Transliteration and Transcription

ITYOPIS encourages authors to choose the transliteration / transcription system for the Ge'ez [*Gǝ'ǝz*] script, which they feel fits best to their approach. As a basic rule, however, an exact system has to be employed with different signs used for diffent phonemes (i.e. not necessarily different signs are needed for different letters pronounced in the same way). The following system is the preferred standard. Alternatives are suggested (in brackets) for authors who wish to avoid special diacritic signs.

ITYOPIS Standard		e	u	ī (i)	a	ē (é)	i (í)	o	wa	ye
	h	ሀ	ሁ	ሂ	ሃ	ሄ	ህ	ሆ		
	l	ለ	ሉ	ሊ	ላ	ሌ	ል	ሎ	ሏ	
(ḥ)	ḥ	ሐ	ሑ	ሒ	ሓ	ሔ	ሕ	ሖ	ሗ	
	m	መ	ሙ	ሚ	ማ	ሜ	ም	ሞ	ሟ	ᎀ
	s	ሠ	ሡ	ሢ	ሣ	ሤ	ሥ	ሦ	ሧ	
	r	ረ	ሩ	ሪ	ራ	ሬ	ር	ሮ	ሯ	ፘ
	s	ሰ	ሱ	ሲ	ሳ	ሴ	ስ	ሶ	ሷ	
(sh)	š	ሸ	ሹ	ሺ	ሻ	ሼ	ሽ	ሾ	ሿ	
	q	ቀ	ቁ	ቂ	ቃ	ቄ	ቅ	ቆ	ቈ	
	q̱	ቐ	ቑ	ቒ	ቓ	ቔ	ቕ	ቖ	ቘ	
	b	በ	ቡ	ቢ	ባ	ቤ	ብ	ቦ	ቧ	
	t	ተ	ቱ	ቲ	ታ	ቴ	ት	ቶ	ቷ	
(ch)	č	ቸ	ቹ	ቺ	ቻ	ቼ	ች	ቾ	ቿ	
	h	ኀ	ኁ	ኂ	ኃ	ኄ	ኅ	ኆ	ኈ	
	n	ነ	ኑ	ኒ	ና	ኔ	ን	ኖ	ኗ	
	ñ	ኘ	ኙ	ኚ	ኛ	ኜ	ኝ	ኞ	ኟ	
	ʾ	አ	ኡ	ኢ	ኣ	ኤ	እ	ኦ	ኧ	
	k	ከ	ኩ	ኪ	ካ	ኬ	ክ	ኮ	ኳ	
	ḵ	ኸ	ኹ	ኺ	ኻ	ኼ	ኽ	ኾ	ዃ	
	w	ወ	ዉ	ዊ	ዋ	ዌ	ው	ዎ		
(ʿ)	ʿ	ዐ	ዑ	ዒ	ዓ	ዔ	ዕ	ዖ		
	z	ዘ	ዙ	ዚ	ዛ	ዜ	ዝ	ዞ	ዟ	
(zh)	ž	ዠ	ዡ	ዢ	ዣ	ዤ	ዥ	ዦ	ዧ	
	y	የ	ዩ	ዪ	ያ	ዬ	ይ	ዮ		
	d	ደ	ዱ	ዲ	ዳ	ዴ	ድ	ዶ	ዷ	
(j)	ǧ	ጀ	ጁ	ጂ	ጃ	ጄ	ጅ	ጆ	ጇ	
	g	ገ	ጉ	ጊ	ጋ	ጌ	ግ	ጎ	ጓ	
(tʾ)	ṭ	ጠ	ጡ	ጢ	ጣ	ጤ	ጥ	ጦ	ጧ	
(chʾ)	č̣	ጨ	ጩ	ጪ	ጫ	ጬ	ጭ	ጮ	ጯ	
(pʾ)	p̣	ጰ	ጱ	ጲ	ጳ	ጴ	ጵ	ጶ	ጷ	
	ts	ጸ	ጹ	ጺ	ጻ	ጼ	ጽ	ጾ	ጿ	
	tś	ፀ	ፁ	ፂ	ፃ	ፄ	ፅ	ፆ		
	f	ፈ	ፉ	ፊ	ፋ	ፌ	ፍ	ፎ	ፏ	ፚ
	p	ፐ	ፑ	ፒ	ፓ	ፔ	ፕ	ፖ	ፗ	

The basic principles are: (a) One sign (or combination of signs) for one phoneme (e.g., the sibilants ሰ and ሠ can both be rendered as *se*), (b) different signs for different graphemes only if they represent differences in pronounciation (e.g., in Tigrinnya, the fricatives ሀ and ሐ have to be rendered as *he* and *ḥe* respectively, while in Amharic both can be rendered as *ha*), (c) gemination is to be noted by double consonants, (d) when not voiced, the shwa (sixth order, *ǝ*) is not written. Note on orthographies of languages in Latin script: In the case of languages, which do not use the Ge'ez script, the established local spelling in Latin script is to be followed (e.g. Oromiyaa, not Oromia; Gobanaa, not Gobena). Words respectively texts written in Somali script, i.e. Osmanya, shall be rendered according to the modern Latin orthography of Somali. For Arabic a recognized scientific transliteration system has to be used.