Scheherazade New / Harmattan / Lateef - Font Feature comparison

Scheherazade New, Harmattan and Lateef are OpenType-enabled font families that support the Arabic script. They include a number of optional features that provide alternative rendering that might be preferable for use in some contexts. The sections below enumerate the details of these features. Some of the features have different default settings or the feature may only be implemented in one or two of the fonts. Whether these features are available to users will depend on both the application and the rendering technology being used. Some applications let the user control certain features such as Character Variants to turn on the rendering of variant characters. However, at this point, most applications do not make use of those features so another solution is needed to show the variant characters. For applications that do not make use of the OpenType Character Variants, you can now download fonts customized with the variant glyphs you choose. Read this document, visit TypeTuner Web, then choose the variants and download your font.

See Using Font Features. Although that page is not targeted at Arabic script support, it does provide a comprehensive list of applications that make full use of the OpenType font technology.

See also Arabic Fonts — Application Support. It provides a fairly comprehensive list of applications that make full use of the OpenType font technology.

This page uses web fonts (WOFF) to demonstrate font features and should display correctly in all modern browsers.

If this document is not displaying correctly a PDF version is also provided in the documentation/pdf folder of the release package.

Complete feature list

Language system tags

Unfortunately, the UI needed to access the language-specific behavior is not yet present in many applications. LibreOffice and Microsoft Word 2016 support language-specific behavior for Kurdish, Sindhi and Urdu (but not Kyrgyz, Rohingya or Wolof). Some Harfbuzz-based apps, e.g., XeTeX, can access language-specific behavior.

Kurdish (Northern)

Affects: U+06BE

Language	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature Setting
Default	a agg	ക്രേ ഉ	ه ههه	
	ه ههم	නිදින න	ه ههم	lang='ku'

Language	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature Setting
Kurdish				
(Northern)				

Kyrgyz

Affects: U+0626

Language	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature Setting
Default	ئ ئئئ	ئ ئئئ	ئ ئئئ	
Kyrgyz	ئى ئئئى	ئ ئئئ	ئى ئىئى	lang='ky'

Rohingya

Affects: U+064C, U+064E, U+0650, U+06F4, U+06F6, U+06F7

Language	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature Setting
Default	بٌ بٌ ٧ ٧	٧۶۴ۺؚ	ڔؙ ڔٞ ۴ ۲	
Rohingya	بٌ بِّ ٢ >	۲٦٤ ٽِ ٿِ	<u>۲</u> ٦٤ ٻِّ ٿِ	lang='rhg'

Sindhi

Affects: U+0645, U+064E, U+0650, U+06F6, U+06F7

Language	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature Setting
Default	بِّ م ممم ۷۶	بِّ م ممم ۷۶	بًّ م ممم ۷۶	
Sindhi	بِّ م ممم ۲ >	بِّ م ممم ۲ ک	بِّ م ممم ۲ ک	lang='sd'

Urdu

Affects: U+064E, U+0650, U+06F4, U+06F6, U+06F7

Language	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature Setting
Default	بٌ ۴ ۶ ۷	۷۶۴۰	بٌ ۴ ۶ ۷	
Urdu	بِّ ۲۲ >	۷٦۴ ٿِ	بِّ ۲٦٣	lang='ur'

Wolof

Affects: U+062F, U+064E, U+0650, U+064F, U+0657

Language	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature Setting
Default	د بد بِّ بُ ب	ڊ بد <u>ٿِ</u> ۽	د بد بِّ بُ بُ	
Wolof	۵ بد بِّ بُ بُ	بْ بْ بِّ ہ ِ ہ	د بد ب _ِ بُ بُ	lang='wo'

Character variants

There are some character shape differences in different languages which use the Arabic script. These can be accessed by using OpenType Character Variants, or through the language support mentioned above.

