PERSIAN (FARSI)
Arabic script *

iso	ini	med	fin		DMG (1.0)	UN 1972 (2.0)	ALA-LC 1997 (3.0)	BGN/PCGN 1957 (4.0)	EI (5.0)	ISO 233-3 1999 (6.0)
Consonants										
ا			ا	*A*	ʾ	—	—	—	ʾ	—
ب	ـب	ـبـ	بـ		b	b	b	b	b	b
پ	ـپ	ـپـ	پـ		p	p	p	p	p	p
ت	ـت	ـتـ	تـ		t	t	t	t	t	t
ث	ـث	ـثـ	ثـ		s̱	s̄	s̱	s̄	th	s̱
ج	ـج	ـجـ	جـ		ǧ	j	j	j	dj	(?)
چ	ـچ	ـچـ	چـ		č	ch	ch	ch	č	č
ح	ـح	ـحـ	حـ		ḥ	ḥ	ḥ	ḥ	ḥ	ḥ
خ	ـخ	ـخـ	خـ		ḫ	kh	kh	kh	kh	k̲
د			ـد		d	d	d	d	d	d
ذ			ـذ		ẕ	z̄	ẕ	z̄	dh	ẕ
ر			ـر		r	r	r	r	r	r
ز			ـز		z	z	z	z	z	z
ژ			ـژ		ž	zh	zh	zh	zh	ž
س	ـس	ـسـ	سـ		s	s	s	s	s	s
ش	ـش	ـشـ	شـ		š	sh	sh	sh	sh	š
ص	ـص	ـصـ	صـ		ṣ	ṣ	ṣ	ṣ	ṣ	ṣ
ض	ـض	ـضـ	ضـ		ż	ẓ	ż	ẓ	ḍ	ż
ط	ـط	ـطـ	طـ		ṭ	ṭ	ṭ	ṭ	ṭ	ṭ
ظ	ـظ	ـظـ	ظـ		ẓ	ẓ	ẓ	ẓ	ẓ	ẓ
ع	ـع	ـعـ	عـ		ʿ	ʿ	ʿ	ʿ	ʿ	(?)
غ	ـغ	ـغـ	غـ		ġ	gh	gh	gh	gh	ġ
ف	ـف	ـفـ	فـ		f	f	f	f	f	f
ق	ـق	ـقـ	قـ		q	q	q	q	ḳ	q
ک	ـک	ـکـ	کـ		k	k	k	k	k	k
گ	ـگ	ـگـ	گـ		g	g	g	g	g	g
ل	ـل	ـلـ	لـ		l	l	l	l	l	l
م	ـم	ـمـ	مـ		m	m	m	m	m	m
ن	ـن	ـنـ	نـ		n	n	n	n	n	n
و			ـو		v	v	v (3.1)	v	w	v
ه	ـه	ـهـ	هـ		h	h	h	h	h	h
ة			ـة	*B*	—	—	t (3.2)	—	—	—
ی	ـی	ـیـ	یـ		y	y	y	y	y	y
لا			ـلا		lā	lā	lā	lā	lā	lâ

				DMG 1969[1.0]	UN 1972[2.0]	ALA-LC 1997[3.0]	BGN/PCGN 1957[4.0]	EI 1960[5.0]	ISO 233-3 1999[6.0]
iso	*ini*	*med*	*fin*						
Vowels and diphthongs [c]									
آ			آ	ā	'ā, ā [2.1]	ā	ā	ā	â
◌َ				a	a	a	a	a	(?)
◌ِ				e	e	i	e	i, e	(?)
◌ُ				o	o	u	o	u, o	(?)
ا◌		ا◌		ā	ā	ā	ā	ā	(?)
◌َی				ā	ā	á	ā	ā	(?)
◌ٰی				ā	ā	á	ā	ā	(?)
و◌		و◌		ū	ū	ū	ū	ū	v (?)
ی◌		◌ی		ī	ī	ī	ī	ī	y (?)
اً◌ً,اً◌	B			—	—	an	—	—	(?)
◌ٌ	B			—	—	un	—	—	(?)
◌ٍ	B			—	—	in	—	—	(?)
◌َو	◌َو			aw	ow	aw	ow	aw	(?)
◌َی	◌َی			ay	ey	ay	ey	ay	(?)
◌ٔ				ʾ	'	' [3.3]	'	ʾ	(?)
◌ی ,◌	D			–e, –ye	–e, –ye [2.2]	–i, –'i, –yi [3.4]	–e, –ye	–i, –yi	(?)

