Devanagari (Nagari)Deva

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- **[Devanagari Transliteration](#)**

  There are several methods of transliteration from Devanagari into Roman scripts.

  A standard transliteration convention was codified in the ISO 15919 standard of 2001. It uses diacritics to map the much larger set of Brahmic graphemes to the Latin script. The Devanagari-specific portion is nearly identical to the academic standard for Sanskrit, IAST. More information about this standard is available from ↗ [Wikipedia](#). Copies of the standard can be obtained from the Central Secretariat, ISO, Case postale 56, 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, or purchased from the ↗ [ISO website](#).
  The International Alphabet of Sanskrit Transliteration (IAST) is the academic standard for the romanization of Sanskrit. IAST is the de-facto standard used in printed publications, such as books and magazines; with the wider availability of Unicode fonts, it is also increasingly used for electronic texts. It is based on a standard established by the Congress of Orientalists at Athens in 1912. A ↗ [Devanagari to Latin transliterator](#) is available, based on the IAST standard. ITRANS is a lossless transliteration scheme from Devanagari into ASCII which is widely used in electronic texts. It is an extension of the Harvard-Kyoto scheme,

which was set up by Harvard University and the University of Kyoto for the purpose of transliterating Sanskrit into ASCII. ITRANS is associated with an application of the same name that enables typesetting in Indic scripts. The user inputs in Roman letters and the ITRANS pre-processor displays the Roman letters into Devanagari. The latest version of ITRANS is version 5.30 released in July, 2001. The National Library at Kolkata (NLK) romanization, intended for the romanization of all Indic scripts, is an extension of IAST.
The Huntarian system is the one officially used by the Government of India. The original system has undergone evolution over time, and some diacritics have not been accepted by all users of the system. Not using the diacritics means that long versus short vowels, and dental versus retroflex consonants, are not differentiated in the transliteration. More information about the Hunterian system is available from ↗ **Wikipedia**.

This table compares some of the different Romanization systems currently in use. Please note that the table does not currently include additional Devanagari characters used for Kashmiri, Marathi, or Sanskrit.

Consonants:

Devanagari	ISO 15919	IAST*	ITRANS*	Harvard-Kyoto*	NLK	Huntarian
क	ka	K k	k	k	ka	ka
ख	kha	Kh kh	kh	kh	kha	kha
ग	ga	G g	g	g	ga	ga
घ	gha	Gh gh	gh	gh	gha	gha
ङ	ṅa	Ṅ ṅ	~N/N^	G	ṅa	nga
च	ca	C c	ch	c	ca	cha
छ	cha	Ch ch	Ch	ch	cha	chha
ज	ja	J j	j	j	ja	ja
झ	jha	Jh jh	jh	jh	jh	jha
ञ	ña	Ñ ñ	~n / JN	J	ña	na
ट	ṭa	Ṭ ṭ	T	T	ṭa	ta
ठ	ṭha	Ṭh ṭh	Th	Th	ṭha	tha
ड	ḍa	Ḍ ḍ	D	D	ḍa	da
ढ	ḍha	Ḍh ḍh	Dh	Dh	ḍha	dha
ण	ṇa	Ṇ ṇ	N	N	ṇa	na

त	ta	T t	t	t	ta	ta
थ	tha	Th th	th	th	tha	tha
द	da	D d	d	d	da	da
ध	dha	Dh dh	dh	dh	dha	dha
न	na	N n	n	n	na	na
प	pa	P p	p	p	pa	pa
फ	pha	Ph ph	ph	ph	pha	pha
ब	ba	B b	b	b	ba	ba
भ	bha	Bh bh	bh	bh	bha	bha
म	ma	M m	m	m	ma	ma
य	ya	Y y	y	y	ya	ya
र	ra	R r	r	r	ra	ra
ल	la	L l	L	l	la	la
ळ	ḷa					
व	va	V v	v/w	v	va	wa/va
श	śa	Ś ś	sh	z	śa	sha/sa**
ष	ṣa	Ṣ ṣ	Sh	S	ṣa	sha
स	sa	S s	s	s	sa	sa
ह	ha	H h	h	h	ha	ha
क़	qa		q			qa
ख़	k̲ha		Kh			kha
ग़	ġa		G			gha
ज़	za		z / J			
ड़	ṛa		.D			
ढ़	ṛha		.Dh			
फ़	fa		f			

