

## URJ Transliteration Guidelines and Master Word List

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### Transliteration

See Word List for exceptions to the following guidelines, based on dictionary spelling or common usage.

“ch” for *chet* and *chaf*

“f” for *fei*

“k” for *kaf* and *kuf*

“tz” for *tzadi*

“i” for *chirik*

“e” for *segol*

“ei” for *tzeirei*

“a” for *patach* and *kamatz*

“o” for *cholem* and *kamatz katan*

“u” for *shuruk* and *kibbutz*

“ai” for *patach* with *yod*

Final “h” for final *hei*; none for final *ayin* (with exceptions based on common usage): *atah*, *Sh'ma*, but *Moshe*.

Apostrophe for *sh'va nah* (with exceptions based on common usage): *b'nei*, *b'rit*, *Sh'ma*, but *ketubah*.

Hyphen for two vowels together where necessary for correct pronunciation: *ne-eman*, *samei-ach*, but *maariv*, *Shavuot*.

No hyphen for prefixes unless necessary for correct pronunciation: *babayit*, *HaShem*, *Yom HaAtzma-ut*, but *Va-eira*.

Do not double consonants (with exceptions based on dictionary spelling or common usage): *t'filah*, *chayim*, but *tallit*, *Sukkot*.

### Capitalization

In transliterated text, capitalize only proper nouns. In general, capitalize transliterated word if the word would be capitalized in English (exceptions: pronouns referring to God): *Adonai*, *Eretz Yisrael*, *Gan Eden*, *Adonai Eloheinu Melech haolam*, but *atah*, *hu*.

In transliterated text, use lowercase for prefixes in running text, but capitalize prefixes in titles and proper nouns: “*Ki MiTziyon*” (title of song), *Ki miTziyon teitzei Torah* (running text); *V'zot HaTorah* (title of prayer), *V'zot haTorah asher...* (text of prayer); *l'Adonai*; *HaShem*; *Rosh HaShanah*.

Capitalize references to God: the Divine, the Divine Presence, the One, *HaShem*, You, Your, but who, *atah*, *hu*.

Use lowercase for derivatives of references to God: godlike, godly, messianic.

Capitalize the names of religious denominations and words derived from them: Chasidism, Chasidic, Judaic, Sephardic, Reformers.

Capitalize titles of prayers: *Kiddush*, *Kaddish*, Blessing after Meals, the Four Questions.

Capitalize the names of the service or parts of the service: *Shacharit*, *Yizkor*.

Use lowercase for life-cycle events: bar mitzvah, confirmation, *b'rit milah*.

### Italics, Roman, & Quotation Marks

Generally use italics for transliterated words that do not appear in the dictionary (see Word List).

Generally use roman for transliterated words that appear in the dictionary (see Word List); but use italics if the word appears in a transliterated phrase where other words are in italic: *Shabbat*, *Oneg Shabbat*.

Use roman or italics for foreign titles according to whether they would be roman or italic in English: the song “*Hava Nagila*”; the book *Mishneh Torah*.

Use roman for titles of classic Jewish texts: *Torah*, *Mishnah*, *Talmud*, *midrash*.

Use italics for the Hebrew titles of prayers, roman for English titles: *Kaddish*, *Kiddush*, *Sh'ma*, the Four Questions, Blessing after Meals.

Use roman for foreign proper names, including organizations: *Yochanan ben Zakkai*, *Magen David Adom*.

Use roman for Hebrew months: *Adar*, *Elul*.

Use roman for holidays: *Pesach*, *Lag BaOmer*.

