, ga after any vowel letter or nasal consonant letter, except as cited in note 5.)
2	ဂ	ဃ			g, ga	
3	င				ng, nga	
4	စ	ဆ			s, sa	(z, za after any vowel letter or nasal consonant letter, except as cited in note 5.)
5	ဇ	ၛ			z, za	
6	ည				ny, nya	
7	ဋ	ဌ	ဏ	ဎ	t, ta	(d, da after any vowel letter or nasal consonant letter, except as cited in note 5.)
8	ဍ	ၚ	ဒ	ဝ	d, da	
9	ၰ	ဏ			n, na	
10	ပ	ဖ			p, pa	(b, ba after any vowel letter or nasal consonant letter, except as cited in note 5.)
11	ဗ	ဘ			b, ba	
12	မ				m, ma	

	Burmese		Romanization	(See notes 2, 5, and 6.)
13	ဃ	ရ	y, ya	
14	လ	၉	l, la	
15	ဝ		w, wa	
16	သ		th, tha	
17	ဟ		h, ha	
18	အ		a, -, or not romanized	(See note 3.)

CONSONANT CHARACTER COMBINATIONS

	Burmese		Romanization	(See notes 1, 2, 5, and 6.)
1	ကျ	ကြ	Cy, Cya	
2	ကွ		Cw, Cwa	
3	ကြွ	ကျွ	Cyw, Cywa	
4	ကှ		hC, hCa	
5	ကြ	ကျ	ch, cha	(gy, gya after any vowel letter or nasal consonant letter, except as cited in note 5.)
6	ရှ		sh, sha	

18

Independent Characters			Dependent Characters		
Burmese		**Romanization** (See note 4.)	**Burmese**		**Romanization**
1			ဩ ၁ ႐ၟ		a
2	၉ ၉ါ	e, -e	၉ ၁		e
3			၁		è
4	ၜ ၣ	i, -i	၁ ၁		i
5			၁ ၁		o
6	၉ ၉	u, -u	၁ ၁ ၁ ၁		u
7	ၛ ၉ၟ ၉ၟ	aw, -aw	၉ ၉ ၉ ၉		aw

CONSONANT CHARACTERS WITH END-OF-SYLLABLE MARKS IN SYLLABLES CONTAINING A MEDIAL VOWEL AND A FINAL CONSONANT

1 □က် et   ိက် eik   ုက် ôk   ိုက် aik   ေ□ာက် auk

2 □င် et

3 □င် in   ိင် ein   ိုင် aing   ေ□ာင် aung

4 □စ် it   ိုစ် ôk

5 □စ် it   ိစ် eik

6 □ည် i, in, e (See note 10.)

7 □တ် at   ိတ် eik   ုတ် ôk   ုတ် ut   ဝတ် wut   ေ□တ် it

19

8	□ၝ်	at									ဝၝ်	wut
9											ဝၟ်	wut
10	□ဒ်	at	�ၻ်	eik	꤮ဒ်	ôk					□ာဒ်	at
11	□ၻ်	at	winၻ်	eik							□ာၻ်	at
12	□န်	an	winန်	ein	꤮န်	ôn		꤮န်	un	ဝန်	wun
13	□တ်	an	winတ်	ein	꤮တ်	ôn	꤮တ်	aing				
14	□ပ်	at	winပ်	eik	꤮ပ်	ôk		꤮ပ်	ut			
15											ဝါတ်	wut
16	□မ်	an	winမ်	ein	꤮မ်	ôn		꤮မ်	un	ဝမ်	wun
17	□ယ်	è										
18	□လ်	an					꤮လ်	aing				
19	□သ်	at	winသ်	eik								
20	□ဉ်	in										
21	□ံ	an	winံ	ein	꤮ံ	ôn		꤮ံ	un	ဝံ	wun
22	□ဿ်	at										

END-OF-SYLLABLE MARKS	SOUND-CHANGE MARK	TONE MARKS
် ့	ၚ်	့ း
(See the table of consonant characters with end-of-syllable marks.)	(See note 8.)	(See note 7.)

NUMERALS

၀	၁	၂	၃	၄	၅	၆	၇	၈	၉
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

1. The symbol ▢ in the tables and in the following notes represents any Burmese consonant character, and the letter C represents the romanized equivalent of that character.

2. Except when accompanied by a dependent vowel character or an end-of-syllable mark, a Burmese consonant character or consonant character combination should be romanized with a following vowel letter **a**: မဒမ → **madama**, အက → **aga**, ကလိ → **kali**, သာယ် → **thangè**, ▢ျဇင် → **pyazin**.

3. At the beginning of a word, the character အ should not be romanized, unless followed by a consonant character that does not bear a vowel character or an end-of-syllable mark, in which case the character အ should be romanized **a**: အကာ → **aga**, but အိုဘဲ့ → **obè**, အပ် → **at**. At the beginning of a medial or final syllable, အ should be rendered by a hyphen: မအု → **ma-u**, သီးပင်အိုင် → **Thibin-aing**.

4. The independent vowel characters should be romanized without a hyphen at the beginning of words and with a hyphen at the beginning of medial and final syllables: ဩဘာ → **awba**, ဧ�ီ → **eni**, ကြဧ → **kye-e**, ကြောင်ဥကျည် → **kyaung-ugyin**.

5. When two consonant characters are written one above the other without an end-of-syllable mark, the upper character should be romanized first, followed by the lower character, and then the vowel and consonant characters, if any: သဒ္ဒါ, သဒ္ဒါ → **thadda**, ပဉ္ဇ → **panyza**, အန္ဒိမဘာဝ → **andimabawa**. It should be noted that the alternative romanizations shown in the tables of consonant characters and consonant character combinations do not apply to the upper character: သေတ္တာ → **thetta**, မိဿာ → **missa**, ဥက္ကဒ → **ukkada**.

6. When the letter **n** at the end of a syllable within a romanized word is followed by **g** or **y** at the beginning of the next syllable, the letter sequences should be rendered **n-g** and **n-y**, respectively, in order to differentiate those sequences from the digraphs **ng**

and **ny**: အင်းကွတ် → **in-gut**, ကွန့်ရက် → **kun-yet**, but ဖွှ့ဝင်း → **shwengan**, ညီညာ → **nyinya**, တိုင်အောင် → **taing-aung**. Similarly, the letter sequence consisting of **t** at the end of a syllable within a romanized word, followed by **h** at the beginning of the next syllable, should be rendered **t-h** in order to differentiate that sequence from the digraph **th**: ဟက်ဟက်ပက်ပက်ရယ် → **het-hetpetpetyè**, but ဝသီ → **wathi**.

7. The tone marks ◌ and ◌: are not represented in romanization: �:မဲ့ → **bemè**, တံ့စား → **tanza**, ပြီးစီး → **pyizi**.

8. The sound-change mark ◌ indicates a change in the romanization of the preceding syllable from **a** to **in**: သ�‌ဘော → **thinbaw**, ဘင်္ဂလားအော် → **Bin-gala Aw**, စက်ဝပု → **Sin-gabu**.

9. Although of infrequent occurrence, a number of character ligatures and abbreviations are found in Burmese writing. In the event that a character not shown in the tables is encountered, a reference source should be consulted.

10. ◌ည် is romanized **i**, **in**, or **e**, depending on pronunciation. A reference source should be consulted in case of uncertainty.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR BYELORUSSIAN
BGN/PCGN 1979 System

The BGN/PCGN system for Byelorussian was designed for use in romanizing names written in the Byelorussian Cyrillic alphabet. The Byelorussian alphabet contains three characters not present in the Russian alphabet: i, ў, and '.

	Byelorussian				Romanization		Byelorussian				Romanization
1	А	а	*А*	*а*	a	18	Р	р	*Р*	*р*	r
2	Б	б	*Б*	*б*	b	19	С	с	*С*	*с*	s
3	В	в	*В*	*в*	v	20	Т	т	*Т*	*т*	t
4	Г	г	*Г*	*г*	h	21	У	у	*У*	*у*	u
5	Д	д	*Д*	*д*	d	22	Ў	ў	*Ў*	*ў*	w
6	Е	е	*Е*	*е*	ye	23	Ф	ф	*Ф*	*ф*	f
7	Ё	ё	*Ё*	*ё*	yo	24	Х	х	*Х*	*х*	kh
8	Ж	ж	*Ж*	*ж*	zh	25	Ц	ц	*Ц*	*ц*	ts
9	З	з	*З*	*з*	z	26	Ч	ч	*Ч*	*ч*	ch
10	І	і	*І*	*і*	i	27	Ш	ш	*Ш*	*ш*	sh
11	Й	й	*Й*	*й*	y	28	Ы	ы	*Ы*	*ы*	y
12	К	к	*К*	*к*	k	29	Ь	ь	*Ь*	*ь*	'
13	Л	л	*Л*	*л*	l	30	Э	э	*Э*	*э*	e
14	М	м	*М*	*м*	m	31	Ю	ю	*Ю*	*ю*	yu
15	Н	н	*Н*	*н*	n	32	Я	я	*Я*	*я*	ya
16	О	о	*О*	*о*	o	33	'	'	*'*	*'*	"
17	П	п	*П*	*п*	p						

NOTES

1. The character sequences зг, кг, сг, тс, and цг may be romanized **z·h**, **k·h**, **s·h**, **t·s**, and **ts·h** in order to differentiate those romanizations from the digraphs **zh**, **kh**, **sh**, **ts**, and the letter sequence **tsh**, which are used to render the characters ж, х, ш, ц, and the character sequence тш.

2. The obsolete character г should be romanized **g**.

23

ROMANIZATION OF CHINESE CHARACTERS
BGN/PCGN 1979 Agreement

Chinese characters which represent Mandarin Chinese names of geographic features in the People's Republic of China (P.R.C.) and which appear in official sources published by the P.R.C. are romanized by the BGN and PCGN by means of the Pinyin system. The principal source of approved readings for such characters is the dictionary Xinhua Zidian, published by the Commercial Press, Beijing, China, in 1971, 1975, and 1982.

Chinese characters which represent Mandarin Chinese names of geographic features in the P.R.C. and Taiwan and which appear in official sources published by the Nationalist government are romanized by the BGN and PCGN by means of the modified Wade-Giles system. The principal sources of approved readings for such characters are the dictionary Xinhua Zidian (for names of geographic features in the P.R.C.) and the publication Modified Readings of Chinese Characters for Place Names Romanization Based on Wade-Giles System, published by the China Topographic Service, Taipei, Taiwan, in 1971 (for names of geographic features in Taiwan).

Chinese characters which represent non-Chinese names of geographic features in the P.R.C. and which appear in official sources published by either the P.R.C. or the Nationalist government are romanized by the BGN and PCGN by means of the modified Wade-Giles system. The principal source of approved readings for such characters is the dictionary Xinhua Zidian.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR GEORGIAN
BGN/PCGN 1981 System

The BGN/PCGN system for Georgian was designed for use in romanizing names written in the Georgian alphabet. The alphabet shown here is known as the Mkhedruli alphabet and is the alphabet presently used in the Republic of Georgia.

	Georgian	Romanization		Georgian	Romanization
1	ა	a	18	ს	s
2	ბ	b	19	ტ	t
3	გ	g	20	უ	u
4	დ	d	21	ფ	p'
5	ე	e	22	ქ	k'
6	ვ	v	23	ღ	gh
7	ზ	z	24	ყ	q
8	თ	t'	25	შ	sh
9	ი	i	26	ჩ	ch'
10	კ	k	27	ც	ts'
11	ლ	l	28	ძ	dz
12	მ	m	29	წ	ts
13	ნ	n	30	ჭ	ch
14	ო	o	31	ხ	kh
15	პ	p	32	ჯ	j
16	ჟ	zh	33	ჰ	h
17	რ	r			

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR GREEK
BGN/PCGN 1962 System

This system is a simplified version of the system devised by the PCGN in 1941 and later adopted by the BGN. In 1962 the two organizations agreed to joint adoption of certain changes in the original system, specifically the omission of special rules for the treatment of Greek geographic names of Albanian, Bulgarian, Italian, Macedonian, and Turkish origin. That revision eliminated the need to consider the origin of names and removed ambiguity from the romanization of Greek expressions of possible non-Greek origin.

This system is based on the pronunciation of modern Greek and is not intended for use in the romanization of classical Greek.

	Greek				Romanization	Example	
1	Α α	Α α			a	Ἄρτα	Árta
	αι	αι			ai	Ἀθῆναι	Athínai
	αυ	αυ			av	Μαυροβούνι	Mavrovoúni
2	Β β	Β β			v	Βόλος	Vólos
3	Γ γ	Γ γ	before α, ο, ου, ω, and consonants other than γ, ξ, and χ		g	Γαράζον Γούρα Ἄγναντα Γλιφάδα	Garázon Goúra Ágnanda Glifádha
			before αι, ε, ει, η, ι, οι, υ, and υι		y	Πηγαὶ Ἁγία	Piyaí Ayía
			before ξ and χ		n	Ἀγχίαλος	Ankhíalos
	γγ	γγ			ng	Λόγγος	Lóngos
	γκ	γκ	initially		g	Γκοριτσὰ	Goritsá
			medially		ng	Λαγκάδα	Langádha
4	Δ δ	Δ δ	between ν and ρ		d	Δένδρα	Dhéndra
			otherwise		dh	Δάφνη	Dháfni
5	Ε ε	Ε ε			e	Ἐρέτρεια	Erétria
	ει	ει			i	Πειραιεύς	Piraiévs
	εϊ	εϊ			eï	Μαρινέϊκα	Marinéïka
	ευ	ευ			ev	Λευκάς	Levkás
6	Ζ ζ	Ζ ζ			z	Ζεμενὸν	Zemenón

	Greek			Romanization	Example	
7	Η η	*H* *η*		i	Ἡράκλειον	Iráklion
	ηυ	*ηυ*	(rarely occurs)	iv		
8	Θ θ	*Θ* *θ*		th	Θεσπιαὶ	Thespiaí
9	Ι ι	*I* *ι*	(For subscript iota, see note 4.)	i	Ἴρια	Íria
10	Κ κ	*K* *κ*		k	Καλαμάκι	Kalamáki
	γκ	*γκ*	initially	g	Γκοριτσὰ	Goritsá
			medially	ng	Λαγκάδα	Langádha
11	Λ λ	*Λ* *λ*		l	Λίμνη	Límni
12	Μ μ	*M* *μ*		m	Μαραθὼν	Marathón
	μπ	*μπ*	initially	b	Μπέχρος	Békhros
			medially	mb	Τέμπη	Témbi
13	Ν ν	*N* *ν*		n	Νεστάνη	Nestáni
	ντ	*ντ*	initially	d	Ντία	Día
			medially	nd	Παντάνασσα	Pandánassa
	ντζ	*ντζ*		ntz	Βιτζέντζος	Vitzéntzos
14	Ξ ξ	*Ξ* *ξ*		x	Ξάνθη	Xánthi
15	Ο ο	*O* *o*		o	Ὄθος	Óthos
	οι	*οι*		oi	Οἴτη	Oíti
	ου	*ου*		ou	Βούναργον	Voúnargon
16	Π π	*Π* *π*		p	Παῦλος	Pávlos
	μπ	*μπ*	initially	b	Μπέχρος	Békhros
			medially	mb	Τέμπη	Témbi
17	Ρ ρ	*P* *ρ*		r	Μερόπι	Merópi
18	Σ σ	*Σ* *σ*		s	Ἄσσος	Ássos
	ς	*ς*	(finally)	s		

	Greek				Romanization	Example	
19	T τ	*T* *τ*			t	Τίρυνς	Tírins
	ντ	*ντ*	initially		d	Ντία	Día
			medially		nd	Παντάνασσα	Pandánassa
20	Υ υ	*Υ* *υ*	initially and between consonants		i	Ὑλίκη Μύλος	Ilíki Mílos
			after α, ε, and η		v	Λευκάς	Levkás
			after o		u	Μαυροβούνι	Mavrovoúni
	υι	*υι*			i	Ἀγυιά	Ayiá
21	Φ φ	*Φ* *φ*			f	Φιλοθέη	Filothéi
22	X χ	*X* *χ*			kh	Χαραυγὴ	Kharavyí
23	Ψ ψ	*ψ* *ψ*			ps	Ψαρὰ	Psará
24	Ω ω	*Ω* *ω*			o	Ὠρωπὸς	Oropós

31

1. The apostrophe and reversed apostrophe, one or the other of which is written in Greek in front of all initial uppercase vowel characters, above all initial lowercase vowel characters, and above the second character of all initial two-vowel character sequences, should not be romanized, e.g., Ἀθῆναι → **Athínai**, Ἡράκλειον → **Iráklion**, Οἰνόφυτα → **Oinófita**. These apostrophes must be distinguished from accent marks when they occur together, e.g., Ἄβατον → **Ávaton**, Ἥλια → **Ília**, Οἴτη → **Oíti**. The reversed apostrophe is sometimes found also with ρ and should, likewise, not be romanized: ῥέμα → **réma**.