Jeem/Hah

Affects: U+062C, U+062D, U+062E, U+0682, U+0683, U+0684, U+0685, U+0686, U+06BF, U+0757, U+0758, U+088A, U+08A2, U+08C1, U+08C5, U+08C6, U+06BF, U+0757, U+0758, U+08BA, U+08BA, U+08C1, U+08C5, U+08C6, U+0

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
Standard	خ خخخ ځ ځخځ ج چچچ ج چېچ څ څڅڅ چ چچچ	ج ججج ح ححح خ خخخ	چ چچچ	cv08=0

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
	ۛ			
Handwritten	N/A	ج ج ج ح ح ح خ خ خ خ خ خ خ خ خ خ خ خ خ ج ج ج ج	N/A	cv08=1

DalAffects: U+062F, U+0630, U+0688, U+0689, U+068A, U+068B, U+068C, U+068D, U+068E, U+068F, U+0690, U+06EE, U+0759, U+075A, U+08AE

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
Standard	د ذ ځ ډ	د ذ ڈ ډ ډ ڋ ڌ ڍ ڎ ڏ ڏ ۮ ݙ ݚ ݚ	ۑؠؠؙٚۮڐڐڐڐڎڐۮۮۮۮۮ	cv12=0
Alternate	ۮۮڴڿڋڋٙڎڿڎٛۮٞ ڐۮٛڂۭڿ <i>ڿ</i>	ݚݚݙݙݚݣݨݨݙ ݙݚ <u>ݷ</u>	N/A	cv12=1

Sad/Dad

Affects: U+0635, U+0636, U+069D, U+069E, U+06FB, U+08AF

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
Standard	ص صصص ض ضضض ص صصص ض		ص صصص ض ضضض ص صصص ش ششش چچچ چی ض ضضض	cv20=0

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
	خضض چپچ			
	ضضض چبچپ چ ض ضضض			
Half	N/A	م مصم خ ضضخ ۾	N/A	cv20=1
		مِمِمِ ﴿ فَقَمْ مِهِمِ		
		۾ ۾ ضِضِم		

Meem

Affects: U+0645, U+0765, U+0766, U+08A7

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
Standard	م ممم م منم م ممم م مشم	م ممم ف فففر ۾ جمج څ ڤڤڠ	م ممم م مفنم ۾ مِمِم څ شَقْمُ	cv44=0
Sindhi-style	م ممم فر خفف بر مجمع ثر ششش	م ممم ف ففف م مِمِم ڤ ڤڤڤ	م ممم نم فغف بر ججبم ثر تنتشر	cv44=1

Heh

Affects: U+0647

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
Standard	ه ههه	এ৪৯ ০	ه هه ه	cv48=0
Kurdish-style	a aga	உழும் உ	ه ههھ	cv48=3
Sindhi-style	ه ههم	മമമ മ	ه همو	cv48=1
Urdu-style	مهر ه	مہر ہ	ه پېړ	cv48=2

Heh Doachashmee

Affects: U+06BE

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
Standard	ه ههه	৪৪ ৯ ক	ه ههه	cv49=0
Knotted	ه ههم	മമമ മ	ه همو	cv49=1
Kurdish-style	ه ههم	නද ින න	ه ههھ	cv49=3

Kyrgyz OE

Affects: U+06C5

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
Loop	و	و	g	cv51=0
Bar	.	9	و	cv51=1

Yeh Hamza

Affects: U+0626

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
Standard	ئ ئ	ئ ئ	ئ ئ	cv54=0
Right hamza	ئى ئى	ئىئ	ئى ئى	cv54=1

Maddah

Affects: U+0622, U+0627, U+0653, U+0653

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
Small	 ក្រ	៌ារ	៍រ៍រំ	cv60=0
Large			N/A	cv60=1

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
	īT	ិ៍រា		

Shadda+kasra placement

Affects: U+064D, U+0650 with U+0651

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
Default	ٞ ۨ ٿؚٞ <i>ۨ</i>	ૄ૿ૼૣૣ૽ૻૼૢ૾ૼૡ઼	ڔؙٞڔٞ۫	cv62=0
Lowered	<u>૾</u> ૄૻૻૣ૿ૻૢ૿ૻૢ	្ខ <u>ុ</u> ្ខុ ្	ڔؚٞڔ۪ٞ	cv62=1
Raised	<i>ૻ૾ૼ</i> ૻૢૼ	૾૿ ૾ ૿૾૾૿	ڔؙٞٞڔؙٞ	cv62=2

