Sanskrit/Hindi transliteration pronunciation guide

In the score and vocal parts, I use an anglicized simplified transliteration which is quite sufficient for performances, especially outside of India. (Please note that the aspiration from an "h" following a consonant is a subtle effect except in the case of "sh".) In this simplified system, given in the English alphabetical order;

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The letter "a" is pronounced as "u" in "but."
The letters "aa" is pronounced as "a" in "father."
The dipthong "ai" is as in "aisle".
The dipthong "au" is as the German "Haus".
The letter "b" is pronounced as "b" in "baby"
The letter "bh" is pronounced as "b-h" in "tub-hot"
The letter "c" is pronounced as "ch" in "church."
The letter "ch" is pronounced as "ch-h" in "staunch-heart"
The letter "d" is pronounced as "d" in "road"
The letter "dh" is pronounced as "d-h" in "red-hot"
The letter "e" is pronounced as "ay" in "pay"
        (avoid adding the "y" sound at the end)
The letters "ee" are pronounced as "ee" in "seed"
The letter "g" is pronounced as "g" in "goat"
The letter "gh" is pronounced as "g-h" in "dig-hard"
The letter "h" is pronounced as "h" in "heaven."
The letter "i" is pronounced as "i" in "sin"
The letter "j" is pronounced as "j" in "jiffy"
The letter "jh" is pronounced as "dge-h" in "hedge-hog"
The letter "k" is pronounced as "k" in "kite"
The letter "kh" is pronounced as "ck-h" in "kick-hard"
The letter "I" is pronounced as "I" in "light."
The letter "m" is pronounced as "m" in "mother."
The letter "n" is pronounced as "na" in "nut."
The letter "o" is pronounced as "o" in "no"
        (avoid the u/w sound as the end)
The letters "oo" are pronounced as "oo" in "roof"
The letter "p" is pronounced as "p" in "popcorn."
The letters "ph" are pronounced as "p-h" in "up-hill"
        (This is not pronounced like f. There is no "f" in Sanskrit.)
The letter "r" is pronounced as "r" in "right."
The letter "s" is pronounced as "s" in "seven."
The letters "sh" are pronounced as "sh" in "shut."
The letter "t" is pronounced as "t" in "hot"
The letters "th" are pronounced as "t-h" in "hot-house", and not like
        thin"
The letter "u" is pronounced as "u" in "should"
The letter "v" is pronounced as "v" in "victory."
The letter "y" is pronounced as "y" in "yes."
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For a more exact rendition of the words, I include before the score a transliteration that comes directly from the originals, which is done by extending the Latin alphabet by means of diacritical marks. The method below is the most commonly used. This is a generalized approach that most closely approximates the North Indian style of pronunciation. Each letter in the Devanagari alphabet stands for a syllable. Below are all the instances where the diacritical method differs from the simple method described above, in the Devanagari alphabetical order.

Adapted from the KKSongs Sanskrit Pronunciation Guide

Vowels:

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The letter "ā" is pronounced as "a" in "father."
The letter "i" is pronounced as "i" in "sin"
The letter "ī" is pronounced as "ee" in "seed"
The letter "ū" is pronounced as "oo" in "roof"
The letter "ṛ" is pronounced as "ri" in "rip"
The letter "ṛ" is pronounced as "ree" in "reed"
The letter "ḷ" is pronounced as "lary" in "salary" (without the "a")
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The letter "ń" is pronounced as "n" in "song."

(Just the n, not the g. This is the nasal element for the gutturals)

The letter "ñ" is pronounced as "ny" in "canyon" (This is the nasal element for the palatals)

The letter "t" is pronounced as "t" in "hot"
The letter "th" is pronounced as "t-h" in "hot-house"
The letter "d" is pronounced as "d" in "road"
The letter "dh" is pronounced as "d-h" in "red-hot"
The letter "n" is pronounced as "na" in "nut."

(This is the nasal element for the cerebrals).

The letter "v" is pronounced as "v" in "victory." If "v" is the second half of a combined letter, then it will be pronounced like a "w."

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The letter "s" is pronounced as "sh" in "shut", tending to the German "ich". The letter "s" is pronounced as "sh" in "shine." (This is the cerebral s)
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The nasal element known as the **anusvara** is m. It is pronounced as "n" in "wrong" (no "g" sound included) or as "m". Choosing which it is involves rather involved Sanskrit grammatical rules.

