The Status of Localization/Arabization of Linux and Open Source Software

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What do we need?

- Arabic fonts
- Arabic keyboard layout
- Take care of the rendering on the screen
  - BiDi
  - Shaping
- Internationalization for some applications.
What do we have?

- Fonts
- Keyboard layout
- Libraries to render the Arabic text
- Applications using these libraries
OSS on the desktop

- Office productivity
- IM
- Email
- Web browsing
- Desktop publishing
- Graphics
What's missing.

- No standards (Normalization)
- Applications not depending on standard libraries
- Fonts
- Arabic content
- Spell checking
- OCR
- Voice recognition
Resources

- Small community
  - Coders
  - Translators
- Little testing
- People like to start from scratch
Arabeyes

- Translating the major DE
- English/Arabic wordlist +87,000 words
- Spell checker
- OCR
- Trying to address problems.
How can you help?

- Testing
- Fixing bugs
- Translation
- Standards
- Graphics/Fonts
- Advocacy