A CONSISTENT AND CONVENIENT WAY TO ROMANIZE CYRILLIC MONGOLIAN

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Introduction

A vast number of Mongolian internet users have already been coping with the difficulties of romanizing Cyrillic Mongolian for about two decades. Although it is possible to switch from English to Mongolian layout in almost every computer, the majority of Mongolian internet users prefer using the English layout to Cyrillic Mongolian. The reason might be, that computer shops sell predominantly English keyboards and people simply do not like switching layouts for different tasks, such as composing an e-mail in Mongolian, then typing Latin characters in the browser, writing a comment again in Mongolian, and then again typing Latin characters in a search engine. In 2003 a unified romanization system, called S-Galig (see below) was devised, but it failed to meet the requirements of internet users and thus have not become a widely used system. In my opinion, the main problem with S-Galig is that it replaces two frequently occurring characters {ө} and {ү} with ['o] and ['u] respectively. Both of these characters can be evoked by pressing down three keys, which makes the input two slow and circuitous. Moreover the S-Galig applies ['] (two keys pressed) to replace the Cyrillic ь and ['] (again two keys) to replace {ъ} whereas {ъ} can be eliminated without any problem, and {ь} can be replaced with [i] without creating confusion of any kind. The overwhelming majority of Mongolian internet users simply and rightly ignore and replace {ъ} with [y] and {ь} with [i]. On the other hand, Mongolian internet users, most of whom use their own systems are very much prone to inconsistencies. Some of the most striking examples are:

-the usage of [u] for replacing three vowel-characters {у, ү, and ө}

-the replacement of {в and ү}, both with [v]

-using [c] for Cyrillic {c}, and thus "wasting" [s] for this purpose, or using both interchangeably, etc. My system is devised not only to correct the shortcomings of the S-Galig and the individually developed systems, but also to remedy the inconsistencies of Cyrillic Mongolian as well[1].

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1 For the inconsistencies of Cyrillic Mongolian see 6.

1. Short and Long vowels

In the charts below I present my suggestions of romanizing Cyrillic characters. Many of the characters I use in my romanization system need no explanation. Those that could be subjects of dispute are in bold, and the reasons why I chose them for the given function are explained below each chart.

Back vowels		Front vowels	
Cyrillic	Romanization	Cyrillic	Romanization
а	a	э	e
о	o	ө²	?
у	u	**ү**	?

и³	i

1.2 The problematic vowels

1.2.1 {ө} – The character [ц] or the combination ['o] could be used to replace it, but the problem is that [ц] is problematic to evoke with an English keyboard, and therefore people would prefer to continue typing [u] or [o] instead, even if it can cause confusion with Cyrillic {y, and o}. When devising an alphabet for the English keyboard we have to keep in mind that people on the first place want to type fast and for this they are willing to sacrifice accuracy as long as it does not obstruct understanding. The best solution I have found thus far is to use the letter [ш] to replace {ө}. Evoking [ш] is still more difficult than any other characters, one has to press two keys, Alt Gr and [o] simultaneously, but they come quite handy and does not require as much effort as typing ['o] or [ц]. In my opinion the effort needed to evoke ш is even less than the effort needed to evoke a capital.

1.2.2 {ү} – The character could be replaced by [ь] or ['u], but with this the problem is the same than with [ц] and ['o]. Dismissing [ь] we still have more options to replace this Cyrillic letter. One of the options is replacing it with [v] which is often used by Mongolians in the internet. The problem with this letter is that if we apply [v] for this purpose will be in confusion when typing a foreign word that has a [v] sound in it. For example the Russian word {вокзал} could not be transcribed differently than [vokzal]. Of course People who understand Mongolian would not read it as {үокзал} but replacing {ү} with [v] would lead to

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2   Note that {ө} and {ү} regarding their pronunciation are central vowels (in Halh, Buryat and most Inner-Mongolian dialects) but in a morphological sense there front vowels, since they occur only in front voweled words.