2. Stress is shown in Greek by the use of the tilde or circumflex, the acute accent, or the grave accent; all of those marks should be represented in romanization by an acute accent, e.g., Ἀθῆναι → **Athínai**, Ντία → **Día**, Ζεμενὸν → **Zemenón**.

   If the stressed vowel is written as a sequence of two vowel characters in Greek, the second vowel character should carry the accent; similarly, in romanization the acute accent should be placed over the second vowel letter, e.g., Οἰνοῦσαι → **Oinoúsai**, Οἴτη → **Oíti**, Θεσπιαὶ → **Thespiaí**.

   Where a syllable containing one of the combinations αυ, ευ, or ηυ carries the stress, this is marked in Greek on the character υ; in romanization it should be shown on the preceding vowel letter, e.g., Πειραιεύς → **Piraiévs**, Αὔρα → **Ávra**.

   Where the apostrophe and the accent are written together in front of initial uppercase vowel characters, the apostrophe should be disregarded and the accent should be placed above the initial letter in romanization, e.g., Ἄβατον → **Ávaton**. (See note 1 above.)

   In rare cases, a Greek word will be found written with two accents; the second accent should not be romanized.

   Accents and apostrophes are sometimes omitted in Greek, particularly in words and names printed wholly in uppercase characters, but in romanization the stress should always be determined and marked with an acute accent.

   In Greek abbreviations and monosyllables, any accent which may be found should not be romanized.

3. The dieresis should be shown in romanization where it occurs in Greek, e.g., Μαρινέϊκα → **Marinéïka**, Ἀχαΐα → **Akhaḯa**; and over the second vowel letter in romanization of the following combinations of Greek vowel characters: αε, e.g., Ἀετὸς → **Aëtós**; αη, e.g., Ἀηδὼν → **Aïdhón**; οη, e.g., Οἰνόη → **Oinóï**; ωο, e.g., Ἡρῷον → **Iróön**.

4. The character ι (*ióta*) is sometimes found written under or, in uppercase, to the right of the vowel characters α, η, and ω. This "subscript iota" should not be romanized, e.g., Μυρτῷον Πέλαγος or ΜΥΡΤΩΙΟΝ ΠΕΛΑΓΟΣ → **Mirtóön Pélagos**.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR HEBREW
BGN/PCGN 1962 System

This system, adopted jointly by the BGN and the PCGN in 1962, is based on the Hebrew Academy System as used by the Survey of Israel over a period of many years and as published in <u>Transliteration of Geographical Names in the Topographic Maps of Israel</u> (Cartographic Papers No. 4), Survey of Israel, Tel Aviv, 1969.

The first two tables and notes 1 through 5 provide for the romanization of Hebrew names, and notes 6 and 7 provide for the romanization of non-Hebrew names of two types: commemorative names—most commonly of European origin—and Arabic names written in Hebrew script.

CONSONANT CHARACTERS

	Hebrew	Romanization	Remarks
1	א	'	
2	בּ	b	See note 2.
3	ב	v	
4	ג גּ	g	See note 2.
5	ד דּ	d	See note 2.
6	ה	h	Not romanized in word-final position unless written with a dot (*mappiq*), i.e., הּ.
7	ו	w	
8	ז	z	
9	ח	ẖ	
10	ט	t	
11	י	y	
12	כ ך (final)	k	See note 2.
13	כ ך or ךּ (final)	kh	
14	ל	l	
15	מ ם (final)	m	
16	נ ן (final)	n	
17	ס	s	

	Hebrew	Romanization	Remarks
18	עַ	‘	
19	פ	p	See note 2.
20	פ ף (final)	f	
21	צ ץ (final)	ẕ	
22	ק	q	
23	ר	r	
24	שׁ	sh	
25	שׂ	s	
26	ת ת	t	See note 2.
27	ג׳	(ğ)	These three Hebrew characters and certain other modified characters not included in this system are used on Israeli maps to render Arabic and other non-Hebrew names. Names in which these characters occur should be romanized in accordance with notes 6 and 7.
28	ז׳	(ž)	
29	צ׳	(č)	

VOWEL CHARACTERS

	Hebrew	Romanization	Remarks
1	ַ	a	
2	ֲ	a	
3	ָ	a, o	
4	ֶ	e	
5	ֱ	e	
6	ֵ	e	
7	ֵי	e	
8	ְ	e, or not romanized	See note 3.
9	ִ	i	
10	ִי	i	

34

	Hebrew	Romanization	Remarks
11	‫ָ֫‬	o	
12	‫ֹ‬	o	
13	‫וֹ‬	o	
14	‫ֻ‬	u	
15	‫וּ‬	u	

NOTES

1. Every medial *alef* (‫א‬) bearing a vowel character or *shewa* (:) should be romanized; e.g., ‫גְּלאוֹן‬ → **Gal'on**, ‫בְּאֵר שֶׁבַע‬ → **Be'er Sheva'**, ‫נֶאְדָּר‬ → **Ne'dar**. *Alef* should not be romanized when initial or when used as mater lectionis; e.g., ‫אֵלָה‬ → **Ela**, ‫סָאסָא‬ → **Sasa**.

2. The dot placed within the body of the consonant characters ‫ב‬ , ‫ג‬ , ‫ד‬ , ‫כ‬ , ‫פ‬ , and ‫ת‬ , when they occur at the beginning of a name or after an unvoweled consonant character in the middle of a name, is known as the "weak" *dagesh*. The addition of the dot forms the consonant characters ‫ב‬, ‫כ‬, and ‫פ‬ . The phonetic distinction between ‫ג‬ and ‫ג‬ , ‫ד‬ and ‫ד‬ , and ‫ת‬ and ‫ת‬ has now been lost and these pairs of characters should be romanized identically.

The same dot may also be placed within the body of any consonant character (including the six mentioned above but excluding ‫א‬ , ‫ה‬ , ‫ח‬ , ‫ע‬ and ‫ר‬) to indicate the "strong" *dagesh*. This is rendered in romanization by doubling the letter; the digraph **sh** is not doubled. The "strong" *dagesh* can be distinguished from the "weak" *dagesh*, since the former is always preceded by a vowel character; e.g., ‫עַכּוֹ‬ → **'Akko** but ‫כַּרכֹם‬ → **Karkom**. See note 4.

3. If the vowel character ‫ְ‬ represents *shewa naḥ* ("quiescent" *shewa*), it marks the end of a closed syllable and should not be romanized. If it represents *shewa na'*, which is a short neutral vowel, it should be romanized by **e**.

4. The definite article ‫ה‬ should be capitalized in romanization and written together with the following word. If the initial Hebrew character of the following word bears the *dagesh*, the corresponding Roman letter should also be capitalized but not doubled; e.g., **HaYogev**. If the initial character is ‫ע‬ ('*ayin*), the Roman-script equivalent of the following Hebrew vowel character should be capitalized; e.g., **Ha'Ogen**.

5. "Furtive" *pattaḥ* (◌), which is written under final *he mappiq* (ה), *ḥet* (ח), and *'ayin* (ע) but pronounced before and not after those three consonant characters, should be romanized before the character under which it is written in Hebrew script; רוֹקֵחַ → **Roqeaḥ**.

6. The non-Hebrew elements of commemorative names derived from Roman-alphabet languages should be spelled as in the original; e.g., Kefar Masaryk (not Masariq), Balfouriyya (not Balfuriyya), Kefar Szold (not Sold).

7. Arabic names written in the Hebrew alphabet should be romanized according to the following special rules:

   a. Hebrew consonant characters should be romanized according to the table above with the following amendments and additions:

1	א	not romanized	7	ד֗	dh
2	ג֞	j	8	ח֞	kh
3	ד֞	dh	9	ט	ṭ
4	ד֗	ḍ	10	ע֞	gh
5	ח	ḥ	11	צ	ṣ
6	הּ ◌ָ הּ ◌ַ הּ ◌ָ (final)	-a	12	ת	th

   b. Hebrew vowel characters should be romanized as follows:

1	◌ְ	not romanized	7	וּ	ū See note (c).
2	◌ַ	a (ā before word-final א)	8	◌ֵי	ei
3	◌ִ	i	9	◌ַי	aiy
4	◌ֻ	u	10	◌ִי	īy
5	◌ָ	ā	11	וֹ	au
6	◌ִי	ī			

   c. Except for בּ and כּ, a consonant character containing a dot should be romanized by doubling the equivalent letter or digraph. The character ו should be romanized **ū**, unless a vowel character is shown beneath it, in which case it should be romanized **ww**; e.g., חֻוָּרָה → **Ḥuwwāra**.

d. An unassimilated Arabic article is written אֵל or אֶל and should be romanized **el**, not **al**. An assimilated Arabic article is written אַ‎ or אֶ‎ followed by a dotted consonant character, which should be romanized by writing the equivalent letter or digraph once as part of the article and once again as part of the following word; e.g., עֵיּוָאֶסַהְלָה → **'Ein es Sahla**.

e. The character sequences דּה, כּה, סה, and תה may be romanized **d·h**, **k·h**, **s·h**, and **t·h** in order to differentiate those romanizations from the digraphs **dh**, **kh**, **sh**, and **th**, which are used to render the characters ד׳, ז׳, ח׳, שׁ, and ת׳.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR JAPANESE KANA
Modified Hepburn System
BGN/PCGN Agreement

The modified Hepburn system for the romanization of Japanese has been in use by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names since about 1930 and has been used extensively in the romanization of Japanese geographic names. The system is well adapted to the general needs of speakers of English and is the most widely used system for the romanization of Japanese.

The Japanese language is written in two forms: in kanji, which are Sino-Japanese characters, and in kana, which are syllabic symbols. There are two styles of kana, namely, katakana, the squared form, and hiragana, the cursive form. Katakana symbols were originally derived from parts of kanji characters and today are used primarily for the phonetic transcription of foreign words and as the equivalent of italics. Hiragana symbols, on the other hand, were originally created by simplifying the strokes of whole kanji characters and are used to represent grammatical particles and suffixes. Running text is usually written in kanji with kana symbols interspersed. Geographic names, personal names, and words in isolation are usually written in kanji with or without the addition of small-script kana equivalents, which, when used for that purpose, are referred to as furigana.

Kanji may be romanized with the aid of Japanese-English dictionaries that utilize the modified Hepburn system.[*] A familiarity with the grammatical structure of the Japanese language, as well as with the Japanese writing system, is essential for the correct romanization of kanji.

BASIC FORMS

	Katakana	Hiragana	Romanization		Katakana	Hiragana	Romanization
1	ア	あ	a	11	サ	さ	sa
2	イ	い	i	12	シ	し	shi
3	ウ	う	u	13	ス	す	su
4	エ	え	e	14	セ	せ	se
5	オ	お	o	15	ソ	そ	so
6	カ	か	ka	16	タ	た	ta
7	キ	き	ki	17	チ	ち	chi
8	ク	く	ku	18	ツ	つ	tsu [2]
9	ケ	け	ke (ga) [1]	19	テ	て	te
10	コ	こ	ko	20	ト	と	to

---

[*] e.g., <u>Beginners' Dictionary of Chinese-Japanese Characters</u>, compiled by Arthur Rose-Innes and published by Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 1944.

