











Remember, we write from right to left. If your interested in learning more Assyrian, you may want to check out the "Songs of Assyria" page. Juliana Jendo's song "Alap Beet" is the best and quickest way to learn the AT-WA-TEH (letters). Once you learn the alphabet, you will actually know two alphabets, Aramaic and Hebrew (OW-RRAA-YAA) (minus the script). Both are almost identical and have 22 letters and 7 vowels.

With these 22 AT-WA-TEH and 7 ZO-WEH (vowels), you should learn over 87 words. You will get used to the pronunciation of the letters and the HAAJ-YAAT (spelling) of the words in Aramaic will come almost naturally and fall into place. 85% of the Assyrian words are written phonetically, that is they are spelled as they are pronounced (like the Spanish language). This makes spelling very easy. Just follow these steps, and within two months (if you speak a little Assyrian) you shall start to read and write Assyrian (Believe me). After you learn, you will realize how easy it really was.

1. Learn Juliana's "Alap Beet" song.
2. Practice each A-TOO-TAA (letter) until you memorize each one of them.
3. Learn the ZO-WEH and how they are used.
4. Practice assembling the AT-WA-TEH to construct words according to how each A-TOO-TAA sounds. Begin with your name. The HAAJ-YET is not important now.
5. Practice reading and writing with your new skills.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!! Get the "Classical Aramaic" book (written by Rocco A. Errico and Michael J. Bazzi), the "Learning Syriac CD", and Oraham's dictionary. The benefits will be enormous. Also, visit an excellent site at www.assyrianlanguage.com to further your education. Three

AT-WA-TEH have a final form that are placed at the end of the word, Kap , Meem , and Noon .

If you see an Alap  in this form, it is of the Estrangela AT-WA-TEH. Only six AT-WA-TEH are different, the rest are the same. Alap , Dalat , Meem , Heh , Resh , and Taw . The Estrangela set is mainly used for scriptures, titles, headings, book, and album titles. It usually has no ZOW'E (vowels).

To read the "History of Aramaic" and to hear the pronunciation of the words, and to see an animated pencil writing each letter, visit;

www.learnassyrian.com

There is an extremely important table at the end of the page to build your vocabulary. The words are arranged and catagorized in groups like religion, numbers, time, animals, colors, etc. Visit the last page of this document for special notes.



ALAP (ܐܠܦ)

(Equivilant to "A")

& ܐܠܦܘܪܝܐܝܐ % ܐܠܦܘܪܝܐܝܐ

AA-SHŪO-RRAA-YAA % g AA-SHOO-RRE-TAA &

"People of Ashur" (our god before Christ). The original and correct name of our people (Assyrians AND Chaldeans). All of the Middle-East including Israel refer to us by our original name. If you meet an Arab, Israeli, Turk, Persian, or Kurd, you introduce yourself as an Ashoorayaa (Arabic/Hebrew). AA-SHOO-REEN in Arabic.

Assyrian is the Greek translation (as well as Mesopotamia (Bet Nahrain) & Sargon (Shurikin))

& ܐܠܦܘܪܝܐܝܐ % ܐܠܦܘܪܝܐܝܐ AA-TORR-AA-YAA %g AA-TORR-E-TAA &- Modern word for Assyrian

ܐܠܦ

AA-TAA

flag. ܐܠܦܘܪܝܐܝܐ = BAAY-DAAGH has Turkish orgins.

ܐܠܦܘܪܝܐܝܐ

AARRAA-MAA-EET

Aramaic. "Aramaic" and "Assyrian" are sometimes used interchangeably. This is fine within the community since we assume we know what language we are referring to. Outside the community, you refer to your language as "Aramaic" or "Syriac-Aramaic", for linguists do not use "Assyrian" as a language. It is a nationality. (Sometimes we say ܐܠܦܘܪܝܐܝܐ ܕܐܠܦܘܪܝܐܝܐ (LEE-SHAA-NAA D AA-RRAA-MAA-YAA) - the language of the Aramaens.

Steps to writing letter

- ì Make a short horizontal line from right to left.
- í Make a small dot above slightly left of center.
- î Connect to the dot with a curved line on the left side of line with an upward stroke.

NOTE

If a word ends with the SQAPA (the "AA" sound), ZLAMA PSHEEQA (the "IH" sound), or the ZLAMA QASHYA (the "EH" sound) vowels, Alap is always placed at the end of the word. This letter is indicative and necessary for proper spelling, just like the "e" in "spike" and "white".





BEET (**בֵּת**)

(Equivalent to “B”)

בוֹרְרֵיךְ דָּ בָּאֵיִל

BOORR-JAA D BAA-VIL

Tower of Babel. **בָּבֵל** = BAA-VIL = babylon.

בֵּת נַחֲרֵינִי

BET NAH-REN

Mesopotamia (Greek for the land between the two rivers). When asked what region you are from, you specify that you are from Mesopotamia, which encompasses Assyria, Babylon, Sumer, and Akkad. If you reply Middle East, people will assume you are arab or muslim. You are from a specific region of the Middle East just as the French are from a specific region in Europe.

בֵּיתָא

BE-TAA

house. **בֵּינָא** = BIN-YAA-NAA = building. **בִּינָא** = BI-NAA = foundation..

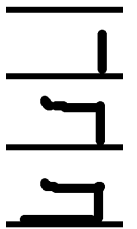
Steps to writing letter

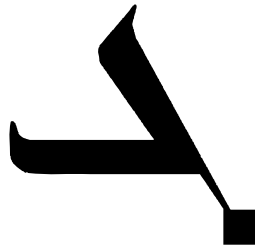
- ì Make a short vertical line with a downward (upward if preceded by a connecting letter) stroke.
- í Make a short horizontal line moving right to left.
- î Join a line from right to left on bottom of vertical line. Make it slightly longer than the top line.

NOTE

Placing a DIPA (dot) underneath Beth (**בְּ**) turns it into a soft “W” sound.

Almost a “V” sound.





GAMAL (جَمَلٌ)
(Equivalent to “G”)

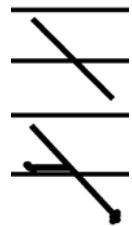
جِيحًا
GIKH-KAA
laugh / smile

جَدَّانٌ % g جَدَّانٌ &
G-BAARR-AA %g G-BAARR-TAA &
gallant / courageous / noble / mighty

جَنَّةٌ هَلِي
GEN-YAA-T'E TIL-Y'E
hanging gardens. جَنَّةٌ (GEN-TAA) = garden.

Steps to writing letter

- ì From left to right, draw a long slanted line that ends below the base line.
- í Connect middle of line and draw from right to left a short line.



NOTE

Placing a MAAJ-LEE-AA-NAA (~) under Gamal turns the letter into Jamal (جَمَلٌ) and has a “J” sound.

Placing a DIPAA (◡) under Gamal turns the letter into Ghamal (جَمَلٌ) and has a “GH” sound (like Agha Pootroos).
Sometimes, if Gamal follows another letter, the line below Gamal is at another angle (◡) so that doesn't interrupt the bottom of the letter on the right.