## MASTER WORD LIST, UAHC PRESS

Copyeditor: Debra Corman

acknowledgment  
 Adar (month)  
 Adar I (month)  
 Adar II (month)  
*Adon Olam*  
*Adonai*  
*Adonai Melech*  
*Adonai Tz'vaot*  
*afikoman*  
*aggadah*  
*agunah*  
*Ahavah Rabbah*  
*Ahavat Olam*  
*Akeidah*  
 Akiva  
*Al Cheit*  
*alef* (letter)  
*alef-bet*  
*Aleinu*  
*Al Hanisim*  
*aliyah, aliyot*  
 A.M. (SMALL CAPS)  
*Amora, Amoraim*  
 amoraic  
*Amidah*  
*Am Yisrael*  
 anti-Semitism  
*aravah*  
*arbaah minim*  
 ark (synagogue)  
 Ark of the Covenant, the Ark  
*Aron HaB'rit**Aron Kodesh*  
*Ashamnu*  
 Ashkenazi, Ashkenazim  
 Ashkenazic  
*Ashrei*  
*atzei chayim*  
*aufruf*  
 Av (month)  
*avanah*  
*Avinu Malkeinu*  
*avodah*  
*Avot*  
*Avot D'Rabbi Natan*  
*ayin* (letter)

Baal Shem Tov  
 Babylonian empire  
 Babylonian exile  
*bal tashchit*  
*baraita, baraitot*  
*Bar'chu*  
 Bar Kochba

bar mitzvah  
*Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech haolam,*  
*asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu*  
*Baruch Shem*  
*bat*  
 bat mitzvah  
*bayit* (house)  
*Bayit* (the Temple)  
 B.C.E. (SMALL CAPS)  
*beit* (house of)  
*beit din*  
*beitzah*  
*ben*  
*bet* (letter)  
 biblical  
*bikur cholim*  
*bimah*  
*binah*  
*Birkat HaMazon*  
*Birkat Kohanim*  
*Birkat Shalom*  
 Blessing after Meals  
 B'nai B'rith  
*b'nei mitzvah*  
*B'nei Yisrael*  
 Book of Exodus  
 Book of Life  
*boshet*  
*b'rachah, b'rachot*  
*b'reishit*  
*B'reishit Rabbah*  
*b'rit*  
*b'rit hachayim*  
*b'rit milah*  
*b'rit olam*  
*b'tzelem Elohim*

candlelighting blessings  
 C.E. (SMALL CAPS)  
 Central Europe  
 "Chad Gadya"  
*chag*  
*chai*  
 challah, challot  
*chameitz*  
 Chanukah  
*chanukiyah*  
*charoset*  
 Chasid, Chasidim  
 Chasidic  
 Chasidism  
*chatan*  
*chatimah*

*chavurah*  
*chayim*  
*chazan*  
*chazanut*  
*cherem*  
 cherubim  
*chesed*  
 Cheshvan (month)  
*chet* (letter)  
*chevrah kadisha*  
 Children of Israel  
*chochmah*  
*chol hamo-eid*  
 Chol HaMo-eid Sukkot  
 the Chosen People  
*chug*  
*Chumash*  
*chuppah*  
 classical Reform Judaism  
 confirmand  
 confirmation  
 Conservative Judaism  
 the Creation  
  
*daat*  
*dalet* (letter)  
 Days of Awe  
 “Dayeinu”  
 a diaspora, the Diaspora  
*din*  
 divine (adj.)  
 the Divine  
 the Divine Name (God)  
 the Divine Presence (God)  
*d’rash*  
 dreidel  
*D’varim Rabbah*  
*d’var Torah*  
  
 Eastern Europe  
 East European  
*echad*  
*Eichah* (Lamentations)  
*Eichah Rabbah*  
*Ein Adir*  
*Ein Kamocho*  
*Ein Keloheinu*  
*Ein Sof*  
*Eishet Chayil*  
*eitz*  
*Eitz Chayim Hi*  
*el* (to)  
*El* (God)  
 Eliyahu HaNavi (the prophet)  
 “Eliyahu HaNavi” (the song)  
*El Malei Rachamim*

*Elohai N’shamah*  
*Eloheinu*  
*Elohim*  
 Elul (month)  
 e-mail  
 Emancipation  
*emet*  
*emunah*  
 the Enlightenment  
*Eretz Yisrael*  
 eternal light  
*etrog*  
 the Exodus (from Egypt)  
  
 family education  
 the Festivals  
 firstborn  
 the First Temple  
 the Flood (from *Noach*)  
 the Four Questions  
  