	Katakana	Hiragana	Romanization		Katakana	Hiragana	Romanization
21	ナ	な	na	47	ガ	が	ga
22	ニ	に	ni	48	ギ	ぎ	gi
23	ヌ	ぬ	nu	49	グ	ぐ	gu
24	ネ	ね	ne	50	ゲ	げ	ge
25	ノ	の	no	51	ゴ	ご	go
26	ハ	は	ha (wa)[1]	52	ザ	ざ	za
27	ヒ	ひ	hi	53	ジ	じ	ji
28	フ	ふ	fu	54	ズ	ず	zu
29	ヘ	へ	he (e)[1]	55	ゼ	ぜ	ze
30	ホ	ほ	ho	56	ゾ	ぞ	zo
31	マ	ま	ma	57	ダ	だ	da
32	ミ	み	mi	58	デ	で	de
33	ム	む	mu	59	ド	ど	do
34	メ	め	me				
35	モ	も	mo	60	バ	ば	ba
				61	ビ	び	bi
36	ヤ	や	ya	62	ブ	ぶ	bu
37	ユ	ゆ	yu	63	ベ	べ	be
38	ヨ	よ	yo	64	ボ	ぼ	bo
39	ラ	ら	ra	65	パ	ぱ	pa
40	リ	り	ri	66	ピ	ぴ	pi
41	ル	る	ru	67	プ	ぷ	pu
42	レ	れ	re	68	ペ	ぺ	pe
43	ロ	ろ	ro	69	ポ	ぽ	po
44	ワ	わ	wa	70	ヴ	(none)	v[4]
45	ヲ	を	o				
46	ン	ん	n, n', or m[3]				

OBSOLETE BASIC FORMS [5]

	Katakana	Hiragana	Romanization			Katakana	Hiragana	Romanization
1	ヰ	ゐ	i		3	ヂ	ぢ	ji
2	ヱ	ゑ	e		4	ヅ	づ	zu

COMBINED FORMS

	Katakana	Hiragana	Romanization			Katakana	Hiragana	Romanization
1	オウ	おう	ō		20	ニャ	にゃ	nya
					21	ニュ	にゅ	nyu
2	キャ	きゃ	kya		22	ニュウ	にゅう	nyū
3	キュ	きゅ	kyu		23	ニョ	にょ	nyo
4	キュウ	きゅう	kyū		24	ニョウ	にょう	nyō
5	キョ	きょ	kyo		25	ノウ	のう	nō
6	キョウ	きょう	kyō					
7	コウ	こう	kō		26	ヒャ	ひゃ	hya
					27	ヒュ	ひゅ	hyu
8	シャ	しゃ	sha		28	ヒュウ	ひゅう	hyū
9	シュ	しゅ	shu		29	ヒョ	ひょ	hyo
10	シュウ	しゅう	shū		30	ヒョウ	ひょう	hyō
11	ショ	しょ	sho		31	ホウ	ほう	hō (ō)[1]
12	ショウ	しょう	shō					
13	ソウ	そう	sō		32	ミャ	みゃ	mya
					33	ミュ	みゅ	myu
14	チャ	ちゃ	cha		34	ミュウ	みゅう	myū
15	チュ	ちゅ	chu		35	ミョ	みょ	myo
16	チュウ	ちゅう	chū		36	ミョウ	みょう	myō
17	チョ	ちょ	cho		37	モウ	もう	mō
18	チョウ	ちょう	chō					
19	トウ	とう	tō		38	ヨウ	よう	yō

	Katakana	Hiragana	Romanization			Katakana	Hiragana	Romanization
39	リャ	りゃ	rya		57	ドウ	どう	dō
40	リュ	りゅ	ryu					
41	リュウ	りゅう	ryū		58	ビャ	びゃ	bya
42	リョ	りょ	ryo		59	ビュ	びゅ	byu
43	リョウ	りょう	ryō		60	ビュウ	びゅう	byū
44	ロウ	ろう	rō		61	ビョ	びょ	byo
					62	ビョウ	びょう	byō
45	ギャ	ぎゃ	gya		63	ボウ	ぼう	bō
46	ギュ	ぎゅ	gyu					
47	ギュウ	ぎゅう	gyū		64	ピャ	ぴゃ	pya
48	ギョ	ぎょ	gyo		65	ピュ	ぴゅ	pyu
49	ギョウ	ぎょう	gyō		66	ピュウ	ぴゅう	pyū
50	ゴウ	ごう	gō		67	ピョ	ぴょ	pyo
					68	ピョウ	ぴょう	pyō
51	ジャ	じゃ	ja		69	ポウ	ぽう	pō
52	ジュ	じゅ	ju					
53	ジュウ	じゅう	jū					
54	ジョ	じょ	jo					
55	ジョウ	じょう	jō					
56	ゾウ	ぞう	zō					

OBSOLETE COMBINED FORMS [5]

	Katakana	Hiragana	Romanization			Katakana	Hiragana	Romanization
1	アウ	あう	ō		8	カウ	かう	kō
2	アフ	あふ	ō		9	カフ	かふ	kō
3	イウ	いう	yū		10	キウ	きう	kyū
4	イフ	いふ	yū		11	キフ	きふ	kyū
5	エウ	えう	yō		12	キヤ	きやう	kyō
6	エフ	えふ	yō		13	クワ	くわ	ka
7	オフ	おふ	ō		14	クワウ	くわう	kō
					15	ケウ	けう	kyō
					16	ケワ	けわ	kyō
					17	コフ	こふ	kō

42

	Katakana	Hiragana	Romanization			Katakana	Hiragana	Romanization
18	サウ	さう	sō		50	マウ	まう	mō
19	サフ	さふ	sō		51	マフ	まふ	mō
20	シウ	しう	shū		52	マヲ	まを	mō
21	シフ	しふ	shū		53	ミヤウ	みやう	myō
22	シヤウ	しやう	shō		54	ミウ	みう	myū
23	セウ	せう	shō		55	ミフ	みふ	myū
24	セフ	せふ	shō		56	メウ	めう	myō
25	ソフ	そふ	sō		57	メフ	めふ	myō
					58	メヲ	めを	myō
26	タウ	たう	tō		59	モフ	もふ	mō
27	タフ	たふ	tō					
28	チウ	ちう	chū		60	ヤウ	やう	yō
29	チフ	ちふ	chū		61	ヤフ	やふ	yō
30	チヤウ	ちやう	chō		62	ヨフ	よふ	yō
31	テウ	てう	chō					
32	テフ	てふ	chō		63	ラウ	らう	rō
33	トフ	とふ	tō		64	ラフ	らふ	rō
					65	リウ	りう	ryū
34	ナウ	なう	nō		66	リフ	りふ	ryū
35	ナフ	なふ	nō		67	リヤウ	りやう	ryō
36	ニウ	にう	nyū		68	レウ	れう	ryō
37	ニフ	にふ	nyū		69	レフ	れふ	ryō
38	ニヤウ	にやう	nyō		70	ロフ	ろふ	rō
39	ネウ	ねう	nyō					
40	ネフ	ねふ	nyō		71	ワウ	わう	ō
41	ノフ	のふ	nō		72	ワフ	わふ	ō
					73	ヱフ	ゑふ	yō
42	ハウ	はう	hō (ō)[1]		74	ヲウ	をう	ō
43	ハフ	はふ	hō		75	ヲフ	をふ	ō
44	ヒウ	ひう	hyū					
45	ヒフ	ひふ	hyū					
46	ヒヤウ	ひやう	hyō					
47	ヘウ	へう	hyō					
48	ヘフ	へふ	hyō					
49	ホフ	ほふ	hō (ō)[1]					

76	ガウ	がう	gō	107	バウ	ばう	bō
77	ガフ	がふ	gō	108	バフ	ばふ	bō
78	ギウ	ぎう	gyū	109	ビウ	びう	byū
79	ギフ	ぎふ	gyū	110	ビフ	びふ	byū
80	ギヤウ	ぎやう	gyō	111	ビヤウ	びやう	byō
81	グワ	ぐわ	ga	112	ベウ	べう	byō
82	グワウ	ぐわう	gō	113	ベフ	べふ	byō
83	ゲウ	げう	gyō	114	ボフ	ぼふ	bō
84	ゲフ	げふ	gyō				
85	ゴフ	ごふ	gō	115	ハ゜ウ	ぱう	pō
				116	ハ゜フ	ぱふ	pō
86	ザウ	ざう	zō	117	ヒ゜ウ	ぴう	pyū
87	ザフ	ざふ	zō	118	ヒ゜フ	ぴふ	pyū
88	ジウ	じう	jū	119	ヒ゜ヤウ	ぴやう	pyō
89	ジフ	じふ	jū	120	ヘ゜ウ	ぺう	pyō
90	ジヤウ	じやう	jō	121	ヘ゜フ	ぺふ	pyō
91	ゼウ	ぜう	jō	122	ポフ	ぽふ	pō
92	ゼフ	ぜふ	jō				
93	ゾフ	ぞふ	zō				
94	ダウ	だう	dō				
95	ダフ	だふ	dō				
96	ヂウ	ぢう	jū				
97	ヂフ	ぢふ	jū				
98	ヂヤ	ぢや	ja				
99	ヂヤウ	ぢやう	jō				
100	ヂユ	ぢゆ	ju				
101	ヂヨ	ぢよ	jo				
102	ヂヨウ	ぢよう	jō				
103	ヅウ	づう	zū				
104	デウ	でう	jō				
105	デフ	でふ	jō				
106	ドフ	どふ	dō				

SPECIAL MARKS

□—	lengthens preceding vowel in Katakana script
□ >	repeats preceding syllable in Hiragana script
□ ⟨	repeats preceding syllables in Hiragana script

NOTES

1. The romanization in parentheses is used only in those cases where the kana symbol is known to be pronounced in the manner indicated.

2. A small-script tsu form (ッ or っ) is inserted between kana symbols to indicate a double consonant and is romanized as **k** before **k**; as **s** before **s** or **sh**; as **t** before **t**, **ts**, or **ch**; and as **p** before **p**.

3. **n'** is used before **y** or a vowel letter
   m is used before **b**, **p**, or **m**
   n is used in all other cases

4. This katakana symbol is used only in the transcription of foreign words.

5. Many alternate kana forms were abolished in a post-World War II language reform.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR KAZAKH CYRILLIC
BGN/PCGN 1979 System

The BGN/PCGN system for Kazakh Cyrillic was designed for use in romanizing names written in the Kazakh Cyrillic alphabet. The Kazakh Cyrillic alphabet contains nine characters not present in the Russian alphabet: ә, ғ, қ, ң, ө, ұ, ү, h, and i.

	Kazakh				Romanization		Kazakh				Romanization
1	А	а	*А*	*а*	a	22	П	п	*П*	*п*	p
2	Ә	ә	*Ә*	*ә*	ä	23	Р	р	*Р*	*р*	r
3	Б	б	*Б*	*б*	b	24	С	с	*С*	*с*	s
4	В	в	*В*	*в*	v	25	Т	т	*Т*	*т*	t
5	Г	г	*Г*	*г*	g	26	У	у	*У*	*у*	ū
6	Ғ	ғ	*Ғ*	*ғ*	gh	27	Ұ	ұ	*Ұ*	*ұ*	u
7	Д	д	*Д*	*д*	d	28	Ү	ү	*Ү*	*ү*	ü
8	Е	е	*Е*	*е*	e	29	Ф	ф	*Ф*	*ф*	f
9	Ё	ё	*Ё*	*ё*	yo	30	Х	х	*Х*	*х*	kh
10	Ж	ж	*Ж*	*ж*	zh	31	һ	h	*һ*	*h*	h
11	З	з	*З*	*з*	z	32	Ц	ц	*Ц*	*ц*	ts
12	И	и	*И*	*и*	ī	33	Ч	ч	*Ч*	*ч*	ch
13	Й	й	*Й*	*й*	y	34	Ш	ш	*Ш*	*ш*	sh
14	К	к	*К*	*к*	k	35	Щ	щ	*Щ*	*щ*	shch
15	Қ	қ	*Қ*	*қ*	q	36	Ъ	ъ	*Ъ*	*ъ*	”
16	Л	л	*Л*	*л*	l	37	Ы	ы	*Ы*	*ы*	y
17	М	м	*М*	*м*	m	38	I	i	*I*	*i*	i
18	Н	н	*Н*	*н*	n	39	Ь	ь	*Ь*	*ь*	’
19	Ң	ң	*Ң*	*ң*	ng	40	Э	э	*Э*	*э*	ė
20	О	о	*О*	*о*	o	41	Ю	ю	*Ю*	*ю*	yu
21	Ө	ө	*Ө*	*ө*	ö	42	Я	я	*Я*	*я*	ya

NOTES

1. The character sequences гh, зh, кh, нг, ch, and цh may be romanized **g·h**, **z·h**, **k·h**, **n·g**, **s·h**, and **ts·h** in order to differentiate those romanizations from the digraphs **gh**, **zh**, **kh**, **ng**, **sh**, and the letter sequence **tsh**, which are used to render the characters г, ж, х, н, ш, and the character sequence тш.

2. The character ы may be romanized **ɨ** instead of **y**, if so desired.

This system is based on the modified 1959 Service Géographique Khmère (SGK) system. The BGN/PCGN system differs from the latter system in the following respects:

1. The characters Ŭ Ŭ ſ] ſ] are romanized **rŏ rœ lŏ lœ**, respectively.

2. The graphic cluster ſ] is romanized **hv**.

3. The "foot" ☐ is romanized **d** or **t**.

4. The graphic combinations ☐ î ☐ and ☐ ☐ are romanized **eă** when followed by **k**, **ng**, or **h**; otherwise, they are romanized **oă**.

5. The independent character ຂ໌ is romanized either **ŏ** or **ŭ**.

6. Diacritical marks and numerals have been added.

7. Notes, which are essential to the application of the system, have been provided.

While most Cambodian toponyms consist of Khmer lexical items, word division is not generally indicated, and Khmer diacritical marks are often omitted. Reference sources should be consulted in cases of uncertainty.

CONSONANT CHARACTERS AND CONSONANT FEET

The second consonant character of a Khmer graphic cluster is generally written below the base character in a special form called a "foot": ຂຳ → **khnâng**. In the consonant character columns in the table below, the small character shown beneath each base character represents the "foot" for that character.

	â series		ô series			â series		ô series	
1	ក	k	គ	k	5	ឈ	chh	ឈ	chh
2	ខ	kh	ឃ	kh	6			ញ	nh
3			ង	ng	7	ដ	d	ដ	d
4	ច	ch	ជ	ch	8	ថ	th	ធ	th

49

	â series		ô series		â series		ô series
9	ឋ th		ធ្ម th	16			យ y
10	ណ្ឌ n		ទ្ន n	17			រ r
11	ត្ត t		ទ្ត t	18	ឡ្យ l		ល្យ l
12	ប b, p[3]			19			វ v
13			ព p	20	ស s		
14	ផ្ម ph		ភ្ន ph	21	ហ្ម h		
15			ម្ម m	22	ឯ្ម '[4]		

The "feet" for the following base characters have been omitted from the table above in the interest of clarity:

Base Character	Foot	Romanization
យ	្ខ	kh
ឈ	្ឈ	chh
ញ	្ញ ្	nh
ឍ	្ឍ	th
ប	្ប	b
យ	្យ	y
រ	្រ	r
ស	្ស	s

There is no "foot" for the character ឡ្យ, which is romanized l. The "feet" ្ក and ្ឌ usually represent the characters ដ and ឌ, respectively, rather than ក and ប: ក្ដី → **kdei**, កន្ធាយ → **kânthéay**, but កន្ត្រប → **kântráb**. Consult a reference source in case of uncertainty. A "foot" determines the series of the following vocalic nucleus, unless it is either a nasal consonant character (ង ញ ណ ន ម → **ng nh n n m**) or one of the following consonant characters: យ រ ល វ ស → **y r l v s**. In that case, the base consonant character determines the vocalic series: ខ្ពង → **khpông**, ល្អ → **l'â**, ប្យ →

50

thmâ, ស្វាយ → svay. Syllable-final យ and i sometimes appear as "feet": ស្វាយ or ស្វា្យ → svay, ទាំង or ទ្យាំ → teăng. This practice appears to be optional, and such irregular Khmer spellings are not reflected as such in romanization.

<div align="center">VOWEL CHARACTERS</div>

The Roman-script vowel letters in the â series columns follow a romanized syllable-initial consonant letter or consonant letter plus "foot" (represented by □) of that series: ក → kâ, ក្រា → kra. The Roman-script vowel letters in the ô series columns follow a romanized syllable-initial □ of that series: គ → kô, គ្រា → kréa. Eight vowel characters are not differentiated as to series and may, therefore, follow a romanized syllable-initial □ of either series: កែ → kê, គែ → kê, ក្រែ → krê. A Khmer □ in syllable-final position, not accompanied by a vowel character or by ⌣ , should generally be romanized without a vowel letter following: កក → kâk, អង្គ → 'ângk (exception: ពង្រោ → pôngrô, also written ពង្រោរ → pôngrôr and ពង្រោះ → pôngrôh).

