

# ROMANIZATION SYSTEM FOR OSSETIAN

## BGN/PCGN 2009 System

The BGN/PCGN system for Ossetian is designed for use in romanizing names written in the Ossetian Cyrillic alphabet. Ossetian is a member of the north-eastern Iranian language group and has over half a million speakers. It has principally been written in a modified Cyrillic alphabet though a Roman alphabet was used between 1923 and 1938. The BGN/PCGN Romanization System is derived from the correspondences between that Roman alphabet and the Cyrillic alphabet used for Ossetian today, with modifications to suit an English-language user.

	Ossetian				Romanization	Roman Unicode Value
1.	А	а	А	а	a	0061
2.	Æ	æ	Æ	æ	æ	00E6
3.	Б	б	Б	б	b	0062
4.	В	в	В	в	v	0076
5.	Г	г	Г	г	g	0067
6.	Гъ	гъ	Гъ	гъ	gh <sup>3</sup>	0067+ 0068
7.	Д	д	Д	д	d	0064
8.	Дж	дж	Дж	дж	j <sup>4</sup>	006A
9.	Дз	дз	Дз	дз	dz	0064+ 007A
10.	Е	е	Е	е	e	0065
11.	Ë	ë	Ë	ë	ë <sup>Note 1</sup>	00EB
12.	Ж	ж	Ж	ж	zh <sup>Note 1</sup>	007A+ 0068

	Ossetian				Romanization	Roman Unicode Value
23.	Пъ	пъ	Пъ	пъ	p <sup>1</sup>	0070+ 2019
24.	Р	р	Р	р	r	0072
25.	С	с	С	с	s	0073
26.	Т	т	Т	т	t	0074
27.	Тъ	тъ	Тъ	тъ	t <sup>2</sup>	0074+ 2019
28.	У	у	У	у	u, w <sup>Note 2</sup>	0075, 0077
29.	Ф	ф	Ф	ф	f	0066
30.	Х	х	Х	х	kh <sup>5</sup>	006B+ 0068
31.	Хъ	хъ	Хъ	хъ	q	0071
32.	Ц	ц	Ц	ц	ts <sup>6</sup>	0074+ 0073
33.	Цъ	цъ	Цъ	цъ	ts <sup>7</sup>	0074+ 0073+ 2019
34.	Ч	ч	Ч	ч	ch <sup>8</sup>	0063+ 0068

<sup>1</sup> Formerly /ph/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

<sup>2</sup> Formerly /th/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

<sup>3</sup> Formerly /h/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

<sup>4</sup> Formerly /dž/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

<sup>5</sup> Formerly /x/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

<sup>6</sup> Formerly /c/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

<sup>7</sup> Formerly /ch/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

<sup>8</sup> Formerly /č/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

Ossetian				Romanization	Roman Unicode Value	
13.	З	з	З	з	z	007A
14.	И	и	И	и	i	0069
15.	Й	й	Й	й	y <sup>10</sup>	0079
16.	К	к	К	к	k	006B
17.	Къ	къ	Къ	къ	k <sup>11</sup>	006B+ 2019
18.	Л	л	Л	л	l	006C
19.	М	м	М	м	m	006D
20.	Н	н	Н	н	n	006E
21.	О	о	О	о	o	006F
22.	П	п	П	п	p	0070

Ossetian				Romanization	Roman Unicode Value	
35.	Чъ	чъ	Чъ	чъ	ch <sup>9</sup>	0063+ 0068+ 2019
36.	Ш	ш	Ш	ш	sh <sup>Note 1</sup>	0073+ 0068
37.	Щ	щ	Щ	щ	shch <sup>Note 1</sup>	0073+ 0068+0063+ 0068
38.	Ъ	ъ	Ъ	ъ	” Notes 1 & 3	201D
39.	Ы	ы	Ы	ы	y	0079
40.	Ь	ь	Ь	ь	’ Note 1	2019
41.	Э	э	Э	э	e <sup>Note 1</sup>	0065
42.	Ю	ю	Ю	ю	yu <sup>Note 1</sup>	0079+ 0075
43.	Я	я	Я	я	ya <sup>Note 1</sup>	0079+ 0061

## NOTES

- The characters ё, ж, ш, щ, ъ, ь, э, ю, я appear only in loan words and their romanizations in the Ossetian System are therefore as they appear in the BGN/PCGN Romanization System for Russian Cyrillic.
- У has several different functions:
  - In combination with another vowel (either preceding or following) У is a ‘semi-vowel’ and should be romanized ‘w’ [e.g. *Дзау* → *Dzaw* (=Java)]
  - У also serves to labialize the consonants Г, Гъ, К, Къ, Х and Хъ and should also be romanized ‘w’ after each of these [e.g. *Гуырды* → *Gwyrdy* (=Georgia)]
  - elsewhere У should be romanized ‘u’ [e.g. *Республикæ* → *Respublikæ* (=Republic)].
- Ъ should be represented with ”, except as it occurs in the digraph combinations Гъ, къ, пъ, тъ, хъ or чъ representing the glottal consonants as shown separately in the table.

<sup>9</sup> Formerly /čh/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

<sup>10</sup> Formerly /j/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet

<sup>11</sup> Formerly /kh/ in the Ossetian Roman-script alphabet