Transliteration of Arabic:

A new suggestion by David Kiltz, University of St Andrews, ERC project ‚Arabic Cultural Semantics in Transition'; project Coranica: Glossarium Linguae Coranicae, DFG + ANR.

DMG rules apply with the following changes:
(for which see [here](#)).

The *hamzat al-qaṭ* is always written.
au and *ai* are written *aw* and *ay.*
faʿīl and *faʿūl* forms of tertiae infirmae are written *–iyy* and *–uww* respectively.
faʿil, fāʿil and *faʿul* forms of tertiae infirmae are written *-iy* and *-uw* respectively.

Examples:
ʾaṯar not *aṯar, ʾabū* not *abū;*
aṭ-Ṭabarī not *ʾaṭ-Ṭabarī, ibn,* not *ʾibn;*
ʾayyām, qawwām not *aiyām, qauwām;*
ʿaduww, nabiyy not *ʿadū(w), nabī(y)* or the like;
ḫāliy not *ḫāli/ī* or the like.

1. ʾAlif	a, ā	with hamza ʾa, ʾā
2. Bāʾ	b	
3. Tāʾ	t	
4. Ṯāʾ	ṯ	
5. Ǧīm	ǧ	
6. Ḥāʾ	ḥ	
7. Ḫāʾ	ḫ	
8. Dāl	d	
9. Ḏāl	ḏ	
10. Rāʾ	r	
11. Zāy	z	
12. Sīn	s	

13. Šīn	š	
14. Ṣād	ṣ	
15. Ḍād	ḍ	
16. Ṭāʾ	ṭ	
17. Ẓāʾ	ẓ	
18. ʿAyn	ʿ	
19. Ġayn	ġ	
20. Fāʾ	f	
21. Qāf	q	
22. Kāf	k	
23. Lām	l	
24. Mīm	m	
25. Nūn	n	
26. Hāʾ	h	
27. Wāw	w	double *w* is always written thus.
28. Yāʾ	y	double *y* is always written thus.
29. Hamza	ʾ	Always written when *hamzat al-qaṭ ʿ*

Why this transciption?

1. Adheres to the principle „one phoneme, one character".
2. Accurately reflects the Arabic.
3. Is based on phonology rather than conventions followed in various European languages and is thus universal instead of nationally-idiosyncratic.
4. Within this framework, it uses established conventions whereever possible.
5. Last but not least, this convention allows for more effective use of transliteration in an electronic environment. E.g. occurences of consonants and vowels (and hence syllables) can be easily ascertained due to the system 1 = 1, whereas other systems do not allow this (e.g. *dh*

= one or two sounds?, DMG *bait* = two vowels written, but just one syllable).

This transliteration system has been adopted by the ERC-project ‚Arabic Cultural Semantics in Transition' and cooperation partners.

David Kiltz, 12. May 2014, St Andrews.