Independent Characters		Dependent Characters					
			Normal			Shortened	
			â series	ô series		â series	ô series
1			□ â	ô	◌̍		á	ó
2			□ា a	éa	◌ា◌ ◌◌		ă [5]	eă, oă [5]
3	ក ě		◌ ě	ĭ				
4	ឦ ei		◌ ei	i				
5			◌ ĕ	ĕ				
6			◌ œ	œ				
7	ឨ ŏ, ŭ [9]		◌ ŏ	ŭ				
8			◌ o	u				
9			◌ uŏ	uŏ				
10			ើ aeu	eu				
11			ឿ œă	œă				

51

	Independent Characters		Dependent Characters		
			Normal		
			â series		ô series
12			ើ	iĕ	iĕ
13			េ	é	é
14	ឯ	ê	ែ	ê	ê
15	ឰ	ai	ៃ	ai	ey
16	ឱ	aô	ោ	aô	oŭ
17	ឳ	au	ៅ	au	ŏu
18	ឳ	âu			
19	ឫ	rĕ			
20	ឬ	rœ			
21	ឭ	lĕ			
22	ឮ	lœ			

VOWEL CHARACTERS WITH ANUSVARA OR VISARGA

		â series	ô series			â series	ô series
1	ុំ	om	ŭm	5	ុះ	ŏh	ŭh
2	ំ	âm	um	6	េះ	éh	éh
3	ាំ	ăm	ŏâm	7	ោះ	aôh	ŏăh
4	ះ	ăh	eăh	8	ាំង	ăng	eăng

DIACRITICAL MARKS

1	៊	[2,3]	5	៉ [5]
2	៉	[2,3]	6	[6]
3	៌	[2,3]	7	[7]
4	៍	[2,3]	8	[8]

52

០	១	២	៣	៤	៥	៦	៧	៨	៩
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

NOTES

1. The symbol □ represents any Khmer consonant character or consonant character plus "foot." The symbol → means "is romanized."

2. The Khmer diacritical mark ៊ or ៉ written above □ of the â series, except ប and ហ, changes it to the ô series: ហ៊ាង → **héang**. (See note 3 below.) The diacritical mark ៉ written above ☐ of the ô series changes it to the â series: ញ៉ាង → **nhâng**. When either of these marks would conflict with another symbol written above a character, the mark ៊ or ៉ may be written in its place: ហ៊ី → **hi**, ដំរ៊ី → **dâmrei**. (These marks are frequently omitted in Khmer writing, particularly in words of Indic provenience.)

3. The combination ប plus ា is written បា → **ba**. The latter character is a graphic device designed to prevent confusion with ហា → **hâ**. The characters ប and បា with the diacritical mark ៉ are romanized as **p** in the â series, rather than as **b** in the ô series: ប៉ាង → **pâng**, ប៉ាតៅ → **patau**. The diacritical mark ៊ or ៉ is substituted where a conflict with another symbol written above a character would occur: ប៊ី → **pei**. The characters ប and បា when accompanied by a "foot" are also romanized as **p** in the â series, although the Khmer diacritical mark is generally omitted: ផ្លែង → **plêng**, ប្ប → **p'â**, ប្រាប់ → **prăb**.

4. The â series consonant character អ is romanized by means of an apostrophe ('): ក្អែក → **k'êk**, ចង្អៀត → **châng'iĕt**, រអិល → **rô'ĕl**, អ្វី → **'vei**. In word-initial position before a vowel letter, however, the apostrophe is optional: អាង → **'ang** or **ang**.

5. The Khmer diacritical mark ់ appears only in two combinations: □ ◌់ (examples: បត់ → **bát**, ខ្ពស់ → **khpós**) and □ា◌់. The diacritical mark ៌ appears only in the

53

combination □ □. In the â series, both □ា◌́ and ◌◌ are romanized ă: ប៊ាក៏ → chăk, ប៊ក៏ → chăk. In the ô series, both □ា◌́ and □□ are romanized eă when followed by k, ng, or h; otherwise, they are romanized oă: រោក៏ → rôpeăk, ម៉ាត់ → moăt, រ៉ាំង → veăngk, ភាៗ → phoăpv.

6. The combination ◌̃ is romanized rC, where C represents any romanized Khmer consonant character: ធម៌ → thôrm.

7. The diacritical mark ˝ in syllable-initial position should not be romanized: សុ៊ា → sâ, សាសស៊ → sâsâs. In syllable-final position, ◌̆ indicates that the consonant is voweled, i.e., followed by â in the â series or by ô in the ô series: តំណា → tâmnâ, ពម៌ → pômô.

8. The diacritical mark ˜, which appears above characters that are not pronounced, should not be romanized: បុណ្យ → bŏny, ពោធិ៍ →poŭthĭ, ភូមិ៍ →phumĭ.

9. The independent character ឧ is romanized either ŏ or ŭ. Consult a reference source in case of uncertainty.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR KIRGHIZ CYRILLIC
BGN/PCGN 1979 System

The BGN/PCGN system for Kirghiz Cyrillic was designed for use in romanizing names written in the Kirghiz Cyrillic alphabet. The Kirghiz Cyrillic alphabet contains three characters not present in the Russian alphabet: ҥ, ө, and ү.

	Kirghiz		Romanization			Kirghiz		Romanization
1	А а	*А а*	a	19	П п	*П п*	p
2	Б б	*Б б*	b	20	Р р	*Р р*	r
3	В в	*В в*	v	21	С с	*С с*	s
4	Г г	*Г г*	g	22	Т т	*Т т*	t
5	Д д	*Д д*	d	23	У у	*У у*	u
6	Е е	*Е е*	e	24	Ү ү	*Ү ү*	ü
7	Ё ё	*Ё ё*	yo	25	Ф ф	*Ф ф*	f
8	Ж ж	*Ж ж*	j	26	Х х	*Х х*	kh
9	З з	*З з*	z	27	Ц ц	*Ц ц*	ts
10	И и	*И и*	i	28	Ч ч	*Ч ч*	ch
11	Й й	*Й й*	y	29	Ш ш	*Ш ш*	sh
12	К к	*К к*	k	30	Щ щ	*Щ щ*	shch
13	Л л	*Л л*	l	31	Ъ ъ	*Ъ ъ*	”
14	М м	*М м*	m	32	Ы ы	*Ы ы*	y
15	Н н	*Н н*	n	33	Ь ь	*Ь ь*	’
16	Ҥ ҥ	*Ҥ ҥ*	ng	34	Э э	*Э э*	e
17	О о	*О о*	o	35	Ю ю	*Ю ю*	yu
18	Ө ө	*Ө ө*	ö	36	Я я	*Я я*	ya

1. The character sequence ɪɪr may be romanized **n·g** in order to differentiate that romanization from the digraph **ng**, which is used to render the character ɪɪ.

2. The character ʙɪ may be romanized **ɨ** instead of **y**, if so desired.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR KOREAN
McCune-Reischauer System
BGN/PCGN Agreement

This system was devised by G.M. McCune and E.O. Reischauer, and was originally published in the <u>Transactions</u> of the Korea Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, Volume XXIX, 1939. It has been used by the BGN since 1943, and was later adopted for use by the PCGN. A main characteristic of this system is the attempt to represent approximate Korean pronunciation, while systematically converting the Hangul characters to corresponding Roman-script letters. Since Korean pronunciation is often inconsistently represented in Hangul, the McCune-Reischauer conversion tables are rather elaborate, and reverse conversion (from Roman script back to Hangul) is not possible.

Although Sino-Korean characters continue in use in Korean writing, the language is presently written mainly in terms of the Hangul alphabet, formerly known as Onmun. This alphabet was devised in the fifteenth century and is unique in at least one respect, that is, the order in which the Hangul characters are customarily written in words. For instance, the Korean geographic name P'anmunjŏm is written as follows.

Hangul					Romanization

left to right   top to bottom

판   문   점   or   판   P' a
                                           n

P' a   m   j ŏ
  n   u   m
          n

문   m
      u   →   P'anmunjŏm
      n

점   j ŏ
        m

The Korean language comprises several quite disparate dialects, but Hangul spelling has become largely standardized in recent decades. A characteristic which renders the romanization process difficult, however, is the retention of historical and/or morphological identity in numerous words at the expense of consistent representation of the spoken word.

CONSONANT CHARACTERS

Hangul Romanization

Hangul	Beginning of word	End of word	Within a word (syllable-final)	Within a word (syllable-initial)
ㄱ	k	k	g, k, ng	g, k
ㄴ	n, not romanized	n	n, n', l	n, l
ㄷ	t, ch	t		d, t, ch, j
ㄹ	n, not romanized	l	r, l	r, n, l
ㅁ	m	m	m	m
ㅂ	p	p	b, p, m	b, p
ㅅ	s, sh	t	d, t, k, n, p, s, not romanized	s, sh
ㅇ[1]	not romanized	ng	ng	not romanized
ㅈ	ch	t		j, ch
ㅊ	ch'	t		ch'
ㅋ	k'	k		k'
ㅌ	t', ch'	t		t'
ㅍ	p'	p		p'
ㅎ	h			h
ㄲ ㅅㄱ	kk			kk, k
ㄸ ㅅㄷ	tt			tt, t
ㅃ ㅅㅂ	pp			pp, p
ㅆ	ss			ss, s
ㅉ ㅅㅈ	tch			tch
ㄺ		k		k
ㄼ		p		p

VOWEL CHARACTERS

Hangul Romanization

Hangul	Romanization
ㅏ	a
ㅑ	ya, a
ㅓ	ŏ
ㅕ	yŏ, ŏ
ㅗ	o
ㅛ	yo, o
ㅜ	u
ㅠ	yu, u
ㅡ	ŭ
ㅣ	i
ㅐ	ae
ㅒ	yae
ㅔ	e
ㅖ	ye, e
ㅚ	oe
ㅟ	wi
ㅢ	ŭi, i
ㅘ	wa
ㅝ	wŏ
ㅙ	wae
ㅞ	we

Each romanization shown in the following table represents the combination of a Korean consonant character (shown in the left-hand column) plus a Korean vowel character (shown in the top row) occurring in a particular graphic environment. A romanization preceding a vertical stroke is to be used at the beginning of non-initial syllables. A romanization for which no alternate forms are shown is to be used in both environments.

	ㅑ	ㅕ	ㅛ	ㅠ	ㅣ	ㅖ	기	ㅢ	ㅟ	ㅖ
ㄱ								ki | ki / gi		
ㄴ	ya | nya / lya	yŏ | nyŏ / lyŏ	yo | nyo / lyo	yu | nyu / lyu	i | ni / li	ye | nye / lye		ni | ni / li		
ㄷ	cha | cha / ja	chŏ | chŏ / jŏ	cho | cho / jo	chu | chu / ju	chi | chi / ji	che | che / je		ti | ti / di		
ㄹ	ya | rya / nya / lya	yŏ | ryŏ / nyŏ / lyŏ	yo | ryo / nyo / lyo	yu | ryu / nyu / lyu	i | ri / ni / li	ye | rye / nye / lye		ni | ri / ni / li		
ㅁ							mi	mi		
ㅂ							pi | pi / bi	pi | pi / bi		
ㅅ	sa	sŏ	so	su	si	se	shwi	sŭ si	shwi	
ㅈ	cha | cha / ja	chŏ | chŏ / jŏ	cho | cho / jo	chu | chu / ju		che | che / je		chi | chi / ji		
ㅊ	ch'a	ch'ŏ	ch'o	ch'u		ch'e		ch'i	ch'wi	ch'we
ㅋ								k'i		
ㅌ	ch'a	ch'ŏ	ch'o	ch'u	ch'i	ch'e		t'i		
ㅍ							p'i	p'i		

Plus (+) represents any Hangul vocalic character. The consonants and consonant combinations shown in the table below should be understood as being preceded and followed by any romanized Hangul vowel character. Hangul characters ending syllables are listed in the left-hand column; Hangul characters starting succeeding syllables are listed in the top row. Thus a syllable ending in + ㄱ (left-hand column) followed by a syllable beginning with ㄹ + (top row) will read **ngn**; a syllable ending in + ㄴ followed by a syllable beginning with ㅊ+ will read **nch'**. Small raised numerals refer the user to notes on page 61.

	ㄱ+	ㄴ+	ㄷ+	ㄹ+	ㅁ+	ㅂ+	ㅅ+	ㅇ+ [1]	ㅈ+	ㅊ+	ㅋ+	ㅌ+	ㅍ+	ㅎ+	ㄲ+	ㄸ+	ㅃ+	ㅆ+	ㅉ+
+ㄱ	kk	ngn	kt kch	ngn	ngm	kp	ks ksh	g	kch	kch'	kk'	kt' kch'	kp'	kh	kk	ktt	kpp	kss	kch
+ㄴ	n'g	nn	nd nj	ll	nm	nb	ns nsh	n	nj	nch'	nk'	nt' nch'	np'	nh	nkk	ntt	npp	nss	ntch
+ㄹ	lg	ll	lt lch	ll	lm	lb	ls lsh	r	lch	lch'	lk'	lt' lch'	lp'	rh	lkk	ltt	lpp	lss	ltch
+ㅁ	mg	mn	md mj	mn	mm	mb	ms msh	m	mj	mch'	mk'	mt' mch'	mp'	mh	mkk	mtt	mpp	mss	mtch
+ㅂ	pk	mn	pt pch	mn	mm	pp	ps psh	b	pch	pch'	pk'	pt' pch'	pp'	ph	pkk	ptt	pp	pss	ptch
+ㅅ	kk	nn	tt tch	nn	nm	pp	ss ssh	d	tch	tch'	tk'	tt' tch'	tp'	th	tkk	tt	tpp	ss	tch
+ㅇ	ngg	ngn	ngd ngj	ngn	ngm	ngb	ngs ngsh	ng	ngj	ngch'	ngk'	ngt' ngch'	ngp'	ngh	ngkk	ngtt	ngpp	ngss	ngtch
+ㅎ [2]	g	n	d j	r	m	b	s ssh	[2]	j	ch'	k'	t' ch'	p'	h	kk	tt	pp	ss	tch
+ㄹㄱ	lg	ngn	kt kch	ngl	ngm	kp	ks ksh	lg	kch	kch'	lk'	kt' kch'	kp'	lkh	lkk	ktt	kpp	kss	ktch
+ㄹㅁ	mg	mn	md mj	ml	lm	mb	ms msh	lm	mj	mch'	mk'	mt' mch'	mp'	mh	mkk	mtt	mpp	mss	mtch
+ㄹㅂ	pk	mn	pt pch	ml	mm	lb	ps psh	lb	pch	pch'	pk'	pt' pch'	lp'	lph	pkk	ptt	lpp	pss	ptch

1. At the end of a syllable, the character ㅇ should be romanized **ng**: 동 → **tong**, 장항 → **Changhang**. At the beginning of a syllable, ㅇ should not be romanized: 안양 → **Anyang**, 여수 → **Yŏsu**.