3   Note that [i] in spite of being a front vowel can occur in back voweled words as well.

unwanted inaccuracy. On the other hand, in this case we would have to find a different letter for replacing Cyrillic {в} (probably [w]) or, not to differentiate {б and в}, but replacing both with [b] then. Another option is using [y] for replacing {ү}. In this case [y] cannot be used for the first sounds that are pronounced {я, е, ё} and {ю}, or for replacing {ы}.

1.2.3 For the above reasons I decided to use [ш] for {ө}, and [y] for {ү}. For example: {өндөр}→[шndшr], {өгөх}→[шgшh], {төгрөг}→[tшgrшg], {хүн}→[hyn], {сүү}→[syy], {эрүүл} →[eryyl]. It must be noted that certain types of keyboards with English layout do not type [ш] when pressing Alt Gr and [o], therefore users having a keyboard of this type still have to solve the problem of replacing {ө}. In my opinion the first {ө} in words that have more of them, can be replaced by [o] and the second, third etc. by [e]. for example {өндөр}→[onder], {өөр}→[oer], {өхөөрдөх}→[ohoerdeh]. In words that have only one {ө}, it can either be replaced by [y], or an [e] can be written after the last consonant, for example {өг}→[yg], or [oge], {өд}→[yd] or [ode], {хөвд}→[hyvd] or [hovde]. In this cases I would prefer the latter way of spelling (the addition of [e]) for if we replace {ө} with [y] then the transcribed forms of {өг} and {үг}, as well as {өд}and {үд} would be identical. On the other hand there are a few words in Mongolian that have one syllable, one {ө} as the only vowel and end with {н}, for example {мөн} and {сөн}. In these cases the addition of [e] ([mone, sone] respectively) could mislead the reader because it would suggest that a dental [pr. n] should be pronounced at the end of the words, whereas the [n] at the very end of words are velar [pr. ŋ]. Therefore I see no better solution to this problem than replacing the {ө} in these word with [y] ({мөн, сөн}→[myn, syn]). Considering the fact that there are a very limited number of such words in Mongolian, the confusion caused by this inconsistency will still be minimal. However it must be emphasised that if the keyboard allows us to type [ш],or [ц] either of these, preferably the former, should replace {ө}.

2. Diphtongs

In replacing diphthongs the method customarily used by the majority of Mongolian internet users seems reasonable to retain: {ай}→[ai], {ой}→[oi], {уй}→[ui], {эй}→[ei], {үй}→[yi][4], {иа}→ [ia], {ио}→[io], {иу}→[iu].

3. Consonants

3.1

Labials	
Cyrillic	Romanization
б	b
п	p

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4   Most Mongolians use [ui] both for Cyrillic {уй }and {үй}, but since I have already decided to use [y] for {ү}, in my system [yi] will stand for {үй}.

в	?
ф	f
м	m

3.1.1 {в} – is a slightly problematic character because in Cyrillic it denotes a bilabial fricative similar to the English w sound, but almost never transcribed as [w] by Mongolians. The reason for this is most probably the fact that {в} in the Russian alphabet stands for a labio-dental [pr. v] sound, identical with English [v] and as such is customarily replaced by [v] in the most commonly used romanizations. Most Mongolians when romanizing Mongolian do not feel the need to make a difference in writing between the labio-dental [pr. v] and bilabial [pr. w] sounds. I dare-say many are not aware of this difference or do not ascribe importance to such phonological nuances at all. On the other hand, it would not be necessary to use two characters for replacing the Cyrillic {б and в}, if Mongolians were not accustomed having two characters for them, because the sounds these characters stand for are allophones and using only one character, [b] for both would in my opinion be sufficient. Considering the fact that Mongolians are very much used to differentiate them in writing, it seems reasonable not to abandon this custom. Therefore I suggest replacing {в} with [v]. I myself had been using [w] for this purpose for quite a while, but realized that nobody else took up this method, probably because Mongolians are simply not very much accustomed to encounter this character in a Mongolian text.