Vowels:

Devanagari	ISO 15919	IAST*	ITRANS*	Harvard-Kyoto	NLK	Huntarian
अ	a	A a	a	a	a	a
आ / ा	ā	Ā ā	A/aa	A	ā	a/ā
इ / ि	i	I i	i	i	i	i
ई / ी	ī	Ī ī	I/ii	I	ī	i/ī
उ / ु	u	U u	u	u	u	u
ऊ / ू	ū	Ū ū	U / uu	U	ū	ū
ए / े	ē	E e	e	e	ē	e
ऐ / ै	ai	Ai ai	ai	ai	ai	ai
ओ / ो	ō	O o	o	o	ō	o
औ / ौ	au	Au au	au	au	au	au
ऋ / ृ	r̥		Rri/Ri	R		ri/r̥ĭ
ऌ / ॢ	l̥			lR	LLi / Li	
ॠ / ॄ	r̥̄			RR	RRI / RI	ri/r̥ĭ
ॡ / ॣ	l̥̄		LLI / LI	lRR		

Conjuncts:

Devanagari	ISO 15919	IAST*	ITRANS*	Harvard-Kyoto	NLK	Huntarian
क्ष	kṣa		x/ksh			ksha/kṣha
त्र	tra		tra			tra
ज्ञ	jña		GY/j~n			gya / jña (Sanskrit)
श्र	śra		shr			shra

Non-Alphabetic Symbols:

Devanagari	ISO 15919	IAST*	ITRANS*	Harvard-Kyoto	NLK	Huntarian
य़	ẏa					
ं	ṁ	Ṃ ṃ	.n/M/.m	M		h/ḥ
ः	ḥ	Ḥ ḥ	H	H		
ँ	m̐		.N			m / n / ṃ / ṅ

halant	**.h**
om symbol	**OM / AUM**

*** IAST, ITRANS and Harvard-Kyoto do not represent the implicit 'a' by default.
This must be included explicitly if required.
** Both sha and sa are used by Nepali speakers.**

 Contributor [ScriptSource Staff](#)

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- **[Limbu Conversion Mapping Files](#)converter**

  If you have existing data using the Namdhinggo SIL L font and wish to convert your data to Unicode you may use the TECkit mapping file (called "Limbu") that is available from this webpage. Since Namdhinggo SIL L used an encoding that is common among other fonts for the script it is possible that this mapping file will work for texts using those custom-encoded Limbu fonts.

  Also provided is the "DevUni-LimUni12" mapping file. It gives the ability to convert between Devanagari script and Limbu script.

Link	**[Limbu Conversion Mapping Files](#)**
Requirements	↗ **[TECkit](#) and/or** ↗ **[SIL Converters](#)**
License	**[MIT/X11 License](#) Allows use, study, modification, redistribution**
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International Alphabet of Sanskrit Transliteration

The **International Alphabet of Sanskrit Transliteration** (**IAST**) is a transliteration scheme that allows a lossless romanization of Indic scripts as employed by the Sanskrit language. It is also used to romanize Pāli, Prākṛta and Apabhraṁśa.

Use

IAST is especially used for books dealing with ancient Sanskrit and Pāli topics related to Indian religions. The script is, however, insufficient to represent both Sanskrit and Pāli on the same page properly because the ḷ, a vowel in Sanskrit, is the retroflexive consonant in Pāli. Here it is better to follow Unicode and ISO 15919, which is in any case a more comprehensive scheme.

IAST is based on a standard established by the *International Congress of Orientalists* at Geneva in 1894.[1][2] It allows a lossless transliteration of Devanāgarī (and other Indic scripts, such as Śāradā script); and, as such, it represents not only the phonemes of Sanskrit, but allows essentially phonetic transcription. E.g., Visarga ḥ is an allophone of word-final *r* and *s*.

The National Library at Kolkata romanization, intended for the romanization of all Indic scripts, is an extension of IAST.

