

**THE BENGALI ALPHABET IN ROMAN SCRIPT****CLASSIFICATION OF BENGALI SOUNDS**

C O N S O N A N T S						V O W E L S		
Family	Hard	Soft	Soft	Soft	Hard			
	Held Huffed	Held Huffed	Nasals	Semi-vowels	Spirants	Short	Long	Diphthongs
Guttural	ka kha	ga gha	n <sup>1</sup> a	ha	hha	a	aa	e, ei ee, oy
	ক খ	গ ঘ	ঙ	হ	ঃ	অ	আ	এ ঐ
Palatal	ca cha	ja jha	n <sup>2</sup> a	ya	sha	i	ii	
	চ ছ	জ ঝ	ঞ	য়	শ	ই	ঈ	
Cerebral	ta tha	da dha	na	ra	sa	rri		
	ট ঠ	ড ঢ	ণ	র	ষ	ঋ		
		ra rha		ya				
		ড় ঢ়		য				
Dental	ta tha	da dha	na	la	sa			
	ত থ	দ ধ	ন	ল	স			
Labial	pa pha	ba bha	ma	ba	hha	u	uu	o oo, au
	প ফ	ব ভ	ম	ব	ঃ	উ	ঊ	ও ঔ
Others			n <sup>o</sup>	n <sup>^</sup>				
			ং	ঙ				

**PRONUNCIATION OF VOWELS**

INDEPENDENT

OR INITIAL

AND SOUNDS  
ROMANIZED LIKE...  
PHONETICAS  
IN THE  
ENGLISH  
WORDA DIFFERENT SHAPE  
IS USED WHEN IT IS  
JOINED BEHIND A  
CONSONANT (SUCH AS  
WITH "প" "pa" ...)

(no vowel)

অ a

(no sound)

(inherent a)

very short "a" "wander"

very short "o" "off"

প্

p ("p")

প

pa

আ aa

long "a"

"far"

পা

paa

অ্যা া

flat "a"

"apple"

প্যা

pā, pyaa

ই i

short "i"

"fill"

পি

pi

ঈ ii

long "i"

"feel"

পী

pii

উ u

short "u"

"pull"

পু

pu

ঊ uu

long "oo"

"pool"

পূ

puu

ঋ rri

short "ri"

"triple"

প্ৰ

prri

এ e

short "e"

"egg"

পে

pe

ঐ ee

long "oi"

"boil"

পৈ

pee ("poi")

ও o

short "o"

"on"

পৌ

po

ঔ oo

long "o" "owner", "now"

পৌ

poo

("pau/pow")

ং n°

nasal "ng"

"singer"

পং

pan°

("pang")

ঃ hh

abrupt "h"

"Judah"

পঃ

pahh

ং  
^nasal faintly as  
in French "non"

পং

p^a

("pan")

**PRONUNCIATION OF CONSONANTS**

		ROMANIZED	SOUNDS	IN THE ENGLISH WORD
		AS	LIKE	
Guttural	ক	k	"k"	in "keen"
- in the throat	খ	kh	"kh"	in "rockhead"
	গ	g	"g"	in "get"
	ঘ	gh	"gh"	in "slagheap"
	ঙ	n <sup>1</sup>	"n"	in "donkey"
Palatal	চ	c	"ch"	in "chair"
- on the palate	ছ	ch	chh"	in "matchhead"
	জ	j	"j"	in "enjoy"
	ঝ	jh	"dgeh"	in "hedgehog"
	ঞ	n <sup>2</sup>	"n"	in "pinch"
Cerebral	ট	t̪	"t"	in "alter"
- on the roof	ঠ	th̪	"th"	in "malthouse"
of the mouth	ড	d̪	"d"	in "Dad"
	ড়	r̪	"rr"	in "barred"
	ঢ	dh̪	"dh"	in "goldhammer"
	ঢ়	rh̪	"rrh"	in "myrrh lump"
	ণ	ɳ	"n"	in "inlaid"
Dental	ত (=ৎ)	t	"t"	in "ant"
- on the teeth	থ	th	"th"	in "warthog"
	দ	d	"d"	in "beds"
	ধ	dh	"dh"	in "redheads"
	ন	n	"n"	in "bending"
Labial	প	p	"p"	in "peace"
- on the lips	ফ	ph	"ph"	in "uphold"
	ব	b, v, w	"b"	in "bob" ("swim, twin")
	ভ	bh	"bh"	in "nibholder"
	ম	m	"m"	in "meet"
	য	y	"j"	in "jog"
Forward	য়	y	"y"	in "yes"
semi-vowels	র	r	"r"	in "right"
	ল	l	"l"	in "love"
Sibilants	শ	sh	"sh"	in "ship"
	ষ	ṣ	"sh"	in "washtub"
	স	s	"sh"	in "ensure"
Guttural semi-vowel	হ	h	"h"	in "heart"