Kurdish / كوردی **Kurdî**

romanization: Kurmanji Roman alphabet (*Hawar* 1932)

Kurdish comprises several languages. Mainly in Turkey, Syria and Armenia, **Kurmanji** is spoken which is written in the Latin alphabet (in Armenia also in Cyrillic). Mainly in Iraq and Iran, **Sorani** is spoken which is written in the Perso-Arabic script. The Kurdish Arabic alphabet denotes almost all the vowels.

1	ا	ئا[A]	a	11	ڕ	(ṛ)[B]	21	ک	k	31	ە	h
2	ب		b	12	ز	z	22	گ	g	32	ە	ئه[A]	e
3	پ		p	13	ژ	j	23	ل	l	33		ئـ[D]	i
4	ت		t	14	س	s	24	ڵ	(ł)[B]	34	ى	y
5	ج		c	15	ش	ş	25	م	m	35	ى	ئى[A]	î
6	چ		ç	16	ع	'	26	ن	n	36	ئ	ئێ[A]	ê
7	ح	ḣ (ḥ)	17	غ	ẍ (x̣)	27	و	w			
8	خ	x	18	ف	f	28	و	ئو[A]	u			
9	د	d	19	ڤ	v	29	ۆ	ئۆ[A]	o			
10	ر	r	20	ق	q	30	وو[C]	û			

[A] Form used word-initially.

[B] The letters *ṛ* and *ł* do not belong to the Kurdish Latin alphabet but are only used to denote the respective Arabic characters.

[C] Except word-initially.

[D] Used only word-initially, elsewhere the sound is not marked in Arabic script.

Notes

1. Different to Arabic, double consonants are marked in script: گوللە gulle.
2. The Arabic spelling has changed many times. Earlier, no distinction was made between *î* or *ê*; *ô*, *u* or *û*; *ṛ* was not marked or was written رر; *ł* was not marked; *a* was also written آ, etc. Sporadically in Kurdish also Arabic characters ث, ذ, ص, ض, ط and ظ. are used.
3. The Kurdish Academy has sometimes recommended to use a line above a character instead of a *v*-sign in characters *ł, ṛ, o, ê*.
4. In the normal version of *Hawar* the following letters are not used: ḣ (→ h) and ẍ (→ x or g). In other Latin-alphabet versions one may find *ı* and *i* instead of *î* and *i*, or *ā* and *a* instead of *a* and *e*.

Pronunciation

c	[dʒ]	ç	[tʃ]	e	[æ]~[ɛ]	ê	[e]

ħ	[ħ]	ł	[ɹ]~[ɫ]	u	[ʉ]	y	[j]
i	[ɨ]	r	[ɾ]	û	[u]		
î	[i]	ṛ	[r]	x	[x]		
j	[ʒ]	ş	[ʃ]	ẍ	[ɣ]		

Correspondence between the Cyrillic and Latin alphabet

А а	= a	З з	= z	П п	= p	Һ h	= h
Б б	= b	И и	= î	П' п'	= [pʰ]	Һ' h'	= ħ
В в	= v	Й й	= y	Р р	= r	Ч ч	= ç
Г г	= g	К к	= k	Р' р'	= ṛ	Ч' ч'	= [tʃʰ]
Г' г'	= ẍ	К' к'	= [kʰ]	С с	= s	Ш ш	= ş
Д д	= d	Л л	= l	Т т	= t	Щ щ	= c
Е е	= ê	М м	= m	Т' т'	= [tʰ]	Ь ь	= i
Ә ә	= e	Н н	= n	У у	= û	Э э	= e
Ә' ә'	= [ʕ]	О о	= o	Ф ф	= f	Q q	= q
Ж ж	= j	Ö ö	= u	Х х	= x	W w	= w

Correspondence between the Latin alphabet and *yekgirtú*
(recommendation of the Kurdish Academy for a unified Latin alphabet)

c	= j	ħ	= h'	ł	= ll	û	= ú
ç	= c	î	= í	ṛ	= rr	ẍ	= x'
ê	= é	j	= jh	ş	= sh		

Correspondence between the Latin alphabet and the transcription of C. J. Edmonds
(English transcription used in Iraqi Kurdistan in the 1950's)

a	= ā	ê	= ē	o	= ō	û	= ū (ü)
c	= j	ħ	= ḥ (ḥ)	ṛ	= ṛ (ṛ)	x	= kh
ç	= ch	j	= zh	ş	= sh	ẍ	= gh
e	= a	ł	= ḷ (ḷ)	u	= u (ö)		