

# Kagangana (カガガナ)

Kagangana is an alternative script to write Indonesian and other regional languages in Indonesia using Japanese katakana with a bit of adaptation. Its name derived from syllables *ka*, *ga*, and *nga* that commonly appear as three first syllables on traditional scripts in Indonesia. The idea of making the adaptation came from Erlangga Saputra, an Indonesian student who started to learn Japanese in his high school years, in 2017 and is improved in the next years. He expect that this script could be a new style to write Indonesian as an unofficial writing system for Indonesian youngsters who are interested in Japanese and especially for both of Indonesians and Japanese to relate each other.

## Notable features

Type of writing system: syllabary

Direction of writing: left to right in horizontal lines

Used to write: Indonesian (also applicable for Malay, Javanese, Sundanese, and other regional languages in Indonesia)

## Chart A

This chart contains syllables that used in Indonesian native sounds.

ア a [a]	い i [i]	う u [u]	エ e [ɛ/e]	オ o [o/ɔ]	カ '/k [ʔ]	マ ma [ma]	ミ mi [mi]	ム mu [mu]	メ me [mɛ/me]	モ mo [mo/mɔ]	ム m [m]
カ ka [ka]	キ ki [ki]	ク ku [ku]	ケ ke [kɛ/ke]	コ ko [ko/kɔ]	ク k [k]	ヤ ya [ja]	イ yi [ji]	ユ yu [ju]	イエ ye [jɛ/je]	ヨ yo [jo/jɔ]	
ガ ga [ga]	ギ gi [gi]	グ gu [gu]	ゲ ge [gɛ/ge]	ゴ go [go/gɔ]	グ g [k]	ラ ra [ra]	リ ri [ri]	ル ru [ru]	レ re [rɛ/re]	ロ ro [ro/rɔ]	ル r [r]
ガ nga [ŋa]	ギ ngi [ŋi]	グ ngu [ŋu]	ゲ nge [ŋɛ/ŋe]	ゴ ngo [ŋo/ŋɔ]	グ ng [ŋ]	ラ la [la]	リ li [li]	ル lu [lu]	レ le [lɛ/le]	ロ lo [lo/lɔ]	ル l [l]
ナ na [na]	ニ ni [ni]	ヌ nu [nu]	ネ ne [nɛ/ne]	ノ no [no/nɔ]	ヌ n [n/ŋ]	ワ wa [wa]	ヰ wi [wi]	ウ wu [wu]	ヱ we [wɛ/we]	ヲ wo [wo/wɔ]	
ナ nya [na]	ニ nyi [ni]	ヌ nyu [nu]	ネ nye [nɛ/nye]	ノ nyo [no/nɔ]		サ sa [sa]	シ si [si]	ス su [su]	セ se [sɛ/se]	ソ so [so/sɔ]	ス s [s]
タ ta [ta]	チ ti [ti]	ツ tu [tu]	テ te [tɛ/te]	ト to [to/tɔ]	ト t [t]	ジア ja [dʒa]	ジ ji [dʒi]	ジウ ju [dʒu]	ジエ je [dʒɛ/dʒe]	ジオ jo [dʒɔ]	
ダ da [da]	ヂ di [di]	ヅ du [du]	デ de [dɛ/de]	ド do [do/dɔ]	ド d [d]	シ ca [tʃa]	シ ci [tʃi]	シウ cu [tʃu]	シエ ce [tʃɛ/tʃe]	シオ co [tʃɔ]	
ハ ha [ha]	ヒ hi [hi]	フ hu [hu]	ヘ he [hɛ/he]	ホ ho [ho/hɔ]	ー h [h]						
バ ba [ba]	ビ bi [bi]	ブ bu [bu]	ベ be [bɛ/be]	ボ bo [bo/bɔ]	ブ b [b]						
パ pa [pa]	ピ pi [pi]	プ pu [pu]	ペ pe [pɛ/pe]	ポ po [po/pɔ]	プ p [p]						
						アイ ai [aɪ]	アウ au [aʊ]	エイ ei [eɪ]	オイ oi [oɪ]	エウ e [e]	ン -N- [n/ŋ/n/m]

**Chart A+**

This chart contains syllables that only used for other native sounds in other regional languages in Indonesia

