

Azerbaijani

Perso-Arabic Script

Letters of the Alphabet

<i>Initial</i>	<i>Medial</i>	<i>Final</i>	<i>Alone</i>	<i>Romanization</i> (see Vowels and Digraphs and Note 1)
ا	ا	ا	ا	b
پ	پ	پ	پ	p
ت	ت	ت	ت	t
ث	ث	ث	ث	<u>s</u>
ج	ج	ج	ج	c
چ	چ	چ	چ	ç
ح	ح	ح	ح	h
خ	خ	خ	خ	x
د	د	د	د	d
ذ	ذ	ذ	ذ	<u>z</u>
ر	ر	ر	ر	r
ز	ز	ز	ز	z
ژ	ژ	ژ	ژ	j
س	س	س	س	s
ش	ش	ش	ش	ş
ص	ص	ص	ص	ş
ض	ض	ض	ض	z
ط	ط	ط	ط	t
ظ	ظ	ظ	ظ	z
ع	ع	ع	ع	' (ayn)
غ	غ	غ	غ	ğ
ف	ف	ف	ف	f
ق	ق	ق	ق	q
ک	ک	ک	ک	k
گ	گ	گ	گ	g
ل	ل	ل	ل	l
م	م	م	م	m
ن	ن	ن	ن	n
و	و	و	و	v

ھ	ه	ا	و	h
ی	ي	ى	ى	y

Vowels and Digraphs

	<i>Value</i>		<i>Examples</i>
a	اَ	barakat	برکت
i	اِ	sāh̄il	ساحل
ı	اِ	bādımcān	بادمجان
u	اُ	qudrat	قدرت
ā	اَ	qārdāş	قارداش
ā	آ	ārām	آرام
ū	وُ	būğā	بوغا
ü	وُ	üzüm	أوزوم
o	وُ	son	سون
ö	وُ	söz	سۆز
e	ئِ	tel	تتل
ī	ئِ	dalīl	دلیل
ı	ئِ	qārānlıq	قارانلیق
ey	ئِ	eyvān	ایوان
aw	وُ	dawlat	دولت

Notes to the Tables

1. In initial position, vowels are preceded by an alif. This alif is not represented in romanization:

avval	اَوَّل
ış	اِیْش
on	اُون

2. As seen in the examples above, vowel harmony, which is found in Modern Turkish, applies to Azerbaijani as well.

When romanizing vowels represented by اِ or ئِ, *i* is used rather than *ı* or *ī* when required by vowel harmony.

However, vowels represented by َ alone without a following و are always romanized as *u*.

3. The letter ى in final position may represent the long vowel romanized *á*, in addition to the vowels romanized *ī* and *ι*. This occurs in Arabic names, such as:

Muṣṭafá	مصطفى
al-Muṣanná	المثنى

4. Vowel points are used sparingly in Azerbaijani publications, and additional diacritics used to differentiate between some vowels may vary or be omitted. For romanization, they must be supplied from a dictionary.

RULES OF APPLICATION

Letters Which May Be Romanized in Different Ways Depending on Their Context

1. ء (*hamzah*)

(a) When initial, ء is not represented in romanization.

üzdah	أوزده
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(b) When medial or final in words of Perso-Arabic origin, ء is romanized as ' (alif), except when it represents the phonetic sound *e* (as in *men*), in which case it is romanized by *e*.

	mas'alah	مسئله
<i>but</i>	gecah	گنجہ
	neçah	نچہ

2. [not available by itself] (*maddah*)

(a) Initial Ā is romanized *ā*.

ādām	آدام
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(b) Medial Ā, when it represents the phonetic combination 'ā, is so romanized.

Heydar'ābād	حیدرآباد
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3. ّ (*shaddah* or *tashdīd*) is represented by doubling the letter or digraph concerned.

sāqqāl	ساقال
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Note the exceptional case where ّ is written over و and ى to represent the combination of long vowel plus consonants.

madanīyat	مدنیّت
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4. *Tanvīn*, (written َ, ِ, ِ̄, ِ̄̄, ِ̄̄̄, ِ̄̄̄̄), which occurs chiefly in Arabic words, is romanized *un*, *in*, *an*, and *an*, respectively.

