The Toto (txo) language has a population of only 1500 living in a single jungle village in India near Bhutan. The script for Toto was designed by Dhaniram Toto who is an elder in the Toto community. The script was officially launched in the community on 22nd May 2015. Until the development of this script, there was very little interest in language development. Since the development of their own script there is renewed interest in writing their own language. Having their own script has granted the Toto a sense of status. Currently, there is limited use in the community. There is one NGO multi-lingual school which teaches the script in a half-hour weekly class. Work on a primer began but is not completed.

The script supports the 30 phonemes found in the language. Tone is only used when the lack of it would confuse two words (the same could be said of vowel length). When tone is used it can either be rising or falling, and it is pronounced across the entire word (or phrase) - most easily heard in the final syllable. Tone is carried in the lexical stem but generally heard most in the suffix morphemes. A character for rising tone is included in this proposal. Falling tone is not marked. The tone marker appears only on vowels, and it is currently placed on the first vowel of the stem.

Another supra-segmental that is only used when required for contrast is vowel length. Vowel length is indicated by doubling the vowels.

Breathiness is only on vowels. Front vowels all have contrasting breathy versions, but not back vowels. Mid and close front vowels also have rounded versions that contrast. There is a combining mark that represents breathiness.

There are no glides or diphthongs in the language although the front rounded vowels are often spoken as diphthongs of other vowels in normal speech.

Unlike other Indic scripts, the script is not syllable based and does not have an implicit “a” vowel sign associated with each consonant. Thus, the naming of characters should not include an “a” after the consonant.

On the final page is a chart of the characters and names of characters for the Toto script.

**Digits**

There are currently no script-specific digits. A column including 10 free slots may be needed in the future if the community decides to encode script-specific digits.

**Punctuation**

Latin script punctuation is currently being used with the Toto script.
Potential issues

Since rising tone is only marked on vowels, there should not be any confusion on the similarity of the marks on TOTO LETTER N and TOTO LETTER NG.

The mark that is on TOTO LETTER W is not a breathiness mark. Since this is not a vowel, it should not be confused.

Although outsiders may consider these similarities confusing, this is how Dhaniram Toto designed these characters.

Unicode Character Properties

```
E630; TOTO LETTER P; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E631; TOTO LETTER B; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E632; TOTO LETTER T; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E633; TOTO LETTER D; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E634; TOTO LETTER K; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E635; TOTO LETTER G; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E636; TOTO LETTER M; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E637; TOTO LETTER N; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E638; TOTO LETTER NG; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E639; TOTO LETTER S; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E63A; TOTO LETTER CH; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E63B; TOTO LETTER Y; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E63C; TOTO LETTER W; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E63D; TOTO LETTER J; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E63E; TOTO LETTER H; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E63F; TOTO LETTER R; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E640; TOTO LETTER L; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E641; TOTO LETTER I; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E642; TOTO LETTER BREATHY I; Lo; 0; L; E641 E64F; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E643; TOTO LETTER IU; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E644; TOTO LETTER BREATHY IU; Lo; 0; L; E644 E64F; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E645; TOTO LETTER U; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E646; TOTO LETTER E; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E647; TOTO LETTER BREATHY E; Lo; 0; L; E647 E64F; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E648; TOTO LETTER EO; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E649; TOTO LETTER BREATHY EO; Lo; 0; L; E648 E64F; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E64A; TOTO LETTER O; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E64B; TOTO LETTER AE; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E64C; TOTO LETTER BREATHY AE; Lo; 0; L; E64C E64F; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E64D; TOTO LETTER A; Lo; 0; L; ; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E64E; TOTO SIGN RISING TONE; Mn; 230; NSM; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
E64F; TOTO SIGN BREATHINESS; Mn; 220; NSM; ; ; ; ; N; ; ; ; ;;
```

The Breathy vowels have decompositions. However, the NFC form should be the precomposed character.
Collation

The community has not yet expressed a sort order. At this point the dictionaries mentioned in the reference section are using the sort order used in the chart:

\[
\begin{align*}
q &< p < o < e < r < n < o < o < v < v < r < q < u < n < n < n < n < r
\end{align*}
\]
Figures

Figure 1. “Rising Sun” song in Toto script
Figure 2. Android app of Toto dictionary
Figure 3. “Story of the Bees” by Prakash Toto. Toto Writer’s Guide. TOTO SIGN RISING TONE is marked in red.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Image</th>
<th>Toto Script</th>
<th>Bengali Script</th>
<th>Latin Script</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>অানাজু</td>
<td>নারী</td>
<td>n naboe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>৬ বেল্লাকি</td>
<td>ভুকা</td>
<td>ng ngoka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>৪ পাপা</td>
<td>সা</td>
<td>s sa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image4.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>৫ চলোদ চেরেং</td>
<td>চেরেং</td>
<td>ch chereng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image5.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>৭ হাপ্প</td>
<td>হাপ্পে</td>
<td>y yaegoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image6.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>১ বর্ণ ওয়াল্টি</td>
<td>ওয়াল্টি</td>
<td>w waeti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image7.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>৮ পা</td>
<td>ফুজী</td>
<td>j justi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image8.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>১ গাল্লা</td>
<td>হাসা</td>
<td>h hangsa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 4. Example from Toto Writer’s Guide demonstrating use of Toto script, Bengali script and Latin script in the Toto language.

References


Android app of a 680 word dictionary

Basic Consonants

0  E630  E631  E632  E633  E634  E635  E636  E637  E638  E639  E63A  E63B  E63C  E63D  E63E  E63F
0  E630  E631  E632  E633  E634  E635  E636  E637  E638  E639  E63A  E63B  E63C  E63D  E63E  E63F

1  E640
1  E640

2  E641  E642
2  E641  E642

3  E643  E644
3  E643  E644

4  E645  E646
4  E645  E646

5  E647  E648
5  E647  E648

6  E649
6  E649

7  E650
7  E650

8  E651
8  E651

9  E652
9  E652

A  E653  E654
A  E653  E654

B  E655  E656
B  E655  E656

C  E657  E658
C  E657  E658

D  E659  E65A
D  E659  E65A

E  E65B  E65C
E  E65B  E65C

F  E65D  E65E
F  E65D  E65E

Basic Vowels

0 E640  E641  E642  E643  E644  E645  E646  E647  E648  E649  E650  E651  E652  E653  E654  E655
0 E640  E641  E642  E643  E644  E645  E646  E647  E648  E649  E650  E651  E652  E653  E654  E655

Various signs

0 E656  E657  E658  E659  E65A  E65B  E65C  E65D  E65E  E65F
0 E656  E657  E658  E659  E65A  E65B  E65C  E65D  E65E  E65F

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