*Gan Eden*  
 gelt  
 Gemara  
 gentile  
*ger, gerim*  
*get, gittin*  
*gimel* (letter)  
*Gittin* (Talmud)  
*giyoret, giyoret*  
*g’matria*  
*g’milut chasadim*  
 godlike  
 godliness  
 godly  
 Golden Calf  
*goy*  
*G’ulah*  
*gut yontiv* (Yiddish)  
*G’vurot*  
  
 Habakkuk  
*hachnasat orchim*  
*hadas, hadasim*  
 haftarah, haftarot  
 Haggadah  
*hakafah, hakafot*  
 halachah  
 halachic  
*Hallel*  
 Hallelujah (English translation)  
*hall’luyah* (transliteration)  
 hamantashen  
*Hamavdil*  
*HaMotzi*  
*haolam*

<i>HaShem</i>	<i>keva</i>
<i>Hashkiveinu</i>	<i>k'hilah, k'hilot</i>
“Hatikvah”	<i>Ki Anu Amecha</i>
“Hava Nagila”	<i>kibud z'keinim</i>
<i>Havdalah</i>	kibbutz
<i>hayom</i>	kibbutznik
Hebrew school	<i>Kiddush</i>
Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) [en-dash for spelled out; hyphen for abbreviation]	<i>kiddushin</i>
<i>hei</i> (letter)	<i>Kiddushin</i> (Talmud)
<i>hidur mitzvah</i>	“Ki MiTziyon”
High Holy Days	Kingdom of Israel
High Priest	Kingdom of Judah
<i>Hilchot T'shuvah</i>	<i>kippah, kippot</i>
Hillel	Kislev (month)
“Hinei Mah Tov”	<i>K'lal Yisrael</i>
Historical Prophets	<i>kodesh</i>
<i>Hodaah</i>	<i>kohein, kohanim</i> (priest)
the Holy Ark	<i>Kohelet</i> (Book of Ecclesiastes)
the Holy Land	<i>Kohelet Rabbah</i>
the Holy of Holies	<i>kol</i>
the Holy One (God)	<i>Kol Nidrei</i>
hora	<i>korban</i>
Hoshana Rabbah (holiday)	kosher
House of David	<i>k'riah</i>
House of Israel	<i>K'tuvim</i> (Writings—Bible)
House of Judah	<i>k'vod hamet</i>
	<i>kuf</i> (letter)
	kugel
Iyar (month)	<i>l'Adonai</i>
<i>Iyov</i> (Book of Job)	Lag BaOmer
	<i>lamed</i> (letter)
the Jewish Federation	Land of Israel
Jews-by-choice	<i>lashon hara</i>
Judah HaNasi	Later Prophets
judgment	latke
	laypeople
Kabbalah	<i>L'chah Dodi</i>
<i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i>	<i>l'chayim</i>
kabbalistic	<i>lev</i>
kabbalists	Levite
<i>Kaddish</i>	Liberal (referring to denomination)
<i>Kaddish Yatom</i>	life cycle, life-cycle event
<i>kadosh</i>	Literary Prophets
<i>kaf</i> (letter)	<i>L'maan Tizk'ru</i>
<i>kaf sofit</i> (letter)	<i>lo anochiyut</i>
<i>kallah, kallot</i>	<i>lo l'vayeish</i>
<i>karpas</i>	loving-kindness
kashrut	<i>lulav</i>
<i>kavanah</i>	
<i>kavod</i>	<i>Maariv</i> (Evening Service)
<i>k'dushah</i>	<i>maaseh</i>
<i>K'dushah</i> (the prayer)	<i>Maaseh Merkavah</i>
<i>K'dushat HaShem</i>	<i>maasim tovim</i>
<i>K'dushat HaYom</i>	Maccabees
<i>ketubah, ketubot</i>	<i>machzor</i>

