

**THE PHONOLOGICAL ASPECTS
OF NEW LATIN ALPHABET**

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Abstract: *In 2017, The President of Republic of Kazakhstan signed a decree to change the Cyrillic as the basis for the Kazakh language in Latin, and that is why this article is relevant for nowadays. The purpose of the article is to analyze the phonological aspects of the new Latin alphabet of the Kazakh language. When conducting research by the authors, or rather the comparison of different versions of the Kazakh alphabet, a comparative method was used. Presents spelling principles of sound system transition Kazakh language to the Latin script. This article will be useful to anyone interested in the history and development of the Kazakh language.*

Keywords: Kazakh script, Cyrillic, Latin based alphabet, New Kazakh alphabet, Kazakh language.

It is necessary to say briefly about the reasons and purposes of transition of the Kazakh script from Cyrillic into a Latin based alphabet. Modern Kazakh society has serious reasons for turning to Latin. It is known that Cyrillic alphabet was implanted automatically without the will of the society in an administrative way and with the help of outer forces in 1940.

Aimed to russification of the nation this political and ideological activity was started with the translation of Kazakh graphics to Cyrillic alphabet^{1,2}. And the Latin alphabet used in the Kazakh script in 1929-1940 was the "bridge" for the transition to Cyrillic. Thus, the most of the population remained without written script heritage they had collected^{3,4}. Problematic occasion of the alphabet took unforgettable place from the bottom of the social consciousness.

¹ Alphabet soup as Kazakh leader orders switch from Cyrillic to Latin letters, 2017. Available at <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/oct/26/kazakhstan-switch-official-alphabet-cyrillic-latin>.

² A. Bulambayeva, *Kazakhstan to switch to Latin alphabet by 2025*. *Nation*, 2017. Available at <https://astanatimes.com/2017/10/kazakhstan-to-switch-to-latin-alphabet-by-2025/>.

³ A. Sharipbayev, Z. Yessenbayev, M. Karabalayeva, "Formant Analysis and Mathematical Model of Kazakh Vowels", in *14th International Conference on Computer Modelling and Simulation, UKSim 2012: IEEE Computer Society 2012*, 2012, p. 427-431.

The independence, has stirred up a national revival of the spirit of the idea of the public about the transition to the Latin alphabet. In conclusion we can say that the above said was one of the main reasons for the turning point into Latin.

As you may have thought that it would be better to change 42 letters to 32 letters in the Cyrillic as it was used before. There will be no spiritual modernization without releasing doubts in your mind. The second reason is that it has become an alphabet for the writing of the half-world and has been recognized as the most compact, informative, compact and convenient, with the latest information technology.

Another significant reason is that the Latin alphabet has become the basis for the writing of the half world and has been recognized as the most flexible, informative, compact and convenient to the latest information technology. In Kazakh: (Екінші бір айтарлықтай себеп – латын жарты әлемнің жазу-сызуына негіз болған әліпбиге айналды және ақпараттық жаңа технологияға сай, ең икемді, ақпараттық алыс-беріске ықшам әрі қолайлы деп танылды).

Mentioned above is a non-linguistic side of the transition to Latin. The main reason why the Kazakh society is forced to reform the alphabet is the linguistic side. Changing the alphabet is not just changing the letters, but the Kazakh writing in its experience had its own 29-32 letters consisting of Arabic and Latin alphabet^{5,6}, but has not lost its national character. It is known to the society that one third of the letters in our current alphabet have been forced to mark Russian words without any changes, without discriminating under the direction of Russian-language orthography⁷.

Thus, the Kazakh writing deprived from its national character was the half of Russian-Kazakh writing. As a consequence, the linguistic mechanism of the Kazakh language has not functioned as a result of the use of the names and words that come from other languages related to cultural intercourse.