The aspirate element known as the **visarga** is h. It causes a "ha" sound. For instance, ah is pronounced as "aha" or ih is pronounced as "iha."

1) Om Jaya Jagadish Hare

Om jaya Jagadish hare Swāmi jaya Jagadish hare Bhakta jano ke sankaṭa Dāsa jano ke sankaṭa Kśaṇa men dūra kare Om jaya Jagadish hare

Jo dhyāve phala pāve
Dukha bina se mana kā
Swami dukha bina se mana kā
Sukha sampati ghara āve
Sukha sampati ghara āve
Kaṣṭa miṭe tana kā
Om jaya Jagadish hare

Mātā pitā tuma mere Śaraṇa gahūṁ main kiski Swāmi śaraṇa gahūṁ mai kiski Tuma bina aura na dūjā Tuma bina aura na dūjā Āśā karūn main jiski Om jaya Jagadish hare

Tuma pūraṇa Paramātmā Tuma Antarayāmi Swāmi tuma Antarayāmi Pāra Brahma Parameshwara Pāra Brahma Parameshwara Tuma saba ke swāmi Om jaya Jagadish hare

Tuma karuṇā ke sāgara Tuma pālana kartā Swāmi tuma pālana kartā Mai mūrakh khalakhāmi Mai sevaka tuma swāmi Kripā karo Bhartā Om jaya Jagadish hare Oh Lord of the whole Universe Mighty Lord of the whole Universe All Thy devotees' agonies All Thy devotees' sorrows Instantly You banish Oh Lord of the whole Universe

He who's immersed in devotion
He reaps the fruits of Thy love
Lord, he reaps the fruits of Thy love
Joy, prosperity and health
Enter the homes of those who pray
to thee
Oh Lord of the whole Universe

Thou art Mother and Father
There's none other than Thee, Lord
At Thy feet alone do I hope
You are the supreme soul, you are
the indweller
Thou art Perfect, Eternal, Absolute
O Lord of all Creation

Thou art Godly perfection
Omnipotent Master of all
Lord, omnipotent Master of all
My destiny's in Thy Hand
My destiny's in Thy Hand
Supreme Soul of all Creation
Oh Lord of the whole Universe

Thou art an ocean of mercy
Gracious protector of all
Lord, gracious protector of all
I am a simpleton with wrong wishes,
I am Thy servant and Thou art the
Master
Grant me Thy divine grace
Oh Lord of the Universe

Tuma ho eka agochara Saba ke prāṇapati Swāmi saba ke prāṇapati Kisa vidhi milūn dayāmaya Kisa vidhi milūn dayāmaya Tuma ko main kumati Om jaya Jagadish hare

Dīna bandhu dukha harata Ṭhākura tuma mere Swāmi ṭhākura tuma mere Apane hāth uṭhao Apani sharaṇi lagāo Dwāra paḍā hūn tere Om jaya Jagadish hare

Vishaya vikāra mitāvo Pāpa haro Devā Swāmi pāpa haro Devā Shradhā bhakti baḍhāo Shradhā bhakti baḍhāo Santana ki sevā Om jaya Jagadish hare Thou art beyond all perception Formless and yet multiform Lord, formless and yet multiform Grant me a glimpse of Thyself Grant me a glimpse of Thyself Guide me along the path to Thee Oh Lord of the Universe

Friend of the helpless and feeble Benevolent savior of all Lord, benevolent savior of all Offer me Thy hand of compassion Protect me and bless me, I seek refuge at Thy feet Oh Lord of the Universe

Surmounting the earthly desires
Free from the sins of this life
Lord, free from the sins of this life
Undivided faith and devotion
Undivided faith and devotion
In eternal service unto Thee
Oh Lord of the whole Universe

Written in the 1870's by Pandit Shardha Ram Phillauri in Punjab, India

3) Hanuman Chalisa

shrīguru charana saroja raja nija manu mukuru sudhāri baranaum raghubara bimala jasu jo dāyaku phala chāri

buddhihīna tanu jānike sumiraun pavanakumāra bala buddhi bidyā dehu mohīn harahu kalesa bikāra