2. Syllable boundaries within words are not reflected in romanization. In the different types of syllables shown below, C represents any consonant character, V represents any vowel character, and / represents a syllable boundary.

   CVC/CVC: 일영 → **Iryŏng**   CV/CVC: 여량 → **Yŏryang**

   CVCC/CV: 옮아가다 → **Olmagada**   CVC/CVC: 알맹이 → **Almaengi**

3. A sound change occurring anywhere within a word or geographic name should be reflected in the resulting romanized form.

   오곡도 → **Ogok-to** or **Ogok To**, but

   소운도 → **Soun-do** or **Soun Do**

   대성령 → **Taesŏng-nyŏng** or **Taesŏng Nyŏng**, but

   딕우대령 → **Tŏgudae-ryŏng** or **Tŏgudae Ryŏng** and

   워견령 → **Wŏgyŏl-lyŏng** or **Wŏgyŏl Lyŏng**

4. Although the traditional Sino-Korean numerals (一, 二, 三, 四, 五, 六, 七, 八, 九, 十) are still encountered, the Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 0) are much more commonly used.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR LAO
BGN/PCGN 1966 System

This system is based on the Lao Commission Nationale de Toponymie (CNT) system, to which a complete vowel table and supplementary notes have been added. Its application to date has been limited, because of a paucity of geographic names source materials in Lao script.

CONSONANT CHARACTERS

	Lao	Romanization		
		when accompanied by a vowel character	when not accompanied by a vowel character	
		syllable-initial	syllable-final	full syllable within a word
1	ກ	k	k	
2	ຂ	kh		kkha
3	ຄ	kh		kkha
4	ງ	ng	ng	
5	ຈ	ch		tcha
6	ສ	s		tsa
7	ຊ	x		tsa
8	ຍຽ	gn	y	(See row 10 of vowel table and note 7.)
9	ດ	d	t	
10	ຕ	t		tta
11	ຖ	th		ttha
12	ທ	th		ttha
13	ນ	n	n	
14	ບ	b	p	

	Lao	Romanization		
		when accompanied by a vowel character		when not accompanied by a vowel character
		syllable-initial	syllable-final	full syllable within a word
15	ປ	p		ppa
16	ຜ	ph		
17	ຝ	f		
18	ພ	ph		ppha
19	ຟ	f		pfa
20	ມ	m	m	
21	ຍ	y		
22	ຣ [5,6] ຣ [8]	r	r [8]	
23	ລ [5,6] ◌ ຼ	l		
24	ວ	v, o [6]	o, iou, oua	(See row 9 of vowel table and note 6.)
25	ຫ [5]	h		
26	ອ	not romanized [4]		
27	ຮ	h		

VOWEL CHARACTERS
(See notes 1, 4, and 6.)

	Lao				Romanization
	short final	short medial (followed by any syllable-final consonant character)	long final	long medial (followed by any syllable-final consonant character)	
1	◌ະ	◌ັ	◌າ	◌າ	a [6]
2	◌ິ	◌ິ	◌ີ	◌ີ	i
3	◌ຶ	◌ຶ	◌ື	◌ື	u
4	◌ຸ	◌ຸ	◌ູ	◌ູ	ou
5	ເ◌ະ	ເ◌ັ	ເ◌	ເ◌	é
6	ແ◌ະ	ແ◌ັ	ແ◌	ແ◌	è
7	ໂ◌ະ	◌ົ	ໂ◌	ໂ◌	ô
8	ເ◌າະ	◌ັອ	◌ໍ	◌ອ	o
9	◌ົວະ	◌ົວ	◌ົວ	◌ວ	oua [6]
10	ເ◌ັຽະ	◌ັຽ	ເ◌ັຽ	◌ຽ	ia
11	ເ◌ິອະ	ເ◌ຶອ	ເ◌ືອ	ເ◌ືອ	ua
12	ເ◌ິະ	ເ◌ຶ	ເ◌ື	ເ◌ື	eu
13	ໄ◌		ໃ◌		ai
14	ເ◌ົາ				ao
15	◌ຳ				am

TONE MARKS

◌່   ◌້   ◌໊   ◌໌   (See note 3.)

REDUPLICATING MARK

ໆ   (See note 10.)

1. The symbol □ represents any Lao consonant character.

2. Several rare or obsolete characters, such as those romanized **s**, **t**, **tsa**, and **l**, were omitted from the tables. Also omitted were a few character combinations, such as those romanized **th-n** and **th-m**.

3. Tone marks should not be romanized. For example, ມາ, ມ່າ, ມ້າ, ມ໊າ, and ມ໋າ should all be romanized **na**.

4. At the beginning of a word, ອ should not be romanized: ອິກ → **ik**. At the beginning of a syllable within a word, ອ should be romanized by a hyphen: ຂະເອມ → **xa-ém**, ບ້ານແກ້ງອິ → **Ban Kèng-I**. Note that in geographic names, the letter immediately following the hyphen should be capitalized. (See also the vowel table, rows 8 and 11.)

5. At the beginning of a syllable, the character ຫ unaccompanied by a vowel or tone mark and occurring immediately before ຍ **gn**, ນ **n**, ມ **m**, ຣ **r**, ລ **l**, or ວ **v** should generally not be romanized: ຫລວງພຣະບາງ → **Louangphrabang**, ຫຍ້າ → **gna**, ແຫນ → **nè** (but compare ແຫນ → **hèn**). Note that the character combinations ຫນ, ຫມ, and ຫລ are often written in abbreviated form: ໜ **n**, ໝ **m**, and ຫຼ **l**, respectively. In case of uncertainty as to pronunciation or syllable division, a reference source should be consulted.

6. The character ວ at the beginning of a syllable should be romanized **v**: ວັດ → **vat**, ທັນວາ → **thanva**. As the second character of a combination, ວ should be romanized **o**. A consonant combination at the beginning of a syllable in which the second character is ຣ **r**, ລ **l**, or ວ **o** should be romanized character by character, even where the second character ຣ or ລ may represent no pronounced sound:

ບ້ານວັດພຣະໄຊ → **Ban Vatphraxai**, ຊຼິສຕຽນ → **Khlitsatian**, ສວາຍ → **soay**, ແຂວງ → **khoèng**. In case of uncertainty, a reference source should be consulted. A vowel which is not represented in Lao writing occasionally occurs in the pronunciation of certain words. The presence of that vowel should be indicated in romanization by insertion of the letter **a**: ສວັນນະເຂດ → **Savannakhét** (also written ສະຫວັນນະເຂດ → **Savannakhét**, but compare ຂວາ → **Xoa**), ຂວາວ → **khavao** (but compare ຂວານ → **khoan**), ຕລິງ → **taling**, ຖນົນ → **thanôn**. The two words ສວ່ານ and ສະວານ are both romanized **savan**. A reference source should be consulted in case of uncertainty.

The character ວ at the end of a syllable should be romanized in the following manner. The syllables ◌ິວ and ◌ີວ should be romanized **iou**: ຄິວ → **khiou**, ຕິວ → **tiou**. The syllable ◌ົວ (vowel table, row 9) should be romanized **oua**: ຈົວ → **choua**. Otherwise, at the end of a syllable, ວ should be romanized **o**: ນາວ → **nao**, ແກວ → **kèo**, ດຽວ → **diao**.

7. The character ຽ occurs only at the end of a syllable and as shown in the vowel table, row 10.

8. The character combination ຣ໌ occurs at the end of a syllable in only a few words of foreign origin and should be romanized **r**: ເບີຣ໌ → **beur**.

9. The specific element in a geographic name should be written in Roman script as a single word, no matter how many meaningful elements it may contain. The generic term and a few other distinguishing words that modify the specific element should be separated by a space: ຫວຍປະລອງ → **Houay Pralong**, ບ້ານແກ້ງທມາວໍ້ → **Ban Kèngmavo**, ເມືອງອູເໜືອ → **Muang Ou Nua**, ເມືອງອູໄຕ → **Muang Ou Tai**, ບາຈຽງຈະເລີນສຸກ → **Bachiangchaleunsouk**.

10. The reduplicating mark ໆ indicates the repetition of a syllable: ແຊວໆ → **xèoxèo**.

67

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR MACEDONIAN
BGN/PCGN 1981 System

Macedonian was officially established as a literary language in Yugoslavia during World War II and is now the official language of Macedonia. Its alphabet is identical to Serbocroatian Cyrillic, except that the characters ђ and ħ are replaced by ѓ and ќ, respectively, and the character ѕ and the apostrophe are added.

	Macedonian				Romanization		Macedonian				Romanization
1	А	а	*А*	*а*	a	17	Н	н	*Н*	*н*	n
2	Б	б	*Б*	*б*	b	18	Њ	њ	*Њ*	*њ*	nj
3	В	в	*В*	*в*	v	19	О	о	*О*	*о*	o
4	Г	г	*Г*	*г*	g	20	П	п	*П*	*п*	p
5	Д	д	*Д*	*д*	d	21	Р	р	*Р*	*р*	r
6	Ѓ	ѓ	*Ѓ*	*ѓ*	g, đ [1]	22	С	с	*С*	*с*	s
7	Е	е	*Е*	*е*	e	23	Т	т	*Т*	*т*	t
8	Ж	ж	*Ж*	*ж*	ž	24	Ќ	ќ	*Ќ*	*ќ*	k, ć [2]
9	З	з	*З*	*з*	z	25	У	у	*У*	*у*	u
10	Ѕ	ѕ	*Ѕ*	*ѕ*	dz	26	Ф	ф	*Ф*	*ф*	f
11	И	и	*И*	*и*	i	27	Х	х	*Х*	*х*	h
12	Ј	ј	*Ј*	*ј*	j	28	Ц	ц	*Ц*	*ц*	c
13	К	к	*К*	*к*	k	29	Ч	ч	*Ч*	*ч*	č
14	Л	л	*Л*	*л*	l	30	Џ	џ	*Џ*	*џ*	dž
15	Љ	љ	*Љ*	*љ*	lj	31	Ш	ш	*Ш*	*ш*	š
16	М	м	*М*	*м*	m	32	'	'	'	'	'

NOTES

1. The character ŕ should be romanized **g** when it occurs before e and и. In all other instances, it should be romanized **đ** (**Đ**).

2. The character ќ should be romanized **k** when it occurs before e and и. In all other instances, it should be romanized ć.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR MALDIVIAN
BGN/PCGN 1988 System

This romanization system supersedes the one which was approved by the BGN and the PCGN in 1972. This official system was submitted to the PCGN by the Maldivian government in 1987. Its application to date has been limited because of the paucity of geographic names source materials in Maldivian script.

	CONSONANT CHARACTERS				VOWEL CHARACTERS	
	Maldivian	Romanization		Maldivian	Romanization	Maldivian	Romanization

#	Maldivian	Romanization	#	Maldivian	Romanization	#	Maldivian	Romanization
1	⌐	h	13	ˢ	th	1	◻	a
2		sh	14		l	2	◻	aa
3		n	15		g	3	◻	e
4		r	16		gn	4	◻	ey
5		b	17		s	5	◻	i
6		lh	18		d	6	◻	ee
7		k	19		z	7	◻	o
8		(See note 3.)	20		t	8	◻	oa
9		v	21		y	9	◻	u
10		m	22		p	10	◻	oo
11		f	23		j			
12		dh	24		ch			

DIACRITICAL MARK

Maldivian	Romanization
◻	not romanized

NOTES

1. Maldivian is read from right to left.

2. The symbol ◻ represents any Maldivian consonant character.

3. The character ⌐ is not romanized. If it bears a vowel character, that vowel character alone is romanized. If it does not bear a vowel character, the romanized value of the following consonant character is doubled.

71

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR MONGOLIAN CYRILLIC
BGN/PCGN 1964 System

The BGN/PCGN system for Mongolian Cyrillic was adopted by the PCGN in 1957 and by the BGN in 1964 for use in romanizing names written in the Mongolian Cyrillic alphabet. The Mongolian Cyrillic alphabet contains two characters not present in the Russian alphabet: ө, and ү. Names written in the indigenous Mongolian alphabet, which is still utilized in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region of China, are not romanized by BGN and PCGN. Instead, for such names, BGN and PCGN utilize the Roman-script spellings appearing in official sources published by the People's Republic of China.

	Mongolian				Romanization		Mongolian				Romanization
1	А	а	*А*	*а*	a	19	Р	р	*Р*	*р*	r
2	Б	б	*Б*	*б*	b [1]	20	С	с	*С*	*с*	s
3	В	в	*В*	*в*	v [2]	21	Т	т	*Т*	*т*	t
4	Г	г	*Г*	*г*	g	22	У	у	*У*	*у*	u
5	Д	д	*Д*	*д*	d	23	Ү	ү	*Ү*	*ү*	ü
6	Е	е	*Е*	*е*	yö	24	Ф	ф	*Ф*	*ф*	f [4]
7	Ё	ё	*Ё*	*ё*	yo	25	Х	х	*Х*	*х*	h
8	Ж	ж	*Ж*	*ж*	j	26	Ц	ц	*Ц*	*ц*	ts
9	З	з	*З*	*з*	dz	27	Ч	ч	*Ч*	*ч*	ch
10	И	и	*И*	*и*	i	28	Ш	ш	*Ш*	*ш*	sh
11	Й	й	*Й*	*й*	y [3]	29	Щ	щ	*Щ*	*щ*	shch [4]
12	К	к	*К*	*к*	k [4]	30	Ъ	ъ	*Ъ*	*ъ*	' [5]
13	Л	л	*Л*	*л*	l	31	Ы	ы	*Ы*	*ы*	ï [6]
14	М	м	*М*	*м*	m	32	Ь	ь	*Ь*	*ь*	ĭ
15	Н	н	*Н*	*н*	n	33	Э	э	*Э*	*э*	e
16	О	о	*О*	*о*	o	34	Ю	ю	*Ю*	*ю*	yu or yü [7]
17	Ө	ө	*Ө*	*ө*	ö	35	Я	я	*Я*	*я*	ya
18	П	п	*П*	*п*	p [4]						

1. The character б occurs initially and after л, м, and б.

2. The character в occurs medially in Mongolian words and initially in foreign words.

3. The character й occurs only as the second element of diphthongs.

4. The characters к, п, ф, and щ occur only in foreign words.

5. The character ъ occurs only in Russian words.

6. The character ы occurs only in suffixes to words containing the vowel character a, o, or y.

7. In monosyllables, the character ю is romanized **yu** or **yü** depending on pronunciation; in polysyllables, it is romanized **yu** when followed by **a**, **o**, or **u**, but **yü** when followed by **i**, **e**, **ö**, or **ü**.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR NEPALI
BGN/PCGN 1964 System

The BGN and the PCGN jointly adopted the following system in 1964 for use in romanizing Nepali names for which Roman-script spellings are not available in materials produced by the Survey of India or by the government of Nepal.

