Dzongkha Transliteration

The Extended Wylie transliteration system used for Dzongkha and *Chöké*‡ titles in our catalogue.

Records of Dzongkha and *Chöké*† books in our collection will be held in both Unicode (Bhutanese script) and transliterated (Roman script) format. The transliteration system used is the Extended Wylie Transliteration System (EWTS) outlined here.

EWTS is a tranliteration system which accurately represents the spelling used in Dzongkha and and *Chöké* using only simple unaccented Roman letters. EWTS is *not* a transcription system representing the pronunciation of the words.

In order to search the National Library's OPAC database using this transliteration system, type the following Roman EWTS characters for the corresponding Dzongkha letter as shown below:

Basic Letters

Dzongkha	EWTS	Dzongkha	EWTS	Dzongkha	EWTS	Dzongkha	EWTS
ཀ	ka	ཁ	kha	ག	ga	ང	nga
ཅ	ca	ཆ	cha	ཇ	ja	ཉ	nya
ཏ	ta	ཐ	tha	ད	da	ན	na
པ	pa	ཕ	pha	བ	ba	མ	ma
ཙ	tsa	ཚ	tsha	ཛ	dza	ཝ	wa
ཞ	zha	ཟ	za	འ	'a	ཡ	ya
ར	ra	ལ	la	ཤ	sha	ས	sa
ཧ	ha	ཨ	a				

Vowels

For all letters without vowel sign, type *'a'* as shown above. For letters with vowel signs type as follows:

Dzongkha Vowel	EWTS	Dzongkha Vowel	EWTS	Dzongkha Vowel	EWTS	Dzongkha Vowel	EWTS
ི	i	ུ	u	ེ	e	ོ	o

For example for Dzongkha ཀི type the Roman letters *'ki'*; for Dzongkha ཁུ type the Roman letters *'khu'* — *etc.*

Combination Letters

For combination letters type as follows:

Dzongkha	EWTS	Dzongkha	EWTS	Dzongkha	EWTS	Dzongkha	EWTS
ཀྱ	kya	ཁྱ	khya	གྱ	gya	པྱ	pya
ཕྱ	phya	བྱ	bya	མྱ	mya		
ཀྲ	kra	ཁྲ	khra	གྲ	gra	ཏྲ	tra
ཐྲ	thra	དྲ	dra	པྲ	pra	ཕྲ	phra
བྲ	bra	མྲ	mra	ཤྲ	shra	སྲ	sra
ཧྲ	hra						
ཀླ	kla	གླ	gla	བླ	bla	ཟླ	zla
རླ	rla	སླ	sla				
རྐ	rka	རྒ	rga	རྔ	rnga	རྗ	rja
རྙ	rnya	རྟ	rta	རྡ	rda	རྣ	rna
རྦ	rba	རྨ	rma	རྩ	rtsa	རྫ	rdza
ལྐ	lka	ལྒ	lga	ལྔ	lnga	ལྕ	lca
ལྗ	lja	ལྟ	lta	ལྡ	lda	ལྤ	lpa
ལྦ	lba	ལྷ	lha				
སྐ	ska	སྒ	sga	སྔ	snga	སྙ	snya
སྟ	sta	སྡ	sda	སྣ	sna	སྤ	spa
སྦ	sba	སྨ	sma	སྩ	stsa		
ཀྭ	kwa	ཁྭ	khwa	གྭ	gwa	ཅྭ	cwa
ཉྭ	nywa	ཏྭ	twa	དྭ	dwa	ཙྭ	tswa
ཚྭ	tshwa	ཞྭ	zhwa	ཟྭ	zwa	རྭ	rwa
ཤྭ	shwa	སྭ	swa	ཧྭ	hwa		

Prefixes & Suffixes

Prefixes and suffixes are typed as consonants without the 'a' vowel, *e.g.:* བདེ bde; སོགས sogs; བསྐྱོད bskyod

Use of *g.ya* and *gya*

In Wylie / EWTS transliteration there is special use of the full stop (.) character to indicate a *ga* prefixed to a *ya* root letter as opposed to a *ga* root letter with a *ya* subscript:

Examples: གཡུ g.yu, གྱུ gyu, གཡོན g.yon, གྱོན gyon, གཡུལ g.yul, གྱགྱུ gya gyu, གཡང g.yang, གྱང gyang, གཡེང g.yeng, གཡག g.yag, གཡའ g.ya', གཡུང g.yung.

Additional Letters for Sanskrit:

Consonants

Dzongkha	EWTS	Dzongkha	EWTS	Dzongkha	EWTS	Dzongkha	EWTS
གྷ	gha / g+ha	ཊྷ	Dha / D+ha	དྷ	dha / d+ha	བྷ	bha / b+ha
ཛྷ	dzha / dz+ha						
ཊ	Ta	ཋ	THa / Tha	ཌ	Da	ཎ	Na
ཥ	SHa / S+ha	ཀྵ	kSHa /k+Sha				

Vowel Marks:

Dzongkha	EWTS	Dzongkha	EWTS	Dzongkha	EWTS	Dzongkha	EWTS
ཨཱ	'a	ཨྀ	I	ཨཱྀ	'I	ཨཱུ	'u
ཨེ	E	ཨོ	O	ཨཾ	M	ཨཿ	H

Vowel
Examples: ཀ ka, ཀཱ k'a, ཀི ki, ཀཱི k'i, ཀུ ku, ཀཱུ k'u, ཀྲྀ krI, ཀྲཱྀ kr'I, ཀླྀ klI, ཀླཱྀ kl'I, ཀེ ke, ཀཻ kE, ཀོ ko, ཀཽ KO, ཀཾ kaM, ཀཿ kaH.

Note:

† Chöké (*chos skad* / ཆོས་སྐད) - "Dharma language" is the name generally used in Bhutan for the classical literary language in which the traditional texts of Bhutan and Tibet are written. Another name for the classical written Tibetan language used in religious and philosophical texts.