DALAT (دَلَّة)

(Equivalent to "D")

دَهْدَا

DO-RRAA

century / a period of 100 years / 100

دَلَّة بَج

DAA-TEED

future.

دَلَّة بَجَز (DAA-WAARR) = past.

دَلَّة مَلَم (QAA-IM) = present.

دَهْدَا دَلَّة بَجَز

DAARR-WAA-ZAA D AAISH-TAARR

Gate of Ishtar

Steps to writing letter

- ì From right to left, make a short line on base line.
- í Connect line on right, draw a short curve until left edge of line.
- î From right to left, make a short horizontal line underneath base line.



NOTE

Modern Assyrians use a DIPAA (dot) instead of a line. I choose the classical way when learning how to write. It is easier to differentiate the ZOW'E (vowels) when you use a line. If you use a dot below the letter, and you are a beginner, you may get the dot and the dots used in the vowels confused.

After you learn to read and write, switch to a DIPAA.



HEH (هـ)

(Equivilant to "H")

هـ

HAA-SAA-NAA

easy / simple. هـ (ZAAH-MUT) = trouble / inconvenient / annoyance .

هـ (CHAA-TOON) = difficult / hard.

هـ g هـ

HAAJ-YAAT g HAA-JEE

spelling g spell (verb)

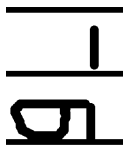
هـ

HAA-NAA-GOO-TAA

joke / jest / something said or done to amuse.

Steps to writing letter

- ì Make a short vertical line downward (upward if connected by a connecting preceding letter).
- í Make a horizontal line on top of the vertical line and finish off with a circle.





WAW (و)

(Equivalent to "W")

وَدَّوْ

WURR-DAA

rose. وَدَّوْ (BIB-LAA) = flower.

وَأَسْتَبْ

WAAH-KHSHEE

savage.

وَدَّوْ

WAA-RRAA-QAA

paper.

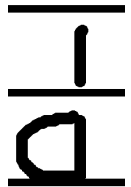
وَدَّوْ (QAA-LAA-MAA) = pen. وَدَّوْ (BID-YOO-TAA) = ink.

Steps to writing letter

- ì From top to bottom, make a short vertical line.
- í Begin at top of line and make a half-circle and connect bottom of line.

NOTE

The written form of WAW uses a line on the right of the letter. In script format (computer or calligraphy), WAW is in a circular fashion.





ZAIN (ز)

(Equivalent to "Z")

زؤؤؤ

ZOO-Z'E

money (plural). زؤؤؤؤؤ (MU-DI-AA-TAA) = tax.

زؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤ

ZRRAA-QAA D SHIM-SHAA

sunrise. زؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤ (GNE-TAA D SHIM-SHAA) = sunset.

زؤؤؤؤؤ (SUH-RRAA) = moon, can be used in place of sun.

& زؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤ % زؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤ g زؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤ

ZMAARR-TAA g ZAA-MAA-RRAA % g ZAA-MAARR-TAA &

song / singer (%) / singer (&).

زؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤ (ZOOOL QAA-LAA)=album. زؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤ (ZOOOL KHIZ-WAAA)=video

Steps to writing letter

ì From top, make a curved line below base line.

í From top of line, connect the intersection of base line and vertical line.



NOTE

The two DIP'E (dots) at the top of the word "ZOO-Z'E" is used to mark plural words. You usually place it on the lowest letter closest to the end of the word. It is okay if you put it close to the begining or on a tall letter if the lower letters have ZOW'E (vowels) on them. Here are some examples;

زؤؤؤؤؤ (NIQ-D'E) = dowry (plural), زؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤ (MUN-SHOOQ-YAA-TE') = kisses,

زؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤ (BET-WAA-T'E) = houses, زؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤؤ (NOOKH-RRAA-Y'E) =

strangers / foreigners.



KHET (ك ه ت)

(No English equivalent. / Back of throat, guttural sound. / Represented as "KH")

ك ه ت
ك ه ت

KHOO-YAA-DAA

unity / the state of being one / oneness.

ك ه ت
ك ه ت

KHEE-RR00-TAA

freedom. disciples. & ك ه ت % ك ه ت

KHEE-RRAA % ك ه ت KHIRR-TAA &) = free.

ك ه ت
ك ه ت

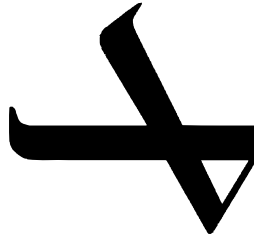
KHAA B NEE-SAAN

Our new year / the first of April. This day, celebrated on the first of April (March 21 by the Gregorian calendar) signifies the rebirth of the land. In ancient days of Assyria and Babylon, we celebrated for 12 days with elaborate festivals. Also, on this day, in certain parts of the world, we have a ك ه ت (MEE-ZEL-TAA) = parade. So important was this day, that Nabonidus (the last king of Babylon) ignored it (and other religious activities), that the people accepted Cyrus the Persian with open arms, for they heard that he had religious tolerance. Babylon soon was destroyed. Our current year is 6751 (2001 years after Christ + 4750, the day the capital Ashur of Assyria was born).

Steps to writing letter

- ì From right, make a short curved 'u'.
- í Finish up with a short upward curve (unless connected with another letter on left, therefore finish off with a straight line).





TETH (تَهْ)

(No English equivalent, but close to a soft “T” and “D”. Represented as “TD” or “TD”)

تَهْ ذَا g تَهْ ذَا

TD'OO-RRAA g TD'OO-RRAA-N'E

mountain g mountains. (تَهْ ذَا ('TD'OO-RRAA-YAA) = mountaineer.

تَهْ صَا (RRAAM-TAA) = hill / height. تَهْ صَا (RRAAM-YAA-T'E) = hills.

تَهْ لَّا نَا

TD'AA-LAA-NAA

player.

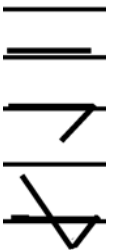
تَهْ لَّا نِي تَا

TD'LAA-NEE-TAA

shadow / shade

Steps to writing letter

- ì From right to left, make a medium line on base.
- í Downward, from right side of line, make a short slanted line to center of horizontal line.
- î From bottom of slanted line, make an upward slanted line leftward.