5. The consonant letter *ö* at the end of Arabic words in the genitive construction (*izāfah*) is romanized by *t*.

takmilat al-axbār

تكملة الاخبار

Grammatical Structure as It Affects Romanization

6. *Izāfah*. When two Persian words are used in an Azerbaijani context in a relationship known as *izāfah*, the first word (the *muḏāf*) is followed by an additional letter or syllable in romanization. This is added according to the following rules:

(a) When the *muḏāf* bears no special mark of *izāfah*, it is followed by *-i*.

Sāzmān-i Tablīgāt-i Islāmī سازمان تبلیغات اسلامی

(b) When the *muḏāf* is marked by the addition of *ء*, it is followed by *-ī*.

Nābiḡah-ī dahr نابغه دهر

(c) When the *muḏāf* is marked by the addition of *ی*, it is followed by *-yi*.

daryā-yi nūr دریای نور

(d) *Izāfah* is represented in romanization of personal names when implied in the Perso-Arabic script.

Mucīr-i Beylaqānī مجیر بیلقانی

Maktabī-i Şīrāzī مکتبی شیرازی

Affixes and Compounds

7. Affixes.

(a) When the affix and the word with which it is connected grammatically are written separately in Azerbaijani, the two are separated in romanization by a single prime (').

gecah'lar گنجہ لر

'ālim'lar عالم لر

Nacaf'zādah نجف زاده

Vahābzādah'nīn وهابزاده نین

yāziçı'dī یازیچی ایدی

o ādāmlār'dīlār او آداملار ایدیلار

ḡayaḡdah'kī حیطده کی

(b) The Arabic article *a/* is separated by a hyphen, in romanization, from the word to which it is prefixed.

maqbarat al-şu'arā

مقبرة الشعرا

'Abd al-Karīm

عبد الكريم

8. Compounds. When the elements of a compound (except a compound personal name) are written separately in Azerbaijani, they are separated in romanization by a single prime (').

	Islām'şinās	اسلام شناس
<i>but</i>	Naqd 'Alī	نقد علی
	'Avaz 'Alī	عوضعلی

Orthography of Azerbaijani in Romanization

9. Capitalization.
- (a) Rules for the capitalization of English are followed, except that the Arabic article *a/*is lowercased in all positions.
- (b) Diacritics are used with both upper and lower case letters in romanization.
10. Foreign words. Foreign words in an Azerbaijani context, including Persian and Arabic words, are romanized according to the rules for Azerbaijani. For short vowels not indicated in the script, the Azerbaijani vowels nearest the original pronunciation of the word are supplied in romanization.

safīnat al-nacāt	سفينة النجات
şāhanşāhī	شاهنشاهی
kāpītālāsyon	کاپیتالاسیون

Cyrillic script

<i>Vernacular</i>	<i>Romanization</i>	<i>Vernacular</i>	<i>Romanization</i>
	<i>Upper case letters</i>		<i>Lower case letters</i>
А	A	а	a
Б	B	б	b
В	V	в	v
Г	G	г	g
Ғ	Gh	ғ	gh
Д	D	д	d
Е	E	е	e
Ё	Ё	ё	ë
Ө	Ä	ә	ä
Ж	Zh	ж	zh
З	Z	з	z
И	I	и	i
Й	Ī	й	ī
Ј	Ĵ	ј	ĵ
К	K	к	k
Қ	Ĝ	қ (қ)	ĝ
Л	L	л	l
М	M	м	m
Н	N	н	n
О	O	о	o
Ө	O	ө	ó
П	P	п	p
Р	R	р	r
С	S	с	s
Т	T	т	t
У	U	у	u
Ү	Ü	ү	ù
Ф	F	ф	f
Х	Kh	х	kh
Һ	Ĥ	һ	ĥ
Ц	ṪS	ц	ṫs
Ч	Ch	ч	ch
Ҷ	J	ҷ	j

Ш	Sh	ш	sh
Щ	Shch	щ	shch
Ъ	" (hard sign)	ъ	" (hard sign)
Ы	Y	ы	y
Ь	' (soft sign)	ь	' (soft sign)
Э	Ě	э	è
Ю	Ĭ	ю	īū
Я	ĬA	я	īā
'	' (apostrophe)	'	' (apostrophe)

The letters J, j replaced Й, й in 1959.

Roman script

When transcribing roman-script Azerbaijani, the letter ə is represented by ä.¹

¹ Per LC-PCC PS 1.4