

ԱՐՆԵԼԱ ՍԱՒԸՈՒ ԱՐՆԵՍՏԱՆԻ

Persian-Avestan Alphabet

The Persian-Avestan alphabet (alefbâ Pârsi Avestâyi) was created by Lourenço Menezes D’Almeida and is an alternative script for writing the Persian and Avestan languages. It was inspired by the Avestan alphabet used to write the sacred scriptures of the Zoroastrian religion and designed to resemble modern western typefaces in both format and use. As such, the alphabet runs from left to right, differentiates upper from lower case and obeys common rules of punctuation present in most European languages.

The letters represent every phoneme used today in the modern Persian language and are intended to match the Latin letters used in the transcription rules set by the Official Iranian Romanization System and UniPers. Additionally, there are letters included in the alphabet intended to represent phonemes particular to the Avestan language (such as “ñ”, “â”, “ã”, “th”, etc.), organized in such a way as to perfectly match the transcription rules used by Avesta.org.

The Persian-Avestan alphabet was designed to be used preferably with phonemic orthography, meaning its letters correspond exactly to the phonemes intended. As such, it can be used to write the English language, for example, as long as it’s written phonemically (e.g.: “**սսսսսսս**”, not “**սսսսսսսս**”, for the word “passion”). Three letters, “b”, “d” and “z”, have an additional final form, both in upper and lower case, to avoid overlapping with following words (e.g.: “**վտթ**” (good), “**ծսթ**” (man) and “**ծս**” (table) instead of “**վտ**”, “**ծս**” and “**ծս**”). These graphemes can be placed by typing the letters “ı”, “ò” and “ù” in the keyboard, respectively.

Finally, all vowels have an optional final form which can be applied by typing them with a “ˆ” diacritic mark (or “^”, in the case of “â” and “æ”, and “ˆ”, in the case of “ô” and “ı”). There is only one ligature in the alphabet which is used when typing “t” after “a”, “e”, “i”, “y”, “r”, “l”, “ñ” or “x”. In that case the writer should type “§” instead (e.g.: “**Շժս**” (nation), not “**Շժս**”).

Upper Case	Lower Case	Upper Case Final	Lower Case Final	Corresponding Phoneme
Ա	ա	--	վ	[a]
Ա	ա	--	վ	[â]
Ա	ա	--	--	[ã]
Գ	գ	--	--	[ã]
Լ	լ	Գ	Գ	[b]
Կ	կ	--	--	[ch]
Ը	ը	Ծ	Ծ	[d]
Ե	ե	--	Ե	[e]
Ե	ե	--	--	[ê]
Յ	յ	--	Յ	[æ]
Բ	բ	--	--	[f]
Ճ	ճ	--	--	[g]
Կ	կ	--	--	[h]
Ի	ի	--	Զ	[i]
Ի	ի	--	Զ	[î]
Կ	կ	--	--	[j]
Ը	ը	--	--	[k]
Բ	բ	--	--	[l]
Ծ	ծ	--	--	[m]
Լ	լ	--	--	[n]
Ն	ն	--	--	[ñ]
Օ	օ	--	Օ	[o]
Օ	օ	--	Օ	[ô]
Օ	օ	--	--	[õ]
Ս	ս	--	--	[p]
Ք	ք	--	--	[gh]
Ր	ր	--	--	[r]
Շ	Շ	--	Շ	[s]
Շ	Շ	Շ	Շ	[sh]
Դ	դ, զ	--	--	[t]
Ժ	ժ	--	--	[th]
Ն	ն	--	Ն	[u]
Ն	ն	--	--	[û]
Վ	վ	--	--	[v]
Վ	վ	--	--	[w]
Վ	վ	--	--	[kh]
Ե	ե	--	Ե	[y]
Ե	ե	--	--	[ý]
Զ	զ	Գ	Գ	[z]
Չ	չ	--	--	[zh]

Լ	1	Լ°	10
Կ	2	ԼԼ	11
Ա	3	ԼԿ	12
ԱԿ	4	Կ°	20
Գ	5	ԿԼ	30
ԳԼ	6	Լ°°	100
ԳԿ	7	∴	.
ԳԱԿ	8	.	,
ԳԱԿԼ	9	⌘	!
Օ	0	?	?

Sample Text:

Պսոձաձդ սնհաթդ լրլլսս աշլս՛ լդ զճլրսլ ժւրսսսսլ՛ ճլ սթ քսճսշդ
 Կդրլլլլլլլլսս ճլ Կճրլք լլ Կսձ լրհալրհսլ՛. Կսձդ զսհսսդ սրքճ
 ճդրլլսլ ժղլլլլլլսլ՛ ճլ լրսս՛ լրլլլլ լդ դրեթլլսլ լլ հԿդ լրհաթլլլ.
 հսհսսս լրձսսսլ՛:

Transliteration:

Tamâme afrâde bašar âzâd be donyâ miyâyand va az lahâze heysiyyat va
 hoquq bâ ham barâbarand, hame dârâye aqlo vejdân mibâšand va bâyard
 nesbat be yekdigar bâ ruhe barâdari raftâr nemâyand.

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)