

The Story of ADLaM

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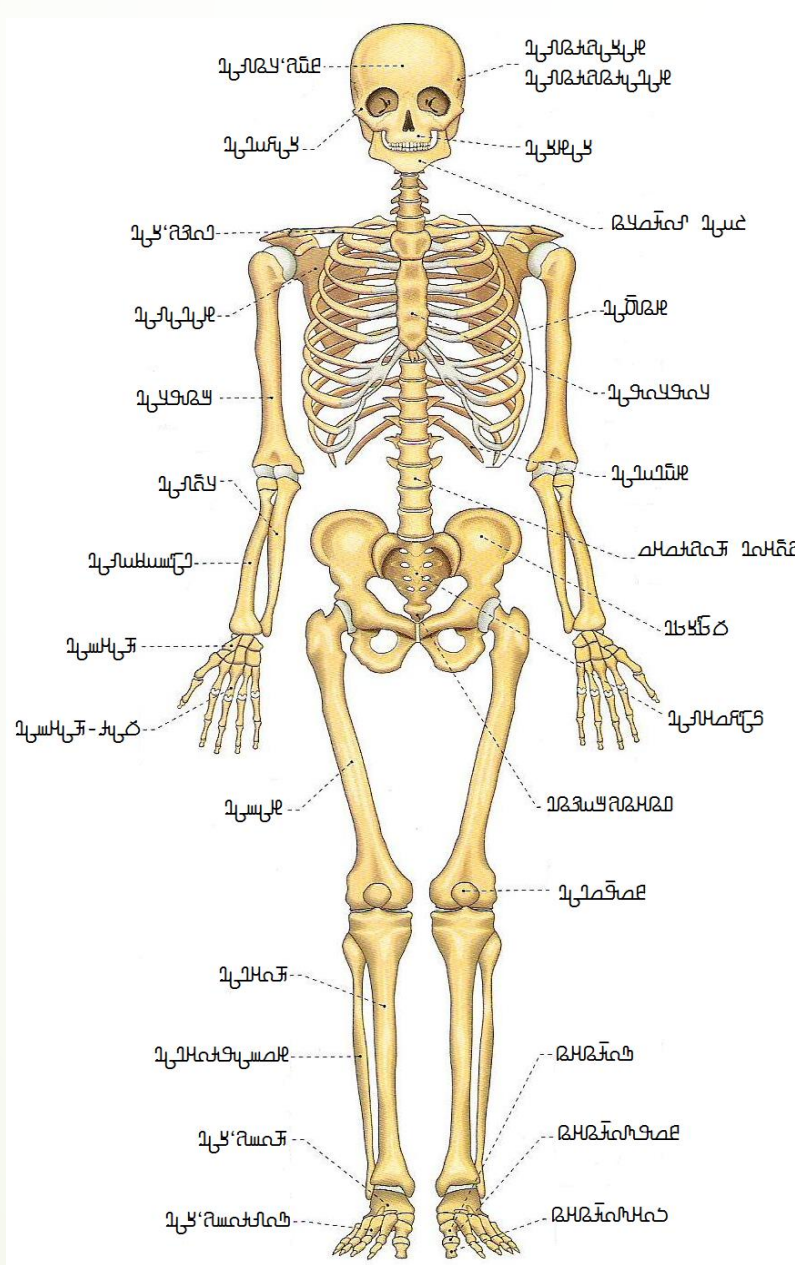
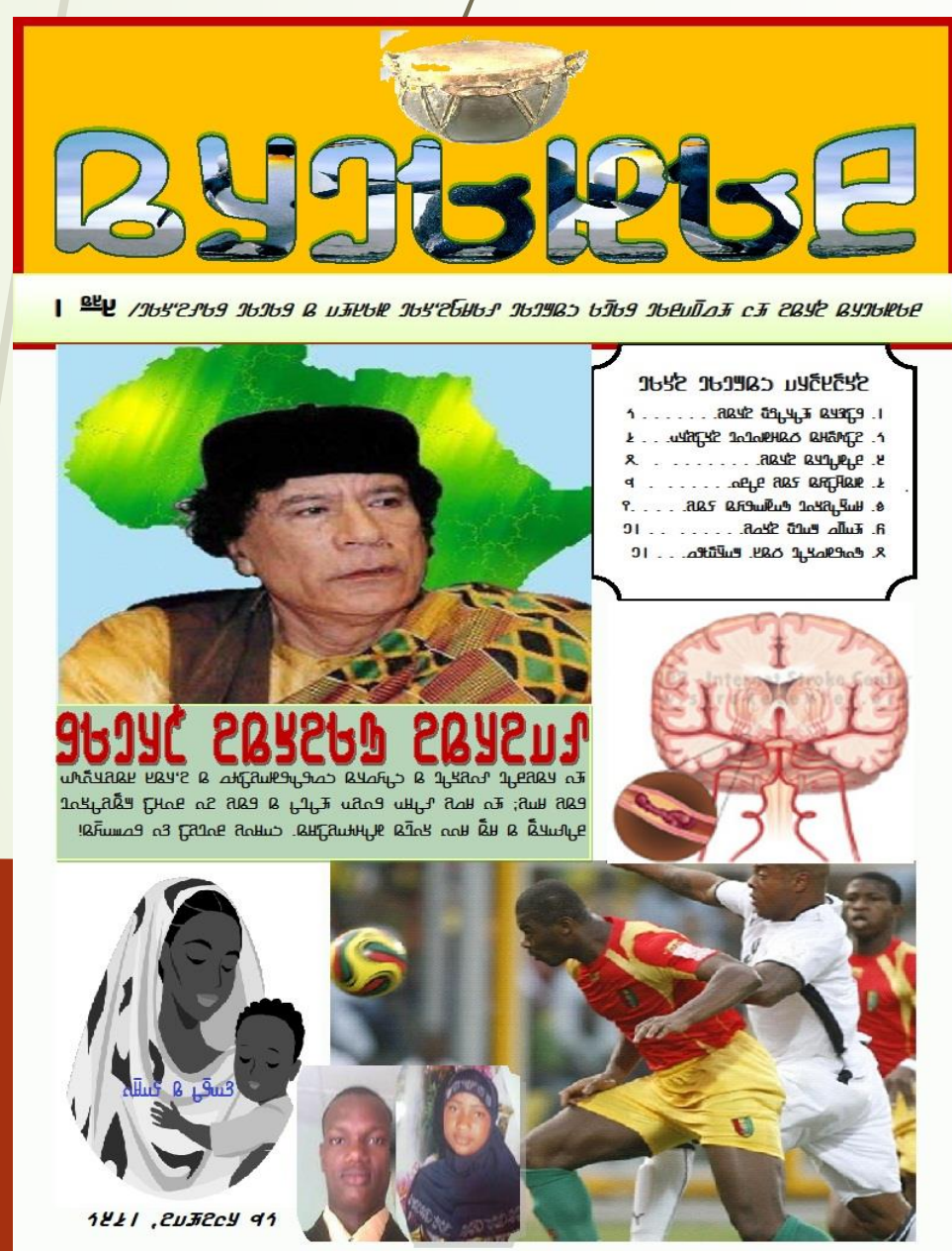