*Machzor Vitry*  
*Magen David*  
 Magen David Adom  
*Mah Nishtanah*  
*Mah Tov*  
 Major Prophets  
*malach*  
*manzer, mamzerim*  
*mamzeret, mamzerot*  
 Manasseh  
*maror*  
*mashiach*  
 the Matriarchs  
 matzah, matzot  
*mazal tov*  
*m'chabeid zeh et zeh*  
*M'dinat Yisrael*  
 megillah (Eng.; e.g., “the whole megillah”)  
*melech*  
*mem* (letter)  
*mem sofit*  
 menorah  
 mensch  
 a messiah  
 the Messiah  
 messianic  
 mezuzah  
*m'gillah, m'gillot* (Heb. “scroll”)  
 the *M'gillah* (Book of Esther)  
*M'gillat Esther*  
*Mi Chamochah*  
*midah, midot*  
 midrash, midrashim, midrashic  
*Mikdash* (the Temple)  
*mikdash m'at*  
*mikveh*  
*Minchah* (Afternoon Service)  
*minhag, minhagim*  
 Minor Prophets  
 minyan  
*Mi Shebeirach*  
*Mishkan* (the Tabernacle)  
*mishlo-ach manot*  
 a mishnah  
 the Mishnah  
 Mishnaic  
*mishnayot*  
*Mishneh Torah*  
 mitzvah, mitzvot  
 mixed marriage  
 mixed-marriage family  
*m'nuchah*  
 modern Orthodoxy  
*Modim Anachnu*  
*mohel*  
*mohelet*

Morning Blessings  
*Motzi*  
 Mourner's *Kaddish*  
 Mount Sinai  
*m'tzaveh*  
*musar*  
  
*Naaseh V'nishma*  
 Nachman of Bratzlav  
 Nachmanides  
*N'chemyah* (Book of Nehemiah)  
*n'divut*  
*ne-eman*  
*nefesh*  
*ner tamid*  
 New Moon  
 New World  
 New Year  
*nidah*  
*Nidah* (Talmud)  
*N'ilah*  
 the Ninth of Av (holiday)  
 Nisan (month)  
*Nishmat Kol Chai*  
*nisuin*  
*nitzotzot*  
*Noach*  
 Northern Kingdom  
*n'shamah*  
*nun* (letter)  
*nun sofit* (letter)  
*N'vi-im* (Prophets—Bible)  
  
*Ohel Mo-eid* (Tent of Meeting)  
*ohel zeh et zeh*  
*olah*  
*olam haba*  
 the *Omer*  
*ometz lev*  
*onah*  
*Oneg Shabbat*  
*onein*  
 Oral Torah  
 Orthodox, Orthodoxy (referring to  
     denomination)  
*Oseh Shalom*  
 Outreach (Reform program)  
  
*parashah, parshiyot*  
*Parashat Noach*  
 the Patriarchs  
*pei* (letter)  
*pei sofit* (letter)  
 Pentateuch  
 Pentateuchal  
 Pesach

