

SYSTEM OF TRANSLITERATION/ TRANSCRIPTION

Consonants

ا	ʾ	ح	ħ	ز	z	ط	t	ق	q	ه	h
ب	b	خ	ħ or x	س	s	ظ	z	ك	k	و	w
ت	t	د	d	ش	š	ع	‘ or ع	ل	l	ي	y
ث	t̤	ذ	d̤	ص	ṣ	غ	ġ	م	m		
ج	ǧ	ر	r	ض	ḏ	ف	f	ن	n		

The use of diagraphs such as *kh, sh* etc. should be avoided.

Vowels

ا	ā	إ	i	أ	u	آ	ā	إِ	ī	أُ	ū
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ا and إِ should be transliterated as *aw, ay* (not *au, ai*).

The same symbols may be used when transcribing Arabic dialects. In this case the phonetic values of *ǧ, ḏ, z, q* are as follows:

ǧ	voiced palato-alveolar affricate, API [dʒ]
ḏ	voiced "emphatic" (velarized) dental stop, API [ḏ]
z	voiced "emphatic" (velarized) dental sibilant, API [z̤]
q	voiceless uvular stop, API [q]

The following additional symbols may be used:

j	voiced palatal stop, API [j]
ʒ	voiced palato-alveolar fricative, API [ʒ]
tʃ	voiceless palato-alveolar affricate, API [tʃ]
t̤	voiceless dental affricate, API [ts] (< ت, ت)
t̤	voiceless dental affricate, API [ts] (< ك)
dʒ	voiced dental affricate, API [dʒ] (< ق)
ḏ̤	voiced "emphatic" (velarized) interdental fricative, API [ḏ̤]
g	voiced velar stop, API [g]

A subscript dot indicates velarization, e.g. *b̤, m̤, r̤* etc.

The characterization of dialectal vowel systems may require the following vowel symbols:

e, ē	short/long half-close or half-open unrounded front vowel, API [e, eː, ε, εː]
o, ō	short/long half-close or half-open rounded back vowel, API [o, oː, ɔ, ɔː]
ä, ǟ	short/long half-open unrounded front vowel, API [ɛ, εː] (< a, ā)
a, ā	short/long open unrounded back vowel, API [a, aː]
ə	unrounded central vowel, API [ə]

For further information see W. FISCHER/O. JASTROW: *Handbuch der arabischen Dialekte*. Wiesbaden 1980 (Porta linguarum orientaliū NS XVI) p. 11 ff. and the transcribed dialect samples in the same book.