3.2

dental and alveolar area	
Cyrillic	Romanization
д	d
т	t
н	n, ?
з	?
ц	?
ж	?
ч	?
ш	?
щ	?

3.2.1 {н} – This character in Cyrillic Mongolian can represent two different consonantal sounds, a dental-nasal [pr. n] and a velar-nasal [pr. ŋ]. When the character is followed by a velar consonant or nothing it stands for a velar-nasal sound. For example: хангай [pr. xaŋgaᵉ], цонх [pr. coŋx], өнгө [pr. өŋg], хонхор [pr. xoŋxºr], or ан [pr. aŋ], хаан

[pr. xaaŋ], он [pr. oŋ], мөн [pr. mөŋ], дун [pr. duŋ]. From the Mongolian Cyrillic script it is clear when the nasal sound represented by the letter {н} is velar and when it is dental. If a dental-nasal is pronounced before a velar-consonant, a vowel is inserted between the two, for example {анагаах} [pr. angaax], or [pr. anᵃgaax]. This inserted vowel might also appear in a reduced form in some speakers pronunciation. When a dental-nasal is pronounced at the end of a word, it must be represented by a combination of the letter {н} and a vowel-character, for example: {ирнэ}[pr. irn], хана [pr. xan], муна [pr. mun], энэ [pr. en]. In my transcription system I do not change the way of differentiating the two sounds, firstly because Mongolian users are accustomed to it, secondly because I see no other way that would be more convenient when using an English keyboard. Thus the above enumerated words would look like: {хангай}→[hangai],   {цонх}→[conh],   {өнгө}→[шng],   {хонхор}→[honhor], {ан}→[an], {хаан}→[haan], {он}→[on], {мөн}→[mшn], {дун}→[dun], and {анагаах}→ [anagaah], {ирнэ}→[irne], {хана}→ [hana], {муна}→[muna], {энэ}→[ene].

3.2.2 {з} and {ц} represent a semi-voiced and an aspirated alveolar affricate respectively. The most commonly used characters that replace them in latin based transcriptions are [z] and the combination of [ts]. In my own system I would continue using [z] for [з], but dismiss [ts] and use [c] instead in order to use single characters for as many sounds as possible.

3.2.3 In the case of {ж, ч} and {ш} we cannot but use combinations of two letters to transcribe them. Although {ж} is commonly replaced by the letter [j], I cannot use it for this purpose, because I have already chosen [y] for {y}, which prohibits me to use it for the consonantal part of {я}, and makes me resort to using [j] instead. Considering the fact that {ч and ш} are most commonly replaced by the combinations of [ch] and [sh], I would suggest applying [zh] for {ж} as the primary option. Being disturbed by the fact that the [h] has no tradition of indicating palatalization, for a while I had been considering the introduction of the following three combinations: [zi]←{ж}, [ci] ←{ч}, [si]←{ш}, and later the [zj]←{ж}, [cj]←{ч}, [sj]←{ш} set of combinations on the grounds that the majority of these sounds derive from similar, consonant + [i], combinations, but later came to recognize these character combinations would again, seem too unfamiliar to most Mongolian internet users. Thus I decided to retain the most commonly used [ch]← {ч}, [sh]←{ш} spelling, and for the sake of consistency to apply [zh] for replacing {ж}.
3.3

liquids and glides	
Cyrillic	Romanization
л	l
р	r
я	**?**

е	?
ё	?
ю	?

3.3.1 The first sound in {я, е, ё} and {ю} – As mentioned above in relation to the replacement of {ж}, I have decided to use [j] for representing the sound in question. Nevertheless in cases when any of the letters {я, е, ё} and {ю} is preceded by a consonant, I prefer using [i] instead of [j], for example {бяслаг}→[biaslag] instead of [bjaslag], or хятад→[hiatad], instead of [hjatad].

