

Alphabet and Orthography Statement For Fulfulde [FUB] Ajamiya

(Found in Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad and Central African Republic)

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Introduction:

The alphabet described in this document is the result of many years of research, which began in the early 1960's by Dr. Kristian Skulberg of Norway (in Ngaoundéré, Cameroon). Ron Nelson and the Sawtu Linjiila staff (a Fulfulde media and radio organization) continued his work in the 1980's. By 1990, the orthography was well established. The orthography in the present statement has not significantly changed since that time. In 1998, at the JCMWA/MICCAO conference in Ngaoundéré, Cameroon; over 100 representatives from 14 West African countries agreed that this orthography would be a good standard for writing the Fulfulde language with Arabic script (called Ajamiya).

One of the first Roman script orthographies for Fulfulde was developed by F.W. Taylor in the 1930's (see his dictionary, 1932). In 1966, a unified Roman script orthography was recommended by UNESCO at the 'Meeting of Experts for the Unification of Alphabets of the National Languages' held at Bamako, Mali. The orthography proposed in this paper is based on the phonology statement for Adamawa Fulfulde [FUB] found in Stennis, 1967.

In 2002 a computer program was developed by Mark Rogalski and myself to "transliterate" the Roman script Fulfulde into Ajamiya script Fulfulde. It is still not 100% accurate and needs to be proofread for mistakes. The following *Alphabet and Orthography Statement* is presented in order to make the most accurate transliteration possible while maintaining as much as possible indigenous Ajamiya conventions of the [FUB] Fulfulde dialect (abbreviations are on page 18).

The Consonants:

(The vowels will be introduced on page 14)

Arabic alphabetical order (Abjadi) is adopted here showing the Ajamiya grapheme, Fulfulde name and phoneme¹: ا -aliifi [a:], ب -bee [b], ت -tee [t], ث -camamlu [θ], ج -jiimi [dʒ], ح -haa baaluul [h],

خ -haa tobbugol [x], د -deeli [d], ذ -zaali [ð], ر -arre [r], ز -zayra [z], س -siini [s],

ش -ciini [tʃ] or [ʃ] or [s], ص -saadi [sʰ], ض -baadi [dʰ], ط -daadi [d], ظ -zaadi [ðʰ], ع -ayni [ʔ],

غ -aŋgani [g], ف -fee [f], ق -gaafu [χ], ك -keefu [k], ل -laamu [l], م -miimi [m], ن -nuunu [n],

ه -hakabeere [h], و -waawu [w], ي -yah [j], ء -hamaza [ʔ] -- In addition, five Non-Arabic phonemes are found in Fulfulde; the symbols chosen to represent these sounds are:

ب -bee modu [b], يي -yah modu [yʰ], پ -pee [p], ني -nya [ɲ], and نغ -ŋuunu e aŋgani [ŋ]. These five characters are still under discussion. However, they have been used with good understanding for the last twenty years in Cameroon, with the exception of the *p*. The *p* has been recently adopted after a thorough search of the contemporary use of Ajamiya in Northern Cameroon (see Orthography Report of Special Letters, March 2006 by myself). Several Arabic sounds and their corresponding consonants are NOT used in

¹ See Appendix 1 for the chart of these letters in *Abajada* order (Warsh Qur'anic tradition). See Appendix 2 for the Summary Chart that is in Arabic Alphabetic order (*Abjadi* order).

everyday Fulfulde. However, they are included in this list because when writing a borrowed word from Arabic, some Fulbe will use these letters to spell them. The majority, however, spell the letters as they sound in Fulfulde (non-Arabic letter-to-sound correspondence), except in Arabic names.

Phoneme	Roman Grapheme	Grapheme (4 forms) (Beginning, middle, final and isolated)	Examples
/a:/	second 'a'	ا ا ا ا Unicode: 0627 Fulfulde Name: aliifi	naane نَان previously
			Jawmiraawo جَوْمِرَاو Lord
			taa تَا don't...
			ndaa نَدَا here
Special Forms: with [laamu] in the initial position	walaa وَلَا nothing		
with [laamu] in the medial position	bilaa بِلَا without		

This consonant is not used in the initial position except for common borrowed Arabic words:

Almasiihu	المَسِيحُ	Christ
Aadamu	ءَادَمُ	Adam

/b/	b	ب ب ب ب Unicode: 0628 Fulfulde Name: bee	baawde بَاوْب authority
			dimbaago دِمْبَاغ to shake
			cub شُب early
			njaabe! نَجَاب! answer! (pl)