The ADLaM alphabet

The ADLaM alphabet has 28 letters with 5 vowels and 23 consonants. There are 6 additional letters for loanwords and for writing other African languages.

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In 2007, a font was created based on the Arabic codepoints for Windows and Mac computers. This allowed us to write and published books quickly on many different topics...



With the expansion of internet and the development of social media, people were asking how to get ADLaM on the internet, on Facebook, etc.? The answer: Unicode

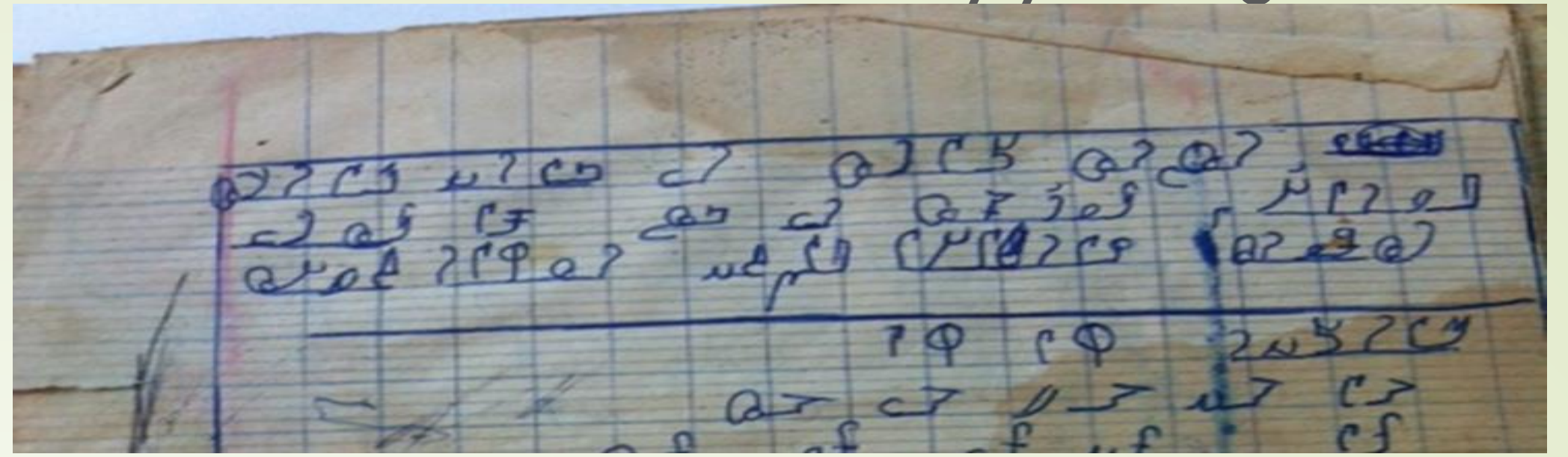
Adlam						
	1E90	1E91	1E92	1E93	1E94	1E95
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1	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ
2	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ
3	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ
4	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ
5	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ
6	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ	ᐱ

ADLaM was encoded in Unicode 9.0 in 2016



With the support from Google and Microsoft, ADLaM is now available to more than 60 million speakers of Pular or Fulfulde, one of the most widely spoken languages in Africa.

