

PHONEMES AND ORTHOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

EXAMPLES

/p/	p	/m/	m	/f/	f	a	m ba	my father
/b/	b	/n/	n	/v/	v	b	baasi	dogs
/t/	t	/ɲ/	ny	/s/ [ʃ] [h] s, h		d	daasi	markets
/d/ [r]	d, r	/ŋ/	ŋ	/z/ [ʒ]	z	e	deasi	to get
/c/	ky	/ŋm/	ŋm	/l/	l	ε	bε ni	is there
/ʒ/	gy			/w/	w	f	feesi	to wipe
/k/	k			/y/	y	g	gaasi	Diospyros fruits
/g/ [ʔ]	g, ʔ					ʔ	se'asi	to prepare
/kp/	kp					gb	gbaasi	to catch (many)
/gb/	gb					gy	gyaasi	twins
						h	halaali	pure (loanword)
/i/	i			/u/	u	i	bibila	small child
/i:/	ii			/u:/	uu	ii	diisi	to feed
/e/	ε			/o/	ɔ	k	kaasi	to cry
/e:/	ee	/a/	a	/o:/	oo	kp	kpaasi	nails
		/a:/	aa			ky	kyeesi	parrots
/V:/	VV					l	laasi	bowls
						m	maasim	shade
						n	naasi	four
						ny	nyaari	four chests
						ŋ	ŋobi	to chew
						ŋm	ŋmaasi	to break (many)
						ɔ	doaai	to get up
						oo	bɔ...?	what?
						oo	doosi	to week
						p	paasi	to add
						r	daari	sticks
						s	saasi	rains
						t	taasi	to send
						u	bu	to beat
						uu	buusi	goats
						v	vaari	leaves
						w	waasi	dances
						y	yaari	fishing
						z	zaasim	fishes

ALPHABET

a aa b d e ε ee f g ' gb gy h i ii k kp ky l m n ny ŋ
 ŋm o ɔ oo p r s t u uu v w y z

number of graphemes 37

Alphabets of Africa

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