YODH (ܝܘܕܗ)

(Equivalent to “Y”)

ܝܫܘܥ ܡܫܝܚܐ

EE-SHO MSHEE-KHAA

Jesus Christ. ܡܫܝܚܐ (MSHEE-KHAA) means “Messiah” (the annointed one), Christ is derived from the Greek word “Cristos” meaning Messiah. He was annointed with ܡܫܝܚܐ (MISH-KHAA) = oil, of which the word MSHEE-KHAA is derived. Since this is His Aramaic name, this is as He was called by His friends and disciples. & ܡܫܝܚܐ ܝܘܕܗ % ܡܫܝܚܐ ܝܘܕܗ % MSHEE-KHAA-YAA % ܡܫܝܚܐ ܝܘܕܗ % MSHEE-KHE-TAA &) = follower of the Messiah (Christian)

ܡܠܩܢܐ

YAA-LOO-PAA

student / learner / pupil / studious

ܕܒܒܐ (RRU-BEE) = teacher / my master / my lord / Rabbi

& ܡܠܩܢܐ ܡܠܩܢܐ % ܡܠܩܢܐ (MAAL-PAA-NAA % ܡܠܩܢܐ MAAL-PAAN-TAA &) = teacher / instructor

ܠܘܘܠܐ


YAA-QOO-RRAA

heavy / very meaningful. ܠܘܘܠܐ (QU-LOO-LAA) = light / not heavy.


Steps to writing letter


- i Starting from right to left, write a short “u” (straight line if proceeded by another letter to the left) with right side of letter higher than left side.



 (Final form, attached)



 (Final form, not attached)

KAP ()

(Equivilant to “K”)



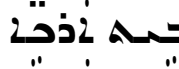
CHAA-RRAA

remedy / solution / that which corrects or counteracts an evil of any kind.

 g 

KTAA-VAA g KAA-TAA-VAA

book / letter / mail g writer (one who writes).

 (BET URR-K'E) = house of archives (library)

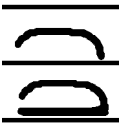
 g 

KUL-DAA-YAA %g KUL-DE-TAA &

a Chaldean. Chaldea of antiquity was a tribe of Babylon and was the last dynasty of the Babylonian empire. In modern times, “Chaldean” is a misnomer for “Assyrian-Catholic”. Rome (which hates and envies the stubborn Eastern-Orthodox Assyrians for their triumphs over Asia and their unwillingness to accept Roman rule and Catholic doctrine), seized their opportunity to divide us (so successfully, they (the “chaldeans”) appeal to governments as a separate millet). Instigated in 1551 by Pope Julius III and sealed by the Ottomans, with the consent of Rome, in 1844. Rome acknowledges its role in the Assyrian-“Chaldean” division, so should you.


Steps to writing letter

- ì Starting from bottom right-hand corner, make a curved line upward.
- í From bottom right, connect bottom of curved line and make a horizontal line towards the left. This letter is wider than Resh and Dalat.



NOTE

Placing a MAAJ-LEE-AA-NAA () under Kap () turns the letter to Chap with a “CH” sound.

Placing a DIPAA (dot) under Kap () changes the sound to a “KH” sound (same as Khet).



LAMADH (لَمَدْ)

(Equivalent to “L”)

لَتْنًا

LEE-SHAA-NAA

tounge / language.

لَوْنًا (LU-AA-ZAA) = dialect. لَمَدًا (RRIT-MAA) = pronunciation.

لَمَدًا (HUM-ZUM-TAA) - talking/speaking.

لَوْنًا

LOO-KHAA

tablet / a writing tablet / a flat piece of material to write, paint, or draw.

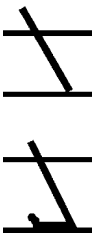
لَمَدًا

LOOP OO MAA-LIP

learn (verb) and teach (verb).

Steps to writing letter

- ì From left to right, above top baseline, make a slanted line to lower base line.
- í From right to left, connect bottom of line and join a horizontal line, making end and upward slant (do not go beyond top of slanted line).



NOTE

The angled slash on top of a letter makes the letter silent. The silent letters are called

لَمَدًا (AAT-WAA-T'E TLEE-Q'E). Just like the letter “K” in the word “Knob” or “Know”, you need it for proper spelling.

EX: لَمَدًا (BURR NAA-SHAA) = human being / humanity / man.

(Final form)

MEEM (ميم)

(Equivalent to “M”)

مِدَّوْزَمَّ

MOO-RRAA-KHAAS

vacation / leave of absence / furlough.

مَقْدَّ (SAA-PAARR) = travel , مَقْدَّجِب (SAA-PAARR-CHEE) = traveler.

مِدْجِنَّا

MU-DN-KHAA

East

مِدْجِنَّا (GURR-BYAA) = North.

مِدْجِنَّا (MU-AARR-WAA) = West.

مِدْجِنَّا (TUY-MNAA) = South.

مِشْطُوْتَا

MISH-TOO-TAA

party / feast (haa-flaa is arabic).

مِشْطُوْتَا دِ حَبُوْجَا (KNOOSH-YAA D AA-TORR-AA-Y'E) = Assyrian convention.

مِشْطُوْتَا (PIT-QAA) = ticket.

Steps to writing letter

- ì From right to left, make an upside-down “u”.
- í On left lower side of the upside-down “u”, make a short upward slanted line.
- î Make a short horizontal line from right to left a little beyond top of slanted line.





(Final form attached)



(Final form)

NOON (ن)

(Equivalent to "N")

تايه

NAA-GIS-TAAN

suddenly / all of a sudden / happening without previous notice.

نينا

NEE-KHAA

slowly. **جلا** (JUL-D'E) = quick / rapid / swift.

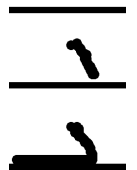
نويذنا

NOOS-TD'RR-NAA-YAA

Nestorian. Another successful attempt by Rome to belittle us and our achievements. Who were these Syriac-Aramaic speaking people who spread Christianity like wild-fire from Syria and Turkey through India and to China? And this before the catholics got there. They tried to destroy the evidence (ex: The Si-An monument and documentation) but not successfully (there was a copy made right before they arrived). They also tried to blacklist us and label us as heretics by calling us "Nestorians". It is equivalent to calling someone a communist to tarnish their credibility. Nestorius was a bishop of Constantinople around 428 A.D. He believed in two bodies of Jesus, one divine and one human. He also argued that since Mary gave birth to the human form, and was the passive recipient of the divine form, she could not be the mother of God. He was then exiled to Egypt. Nothing to do with Assyrians. Eastern-Orthodox Assyrians have always zealously rejected this misnomer for the past 1500 years.

Steps to writing letter

- ì Begin with a tiny horizontal line and then make a downward slightly angular line.
- í Connect bottom of line and make a horizontal line.





SIMKAT (ܣܝܡܟܬܐ)

(Equivalent to "S")

& ܣܘܘܪܝܝܐܐ ܓ % ܣܘܘܪܝܝܐܐ

SOO-RRĀA-YĀA %g SOO-RRE-TĀA &

an Assyrian. An incorrect term. Translated, it means "Syriac-speaking Christians".

A term to associate our language with our religion. Correctly refer yourself as an ASHOORREE or ATORĀAYA/ATORETA. Christianity is our religion, not our

nationality. ܣܘܪܝܝܐܐ (SOO-RRIT) = Syriac.