/t/	t	ت ت ت ت Unicode: 062A Fulfulde Name: tee	tedduŋgal تَدُّنْغَل glory
			nastugo نَسْتُغ to enter
			gite غِت eyes
			fakat! فَكَت! true!
to	ت	if	

/θ/	th	ث ثث	mithaalu	مِثَالُ	example
		Unicode:			
		Fulfulde Name: camamlu			

This letter *camamlu* - ث is used only for words borrowed from Arabic and is not used in Fulfulde [FUB] Ajamiya literature. It is interesting to note that the *siini* is often used in the place of *camamlu* in indigenous Fulfulde Ajamiya literature. So, the word above is pronounced *misaalu* by the Fulbe and uses a *siini* rather than a *camamlu*.

/dʒ/	j	ج جج	jippaago	جِپَّاغْ	to come down
		Unicode: 062C	yejjitugo	يَجِّتَغْ	to forget
		Fulfulde Name: jiimi	ndiyamji	نَدِيَمَجِ	waters
			soobaajo	سَوَبَاَجْ	friend

/h/	h	ح حح	haajugo	حَاَجُّغْ	to envy
		Unicode: 062D	yahugo	يَاَحُّغْ	to go
		Fulfulde Name: haa baaluul	yah!	يَاَحْ!	go!
			mi saahi	مِساَحِ	I gave (freely)

In Fulfulde [FUB], the *haa baaluul* is pronounced as a voiceless glottal fricative [h].

This is contrary to Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) and in the Qur'an, where the letter – *haa baaluul* - ح is normally pronounced as a voiceless pharyngeal fricative [ħ]. It must be noted that this voiceless pharyngeal fricative [ħ] sound does not exist in the Fulfulde language [FUB]. In MSA, the *haa peetel* - ه represents the voiceless glottal fricative [h] sound.

However, in indigenous Fulfulde [FUB] usage the *haa baaluul* - ح letter replaces the MSA and Qur'anic Arabic sound of the *haa peetel* – ه. Please see the section that explains the use of the *haa peetel* – ه (page 10).

/x/	kh	خخخ	khaboru	خَبْرٌ	news
		Unicode: 062E			
		Fulfulde Name: haa tobbugol			

This letter *haa tobbugol* - خ is used only for words borrowed from Arabic and is not used in Fulfulde Ajamiya literature.

/d/	d	ددد	duule	دُول	cloud
		Unicode: 062F	sujidango	سُجِدَنْغٌ	to bow down
		Fulfulde Name: deeli			

/ð/	j	ذذذ	jamba	ذَمَبٌ	to cheat
		Unicode: 0630	junuuba	ذُنُوبٌ	sin to God
		Fulfulde Name: zaali	kaja	كَذَّ	something

This letter *zaali* - ذ is used only for words borrowed from Arabic and is not used in Fulfulde [FUB] Ajamiya literature. While the normal MSA pronunciation would be a [ð], in Fulfulde [FUB] it is most often pronounced with a [dʒ] corresponding to the grapheme ‘j’ and represented by the letter *jiimi* – ج in Ajamiya. In the Maroua area it is sometimes pronounced with a [z] sound.

/r/	r	ررر	raneere	رَنْبَرٌ	white
		Unicode: 0631	tornde	تَرَنْدٌ	supplication
		Fulfulde Name: arre	fajiri	فَجِيرٌ	morning
			asar	عَسْرٌ	waste
/r/	rr		torraago	تَرَاغٌ	to trouble

The letter *arre* - ر is pronounced [r] (flapped r) and with a *shadda* over it “رّ” it represents [r] (trilled r).

/z/	j	ز ز ز ز	Jabuura	زَبُورَ	Psalms
		Unicode:0632			
		Fulfulde Name: zayra			

This letter *zayra* - ز is used only for words borrowed from Arabic and is not used in Fulfulde [FUB] Ajamiya literature. While the normal MSA pronunciation would be a [z], in Fulfulde [FUB] it is most often pronounced with a [dʒ] and written with the grapheme ‘j.’ In the Maroua area it is often pronounced with a [z] sound. It is interesting to note that the *jiimi* - ج is often used in place of *zayra* - ز in indigenous Fulfulde Ajamiya usage. So, the word above is pronounced with a [dʒ] sound (Jabuura) by the Fulbe and is written with a *jiimi* - ج rather than a *zayra*.

