ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR MALDIVIAN

BGN/PCGN 1988 Agreement, with modifications 2009

This romanization system supersedes the one that was approved by BGN and PCGN in 1972. An official system was submitted to PCGN by the Maldivian government in 1987 and approved by BGN and PCGN in 1988. The system presented here reflects the 1988 Agreement with minor modifications introduced by the government of the Maldives in 2009[1].

CONSONANT CHARACTERS

	Maldivian	Romanization		Maldivian	Romanization
1	ر	h	13	p	th Note 6
2	ڔ	sh Note 4	14	ڔ	l
3	س	n Note 5	15	ى	g
4	ڮ	r	16	ڃ	gn
5	ﺻ	b	17	ﺳ	s
6	ﻭ	lh	18	ء	d
7	ﻧ	k	19	ع	z
8	ﻼ	Notes 3 & 4	20	ﻊ	t
9	ﻭ	v	21	ﻣ	y
10	ﺭ	m	22	ﺮ	p
11	ﻭ	f	23	ﺡ	j
12	ﺭ	dh	24	ﻮ	ch

VOWEL CHARACTERS

	Maldivian	Romanization
1	◌́	a
2	◌̋	aa
3	◌̓	e
4	◌̏	ey
5	◌̦	i
6	◌̰	ee
7	◌̽	o
8	◌͗	oa
9	◌̉	u
10	◌̏	oo

DIACRITICAL MARK

Maldivian	Romanization
़	not romanized[but see notes 4 & 6]

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. ﻢﻥﻮﻮﺮ *En'boodhoo*).

4. When characters ﺮ 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 ; ﺮْ, these characters are not romanized but the following consonant is doubled (e.g. ﻜﻟﻬﺘﺎ *Kalhehuttaa*), unless the following consonant is a digraph in the romanized form, in which case they are romanized **h** (e.g. ﻜﺮﻫﺪﻮ *Kerehdhoo*). ﺮْ and ﻦْ appearing at the end of a word are romanized **h** (e.g. ﻮﻮﺮ *Veyvah*).

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

6. ﻮ is romanized **iy** when appearing in combination with a supercircle (ﻮْ), (e.g. ﺰﻴﺎﺮﻴﻓﺸﻰ *Ziyaaraiyfushi*).

7. Certain letters borrowed from Perso-Arabic script for use in writing Arabic loanwords may be encountered. These, along with their romanizations as per the BGN/PCGN Romanization System for Arabic, are as follows: ﺮ(ḥ); ﺮ(kh); ﺰ(z); ﺶ(sh); ﺲ(ş); (dh); ﻃ(th); ﻮ(w); ﻖ(q); ﻍ(gh); ﺀ('); ﻃ(ẕ); ﻃ(t); ﺾ(ḍ).