Damma

Affects: U+064F

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
Default	<i>بُ</i> ث	ံ ငှ	்	cv70=0
Filled	<i>ీ</i>	்	ं 4	cv70=1
Short	<i>ं</i>	்	<i>૾</i> ઼૾	cv70=2

Dammatan

Affects: U+064C

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
Standard	ీ "	ఀ ౮	ి చ	cv72=0
Six-nine	<i>بُ</i> ٿ	ું ૡ૽	ే స్త్రీ	cv72=1

Inverted Damma

Affects: U+0657

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
Default	<i>ب</i> ث	ံ ငှ	ٺ ٺ	cv74=0
Hollow	<i>ب</i>	ံ	ံ ပုံ	cv74=1
Filled	်	့ ب	ٺ ٔ	cv74=2

Superscript Alef

Affects: U+0670 on all yeh, sad and seen-like characters U+0620, U+0626, U+0633, U+0634, U+0635, U+0636, U+063D, U+063E, U+063F, U+0649, U+064A, U+0678, U+069B, U+069B, U+069C, U+069D, U+069D, U+066C, U+06CD, U+06CD, U+06CD, U+06D1, U+06FA, U+06FB, U+075C, U+076D, U+077D, U+077D, U+0775, U+0775, U+0777, U+08A8, U+08A9, U+08AF, U+08BA

Feature Scheherazade N	w Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
الله الله الله الله الله الله الله الله	ششن ص طص ض ظض شر عَنْ يَنْ عَنْ يَنْ عَلَ يَنْ عَنْ يَنْ عَلَى شَلْ عَلَى بَسْ اللّهِ اللّهُ الللّهُ الللّهُ اللّهُ اللّهُ اللّهُ اللّهُ اللّهُ اللّهُ اللّهُ الللللّهُ اللّهُ اللّهُ اللّهُ اللّهُ اللّهُ الللللللللللللللللللللللللللللللللللل	سُ سُنِی سُ سُیل شُ شُ شُ مَٰ مُ مَٰ الله مِنْ الله مِنْ اللهُ مِنْ مَٰ مَٰ الله مِنْ الهِ مِنْ الله مِنْ اللهِ مِنْ المِنْ اللهِ مِنْ اللهِمِنْ اللهِ مِنْ اللهِ مِنْ اللهِ مِنْ اللهِ مِنْ اللهِ مِنْ اللهِمِمِنْ اللهِ مِنْ	cv76=0

	ؼ ڸۑؙ ڲ۬ يؙۓ ێ۬ ڝ ڝڝڶ ڝ			
Large	ك پي ئ ئي سل سلسل شار شاشل صل صلح المنطق على المنطق على المنافي المنطق على المنطق على المنطق	و الماد الله الله الله الله الله الله الله ال	الله الله الله الله الله الله الله الله	cv76=1

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
Small	ك پلى ئ ئى س سلس ش شش ص صص صص فل في ئى ئ ئى ئ ئى ئ ئى ئى ئى ئى ئى ئى ئى ئى	وا با في في في س سلس ش شش م م طم خل خلف ث في تي في في في في في بنا في بلي في في في بن بنا بنا بن بنا بنن بنا بنا من علم شر شش بنا في في بن بن في بن في بن بنا في في بن المنا	ىٰ بىٰ ئَ تَٰئُ سَ سَسَ شَ شَشَ صَ صَصَ ضَصَ ضَضَىٰ يُنِيْ ئَىٰ يَٰئِ ثَىٰ يَٰئِ لَىٰ لَىٰ يَٰ يَٰ يَٰئِ عَٰلَ سَلَ سَٰسَلَى سِلَ سِلَ شِلْ شَقْلَ صَ عَٰ يَٰئَ يَٰ بَا بِي لِي لِي شِلْ شَقْلَ صَٰ صَصَٰ شَقْلَ شَقْلَ شَقْلَ مَٰلَ مَٰشَقَٰ صَلَ صَلَّ عَلَىٰ عَلَىٰ بِهِ إِي لِي اللهِ شَقْلَ صَلَ مَٰلَىٰ عَلَىٰ إِنْ إِي لِي اللهِ شَقْلَ صَلَ صَلَّ اللهُ اللهِ اللهُ	cv76=2

Sukun

Affects: U+0652

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
Closed	ث ث	ံ ပုံ	ٺ ٺ	cv78=0
Open down	<i>ب</i> ث	ိ ငှ	<i>ٛ</i> ب	cv78=1
Open left	் <i>்</i>	ૺૡ	ڔؙ٥	cv78=2

End of ayah

Affects: U+06DD

These alternates are also available using the Stylistic Alternates (salt) feature, but at this time we know of no OpenType-based applications that can access these.

