

# Introduction to PĪ‘āpā Hou

- Alternative Alphabet for Hawaiian -

## Ho‘omaka i ka PĪ‘āpā Hou

Ho‘omaka i ka  
PĪ‘āpā Hou

Created by Ben Norton  
(January 2019)

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## Pī‘āpā Hou

Pī‘āpā Hou (meaning “new alphabet” in Hawaiian) is an alternative alphabet for Hawaiian (‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i) invented by Ben Norton. It can also be used to write other languages (specifically other Polynesian languages, such as Tahitian or Māori). It is based on the Latin alphabet conventionally used for writing Hawaiian and therefore includes kahakō (a macron, or diacritical mark, for long vowels) as well as the ‘okina (phonemic glottal stop), but the letters themselves were inspired by shapes found in nature upon the inventor’s first visit to the island of Kauai‘i.

### Notable features

- Type of script: alphabet
- Direction of writing: left to write, top to bottom
- Used to write: Hawaiian, and other Polynesian languages

### Vowels

Ō o A a [a]

Ē ē E e [e]

Ī ī I i [i]

Ō ō O o [o]

Ū ū U u [i]

Ā ā [aː]

Ē ē [eː]

Ī ī [iː]

Ō ō [oː]

Ū ū [uː]

### Consonants

H h [h]

K k [k/t]

L l [l/ɾ/d]

M m [m]

N n [n]

P p [p/b]

W w [w/v/v]

‘ [ʔ]

[ ] = International Phonetic Alphabet

**Supplementary consonants** (used primarily for loan words)

ඌ ඌ	D d	[d]	ඦ ඦ	S s	[s]
ඹ ඹ	F f	[f]	ඳ ඳ	T t	[t]
ඳ ඳ	G g	[g]	ඟ ඟ	Y y	[j]
ඟ ඟ	R r	[r]			
ඟ් ඟ්	Th th	[θ/ð]	*written using a kahakō		

The following phonemes are produced by adding an 'okina to the letter.

ඹ් ඹ්	B b	[b]
ඳ් ඳ්	Ch ch	[tʃ]
ඟ් ඟ්	Sh sh	[ʃ]
ඳ් ඳ්	J j	[dʒ]
ඦ් ඦ්	Z z	[z]
ඌ් ඌ්	Dj dj	[ʒ]

**Note:** If there is in fact an 'okina following one of the above letters, then two 'okina would be written. For example, when writing the following Japanese sentence:

කි‍්‍රයෝ මම‍්‍යය්‍යා කුණ‍්‍යය්‍යා. [*chotto matte kudasai*]

Japanese: ちょっと待って下さい / English translation: "Please wait a moment."

Numbers

∅	0	Ⓟ	5
∩	1	Ⓠ	6
∞	2	Ⓡ	7
∞	3	Ⓢ	8
∞	4	Ⓣ	9

Symbols

.	.	Ⓞ	&	/	/	\	\
,	,		'		"	+	+
!	!	::		;	;	=	=
?	?	-	-	∇	*	\$	\$
[	[	]	]	∞		.	_
{	{	}	}	<	<	>	>
(	(	)	)	%	%	∞	
“	/	’		#	#	Ⓢ	@

**Mele Mark**  
*Used before and after sentences/paragraphs expressing traditional songs, poems, or chants.*

**Sample text in Pī‘āpā Hou (standard font)**

කිසිදෙනෙකුටත් නිදහසක් ලැබීමට සෑම අයෙකුටම අයිතියක් ඇත. ඔවුන්ට ජීවිතයේ සියලුම අයිතිවාසිකම් සහ නිදහසක් ඇත. ඔවුන්ට ජීවිතයේ සියලුම අයිතිවාසිකම් සහ නිදහසක් ඇත. ඔවුන්ට ජීවිතයේ සියලුම අයිතිවාසිකම් සහ නිදහසක් ඇත.

**Sample text in Pī‘āpā Hou (sharp font)**

කිසිදෙනෙකුටත් නිදහසක් ලැබීමට සෑම අයෙකුටම අයිතියක් ඇත. ඔවුන්ට ජීවිතයේ සියලුම අයිතිවාසිකම් සහ නිදහසක් ඇත. ඔවුන්ට ජීවිතයේ සියලුම අයිතිවාසිකම් සහ නිදහසක් ඇත. ඔවුන්ට ජීවිතයේ සියලුම අයිතිවාසිකම් සහ නිදහසක් ඇත.

