

Maldivian

No romanization system for Maldivian (Divehi) has been approved at the United Nations conferences on the standardization of geographical names.

In 1987 the Maldivian government adopted a system for the romanization of Maldivian. It was also approved by the BGN and the PCGN in 1988.

Maldivian is written from right to left. Vowels are marked as diacritical marks accompanying a consonant character.

System of romanization

The **official romanization (1987)** is as follows.

Consonants

1	ހ	h	7	ކ	k	13	ތ	th ^C	19	ޅ	z
2	ޞ	sh	8	ނ	(B)	14	ލ	l	20	ޑ	t
3	ނ	n ^A	9	ވ	v	15	ގ	g	21	ޞ	y
4	ރ	r	10	މ	m	16	ޅ	gn	22	ޞ	p
5	ބ	b	11	ފ	f	17	ސ	s	23	ޅ	j
6	ލ	lh	12	ދ	dh	18	ޅ	d	24	ޅ	ch

^A Romanized *n* 'if' used without any vowel or auxiliary sign: ޅޞޅޅ *kan'du*.

^B Not romanized but see note 1.

^C Character ތ is romanized *iy*, e.g. ޅޞޅޅޅޅޅޅ *aiypulhu*.

Consonants with diacritical marks (used mainly in words of Arabic origin, corresponding Arabic characters and their romanizations are shown in parentheses)

25	ތ	th'	(ث th)	29	ޅ	x	(څ zh)	33	ޅ	t'	(ط ٲ)	37	ق	q	(ق q)
26	ه	h'	(ح ٲ)	30	ش	sh'	(ش sh)	34	ز	z'	(ز ٲ)	38	و	w	(و w)
27	خ	kh	(خ kh)	31	س	s'	(ص ٲ)	35	ع	'	(ع ٲ)				
28	د	dh'	(ذ dh)	32	ل	l'	(ذ ٲ)	36	غ	gh	(غ gh)				

Note. Romanization values for consonant characters with diacritical marks, and for variations described in notes A and C to the consonant table have been taken from the ISO draft transliteration for Thaana (Anthony P. Stone, June 26, 2000, <http://homepage.ntlworld.com/stone-catend/Tha02.pdf>).

Vowels (• stands for any consonant character)

1	• /	a	4	• “	ey	7	• x	o	10	• ”	oo
2	• =	aa	5	• /	i	8	• o	oa			
3	• ‘	e	6	• =	ee	9	• >	u			

Diacritical mark

- (not romanized; marks absence of the vowel)

Notes

- The character ʾ is not romanized. If it bears a vowel character, that vowel character alone is romanized, e.g. ʾ irugai.
- Characters ʾ and ʾ word-finally are romanized h, e.g. ʾ rah. In other cases, when ʾ and ʾ are used, the romanized value of the following consonant character is doubled, e.g. ʾ batteh.