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

Mohammed Sameer
Arabeyes.org
msameer@arabeyes.org

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 stadard libraries
- Fonts
- Arabic content
- Spell checking
- OCR
- Voice recognition

Resources

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

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- ➲ 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