**Sample text in Pī‘āpā Hou (slim font)**

කිසිදෙනෙකුටත් නිදහසක් ලැබීමට සෑම අයෙකුටම අයිතියක් ඇත. ඔවුන්ට ජීවිතයේ සියලුම අයිතිවාසිකම් සහ නිදහසක් ඇත. ඔවුන්ට ජීවිතයේ සියලුම අයිතිවාසිකම් සහ නිදහසක් ඇත. ඔවුන්ට ජීවිතයේ සියලුම අයිතිවාසිකම් සහ නිදහසක් ඇත.

**Sample text in Pī‘āpā Hou (thin font)**

කිසිදෙනෙකුටත් නිදහසක් ලැබීමට සෑම අයෙකුටම අයිතියක් ඇත. ඔවුන්ට ජීවිතයේ සියලුම අයිතිවාසිකම් සහ නිදහසක් ඇත. ඔවුන්ට ජීවිතයේ සියලුම අයිතිවාසිකම් සහ නිදහසක් ඇත. ඔවුන්ට ජීවිතයේ සියලුම අයිතිවාසිකම් සහ නිදහසක් ඇත.

**Sample text in standard Hawaiian**

Hānau kū'oko'a 'ia nā kānaka apau loa, a ua kau like ka hanohano a me nā pono kīvila ma luna o kākou pākahi. Ua ku'u mai ka no'ono'o pono a me ka 'ike pono ma luna o kākou, no laila, e aloha kākou kekahi i kekahi.

**Translation**

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood. (Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights)



Font for Pī‘āpā Hou (“Kauai”) [full list of characters]

A	𐄀	a	𐄁	Ā	𐄂	ā	𐄃
B	𐄄	b	𐄅	Ē	𐄆	ē	𐄇
C	𐄈	c	𐄉	Ī	𐄊	ī	𐄋
D	𐄌	d	𐄍	Ō	𐄎	ō	𐄏
E	𐄐	e	𐄑	Ū	𐄒	ū	𐄓
F	𐄔	f	𐄕	0	𐄖	:	𐄗
G	𐄘	g	𐄙	1	𐄚	:	𐄛
H	𐄜	h	𐄝	2	𐄞	-	𐄟
I	𐄠	i	𐄡	3	𐄢	*	𐄣
J	𐄤	j	𐄥	4	𐄦	&	𐄧
K	𐄨	k	𐄩	5	𐄪	@	𐄫
L	𐄬	l	𐄭	6	𐄮	{	𐄯
M	𐄲	m	𐄳	7	𐄴	}	𐄵
N	𐄸	n	𐄹	8	𐄺	(	𐄻
O	𐄼	o	𐄽	9	𐄽	)	𐄾
P	𐄿	p	𐅀	.	𐅁	\	𐅂
Q	𐅄	q	𐅅	,	𐅆	/	𐅇
R	𐅈	r	𐅉	!	𐅊	+	𐅋
S	𐅍	s	𐅎	?	𐅏	=	𐅐
T	𐅓	t	𐅔	[	𐅕	\$	𐅖
U	𐅙	u	𐅚	]	𐅛	%	𐅜
V	𐅟	v	𐅠	#	𐅡	^	𐅢
W	𐅤	w	𐅥	'	𐅦	>	𐅧
X	𐅨	x	𐅩	"	𐅪	~	𐅫
Y	𐅰	y	𐅱	"/	𐅲		𐅳
Z	𐅶	z	𐅷	“/”	𐅸		

[‘okina]

\*Words written in red are duplicates to simplify typing vowels with macrons.



Font for Pī‘āpā Hou (“Kauai (sharp)”) [full list of characters]

A	𐄀	a	𐄁	Ā	𐄂	ā	𐄃
B	𐄄	b	𐄅	Ē	𐄆	ē	𐄇
C	𐄈	c	𐄉	Ī	𐄊	ī	𐄋
D	𐄌	d	𐄍	Ō	𐄎	ō	𐄏
E	𐄐	e	𐄑	Ū	𐄒	ū	𐄓
F	𐄔	f	𐄕	0	𐄖	:	𐄗
G	𐄘	g	𐄙	1	𐄚	:	𐄛
H	𐄜	h	𐄝	2	𐄞	-	𐄟
I	𐄠	i	𐄡	3	𐄢	*	𐄣
J	𐄤	j	𐄥	4	𐄦	&	𐄧
K	𐄨	k	𐄩	5	𐄪	@	𐄫
L	𐄬	l	𐄭	6	𐄮	{	𐄯
M	𐄲	m	𐄳	7	𐄴	}	𐄵
N	𐄸	n	𐄹	8	𐄺	(	𐄻
O	𐄼	o	𐄽	9	𐄽	)	𐄾
P	𐄿	p	𐅀	.	𐅁	\	𐅂
Q	𐅄	q	𐅅	,	𐅆	/	𐅇
R	𐅈	r	𐅉	!	𐅊	+	𐅋
S	𐅍	s	𐅎	?	𐅏	=	𐅐
T	𐅒	t	𐅓	[	𐅔	\$	𐅕
U	𐅘	u	𐅙	]	𐅚	%	𐅛
V	𐅞	v	𐅟	#	𐅠		
W	𐅤	w	𐅥	'	𐅦	<	𐅧
X	𐅨	x	𐅩	"	𐅪	>	𐅫
Y	𐅰	y	𐅱	” / ’	𐅲		𐅳
Z	𐅸	z	𐅹	“ / ‘	𐅺		