/s/	s	سسس س	seyo	سَبِي	happy
		Unicode: 0633	kisndam	كِسْنَدَم	salvation
		Fulfulde Name: siini	noogas	نَوَعَس	twenty
			Sa!	س!	Wow!

/tʃ/or/ʃ/even/s/	c	ششش ش	ceede	شَبَد	money
		Unicode: 0634	accugo	عَشَغ	to let
		Fulfulde Name: ciini	hacci	حَش	smells bad
There are different phonetic values in different local dialects.			mi hooci	مِحُوش	I took

/s ^ɪ /	s	صصص ص	sawtu	صَوْتُ	voice
		Unicode: 0635	Misra	مِصر	Egypt
		Fulfulde Name: saadi			

This letter *saadi* - ص, is used only for words borrowed from Arabic and is not used in Fulfulde [FUB] Ajamiya literature. This is a pharyngealized alveolar fricative [s^ɪ] in MSA. In Fulfulde [FUB] it is most often pronounced with a [s] and written with the grapheme ‘s’ in Roman script.

 /d^ɖ/ d ضضض ض daruura ضُرُورَ mistake

Unicode: 0636
 Fulfulde Name: baadi (daadi)

This letter *baadi* - ض, is used only for words borrowed from Arabic and is not used in Fulfulde [FUB] Ajamiya literature. This is pronounced as a pharyngealized alveolar plosive [d^ɖ] in MSA. In Fulfulde [FUB] it is most often pronounced with a [d] and is written with the grapheme ‘d.’

 /d/ d ططط ط duudugo طُوَطُغَ to increase

Unicode: 0637 yeedugo يَطُّغَ to live

Fulfulde Name: daadi mi weedi مِوِطُّ I opened

Ko kuuwda? كَ كُوُوطَ What did you do?

 /ð^ɖ/ j ظظظ ظ juhra ظُهْرَ 2 o'clock prayer

Unicode: 0638 jaahiri ظَاهِرَ visible

Fulfulde Name: zaadi waaju وَعَظُ preach

This letter *zaadi* - ظ is used only for words borrowed from Arabic and is not used in Fulfulde [FUB] Ajamiya literature. While the normal MSA pronunciation would be a [ð^ɖ] in MSA, in Fulfulde [FUB] it is most often pronounced with a [dʒ] and written with the grapheme ‘j.’ In the Maroua area it is often pronounced with a [z] sound. . It is interesting to note that the *jiimi* - ج is often used in place of *zaadi* ظ in indigenous Fulfulde Ajamiya usage. So, the words above are pronounced with a [dʒ] sound (like juhra) by the Fulbe and are written with a *jiimi* - ج rather than a *zaadi* ظ.

/ʔ/	‘	ععع	eggugo	عَغْ	to transfer, move
		Unicode: 0639	yi’ugo	يِعْ	to see
	Fulfulde Name: ayni		mi yi’i	مِيعِ	I saw
			mo’’ere	مِعْرَ	grace
			e	عْ	and

This consonant is placed at the beginning of words that begin with vowels (as in *eggugo* above). Rather than using an *aliifi* for the “a”, “u” or the “i” vowel, the diacritic for these sounds will go over or under the *ayni* consonant. This is a normal indigenous convention for Ajamiya in the [FUB] area.

/g/	g	غغغ	gootel	غَوْتَلْ	one
		Unicode: 063A	sigaaگو	سِغَاغْ	to keep or store
	Fulfulde Name: angani		o soggi	عَسْغِ	He drove (animals)
			go	غْ	one, or that before

The first and isolated forms are called *angina ngaabol*, and the middle and ending are called *angina keebuwal* in Fulfulde.

/f/	f	ففف	fulbe	فُلْبْ	Fulani People
		Unicode: 06A2	tefugo	تِفْغْ	to search
	Fulfulde Name: fee (isolated; fee gudol)		mi tufi	مِئْبِ	I pricked, injected
			fuufu	فُؤْفُ	lung

In MSA, the *fee* would have a dot over the character, and not under. But, the most common indigenous convention in the [FUB] area is to put the dot under the character (as in the Warsh Qur’ans used commonly in West and North Africa).

