

Harmattan - Font Features

Harmattan is an OpenType-enabled font family that supports the Arabic script. It includes 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. 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. [TypeTuner](#) creates tuned fonts that use the variant glyph in place of the standard glyph. TypeTuner also provides the ability to turn on support for the Kurdish, Kyrgyz, Rohingya, Sindhi, Urdu, and Wolof language variants.

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. For a more concise example of how to use Harmattan as a web font see *harmattan-webfont-example.html* in the font package web folder.

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

End of Ayah (U+06DD), Disputed End of Ayah (U+08E2), and subtending marks (U+0600..U+0605, U+0890..U+0891)

These Arabic characters are intended to enclose or hold one or more digits.

Specific technical details of how to use them are discussed in the [Arabic fonts FAQ – Subtending marks](#).

Additionally, Harmattan includes two simplified alternates for U+06DD ARABIC END OF AYAH under the Stylistic Alternates (salt) feature, but at this time we know of no OpenType-based applications that can access these. The two alternates are also available through the Character Variants feature discussed below.

Customizing with TypeTuner

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.

Language

Affects: U+062F, U+0630, U+0688..U+068F, U+0690, U+06EE, U+0759, U+075A, U+08AE, U+0645, U+0765, U+0766, U+08A7, U+0647, U+0626, U+060C, U+061B, U+06F4, U+06F5, U+06F6, U+06F7, U+0650, U+064F, U+064C, U+0657

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), Rohingya, Sindhi, Urdu

Language	Meem	Heh Doachashmee (06BE)	4	6	7	0650/064E	064C	Feature Setting
default	م مم	ه هه هه	٤	٦	٧	ب	ب	
Kurdish (Northern)	م مم	ه هه هه	٤	٦	٧	ب	ب	lang='ku'
Rohingya	م مم	ه هه هه	٤	٦	٧	ب	ب	lang='rhg'
Sindhi	م مم	ه هه هه	٤	٦	٧	ب	ب	lang='sd'
Urdu	م مم	ه هه هه	٤	٦	٧	ب	ب	lang='ur'

Kyrgyz and Wolof

Language	Dal	0626	0650/064E	064F	0657	Feature Setting
default	د	ئ ئئ	ب	ب	ب	
Kyrgyz	د	ئ ئئ	ب	ب	ب	lang='ky'
Wolof	د	ئ ئئ	ب	ب	ب	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

Feature	Sample	Feature setting
Standard	<p>ج جج ح حح خ خخ ح</p> <p>خخ ح جج ح جج ح خخ</p> <p>ج چچ ح خخ ح ح ح ح</p> <p>چچ ح جج ح ح ح ح</p> <p>ح ح ح ح ح ح ح ح</p>	cv08=0
Handwritten	<p>ج جج ح حح خ خخ ح</p> <p>خخ ح جج ح جج ح خخ</p> <p>ج چچ ح خخ ح ح ح ح</p>	cv08=1

Heh Doachashmee

Affects: U+06BE

Feature	Sample	Feature setting
Standard	هه ه	cv49=0
Knotted-style	هه ه	cv49=1
Kurdish-style	هه ه	cv49=3

Maddah

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

Feature	Sample	Feature setting
Small	ا ا ا	cv60=0
Large	ا ا ا	cv60=1

Shadda+kasra placement

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

Feature	Sample	Feature setting
Default	ا ا ا ا	cv62=0
Lowered	ا ا ا ا	cv62=1
Raised	ا ا ا ا	cv62=2

Damma

Affects: U+064F

Feature	Sample	Feature setting
Standard	ا ا	cv70=0
Filled	ا ا	cv70=1
Short	ا ا	cv70=2


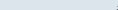
Dammatan

Affects: U+064C

Feature	Sample	Feature setting
Standard	ا ا	cv72=0
Six-nine	ا ا	cv72=1

Inverted Damma

Affects: U+0657

Feature	Sample	Feature setting
Standard		cv74=0
Open		cv74=1




Superscript Alef

Affects: U+0670 on all yeh, sad and seen-like characters U+0649 U+064A U+06D0 U+06D1 U+0777 U+06CC U+0635 U+0636 U+069D U+069E U+06FB U+08AF U+0633 U+0634 U+069A U+069B U+069C U+06FA U+075C U+076D U+0770 U+077D U+077E

Feature	Sample	Feature setting
Small	<p> ١٤٤٤ ءَ تَئِىٰ ىَ نَئِىٰ ىَ يِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ نَئِىٰ ِئِىٰ پَ پِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ پِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ پِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ پِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ ئِىٰ يِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ تِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ يِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ يِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ ىَ يِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ صِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ ضِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ صِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ ضِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ ضِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ چِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ سِئِىٰ شِئِىٰ شِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ بِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ پِئِىٰ پِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ پِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ بِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ شِئِىٰ شِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ شِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ شِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ شِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ شِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ </p>	cv76=0
Large	<p> ١٤٤٤ ءَ تَئِىٰ ىَ نَئِىٰ ىَ يِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ نَئِىٰ ِئِىٰ پَ پِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ پِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ پِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ پِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ ئِىٰ يِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ تِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ يِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ يِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ ىَ يِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ صِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ ضِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ صِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ ضِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ ضِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ چِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ سِئِىٰ شِئِىٰ شِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ بِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ پِئِىٰ پِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ پِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ بِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ شِئِىٰ شِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ شِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ شِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ شِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ شِئِىٰ ِئِىٰ </p>	cv76=1

Sukun

Affects: U+0652

Feature	Sample	Feature setting
Closed		cv78=0
Open down		cv78=1
Open left		cv78=2

End of ayah




Affects: U+06DD

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	Sample	Feature setting
Standard		cv80=0
Simplified A		cv80=1
Simplified B		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.

ٲٴٴٴ

Eastern digits

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

Feature	Sample	Feature setting
Standard	٤٦٧	cv82=0
Sindhi-style	٤٦٧	cv82=1
Urdu-style	٤٦٧	cv82=2
Rohingya-style	٤٦٧	cv82=4

Comma

Affects: U+060C, U+061B

Feature	Sample	Feature setting
Upward	٤٦٧ٴ	cv84=0
Downward	٤٦٧ٴ	cv84=1

Decimal separator

Affects: U+066B

Feature	Sample	Feature setting
Small reh	٤٦٧ٴ	cv85=0
Slash	٤٦٧ٴ	cv85=1

Line spacing

Allows for adjustment of the default line spacing in the font (values shown are ordered in increasing line spacing). This feature is only available with TypeTuner.

Feature
Normal
Loose
1.0 Compatible Normal
1.0 Compatible Loose

This guide is from the [Harmattan project](#) version 4.000 and is copyright © 2014-2023 SIL International.