3.4

velars	
Cyrillic	Latin
г	g,?
х	?
к	k
н	n

The three most widely used characters (two characters and one combination) to replace Cyrillic {х}, are the [kh], [h] and [x]. From these, [kh] and [h] are the most frequently used ones, and [x] is somewhat rarer. I have chosen to use [h] for it is more commonly used than [x] and easier and faster to type than [kh].

4. Reduced short vowels in non-initial syllables

4.1 In Mongolian, the reduced short vowels except [pr.i] are not phonemes, which means that a change in a non-initial short vowel other than [pr.i] never makes a difference in the meaning of a given word. For this reason non-initial short vowels could even be omitted in writing, or replaced by different vowel-characters. For example the word {үхэр}→[yher] could either be spelled as [yhr,] or [yhyr] in the new romanization system. If we applied either of the rules consequently none of them would lead to confusion. On the other hand, I think, the system will be more user-friendly if, in this respect we retain the rules of the Cyrillic alphabet.

4.2 The reduced short vowels preceded by "soft" consonants" [zh, ch, sh, j]
According to the rules of the Cyrillic orthography, the short vowels following {ж}→[zh], {ч}→ [ch], and {ш}→[sh], in non-initial syllables can only be represented by {и}→[i]. What is actually pronounced by the majority of Mongolian speakers after these consonants is

not an [pr. i] sound but a reduced and therefore murky vowel that shares some of its characteristics with [pr. i], but is not a phoneme. In Cyrillic Buryat, for instance, these vowels are not represented by {и}→[i], but by a vowel character that harmonizes with the vowel of the initial syllable, for example: Buryat: {ажал} [azhal] Halh: {ажил} [azhil], Buryat: {ошоно} [oshono] Halh: {очино} [ochino], Buryat: {уншана} [unshana] Halh {уншина} [unshina]. The same rule could be applied to Halh without problem, but since Mongolian people are accustomed to type {и} [i] after the consonants in question, I prefer retaining this rule as well. With this way of spelling, some of the relevant words will be spelled as: {ажил}→[azhil], {хачин}→[hachin], {ашиг}→[ashig], {овжин}→[ovzhin], {очир}→[ochir], {догшин}→[dogshin], {учир}→[uchir], {унших}→[unshih], {эгшиг}→[egshig], {өчиг}→ [шchig], {өвчин}→[шvchin], {бужиг}→ [byzhig], etc.

A similar murky vowel can be heard after the glide [pr.j] and therefore it seems logical to type an[i] after it in non-initial syllables. In the Mongolian Cyrillic alphabet, neither the glide [pr.j] alone, nor the [pr. ji] combination can be represented. Mongolian Cyrillic has only four characters to represent a combination of the glide [pr.j] and a vowel: {е} [je/jш], {ё} [jo], {ю} [ju/jy], {я} [ja]. For sake of consistency, I suggest representing the reduced vowels after [j] by [i]. I surmise, this way of spelling will comply with the rule that only [i] can represent reduced vowels after soft vowels, and will not be excessively unusual to most users. Thus the following Cyrillic examples will be romanized as follows: {баян}→[bajin], {ноён}→[nojin], {хоёр}→[hojir], {уях}→[ujih], {эерэх}→[ejireh], {үер}→[yjir], etc. Considering the final [pr.j] sounds such as in {үе, бие, гоё, гуя}, I suggest representing it simply with a [j] and see no reason to type an additional vowel-character at the end. Thus the above words will be romanized as follows: {үе}→ [yj], {бие}→ [bij], {гоё}→[goj], {гуя}→[guj].

