

## Kurdish

(in Perso-Arabic Script)

### Letters of the Alphabet

#### Consonants

Initial	Medial	Final	Alone	Romanization
ء	ء	ء	ء	' (alif)
ب	بـ	ب	ب	b
پ	پـ	پ	پ	p
ت	تـ	ت	ت	t
ج	جـ	ج	ج	j
چ	چـ	چ	چ	ch
ح	حـ	ح	ح	ḥ
خ	خـ	خ	خ	kh
د	دـ	د	د	d
ر	رـ	ر	ر	r
ز	زـ	ز	ز	z
ژ	ژـ	ژ	ژ	zh
س	سـ	س	س	s
ش	شـ	ش	ش	sh
ص	صـ	ص	ص	ṣ
ع	عـ	ع	ع	' (ayn)
غ	غـ	غ	غ	gh
ف	فـ	ف	ف	f
ڤ	ڤـ	ڤ	ڤ	v
ق	قـ	ق	ق	q
ک	کـ	ک	ک	k
گ	گـ	گ	گ	g
ل	لـ	ل	ل	l
م	مـ	م	م	m
ن	نـ	ن	ن	n
و	وـ	و	و	w
ه	هـ	ه	ه	h
ی	یـ	ی	ی	y

#### Vowels

Initial	Medial	Final	Alone	Romanization
ه	هـ	ه	ه	a
ا	اـ	ا	ا	ā
و	وـ	و	و	u
وو	ووـ	وو	وو	ū
-	-	-	-	i
یی	ییـ	یی	یی	ī

**RULES OF APPLICATION**

1. When **ﻯ** represents the *idafah*, romanize it as *-i* following a consonant and as *-y* following a vowel. Attach this romanization to that of the preceding word.
2. Romanize the conjunction **ﻭ** as *wa*.
3. Romanize the particles **ﺑﺎ** and **ﻻ** as *ba-* and *la-*. Attach this romanization to that of the following word.
4. Romanize the *zhēr* (unwritten vowel) as *i*.
5. Use the single prime ( **'** ) in the following situations:
  - (a) To separate two letters representing two distinct consonantal sounds, when the combination might otherwise be read as a digraph;
  - (b) To mark the use of a letter in its final form when it occurs in the middle of a word.
6. For the romanization of Kurdish dialectal variants bearing diacritics (e.g., **ﻯ̇** ), use the romanization of the letter without the diacritic.
7. Romanize foreign words occurring in a Kurdish context and written in Kurdish letters according to the present tables and rules.

**SPECIAL CHARACTERS AND CHARACTER MODIFIERS IN ROMANIZATION**

<i>Special character</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>USMARC hexadecimal code</i>
'	soft sign (prime)	A7
’	alif	AE
‘	ayn	BO
<i>Character modifiers</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>USMARC hexadecimal code</i>
̄	macron	E5
̇	dot below	F2