/x/	k or g	ققق	Isiyaku	إِسْحَاقْ	Isaac
		Unicode: 0642	gaafara	قَاْفَرَا	excuse, sorry
	Fulfulde Name: ηaafu/gaafu				

This letter is used only for words borrowed from Arabic and is only used in our literature for

names that are found in the Qur'an.

/k/	k	ك ك ك ك	keefeero	كِبْفِرَٓ	pagan
		Unicode: 06A9	hakkunde	حَكُّنْدَ	between
		Fulfulde Name: keefu	hakke	حَكَّ	sin
			mi wooki	مُووَكِ	I cried

/l/	l	ل ل ل ل	lekki	لَكِّ	tree, medicine
		Unicode: 0644	gildfi	غَلَطِ	worms
		Fulfulde Name: laamu	ballal	بَلَّلِ	help
			poola	فِوَلِ	dove
Special forms of [l]:	initial “laa “	لَا	laamu	لَامٌ	kingdom, rule
	and medial “laa”	لَا	silaawo	سِلَاوِ	basket

/m/	m	م م م م	maayo	مَائِ	river
		Unicode: 0645	meemugo	مَبْمُغِ	to touch
		Fulfulde Name: miimi	mi numi	مِنْمِ	I thought, think
			nyaame!	يَاْمِ!	eat! (pl.)

/n/	n	ن ن ن ن	narral	نَرَّلِ	fellowship
		Unicode: 0646	hunaago	حُنَاغِ	to swear oath
		Fulfulde Name: nuunu	nano	نَنِ	left
			jarne	جَرْنِ	garden

(The *nunara* [*nuunu* without a dot] is not used in this orthography, it is only found in Warsh Qur'ans and some indigenous Ajami of West and North Africa).

/h/	h	ههه ه	Haruna	هَرُون	Aaron
		Unicode: 0647	Ibrahiima	إِبْرَاهِيمَ	Abraham
			Allah	اللَّهِ	Allah

Fulfulde Names: haa peetel (*hakabeere* for initial and middle, *hasekeere* for the final and isolated forms).

In MSA and in the Qur'an, the *haa peetel* would normally be used to write the voiceless glottal fricative [h]. However, since the voiceless pharyngeal fricative [ħ] does not exist in

Fulfulde, the Fulbe people's indigenous decision was to choose *haa baaluul* - ح (see page 4 and 5) for the voiceless glottal fricative [h]! The *haa peetel* has been dropped almost completely from use in everyday Fulfulde Ajamiya. Thus, because indigenous conventions are

being followed as much as possible, the *haa peetel* - ه will be used rarely in this orthography.

It will be used only for important names found in the Qur'an like those shown above.

/w/	w	ووو و	wolde	وَلْدٌ	word
		Unicode: 0648	jawdi	جَوْدٌ	wealth
		Fulfulde Name: waawu	mi nyawi	مَيَّوِي	I am sick
			mi waawi	مَوَاوِي	I can (able)

o: this needs breve 065B over previous consonant.

joonde	جُونْدٌ	region, living place
mi woowa	مَوُوَوِ	I am used to...

u: this needs damma 064F over previous consonant.

juude	جُوُطٌ	hands
mi wuuwa	مُوُوُوِ	I sweep

/j/	y	ي ي ي	yettoore	يَتُورِ	thankgiving
		Unicode: 064A	hoynugo	حِينِغْ	to be easy
			nayi	نَي	four
			muuyo	مُوي	will (of God)

Fulfulde Names: yah, and yahyara for the final and isolated forms.

[i:] (written as *ii*) this also needs a *kasra* (*maasi les*) under the previous consonant.

			yiide	يِيدِ	love
			mi yiiloyi	مِيِيلِي	I visited from distance

/ʔ Or other/	‘	ء ء ء ء	Isra’iila	إِسْرَائِيلَ	Israel
		Unicode: 0621			
		Fulfulde Name: hamaza			

This letter is used in a smaller form above the letter *bee*-ب and *yah*-ي to indicate to the reader that these letters have similar “glottal restrictive” sounds. This letter in its larger form is normally used only for words borrowed from Arabic and should only be used in literature for names that are found in the Qur’an.

The following five consonants are not found in Modern Standard Arabic (MSA):

/y ^ʕ /	y	يِيِي	yamol	يَمَلْ	question
		Unicode: Not available yet	yíyam	يِيَمْ	blood
		Fulfulde Name: yah modí	himya	حَمِي	wink
			booye	بُوي	kidneys

This letter, the *yah modí*, always takes a vowel marker (or sukuun) and is therefore never confused with the *yah* (without dots - sometimes called *alif maksura*) that has a hamza over it (found in MSA).