ܣܘܪܝܝܐܐܐ ܓ ܣܘܪܝܝܐܐܐ

SĀAH-DĀA g SĀAH-DOO-TĀA

martyr ܓ martyrdom.

ܣܘܪܝܝܐܐܐ ܕܥܘܠܡܐܐ (YOM D SĀAH-D'E) = martyr's day. August. 7 marks the day of mourning for

Assyrians around the world and to acknowledge the hundreds of thousands of lives that were lost to the muslims. Aug 7 is a symbolic date on which the Iraqis massacred tens of thousands of lives in Simele, Iraq in the year 1933.

ܣܘܪܝܝܐܐܐ

SUH-RRĀA

moon. ܣܘܪܝܝܐܐܐ (SHIM-SHĀA) = sun. ܣܘܪܝܝܐܐܐ (KUKH-WĀA) = star.

Steps to writing letter

- î From bottom right, make a short curved line upward.
- í From bottom of curved line, make an upward slanted line and continue with a semi-circle.
- î Finish off with a curved line towards left (if Simkath is the final letter in a word, make last curved line point downward a little past base line).





AIH (**اِيه**)

(No equivalent, but like the first letter of Alley)

اِيه

EE-DAA

festival / a time of feasting or celebration / a feast / an anniversary day of joy.

اِيه **اِيه** (EE-DAA GOO-RRAA) = Easter.

اِيه **اِيه** (EE-DAA ZOO-RRAA) = Christmas

اِيه (SHAAH-RRAA) = means the same as EE-DAA, but we don't use combination words (as above) to associate Easter or Christmas.

اِيه

AA-ZEEZ

a person or thing very dear to you.

اِيه **اِيه** % **اِيه** (AA-ZEE-ZEE %g AA-ZIS-TEE &) = one dear to me.

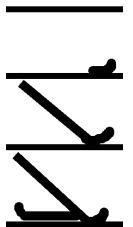
اِيه

AA-SHIQ

excessive or enthusiastic passion or love.

Steps to writing letter

- ì Leftward, make a very short horizontal line on base line.
- í From left of horizontal line, make an upward line.
- î From left of horizontal line, make a vertical line (do not go past top of slanted line).



پ

PEH (پ)

(Equivilant to "P")

پو شاق مین

POO-SHAAQ MI-L'E

dictionary. **کو نا مین** (KOO-NAA MI-L'E) = lexicon.

پو شاق تاق (POO-SHAAQ-TAA) = explanation / interpretation / translation

مین (MI-LAA) = word. **کو نا شاق** = (KOO-NAA-SHAA) = collection.

Sometimes, we incorrectly use the Greek word **لیک سیکون** (LIK-SEE-QON) = lexicon.

کھاش کھاش تے (KHAASH-KHAA-T'E) = the ancient word for dictionary (rarely used).

پراس تاق

PRAAS-TAA

spreading

پراس تاق (PRAAS QAA-LAA) spreading of sound (modern equivelant of radio)

پراس کھیز واق (PRAAS KHIZ-WAA) spreading of vison (modern equivelant of TV)

پار ریک

PAA-RRIQ

rescue (verb) / save (verb). Also means finish (verb).

پار ریک نا = PARR-QAA-NAA = Savior

Steps to writing letter

ì Make a downward slanted line (upward if preceeded by a letter).

í From top, make a half-circle and close it with the slanted line.

î From bottom of horizontal line, make a line along base.

NOTE

Placing a half-circle under Peh (پ) turns the letter into a "F" sound.





SAD'E (سَادْء)
 (Equivilant to a double "SS")

سَلْبَان

SLEE-WAA

cross

سَلْبَان د مَسْبُوَسَان (NEE-SHUN-QAA D MSHEE-KHAA-YOO-TAA) =
 symbol of Christianity.

سَلْبَان (ZQEE-PAA) = crucifix / cross.

سُوپ ررآن

SOOP-RRAA

Food placed on a spread cloth or on a table to be partaken of. / Table-cloth / a cloth for covering a table, before the dishes are set on for meals.

سَاي دَان

SAA-YAA-DAA

hunter.

سَاي دَان (B-SYAA-DAA) = hunting (verb). سَاي (SE-DAA) = hunting (noun)

Steps to writing letter

- ì From right above base line, make a "u".
- í From left of "u", make a slightly curved line downward below base line (do not go beyond right of "u").
- î At the bottom end of curved line, make a horizontal line.





QOP (قوڤ)

(no equivilant but between a “Q” and a “K”)

قوڤ ساء

QAA TD'OO-SAA

For example.

قوڤ ساء (‘TD’OO-SAA) = example.

قوڤ ووت

QOO-WUT

strength / endurance / possesing power.

قوڤ لاء (KHE-LAA) = strength / power / force / might.

قوڤ بون (ZU-BOON) = weak / feeble / deficient in physical strength.

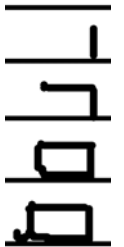
قوڤ ساء

QURR-TD'E-SAA

diploma / degree

Steps to writing letter

- ì Make a downward vertical line (upward if preceeded by letter).
- í Make a very slight curved line from top right of vertical line to the right.
- î From left of very slight “u”, make a curved, slanted line and connect the bottom of vertical line.
- ï Make a very short, slightly curved line from botom-left of letter.





RESH (ذ)

(Equivalent to “RR” (with the rolling of the tounge))

& ذَّهَّءَ g % ذَّهَّءَ

RRAA-WAA-YAA %g RRAA-WE-TAA &

A drunk person.

% مَلَّبَّ g & مَلَّبَّ = (SAA-LEE-LAA %g SAA-LIL-TAA &)

ذَهَّوْمَا

RROOZ-NAA-MAA

newspaper / daily paper (je-rree-daa is arabic).

مَفَذَّوْبِنَا = (SPURR ZO-NAA) = another word for newspaper that is the most proper.

مَفَذَّوْمَنَا (PRAAS QAA-LAA) = radio. مَفَذَّوْمِنَا (PRAAS KHIZ-WAA) = TV.

ذَّوْب

RRAA-ZEE

Acceptable / willing / favorable / in mind.

ذَّوْبَنَا (RRDAA-Y-TAA) = approval / satisfaction / being pleased with.

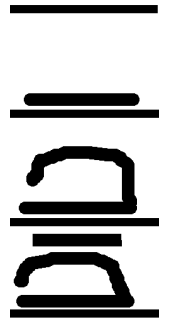
Steps to writing letter

- ì From right to left, make a horizontal line on base line.
- í Beginning from right sidie of line, make a short curved line above horizontal line.
- î Make a short horizontal line above letter.

NOTE

Modern Assyrians use a DIPAA (dot) instead of a line. I choose the classical way when learning how to write. It is easier to differentiate the ZOW'E (vowels) when you use a line. If you use a dot above the letter, and you are a beginner, you may get the dot and the dots used in the vowels confused.

After you learn to read and write, switch to a DIPAA.