[‘okina]

\*Words written in red are duplicates to simplify typing vowels with macrons.



Font for Pī‘āpā Hou (“Kauai (slim)”) [full list of characters]



A	𐄀	a	𐄁	Ā	𐄂	ā	𐄃
B	𐄄	b	𐄅	Ē	𐄆	ē	𐄇
C	𐄈	c	𐄉	Ī	𐄊	ī	𐄋
D	𐄌	d	𐄍	Ō	𐄎	ō	𐄏
E	𐄐	e	𐄑	Ū	𐄒	ū	𐄓
F	𐄔	f	𐄕	0	𐄖	:	𐄗
G	𐄘	g	𐄙	1	𐄚	:	𐄛
H	𐄜	h	𐄝	2	𐄞	-	𐄟
I	𐄠	i	𐄡	3	𐄢	*	𐄣
J	𐄤	j	𐄥	4	𐄦	&	𐄧
K	𐄨	k	𐄩	5	𐄪	@	𐄫
L	𐄬	l	𐄭	6	𐄮	{	𐄯
M	𐄲	m	𐄳	7	𐄴	}	𐄵
N	𐄸	n	𐄹	8	𐄺	(	𐄻
O	𐄼	o	𐄽	9	𐄽	)	𐄾
P	𐄻	p	𐄿	.	𐄿	\	𐄿
Q	𐄽	q	𐄾	,	𐄾	/	𐄾
R	𐄿	r	𐄿	!	𐄿	+	𐄿
S	𐄻	s	𐄿	?	𐄿	=	𐄿
T	𐄿	t	𐄿	[	𐄿	\$	𐄿
U	𐄻	u	𐄿	]	𐄿	%	𐄿
V	𐄻	v	𐄿	#	𐄿	_	𐄿
W	𐄿	w	𐄿	'	𐄿	<	𐄿
X	𐄿	x	𐄿	"	𐄿	>	𐄿
Y	𐄻	y	𐄿	"/	𐄿		𐄿
Z	𐄿	z	𐄿	“/”	𐄿		𐄿
				‘/’	𐄿		𐄿
				‘okina]			

\*Words written in red are duplicates to simplify typing vowels with macrons.



Font for Pī‘āpā Hou (“Kauai (thin)”) [full list of characters]

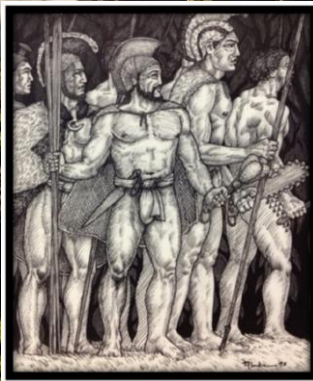
A	∞	a	∞	Ā	∞	ā	∞
B	∞	b	∞	Ē	∞	ē	∞
C	∞	c	∞	Ī	∞	ī	∞
D	∞	d	∞	Ō	∞	ō	∞
E	∞	e	∞	Ū	∞	ū	∞
F	∞	f	∞	0	0	:	:
G	∞	g	∞	1	1	:	:
H	∞	h	∞	2	2	-	-
I	∞	i	∞	3	3	*	*
J	∞	j	∞	4	4	&	&
K	∞	k	∞	5	5	@	@
L	∞	l	∞	6	6	{	{
M	∞	m	∞	7	7	}	}
N	∞	n	∞	8	8	(	(
O	∞	o	∞	9	9	)	)
P	∞	p	∞	.	.	\	\
Q	∞	q	∞	,	,	/	/
R	∞	r	∞	!	!	+	+
S	∞	s	∞	?	?	=	=
T	∞	t	∞	[	[	\$	\$
U	∞	u	∞	]	]	%	%
V	∞	v	∞	#	#	_	_
W	∞	w	∞	'	'	<	<
X	∞	x	∞	"	"	>	>
Y	∞	y	∞	"/	"/		
Z	∞	z	∞	“/”	“/”		
				“/”	“/”		

[‘okina]

\*Words written in red are duplicates to simplify typing vowels with macrons.

