Iranian Sans Font

Iranian Sans is an *OpenType™* font with *TrueType™* outlines. It is a constant pen width Persian font specifically designed for on-screen use. Currently, this font is available in normal and bold weights.

OpenType™ Features

This font currently includes the following *OpenType™* features:

- **Glyph Composition/Decomposition:**
  - Mark to mark combining
  - Base + hamza combining (except heh + hamza which should be treated as glyph ligature for Unicode compatibility)
- **Contextual Forms**
  - Initial Forms
  - Medial Forms
  - Terminal Forms
  - Isolated Forms
- **Ligatures**
  - Mandatory lam + alef ligature
  - Mandatory heh + hamza (yeh maqsore) ligature
  - Optional letter + yeh ligatures to compensate shallow descender
- **Ligature Carets**
  - Ligature carets defined for all ligatures
- **Mark Positioning**
  - Extensive mark to base positioning, including ligatures
  - Mark to mark positioning achieved via glyph composition
- **Pair Kerning**
  - Extensive right-to-left pair positioning
- **Alternates**
  - Language-based digit alternates for Arabic number delimiters
  - Script-based alternate punctuation to compensate raised Arabic Script baseline

Language Coverage

Iranian Sans font supports the following languages:
- Persian (Farsi) according to Iranian Standard ISIRI-6219
- Middle-East Arabic (de-facto regional standard, also supporting U+06A4)
- Arabic as used in the *Islamic Republic of Iran*.
- Azeri as used in the *Islamic Republic of Iran*.

The default behavior of the font is optimized for Persian when the language is not specified.

Platform Compatibility

Iranian Sans is compatible with the following platforms:

- *Linux* with *FreeType* font library and *Pango* or *ICU* layout library
- *Microsoft Windows® 2000* and *XP*
- *Microsoft Windows® 98 SE / Me* with Arabic support via *Uniscribe™*
  This includes various Persian Windows™ *distributions such as the popular* Parsa Windows™
- *Adobe® ME* (Middle East) Software Packages under their supported platforms

NOTE: *Apple Macintosh* (both *Mac OS X™* and *Mac OS™ 9*) is currently unsupported. *Mac OS X™* will be supported in the next release.

Standards Conformance

Iranian Sans font Supports the following standards and recommendations:
- Unicode 4.1.1
- ISIRI-6219
- *Adobe®* Glyph Naming Standard (A conservative subset)
- *Microsoft®* Recommendations for *Microsoft Office™* Fonts and Arabic Fonts

Font Design

Iranian Sans is a Sans text font with an original design matching the design of *Iranian Serif* and is designed by *Hooman Mehr* and *Hadi Navid*. It is available in normal and bold weights. The normal version is slightly lighter than typical sans-serif screen font, but the boldface version is heavier than normal bold fonts. This is a deliberate design choice to make the distinction of the two variants easier on low-resolution devices. Although the primary target of this font is computer screen, it is quite usable for printing as well. This font is designed to match *Bitstream Vera Sans™* Font. The vertical metrics of this font is identical to *Vera* which helps reduce layout distortions as a result of a font switch. The very low descent value of Latin fonts compared to Persian, is causing very shallow descender in this font which results some unusual design characteristics, including additions of many final yeh ligatures. To reduce the adverse effects of very low descender, a logical baseline that is slightly higher than the nominal baseline of *Vera™* font is used.
Weight and optical readability of *Iranian Sans* is also similar to *Vera™*. As a result, this font has somewhat exaggerated features compared to other Persian fonts.

Developer Notes

The source font is provided as a *FontLab Studio™ 5.0* `.vfb` font database preconfigured to be built using *TrueType™* outlines with generation of visual hints. *OpenType™* layout information is provided as a *Microsoft VOLT™* `.vtp` project file. Since the font uses some features not supported by *FontLab™*, you need to post-process the *FontLab™* generated font using *Microsoft VOLT™*. Further post processing of `maxp` and `OS/2` tables are necessary to address some *FontLab™* bugs. Also, the font needs to be post processed by `cachett` and `fastfont` (part of *Microsoft®* command line font tools) If the fonts are properly generated they will pass *Microsoft FontValidator* without any errors and with a couple of false warnings.

The fact that this font is fully decomposed into components makes the extension of this font to support additional languages much easier.

License Agreement

This font is free software. The license for this font is an amended version of *Bitstream® Vera™* font, which basically tells that you can freely use and distribute the font without selling it. Also, you have to change the name of the font if you release a modified version of it.

Support and Feedback

For technical support regarding this font refer to http://projects.foss.ir/projects/font/ or contact the developers at info@nevisa.com or hooman@mac.com.

Font Sample

Font Sample is provided in **"Iranian Sans – Samples.pdf"** & **"Iranian Sans Bold – Samples.pdf"** documents.

Glyph Repository

Iranian Sans font includes 470 glyphs. The complete font table is provided in **"Iranian Sans - FontLab Report.pdf"** & **"Iranian Sans Bold - FontLab Report.pdf"** documents.