Other signs

◌ْ					[2.3]				
◌ّ					[2.4]	[3.5]			

Punctuation

،				,
؛				;
؟				?

Numbers

٠				0
١				1
٢				2
٣				3
۴				4
۵				5
۶				6
٧				7
٨				8
٩				9

Notes

* Character forms: *iso* isolated form, *ini* initial form, *med* medial form, *fin* final form.

A See also *Vowels and diphthongs*.

B   Used in words of Arabic origin.

C   Vowel pointing is normally not used in Persian (Farsi).

D   Marks *ezāfeh*. See individual notes.

1.0   *Deutsche Morgenländische Gesellschaft*. As referenced in *Die Umschift (Transkription) des arabisch-persischen Alphabets* and *Anleitung zur Transkription des Arabischen*. Corresponds to Deutsches Institut für Normung standard DIN 31 635.

2.0   *The United Nations recommended system.*

a. The adjectival ending of Arabic origin ‎ية- in Persian is romanized -īyeh. In romanizing the definite article the same rules of assimilation of consonants are applied as in Arabic, e.g. ‎زين الدين Zeyn od Dīn.

b. The relational suffix *(ezāfeh)* -e is usually not expressed in Persian writing after a consonant. After final ‎ا or ‎و it is written with ‎ى, e.g. ‎پای آب Pā–ye Āb. After final ‎ى and ‎ه it is expressed by writing *hamzeh* over the character: ‎دهانهٔ ممبر Dahāneh–ye Mambar. Se also note 2.2.

2.1   ā is used word-initially.

2.2   *Ezāfeh* is romanized –e after a consonant, except -ah; –ye after a vowel.

2.3   Not romanized; marks absence of the vowel.

2.4   Marks doubling of the consonant letter.

3.0   *American Library Association/Library of Congress.*

a. Use of prime: The prime (′) is used to separate two letters representing two distinct consonantal sounds, when the combination might otherwise be read as a digraph, e.g. ‎مرزها marz′hā. It is used to mark the use of a letter in its final form when it occurs in the middle of a word, e.g. ‎راهها rāh′hā, ‎قايم‌مقامى Qāyim′maqāmī.

b. The Arabic article al is separated by a hyphen from the word to which it is prefixed, e.g. ‎دار المعلمين dār al-muʿallimīn, ‎عبد الحسين ʿAbd al-Ḥussayn.

3.1   Silent ‎و following ‎خ is retained in romanization, e.g. ‎خواستن khvāstan, ‎خود khvud.

3.2   Used as an alternative to ‎ت in words of Arabic origin.

3.3   *Hamzah* when initial is not represented in romanization. When medial or final, it is romanized ′, e.g. ‎مؤثر muʾas̱s̱ir, ‎خلفاء khulafāʾ, ‎پائين pāʾīn. When used as a mark of *izāfah*, see note 3.4. When used to mark the indefinite article, it is romanized ʾi, e.g. ‎خانةٔ khānahʾi.

3.4   Izafah is romanized as follows:

No special mark: –i, e.g. ‎در باغ dar–i bāgh, ‎قالى ايران qālī–i Īrān.
Marked by ‎ء: –ʾi, e.g. ‎قالئ ايران qālī–ʾi Īrān, ‎خانةٔ بزرگ khānah–ʾi buzurg.
Marked by the addition of ‎ى: –yi, e.g. ‎روى زمين rū–yi zamīn, ‎خانهٔ بزرگ khānah–yi buzurg.