タハ tha	チヒ thi	ツフ thu	テヘ the	トホ tho		ムバ mba	ムビ mbi	ムブ mbu	ムベ mbe	ムボ mbo
ダハ dha	ヂヒ dhi	ヅフ dhu	デヘ dhe	ドホ dho		ムパ mpa	ムピ mpi	ムプ mpu	ムペ mpe	ムポ mpo
ラ ra	リ ri	ル ru	レ re	ロ ro	ル r	ヌタ nta	ヌチ nta	ヌツ nta	ヌテ nta	ヌト nta
/r/ sound variations: [ʀ], [x], [ʎ], etc.										
...ヤ +ya [a]		...ユ +yu [u]		...ヨ +yo [o]	ユ y [i]	ヌダ nda	ヌヂ ndi	ヌヅ ndu	ヌデ nde	ヌド ndo
for example:										
ジャ jya [d͡ʒa]		ビュ byu [biu]		シヨ syo [sio]	ワユ way [waj]	エウ eu [ɾ/w/i]	オア ö [ʌ]	オオ ô [o]	ウ u /u/ variant	

**Chart B**

This chart contains syllables that only used for loanwords in Indonesian.

ファ fa [fa]	フィ fi [fi]	フウ fu [fu]	フェ fe [fe/fe]	フォ fo [fo/fo]	フ f [f]	ジ j [d͡ʒ]
ヴァ va [fa]	ヴィ vi [fi]	ヴ vu [fu]	ヴェ ve [fe/fe]	ヴォ vo [fo/fo]	ヴ v [f]	
クア qa [ka]	クイ qi [ki]	ク qu [ku]	クエ qe [ke/ke]	クオ qo [ko/ko]		
シア sya [a]	シイ syi [i]	シウ syu [u]	シエ sye [e/fe]	シオ syo [o/fo]	シ sy [ʃ]	
クハ kha [xa]	クヒ khi [xi]	クフ khu [xu]	クヘ khe [xe/xe]	クホ kho [xo/xo]	クホ kh [x]	
クサ xa/ksa [ksa]	クシ xi/ksi [ksi]	クス xu/ksu [ksu]	クセ xe/kse [kse/kse]	クソ xo/kso [kso/kso]	クス ks [ks]	

**Notes**

- Every consonant in the final of syllable is represented as katakana small -u, -o, or -i form. The exception is available for final -h which is represented by katakana prolonged sound — but it is pronounced [h]. The gray color on the charts mean there is not used.
- Katakana small ka カ can be used for final -k pronounced [ʔ] e.g. *rakyat* written ラカヤト or for replacing the former use of apostrof (') like in *sa'at* written サカアト.
- Following katakana he ヘ that has a similar form with hiragana he へ, some syllables don't take the katakana form in this adaptation but take the hiragana form instead; the katakana form could be used for another syllable or sound. In this adaptation, hiragana u う represents /u/ then katakana u ウ represent /wu/; hiragana i い represents /i/ then katakana i イ represents /yi/; and hiragana ku く is used for /qu/. Nevertheless, katakana small i and katakana small u are used instead of the hiragana.

- If there is unavailable, katakana *wi* ヰ and *we* ヱ may be replaced by *wi* ウィ and *we* ウェ respectively. It also may be implemented in katakana *vi* and katakana *ve*.
- Diphthongs
  - For the diphthong *au* it can be written as -a kana + ウ e.g. アウヂオ (audio) and ハリマウ (harimau).
  - For the diphthong *ai* it can be written as -a kana + イ e.g. パヌタイ (*pantai*).
  - For the diphthong *ei* it can be written as -e kana + イ e.g. スルヴェイ (*survei*).
  - For the diphthong *oi* it can be written as -o kana + イ e.g. アムボイ (*amboi*).
- For /ə/ sound syllables, those are written as -e kana + ウ e.g. セウナグ (senang)
- Katakana N ヌ is used for /n/, /ng/, /ny/, or /m/ sounds, depending on what sounds surround it, in various prefixes: meN- and peN- forms. In the other hand, the use is to emphasize the prefixes instead of using other kanas sound similar. For example, *membaca* is written メウンバジァ instead of メウムバジァ, *pencarian* is written ペウンジァリアヌ instead of ペウヌジァリアヌ, but *penjara* is correctly written ペウヌジァラ since the *pen-* is not a prefix.