- 1) jaya hanumāna gyāna guna sāgara jaya kapīsa tihun loka ujāgara
- rāma dūta atulita bala dhāmā anjaniputra pavanasuta nāmā
- mahābīra bikrama bajarangī kumati nivāra sumati ke sangī
- 4) kanchana barana birāja subesā kānana kundala kunchita kesā
- 5) hātha bajra au dhvajā birājai kāndhe mūnja janeū sājai
- 6) sankara suvana kesarīnandana teja pratāpa mahā jaga bandana
- vidyāvāna gunī ati chātura rāma kāja karibe ko ātura

With the dust of Guru's Lotus feet, I clean the mirror of my mind and then narrate the sacred glory of Sri Ram Chandra, The Supreme among the Raghu dynasty, the giver of the four attainments of life.

Knowing myself to be ignorant, I urge you, O Hanuman, The son of Pavan! O Lord! kindly Bestow on me strength, wisdom and knowledge, removing all my miseries and blemishes.

Victory of Thee, O Hanuman, Ocean of wisdom and virtue, victory to the Lord of monkeys who is well known in all the three worlds

You, the Divine messager of Ram and repository of immeasurable strength, are also known as Anjaniputra and known as the son of the wind - Pavanputra.

Oh Hanumanji! You are valiant and brave, with a body like lightening. You are the dispeller of darkness of evil thoughts and companion of good sense and wisdom.

Shri Hanumanji's physique is golden coloured. His dress is attractive, wearing 'Kundals' ear-rings and his hairs are long and curly.

Shri Hanumanji is holding in one hand a lighting bolt and in the other a banner with sacred thread across his shoulder.

Oh Hanumanji! You are the emanation of Shiva and you delight Shri Keshri. Being ever effulgent, you and hold vast sway over the universe. The entire world propitiates. You are adorable of all.

Oh! Shri Hanumanji! You are the repository learning, virtuous, very wise and highly keen to do the work of Shri Ram,

8) prabhu charitra sunibe ko rasiyā rāma lakhana sītā mana basiyā

You are intensely greedy for listening to the naration of Lord Ram's life story and revel on its enjoyment. You ever dwell in the hearts of Shri Ram-Sita and Shri Lakshman.

9) sūkshma rūpa dhari siyahin dikhāvā bikata rūpa dhari lanka jarāvā You appeared before Sita in a diminutive form and spoke to her, while you assumed an awesome form and struck terror by setting Lanka on fire.

10) bhīma rūpa dhari asura sanhāre rāmachandra ke kāja sanvāre

He, with his terrible form, killed demons in Lanka and performed all acts of Shri Ram.

11) lāya sajīvana lakhana jiyāye shrīraghubīra harashi ura lāye When Hanumanji made Lakshman alive after bringing 'Sanjivni herb' Shri Ram took him in his deep embrace, his heart full of joy.

12) raghupati kīnhī bahuta badā-ī tuma mama priya bharatahi sama bhā-ī Shri Ram lustily extolled Hanumanji's excellence and remarked, "you are as dear to me as my own brother Bharat"

13) sahasa badana tumharo jasa gāvain asa kahi shrīpati kantha lagāvain

Shri Ram embraced Hanumanji saying: "Let the thousand - tongued sheshnaag sing your glories"

14) sanakādika brahmādi munīsā nārada sārada sahita ahīsā Sanak and the sages, saints. Lord Brahma, the great hermits Narad and Goddess Saraswati along with Sheshnag the cosmic serpent, fail to sing the glories of Hanumanji exactly

15) jama kubera digapāla jahān te kabi kobida kahi sake kahān te What to talk of denizens of the earth like poets and scholars ones etc even Gods like Yamraj, Kubera, and Digpal fail to narrate Hanman's greatness.

16) tuma upakāra sugrīvahin kīnhā rāma milāya rāja pada dīnhā Hanumanji! You rendered a great service for Sugriva, it was you who united him with Shri Rama and installed him on the Royal Throne.

17) tumharo mantra bibhīshana mānā lankesvara bhae saba jaga jānā

By heeding your advice. Vibhushan became Lord of Lanka, which is known all over the universe.

