

# Arabic Script

Introduction

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Welcome

## Where is Arabic script used?

- You might be surprised!
- 175+ languages using Arabic script
- Converting between scripts
  - Latin script
  - Cyrillic script
  - Tifinagh script
  - Probably others
- Samples of styles? For West Africa, North Africa, Pakistan, Iran, etc.

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You might be surprised to know how widely Arabic script is used.

There are over 175 languages using the script.

We are aware of languages that use Latin and Arabic script, Cyrillic and Arabic script, Latin, Cyrillic and Arabic script and Latin, Tifinagh and Arabic script.

Of course this means that some of you will be wanting keyboards in several scripts. Some of you may have files in Latin or Cyrillic script and want to convert your text to another script. We hope to at least begin to help you address those needs during this time.

Some of you might be surprised this week at the styles of Arabic script that people are using. Your view of what is beautiful might be quite different from what is considered beautiful in a different part of the world. We'll have a presentation showing some of the different styles and where it would be appropriate to use those styles.

## Map of Arabic-script World



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I took a list of all the languages we know use the Arabic script and placed them on a map. This map shows those countries where Arabic script is used. It's quite widespread.

## Desired Outcomes

- Making wise orthography choices
- Able to support your own project
- Able to help others
- Sharing our collective knowledge of language choices with others
  - Exemplars, Phonemes/Graphemes, Word Lists, collation
- Shared resources
  - Keyboards
  - Mapping files
  - Publishing resources, such as borders
- Networking

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### Desired Outcomes.

We want to help you with understanding orthography choices from both a socio-linguistic point of view as well as the more technical Unicode angle.

We want you to be able to support your own project with keyboards, data conversion, using the script in many different applications, etc.

If you wish, we want you to be able to come alongside others and help them.

We also want to share our knowledge of language choices with others...so that other people can benefit from the resources we developed for the language we are working in.

We plan discuss sharing resources by placing them in open repositories. This way if one language develops a keyboard, a related language group could take that keyboard and modify it for the related language. This is relevant for mapping files and also publishing resources.

We also hope that an outcome will be that you want to continue networking with others. We can benefit from each other's experience and knowledge.