

## PHONEMES AND ORTHOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

## EXAMPLES

|      |    |       |     |      |    |     |        |                |
|------|----|-------|-----|------|----|-----|--------|----------------|
| /p/  | p  | /m/   | m   | /f/  | f  | a   | mbáy   | chief          |
| /b/  | b  | /mb/  | mb  | /v/  | v  | b   | bóh    | melon          |
| /β/  | β  | /mgb/ | mgb | /vb/ | vb | β   | βáy    | word           |
| /t/  | t  | /n/   | n   | /s/  | s  | d   | dùhru  | baboon         |
| /d/  | d  | /nd/  | nd  | /z/  | z  | ɗ   | ɗuh    | to pound       |
| /ɗ/  | ɗ  | /nz/  | nz  | /l/  | l  | e   | fè     | thing          |
| /k/  | k  | /ŋ/   | ŋ   | /r/  | r  | f   | fay    | father-in-law  |
| /g/  | g  | /ŋg/  | ŋg  | /h/  | h  | g   | gáy    | dog            |
| /kp/ | kp |       |     | /w/  | w  | gb  | gbàhla | weaver bird    |
| /gb/ | gb |       |     | /y/  | y  | h   | húm    | mushroom       |
| /y/  | y  |       |     |      |    | i   | híf    | woven mat      |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | k   | kúh    | gourd          |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | kp  | kpéh   | yam            |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | l   | sál    | rope           |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | m   | máh    | mother         |
| /i/  | i  |       |     | /u/  | u  | mb  | mbih   | water          |
| /e/  | e  |       |     | /o/  | o  | mgb | mgbama | wild cat       |
| /a/  | a  |       |     | /ɔ/  | ɔ  | n   | nah    | uncle          |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | nd  | ndòkɔ  | buffalo        |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | nz  | nzòkɔ  | peanut         |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | ŋ   | nàŋ    | millet         |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | ŋg  | ŋgábi  | large antelope |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | o   | tòm    | salt           |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | ɔ   | nzòkɔ  | peanut         |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | p   | púh    | village        |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | r   | làri   | silver         |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | s   | sáw    | root           |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | t   | tòm    | salt           |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | u   | túl    | head           |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | v   | vùl    | hut            |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | vb  | vból   | sorceress      |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | w   | wáka   | field          |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | y   | yàh    | friend         |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | y   | yah    | to look for    |
|      |    |       |     |      |    | z   | zuh    | to flee        |

Nasalization is a word prosody. In the orthography, nasalization is marked by a cedilla under the first vowel of the word, i.e. ɓ, ɗ, ð, ɓ, ɗ, ɓ.

## Tones:

|        |   |          |
|--------|---|----------|
| high   | ˊ |          |
| mid    | ˋ | unmarked |
| low    | ˋ |          |
| rising | ˊ |          |

## ALPHABET

a b β d ɗ e f g gb h i k kp l m mb mgb n nd nz ŋ ɓ  
o ɔ p r s t u v vb w y y z

number of graphemes 3.

## Alphabets of Africa

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