CONSONANT CHARACTERS

	Nepali	Romanization			Nepali	Romanization	
1	क	k	ka	18	द	d	da
2	ख	kh	kha	19	ध	dh	dha
3	ग	g	ga	20	न	n	na
4	घ	gh	gha	21	प	p	pa
5	ङ	ng	nga	22	फ	ph	pha
6	च	ch	cha	23	ब	b	ba
7	छ	chh	chha	24	भ	bh	bha
8	ज	j	ja	25	म	m	ma
9	झ (भ्र)	jh	jha	26	य	y	ya
10	त्र	ñ	ña	27	र	r	ra
11	ट	ṭ	ṭa	28	ल	l	la
12	ठ	ṭh	ṭha	29	व	w	wa
13	ड²	ḍ	ḍa	30	श	ś	śa
14	ढ²	ḍh	ḍha	31	ष	ṣ	ṣa
15	ण (ग)	ṇ	ṇa	32	स	s	sa
16	त	t	ta	33	ह	h	ha
17	थ	th	tha				

VOWEL CHARACTERS

	Nepali		Romanization
	Initial	Medial	
1	ऋ (अ)		a
2	ऋा (आ)	ा	ā
3	इ	ि	i
4	ई	ी	ī
5	उ	ु	u
6	ऊ	ू	ū
7	ऋ	ृ	ri (ir in word-medial position)
8	ॠ	ॄ	rī (īr in word-medial position)
9	ए	े	e
10	ऐ	ै	ai
11	ऋो (ओ)	ो	o
12	ऋौ (औ)	ौ	au

OTHER SYMBOLS

▢ : is rendered ḥ.

▢̆ and ▢̇ are rendered by ṅ after the vowel letter(s) affected.

▢̊ is rendered by r at the end of the preceding syllable.

▢ indicates absence of the inherent short [a] vowel. This symbol, called the *halanta*, is not normally written in Nepali except in the verb system and in the case of unabbreviated first elements in conjuncts. Knowledge of the pronunciation of Nepali names is necessary for the proper treatment of the inherent short [a] vowel.

76

NUMERALS

०	१	२	३	४	५	६	७	८	९
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

NOTES

1. Only the isolated forms of the characters are given in the consonant table. See any grammar of Nepali (or other language using the Devanagari alphabet) for variant forms used in conjunct characters.

2. These two consonant characters appear sometimes to represent $\underset{.}{r}$ (cerebral r), e.g., पहाड → pahā$\underset{.}{r}$ instead of pahāḍ. At one time they were written with dots below, i.e., as ड़ and ढ़, though this is no longer normal practice in Nepali. The romanizations $\underset{.}{r}$ and $\underset{.}{r}$h, respectively, are optional for documentary purposes if such dots appear in Nepali writing.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR PASHTO
BGN/PCGN 1968 System

This system was adopted in 1968 for the romanization of Pashto geographic names in Afghanistan. Persian names in Afghanistan are romanized in accordance with the Romanization System for Persian (BGN/PCGN 1958 System), shown on pages 87-92.

The Pashto alphabet utilizes Arabic script and displays the same characters as the Persian alphabet with the addition of seven consonant characters and one vowel character. Since both Pashto and Persian are official languages in Afghanistan, the same conversion values are used for all consonant characters which are common to the two languages. The seven additional Pashto consonant characters (shown below) are represented by Roman-script conversion values which suggest approximate pronunciations and which, in six instances, bear submacrons.

<div dir="rtl">ن ر پ ه رب ر پ خ خ ت</div>

The Pashto system of vowel pointing resembles that of both Arabic and Persian but contains additional features found in neither language. As in other Arabic-script writing systems, the vowel points and some of the diacritical marks are generally omitted from both manual and machine writing and where used are not always consistent from text to text. Consequently, correct identification of the words which appear in any particular name and knowledge of their standard Pashto spelling, including proper voweling, are essential. It is also necessary to insure elimination of dialectal and idiosyncratic variations..

CONSONANT CHARACTERS

	Pashto				Romanization	Examples and Remarks
	Final	Medial	Initial	Inde-pendent		
1	ﺎ			ا	not romanized in word-initial position	(See note 1.)
2	ـب	ـبـ	بـ	ب	b	بوهره Bowhara
3	ـپ	ـپـ	پـ	پ	p	پوتکی Pow<u>t</u>akay
4	ـت	ـتـ	تـ	ت	t	تنگی Tangay
5	ـټ	ـټـ	ټـ	ټ	<u>t</u>	تولی کلی <u>T</u>owlay Kêlay

79

	Pashto				Romanization	Examples and Remarks
	Final	Medial	Initial	Inde-pendent		
6	ـث	ـثـ	ثـ	ث	s̄	ثابر Ṣābir
7	ـج	ـجـ	جـ	ج	j	جلېی Jalêy
8	ـچ	ـچـ	چـ	چ	ch	چمبر Chambar
9	ـڅ	ـڅـ	څـ	څ	ts	څکی غر Tsakay Ghar (See note 2.)
10	ـځ	ـځـ	ځـ	ځ	dz	ځای کلا Dzāy Kalā (See notes 2 and 3.)
11	ـح	ـحـ	حـ	ح	ḥ	حیدر خونې Ḥeydar Khūnē
12	ـخ	ـخـ	خـ	خ	kh	خټ کندېی Khut Kandêy
13	ـد			د	d	د تنگې کاربز De Tāngē Kārēz
14	ـډ			ډ	ḏ	ډرانگ Ḏrāng
15	ـذ			ذ	z̄	ذواکې غر Z̄êwākē Ghar
16	ـر			ر	r	رضوان Riẕwān
17	ـړ			ړ	r̲	ړنگان R̲angān
18	ـز			ز	z	زواکه Zwākah
19	ـژ			ژ	zh	ژوره کنده Zhawarah Kandah
20	ـږ			ږ	zh	ږیرین Ẕhiyarayn

80

	Pashto				Romanization	Examples and Remarks	
	Final	Medial	Initial	Inde-pendent			
21	ـس	ـسـ	سـ	س	s	سپینه	Sêpīnah
22	ـش	ـشـ	شـ	ش	sh	شنه وړی	Shnah Wuṟay
23	ـبنس	ـبنـ	بنـ	بن	s̲h̲	بنکته چکاو	S̲h̲kattah Chakāw
24	ـص	ـصـ	صـ	ص	ṣ	صفدر کلی	Ṣafdar Kalay
25	ـض	ـضـ	ضـ	ض	z̲	ضامن کلا	Z̲āmin Kalā
26	ـط	ـطـ	طـ	ط	ṭ	طویل کلا	Ṭawīl Kalā
27	ـظ	ـظـ	ظـ	ظ	ẓ	ظاهر کلا	Ẓāhir Kalā
28	ـع	ـعـ	عـ	ع	'	عمر خان	'Umar Khān
29	ـغ	ـغـ	غـ	غ	gh	غوی	Ghway
30	ـف	ـفـ	فـ	ف	f	فاضل کلا	Fāz̲il Kalā
31	ـق	ـقـ	قـ	ق	q	قندهار	Qandahār
32	ـگ	ـکـ	کـ	گ	k	کناتی	Kunātay
33	ـگ	ـگـ	گـ	گ	g	گروال	Garwāl (See note 4.)
	ـگ	ـگـ	گـ	گ			
34	ـل	ـلـ	لـ	ل	l	للمو لگد	Lalmow Lgad
35	ـم	ـمـ	مـ	م	m	مردان زائی	Mardān Zā'ī
36	ـن	ـنـ	نـ	ن	n	نغر	Nghar
37	ـڼ	ـڼـ	ڼـ	ڼ	n̲	توکنڼی	Towkan̲ay

81

	Pashto				Romanization	Examples and Remarks	
	Final	Medial	Initial	Inde-pendent			
38	ـو			و	w	ودـک	Waḏuk
39	ـه	ـهـ	هـ	ه	h	هودکی	Hawdakay
40	ـى	ـيـ	يـ	ى	y	يخناز	Yakhnāz
	ـي	ـيـ	يـ	ي	y		

VOWEL CHARACTERS AND DIACRITICAL MARKS

	Pashto	Romanization	Examples and Remarks	
1	ٰ◻	a	زور	Zawar
2	اَ◻	ā	خاډل	Khāḏal
			دوا	Dawā
3	◻ِ	i	دوال گی	Diwāl Gay
4	◻ِى	ī	ميلى	Mīlī
5	◻ِي	ī	مندي سار	Mandī Sār
6	◻ُىْ	ay	سيدان	Sayyidān
7	◻ِىْ	ey	ميدان	Meydān
8	ئى	ey	کوئ	Kawey
9	ي؞	ē	ترکي کلاچه	Tarakē Kalāchah
10	◻ِو	ew	الژگرو	Alizhgrew
11	◻ٗ	ê	ذواکي؞	Ẕêwākē

82

	Pashto	Romanization	Examples and Remarks
12	ـّى	êy	ملـخى غنډى Malikhêy Ghun<u>d</u>êy
13	ُ◻	u	خمبر Khumbur
14	◻ُو	ū	زور کلى Zū<u>r</u> Kilay
15	◻ُوْ	ow	غوزي Ghowzī
16	◻ُوى	ūy	اندوى Andūy
17	آ	ā	آداگي دښته Ādāgī Da<u>sh</u>tah
18	◻ء◻	ʼ	هوائى ډگر Hawāʼī <u>D</u>agar (See note 6.)
19	◻ّ	doubling of consonant letter	سيد Sayyid (See note 11.)

NUMERALS

٠	١	٢	٣	٤	٥	٦	٧	٨	٩
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Although Perso-Arabic script is written from right to left, numerical expressions, e.g., ١٩٦٨ → **1968**, are written from left to right.

NOTES

1. *Alip* (ا) should be romanized as follows:

   a. In word-initial position, *alip* should not be romanized.

   b. In word-initial position, *alip* with *maddah* (آ) should be romanized ā. (See the vowel table.)

   c. In word-medial and word-final position, *alip* should be romanized ā. (See the vowel table.)

d. In word-medial and word-final position in words of Arabic origin, *alip* may serve as a bearer of *hamzah*, e.g., رَأْس → **ra's**. (See note 6.)

2. The characters *tsē* (ڎ) and *dzē* (ځ) may be romanized **t͡s** and **d͡z** when for special reasons it is desired that confusion be avoided between ت plus س and between د plus ز , respectively.

3. The character *dzē* (ځ) is sometimes written څ .

4. The character *gāp* (ګ) is sometimes written ګ .

5. Occasionally the character sequences کهـ , زهـ , سهـ , and گهـ occur. They may be romanized **k·h**, **z·h**, **s·h**, and **g·h** in order to differentiate those romanizations from the digraphs **kh**, **zh**, **sh**, and **gh**, which are used to represent the characters خ , ژ , ش , and غ .

6. *Hamzah* (ء) should be romanized as follows:

   a. In word-initial position, it should not be romanized. In all other positions, however, it should be romanized by an apostrophe, e.g., جزء → **juz'**.

   b. *Ye* with *hamzah* (ئ) should be romanized **ey**.

7. The division of words utilized in Pashto writing is followed in romanization, except that the elements **ābād** and **ollāh** are always romanized as part of the preceding word, e.g., **Raḥmatābād** and **'Abdollāh**. Also, Persian derivational endings such as **vand** and endings of Turkish origin such as **lar**, **lī**, and **lū** should be written together with the preceding word.

8. The Pashto article بٜ should be romanized **de**, in agreement with its pronunciation, despite the fact that it is pointed with *zīr*.

9. The word اللّٰه , meaning God, should always be romanized **allāh**, except as specified in note 7.

10. In names of Arabic origin, the l of the definite article **al** is assimilated before the "sun letters" **t, s̄, d, z̄, r, z, s, sh, ṣ, ẓ, ṭ, ẓ,** and **n**. In romanization, the article should be separated from the name it precedes and should not be capitalized except at the beginning of a name, e.g., دار السلام **Dār as Salām**.

11. In names of Arabic origin, a consonant character which would ordinarily be written with a *shaddah* (ّ) in Arabic should be romanized by writing the equivalent consonant letter twice, e.g., محمد → **Muḥammad**.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR PERSIAN
BGN/PCGN 1958 System

This system was adopted by the BGN in 1946 and by the PCGN in 1958. It is used for the romanization of geographic names in Iran and for Persian-language names in Afghanistan. In Afghanistan, where the Persian language is officially referred to as Dari, the consonant character و has the sound value [w] instead of [v] and the word-final combination ه‌◻ is pronounced [a] instead of [e].

The Persian alphabet utilizes Arabic script and displays the same characters as the Arabic alphabet with the addition of four consonant characters (پ چ ژ گ). The same Roman-script conversion values are used for the Persian alphabet as for the Arabic alphabet, wherever the phonological characteristics of the two languages are sufficiently similar. (See Romanization System for Arabic, BGN/PCGN 1956 System, pp. 5-9.) Where characters common to Arabic and Persian writing have significantly different pronunciations in the two languages, Roman-script conversion values reflecting Persian pronunciation are provided in this system.

The Persian system of vowel pointing resembles that of Arabic, but contains features not found there. As in other Arabic-script writing systems, the vowel points and diacritical marks are generally omitted from both manual and machine writing. It follows that correct identification of the words which appear in any particular name, knowledge of its standard Persian spelling including proper pointing, and elimination of dialectal and idiosyncratic deviations, must be diligently sought.