SHEEN (شين)

(Equivalent to "SH")

خبيذ % g خذائ &

SHAA-PEE-RRAA % g SHAA-PIRR-TAA &
beautiful / pretty.

خس % g خسان (SAA-WAA-NAA %g SAA-WAAN-TAA &) = ugly.

شيت

SHIT-RRUNJ

Chess. (from the Indian word, "shatirung") دش (DUM-AAH) = checkers.

نرد % g نرد (NURRD-TUKH-TAA) = backgammon.

شلا

SHLAA-MAA

Peace. / Greetings. Used in a greeting as, % شلا % g شلا % g شلا (SHLAA-MAA-LOOKH %g SHLAA-MAA-LAAKH &) = "peace be among you".

Or, you may say, % شلا % g شلا % g شلا (SHLAA-MAA UM-LOOKH %g SHLAA-MAA UM-AAKH &) = "peace be with you".

Steps to writing letter

- ì Leftward, make a very short horizontal line, then follow through with an upward stroke.
- í Leftward again, make a horizontal line on top of the letter.
- î From middle of letter, make a very short downward stroke followed through by a horizontal line.





TAW (تآ)

(Equivalent to "T")

تآهذآ جآلآقآ

TO-RRAA GOOL-PI-NAA

winged bull. تآهذآ (TO-RRAA) = bull.

جآلآقآ (GOOL-PAA) و جآلآقآ (GOOL-PAA-N'E) = wing و wings.

تآهذآ (TAA-WIRR-TAA) = cow.

تآشآآ

TUSH-EE-TAA

history (taa-rriq is arabic).

تآلمآآ

TUL-MEE-D'E

Disciples. تآلآشآ (PO-LOOS SHLEE-KHAA) = Apostle Paul.

تآلآشآ (PEE-LEE-POS) = Phillip. تآلمآآ (TO-MAA) = Thomas. تآلمآآ

(YO-KHU-NAAN) = John. تآلمآآ (YAA-QOO) = James. تآلمآآ (TU-DAAY) = Thaddeus.

تآلمآآ (BURR-TOOL-M'E) = Bartholomew. تآلمآآ (UN-DRR'E-OS) = Andrew.

تآلمآآ (SHI-MON) = Simon. تآلمآآ (ME-T'E) = Mathew. تآلمآآ (EE-HOO-DAA) = Judas

Steps to writing letter

- ì Beginning on right side above top line, make a long slanted slope downward (upward if preceded by a letter) toward the right.
- í On top of line, downward to the left, draw a slanted line to base line.
- î From bottom-left, connect a wavy line and draw right stopping short of other line.

NOTE

Placing a DI-PAA underneath Taw, تآ changes it to a "TH" sound.



𐤎 (normal style)

𐤎 (classical style)

TAW-ALAP (𐤎 𐤀)

(Equivalent to "TÁ")

𐤎𐤓𐤐𐤕

SIP-RRAA-YOO-TAA

liturature / a person of liturary status / highly intellectual.

& 𐤎𐤓𐤐𐤕 g % 𐤎𐤓𐤐𐤕 (SIP-RRAA-YAA %g SIP-RRE-TAA &) = literate person.

𐤎𐤕𐤓

BTOOL-TAA

virgin. 𐤎𐤕𐤓 (BTOO-LAA%) = chaste (chaste used for males instead of virgin).

𐤎𐤕𐤓 𐤎𐤓𐤐𐤕 (MURR-YAAM BTOOL-TAA) = Virgin Mary

derived from 𐤎𐤓𐤐𐤕 (MAARR-YAA) = the Lord. 𐤎𐤓𐤐 (YI-MAA) = mother.

𐤎𐤓𐤐𐤕

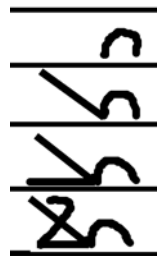
MU-DRRAA-SHTAA

school (usually used for highschool).

𐤎𐤓𐤐𐤕 (MU-DRRAA-SAA) = school. 𐤎𐤓𐤐𐤕 (BET SO-B'E) = university.

Steps to writing letter

- ì From right to left, make a half-circle.
- í Make a straight line at a 45 degree line.
- î To the right of the left tip of the angle, draw a dot.
- ï In a circular fashion, draw a curved line (you are now making ALAP).
- î Finish off (without lifting your pencil) by connecting the bottom left of the semi-circle with a straight line.



NOTE

This letter is not part of the original 22. It is a combination of TAW and ALAP and is sometimes used at the end of words. You might see this letter often.

VOWELS

You will need to know the seven vowels of the Syriac-Aramaic language. Placing the appropriate dots on or below a constant changes that constant to a vowel. Below are the vowels, the dots, and a few examples.

Quickview of the Vowels



There is a *mnemonic* that our people back home use to memorize the vowels. The steps are as follows;

- 1) Name the AA-TOO-TAA (letter).
- 2) Name the name of the vowel.
- 3) Pronounce the whole constant with the vowel.
- 4) Continue to the next AA-TOO-TAA and repeat the steps.



ZQAPA

פ (Pronounced "SQAA-PAA") - "AH" sound, as in "Father".

Placing the two dots in an angle above a letter changes it to an "AH" sound.

Examples:

א̣ = AH ב̣ = BAA ג̣ = GAA ד̣ = DAA ה̣ = HAA ו̣ = WAA ז̣ = ZAA ח̣ = KHAA

The mnemonic:

- ALAP, SQAPA, "AA"
- BETH, SQAPA, "BAA"
- GAMAL, SQAPA, "GAA"
- DALAT, SQAPA, "DAA"
- HEH, SQAPA, "HAA"
- WAW, SQAPA, "WAA"
- ZAIN, SQAPA, "ZAA"
- KHET, SQAPA, "KHAA"
- TETH, SQAPA, "TDAA"
- YODH, SQAPA, "YAA"
- KAP, SQAPA, "KAA"
- LAMAD, SQAPA, "LAA"
- MEEM, SQAPA, "MAA"
- NOON, SQAPA, "NAA"
- SIMKATH, SQAPA, "SAA"
- AIH, SQAPA, "AA-AA"
- PEH, SQAPA, "PAA"
- SADEH, SQAPA, "SAA"
- QOP, SQAPA, "QAA"
- RESH, SQAPA, "RRAA"
- SHEEN, SQAPA, "SHAA"
- TAW, SQAPA, "TAA"

אָהַבְתִּי לְבָרְכֶם וְלְשַׁמְרֵתְכֶם וְלְשַׁמְרֵתְכֶם וְלְשַׁמְרֵתְכֶם וְלְשַׁמְרֵתְכֶם וְלְשַׁמְרֵתְכֶם וְלְשַׁמְרֵתְכֶם וְלְשַׁמְרֵתְכֶם וְלְשַׁמְרֵתְכֶם וְלְשַׁמְרֵתְכֶם

UH

PTAKHA

p “UH” sound, as in “Verbal”.