පුනරුත්ථාප  
කථන

# ධූපයායු



ආර්ය ජාතීන්ගේ ජාතික ආගම වන බුදු ධර්මයේ ප්‍රධාන අංගයක් වන ධූපයායු

[ඉතිහාසයේ සිට]

## ආගම ආගම

- ආගම
- ආගම
- ආගම
- ආගම
- ආගම
- ආගම



### ආගම

### ආගම

[ඉතිහාසයේ සිට]

### ආගම

[ඉතිහාසයේ සිට]

### ආගම

ආගම ආගම

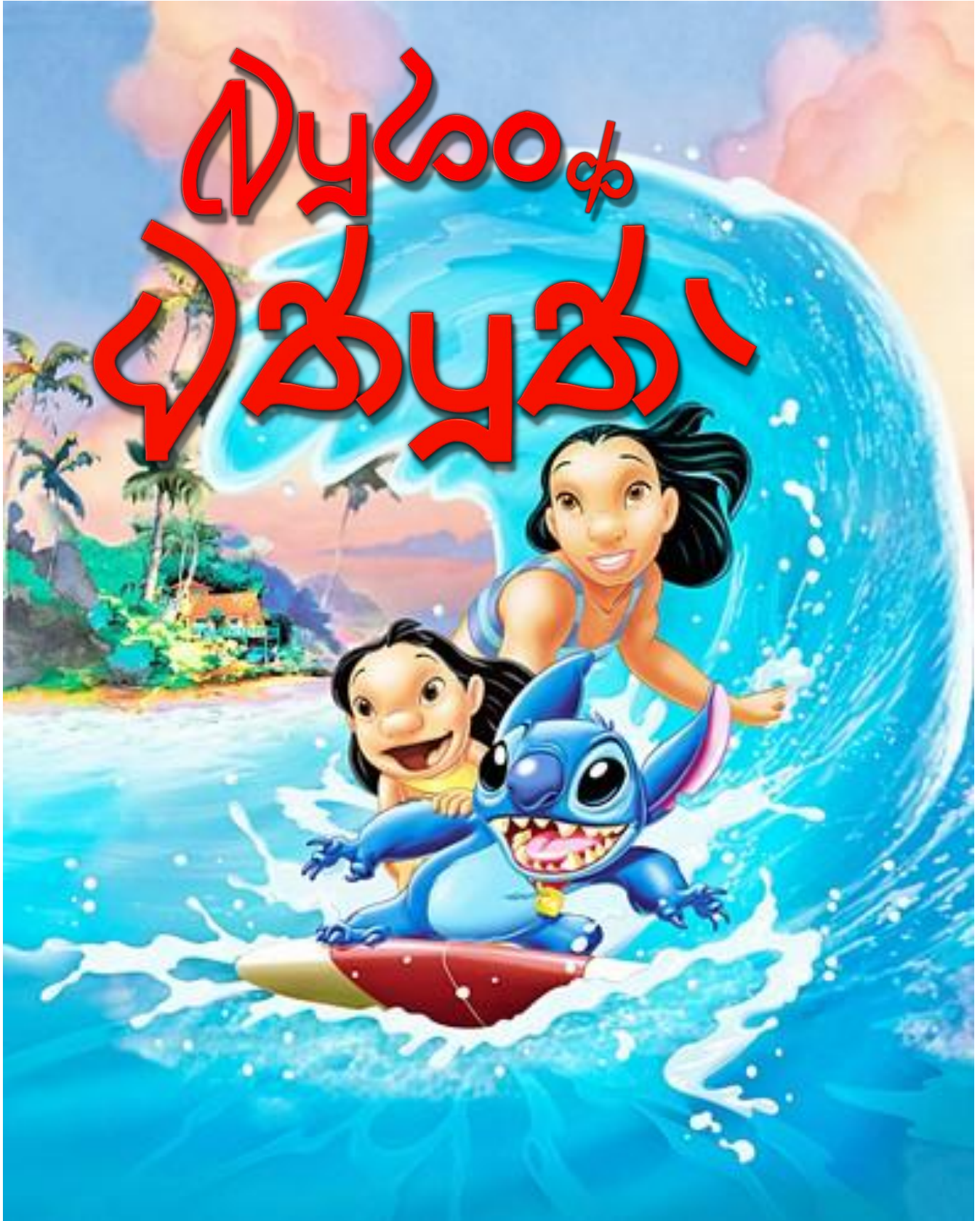


ආගම ආගම









Link/QR to YouTube video of a scene from “Lilo & Stitch” with Pī’āpā Hou subtitles:  
<http://y2u.be/mGHPFqS1jPc>

