

Shan / ၵး Táí

transcription (romanization): KNAB 2003
 transliteration: Burmese (KNAB 2003) +modifications

Shan-language place names are recorded in KNAB in a double format, using both transcription (romanization) and transliteration. Romanization is based as closely as possible to the system traditionally used in Myanmar but does not fully coincide with it, since it is based on the new Shan orthography introduced in 1958. Transcription with or without tone marks slightly differs, the latter one is used in the Internet-version (see conversion at the end). Below transliteration is marked by normal characters, *transcription (romanization)* by italics.

I. Consonant characters

1 ၵ	k / <i>ka^A</i>	4 ၶ	c / <i>sa^A</i>	10 ၷ	p / <i>pa^A</i>	14 ၸ	y / <i>ya</i>
2 ၹ	kh / <i>hka</i>	5 ၺ	s / <i>hsa</i>	11 ၻ	ph / <i>hpa^B</i>	15 ၼ	r / <i>ra</i>
3 ၽ	ñ / <i>nga</i>	6 ၾ	ñ / <i>nya</i>	12 ၿ	f / <i>fa^B</i>	16 ၿ	l / <i>la</i>
		7 ၿ	t / <i>ta^A</i>	13 ၿ	m / <i>ma</i>	17 ၿ	w / <i>wa</i>
		8 ၿ	th / <i>hta</i>			18 ၿ	þ / <i>tha^A</i>
		9 ၿ	n / <i>na</i>			19 ၿ	h / <i>ha</i>
						20 ၿ	x / <i>a</i>

^A In transcription of dialects and sometimes in borrowings the following characters for voiced sounds may occur: ၵ g / *g*, ၶ j / *z*, ၷ d / *d*, ၸ b / *b*, ၹ (with an upper right small circle) ð / *dh*.

^B In some fonts the glyphs are different: ၺ and ၻ.

II. Subscript consonant characters (• stands for any principal consonant)

1 ၿ	-y (ၵျ ky / <i>kya</i> [ca], ၵျ gy / <i>gya</i> [d3a], ၵျ khy / <i>cha</i> , ၵျ sy / <i>sha</i>)
2 ၿ	-r
3 ၿ	-w (in Shan used only as a vowel sign, see Table III)
4 ၿ	-ü / <i>w</i> (in Shan used as a subscript for <i>w</i>)

III. Vowel characters and syllable endings (• stands for any consonant)

At the end of syllables only *m*, *n*, *ng*, *p*, *t*, *k*, *y*, *w* and *ü* may occur. Some vowels are written differently, depending on whether they are used in open or closed syllables (in the latter case another • has been added). Syllables ending in a consonant are presented only if there is any modification to romanization.

1 ••	a / <i>a</i>	10 ၿ•	ǎ / <i>e'</i>	19 ၿ•	e / <i>e</i>
2 ၿ•	aw" / <i>ao</i>	11 ၿ•	ǎw" / <i>e'o</i>	20 ၿ•	ä / <i>e'</i>
3 ၿ•	ā / <i>a</i>	12 ၿ•	ī / <i>i</i>	21 ၿ•	ai / <i>ai</i>
4 ၿ•	āw" / <i>ao</i>	13 ၿ•	u / <i>u</i>	22 ၿ•	āi / <i>ai</i>
5 ၿ•	â / <i>a</i>	14 ၿ•	uñ" / <i>ui</i>	23 ၿ•	au / <i>aw</i>
6 ၿ•	i / <i>i</i>	15 ၿ•	ū / <i>o</i>	24 ၿ•	o / <i>ü</i>
7 ၿ•	iw" / <i>io</i>	16 ၿ•	ūñ" / <i>o'i</i>	25 ၿ•	oñ" / <i>üi</i>
8 ၿ•	ě / <i>e</i>	17 ၿ•	ūw" / <i>o</i>	26 ၿ•	ow" / <i>ü</i>
9 ၿ•	ěw" / <i>eo</i>	18 ၿ•	ū / <i>u</i>	27 ၿ•	ō / <i>ö</i>

Pronunciation of romanized names

ao	[aw]	hk	[k ^h]	oi	[ɔj]
aü	[au]	hp	[p ^h]	o'i (ôi)	[oj]
aw	[ɔ]	hs	[s]	ö	[ə]
<u>a</u> (ā)	[a:]	ht	[t ^h]	s	[ts]
e	[e]	io	[iw]	th	[θ]
e' (è)	[ɛ]	ny	[ɲ]	ü	[ʉ]

Conversion into romanization without tone signs

1. Tone signs (´, ` , ^ , ~ , ~) above a letter or next to it (ü^) are omitted.
2. The line below a letter is written above it (a > ā).
3. e´ > è, o´ > ô.

Shan names in **Burmese transcription** may be romanized with the following deviations from Burmese romanization rules [Эпштейн 1959]:

•ကံ	ak" / at (not ek)	•ဝံ	up" / ok
•င်	añ" / ang (not in)	•မ်	um" / ong, om
•ညံ	añ" / an (not i, e)	•မ်	uñ" / ong, on
•ဉံ	añ" / an (not i, e)	•ဲ	ai / ai (not e)
•မ်	am" / am (not an)	•ဝတ်	auk" / awk (not auk)
•ံ	añ / am (not an)	•ဝင်	auñ" / awng (not aung)
•ဝံ	ip" / it (not eik)	•ဝံ	oñ" / ong, öng, eng (not aing)
•တ်	it" / it (not eik)	•ဝံ	ik" / ok [ə?] (not eik)
•နံ	in" / ing	•ယ်	ay" / ai (not e)
•မ်	im" / im (not ein)	••	-wa / -u
•တ်	ut" / ok	•ယ်	-way" / -oi (not we)

The traditionally used romanization (*Tables for the transliteration of Shan names into English. Rangoon, 1892*) contains also denotations not reflected in the KNAB table:

- ē (e.g. Nam Fēng, Hemtēng, Hko-hkē) < •• -e or •• -ě?
- iu (e.g. Hang-hsiu, Loi Hkōmkiu) = io?
- ō (e.g. Bōk Hō-twi, Hkōnglong) < •• -ū- or •• -ō-?
- ū (e.g. Hpaīmūn, Loi Hpa-wūt, Hwè Hsa-hpū) < •• -u- or •• -ū?
- üe (Chüe-hpa) = üa

Sources

Sao Tern Moeng. *Shan-English Dictionary*. Dunwoody Press, Kensington, Maryland 1995.
www.taicentre.org. 2003-01.
shanland.org. 2003-01.
 Р. С. Гиляревский, В. С. Гривин. *Определитель языков мира по письменностям*. Изд. третье, исправленное и дополненное. Москва: "Наука" 1965.
 В. Г. Эпштейн. *Правила русской транскрипции бирманских географических названий*. Москва 1959. 56 с.