/b/	6	بَبْ بْ	bandu	بَدُّ	body
		Unicode: Not available yet	habre	حَبْر	fight
		Fulfulde Name: bee modu	bi66e	بَبْ	offspring
			huuwoobe	حُووَبْ	workers

/p/	p	پِپِ	pukaraajo	پُكْرَاجْ	student
		Unicode: 0760	jippaago	جِپَّاغْ	to come down
		Fulfulde Name: pee (isolated pee gudol)	sappo	سَيْٓ	ten
			loope	لُوِبْ	mud

/ɲ/	ny	نِني ني	nyaamdu	نَآمْدُ	food
		Unicode: close to 0767	lenyol	لِنَلْ	family/clan
		Fulfulde Name: nya	sonyo	سَنِ	sound
			mi toonya	مِتُونِي	I persecute
			o danyi	عَدَنِي	she gave birth

/ŋ/	ŋ	نغنغ نغ	ŋarol	نَغْرَلْ	beauty
		Unicode: combined 0646+063A	wanŋingo	وَنَغِنَغْ	to show
		Fulfulde Name: nuunu e ŋgini	biŋgel	بِنَغْبَلْ	child
			mi baŋgi	مِبَنَغِنَغْ	I married
			O waŋga	عَوَنَغِنَغْ	he shows

The ‘ŋ - نغ’ is distinguished from the ‘n’ in that it does not take a *sukuun* (*hownde*). Note the word

wanġingo above: that the first ‘ŋ - نغ’ does not take a *sukuun*, but the second ‘n’ does take one. The ‘ŋ’ is rarely found at the beginning of a word and is thus NOT confused with the *prenasalized ng-* نغ sound (see page 13) which is normally only found at the beginning of a word.

Prenasalizations:

/nj/	nj	نجنجنج نج	njaareendi	نَجَارِندِ	sand
		Unicode: combined 0646+062C	mi sanja	مِسْنَج	I change
			mi waanja	مَوَانِج	I pour out

/mb/	mb	مبمبمبمب مَب	mbarugo	مَبْرُغْ	to kill
		Unicode: combined 0646+0628	fombina	فَمْبِين	south

/ng/	ng	نغنغنغ نغ	ngaynaaka	نَغِينَاكَ	pasture
		Unicode: combined 0646+063A	yaynango	يَيْنَنْغْ	to shine to

/nd/	nd	ندندند ند	ndiyam	نَدِيمْ	water
		Unicode: combined 0646+063A	sendugo	سِنْدُغْ	to separate
			hendu	حَنْدْ	wind
			joonde	جُونْدْ	place

The Vowels: (Fulfulde Names: masde = marks above or below the consonants. tofe = dots).

/a/	a	◌̣	alkawal	عَلَّكَوْل	promise
		Unicode: 064E	kalhaldi	كَلْحَلْدِ	bull
		Fulfulde Name: maasi dow	reeta	رَيْتَ	half

/e/	e	◌̣̣	endam	عَنْطَمَ	mercy
		Unicode: 065C	jemma	جَمَّ	night
		Fulfulde Name: yamaleere	deftere	دِفْتِيرَ	book

/i/	i	◌̣̣̣	ittugo	عِتَّغِ	to take out
		Unicode: 0650	kirke	كِرْكِ	saddle
		Fulfulde Name: maasi les	lekki	لَكِّ	tree

/o/	o	◌̣̣̣̣	oppere	عَيْبِرَ	fever
		Unicode: 065B	dokkal	دَكَّلَ	gift
		Fulfulde Name: turnde o (esoode)	hokkugo	حَكَّغِ	to give

/u/	u	◌̣̣̣̣̣	urdi	عُرْدِ	perfume
		Unicode: 064F	wujaago	وَجَاغِ	to rub
		Fulfulde Name: turnde /too turi	puccu	فَيْشِ	horse

Length of Vowels: All vowels occur lengthened, marked in roman script by a double vowel.