3.5   *Shaddah* or *tashdīd* is represented by doubling the letter, e.g. ‎خرّم khurram, ‎اوّل avval, ‎بچّه bachchah.

4.0   *United States Board on Geographic Names and the Permanent Committee on Geographical Names for British Official Use.*

a. In Persian names of Arabic origin, the word division used for Arabic will obtain, except that names ending in the word Allāh will be written solid and the a of Allāh will be replaced by o. The Arabic definite article will be written ol instead of al, e.g. ‎ذو الفقار Ẕū ol Faqār, ‎عبد اللاه ʿAbdollāh.

b. The *ezāfeh* will be rendered as –e after consonants and –ye after vowels. Final *he* ‎ة with *hamzeh* for *ezāfeh* will be rendered –ye.

c. *Khe* plus *vāv* plus long vowel, e.g. خوا or *khe* plus *vāv* plus *z̧ammeh* خُو will be rendered as khv although the v is not pronounced.

d. The word *ābād* which occurs at the end of place names will be written solid with the preceding word, e.g. الله آباد Allāhābād, not *Allāh Ābād*.

5.0 *The Encyclopaedia of Islam.*

6.0 *International Standards Organisation. (http://www.iso.ch).* "Persian language – simplified transliteration" as referenced in *United Nations Romanization Systems for Geographical Names.* According to the source the standard contains typographical errors and accordingly it does not provide transliteration of all characters. Any help in providing more information on ISO 233-3:1999 is welcome.

Sources

- *ALA-LC Romanization Tables: Transliteration Schemes for Non-Roman Scripts.* Randal K. Berry (ed.). Library of Congress, 1997. (http://lcweb.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/roman.html).

- *Anleitung zur Transkription des Arabischen.* Fachschaft Asiatisch-Orientalische Kulturwissenschaften, Universität Bonn, no date. (http://www.orientasia.uni-bonn.de/downloads/arab_trans.pdf).

- *The Encyclopaedia of Islam.* New Edition. Leiden, 1960-.

- *Joint BGN/PCGN Rules for the Treatment of Persian Geographic Names.* Extracted and revised from Special Publication No. 78 (1946) of the Board on Geographic Names. Superceded by "Transliteration System for Arabic Geographic Names" (The BGN/PCGN System), March 1957. (http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/maplib/ungegn/session-1/misc/joint-rules.pdf).

- Kayes, Alan S.: "Adaptations of Arabic Script", in Peter T. Daniels & William Bright, eds. *The World's Writing Systems.* New York/Oxford, 1996.

- Lagally, Klaus: *ArabTeX – a System for Typesetting Arabic. User Manual Version 3.09.* Institut für Informatik. Universität Stuttgart, 1999. (http://129.69.218.213/arabtex/doc/arabdoc.pdf).

- *Die Umschrift (Transkription) des arabisch-persischen Alphabets.* Seminar für Sprachen und Kulturen des Vorderen Orients – Islamwissenschaft. Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg, 2004. (http://islamwissenschaft.uni-hd.de/material/ tutorium_ws0405/Transkription.pdf).

- *Pärsia /* پارسی *Fārsī.* Eesti Keele Instituut / Institute of the Estonian Language. KNAB: Kohanimeandmebaas / Place Names Database, 2003-02-09. (http://www.eki.ee/knab/lat/kblfa1.pdf).

- *United Nations Romanization Systems for Geographical Names. Report on Their Current Status.* Compiled by the UNGEGN Working Group on Romanization Systems. Version 2.2. January 2003. (http://www.eki.ee/wgrs/).

- *The World's Major Languages.* Bernard Comrie (ed.). London, 1991.