Transcription of texts in Hebrew. Guidelines for publication in "The Polish Journal of the Arts and Culture. New Series"

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When referring to the Hebrew and Yiddish terms use a phonetic transcription. In case of Yiddish –rely on the YIVO standard and in case of Hebrew –on the contemporary Israeli pronunciation.

For the details of the transcription with the examples see the following table:

Hebrew letter and English transcription		Example
א	∅	אָדוֹן *adon*
בּ	b	בַּיִת *bayt*
ב	v	לְבַקֵּשׁ *levaqesh*
גּ ג	g	גֶּבֶר *gever*
דּ ד	d	דְּבֵקוּת *devequt*
ה	h	הֲלָכָה *halakhah*
ו	v	וֶרֶד *vered*
ז	z	זְרִיזוּת *zrizut*
ח	kh	חֲלוֹם *khalom*
ט	t	טָעוּת *taut*
י	y	יֶלֶד *yeled*
כּ	k	כַּף *kaf*
ך כ	kh	חָכְמָה *khokhmah*
ל	l	לַיְלָה *laylah*
ם מ	m	מַלְאָךְ *malakh*
ן נ	n	נָחָשׁ *nakhash*

Hebrew letter and English transcription		Example
ס	s	סֵפֶר *sefer*
ע	∅	עֵץ *etz*
פּ	p	פָּרוֹכֶת *parokhet*
ף פ	f	נָפִיל *nafil*
ץ צ	tz	צַדִּיק *tzadiq*
ק	q	קֶסֶם *qesem*
ר	r	רֹאשׁ *rosh*
שׂ	s	שָׂטָן *satan*
שׁ	sh	שָׁלוֹם *shalom*
ת ת	t	תָּו *tav*

Further transcription guidelines:

- phones *alef* and *ayin* omit, e.g. *elohim*, *avon*;
- phones *khet* and *khaf* render as *kh*, e.g. *khokhmah*;
- phone *he* render as *h*, e.g. *tehom*;
- transcribe mute *he*, e.g. *binah*;
- phones *tet* and *tav* render as *t*, e.g. *torah*, *tov*;
- phone *sheva nakh* omit, e.g. *sifrey qodesh*;
- phone *sheva na* render as *e*, e.g. *be-midbar*;
- *dagesh qal* render as different phones, e.g. *bet* and *vet* accordingly as *b* and *v* as in *beytzah*, *Aqivah*;
- *dagesh khazaq* omit and do not double, e.g. *shabat* instead of *shabbat*;
- do not differentiate between short and long vowels, e.g. *bimah*, *giveret*;
- connect the articles, prepositions and conjunctions with the copula, e.g. *ha-shem*, *be-rosh*.

In case of the popular terms which entered the traditional usage in English a more common spelling should be used, e.g. *brit* instead of *berit*, *Hanukkah* instead of *Khanukkah*, etc. Biblical personal names should be spelled according to the English Standard Version Bible, e.g. *Abraham* instead of *Avraham*, *Isaac* instead of *Yitzkhaq*, *Noah* instead of *Noakh*, etc. This system should be used consistently in the articles written in English, except for quotations. When a different system of transcription or transliteration is necessary for the particular purposes of a given paper a justification should be presented.

When abbreviating the names of the biblical books, apocrypha and pseud-epigrapha, rabbinic works and the like it is recommended to base on the system presented in: P.H. Alexander et al (eds.), *The SBL Handbook of Style for Ancient Near Eastern, Biblical, and Early Christian Studies*, 1st edition, Hendrickson Publishers 1999. This however is not obligatory and the authors can rely on their own system as long as they do it consistently.