<i>pidyon haben</i>	the Second Temple
<i>pikuach nefesh</i>	seder (Passover)
<i>Pirkei Avot</i>	<i>sefer</i>
Pittsburgh Platform	<i>sefer Torah</i> (a Torah scroll)
<i>piyut, piyutim</i>	<i>Sefer Torah</i> (tractate)
P.M. (SMALL CAPS)	<i>seiver panim yafot</i>
pomelos	selah
postbiblical	Sephardi, Sephardim
prayer book	Sephardic
priest ( <u>but</u> High Priest)	seraphim
Priestly Benediction	the Seven Blessings
Promised Land	<i>s'firah, s'firot</i>
a prophet, prophets	Shabbat
Prophets (book of the Bible)	Shabbat HaChodesh
a psalm, psalms	Shabbat HaGadol
the Psalmist	Shabbat Shuvah
Psalms (book of the Bible)	Shabbat Zachor
<i>p'shat</i>	<i>Shacharit</i> (Morning Service)
Purim	<i>shalach manot</i>
	<i>shalachmanos</i>
rabbinic	<i>shalom</i>
Rabbinic Judaism	<i>Shalom Aleichem</i>
Rabbis (ancient Sages)	<i>Shalom Rav</i>
rabbis (contemporary)	<i>shamash</i>
<i>rachamim</i>	<i>shamayim</i>
<i>rasha</i>	Shammai
Rashi	shank bone
Reader's <i>Kaddish</i>	Shavuot
Rebekah	<i>Shechinah</i>
Reform Judaism	<i>Shehecheyanu</i>
Reform Movement	<i>shem</i>
Reformers (in denominational context)	<i>Sheva B'rachot</i>
reforms	Shimon bar Yochai
<i>reish</i> (letter)	<i>shin</i> (letter)
religious school	<i>Shir HaShirim</i> (Song of Songs)
responsum, responsa	shivah
Revelation	<i>sh'liach tzibur</i>
<i>r'fuah sh'leimah</i>	<i>sh'lom bayit</i>
<i>rimonim</i>	<i>sh'loshim</i>
<i>rodeif</i>	<i>Sh'ma</i>
Rosh Chodesh	<i>sh'miat haozen</i>
Rosh HaShanah	Sh'mini Atzeret
<i>R'tzei Vim'nuchateinu</i>	<i>Sh'moneh Esreih</i>
<i>ruach</i>	<i>Sh'mot</i>
	<i>Sh'mot Rabbah</i>
Saadyah Gaon	<i>Shoah</i>
the Sages (ancient)	shofar
<i>samech</i> (letter)	<i>shofet, shoftim</i>
<i>samei-ach b'chelko</i>	<i>Shoftim</i> (Book of Judges)
<i>sandak</i>	<i>shul</i>
the Sanhedrin	<i>Shulchan Aruch</i>
savior	<i>shutafim</i>
<i>s'chach</i>	Sh'vat (month)
Scripture (the Bible)	<i>siddur</i>
scriptural	<i>sidrah, sidrot</i>
Scroll of Esther	<i>simchah</i>

Simchat Torah	<i>t'shuvah, t'shuvot</i>
<i>Sim Shalom</i>	Tu BiSh'vat
<i>sin</i> (letter)	the twelve tribes
Sivan (month)	<i>tzaddeket</i>
the Six-Day War	<i>tzaddik, tzaddikim</i>
<i>S'lichot</i> (the service)	<i>tzadi</i> (letter)
<i>s'michah</i>	<i>tzadi sofit</i> (letter)
<i>sofer</i>	<i>tzaraat</i>
Southern Kingdom	<i>tzedek</i>
Star of David	<i>tzedakah</i>
State of Israel, the Jewish state	<i>tzelem Elohim</i>
<i>s'udah</i>	<i>tzibur</i>
sukkah, sukkot	<i>Tziyon</i>
Sukkot	<i>tzitzit</i>
	<i>tz'niut</i>
	<i>tzur</i>
the Tabernacle	<i>Un'taneh Tokef</i>
<i>tallit, tallitot</i>	United States (noun)
Talmud	U.S. (adj.)
talmudic	
talmudist	<i>V'ahavta</i>
<i>Talmud Torah</i>	<i>V'al Kulam</i>
Tammuz (month)	vav (letter)
<i>Tanach</i>	<i>Vay'chulu</i>
<i>Tanchuma</i>	<i>Vayikra Rabbah</i>
<i>Tanna, Tannaim</i>	<i>Vidui</i>
tannaitic	<i>V'shamru</i>
<i>Tanya</i>	<i>V'zot HaTorah</i>
<i>Targum</i>	
<i>Tashlich</i>	Western Europe
<i>tav</i> (letter)	world-to-come
the Temple (ancient)	World War II
Ten Commandments	worshiped
ten lost tribes	worshiper
the Ten Plagues	Writings (section of Bible)
Tent of Meeting	Written Torah
<i>tet</i> (letter)	
Tetragrammaton	<i>Yaaleh V'yavo</i>
Tevet (month)	<i>yad</i>
<i>t'filah</i>	<i>Yah</i>
<i>T'filah (Amidah)</i>	Yad Vashem
<i>t'fillin</i>	<i>yahrzeit</i>
<i>t'hillim</i> (psalms)	<i>yarmulke</i>
<i>T'hillim</i> (Book of Psalms)	yeshivah
<i>tikkun bayit</i>	<i>yetzer hara</i>
<i>tikkun midot</i>	<i>yetzer hatov</i>
<i>tikkun olam</i>	<i>Y'hudim</i>
Tishah B'Av	<i>Yih'yu L'ratzon</i>
Tishrei (month)	<i>Yism'chu</i>
<i>t'nai-im</i>	<i>Yisrael</i>
Torah	<i>Yitgadal v'yitkadash</i>
<i>Tosafot</i>	<i>Yitro</i>
<i>Tosefta</i>	<i>Yizkor</i>
tractate	Yochanan ben Zakkai
Tractate <i>Yoma</i>	<i>yod</i> (letter)
tribe of Judah	
trope	