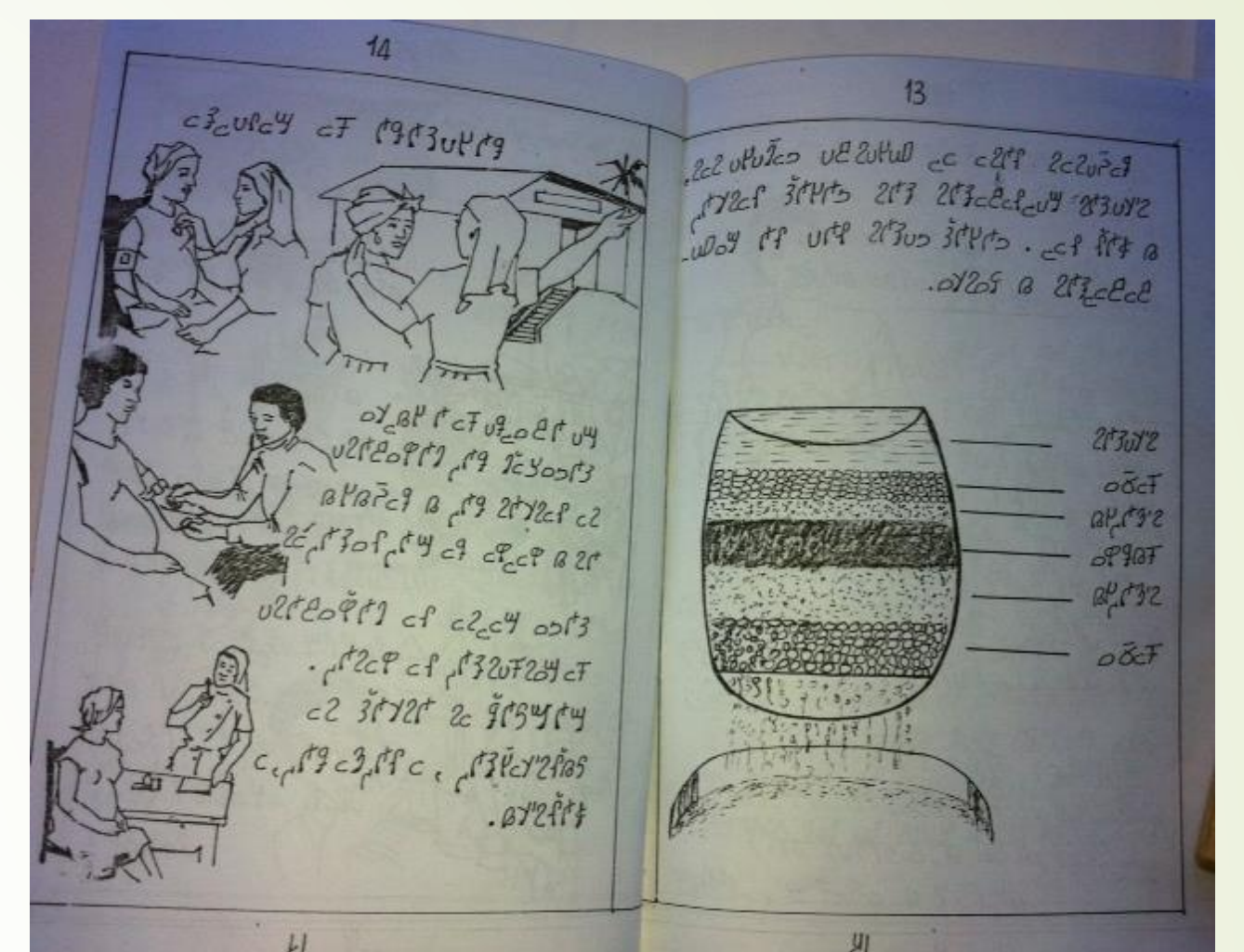
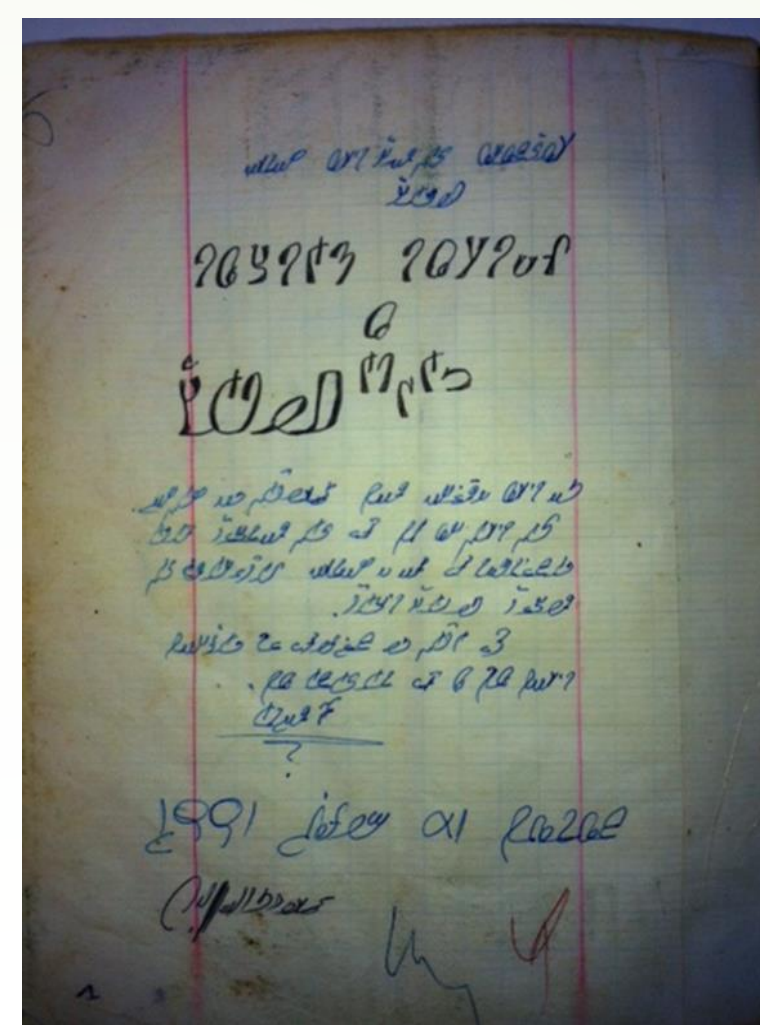
ADLaM was started almost thirty years ago in 1989



