

SCRIPT

The derivative of Brāhmī in which Bengali (Bāñlā) is written is also used for Assamese, Khasi, and a few other local languages.

Signs used in Bengali script:

Sanskrit *anusvāra*, Bengali *ṇuṣar*: in Sanskrit, the sign $\overset{\cdot}{\text{—}}$, superscript above the letter which it follows, marks the unmodified nasal. In Bengali it is notated as ণ and may be replaced in some words by the velar nasal ঙ . As in Devanāgarī, vowels may also be nasalized by the sign ँ .

ঃ Sanskrit *visarga*, Bengali *biṣorgo*. In some Bengali words the sign indicates strong aspiration; in others it marks a lengthening of the preceding consonant. For rules of sandhi affecting *visarga*, see **Devanāgarī**.

ূ *hasanta*. This corresponds to Devanāgarī *virāma*. It cancels the vowel sound inherent in a consonant:

Bengali ক্ = Devanāgarī क् /k/.

The accompanying table shows the consonantal inventory of Bengali, the independent vowels, and the secondary vowel signs in combination with /k/.

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THE BENGALI SCRIPT

CONSONANTS

ক <i>k</i>	খ <i>k</i>	গ <i>g</i>	ঘ <i>gh</i>	ঙ <i>ñ</i>
চ <i>c</i>	ছ <i>ch</i>	জ <i>j</i>	ঝ <i>jh</i>	ঞ <i>ñ</i>
ট <i>t</i>	ঠ <i>th</i>	ড <i>d</i>	ঢ <i>dh</i>	ণ <i>n</i>
ত <i>t</i>	থ <i>th</i>	দ <i>d</i>	ধ <i>dh</i>	ন <i>n</i>
প <i>p</i>	ফ <i>ph</i>	ব <i>b</i>	ভ <i>bh</i>	ম <i>m</i>
য় <i>y</i>	র <i>r</i>	ল <i>l</i>	ব <i>v</i>	
শ <i>ś</i>	ষ <i>ṣ</i>	স <i>s</i>	হ <i>h</i>	য <i>z</i> ড় <i>r</i> ঢ় <i>rh</i>

VOWELS

(a) Independent:

অ <i>a</i>	আ <i>ā</i>	ই <i>i</i>	ঈ <i>ī</i>	উ <i>u</i>	ঊ <i>ū</i>	ঋ <i>ri</i>
এ <i>ē</i>	ঐ <i>ai</i>	ও <i>ō</i>	ঔ <i>au</i>	অং <i>aṅ</i>	অঃ <i>aḥ</i>	

(b) In combination with /k/:

ক্কা <i>kā</i>	ক্কি <i>ki</i>	ক্কী <i>kī</i>	ক্কু <i>ku</i>	ক্কূ <i>kū</i>
ক্ক্ৰি <i>kri</i>	ক্কৈ <i>kē</i>	ক্কৈ <i>kai</i>	ক্কৌ <i>kō</i>	ক্কৌ <i>kau</i>

NUMERALS

১	২	৩	৪	৫	৬	৭	৮	৯	০
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0

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