Sign inventory and conventions

The sign inventory of IAST (both small and capital letters) shown with Devanāgarī equivalents and phonetic values in IPA, is as follows (valid for Sanskrit; for Hindi and other modern languages that use Devanagari script, some phonological changes have occurred):

IAST

Category	Devanāgarī	Transcription	Lower case	Upper case
vowels	अ	[ɐ]	a	A
	आ	[ɑː]	ā	Ā
	इ	[i]	i	I
	ई	[iː]	ī	Ī
	उ	[u]	u	U
	ऊ	[uː]	ū	Ū
	ऋ	[ɻ]	ṛ	Ṛ
	ॠ	[ɻː]	ṝ	Ṝ
	ऌ	[l̩]	ḷ	Ḷ
	ॡ	[l̩ː]	ḹ	Ḹ
diphthongs	ए	[eː]	e	E
	ऐ	[aːi]	ai	Ai
	ओ	[oː]	o	O
	औ	[aːu]	au	Au
anusvara	अं	[ⁿ]	ṃ	Ṃ

visarga	अः	[h]	ḥ	Ḥ

velars	palatals	retroflexes	dentals	labials	
क [k] k K	च [c] c C	ट [ʈ] ṭ Ṭ	त [t̪] t T	प [p] p P	tenuis plosives
ख [kʰ] kh Kh	छ [cʰ] ch Ch	ठ [ʈʰ] ṭh Ṭh	थ [t̪ʰ] th Th	फ [pʰ] ph Ph	aspirated plosives
ग [g] g G	ज [ɟ] j J	ड [ɖ] ḍ Ḍ	द [d̪] d D	ब [b] b B	voiced plosives
घ [gʰ] gh Gh	झ [ɟʰ] jh Jh	ढ [ɖʰ] ḍh Ḍh	ध [d̪ʰ] dh Dh	भ [bʰ] bh Bh	breathy-voiced plosives
ङ [ŋ] ṅ Ṅ	ञ [ɲ] ñ Ñ	ण [ɳ] ṇ Ṇ	न [n] n N	म [m] m M	nasal stops
	य [j] y Y	र [r] r R	ल [l] l L	व [ʋ] v V	semi-vowels
	श [ɕ] ś Ś	ष [ʂ] ṣ Ṣ	स [s] s S		sibilants
ह [ɦ] h H					voiced fricative

Unlike ASCII-only romanizations such as ITRANS or Harvard-Kyoto, the diacritics used for IAST allow capitalization of proper names. The capital variants of letters which never occur word-initially (Ṇ Ṅ Ñ Ṝ) are useful only in Pāṇini contexts, where the convention is to typeset the *IT* sounds as capital letters.

Comparison with ISO 15919

For the most part, IAST is a subset of ISO 15919. The following five exceptions are due to the ISO standard accommodating an extended repertoire of symbols to allow transliteration of Devanāgarī and other Indic scripts as used for languages other than Sanskrit.

Devanāgarī	IAST	ISO 15919	Comment
ए/ े	e	ē	ISO *e* represents ऎ/ ॆ.
ओ/ ो	o	ō	ISO *o* represents ऒ/ ॊ.
ंं	ṃ	ṁ	ISO *ṃ* represents Gurmukhi Tippi ੰ.
ऋ/ ृ	ṛ	r̥	ISO *ṛ* represents ड़ /ɽ/.
ॠ/ ॄ	ṝ	r̥̄	for consistency with *r̥*.

References

[1] History of Skt. transcription and *1894, Rapport de la Trans.* (http://shashir.autodidactus.org/shashir_umich/sanskrit_transcription.html)

[2] Xme Congrès International des Orientalistes, Session de Genève. 1894. *Rapport de la Commission de Transcription* (http://shashir. autodidactus.org/shashir_umich/dl/rapportdetranscription.pdf).

External links

- Typing a macron (http://www.personal.psu.edu/ejp10/psu/gotunicode/macron.html) - page from Penn State University about typing with accents
- IAST <==> Devanagari online converter (Transliteration tool) (http://epandit.shrish.in/tools/IAST-DV-IAST/)

Article Sources and Contributors

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