/a:/	aa	اَ	6ii Aadama	هَيَّي عَادَمَ human
		Unicode: 064E + 0627	kaafahi	كَافَحِ sword
	Fulfulde Name: aliifi balewol (bodeewol)		al'aada	عَلَعَادَ custom
			haa	حَا to, for, at

/e:/	ee	اِ	eengtugo	عِنَغْتَعُ to go up
		Unicode: 065C + initial or medial 066E + 0670	jawleeru	جَوْلَرُ meeting room
		Unicode: 065C + final or isolated 0649	reedu	رِدُّ stomach
	Fulfulde Name: yamaleere bee aliifi bodewol		bee	بِي and, with

This final *yah* without dots has a Special Fulfulde Name: *yahyara (walaatobe)*

The word *bee* is special in that it is the only word in Fulfulde that ends in /e:/. However, there are verbal constructions when this occurs (plural imperatives followed by personal pronouns – see examples below). The initial and medial elongation has a superscript *alef* over the tooth. But the elongation (of the *Alef Maksura*) in its final and isolated forms takes the form of a *yah* without dots.

Unicode: 0649 (Alef Maksura)	[ngurtine: mo]	نَغْرْتِنِي مَ take him out
	[ngadde: 6e]	نَغْدِي بْ bring them

/i:/	ii	يِ	iinaado	عِينَاطُ promised one
		Unicode: 0650 + 064A	biriji	بِرِيْجِ peanuts
	Fulfulde Name: maasi les ii		6ii	هَيَّي son of...

When the *yah* ‘يِ’ is elongating the /i/ sound, it does not take a *sukuun*. In this way, the *yah elongation* is easily distinguished from the consonant *yah*.

/o:/	oo	وْ	oorugo	عُورُغْ	to graze (cows)
		Unicode: 065B + 0648	kiitoowo	كِيْتُوُوْ	judge
	Fulfulde Name: turnde oo		boo	بُوْ	also

When the *waawu* ‘و’ is elongating the /o/ sound, it does not take a *sukuun*. In this way, the *waawu* elongation is easily distinguished from the consonant *waawu*.

/u:/	uu	وْ	uurgo	عُورُغْ	to smell good
		Unicode: 064F + 0648	mi huuwi	مِحُوُوْ	I worked
	Fulfulde Name: turnde uu		fuu	فُوْ	all

When the *waawu* ‘و’ is elongating the /u/ sound, it does not take a *sukuun*. In this way, the *waawu* elongation is easily distinguished from the consonant *waawu*.

Special Letters, Diacritics and Punctuation:

Sukuun: وْ

Fulfulde Name: howde/hownde

This diacritic is used to show that there is no vowel following the consonant. Thus, when two different consonants are used in direct sequence, the *sukuun* should be used over the first consonant.

Shadda: وّ

Fulfulde Name: siddere

This diacritic is used to show the doubling of a consonant. Thus, when a word has two of the same consonants in a row, rather than writing the letter twice, the *shadda* should be used over the consonant.

Numbers : this is the same as in MSA.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0 Roman

١٠ ٩ ٨ ٧ ٦ ٥ ٤ ٣ ٢ ١ ٠ Ajamiya

Punctuation: This is a grey area in Arabic.²

. , ? ! “ ” : Roman

∴ ، ؟ ! (« ») : Ajamiya

1. The “∴” functions to mark the end of a sentence. (This is to make a clear distinction with the number “0”).
2. The “،” functions to mark the end of a clause or to separate items in a list.
3. The “؟” functions to indicate a question.
4. The “!” functions to indicate exclamations.
5. The “”” functions to mark the beginning of a quotation.
6. The ““” functions to mark the end of a quotation.
7. The “:” functions to introduce a further elaboration or preceding quotation.

Example: Acts 9:4,5 -- 4 O do’’i haa lesdi, o nani sawtu don wi’a mo: "Sol, Sol! Koni toonyotooda mi?" 5 O yami: "An a moy, Jawmiraawo?" Sawtu go jaabi: "Min woni Iisa mo toonyotooda."³

٤ عَدَّ حَا لِبَسْدِ، عَنِّي سَوْتُ طَنْ وَعَ مَ: «سَلْ، سَلْ! كَن تَوَيْتَوَطَ مَ؟» ٥ عَيْمَ:
«عَنْ عَ مَيِّ، جَوْمِرَاوْ؟» سَوْتُ غَ جَابِ: «مِنْ وَنِ عَيْسَى مَ تَوَيْتَوَطَ.»

Translation: 4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?”
5 “Who are you, Lord?” Saul asked. “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,” he replied.