CONSONANT CHARACTERS

	Persian				Romanization	Examples and Remarks	
	Final	Medial	Initial	Independent			
1	ا			ا	not romanized in word-initial position	اصفهان	Eşfahān [2,5]
2	ـب	ـبـ	بـ	ب	b	بروجرد	Borūjerd
3	ـپ	ـپـ	پـ	پ	p	پتك	Patak
4	ـت	ـتـ	تـ	ت	t	تهران	Tehrān
5	ـث	ـثـ	ثـ	ث	s̄	ثوامر	S̄avāmer
6	ـج	ـجـ	جـ	ج	j	جهان آباد	Jahānābād
7	ـچ	ـچـ	چـ	چ	ch	چنار	Chenār
8	ـح	ـحـ	حـ	ح	ḥ	حسينيه	Ḥoseynīyeh [3]

87

	Persian			Romanization	Examples and Remarks
	Final	Medial	Initial	Independent		

	Final	Medial	Initial	Independent	Romanization	Examples and Remarks
9	خ	ـخـ	خـ	خ	kh	خوزستان Khūzestān [4]
10	ـد			د	d	دزفول Dezfūl
11	ـذ			ذ	ẕ	ذالياب Ẕālyāb
12	ـر			ر	r	رشت Rasht
13	ـز			ز	z	زيبا Zībā [4]
14	ـژ			ژ	zh	ژان Zhān [4]
15	ـس	ـسـ	سـ	س	s	سرتنگ Sartang [4]
16	ـش	ـشـ	شـ	ش	sh	شيراز Shīrāz [4]
17	ـص	ـصـ	صـ	ص	ş	صفحه Şafḥeh [3]
18	ـض	ـضـ	ضـ	ض	ż	ضياء آباد Żīā'ābād
19	ـط	ـطـ	طـ	ط	ṭ	طاق Ṭāq [3]
20	ـظ	ـظـ	ظـ	ظ	ẓ	ظلم آباد Ẓolmābād [3]
21	ـع	ـعـ	عـ	ع	'	عزيز آباد 'Azīzābād
22	ـغ	ـغـ	غـ	غ	gh	غرقه Gharqeh [4]
23	ـف	ـفـ	فـ	ف	f	فردوس Ferdows
24	ـق	ـقـ	قـ	ق	q	قزوين Qazvīn
25	ـك	ـكـ	كـ	ك	k	كاشان Kāshān [4]
26	ـگ	ـگـ	گـ	گ	g	گراوند Garāvand [4]
27	ـل	ـلـ	لـ	ل	l	ليلان Leylān [7]
28	ـم	ـمـ	مـ	م	m	مشهد Mashhad
29	ـن	ـنـ	نـ	ن	n	نائين Nā'īn
30	ـو			و	v	ويس Veys [5]
31	ـه	ـهـ	هـ	ه	h	هما Homā [4, Special Rule 5]
32	ـى	ـيـ	يـ	ى	y	يزد Yazd [5, 8]

88

VOWEL CHARACTERS AND DIACRITICAL MARKS

	Persian	Romanization	Examples and Remarks	
1	◌َ	a	هرم	Harm
2	◌ِ	e	دژگان	Dezhgān
3	◌ُ	o	هرمز	Hormoz
4	◌َا	ā	بارانکرد	Bārāngerd
5	◌َى (ئ)	á	موسى آباد	Mūsáābād
6	آ	ā	آهنگران	Āhangarān
7	◌ِى (◌ِى)	ī	میانده	Mīāndeh
8	◌ُو (◌ُ)	ū	شوش	Shūsh
9	◌َى (◌ِى)	ey	حسین آباد	Ḥoseynābād
10	◌َو (◌َ)	ow	نوده	Now Deh
11	◌ْ	not romanized	مرودشت	Marv Dasht
12	◌ٔ	'	پائین آب ⁵	Pā'īn Āb [5]
13	◌ّ	doubling of consonant letter	محمدى	Moḥammadī [7]
14	◌ِ , ◌ِى , ◌ٔ	-e, -ye	کوه پوشت	Kūh-e Pūsht
			کوهای گنو	Kūhhā-ye Genū
			قلعۀ نظر ⁵·⁸	Qal'eh-ye Naẓar [5,8]

NUMERALS

٠	١	٢	٣	٤	٥	٦	٧	٨	٩
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Although Perso-Arabic script is written from right to left, numerical expressions, e.g., ١٩٥٨ → **1958**, are written from left to right.

1. The Persian writing system, in its generally used form, employs only the characters found in the consonant table and the *alef maddeh* (آ) of the vowel table. The characters in column 1 of the vowel table are traditional auxiliary characters used by Persians only sporadically to indicate the exact reading of a given word. The Persian vowel characters 7,8,9, and 10, which are romanized ī, ū, ey, and ow may be pointed in two different ways, as shown in the vowel table. One system adheres to the Arabic tradition, whereas the other represents a significant departure from it. Likewise, there are two ways of writing vowel character 5 (*alef maqṣūreh*).

   The BGN/PCGN romanization system presupposes forms fully pointed with the Persian characters represented in the vowel table, though these are not represented in the examples given below.

2. *Alef* (ا) occurs with the following uses:
   a. Initially, it indicates that the word begins with a vowel or diphthong, and the *alef* itself is not romanized; e.g., انجیره → **Anjīreh**, ایوانی → **Eyvānī**.
   b. Initially with *maddeh* (آ), it represents ā; e.g., آبادان → **Ābādān**.
   c. Medially and finally it represents ā; e.g., آبادان → **Ābādān**, توکا → **Tūkā**.
   d. With *hamzeh*. See note 5.

3. Where special considerations are paramount, the sub-dot (ḥ, ṣ, ṭ, ẓ) may be used in place of the cedilla (ḩ, ş, ţ, z̧).

4. Occasionally the character sequences ـکه‍ـ, ـزه‍ـ, ـسه‍ـ, and ـگه‍ـ occur. They may be romanized k·h, z·h, s·h, and g·h in order to differentiate those romanizations from the digraphs kh, zh, sh, and gh, which are used to render the characters خ, ژ, ش, and غ.

5. *Hamzeh* (ء) is not regarded as a character of the Persian alphabet, but as a diacritic mark, and as such is not always expressed in actual writing. In fully pointed words, however, it appears in several graphic forms, standing alone or written in conjunction with *alef* (ا), *vāv* (و), or *ye* (ی). All these forms should be romanized simply with the apostrophe ('); e.g., جزء → **joz'**, مأخذ → **ma'khaz̄**, مؤتمن → **mo'taman**, پائین → **pā'īn**, صفراء → **ṣafrā'**.

   Occasionally a word may appear pointed according to the strict Arabic tradition so as to indicate an initial *hamzeh*. This initial *hamzeh* should never be romanized. A vowel character positioned above or below a *hamzeh*, however, should be romanized; e.g., انجیره, whether pointed انجیره or أنجیره, should be romanized simply **Anjīreh**.

   Hamzeh is also sometimes written over final ه or ی to represent the -ye form of the *ezāfeh*. Compare note 8.

6. *Alef maddeh* is used initially to indicate ā , e.g., آبادان → **Ābādān**. Noninitially it indicates 'ā in words of Arabic origin and must be so romanized; e.g., قرآن → **Qor'ān**, مآب → **ma'āb**.

7. In words of Arabic origin, a consonant character which would ordinarily be written with a *shaddah* (˜) in Arabic should be romanized by writing the equivalent consonant letter twice; e.g., محمد → **Moḥammad**.

   The Arabic adjectival ending ـية should be romanized **īyeh**. In names of Arabic origin containing the definite article, the vowel of the article should be romanized according to its Persian pronunciation. When the definite article **al** or **ol** precedes a word beginning with one of the "sun letters" — **t, s̄, d, z̄, r, z, s, sh, ṣ, ẓ, ṭ, ẓ, l, n**— the **l** is assimilated in pronunciation. The article is written in lower case and separate from the preceding and following word; e.g., زين الدين → **Zeyn od Dīn**, but زين الدين → **Zeyn ed Dīnī**. Compare Special Rule 1.

8. The relational suffix (*eżāfeh*) should be romanized **-e** after a final consonant character (except for ه , when silent). After silent *he* (ه) and after vowel characters, it should be romanized **-ye**. It is usually not expressed in Persian writing after a consonant, *kasreh* (☐) being understood; e.g., كوه مرغوب → **Kūh-e Marghūb**. After final *alef* (ا) or *vāv* (و) it is written with *ye* (ى); e.g., پای آب → **Pā-ye Āb**, جوى آس → **Jū-ye Ās**. After *ye* (ى) and silent *he* it is expressed by writing *hamzeh* over the character; e.g., دهانة ممبر → **Dahāneh-ye Mambar**, سلسئى بزرگ → **Salasī-ye Bozorg**.

SPECIAL RULES

1. In Persian names of Arabic origin, the word division used for romanizing Arabic will obtain, except that names ending in the word **Allāh** will be written together and the **a** of **Allāh** will be replaced by **o**; e.g., **'Abdollāh**. The Arabic definite article when not subject to assimilation will be written **al** in name-initial position but usually **ol** elsewhere; e.g., **Al Ḥā'ī** but **Żū ol Faqār**. Compare note 7 above.

2. In a sequence of Persian-script name elements that is pronounced as a single unit, a Persian character written in word-final form at the end of a non-final name element should be followed by a space in romanization.

3. The word **ābād** which occurs very frequently at the end of place names should be written together with the preceding word; e.g., **Allāhābād**, not **Allāh Ābād**.

4. Persian derivational endings such as **vand** and endings of Turkic origin such as **lar**, **lī**, and **lū** should be written together with the preceding word, whether so written in Persian script or not.

5. The character sequence ـِــ □, which represents the vowel [e] in word-medial position in words of Turkish origin, should be romanized **eh** and should be written as part of the word.

6. The character sequence خو , when followed by ا or ى or when pointed by the vowel character ٔ , should be romanized **khv**, although the **v** is not pronounced.

7. The Persian word for "two," written as دو , should always be romanized **do**.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR RUSSIAN
BGN/PCGN 1947 System

The BGN/PCGN system for Russian was adopted by the BGN in 1944 and by the PCGN in 1947 for use in romanizing names written in the Russian Cyrillic alphabet.

	Russian				Romanization		Russian				Romanization
1	А	а	*А*	*а*	a	18	Р	р	*Р*	*р*	r
2	Б	б	*Б*	*б*	b	19	С	с	*С*	*с*	s
3	В	в	*В*	*в*	v	20	Т	т	*Т*	*т*	t
4	Г	г	*Г*	*г*	g	21	У	у	*У*	*у*	u
5	Д	д	*Д*	*д*	d	22	Ф	ф	*Ф*	*ф*	f
6	Е	е	*Е*	*е*	e, ye [1]	23	Х	х	*Х*	*х*	kh
7	Ё	ё	*Ё*	*ё*	ё, yё [2]	24	Ц	ц	*Ц*	*ц*	ts
8	Ж	ж	*Ж*	*ж*	zh	25	Ч	ч	*Ч*	*ч*	ch
9	З	з	*З*	*з*	z	26	Ш	ш	*Ш*	*ш*	sh
10	И	и	*И*	*и*	i	27	Щ	щ	*Щ*	*щ*	shch
11	Й	й	*Й*	*й*	y	28	Ъ	ъ	*Ъ*	*ъ*	"
12	К	к	*К*	*к*	k	29	Ы	ы	*Ы*	*ы*	y
13	Л	л	*Л*	*л*	l	30	Ь	ь	*Ь*	*ь*	'
14	М	м	*М*	*м*	m	31	Э	э	*Э*	*э*	e
15	Н	н	*Н*	*н*	n	32	Ю	ю	*Ю*	*ю*	yu
16	О	о	*О*	*о*	o	33	Я	я	*Я*	*я*	ya
17	П	п	*П*	*п*	p						

1. The character e should be romanized **ye** initially, after the vowel characters а, е, ё, и, о, у, ы, э, ю, and я, and after й, ъ, and ь. In all other instances, it should be romanized **e**.

2. The character ё is not considered a separate character of the Russian alphabet and the dieresis is generally not shown. When the dieresis is shown, the character should be romanized **yë** initially, after the vowel characters а, е, ё, и, о, у, ы, э, ю, and я, and after й, ъ, and ь. In all other instances, it should be romanized **ë**. When the dieresis is not shown, the character may still be romanized in the preceding manner or, alternatively, in accordance with note 1.

3. Unusual Russian character sequences occurring primarily in non-Russian-language names may be romanized as shown below in order to provide differentiation from regularly-occurring digraphs and character sequences.

Russian	Romanization
й before а, у, ы, or э	y·
ы before а, у, ы, or э	y·
ы after any vowel character	·y
э after any consonant character except й	·e
тс	t·s
шч	sh·ch

ROMANIZATION OF SERBOCROATIAN CYRILLIC
BGN/PCGN Agreement

Serbocroatian, the official language of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro[1], and Serbia[1], is rendered in two different standard scripts—Roman and Cyrillic. Croatia uses the Roman script, Montenegro and Serbia use the Cyrillic script, and Bosnia and Herzegovina uses both scripts. The two standard scripts are completely equivalent.

	Cyrillic		Roman				Cyrillic		Roman		
1	А	а	*А*	*а*	a	16	Н	н	*Н*	*н*	n
2	Б	б	*Б*	*б*	b	17	Њ	њ	*Њ*	*њ*	nj
3	В	в	*В*	*в*	v	18	О	о	*О*	*о*	o
4	Г	г	*Г*	*г*	g	19	П	п	*П*	*п*	p
5	Д	д	*Д*	*д*	d	20	Р	р	*Р*	*р*	r
6	Ђ	ђ	*Ђ*	*ђ*	đ (Đ) [2]	21	С	с	*С*	*с*	s
7	Е	е	*Е*	*е*	e	22	Т	т	*Т*	*т*	t
8	Ж	ж	*Ж*	*ж*	ž	23	Ћ	ћ	*Ћ*	*ћ*	ć
9	З	з	*З*	*з*	z	24	У	у	*У*	*у*	u
10	И	и	*И*	*и*	i	25	Ф	ф	*Ф*	*ф*	f
11	Ј	ј	*Ј*	*ј*	j	26	Х	х	*Х*	*х*	h
12	К	к	*К*	*к*	k	27	Ц	ц	*Ц*	*ц*	c
13	Л	л	*Л*	*л*	l	28	Ч	ч	*Ч*	*ч*	č
14	Љ	љ	*Љ*	*љ*	lj	29	Џ	џ	*Џ*	*џ*	dž
15	М	м	*М*	*м*	m	30	Ш	ш	*Ш*	*ш*	š

NOTES

1. Serbia and Montenegro have asserted the formation of a joint independent state, but this entity has not been formally recognized as a state by the United States.

2. The digraph dj (Dj) will occasionally be found as an alternative form of đ (Đ).

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR THAI
BGN/PCGN 1970 System

This system is a restatement of the Thai general system, as set forth in
<u>Romanization Guide for Thai Script</u>, Royal Institute, Bangkok, Thailand, April 1968.
Indications of vowel length and tone are not included in the system.

Word boundaries are not ordinarily shown in Thai writing. Consonant characters and
occasionally vowel characters are at times misrepresented or appear in misleading
order. Phonologically superfluous characters are occasionally written, and the
characters ห and อ are employed at the beginning of many words to indicate tone.

Since correct identification of the words which appear in any particular name and
knowledge of their correct pronunciation are essential in the romanization of Thai, each
word should be verified in a dictionary which provides indication of pronunciation, or the
name should be verified in an official Thai place names document which provides
Roman-script spellings.

CONSONANT CHARACTERS

For some consonant characters, two different Roman equivalents are shown in the
table. The first equivalent is for use in syllable-initial position and the second, for use in
syllable-final position. The Thai characters ณ and ญ (row 4), ผ (row 12), ฝ (row 13),
ย (row 19), and อ (row 20) do not appear at the end of syllables in Thai words.

	Thai	Romanization (See note 1.)
1	ก	k
2	ข ค ฆ ข* ฅ*	kh, k
3	ง	ng
4	จ ฉ ช ฌ	ch, t
5	ญ	y, n
6	ด ฎ ฑ [7]	d, t

* rare or obsolete character

	Thai	Romanization	
7	ต ฏ	t	
8	ถ ฐ ท² ฑ⁷ ธ ฒ	th, t	
9	น ณ	n	
10	บ	b, p	
11	ป	p	
12	ผ พ ภ	ph, p	
13	ฝ ฟ	f, p	
14	ม	m	
15	ย	y	(See the vowel table, rows 9-14 and 20.)
16	ร²	r, n	
17	ล ฬ	l, n	
18	ว³	w	(See the vowel table, rows 14-20.)
19	ซ ศ ษ ส	s, t	
20	ห⁴ ฮ	h	
21	อ⁵		(See the vowel table, rows 8 and 12-15, and note 6.)