The goal was to make it easy for the Fulani people or Fulbe to read and write in Pular or Fulfulde in an alphabet that was more suitable for their language.

The Arabic letters used in the past by most Fulani people to write in Pular did not include many Fulfulde sounds. Therefore, the same sound could be represented by different letters making it hard for readers to decipher most written documents.

Because ADLaM was not coded and computerized, books were written by hand and photocopied. As more people studied ADLaM, this method was not sustainable

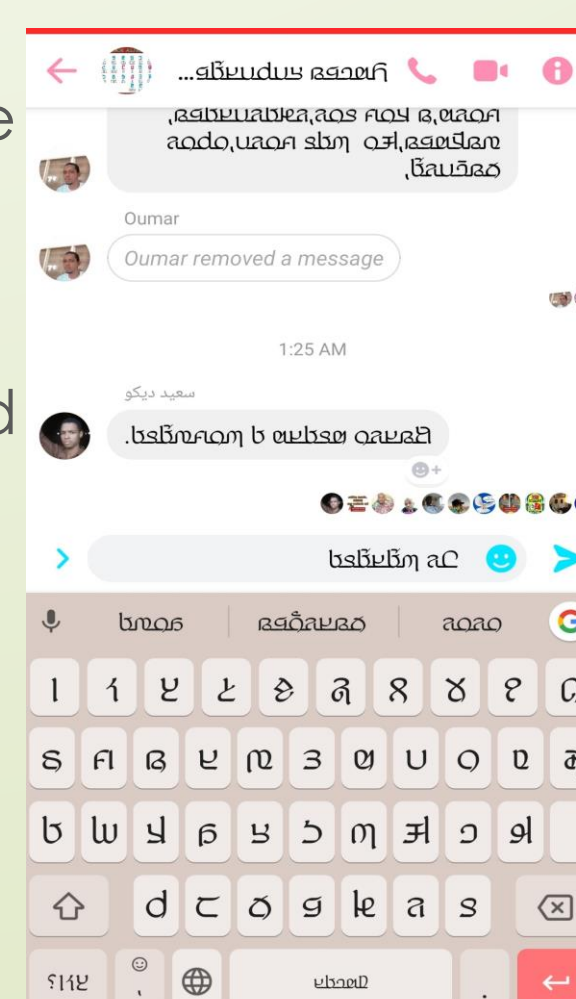


From 2007 ADLaM started to spread very rapidly across West Africa. From Gambia to Nigeria.



To use the encoded ADLaM, we needed a font, a keyboard and support on the various computer and mobile platforms: Android, Windows, Chrome, iOS, macOS, etc.

In 2017, Google made a font and provided support for ADLaM in Android 8 and the Chrome OS with a native keyboard



In 2019, Microsoft made a font and provided support for ADLaM in Windows 10 version 1903 with keyboard

