

## PHONEMES AND ORTHOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

## EXAMPLES

|       |      |     |   |     |       |    |         |               |
|-------|------|-----|---|-----|-------|----|---------|---------------|
| /p/   | p    | /m/ | m | /f/ | f     | a  | tága    | to believe    |
| /b/   | b    |     |   | /v/ | v     | b  | bee     | there         |
| /t/   | t    |     |   | /s/ | s     | c  | caa     | to look for   |
| /d/   | d, r |     |   | /z/ | z     | d  | dáli    | chimpanzee    |
| /tʃ/  | c    |     |   | /l/ | l, n  | e  | fe      | kind of grain |
| /tʃʒ/ | j    |     |   | /w/ | w, ŋ  | e  | seʔe    | to examine    |
| /k/   | k    |     |   | /y/ | y, ny | f  | fála    | to sow        |
| /g/   | g    |     |   |     |       | g  | gòlo    | chicken       |
| /kp/  | kp   |     |   |     |       | gb | gbaa    | to drink      |
| /gb/  | gb   |     |   |     |       | gm | nigmoon | healer        |
| /kpm/ | km   |     |   |     |       | i  | sí      | and, but      |
| /gbm/ | gm   |     |   |     |       | j  | jaa     | to break      |
| /ʔ/   | ʔ    |     |   |     |       | k  | kaarà   | meat          |
|       |      |     |   |     |       | km | kmóon   | to hit        |
|       |      |     |   |     |       | kp | kpóo    | to kill       |
|       |      |     |   |     |       | l  | lála    | weather       |
|       |      |     |   |     |       | m  | màni    | rice          |
|       |      |     |   |     |       | n  | nòo     | cow           |
|       |      |     |   |     |       | ny | nyoo    | to be good    |
| /i/   | i    |     |   | /u/ | u     | ŋ  | ŋono    | knife         |
| /e/   | e    |     |   | /o/ | o     | o  | kòlo    | chair         |
| /ɛ/   | ɛ    | /a/ | a | /ɔ/ | ɔ     | ɔ  | kolò    | hand          |
|       |      |     |   |     |       | p  | pára    | to sell       |
|       |      |     |   |     |       | r  | tàra    | to slip       |
|       |      |     |   |     |       | s  | sòo     | antelope      |
|       |      |     |   |     |       | t  | too     | to fall       |
|       |      |     |   |     |       | u  | súgo    | mortar        |
|       |      |     |   |     |       | v  | vògo    | cabin         |
|       |      |     |   |     |       | w  | wii     | to whistle    |
|       |      |     |   |     |       | y  | yaamà   | illness       |
|       |      |     |   |     |       | z  | zàʔa    | rain          |
|       |      |     |   |     |       | ʔ  | kàʔa    | village       |

Labialization: Cw

Palatalization: Cy

## Tones:

|        |      |          |        |
|--------|------|----------|--------|
| /ŋ̄:/  | ŋ̄V  | /C̄VC̄V/ | C̄VC̄V |
| /Ŋ̄:/  | Ŋ̄V  | /C̄VC̄V/ | C̄VC̄V |
| /ŋ̄̂:/ | ŋ̄̂V | /C̄VC̄V/ | C̄VC̄V |
| /Ŋ̄̂:/ | Ŋ̄̂V | /C̄VC̄V/ | C̄VC̄V |
| /ŋ̄̃:/ | ŋ̄̃V | /C̄VC̄V/ | C̄VC̄V |
| /Ŋ̄̃:/ | Ŋ̄̃V | /C̄VC̄V/ | C̄VC̄V |

## ALPHABET

a b c d e ɛ f g gb gm i j k km kp l m n ny ŋ o ɔ p  
r s t u v w y z ʔ

number of graphemes 32

## Alphabets of Africa

edited by

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