ROMANIZATION OF MALDIVIAN (DHIVEHI)

BGN/PCGN 1988 Agreement, with modifications 2009

An official romanization system was submitted to PCGN by the Maldivian government in 1987 and approved by BGN and PCGN in 1988[1]. The system presented here reflects the 1988 Agreement with minor modifications introduced by the government of the Maldives in 2009[2].

CONSONANT CHARACTERS

	Maldivian	Romanization	Example Maldivian script	Example Romanization
1	ރ	h	ރައްދުންމަތި	Hahdhunmathi
2	ސ	sh Note 4	ވައްފުށި	Vaffushi
3	ސ	n Note 5	ނިލަންދެ	Nilandhe
4	ޜ	r	ރަހާ	Rahaa
5	b	b	ބިޔާދޫ	Biyaadhoo
6	ޅ	lh	މާޅޮސްމަޑުލު	Maalhosmadulu
7	ކ	k	މުލަކަތޮޅު	Mulakatholhu
8	އ	Notes 3 & 4	އަރި	Ari
9	ވ	v	ވެއްވަށް	Veyvah
10	މ	m	މާލެ	Maale
11	ފ	f	ފާދިއްޕޮޅު	Faadhippolhu
12	ދ	dh	މިލަދުންމަޑުލު	Miladhunmadulu
13	ތ	th Note 6	ތިލަދުންމަތީ	Thiladhunmathee
14	ލ	l	މާލެ	Maale
15	ގ	g	ވިލިނ'ގިލި	Vilin'gili
16	ޏ	gn	ޏ	Gnaviyani[3]

[1] This Romanization System supersedes that approved by BGN and PCGN in 1972.

[2] Modifications as found in the *Official Atlas of the Maldives*, Ministry of Planning and National Development, 2009, (ISBN 99915-9540-6).

[3] 16th letter of the Dhivehi alphabet (i.e. ޏަވިޔަނި *gnaviyani*), and the Maldivian code letter for Fuvammulah atoll.

	Maldivian	Romanization	Example Maldivian script	Example Romanization
17	ﺳ	s	ﺳﻮﺭﻮ	Savaaheli
18	ﻉ	d	ﻣﻨﺪﻮ	Mundoo
19	ﻉ	z	ﺯﻴﺎﺭﺍﻴﻔﺸ	Ziyaaraiyfushi
20	ﻄ	t	ﻛﻠﻬﺘﺎ	Kalhehuttaa
21	ﻯ	y	ﻧﻴﻮ	Neyo
22	ﭖ	p	ﻓﺎﺩﭘﻮﻟﻬ	Faadhippolhu
23	ﺝ	j	ﺩﻮﻬﺭﺍﺟﻪ [4]	Dhivehi Raajje (=Maldives (*country name*))
24	ﭺ	ch	ﭼﺎﭘ [4]	chaapu (=printing)

VOWEL CHARACTERS

	Maldivian	Romanization	Example Maldivian script	Example Romanization
1	◌َ	a	ﺍﺭ	Ari
2	◌ٰ	aa	ﻣﺎﻟﻪ	Maale
3	◌ِ	e	ﻓﻨﻔﺸ	Fenfushi
4	◌ٕ	ey	ﺍﻴﺪﺍﻔﺸ	Eydhafushi
5	◌	i	ﻫﻠﺎﻮﻟ	Halaveli
6	◌	ee	ﺗﻠﺪﻨﻤﺘ	Thiladhunmathee
7	◌ٗ	o	ﻓﺎﺩﭘﻮﻟﻬ	Faadhippolhu
8	◌ٗ	oa	ﻓﻮﻛﺎﻴﺪﻮ	Foakaidhoo
9	◌ٗ	u	ﺩﻮﻨﻔﻨ	Dhonfanu
10	◌ٗ	oo	ﻫﺘﺪﻮ	Hithadhoo

DIACRITICAL MARK

Maldivian	Romanization	Example Maldivian script	Example Romanization
'ْ	not romanized^{but see notes 4 & 6}	ﺩﻭﻓﺭﺳﺭﺩﻭﻓ	Miladhunmadulu

NOTES

1. Maldivian is read from right to left.

2. The symbol ○ appearing in the Vowel Characters table represents any Maldivian consonant character.

3. The character ﻥ is not romanized. If it bears a vowel character, that vowel character alone is romanized (e.g. ﺍﺳﺭﻗﺗﺭ *En'boodhoo*).

4. When characters ﺳﺭ and ﻥ appear in combination with a supercircle (the 'sukun', which usually marks the absence of a vowel, see the Diacritical Mark table above): ﻥْ ; ﺳﺭْ, these characters are not romanized but the following consonant is doubled (e.g. ﻛﻩﺗﻗ *Kalhehuttaa*), unless the following consonant is a digraph in the romanized form, in which case they are romanized **h** (e.g. ﻛﺭﻩﺩﺗﺭ *Kerehdhoo*). ﺳﺭْ and ﻥْ appearing at the end of a word are romanized **h** (e.g. ﻭﻭﻳﺭْ *Veyvah*).

5. ﺳﺭ is romanized **n'** when appearing without any vowel or auxiliary sign (e.g. ﻛﺍﺳﺭﺩﻭﻓﺭ *Kan'dufushi*).

6. ﻭ is romanized **iy** when appearing in combination with a supercircle (ﻭْ), (e.g. ﺯﻳﺍﺭﺍﻭﻓﺭ *Ziyaarai-yfushi*).

7. The 'Romanization' columns in the tables show only lowercase forms but, when applying the table, uppercase and lowercase Roman letters as appropriate should be used, as in the Romanized examples in the final columns.