Azerbaijani

Letters of the Alphabet

Initial	Medial	Final	Alone	Romanization
ا	ـا	ـا	ا	(see **Vowels and Digraphs**)
ب	ـبـ	ـب	ب	b
پ	ـپـ	ـپ	پ	p
ت	ـتـ	ـت	ت	t
ث	ـثـ	ـث	ث	s̲
ج	ـجـ	ـج	ج	c
چ	ـچـ	ـچ	چ	ç
ح	ـحـ	ـح	ح	ḥ
خ	ـخـ	ـخ	خ	x
د	ـد	ـد	د	d
ذ	ـذ	ـذ	ذ	z̲
ر	ـر	ـر	ر	r
ز	ـز	ـز	ز	z
ژ	ـژ	ـژ	ژ	j
س	ـسـ	ـس	س	s
ش	ـشـ	ـش	ش	ş
ص	ـصـ	ـص	ص	ṣ
ض	ـضـ	ـض	ض	ẓ
ط	ـطـ	ـط	ط	ṭ
ظ	ـظـ	ـظ	ظ	ẓ
ع	ـعـ	ـع	ع	ʿ (ayn)
غ	ـغـ	ـغ	غ	ğ
ف	ـفـ	ـف	ف	f
ق	ـقـ	ـق	ق	q
ک	ـکـ	ـك	ك	k
گ	ـگـ	ـگ	گ	g
ل	ـلـ	ـل	ل	l
م	ـمـ	ـم	م	m
ن	ـنـ	ـن	ن	n
و	ـو	ـو	و	v
ه	ـهـ	ـه	ه	h
ی	ـیـ	ـی	ی	y

Vowels and Digraphs	Value	Examples	
a	◌َ	barakat	برکت
i	◌ِ	sāḥil	ساحل
ı	◌ِ	bādımcān	بادمجان
u	◌ُ	qudrat	قدرت
ū	◌ُو	būğā	بوغا
ā	آ ، ا	ārām	آرام
e	◌ِا	enlī	ائنلی
ī	◌ِی	dalīl	دلیل
ı	◌ِی	qārānlıq	قارانلیق
ī	◌ِای	īş	ایش
ı	◌ِای	ışıq	ایشیق
o	◌ُاُو	on	اُون
ū	◌ُاو	ūn	اون
ö	◌ُاؤ	ön	اؤن
ü	◌ُأو	üzüm	أوزوم
ey	◌َیْ	eyvān	ایوان
aw	◌َو	Awḥadī	اوحدی
a	◌َا	avval	اوّل
i	◌ِا	istiqlāl	استقلال

Notes to the Tables

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

2. The letter ی in final position may represent the long vowel romanized *á*, in addition to the vowels romanized *ī* and ı. This occurs in Arabic names, such as:
   Muṣṭafá
   al-Muṯanná

3. Vowel points are used sparingly in Azerbaijani publications. 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

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

	mas'alah	مسئله
but	gecah	گئجه
	neçah	نئچه

2. ◌̃ (*maddah*)

(a) Initial آ is romanized *ā*.

ādām	آدام

(b) Medial آ, when it represents the phonetic combination *'ā*, is so romanized.

Ḥeydar'ābād	حیدرآباد

3. ◌̃ (*shaddah* or *tashdīd*) is represented by doubling the letter or digraph concerned.

sāqqāl	ساقّال

Note the exceptional case where ◌̃ is written over و and ی to represent the combination of long vowel plus consonants.

madanīyat	مدنّیّت

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

5. The consonant letter ة at the end of Arabic words in the genetive construction (*iẕāfah*) is romanized by *t*.

takmilat al-axbār	تکملة الاخبار

Grammatical Structure as It Affects Romanization

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

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

Sāzmān-i tabliğāti-Islāmī	سازمان تبلیغات اسلامی

(b) When the *muẕāf* is marked by the addition of ء, it is followed by *-'i*.

Nābiğah-'i dahr	نابغهٔ دهر

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

daryā-yi nūr	دریای نور

(d) *Iẓāfah* is represented in romanization of personal names only when implied in the Persian script.

Mucīr-i Beylaqānī	مجیر بیلقانی
Maktabī-i Şīrāzī	مکتبی شیرازی

Affixes and Compounds

7. Affixes.

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

gecah′lar	گئجه لر
ʻālim′lar	عالم لر
Nacaf′zādah	نجف زاده
Vahābzādah′nīn	وهابزادهنین
Yāzıçı′īdī	یازیچی ایدی
O ādāmlār′īdīlār	او آداملاراید یلار
ḥayaṭdah′kī	حیطدهکي

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

maqbarat al-şuʻarā	مقبرة الشعرا
ʻAbd al-Karīm	عبد الکریم

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
but	Naqd ʻAlī	نقد علی
	ʻAvaẓ ʻAlī	عوضعلی

Orthography of Azerbaijani in Romanization

9. Capitalization.

(a) Rules for the capitalization of English are followed, except that the Arabic article *al* is lower cased 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	سفینة النجات
Şāhanşāhī	شاهنشاهی
kāpītālāsyon	کاپیتالاسیون

SPECIAL CHARACTERS AND CHARACTER MODIFIERS IN ROMANIZATION

Special Characters	*Name*	*USMARC hexadecimal code*
ʹ	soft sign (prime)	A7
ʾ	alif	AE
ʿ	ayn	B0
ı	Turkish i (lower case)	B8

Character Modifiers	*Name*	*USMARC hexadecimal code*
◌́	acute	E2
◌̃	tilda	E4
◌̄	macron	E5
◌̆	breve	E6
◌̇	dot above	E7
◌̈	umlaut (diearesis)	E8
◌̧	cedilla	F0
◌̣	dot below	F2
◌̤	double dot below	F3
◌̲	underscore	F6