⁴ B. Yergesh, A. Sharipbay, G. Bekmanova, S. Lipnitskii, “Sentiment analysis of Kazakh phrases based on morphological rules”, in *Journal of Kyrgyz State Technical University named after I. Razzakov, Theoretical and Applied Scientific Technical Journal*, 2016, vol. 38, no. 2, p. 39-42.

⁵ Kazakh alphabets. Available at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kazakh_alphabets.

⁶ Transition to Latin alphabet, 2017. Available at http://kazakh-tv.kz/en/view/news_kazakhstan/page_187260_.

⁷ L.B. Abdullina, G.R. Abdullina, A.N. Bakhtiyarova, A.G. Sagitova, N.A. Lasynova, “Influence of Arabic Language and Arabic-Islamic Philosophy on the formation of Bashkir philosophical language”, in *Astra Salvensis*, 2020, no. 1, p. 423-435.

The advantages of Cyrillic

Of course, the Cyrillic alphabet for the Russian language and for its sound structure and grammatical features was the most advanced alphabet in the phonological level.

Firstly, its main achievement was 42 sounds (phonemes), which separate the meaningful units were given with 32 letters; if the number of letters is less than the number of sound units, the alphabet is considered to be a good alphabet in the theory of writing. It is one of the criteria assessing the alphabet in writing theory. Secondly, special consideration was taken into account in the fact that the consonants dominate vowels in the original alphabet of the Russian language. Thirdly, two or three sounds (phonemes) are given only with single letter and having special “dead” letters (ь, ъ) in the alphabet and so on so forth⁸.

However, there was no phonological importance of the dead letters (ь, ъ) and also two-three letters (ю, я) and и, ѓ, ё, э in the Cyrillic alphabet for the Kazakh written language. These letters were used to write the words derived from Russian-language spelling in Russian. Thus, the Kazakh alphabet in Cyrillic was a heterogeneous, and the Kazakh language spelling was a bilingual spelling.

That is why “The basic rules of the Kazakh language orthography” one-third of the was related to the spelling of Russian words. In short, the alphabet and the orthography were made by the political-ideological convergence.

The development of the Kazakh language in the Soviet period and the influence on the nowadays

During the Soviet period, science and education, higher education, management were transferred to the Russian language. The Kazakh language has been added to the category of limited languages. Here the way of Russification policy began with the alphabetical policy. Changing of alphabet is not just the replacement of a font, but also a radical reform of writing. And this turning point in the nation-wide character is a problem of cultural and social defiance, which leaves the members of the community aloof, and doubles in the public consciousness of the alphabet selection and support: support, doubts and partial resistance⁹. The disadvantage is privileged in the

⁸ A.A. Sharipbayev, A.A. Adamov, S.N. Boranbayev, S. Dyuzelbaev, *Kazakh-Russian, Russian-Kazakh terminological dictionary “Information and Communication Technologies”*, Altyn kitap, Astana, 2013; A. Sharipbayev, A. Zulfazhah, B.Sh. Razakhova, “Kazakh morphological analyzer based on ontological modeling of morphological rules”, in *Materials of the International Conference on Computer and Cognitive Linguistics, TEL 2016*, 2016, p. 248-252.

⁹ K.A. Akayev, A.M. Sipovich, I.I. Yarinova, “On the translation of the Kazakh alphabet from the Romanized to the new alphabet on the basis of the Russian (Law of November 10, 1940)”,

shadow of advantage and the advantage is privileged by the disadvantage. Behind the shortcomings of preferences, privileges remained hidden behind the defect.

Before turning to the new alphabet it is well-known that the priorities and disadvantages of the existing alphabet should be taken into consideration. There was a dilemma to reform or not to reform? The society decided to turn to the Latin script. In the age of globalization, the “budget of the times” is becoming ever more limited in any sphere of social life. Whatever it is, the speed, compactness, flexibility, mobility are of particular importance¹⁰. Of course, these requirements would not have happened, of course, but they were just one of the ordinary requirements. And these qualities have not been so critical nowadays.