Yom HaAtzma-ut  
 Yom HaShoah  
 Yom Kippur  
 Yom Tov  
 Yotzer

zayin (letter)  
 Zichronot  
 Zion (English)  
 z'mirot  
 Zohar  
 z'rizut

**Parshiyot**  
 Acharei Mot  
 B'chukotai  
 B'haalot'cha  
 B'har  
 B'midbar  
 Bo  
 B'reishit  
 B'shalach  
 Chayei Sarah  
 Chukat  
 D'varim  
 Eikev  
 Emor  
 Haazinu  
 K'doshim  
 Ki Tavo  
 Ki Teitzei  
 Korach  
 Lech L'cha  
 Mas'ei  
 Matot  
 Mikeitz  
 Mishpatim  
 M'tzora  
 Naso  
 Nitzavim  
 Noach  
 Pinchas  
 P'kudei  
 R'eih  
 Sh'lach L'cha  
 Sh'mini  
 Sh'mot  
 Shoftim  
 Tazria  
 Toldot  
 T'rumah  
 T'tzaveh  
 Tzav  
 Va-eira  
 Va-et'chanan  
 Va-y'chi  
 Vayak'heil  
 Vayeilech  
 Vayeira  
 Vayeishev  
 Vayeitzei  
 Vayigash  
 Vayikra  
 Vayishlach  
 V'zot Hab'rachah  
 Yitro



**Tractates**

*Arachin*  
*Avadim*  
*Avodah Zarah*  
*Avot*  
*Avot D'Rabbi Natan*  
*Bava Batra*  
*Bava Kama*  
*Bava M'tzia*  
*B'chorot*  
*Beitzah*  
*Bikurim*  
*B'rachot*  
*Chagigah*  
*Challah*  
*Chulin*  
*Derech Eretz Rabbah*  
*Derech Eretz Zuta*  
*D'mai*  
*Eduyot*  
*Eiruvim*  
*Gerim*  
*Gittin*  
*Horayot*  
*Kallah*  
*Kallah Rabbati*  
*Keilim*  
*Kiddushin*  
*Kil'ayim*  
*Kinin*  
*Kodashim*  
*K'ritot*  
*K'tubot*  
*Kutin*  
*Maas'rot*  
*Maaseir Sheini*  
*Machshirin*  
*Makot*  
*M'gillah*  
*Midot*  
*Mikvaot*  
*M'ilah*  
*M'nachot*  
*Mo-eid Katan*  
*Mo-eid*  
*M'zuzah*  
*Nashim*  
*Nazir*  
*N'darim*  
*N'gaim*  
*Nidah*  
*N'zikin*  
*Ohalot*  
*Orlah*  
*Parah*  
*Pei-ah*

*P'sachim*  
*Rosh HaShanah*  
*Sanhedrin*  
*Sefer Torah*  
*Shabbat*  
*Sh'kalim*  
*Sh'vi-it*  
*Sh'vuot*  
*S'machot*  
*Sof'rim*  
*Sotah*  
*Sukkah*  
*Taanit*  
*Tamid*  
*T'fillin*  
*T'harot*  
*T'murah*  
*T'rumot*  
*T'vul Yom*  
*Tzitzit*  
*Uktzin*  
*Yadayim*  
*Yoma*  
*Y'vamot*  
*Zavim*  
*Z'vachim*  
*Z'raim*