VOWEL CHARACTERS

Each □ shown below represents a Thai consonant character.

	Thai	Romanization
1	□ะ □ั □ำ □¹	a
2	□ำ	am
3	□ิ □ี	i

98

Thai					Romanization
4	◌̃ ◌̃ ◌อ ◌ ◌				u
5	เ◌ เ◌ะ เ◌้◌				e
6	แ◌ แ◌ะ แ◌้◌				ae
7	โ◌ โ◌ะ เ◌าะ ◌อ ◌¹				o
8	เ◌อ เ◌อะ เ◌ิ◌				oe
9	เ◌ีย เ◌ียะ				ia
10	ใ◌ ไ◌ ◌ัย ไ◌ย ◌าย				ai
11	◌ุย				ui
12	โ◌ย ◌อย				oi
13	เ◌ย เ◌อย*				oei
14	เ◌ือย ◌วย				uai
15	เ◌ือ เ◌ือะ ◌ัวะ ◌ัว ◌ว◌³				ua
16	เ◌า ◌าว				ao
17	◌ิว				iu
18	เ◌ว เ◌็ว				eo
19	แ◌ว				aeo
20	เ◌ียว				ieo

SPECIAL CHARACTERS

			Romanization
1	ฤ ฤๅ		ru, ri, roe (according to pronunciation)
2	ฦ ฦๅ		lu

* rare or obsolete character

99

Tone Marks					Vowel Shortening Mark	

◌́   ◌̌   ◌̃   ◌̇   (See note 9.)   ◌̆   (See note 9.)

Silencing Mark

◌̕   (See note 8.)

Reduplicating Mark

ๆ   (See note 10.)

NUMERALS

๐	๑	๒	๓	๔	๕	๖	๗	๘	๙
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

NOTES

1. A Thai consonant character with no accompanying vowel mark or diacritical mark may be romanized with the vowel letter **a** or **o**: ปฐม → **pathom**, พลบ → **phlop**. Pronounced consonants and vowels which are omitted in Thai writing should be reflected in romanization: ศิลป → **sinlapa**, ทศนะ → **thatsana**.

   When a single consonant character represents both the final consonant of one syllable and the initial consonant of the next syllable, both consonants should be reflected in romanization: ศกราช → **sakkarat**, ราชสีห์ → **ratchasi**. Consonant and vowel characters written in misleading order should be romanized as prounounced: แขนง → **khanaeng**, เขยา → **khayao**; but note: เทวา → **thewa**.

2. ทร may be romanized **s**, **thora**, or **thr** at the beginning of a word, according to pronunciation: ทราย → **sai**, ไทร → **sai**, ทรราช → **thorarat**, ทรัส → **thrat**; but note: ทีร่าบ → **thirap**. At the end of a word, ทร should be romanized **thon** (ศุนทร → **sunthon**) or, if silent, should not be romanized.

รร should generally be romanized **a** or **an**: กรรม→ **kam**, กรรไกร →

kankrai; but note: กรรมการ→ **kammakan**.

ร should not be romanized, if silent: จริง→ **ching**, สามารถ→ **samat**; but note:

จริต→ **charit**.

Otherwise, ร at the beginning of a syllable, whether or not preceded in the same

syllable by a character from the consonant table, row 1, 2, 7, 8, 11, or 12, should

generally be romanized **r**: รักแรก→ **rakraek**, ตระการ → **trakan**. At the end

of a syllable, ร should generally be romanized **n** or **on**: ควร → **khuan**, นคร →

nakhon.

3. ว at the beginning of a syllable should be romanized **w**: วงเวียน → **wongwian**.

Between two consonant characters in a single syllable, ว should be romanized

either **ua** or **w**: ช่วง → **chuang**, ควน → **khwan**. See the vowel table, rows 14-

20.

4. ห at the beginning of a syllable and serving as a tone mark should not be

romanized: หวอ → **wo**, หลืบ → **lup**; otherwise, ห should be romanized **h**: หวย

→ **huai**, โวหาร → **wohan**.

5. อ at the beginning of a syllable generally represents a glottal stop followed by a

vowel: อรุณ → **arun**; less frequently it serves as a tone mark: อย่าก → **yak**. In

both instances, อ should not be romanized. See the vowel table, rows 4, 7, 8, and

12-15.

6. If the Roman-script vowel letters in the sequences **ae**, **aeo**, **ai**, **ao**, **eo**, **ia**, **ieo**, **iu**, **oe**,

oei, **oi**, **ua**, **uai**, and **ui** belong to two different syllables, a hyphen should be inserted

101

at the syllable boundary: ไปรษณีย์อากาศ → **praisani-akat**, อายุอานาม → **ayu-anam**. A hyphen should also be inserted between the two consonant letters in the sequences **kh**, **ph**, and **th**, if those letters belong to different syllables: สิบหก → **sip-hok**, ลูกเห็บ → **luk-hep**.

7. The rare character ฑ at the beginning of a syllable is romanized **th** or **d**, depending on pronunciation: นาฑี → **nathi**, บัณฑิต → **bandit**.

8. The silencing mark ` ́ ` written over the final character of a word, together with the vowel and/or consonant character(s) to which the mark applies, should not be romanized: กรรมสิทธิ์ → **kammasit**, พระอินทร์ → **Phra-in**.

9. The vowel shortening mark ` ̆ ` and the tone marks ` ̀ `, ` ̌ `, ` ̃ `, and ` ̇ ` should not be romanized: ก็ → **ko**, ยี่ห้อ → **yiho**, กระต๊อบ → **kratop**. See the vowel table, rows 5, 6, and 18.

10. The reduplicating mark ๆ indicates repetition of a syllable: ไหน → **nai**, ไหนๆ → **nainai**.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR TURKMEN
BGN/PCGN 1979 System

The BGN/PCGN system for Turkmen was designed for use in romanizing names written in the Turkmen alphabet. The Turkmen alphabet contains five characters not present in the Russian alphabet: ж, ц, ө, γ, and ə.

	Turkmen				Romanization		Turkmen				Romanization
1	А	а	*А*	*а*	a	20	П	п	*П*	*п*	p
2	Б	б	*Б*	*б*	b	21	Р	р	*Р*	*р*	r
3	В	в	*В*	*в*	w	22	С	с	*С*	*с*	s
4	Г	г	*Г*	*г*	g	23	Т	т	*Т*	*т*	t
5	Д	д	*Д*	*д*	d	24	У	у	*У*	*у*	u
6	Е	е	*Е*	*е*	e, ye [1]	25	Y	γ	*Y*	*γ*	ü
7	Ё	ё	*Ё*	*ё*	yo	26	Ф	ф	*Ф*	*ф*	f
8	Ж	ж	*Ж*	*ж*	zh	27	Х	х	*Х*	*х*	h
9	Җ	җ	*Җ*	*җ*	j	28	Ц	ц	*Ц*	*ц*	ts
10	З	з	*З*	*з*	z	29	Ч	ч	*Ч*	*ч*	ch
11	И	и	*И*	*и*	i	30	Ш	ш	*Ш*	*ш*	sh
12	Й	й	*Й*	*й*	y	31	Щ	щ	*Щ*	*щ*	shch
13	К	к	*К*	*к*	k	32	Ъ	ъ	*Ъ*	*ъ*	"
14	Л	л	*Л*	*л*	l	33	Ы	ы	*Ы*	*ы*	y
15	М	м	*М*	*м*	m	34	Ь	ь	*Ь*	*ь*	'
16	Н	н	*Н*	*н*	n	35	Э	э	*Э*	*э*	e
17	Ң	ң	*Ң*	*ң*	ng	36	Ә	ә	*Ә*	*ә*	ä
18	О	о	*О*	*о*	o	37	Ю	ю	*Ю*	*ю*	yu
19	Ө	ө	*Ө*	*ө*	ö	38	Я	я	*Я*	*я*	ya

1. The character е should be romanized **ye** initially, after the vowel characters а, е, ё, и, о, ө, у, ү, ы, э, ю, and я, and after й, ъ, and ь. In all other instances, it should be romanized **e**.

2. The character sequences зх, нг, сх, and цх may be romanized **z·h**, **n·g**, **s·h**, and **ts·h** in order to differentiate those romanizations from the digraphs **zh**, **ng**, **sh**, and the letter sequence **tsh**, which are used to render the characters ж, ң, ш, and the character sequence тш.

3. The character ы may be romanized **i** instead of **y**, if so desired.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR UKRAINIAN
BGN/PCGN 1965 System

The BGN/PCGN system for Ukrainian was designed for use in romanizing names written in the Ukrainian alphabet. The Ukrainian alphabet contains five characters not present in the Russian alphabet: г, є, i, ï, and '.

	Ukrainian				Romanization		Ukrainian				Romanization
1	А	а	*А*	*а*	a	18	Н	н	*Н*	*н*	n
2	Б	б	*Б*	*б*	b	19	О	о	*О*	*о*	o
3	В	в	*В*	*в*	v	20	П	п	*П*	*п*	p
4	Г	г	*Г*	*г*	h	21	Р	р	*Р*	*р*	r
5	Ґ	ґ	*Ґ*	*ґ*	g	22	С	с	*С*	*с*	s
6	Д	д	*Д*	*д*	d	23	Т	т	*Т*	*т*	t
7	Е	е	*Е*	*е*	e	24	У	у	*У*	*у*	u
8	Є	є	*Є*	*є*	ye	25	Ф	ф	*Ф*	*ф*	f
9	Ж	ж	*Ж*	*ж*	zh	26	Х	х	*Х*	*х*	kh
10	З	з	*З*	*з*	z	27	Ц	ц	*Ц*	*ц*	ts
11	И	и	*И*	*и*	y	28	Ч	ч	*Ч*	*ч*	ch
12	І	і	*І*	*і*	i	29	Ш	ш	*Ш*	*ш*	sh
13	Ї	ї	*Ї*	*ï*	yi	30	Щ	щ	*Щ*	*щ*	shch
14	Й	й	*Й*	*й*	y	31	Ю	ю	*Ю*	*ю*	yu
15	К	к	*К*	*к*	k	32	Я	я	*Я*	*я*	ya
16	Л	л	*Л*	*л*	l	33	Ь	ь	*Ь*	*ь*	'
17	М	м	*М*	*м*	m	34	'	'	*'*	*'*	"

NOTE

1. The character sequences зг, кг, сг, тс, and цг may be romanized **z·h**, **k·h**, **s·h**, **t·s**, and **ts·h** in order to differentiate those romanizations from the digraphs **zh**, **kh**, **sh**, **ts**, and the letter sequence **tsh**, which are used to render the characters ж, х, ш, ц, and the character sequence тш.

ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR UZBEK
BGN/PCGN 1979 System

The BGN/PCGN system for Uzbek was designed for use in romanizing names written in the Uzbek alphabet. The Uzbek alphabet contains four characters not present in the Russian alphabet: ў, қ, ғ, and ҳ.

	Uzbek				Romanization		Uzbek				Romanization
1	А	а	*А*	*а*	a	19	С	с	*С*	*с*	s
2	Б	б	*Б*	*б*	b	20	Т	т	*Т*	*т*	t
3	В	в	*В*	*в*	w	21	У	у	*У*	*у*	u
4	Г	г	*Г*	*г*	g	22	Ф	ф	*Ф*	*ф*	f
5	Д	д	*Д*	*д*	d	23	Х	х	*Х*	*х*	kh
6	Е	е	*Е*	*е*	e, ye [1]	24	Ц	ц	*Ц*	*ц*	ts
7	Ё	ё	*Ё*	*ё*	yo	25	Ч	ч	*Ч*	*ч*	ch
8	Ж	ж	*Ж*	*ж*	j	26	Ш	ш	*Ш*	*ш*	sh
9	З	з	*З*	*з*	z	27	Ъ	ъ	*Ъ*	*ъ*	'
10	И	и	*И*	*и*	i	28	Ь	ь	*Ь*	*ь*	'
11	Й	й	*Й*	*й*	y	29	Э	э	*Э*	*э*	e
12	К	к	*К*	*к*	k	30	Ю	ю	*Ю*	*ю*	yu
13	Л	л	*Л*	*л*	l	31	Я	я	*Я*	*я*	ya
14	М	м	*М*	*м*	m	32	Ў	ў	*Ў*	*ў*	ŭ
15	Н	н	*Н*	*н*	n	33	Қ	қ	*Қ*	*қ*	q
16	О	о	*О*	*о*	o	34	Ғ	ғ	*Ғ*	*ғ*	gh
17	П	п	*П*	*п*	p	35	Ҳ	ҳ	*Ҳ*	*ҳ*	h
18	Р	р	*Р*	*р*	r						

1. The character е should be romanized **ye** initially, after the vowel characters а, е, ё, и, о, у, э, ю, я, and ў, and after й and ь. In all other instances, it should be romanized **e**.

2. The character sequences гх, кх, сх, and цх may be romanized **g·h**, **k·h**, **s·h**, and **ts·h** in order to differentiate those romanizations from the digraphs **gh**, **kh**, **sh**, and the letter sequence **tsh**, which are used to render the characters г, х, ш, and the character sequence тш.

FAROESE
BGN/PCGN 1968 Agreement

The special letter Ð ð, known as edh, should be reproduced in those forms whenever encountered. In those instances when it cannot be reproduced, however, the digraph Dh dh may be substituted for it.

GERMAN
BGN/PCGN 1986 Agreement

The special letter ß, known as eszett, is a standard letter of the German alphabet and occurs in word-medial and word-final positions but never word-initially. It is a lowercase letter only, which is always rendered as SS when a word and/or name is written entirely in capital letters. In those instances where ß cannot be reproduced, the digraph ss will be substituted for it. For alphabetization and sorting purposes, ß should also be treated as ss. Practical application of this special letter is left to the discretion of the user.

ICELANDIC
BGN/PCGN 1968 Agreement

The special letter Ð ð, known as edh, and the special letter Þ þ, known as thorn, should be reproduced in those forms whenever encountered. In those instances when they cannot be reproduced, however, the digraph Dh dh may be substituted for Ð ð and the digraph Th th may be substituted for Þ þ.

NORTH LAPPISH
BGN/PCGN 1984 Agreement

The special letter Ŋ ŋ, known as eng, should be reproduced in that form whenever encountered. In those instances when it cannot be reproduced, however, the letter Ń ń may be substituted for it.

Amharic   Arabic   Armenian

Azerbaijani   Bulgarian   Burmese

Byelorussian   Chinese   Georgian   Greek

Hebrew   Japanese   Kazakh

Khmer   Kirghiz   Korean

Lao   Macedonian   Maldivian

Mongolian   Nepali   Pashto   Persian

Russian   Serbocroatian   Thai

Turkmen   Ukrainian   Uzbek