

## Tigrinya

No romanization system for Tigrinya has been approved at the United Nations conferences on the standardization of geographical names. No information has been received on whether there exist any national systems of romanization in Eritrea.

Tigrinya, like Amharic, uses the Ethiopic syllabic script whereby each syllable denotes a combination of a consonant and a vowel. It has 35 basic characters, each character having several different forms, usually called orders, according to the vowel with which the basic symbol is combined.

### *System of romanization*

The **BGN/PCGN 2007 System** gives the following romanization:

							Combinations with W:					
	1	2	3	4	5	6 <sup>A</sup>	7	(1)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	ሀ	ሁ	ሂ	ሃ	ሄ	ህ	ሆ					
	he	hu	hi	ha	hie	h, hĩ	ho					
2	ለ	ሉ	ሊ	ላ	ሌ	ል	ሎ			ሊ		
	le	lu	li	la	lie	l, lĩ	lo			lwa		
3	ሐ	ሑ	ሒ	ሓ	ሔ	ሕ	ሖ					
	ḥe	ḥu	ḥi	ḥa	ḥie	ḥ, ḥĩ	ḥo					
4	መ	ሙ	ሚ	ማ	ሜ	ም	ሞ			ሚ		
	me	mu	mi	ma	mie	m, mĩ	mo			mwa		
5 <sup>B</sup>	ሠ	ሡ	ሢ	ሣ	ሤ	ሥ	ሦ					
	se	su	si	sa	sie	s, sĩ	so					
6	ረ	ሩ	ሪ	ራ	ራ	ር	ሮ			ረ		
	re	ru	ri	ra	rie	r, rĩ	ro			rwa		
7	ሰ	ሱ	ሲ	ሳ	ሴ	ስ	ሶ			ሰ		
	se	su	si	sa	sie	s, sĩ	so			swa		
8	ሸ	ሹ	ሺ	ሻ	ሼ	ሽ	ሾ			ሸ		
	she	shu	shi	sha	shie	sh, shĩ	sho			shwa		
9	ቀ	ቁ	ቂ	ቃ	ቄ	ቅ	ቆ	ቀ	ቁ	ቀ	ቁ	ቀ
	k'e	k'u	k'i	k'a	k'ie	k', k'ĩ	k'o	k'we	k'wi	k'wa	k'wie	k'wĩ
10	ቐ	ቑ	ቒ	ቓ	ቔ	ቕ	ቆ	ቀ	ቁ	ቀ	ቁ	ቀ
	kh'e	kh'u	kh'i	kh'a	kh'ie	kh', kh'ĩ	kh'o	kh'we	kh'wi	kh'wa	kh'wie	kh'wĩ