Placing the two dots, one above and one below the letter changes it to an “UH” sound.

Examples:

اُ = UH بْ = BU گْ = GU دْ = DU هْ = HU وْ = WU زْ = ZU کْ = KHU

The mnemonic:

- | | | |
|------------|---------|----------------|
| ● ALAP, | PTAKHA, | “U” |
| ● BETH, | PTAKHA, | “BU” |
| ● GAMAL, | PTAKHA, | “GU” |
| ● DALAT, | PTAKHA, | “DU” |
| ● HEH, | PTAKHA, | “HU” |
| ● WAW, | PTAKHA, | “WU” |
| ● ZAIN, | PTAKHA, | “ZU” |
| ● KHET, | PTAKHA, | “KHU” |
| ● TETH, | PTAKHA, | “ T DU” |
| ● YODH, | PTAKHA, | “YU” |
| ● KAP, | PTAKHA, | “KU” |
| ● LAMAD, | PTAKHA, | “LU” |
| ● MEEM, | PTAKHA, | “MU” |
| ● NOON, | PTAKHA, | “NU” |
| ● SIMKATH, | PTAKHA, | “SU” |
| ● AIH, | PTAKHA, | “AA-U” |
| ● PEH, | PTAKHA, | “PU” |
| ● SADEH, | PTAKHA, | “SU” |
| ● QOP, | PTAKHA, | “QU” |
| ● RESH, | PTAKHA, | “RRU” |
| ● SHEEN, | PTAKHA, | “SHU” |
| ● TAW, | PTAKHA, | “TU” |

اُ
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IH

ZLAMA PSHEEQA

پ “IH” sound, as in “sit”.

Placing the two dots horizontally below a letter changes it to an “IH” sound.

Examples:

 = IH
  = BI
  = GI
  = DI
  = HI
  = WI
  = ZI
  = KHI

The mnemonic:

- | | | |
|------------|----------------|--------|
| ● ALAP, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “IH” |
| ● BETH, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “BI” |
| ● GAMAL, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “GI” |
| ● DALAT, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “DI” |
| ● HEH, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “HI” |
| ● WAW, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “WI” |
| ● ZAIN, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “ZI” |
| ● KHET, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “KHI” |
| ● TETH, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “TDI” |
| ● YODH, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “YI” |
| ● KAP, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “KI” |
| ● LAMAD, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “LI” |
| ● MEEM, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “MI” |
| ● NOON, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “NI” |
| ● SIMKATH, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “SI” |
| ● AIH, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “AA-I” |
| ● PEH, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “PI” |
| ● SADEH, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “SI” |
| ● QOP, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “QI” |
| ● RESH, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “RRI” |
| ● SHEEN, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “SHI” |
| ● TAW, | ZLAMA PSHEEQA, | “TI” |



EH



ZLAMA QASHYA

ⲡ “EH” sound, as in “Bear”.

Placing the two dots in an angle underneath a letter changes it to an “EH” sound.

Examples:

Ⲛ = EH ⲛ = BE ⲛⲓ = GE ⲛⲓⲛ = DE ⲛⲓⲛⲓ = HE ⲛⲓⲛⲓⲛ = WE ⲛⲓⲛⲓⲛⲓ = ZE ⲛⲓⲛⲓⲛⲓⲛ = KHE

The mnemonic:

- ALAP, ZLAMA QASHYA, “EH”
- BETH, ZLAMA QASHYA, “B’E”
- GAMAL, ZLAMA QASHYA, “G’E”
- DALAT, ZLAMA QASHYA, “D’E”
- HEH, ZLAMA QASHYA, “H’E”
- WAW, ZLAMA QASHYA, “W’E”
- ZAIN, ZLAMA QASHYA, “Z’E”
- KHET, ZLAMA QASHYA, “KH’E”
- TETH, ZLAMA QASHYA, “TD’E”
- YODH, ZLAMA QASHYA, “Y’E”
- KAP, ZLAMA QASHYA, “K’E”
- LAMAD, ZLAMA QASHYA, “L’E”
- MEEM, ZLAMA QASHYA, “M’E”
- NOON, ZLAMA QASHYA, “N’E”
- SIMKATH, ZLAMA QASHYA, “S’E”
- AIH, ZLAMA QASHYA, “AA’E”
- PEH, ZLAMA QASHYA, “P’E”
- SADEH, ZLAMA QASHYA, “S’E”
- QOP, ZLAMA QASHYA, “Q’E”
- RESH, ZLAMA QASHYA, “RR’E”
- SHEEN, ZLAMA QASHYA, “SH’E”
- TAW, ZLAMA QASHYA, “T’E”





RWAKHA

پ “OH” sound, as in “Phone”.

Placing a dot above the WAW letter changes it to an “OH” sound.

Examples:

وْ = OH وْ = BO وْ = GO وْ = DO وْ = HO وْ = WO وْ = ZO وْ = KHO

The mnemonic:

● ALAP,	RWAKHA,	“O”	وْ
● BETH,	RWAKHA,	“BO”	وْ
● GAMAL,	RWAKHA,	“GO”	وْ
● DALAT,	RWAKHA,	“DO”	وْ
● HEH,	RWAKHA,	“HO”	وْ
● WAW,	RWAKHA,	“WO”	وْ
● ZAIN,	RWAKHA,	“ZO”	وْ
● KHET,	RWAKHA,	“KHO”	وْ
● TETH,	RWAKHA,	“TDO”	وْ
● YODH,	RWAKHA,	“YO”	وْ
● KAP,	RWAKHA,	“KO”	وْ
● LAMAD,	RWAKHA,	“LO”	وْ
● MEEM,	RWAKHA,	“MO”	وْ
● NOON,	RWAKHA,	“NO”	وْ
● SIMKATH,	RWAKHA,	“SO”	وْ
● AIH,	RWAKHA,	“AAO”	وْ
● PEH,	RWAKHA,	“PO”	وْ
● SADEH,	RWAKHA,	“SO”	وْ
● QOP,	RWAKHA,	“QO”	وْ
● RESH,	RWAKHA,	“RRO”	وْ
● SHEEN,	RWAKHA,	“SHO”	وْ
● TAW,	RWAKHA,	“TO”	وْ



RWASA

פ "OO" sound, as in "Moon"

Placing a dot below the letter WAW changes it to an "OO" sound.

