

11-1. Wylie Transliteration

The following overview lists the transliterations for each Tibetan letter according to Turrell Wylie's transliteration scheme. Note that a transliteration scheme does **not** represents the pronunciation – it only expresses the Tibetan **spelling**!

<u>30 Consonants</u>				<u>4 Vowel Signs</u>
ཀ - k	ཁ - kh	ག - g	ང - ng	ཨི - i
ཅ - c	ཆ - ch	ཇ - j	ཉ - ny	ཨུ - u
ཏ - t	ཐ - th	ད - d	ན - n	ཨེ - e
པ - p	ཕ - ph	བ - b	མ - m	ཨོ - o
ཅ - ts	ཆ - tsh	ཇ - dz	མ - w	<u>Other</u>
ཞ - zh	ཟ - z	འ - '	ཡ - y	' - <i>space</i>
ར - r	ལ - l	ཤ - sh	ས - s	། - /
ཧ - h	ཨ - a			༠༡༢༣༤༥༦༧༨༩ - 0123456789

In Wylie transliteration each syllable is transliterated from left to right and from top to bottom – similar to the way of spelling a Tibetan syllable but without explicit indication of stacking. After transliterating the stack that contains the root letter the vowel is written. If there is no vowel sign then an “a” must be written after the root stack.

For example:

བུ་ = bu
ཚོས་ = chos

རྒྱུད་ = rgyud
སྟོང་ཉིད་ = stong nyid

If a syllable contains no vowel sign then the letter “a” must be written. For example:

ལྷ་ = lha
བསྐྱེད་པ་ = bsgrags pa

སངས་རྒྱས་ = sangs rgyas
རྒྱལ་བ་ = rgyal ba

In syllables that contain two vowels both vowels must be transliterated *including the implicit “a”* vowel wherever it is present. Note that འ་ is transliterated as '. For example:

པའོ་ = pa'o
ལེུ་ = le'u

པོའི་ = po'i
ངའི་ = nga'i

In Wylie Transliteration stacking normally implied based on standard Tibetan prefix, suffix and superscript/subscript rules. The basic assumption is that whenever stacking is possible based on the usual Tibetan rules, then stacking should be done. There are, however a few cases where this implicit stacking is not desired for the word in question or where stacking is required even though the standard stacking rules do not permit it. For these cases the following additional conventions by the University of Virginia are useful:

- prevent stacking between two letters: “.” (dot) e.g.: གྱ་ = gya but གཡང་ = g.yang
- force stacking of two letters: “+”, e.g. པདྨ་ = pad+me

The original Wylie system instead capitalizes the root letter to prevent stacking.