11	ቦ	ቡ	ቢ	ባ	ቤ	ብ	ቦ					ቧ
	be	bu	bi	ba	bie	b, bĩ	bo					bwa
12	ተ	ቱ	ቲ	ታ	ቲ	ት	ቶ					ቲ
	te	tu	ti	ta	tie	t, tĩ	to					twa
13	ቸ	ቹ	ቺ	ቻ	ቼ	ች	ቾ					ቻ
	che	chu	chi	cha	chie	ch, chĩ	cho					chwa
14	ህ	ሁ	ሁ	ሁ	ሁ	ህ	ሁ	ሁ	ሁ	ሁ	ሁ	ሁ
	he	hu	hi	ha	hie	h, hĩ	ho	hwe	hwi	hwa	hwie	hwĩ
15	ነ	ኑ	ኑ	ና	ኑ	ን	ኖ					ኑ
	ne	nu	ni	na	nie	n, nĩ	no					nwa
16	ኘ	ኙ	ኘ	ኘ	ኘ	ኘ	ኘ					ኘ
	nye	nyu	nyi	nya	nyie	ny, nyĩ	nyo					nywa
17 <sup>C</sup>	አ	አ	አ	አ	አ	አ	አ					
	e, 'e	u, 'u	i, 'i	a, 'a	ie, 'ie	ĩ, 'ĩ	o, 'o					
18	ከ	ከ	ከ	ከ	ከ	ከ	ከ	ከ	ከ	ከ	ከ	ከ
	ke	ku	ki	ka	kie	k, kĩ	ko	kwe	kwi	kwa	kwie	kwĩ
19	ኸ	ኸ	ኸ	ኸ	ኸ	ኸ	ኸ	ኸ	ኸ	ኸ	ኸ	ኸ
	khe	khu	khi	kha	khie	kh, khĩ	kho	khwe	khwi	khwa	khwie	khwĩ
20	ወ	ወ	ወ	ወ	ወ	ወ	ወ					
	we	wu	wi	wa	wie	w, wĩ	wo					
21	ዐ	ዐ	ዐ	ዐ	ዐ	ዐ	ዐ					
	'e	'u	'i	'a	'ie	','	'o					
22	ዘ	ዘ	ዘ	ዘ	ዘ	ዘ	ዘ					ዘ
	ze	zu	zi	za	zie	z, zĩ	zo					zwa
23	ዠ	ዠ	ዠ	ዠ	ዠ	ዠ	ዠ					ዠ
	zhe	zhu	zhi	zha	zhie	zh, zhĩ	zho					zhwa
24	የ	የ	የ	የ	የ	የ	የ					
	ye	yu	yi	ya	yie	y, yĩ	yo					
25	ደ	ደ	ደ	ደ	ደ	ደ	ደ					ደ
	de	du	dĩ	da	die	d, dĩ	do					dwa
26	ጅ	ጅ	ጅ	ጅ	ጅ	ጅ	ጅ					ጅ
	je	ju	ji	ja	jie	j, jĩ	jo					jwa
27	ጎ	ጎ	ጎ	ጎ	ጎ	ጎ	ጎ	ጎ	ጎ	ጎ	ጎ	ጎ
	ge	gu	gi	ga	gie	g, gĩ	go	gwe	gwi	gwa	gwie	gwĩ
28	ጠ	ጠ	ጠ	ጠ	ጠ	ጠ	ጠ					ጠ
	t'e	t'u	t'i	t'a	t'ie	t', t'ĩ	t'o					t'wa

29	ጭ	ጭ።	ጭ፣	ጭ፡	ጭ፣	ጭ፣	ጭ፣	ጭ፣	
	ch'e	ch'u	ch'i	ch'a	ch'ie	ch',	ch'ĩ	ch'o	ch'wa
30	ጸ	ጸ።	ጸ፣	ጸ፡	ጸ፣	ጸ፣	ጸ፣	ጸ፣	
	p'e	p'u	p'i	p'a	p'ie	p',	p'ĩ	p'o	
31	ጸ	ጸ።	ጸ፣	ጸ፡	ጸ፣	ጸ፣	ጸ፣	ጸ፣	ጸ፣
	ts'e	ts'u	ts'i	ts'a	ts'ie	ts',	ts'ĩ	ts'o	ts'wa
32	ፀ	ፀ።	ፀ፣	ፀ፡	ፀ፣	ፀ፣	ፀ፣	ፀ፣	
	ts'e	ts'u	ts'i	ts'a	ts'ie	ts',	ts'ĩ	ts'o	
33	ፈ	ፈ።	ፈ፣	ፈ፡	ፈ፣	ፈ፣	ፈ፣	ፈ፣	ፈ፣
	fe	fu	fi	fa	fie	f, fĩ	fo		fwa
34	ፐ	ፐ።	ፐ፣	ፐ፡	ፐ፣	ፐ፣	ፐ፣	ፐ፣	
	pe	pu	pi	pa	pie	p, pĩ	po		
35	ፕ	ፕ።	ፕ፣	ፕ፡	ፕ፣	ፕ፣	ፕ፣	ፕ፣	
	ve	vu	vi	va	vie	v, vĩ	vo		

<sup>A</sup> The sixth-order characters should be romanized either with or without the letter *ĩ*, depending on pronunciation.

<sup>B</sup> Forms of the consonant character *w* are understood to be becoming obsolete in Tigrinya.

<sup>C</sup> The vowel characters in row 17 should be romanized with the apostrophe unless appearing as a word-initial. Forms of the character *h* are understood to be falling into disuse in Tigrinya.

**Note**

Where consonant character sequences give rise to the romanizations *k-h*, *n-y*, *z-h* and *s-h*, a hyphen may be added between them to differentiate those romanizations from the digraphs *kh*, *ny*, *zh* and *sh*.