5. Genitive and accusative cases of words ending with {ь} [i]

One of the greatest spelling problems when writing in Mongolian in latin transcription is the making a difference between the genitive and accusative forms of words that end with {ь}[i]. For example {харь, агь, охь, and байгаль} can without problem be transcribed as [hari, agi, ohi and baigali] respectively, but if we are to attach a genitive or accusative suffix, i. e a suffix beginning with long [ii] we have to do something with the inherent [i] at the end of the word. One option would be to type three [i] characters one after another, but this I surmise would not be welcomed by internet users. On the other hand if we tried to simplify spelling and type only two [i] characters, and this is what most internet users actually do in most of these cases, then the genitive and accusative cases of words with an [i] at their and and those without an [i] would have the same spelling. In most of the cases this way of spelling does not hinder the comprehension of the whole text but it is still inconsistency that if possible should be solved. Let's take for example the following two words: {хар} [har] and {харь} [hari]. If we are to attach to them the genitive and accusative suffixes, [-iin] and [-iig] and want to use this latter was of spelling in these two cases the could only be distinguished by context:

nominal case	genitive case	accusative case
хар→ har	харын→hariin	харыг→hariig
харь→hari	харийн→hariin	харийг→ hariig

In order to solve this inconsistency I decided to replace the problematic final [i] with a [j] and type only one [i] after it, when attaching the genitive and accusative cases. Thus the above chart will look like:

nominal case	genitive case	accusative case
хар→ har	харын→hariin	харыг→hariig
харь→hari	харийн→harjin	харийг→ harjig

In the case of {агь} [agi] from the Cyrillic spelling alone, in its genitive and accusative cases we cannot know whether or not the word is ending with a {ь}, because after a {г} the long (pr. i) sound must be represented by the {ий} combination even if the the word has back vowels. There is one exemption, notably when the {г} is followed by a Cyrillic {a or o}, like in {бага and орлого} for instance. In this case the accusative of {бага} is spelled as {багыг}. and that of {орлого} is spelled as {орлогыг}.

6. Genitive, accusative, instrumental and ablative cases of words ending with {-га, -го}

Another disturbing problem of transcribing Mongolian is distinguishing the genitive, accusative, ablative and instrumental cases of words that end with {г} and those that end with a {г} and a vowel ([a] and [o], only because front vowels do not make a difference). The problem again, is that we have to type two vowels after one vowel without having three vowels one after the other. Let's take for example the words {баг} and {бага}.

The genitive and accusative cases of these are distinct in Cyrillic:

nominal case	genitive case	accusative case
баг	багнийн	багнийг
бага	багын	багыг

On the other hand, in the ablative and instrumental cases, Cyrillic fails to make this distinction.

nominal case	ablative case	instrumental case
баг	багаас	багаар
бага	багаас	багаар

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I have been considering to eliminate the final [a] of бага, in my transcription system, without sacrificing the already existing distinction in the nominal case. The [a] in question, in fact is not pronounced, but makes the pronunciation of {г} different than the {г} in {бар[5]}. Therefore, to me, it seems feasible to replace all the Cyrillic {га} and {го} endings with [gh]. Thus the above charts, according to my transcription system will look like:

nominal case	genitive case	accusative case	ablative case	instrumental case
bag	bagiin	bagiig	bagaas	bagaar
bagh	baghiin	baghiig	baghaas	baghaar

1. The alphabet

Cyrillic	Latin
а	a
б	b
в	v
г	g, gh[6]
д	d
е	je, jш, ji, j[7]
ё	jo, ji, j
ж	zh
з	z
и	i
й	i
ий	ii, ji[8]

5

6   [gh] replaces {га} and {го} endings.

7   [je] replaces Cyrillic {е} in {еэ} for example {еэвэн}→ [jeeven], [jш] replaces it in initial syllables, for example {ес}→ [jшs], [ji] replaces {е} in non-initial syllables for example in {үер}→[yjir], j replaces {е} at the end of words, like in {бие}→ [bij]. The same rule applies to {ё} and {я} for example {ёж}→[jozh], {ёотон}→[jooton], {хоёр}→ [hojir], {гоё}→ [goj], {яв}→ [jav], {яах}→ [jaah], {аян}→ [ajin], {сая}→ [saj].