The society is now looking for resources to quickly get rid of maliciousness, turn to compactness, speed, compactness, flexibility. From this point of view, incompactness of Cyrillic alphabet consisting of the 42 letters strikes the eye. Previously, the 30-letter based alphabet writing around the next time the compact, portable, and to reduce the property has become a major problem now. Because of the flexible technology demand the priority was given to the 32-letter Latin alphabet by the public society. Nowadays it is necessary to create the Latin alphabet of the Kazakh language, choosing one of the diacritical, digraphical, apostrophe versions of the world practice, which is often used in the world of writing, preserving the national character of the writing of 32 letters¹¹.

The comparison of alphabets

Let's compare Latin based versions of Kazakh alphabet depending on diacritic, digraphical, apostrophe through Abai Kunanbaev's text of the poem “Spring”¹²:

Spring came and melted the snow and ice.

The earth was covered in soft velvet.

Collection of laws of the Kazakh SSR and decrees of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Kazakh SSR, 1938-1981, Alma-Ata, 1981; A.-A.T. Kaydarov, R. Syzdykova, S.Sh. Saribaev, *Development of Kazakh Soviet linguistics*, Publishing house “Science” of the Kazakh SSR, Alma-Ata, 1980.

¹⁰ Kazakhstan to adopt Latin alphabet, 2017. Available at <https://www.efc.com/efc/english/life/kazakhstan-to-adopt-latin-alphabet/50000263-3236813>; Kazakhstan to change from Cyrillic to Latin alphabet, 2017. Available at <https://www.dw.com/en/kazakhstan-to-change-from-cyrillic-to-latin-alphabet/a-41147396>.

¹¹ Latin-based Kazakh alphabet developed for Internet use, 2011. Available at https://en.tengrinews.kz/kazakhstan_news/Latin-based-Kazakh-alphabet-developed-for-Internet-use-4290/; T. Kudrenok, *New version of Latin-based Kazakh alphabet is a result of consistent work, view*, 2018. Available at https://www.inform.kz/en/new-version-of-latin-based-kazakh-alphabet-is-a-result-of-consistent-work-view_a3160380.

¹² A. Kunanbaev, *Selected writings*, Khudozhestvennaya literature, Moscow, 1981.

*Freed from winter's hibernation and heartache
all that lives dings with its heart to warmth and light.
The birds fly in and spring entered the blossoming garden,
and the youths made a racket like fledglings.
The old men rose again as from the grave
and are honestly happy to meet again their friends.
The families hurry to their kinsmen in the nearby aul:
embraces, exclamations – a happy commotion.
Young laughter is carried on the air in triumph.*

*Jelsiz tünde jariq ay,
Sāwlesi suda dirildep,
Awıldın janı tereñ say,
Tasığan özen kūrildep.
Qalıñ ağaş japırağı,
Sıbırlasıp özdi- özi.
Körinbey jerdin, topırağı,
Qulırğan jasıl jer jüzi.
Qunanbaev Ibragim Abay (Table 1)*

Table 1: Diacritical version

No	Latin	Cyrillic	No	Latin	Cyrillic
1	A a	А а	18	O o	О о
2	Ä ä	Ә ә	19	Ö ö	Ө ө
3	B b	Б б	20	P p	П п
4	V v	В в	21	R r	Р р
5	G g	Г г	22	S s	С с
6	Ğ ğ	Ғ ғ	23	T t	Т т
7	D d	Д д	24	W w	У у
8	E e	Е е	25	U u	У у/ У у
9	J j	Ж ж	26	Ü ü	У у
10	Z z	З з	27	F f	Ф ф
11	Y y	Й й	28	H h	Х х
12	K k	К к	29	Ş ş	Ш ш
13	Q q	Қ қ	30	I i	Ы ы
14	L l	Л л	31	I i	И и
15	M m	М м	32	C c	Ч ч
16	N n	Н н			
17	Ŋ ŋ	Ң ң			