² Awde, N., Samano P., *The Arabic Alphabet: How to read and write it* (Lyle Stuart: New Jersey, 1986). p. 34.

³ *The Deftere Allah*, The Bible in Fulfulde [FUB], 1994, *Deftere Habaruuji Masiihinko'en*, p. 140.

Abbreviations:

[FUB] – The Ethnologue designation for the Fulfulde Dialect discussed in this document.

[FUV] – The Ethnologue designation for the Fulfulde Dialect found in central Nigeria.

MSA - Modern Standard Arabic

JCMWA – Joint Committee for Ministry in West Africa

Ajamiya Bibliography

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- n.n., *نُوْحُ* *Nuuhu, Noah* (N'gaoundéré: Église Évangélique Luthérienne du Cameroun, 1988) 11pp..
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(where the beh and yeh are used for the implosive ɓ and glottal ʔ, also the inverted breve for the 'o' vowel)

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- n.n., هَدَا كِتَابِ يَسْمَنِ جَصَزْدِ نَلَا طَوَا: *Gime: Hada Katab Yasman Jabbozde Nulaado*, (Yola, Nigeria: Tidjani, Adib), 76pp., 2001. (However, Saad with two dots is used for the implosive ɓ).
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ا بجد هوز حطى كلمس صعبض فرست ثخذ ظغش نيبيئي

ا ا ا ا ا ا ا ا ا ا	Aa, aa 'a'
ب ب ب ب	B, b
ج ج ج ج	J, j
د د د د	D, d
ه ه ه ه	H, h
و و و و	W, w
ز ز ز ز	Z, z
ح ح ح ح	H, h
ط ط ط ط	D, d'
ي ي ي ي	Y, y
ك ك ك ك	K, k
ل ل ل ل	L, l
لا	-laa
لا	laa
م م م م	M, m
ن ن ن ن	N, n
ص ص ص ص	S, s
ع ع ع ع	'

ف ف ف ف	F, f
ض ض ض ض	D, d
ف ف ف ف	Gh, gh or Qh, qh
ر ر ر ر	R, r
س س س س	S, s
ت ت ت ت	T, t
ث ث ث ث	Th, th or S, s or C, c
خ خ خ خ	Kh, kh
ذ ذ ذ ذ	Zh, zh
ظ ظ ظ ظ	Z, z
غ غ غ غ	G, g
ش ش ش ش	C, c Sh, sh
ني ني ني ني	Ny, ny
پ پ پ پ	P, p
ب ب ب ب	B, b
ي ي ي ي	Y, y

ا ا ا ا	A, a
ا ا ا ا	E, e
ا ا ا ا	I, i
ا ا ا ا	O, o
ا ا ا ا	U, u
ا ا ا ا	Aa, aa 'a'
ا ا ا ا	Ee, ee
ا ا ا ا	Ii, ii
ا ا ا ا	Oo, oo
ا ا ا ا	Uu, uu
ن ن ن ن	Ŋ, ŋ
ن ن ن ن	Nj, nj
م م م م	Mb, mb
ن ن ن ن	Ng, ng
ن ن ن ن	Nd, nd
ا ا ا ا	Hownde: wala masde. Siddere: sembidina harfeere.

Letters used rarely in
Ajamiya Fulfulde:

ث، خ، ذ، ز، ص، ض،

ظ، ف، ق، ه، ع.

Summary Chart of the Fulfulde Alphabet For [FUB] Ajamiya

-----Examples-----

Ajamiya Grapheme	Roman Grapheme	Phoneme	Initial	Medial	Final	Isolated
اااا	Second 'a'	/a:/	only for Arabic names: الْمَسِيحُ	جَوْمَرَاوُ / نَانِ	تَا	نَدَا
بببب	B, b	/b/	بَاوْبُ	دِمْبَاغُ	شُبُّ	نَجَابُ
تتتت	T, t	/t/	تَدْنُغْلُ	نَسْنُغُ	غَتِّ	تَ
جججج	J, j	/dʒ/	جِيَاغُ	پَجِيَتُ	نَدِيْمَجُ	سَوْبَاجُ
حححح	H, h	/h/	حَاجُغُ	يِيْحُغُ	يِيْحُ	مِسَاْحُ
دددد	D, d	/d/	دُوْلُ	سُجِدَاغُ	شَبْدُ	سُوْدُ
رررر	R, r	/r/	رَبْنَبْرُ	تَرَنْدُ	فَجِرِ	رَبْنَبْرُ
سسسس	S, s	/s/	سَبِي	كِسِنْدَمُ	نَوَغْسُ	سَا!
شششش	C, c	/tʃ/ or /ʃ/ or /s/	شَبْدُ	عَشْنُغُ	حَشِّ	مَحُوْشُ
طططط	D, d'	/d'/	طُوْطُغُ	پَلَطُغُ	مُوْلَطُ	كَ گُوْوَطُ
عععع	'	/ʔ/	عَبْنُغُ	يِيْعُغُ	مِيْعُ	عُ
غغغغ	G, g	/g/	غُوْتَلُ	سِيْغَاغُ	عَسْنُغُ	غُ
فففف	F, f	/f/	فُلْبُ	تَبْعُغُ	مِتْبُ	فُوْبُ
كككك	K, k	/k/	كَلْبِرُ	حَكْنَدُ	حَكُّ	مُوْوَكَ