8   [ii] replaces {ий} in most cases for example хүний→ [hynii], and {ji} replaces it in back voweled words the stems of which has a {ь} ending in Cyrillic, like in {сургуулийн}→[surguuljin] or

к	k
л	l
м	m
н	n
о	o
ө	ш (or ц, or о+е)
п	p
р	r
с	s
т	t
у	u
ү	y
ф	f
х	h
ц	c
ч	ch
ш	sh
щ	sj
ь	i
ъ	j
ы	ii
э	e
ю	ju, jy [9]
я	ja, ji,j

{нарийн}→[narjin]. Thus in the genitive and accusative cases of {багаж}→[bagazh], {ач}→[ach], {багш}→[bagsh], {хадаг}→[hadag], {ii} is used, for example: [bagazhiin, bagazhiig, achiin, achiig, bagshiin, bagshiig, hadagiin, hadagiig].

9   [ju] replaces {ю} in back voweled words like {юм}→[jum] or {оюун}→[ojuun], and [jy] replaces it in front voweled words like {юүлэх}→[jyyleh].

1. Samples

Би бусдын адил бага насандаа олон хүсэл мөрөөдөлтэй хүүхэд байсан. Орос хэлний хичээлд маш их сонирхолтой бас дуучин болохыг хүсэж түүндээ битүүхэндээ бэлдэж аливаа урлагийн тоглолтонд оролцож дугуйлан секцэнд хамрагдаж гүйж явдаг байсан. Сургуулиа төгсөөд хөгжим бүжгийн сургуулид суралцахыг хүссэн ч тэр үед урлагийн сургуулийн хуваарь цөөхөн ирдэг байсан тул орж чадаагүй юм. Тэр жилдээ цэцэрлжгийн багшийн сургуулид орсон боловч хоёр жил гаруй суралцаад орхисон. Хүссэн мөрөөдсөн сургуулидаа орж чадаагүй болоод ч тэр үү их л идэвх муутай суралцсан.

↓

Bi busdiin l adil bagh nasandaa olon hysel mшгшшdшltei hyyhed baisan. Oros helnii hicheeld mash ih sonirholtoi, bas duuchin bolohiig hysezh tyyndee bityyhendee beldezh alivaa urlagiin togloltond orolcozh, duguilan cekcend hamragdazh gyizh javdag baisan. Surguulia tшgsшшd hшgzhim byzhgiin surguulid suralcahiig hyssen ch ter yjid urlagiin surguuljin huvaari cшшhшn irdeg baisan tul, orzh chadaagyi jum. Ter zhildee cecerlegiin bagshiin surguulid orson bolovch hojir zhil garui suralcaad orhison. Hyssen mшгшшdsшn surguulidaa orzh chadaagyi bolood ch ter yy, ih l idevh muutai suralcsan.

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Унгарт одоогоор мянга таван зуун орчим монголчууд амьдарч байгаа гэсэн багцаа тоо байна. Урьд өвлийн хүн амын тооллогод мянга нэг зуу гаруй хүн интэрнэтээр тоолуулсан бүртгэлд хамрагдаагүй дөрвөн зуун орчим хүн байгаа байх гэж Унгарт суугаа Монголын элчин сайд ярьж байсан. Гадаадад амьдарч байгаа монголчуудыг хараад байхад ихэнх нь нарийн мэргэжилгүй хөдөлмөрийн нөөцийг түлхүү ашигладаг оёдол барилга нийтийн хоол цэвэрлэгээний салбарт ажиллаж байна. Унгарт байгаа дийлэнх монголчууд оёдлын ажилладаг юм байна. Энэ нь социализмийн үед оёдлын үйлдвэрийн чиглэлээр монголчууд энд олноороо сурч мэргэжил дээшлүүлж байсантай холбоотой болов уу.