This table displays variations and changings of katakana N sounds in Kagangana

ン as:	First Sound	Examples	Specials
/ng/ [ŋ]	(vowels), /g/, /h/ /k/, /kh/	いシ (isi) → メウンいシ (mengisi); ガリ <sup>◌</sup> (gali) → メウンガリ <sup>◌</sup> (menggali)	change to ズ preceding /k/; k- kana change to kana small vowels
/m/	/b/, /p/, /f/, /v/	バジァ (baca) → メウンバジァ (membaca)	change to ん preceding /p/*
/n/	/c/, /d/, /j/, /sy/, /t/, /z/,	ダキ (daki) → メウンダキ (mendaki); ジウル (juru) → ペウンジウル (penjuru)	t- kana succeding ヌ change to kana small vowels
/ny/ [ɲ]	/s/	スタビル <sup>◌</sup> (stabil) → ペウンスタビル <sup>◌</sup> (penstabil)	change to ズ preceding /s/**

Examples for Specials
カバル (kabar) → メウン <sup>◌</sup> アバルイ (mengabari)
パカイ (pakai) → ペウン <sup>◌</sup> アカイ (pemakai)
ツツプ (tutup) → メウン <sup>◌</sup> ウツプ (menutup);
スラト (surat) → メウン <sup>◌</sup> ウラト (menyurat)

\* p- kana change to kana small vowels but there is no change for the initial of /pr/ and /pl/.

\*\* s- kana change to kana small vowels but there is no change for the initial of /st/ and /str/.

- For other affixes, those must be separated with the base word. For example, *beradu* (base word: *adu*) correctly written ベウルアヅ /ber-a-du/, not ベウラヅ /be-ra-du/; *amati* (base word: *amat*) correctly written アマトイ /a-mat-i/, not アマチ /a-ma-ti/; *rautan* (base word: *raut*) correctly written ラウトアヌ /ra-ut-an/, not ラウタヌ /ra-u-tan/.
- The consonant blend/cluster e.g. /kr/, /pl/, /str/, /kstr/ and more, is written as the katakana small form in the initial. For example, *plastik* is written プラスチック, and *ekstra* is written エクストラ.
- For a fully reduplication word, double hyphen = is used e.g. クラ = クラ (*kura-kura*) or kana repeat mark 々 may be used at the ending of the word e.g. クラ々 (*kura<sup>2</sup>*).
- For a repeated syllable in a word, katakana iteration mark ヽ or the voiced iteration mark ヿ or the semi-voiced iteration mark っ may be used e.g. スヽ (*susu*), ガゞク (*gagak*), バゝカ (*bapak*).
- The th- and dh- syllables kana could be used for Javanese /th/ and /dh/, and other similar sounds in other languages. The other variants of aspirate e.g. kh, bh, etc., could be written with katakana small h- by its preceding kana.
- The r- kana with dakuten can be used for /r/ sound variants like in Lampung language and others.
- The mb-, mp-, nt-, and nd- syllables kana could be used in numerous languages like Rejang language and others. The other syllables like nc-, nj-, and ngk- could be written in the similar way.
- The kana for eu represents [ɣ], [i], or [u] like in Sundanese, Acehnese, and others.
- The kana for ö and ô could be used in Acehnese.
- There is no space between words. As a replacement, a middle dot · is used for the word separator.
- Japanese punctuation like [、], [。], [「...」], and [〜] are used as comma, full stop, quotation mark, and en/em dash respectively. Other punctuation marks are same as common.
- The abbreviation is written as how the letters spelled and between Japanese quotation mark. For example KBBi is written 「カベベい」.

### Example text

セウムア・オラク・ヂラヒルカヌ・メウルデカ・ダヌ・メウンブナい・マルタバト・ダヌ・ハク＝ハク・ヤク・サマ。メウレ  
カ・ヂカルニアい・アカル・ダヌ・ハチ・ヌラニ・ダヌ・ヘウヌダクナ・ベウルガウル・サツ・サマ・ラいヌ・ダラム・セウマガ  
ト・ペウルサウダラアヌ。

*Semua orang dilahirkan merdeka dan mempunyai martabat dan hak-hak yang sama. Mereka dikaruniai akal dan hati nurani dan hendaknya bergaul satu sama lain dalam semangat persaudaraan.*

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)