*Jelsiz tu'nde jaryq ai',
Sa'y'lesi sy'da dirildep,
Ay'yldyn' jany teren' sai',
Tasyg'an o'zen ku'rildep.
Qalyn' ag'as' japyrag'y
Sybyrlasyp o'zdi-o'zi,
Ko'rinbei' jerdin', topyrag'y),
Qulpyrg'an jasy'l jer ju'zi.
Qunanbaev I'bragi'm Abai' (Table 2)*

Table 2: Apostrophe version

No	Latin	Cyrillic	No	Latin	Cyrillic
1	A a	А а	18	O o	О о
2	A' a'	Ә ә	19	O' o'	Ө ө
3	B b	Б б	20	P p	П п
4	D d	Д д	21	Q q	Қ қ
5	E e	Е е	22	R r	Р р
6	F f	Ф ф	23	S s	С с
7	G g	Г г	24	S' s'	Ш ш
8	G' g'	Ғ ғ	25	C' c'	Ч ч
9	H h	Х х	26	T t	Т т
10	I i	И и	27	U u	У у
11	I' I'	И, ий	28	U' u'	У у
12	J j	Ж ж	29	V v	В в
13	K k	К к	30	Y y	Ы ы
14	L l	Л л	31	Y' y'	У у
15	M m	М м	32	Z z	З з
16	N n	Н н			
17	N' n'	Ң ң			

*Zhelsiz tuende zharyq aj,
Saewlesi suda dirildep,
Awylдыңzhany tereng saj,
Tasyghan oezhen kuerialdep.
Qalyng aghashzhapyraghy
Sybyrlasyp oezdi- oezji,
Koerinbeizherding, topyraghy,
Qulpyrg'an zhasyl zher zhuezji.
Qunanbaev Ibragim Abaj (Table 3)*

Table 3: Digraphical version

No	Latin	Cyrillic	No	Latin	Cyrillic
1	A a	А а	18	S s	С с.
2	B b	Б б	19	T t	Т т
3	D d	Д д	20	U u	У у /У у
4	E e	Е е	21	V v	В в
5	F f	Ф ф	22	W w	У у
6	G g	Г г	23	Y y	Ы ы
7	H h	Х х, һ һ	24	Z z	З з
8	I i	И и, И и	1	Ae ae	Ә ә
9	J j	Й й	2	Oe oe	Ө ө
10	K k	К к	3	Ue ue	Ү ү
11	L l	Л л	4	Ch ch	Ч ч
12	M m	М м	5	Gh gh	Ғ ғ
13	N n	Н н	6	Ng ng	Ң ң
14	O o	О о	7	Sh sh	Ш ш
15	P p	П п	8	Zh zh	Ж ж
16	Q q	Қ қ			
17	R r	Р р			

The new version of the alphabet introduced by the amendment.

Jelsiz týnde jaryq ai

Sáúlesi onyń dirildep

Ayldyń jany tereń sai,

Tasyǵan ózen kýrildep.

Qalyń aǵash japyraqy

Sybyrlasyp ózdi- ózi,

Kórinbei jerdin, topyraǵy,

Qulpyrǵan jasyl zher ýzhzi.

Qunanbaev Ibragim Abai (Table 4)

Table 4: New version of the alphabet

No	Letter	Cyrillic version	No	Letter	Cyrillic version
1	A a	[a]	17	Ń ń	[Ӣ]
2	Á á	[ə]	18	O o	[o]
3	B b	[б]	19	Ó ó	[ө]
4	D d	[д]	20	P p	[п]
5	E e	[e]	21	Q q	[қ]