↓

Ungart odoogoor miangh tavan zuun orchim mongolchuud amidarch baigaa gesen bagcaa too baina. Urid шvliin hyn amiin tollogod miangh neg zuu garui hyn interneteer tooluulsan, byrtgeld hamragdaagyi dшrvшn zuun orchim hyn baigaa baih gezh Ungart suugaa Mongoliin elchin said jarizh baisan. Gadaadad amidarch baigaa mongolchuudiig haraad baihad ihenh ni narjin mergezhilgyi hшdшlmшriin nшшciig tylhyy ashigladag ojidol barilagh, niitiin hool ceverlegeenii salbart azhillazh baina. Ungart baigaa diilenh mongolchuud ojidliin salbart azhilladag jum baina. Ene ni socializmiin yjid ojidliin yildveriin chigleleer mongolchuud end olnooroo surch, mergezhil deeshlyylzh baisantai holbootoi bolov uu.

9. The S-Galig[10]

C- Галиг (S- Galig)

№	Кирил үсэг	Латин галиг	№	Кирил үсэг	Латин галиг
1.	А	A	19	Р	R
2.	Б	B	20	С	S
3.	В	V	21	Т	T
4.	Г	G	22	У	U
5.	Д	D	23	Y	U (`U)
6.	Е	Ye	24	Ф	F
7.	Ё	Yo	25	Х	H, Kh
8.	Ж	J	26	Ц	Ts
9.	З	Z	27	Ч	Ch
10.	И	I	28	Ш	Sh
11.	Й	I	29	Щ	Shch
12.	К	K	30	Ъ	`
13.	Л	L	31	Ы	Y
14.	М	M	32	Ь	'
15.	Н	N	33	Э	E
16.	О	O	34	Ю	Yu
17.	Ө	O (`O)	35	Я	Ya
18.	П	P			

10. Conclusion: the advantages and imperfections of my romanization system

10.1 The advantages: differences between the two systems

S-Galig	My System	Explanation
j	zh	Two characters instead of one, but since {ж} [zh], {ч}[ch] and {ш}[sh] are similar alveo-palatal consonants and therefore having a similar way of spelling makes the system more consistent. On the other hand I had to use [j] for another purpose in order to spare [y] for replacing {y}.
'o	ш	Two keys to press instead of three.
'u	y	One key to press instead of three.
ts	c	One character instead of two.
shch	sj	Two characters instead of four, but it has to be noted, that {щ} [sj] is exceptionally rare in Mongolian.

10ㅤㅤhttp://www.infocon.mn/english/reference/GaligiinTuhai.htm accessed 15.03.2012

'	j	One key to press instead of two.
'	i	One key to press instead of two.
h, kh	h	
-ga/-go	-gh	The same amount of characters are to type but using [-gh] instead of [-ga/-go] allows us to attach suffixes with initial [aa/oo] without typing three identical vowel-characters one after the other and still being able to differentiate between words ending with [g] and those ending with [-ga/-go].

10.2 The difficulties:

10.2.1 The character [ш] is still a little more difficult to evoke than most of the other characters.

10.2.2 Most Mongolian internet users are accustomed to use [y] to represent the glide in Cyrillic {e, ë, я} and {ю}, and to replace {ж} with [j]. Thus in the initial period of using my system they are likely to be unfamiliar with the new functions of these two characters. The same might be true to [zh], but I think the logic behind the similar ways of spelling in the case of [ch] and [sh] will help overcome its oddity.

In a summary my system is even more consequent than the Cyrillic Mongolian, and I think it is also the most convenient system for the English layout that could be devised without sacrificing consistence, because it retains a great deal of characters commonly used by Mongolian internet users in their original functions and those that are assigned different functions are not many. It is of course unavoidable to introduce new functions for certain characters if we are to eliminate the shortcomings of other systems.

Abbreviations and parentheses:
pr. - stands for pronunciation
pr. x - stands for the velar voiceless fricative
pr. ŋ – stands for the velar nasal
[ ] - isolates Latin characters and words from the text
{ } - isolates Cyrillic characters and words
pr. and a vowel in superscript stands for a reduced vowel