Examples:

וּ = OOH בּוּ = BOO גּוּ = GOO דּוּ = DOO הּוּ = HOO וּוּ = WOO זוּ = ZOO כּוּ = KHOO

The mnemonic:

● ALAP,	RWASA,	"OO"	וּ
● BETH,	RWASA,	"BOO"	בּוּ
● GAMAL,	RWASA,	"GOO"	גּוּ
● DALAT,	RWASA,	"DOO"	דּוּ
● HEH,	RWASA,	"HOO"	הּוּ
● WAW,	RWASA,	"WOO"	וּוּ
● ZAIN,	RWASA,	"ZOO"	זוּ
● KHET,	RWASA,	"KHOO"	כּוּ
● TETH,	RWASA,	"TDOO"	תּוּ
● YODH,	RWASA,	"YOO"	יוּ
● KAP,	RWASA,	"KOO"	קוּ
● LAMAD,	RWASA,	"LOO"	לוּ
● MOOM,	RWASA,	"MOO"	מוּ
● NOON,	RWASA,	"NOO"	נוּ
● SIMKATH,	RWASA,	"SOO"	סוּ
● AIH,	RWASA,	"AAOO"	איוּ
● PEH,	RWASA,	"POO"	פוּ
● SADEH,	RWASA,	"SOO"	סוּ
● QOP,	RWASA,	"QOO"	קוּ
● RESH,	RWASA,	"RROO"	רוּ
● SHEEN,	RWASA,	"SHOO"	שוּ
● TAW,	RWASA,	"TOO"	טוּ



KHWASA

ρ “EE” sound, as in “Bee”.

Placing a dot below the YODH letter changes it to an “EE” sound.

Examples:

ي = EE ب = BEE ج = GEE د = DEE ه = HEE و = WEE ز = ZEE ح = KHEE

The mnemonic:

● ALAP,	KHWASA,	“EE”	ي
● BETH,	KHWASA,	“BEE”	ب
● GAMAL,	KHWASA,	“GEE”	ج
● DALAT,	KHWASA,	“DEE”	د
● HEH,	KHWASA,	“HEE”	ه
● WAW,	KHWASA,	“WEE”	و
● ZAIN,	KHWASA,	“ZEE”	ز
● KHET,	KHWASA,	“KHEE”	ح
● TETH,	KHWASA,	“TDEE”	ث
● YODH,	KHWASA,	“YEE”	ي
● KAP,	KHWASA,	“KEE”	ك
● LAMAD,	KHWASA,	“LEE”	ل
● MEEM,	KHWASA,	“MEE”	م
● NOON,	KHWASA,	“NEE”	ن
● SIMKATH,	KHWASA,	“SEE”	س
● AIH,	KHWASA,	“AAEE”	ا
● PEH,	KHWASA,	“PEE”	پ
● SADEH,	KHWASA,	“SEE”	س
● QOP,	KHWASA,	“QEE”	ق
● RESH,	KHWASA,	“RREE”	ر
● SHEEN,	KHWASA,	“SHEE”	ش
● TAW,	KHWASA,	“TEE”	ت

THE ESTRANGELA SCRIPT

The estrangela script is the same as the common script, except that it is the ancient form and vowels are not used. Everything before 500 A.D was written in estrangela, including the patristic scrolls. Currently, most of biblical quotes and writing are written in the estrangela script. The script is also used for titles, headings, and book and album titles. Jesus and his desciples used these six letters along with the rest of the normal text.

The word estrangela come from two words,

ܡܝܕܐ (STDAARR) = “to write” and

ܙܗܘܢܓܠܝܘܢ (E-WUN-GAA-LEE-ON) = gospel.

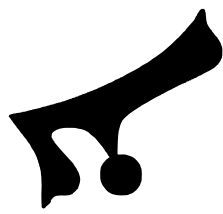
There are six letters that look different. The rest look almost the exact same.

Here are the six letters and a comparison to the common script:

	Common script	Estrangela script
ALAP	ܐ	ܐ
DALAT	ܕ	ܕ
HEH	ܗ	ܗ
MEEM	ܡ	ܡ
RESH	ܚ	ܚ
TAW	ܬ	ܬ

Comparisons between the estrangela and common script.

	Common script	Estrangela script
ALAP	ܐ	ܐ
BETH	ܒ	ܒ
GAMAL	ܓ	ܓ
DALAT	ܕ	ܕ
HEH	ܗ	ܗ
WAW	ܘ	ܘ
ZAIN	ܙ	ܙ
KHET	ܚ	ܚ
TETH	ܛ	ܛ
YODH	ܝ	ܝ
KAP	ܟ	ܟ
LAMAD	ܠ	ܠ
MEEM	ܡ	ܡ
NOON	ܢ	ܢ
SIMATH	ܣ	ܣ
AIH	ܐܝܗ	ܐܝܗ
PEH	ܦ	ܦ
SADE	ܨ	ܨ
QOP	ܩ	ܩ
RESH	ܩܝܢܐ	ܩܝܢܐ
SHEEN	ܩܝܢܐ	ܩܝܢܐ
TAW	ܬ	ܬ
TAW-ALAP	ܬܐ	ܬܐ



ALAP (ܐܠܦ)

(Equivalent to "A")

ܐܠܦܝܢܐܝܐ

ORR-HAAY,

Edessa. (ܐܦܫܘܪܝܐ) The city where Christianity began for Assyrians. In modern day Urfa, Turkey, it is called by Assyrians, "the blessed city". King Abgar Okooma V (the black one), son of Mano, was an AASHOORREE (Assyrian). He had a mortal sickness (leprosy) and told EESHO (Jesus) in a letter that he had heard a great deal of him and his miracles. He said he believes in him, "you must be God or the son of God and I ask you to come and cure my sickness". Jesus wrote back and said that his time was occupied but he would send two of his apostles, MAR TOOMAA (Thomas) and MAR ADDAI (Thaddaeus). After he was cured, the entire kingdom and the ASHOORREE population converted to Christianity and dressed in sackcloth. Everyone, including the animals, fasted for 3 days. We still celebrate and fast in his honor. Thus, Assyrians were one of the first Christians (300 years before Constantinople). After 2000 years, we still liturgically honor him.

ܐܠܦܝܢܐܝܐ ܓ ܐܠܦܝܢܐܝܐ

EEL g AA-LAA-HAA

God. (ܐܠܦܝܢܐܝܐ ܓ ܐܠܦܝܢܐܝܐ). ܐܠܦܝܢܐܝܐ (EEL) is the ancient word for God.

It is used in conjunction with names like; Emmanuel (God with us (UMUN EEL)) and Daniel (God's judgement (DYEN-TAA D EEL)) and Gabriel (powerful God (G-BAA-RRAA EEL)) etc..

ܐܠܦܝܢܐܝܐ

AA-NIN-QAA-YAA g AA-NIN-QE-TAA

necessary / anything indispensable / important. (ܐܠܦܝܢܐܝܐ).

Steps to writing letter

- ì Beginning on right side above top line, make a long slanted slope downward toward the left 3/4 above base line.
- í On left-end of line, make a short, slightly angled, downward stroke to base line in a slight angle.
- î From middle of top line, make another short, slightly angled, line to base line in a slight angle.



ḏ

DALAT (ḏ)

(Equivalent to "D")

ḏ ḡ ḏ

DAA-YAA-NAA ḡ DYAAAN-TAA

judge ḡ judgement (ḏ ḡ ḏ)

ḏ (QAA-NOON) = law.

& ḏ ḡ % ḏ (SNEGH-RRAA % ḡ SNEGH-RRE-TAA &) = lawyer.

