

Kurdish Alphabet, Transliteration and Pronunciation

Voiced (sonant) Consonants:

B-b	ب	as in <u>b</u> ell
C-c	ج	as in <u>j</u> uice
D-d	د	as in <u>d</u> oor
R-r	ر	slightly rolled tongue „R“
Ř-ř	ر	strongly rolled tongue „R“
Z-z	ز	as in <u>z</u> eal
J-j	ژ	as in eng <u>in</u> eer <u>in</u> g
'	ع	pharyngeal fricative „A“
Ķ-ķ	غ	velar fricative „R“
V-v	ف	as in <u>v</u> eal, <u>v</u> ictory
G-g	گ	as in <u>g</u> ate
L-l	ل	as in <u>l</u> ine
Ľ-ĺ	ل	apico-dental „L“ as in all
M-m	م	as in <u>m</u> ail
N-n	ن	as in <u>n</u> ose

Unvoiced Consonants:

P-p	پ	as in <u>p</u> ound
T-t	ت	as in <u>t</u> all
Ç-ç	چ	as in <u>ch</u> ea <u>p</u> or deu <u>tsch</u>
Ĥ-ĥ	ح	pharyngeal fricative „H“
X-x	خ	as in lo <u>ch</u> or a <u>ch</u>
S-s	س	as in <u>s</u> ell
Ş-ş	ش	as in <u>sh</u> ow
F-f	ف	as in <u>f</u> ish
Q-q	ق	uvular, emphatic „K“
K-k	ک	as in <u>k</u> ing
H-h	ه	as in <u>h</u> ouse

Short Vowels:

E-e	ه	as in <u>b</u> at
U-u	و	as in <u>pu</u> ll
I-i		(the bizroka is a short vowel not written in Kurdish: e.g. دى = dií)

Long Vowels:

A-a	ا	as in <u>f</u> ather
Û-û	وو	as in <u>yo</u> u
O-o	ۆ	as in <u>o</u> pera
Ê-ê	ئ	as in <u>E</u> sther
Î-î	ئ	as in mach <u>i</u> ne

Half Vowel / half Consonants:

W-w	و	as in <u>w</u> hat
Y-y	ئ	as in <u>y</u> es