

Pashto / پښتو Pashtū

romanization: BGN/PCGN 1968 + KNAB modifications

Pashto uses the Perso-Arabic script that is written from right to left. As in Arabic and Persian, vowels are marked only sporadically to indicate pronunciation, otherwise they are omitted.

I. Consonant characters

1	ا	- ^A	12	خ	kh	23	ش	sh	34	ل	l
2	ب	b	13	د	d	24	ص	ṣ	35	م	m
3	پ	p	14	ډ	ḍ	25	ض	ẓ	36	ن	n
4	ت	t	15	ذ	ẓ	26	ط	ṭ	37	ڼ	ṅ
5	ټ	ṭ	16	ر	r	27	ظ	ẓ	38	و	w
6	ټ	ṭ	17	ړ	ṛ	28	ع	‘	39	ه	h
7	ج	j	18	ز	z	29	غ	gh	40	ی (ي)	y
8	چ	ch	19	ژ	zh	30	ف	f			
9	څ	ts	20	ږ	ḡ	31	ق	q			
10	ځ	dz	21	س	s	32	ک	k			
11	ح	ḥ	22	ش	sh	33	گ (ګ)	g			

^A Not romanized, but see romanizations accompanying *alip* (ل) in Table II.

II. Vowel characters and diacritical marks (ب stands for any consonant character)

1	ا	a	6	بِی	ay	11	بَ	ê	16	بُوی	ūy ^A
2	آ	ā	7	بِی	ey ^A	12	بِی	êy ^A	17	آ	ā
3	بِ	i, (e)	8	بِی	e'y ^A	13	بُ	u, (o)	18	ء	‘
4	بِی	ī	9	بِی	ē	14	بُ	ū	19	بَ	(B)
5	بِی	ī	10	بِو	ew	15	بُو	ow, ō			

^A Used only word-finally.

^B Doubling of consonant letter.

Notes

1. The article د is romanized *de* according to the pronunciation.
2. In Arabic words, for the definite articles the same rules of assimilation of consonants are applied as in Arabic. A name where the article is written together with the main part, but romanized as a separate word, is romanized as follows: *Jabal' us-Sirāj* جبل السراج.

3. For other modifications to ensure reversibility see the Arabic document.

Pronunciation

ā	[a:]	ī	[i]	sh	[ʃ]	z̄, z̤, z	[z]
ch	[tʃ]	j	[dʒ]	sh̄	[ʂ]~[ç]	zh	[ʒ]
ḍ	[d]	kh	[x]	ṭ	[t]	zh̄	[z]~[j]
ê	[ə]	ṅ	[ŋ]	ū	[u]	‘	[ʔ]
gh	[ɣ]	ṛ	[ɾ]	w	[w]~[v]		
ḥ	[h]~[-]	s̄, ṣ	[s]	y	[j]		

Conversion into the BGN/PCGN System

e → i, (a); e’y → ey; ī → ī; o → u; ō → ow, ū; ÿ → y.