ل ل ل ل	L, l	/l/	لَكَّ	غَلَطَ	بَلَّلَ	يُولَ
لَا	-laa	/la:/		سَلَاوُ		بِلَا
لَا	laa	/la:/	لَامٌ		وَلَا	
م م م م	M, m	/m/	مَائِ	مَبْمَعٌ	مِنْمٌ	يَامِ
ن ن ن ن	N, n	/n/	نَزَلٌ	حَنَاعٌ	نَنَ	جَرَنُ
و و و و	W, w	/w/	وَلَدٌ	جَوَدٌ	مِنَوِ	مَوَاوِ
ي ي ي ي	Y, y	/j/	يَتَوَّرٌ	حِينَعٌ	نِي	مُويَ
يِيَّيَّيَّيَّ	Y, y'	/y ³ /	يَمَلٌ	يِيَمٌ	حَمِي	بُويَ
بَبَبَب	B, b	/b/	بَبَدٌ	حَبْرٌ	بَبَبٌ	حُووبٌ
بِبِبِب	P, p	/p/	فِكْرَاجٌ	جِيْعَاجٌ	سَيْفٌ	لُويَ
بِنِبِنِي	Ny, ny	/ɲ/	يَامَدٌ	لِينَلٌ	سِنِي	عَدِنِي
نغ نغ نغ نغ	ŋ, ɳ	/ŋ/	نَغْرَلٌ	وَنَغِنَعٌ	بِنَغْلٌ	مِبِنَعٌ
نجنجنج نج	Nj, nj	/nj/	نَجَارِلِنْدِ	مِسِنَجَتَا	مِسِنَجٌ	مَوَانَجٌ
مبمبمبمب م ب	Mb, mb	/mb/	مَبْرَعٌ	فَمِينِ		
نغ نغ نغ نغ	Ng, ng	/ng/	نَغِينَاكٌ		يِينِنَعٌ	

ندندند ند	Nd, nd	/nd/	نَدِيمٌ	سَبْدُعٌ	جَنْدٌ	جَوْنِدٌ
اَ	A, a	/a/	عَلَّكَوْلٌ	كَلْحَلْدِ	رِلَتَ	
وُ	U, u	/u/	عُرْدِ	وَجَاغٌ	فِشٌ	
اِ	I, i	/i/	عَتِّغٌ	كِرِكِ	لِكِ	
وُ	O, o	/o/	عَهْبِرٌ	دَكَلٌ	حَكْغٌ	
اِ	E, e	/e/	عَنْطَمٌ	جَمٌ	دَبْتَبِرٌ	
اِ	Aa, aa	/a:/	بِي عَادَمَ	گَاغِحِ	حَا	
وُ	Uu, uu	/u:/	عَوْرُغٌ	مِحُووِ	فُو	
اِ	Ii, ii	/i:/	عَيْنَاطٌ	بِرِيحِ	بِي	
وُ	Oo, oo	/o:/	عَوْرُغٌ	كِيْتُووِ	بُو	
اِ	Ee, ee	/e:/	عَلْنَعْتِغٌ	رِلْدُ/جَوْلْبِرُ	بِي	
اَ and اِ	no-vowel sign and double letter sign			جِيَاغٌ/حَبْرٌ	سَيْفٌ/شَبٌ	

(This list of letters does not including Arabic letters used rarely in [FUB] Fulfulde; ث, ذ, خ, ت, ه, ق, ظ, ض, ص, ز, د, خ, ث).