6	F f	[ɸ]	22	R r	[ɹ]
7	G g	[ɣ]	23	S s	[c]
8	Ǵ ǵ	[ɸ]	24	T t	[t]
9	H h	[x], [h]	25	U u	[ʏ]
10	I i	[i]	25	Ú ú	[y]
11	I ı	[ɪ], [ɨ]	26	V v	[β]
12	J j	[ʝ]	28	Y y	[ɣ]
13	K k	[k]	29	Ý ý	[y]
14	L l	[l]	30	Z z	[ʒ]
15	M m	[m]	31	Sh sh	[ʃ]
16	N n	[n]	32	Ch ch	[tʃ]

The English version of “Through Windless Night the Glinting Moon”, poem by Kunanbaev Ibrahim Abai¹³:

Through windless night the glinting moon

Illuminates in flowing waves

The village nestled in the vale

Where crests the overflowing stream

The thick-trunked, bare-branched tree

speaks in whispers to itself—

don't you see the bustling earth

Turning its face green again?

Firstly, the rule of law in the alphabet creating is the agglutinative character of the Kazakh language, of course, other languages, like Turkic languages¹⁴. After all, according to the peculiarities of national language typology sound recording, alphabets, apostrophe, diagraph is very important to choose a diacritics. Because the typology of sound recording is the most important choice of the apostrophe based, digraphical, trigraphic, diacritic marks of the alphabet corresponding to giving the sound features of the national language.

The languages that belong to the type of flute, primarily digraphical, apostrophe- graphic signs are closer to their typological nature, also convenient because of the word formation, word-modifying, interconnected semantic units are realized in the form of fractions in the inner structure of the root word. It is clear that the alphabet based on diacritic marks is effective in both Kazakh and Turkic languages, because such meaningful units are root + word formation + word-type, and agglutination, that is based on the serial plug is carried out in a way diacritics effective it was clear that the alphabet.

¹³ *Ibidem*, 1981. A. Kunanbayev, *Selected writings*, Khudozhestvennaya literature, Moscow, 1981.

¹⁴ Marzhan U. Suleibanova “The growth of agglutinativity in the word-formation system of the Russian Language”, in *Astra Salvensis*, 2019, vol. 7, no. 13, p. 457-466.

It can be seen in the following spelling comparison:

A) Cyrillic – **Құлақтандырылмағандықтарыңызды** – 31 symbols.

With digraph – **qulaqtandyrylmaghandyqtaryngyzdyng** – 34 symbols.

With Apostrophe – **qulaqtandyrylmag'andyqtaryn'yzdyn'** – 34 symbols.

Диакр. in Latin (umlaut) – **qulaqtandyrilmaǧ'andyqtaryñyzdñ** – 31 symbols.

B) In Cyrillic – **әженмәйір** – 9 symbols.

With digraph – **aezheptaevir** – 12 symbols.

With Apostrophe – **a'epta'y'ir** – 12 symbols.

Diacr. in latin (umlaut) – **äjeptäwir** – 9 symbols.

Conclusions

Compliance is one of the main factors that contribute to a high level of literacy, combined with psychological compatibility. Compactness, mobility compatible with the psychological side, is one of the main factors that contributed to the high level of literacy. Usually, this type of recording is incompatible with information and time capabilities. That's why the spelling should be taken into account in the basic rules of compactness and the need for priority. And compactness and compassion are connected with the discovery of the potential of the unity of the sound fund of the optimal national language.

The high level of national writing culture is based on the alphabetical system, the basic rules of the orthography, and the guidelines set out in these guidelines (spelling, orthoepic dictionaries), as well as in the whole world (spelling definitions, spelling words, spelling of common names) etc.) associated with the successful completion. The improvement of the writing culture is determined primarily by the fundamental scientific principles of the basic spelling rule.

Write first be improved in accordance with the requirements of the culture of basic spelling rule shall be determined by the main scientific principles. And the basic spelling rule begins with the alphabet. The success of the alphabet is evidenced by the word spelling. As the result we can say that the diacritical version is much more suitable for the sound system and grammatical features of the Kazakh language.