Notes on Transliteration

I have transliterated Bengali, Urdu, and Hindi words following the standard conventional way of writing alphabets in the Roman script. The consonants and vowels are rendered in their corresponding notation as shown below. If, at times, Persian and Arabic words have been used in the thesis, they have also been transliterated following the notation system in Urdu, since all the alphabets are included in the system (Table 1). This is also done to avoid the confusion that could arise from too many notational systems, unnecessary for scant references to a couple of Persian and Arabic words. In the case of Hindi and Sanskrit though, while most of the consonants and vowels overlap with the Bengali notation system (Table 2), Hindi and Sanskrit words have been transliterated according to the conventional system for modern Indo-Aryan languages in Indic scripts. A few usual differences from the Bengali remain – for example, the Bengali য়, written as ẏa, is absent in Sanskrit and Hindi, where it is simply written as य, transliterated as ya.

I have used the necessary English plural form attached to transliterated words but have not italicised it. For instance, the plural of āḍḍā has been written as āḍḍās. To make for easy reading, I have refrained from using transliteration for names of authors, places, as well as characters. In instances where the name of a character coincides with the title of a work, like Pheluda or Piran, the title of the work has been transliterated and italicised – *Pheludā*, *Pīran* – while references to the character have been made without transliteration – Pheluda or Piran. In addition, some notes on Bengali transliteration follow the table provided. The use of double vowels – common in writings with South Asian languages – like in aaraam or neela has been avoided. Exceptions should indicate their use in quotations, or authors' preferences in naming conventions – for example, Jameel Akhtar.

Table 1. Urdu transliteration

v	و	f	ف	ṣ	ص	r	ر	j	ج	ā	ا
h	ہ	q	ق	z	ض	ṛ	ڑ	c	چ	b	ب
h	ھ	k	ک	ṭ	ط	z	ز	ḥ	ح	p	پ
ʾ	ء	g	گ	ẓ	ظ	ż	ژ	kh	خ	t	ت
y, ī	ی	l	ل	ʿ	ع	s	س	d	د	ṭ	ٹ
e, ai	ے	m	م	ġ	غ	ś	ش	ḍ	ڈ	s̤	ث
		n	ن					ẕ	ذ		

Table 2. Bengali transliteration

অ	a	ক	ka	ট	ṭa	প	pa	স	sa
আ	ā	খ	kha	ঠ	ṭha	ফ	pha	হ	ha
ই	i	গ	ga	ড	ḍ	ব	ba	ড়	ṛa
ঈ	ī	ঘ	gha	ঢ	ḍha	ভ	bha	ঢ়	ṛha
উ	u	ঙ	ṅa	ণ	ṇa	ম	ma	য়	ẏa
ঊ	ū	চ	ca	ত	ta	য	ya	ৎ	t·
ঋ	ṛ	ছ	cha	থ	tha	র	ra	০ং	ṃ
এ	e	জ	ja	দ	da	ল	la	০ঃ	ḥ
ঐ	ai	ঝ	jha	ধ	dha	শ	ś	০ঁ	˜
ও	o	ঞ	ñ	ন	na	ষ	ṣ		
ঔ	au								

a. Elision mark, written as ¹, is used to denote the omitted vowel in pronunciation: tin¹ṭe, bal¹chilām, etc.

b. Hasanta mark is denoted by · after the consonant, as in: phyat·, mat·sya.

c. In the case of ba- phalā, where ba/ ব is fused with a consonant, for instance, দ্ব, it is generally transliterated as "dba"; however, for words directly taken from Sanskrit, v is used to denote ব, and is written as svabhāb.