ḏ

DURR-BAA

wound / laceration / sore / scab / syphilis / venereal disease. (ḏ)

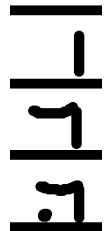
ḏ

DI-KAA-NAA

store / shop. (ḏ)

Steps to writing letter

- ì Make a short vertical line with a downward (upward if preceded by a connecting letter) stroke.
- í On top of line, from right to left, draw a very slightly curved line to top of vertical line.
- î Draw a dot on bottom left-hand corner of letter.





HEH (هـ)

(Equivalent to “H”)

هـ كيم

HU-KEEM

doctor. (هـ كيم)

& هـ كيم % هـ كيم (AAS-YAA %g AAS-EE-TAA &) = physician

هـ كيم هـ كيم (BET KRREE-H'E) = house of the ill/sick (hospital).

هـ رراء

HOOJ-RRAA

office / a small room where business is transacted. (هـ رراء)

هـ داء ماء

HU-DAA-MAA

member / an essential part of anything / one of an association or community / a limb or organ. (هـ داء ماء)

Steps to writing letter

- ì Make a short vertical line with a downward (upward if preceded by a connecting letter) stroke.
- í On top of line, to the left, draw a straight line.
- î From the left of line, connect a curved line to base line.
- ï From the middle of top line, make a line from top to base line.





MEEM (מֵם)

(Equivalent to “M”)

מְהַדְיָאָא גּ ׀ מְהַדְיָאָאָא

MHU-DYAA-NAA % g MHU-DYAAN-TAA &

leader / a guide / director. (& מְהַדְיָאָאָא גּ ׀ מְהַדְיָאָאָא)

מְהַדְיָאָאָא (MDAAB-RRAA-NAA) = another word meaning the same.

מִנְשֹׁקָא

MUN-SHOQQ-TAA

kiss. (מִנְשֹׁקָא). מִנְשֹׁקָא (BAA-CH'E) = kiss (used by children)

מִדְיָאָא

M-DEE-TAA

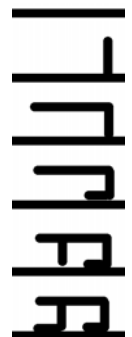
city / a large town / a municipality. (מִדְיָאָא)

מִדְיָאָא גּ מִדְיָאָאָא (MAA-TAA g MAAT-WAA-T'E) = village g villages.

מִדְיָאָאָא (OOKH-DAA-NAA) = state. מִדְיָאָאָא (UT-RRAA) = country.

Steps to writing letter

- ì Begin with a short downward stroke.
- í On top of line, leftward, draw a long horizontal line.
- î From right of bottom line, draw a line to the left without going past the center of top line.
- ï From center of top line, draw a short line to base line.
- õ Finish off with a short line to the left.





RESH (ر)

(Equivalent to “R”)

رُوح

RROO-KHAA

spirit / ghost. (رُوحٌ). رُوحٌ (GAA-NAA) = soul / spirit.

رَاعٍ

RRAA-YAA

shepherd. (رَاعٍ). رَاعٍ (IRR-B'E) = sheep.

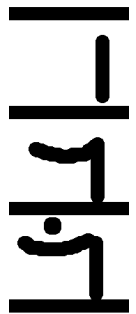
رُبُّوعٌ

RRU-KEE-KHAA

soft. (رُبُّوعٌ). رُبُّوعٌ (RRUQ) = hard / stiff / solid.

Steps to writing letter

- ì Begin with a short downward stroke.
- í Connect the top of the line with a short, very slightly curved, horizontal line going rightward.
- î Place a dot above horizontal line in the center.





TAW (تاء)

(Equivalent to “T”)



TUL-GAA

snow. (ثَلْجٌ). جَدْبَةٌ (GDEE-LAA) = ice.

مَيْدَةٌ (MITD-RRAA) = rain.



TURR-BAA

fat / greasy or oily matter of an animal. (زَبْدٌ)

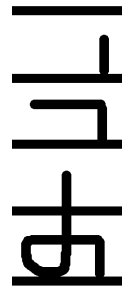


TUK-LUT

I wish / let us hope / an expression of desire or with. (أَرْجُو)

Steps to writing letter

- ì Make a short vertical line with a downward (upward if preceded by a connecting letter) stroke.
- í On top of line, to the left, draw a straight horizontal line.
- î From left of letter, draw a semi-circle to center of horizontal line.
- ï Finish off with a vertical stroke past the upper base line



The sentence structure is close to that of latin languages like Spanish or French. Instead of saying "Sargon's book", we say, "book of Sargon" (KTAA-VAA D SARR-GON), or, instead of "Assyrian flag", we say "Flag of Assyria" (AA-TAA D AA-TORR). Other grammatical rules would be object-adjective instead of adjective-object. So instead of saying "large tower", we say "tower large" (BOORR-JAA GOO-RRAA), or, instead of "dark tea", we say, "tea dark" (CHAAY TOKH). If you translate directly from English, you may confuse yourself. If you know the basics of a latin language or other semetic languages, these rules should be very easy to comprehend.

Don't worry about this now, but when you excel in the Aramaic language, keep these letters in mind.

ܕ ܠ and ܘ. By themselves, they mean something and are combined with the the second word of a combination sentence.

ܕ (pronounced ID when combined)= of / symbolizes possession

ܠ (pronounced IL when combined) = on / onto / to

ܘ (pronounced OO when combined) = and

In this lesson, I separate the letter from the combined word to make it easier to differentiate, for example, if the word begins with "of" or the "D" sounding letter, ܕ. It is easier in the beginning to read and write "go to nineveh" than "go tonineveh" or "love and unity" than "love andunity", or "flag of Assyria" than "flag ofAssyria".

ܕܠܐܘܨܝܪܝܐ ܕܠܐܘܨܝܪܝܐ (AA-TAA D AA-TOR) should be written ܕܠܐܘܨܝܪܝܐ ܠܐܘܨܝܪܝܐ.

It also should be pronounced, AA-TID AA-TORR.

ܘܠܐܘܨܝܪܝܐ ܘܠܐܘܨܝܪܝܐ (KHOO-BAA OO KHOO-YAA-DAA) should be written ܘܠܐܘܨܝܪܝܐ ܘܠܐܘܨܝܪܝܐ.

When using Waw as the word "and", it is pronounced the same as above.

ܘܠܐܘܨܝܪܝܐ ܠܐܘܨܝܪܝܐ (KHOOSH L NIN-WAA) should be written ܘܠܐܘܨܝܪܝܐ ܠܐܘܨܝܪܝܐ.

It also should be pronounced, KHOOSH-IL NIN-WAA.

Enjoy one of the three major languages of the bible (Hebrew and Greek are the others). It is through God's strength that our language has survived such enormous odds and tragedies, especially since 700AD. However, assimilation in the West cuts as a sword does in the East. Survival of the language begins with the individual.


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