Firefox allows you to use U+06DD followed by the digits and proper rendering occurs. Some applications require the following:

- precede the entire sequence (subtending mark plus following digits) with 202D LEFT-TO-RIGHT OVERRIDE
- follow the entire sequence with U+202C POP DIRECTIONAL FORMATTING.

Surrounding the sequence with U+202D and U+202C seems to give the most reliable results in different browsers. However, we have not found a solution that works in Internet Explorer/Edge.

In the example below, the following codepoints are used: U+202D U+06DD U+0031 U+0032 U+0033 U+202C U+202D U+06DD U+0611 U+0622 U+0663 U+202C.

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
Standard			123 (۱۲۳)	cv80=0
Simplified A	(123) (177)	123 (174)	(123) (177)	cv80=1
Simplified B	123 177	123	123 (177	cv80=2

The DISPUTED END OF AYAH (U+08E2) is also now available in the font. It works in the same way as End of ayah.

 $_{r\xi }^{\Delta }$ (Scheherazade New) $_{p\xi }^{\Delta }$ (Harmattan)

۵ (Lateef)

Honorific ligatures

Affects: U+FD40..U+FD4F, U+FDCF, U+FDFA..U+FDFB, U+FDFD..U+FDFF

Feature	Scheherazade New	Feature setting
Calligraphic	رَقِيْهُ وَلِيْنَ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَل عَلَيْهُ وَلِينَ عَلِيهِ عَلَيْهُ وَعَلَيْهُ وَعَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلِي	cv81=0
Simplified		cv81=1



Eastern digits

Affects: U+06F4, U+06F6, U+06F7

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
Standard	457	1621	487	cv82=0
Kurdish-style	457	1 57	457	cv82=3
Rohingya-style	१७८	٤٦٢	٤٦٧	cv82=4
Sindhi-style	47<	144	477	cv82=1
Urdu-style	47<	۳٦۷	477	cv82=2

Comma

Affects: U+060C, U+061B

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
Upward	٤,	؛ ،	:	cv84=0
Downward	; ;	; ;	; •	cv84=1

Decimal separator

Affects: U+066B

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef	Feature setting
Small reh	ر	J	ر	cv85=0
Slash				cv85=1

Feature	Scheherazade New	Harmattan	Lateef F	Feature setting
	I	,	1	

Other user font features

Proportional figures

Tabular digits are the default for Latin digits. Lateef supports the OpenType Proportional Figures (pnum) for Latin digits.

Affects: U+0030..U+0039

Feature	Lateef	Feature setting
False	0123456789	pnum=0
True	0123456789	pnum=1

Tabular figures

Proportional digits are the default for Arabic digits. Lateef supports the OpenType Tabular Figures (tnum) for Arabic digits.

Affects: U+0660..U+0669, U+06F0.. U+06F9

Feature	Lateef	Feature setting
False	٠١٢٣٤٥٦٧٨٩ ٠١٢٣۵۶٧٨٩	tnum=0
True	٠١٢٣٤٥٦٧٨٩ ٠١٢٣۵۶٧٨٩	tnum=1

Disable digit kerning (see FAQ)

This feature is only available in TypeTuner Web.

The Arabic digits are proportional by default and Lateef includes kerning to improve the spacing of certain pairs of digits such as VA. However there are some applications, including Microsoft Word for Windows, that process the digit kerning information incorrectly, actually making some digits too far apart and some too close together. We have added a special Typetuner feature that can be used to create a version of the Lateef fonts in which the digit kerning is *disabled*. When using those fonts in Microsoft Word the resulting digit spacing will be much nicer than Tabular, but not quite as good as it would be if the application's kerning worked correctly. This is discussed further in the FAQ.

This guide is from the font-arab-tools project and is copyright © 2022-2024 SIL International.