18) juga sahastra jojana para bhānū Hanumanji gulped the SUN at distance of līlyo tāhi madhura phala jānū sixteen thousand miles considering it to be a sweet fruit. 19) prabhu mudrikā meli mukha māhīn Carrying the Lord's ring in his mouth, he jaladhi lānghi gaye acharaja nāhīn went across the ocean. There is no wonder in that. 20) durgama kāja jagata ke jete Oh Hanumanji! All the difficult tasks in the sugama anugraha tumhare tete world are rendered easiest by your grace. 21) rāma duāre tuma rakhavāre Oh Hanumanji! You are the sentinel at the hota na āgyā binu paisāre door of Ram's mercy mansion or His divine abode. No one may enter without your permission. 22) saba sukha lahai tumhārī saranā By your grace one can enjoy all happiness tuma rachchhaka kāhū ko dara nā and one need not have any fear under your protection. 23) āpana teja samhāro āpai When you roar all the three worlds tremble tīnon loka hānka ten kānpai and only you can control your might. 24) bhūta pisācha nikata nahin āvai Great Brave Hanumanji's name keeps all mahāvīra jaba nāma sunāvai the Ghosts, Demons & evils spirits away from his devotees. 25) nāsai roga harai saba pīrā On reciting Hanumanji's holy name japata nirantara hanumata bīrā regularly all the maladies perish; the entire pain disappears. Those who remember Hanumanji in 26) sankata ten hanumāna chhudāvai thought, word and deed are well guarded mana krama bachana dhyāna jo lāvai against their odds in life. Oh Hanumanji! You are the caretaker of 27) saba para rāma tapasvī rājā even Lord Rama, who has been hailed as tina ke kāja sakala tuma sājā the Supreme Lord and the Monarch of all those devoted in penances. 28) aura manoratha jo koī lāvai Oh Hanumanji! You fulfill the desires of soī amita jīvana phala pāvai those who come to you and bestow the eternal nectar the highest fruit of life.

29) chāron juga paratāpa tumhārā Oh Hanumanji! You magnificent glory is hai parasiddha jagata ujiyārā acclaimed far and wide all through the four ages and your fame is radianly noted all over the cosmos. 30) sādhu santa ke tuma rakhavāre Oh Hanumanji! You are the saviour and asura nikandana rāma dulāre the guardian angel of saints and sages and destroy all the Demons, you are the seraphic darling of Shri Ram. 31) ashta siddhi nau nidhi ke dātā Hanumanji has been blessed with mother asa bara dīna jānakī mātā Janki to grant to any one any yogic power of eight Sidhis and Nava Nidhis as per choice. 32) rāma rasāyana tumhare pāsā Oh Hanumanji! You hold the essence of sadā raho raghupati ke dāsā devotion to Ram, always remaining His Servant. 33) tumhare bhajana rāma ko pāvai Oh Hanumanji! through devotion to you, janama janama ke dukha bisarāvai one comes to Ram and becames free from suffering of several lives. 34) anta kāla raghubara pura jā-ī After death he enters the eternal abode of jahān janma haribhakta kahā-ī Sri Ram and remains a devotee of him, whenever, taking new birth on earth. You need not hold any other demigod in 35) aura devatā chitta na dhara-ī mind. Hanumanji alone will give all hanumata sei sarba sukha kara-i happiness. Oh Powerful Hanumanji! You end the 36) sankata katai mitai saba pīrā sufferings and remove all the pain from io sumirai hanumata balabīrā those who remember you. Hail Hail Lord Hanumanji! I beseech 37) jai jai jai hanumāna gosāī you Honor to bless me in the kripā karahu guru deva kī nāī capacity of my supreme guru.

38) jo sata bāra pātha kara koī

chhūtahi bandi mahā sukha hoī

One who recites this Hanuman Chalisa one

hundred times daily for one hundred

bliss at last.

days becomes free from the bondage of life and death and enjoys the highest

39) jo yaha padhai hanumāna chalīsā hoya siddhi sākhī gaurīsā As Lord Shankar witnesses, all those who recite Hanuman Chalisa regularly are sure to be blessed.

40) tulasīdāsa sadā hari cherā kījai nātha hridaya manha derā Tulsidas always the servant of Lord prays. "Oh my Lord! You enshrine within my heart!

Pavanatanaya sankata harana mangala mūrati rūpa rāma lakhana sītā sahita hridaya basahu sura bhūpa

O Shri Hanuman, The Son of Pavan, Savior The Embodiment of blessings, reside in my heart together with Shri Ram, Laxman and Sita