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Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set International Organization for Standardization Organisation Internationale de Normalisation

Международная организация по стандартизации

Doc Type: Working Group Document

Title: Proposal for encoding Myanmar characters for Shan and Palaung in the UCS

Source: UC Berkeley Script Encoding Initiative (Universal Scripts Project)

Authors: Michael Everson and Martin Hosken

Status: Liaison Contribution

Replaces: N3080

Action: For consideration by JTC1/SC2/WG2 and UTC

Date: 2006-09-08

Since the Myanmar script was first encoded, it has been known that a number of additions used by minority languages would be needed. This proposal requests the addition of characters for a number of them. It contains the proposal summary form.

The languages supported by this proposal are the Tai-Kadai language Shan and the Mon-Khmer language Rumai Palaung. Eleven of the characters proposed are spacing letters, but one combining consonant sign, four combining vowel signs, and seven combining tone marks are also proposed.

The history of the Myanmar script is not one of a single line of development. A number of language-specific differences arose during the period of development, much as has happened with the Arabic and Cyrillic scripts. Most of the letters are used in common, but some letters have language-specific forms. These are not unifiable with "standard" Myanmar letters, and books in Burmese about Karen, for instance, use both of them concurrently. In the discussion of the additions below, the language-specific letters are listed, in the brief shorthand "x contrasts with Burmese y".

Additions for Shan

A number of characters contrast with Burmese characters: ∞ letter shan a contrasts with Burmese ∞ letter a; ∞ letter shan ka contrasts with Burmese ∞ letter ka; ∞ letter shan kha contrasts with Burmese ∞ letter ka; ∞ letter shan kha contrasts with Burmese ∞ letter ca; ∞ letter shan nya contrasts with Burmese ∞ letter nya; ∞ letter shan na contrasts with Burmese ∞ letter na; ∞ letter shan tha contrasts with Burmese ∞ letter shan tha contrasts with Burmese ∞ letter shan ha contrasts with Burmese ∞ letter shan tha contrasts with Burmese ∞ letter shan ha contrasts with Burmese ∞

Additions for Rumai Palaung

Rumai Palaung makes use of a unique character: \bullet LETTER RUMAI PALAUNG FA. It also uses four tone marks, two of which are already encoded: U+1037 \circ : MYANMAR SIGN DOT BELOW is used for tone 1, U+1038 \circ : MYANMAR SIGN VISARGA for tone 3, and three which are proposed here: *U+1083 \circ , SIGN SHAN TONE-2 (used for tone 4), *U+1084 \circ ; SIGN SHAN TONE-3 (used for tone 5), and \circ ; SIGN RUMAI PALAUNG TONE-6 are used (Figure 5.)

Ordering

The unified order for the Myanmar script incorporating the characters here (and those previously accepted for encoding) is given below. Ordering is syllable-based, so this is indicative of only one level of ordering. The Karen and Kayah characters proposed in N3xxx are shown here in italics.

```
ka < <u>shan-ka</u> < kha < <u>shan-kha</u> < ga < gha < nga < mon-nga <
ca < <u>shan-ca</u> < cha < ja < jha < mon-jha < sgaw-karen-sha < nya < <u>shan-nya</u> < nnya <
tta < ttha < dda < ddha < nna < <u>eastern-pwo-karen-nna</u> <
ta < tha < da < dha < na < <u>shan-na</u> <
pa < pha < <u>shan-pha</u> < <u>shan-fa</u> < <u>rumai-palaung-fa</u> < ba < bha < ma <
ya < ra < la < wa < <u>shan-tha</u> < sha < ssa < <u>western-pwo-karen-tha</u> < sa < great-sa < ha < <u>shan-ha</u> <
lla < mon-bba < <u>eastern-pwo-karen-ywa</u> < <u>eastern-pwo-karen-gwa</u> <
a < <u>shan-a</u> < <u>kayah-oe</u> < i < ii < u < <u>kayah-u</u> < <u>kayah-ee</u> < uu <
vocalic-r < vocalic-r < vocalic-ll < e < mon-bbe < <u>western-pwo-karen-pwo-karen-pwa</u> < mon-e < o < au
```

Issues

Several characters look as though they could be sequences of a base character plus U+103E $_{\circ}$ Consonant SIGN MEDIAL HA. These are like $_{\circ}$ LETTER SGAW KAREN SHA which has already been accepted for encoding: the letters are $_{\circ}$ LETTER SHAN FA and $_{\circ}$ LETTER SHAN HA. At a "Workshop on Myanmar Language Processing", held in Yangon 13-15 February 2006 (cf N3043R), this was discussed at length. Both $_{\circ}$ LETTER SHAN FA and $_{\circ}$ LETTER SHAN HA can be seen with alternate shapes $_{\circ}$ and $_{\circ}$ (see Figure 3). It's probable that the origin of the former is $_{\circ}$ $_{$

Unicode Character Properties

```
1022; MYANMAR LETTER SHAN A; Lo; 0; L;;;;; N;;;;
1075; MYANMAR LETTER SHAN KA; Lo; 0; L;;;;; N;;;;;
1076; MYANMAR LETTER SHAN KHA; Lo; 0; L;;;;; N;;;;
1077; MYANMAR LETTER SHAN CA; Lo; 0; L;;;;; N;;;;;
1078; MYANMAR LETTER SHAN NYA; Lo; 0; L;;;;; N;;;;;
1079; MYANMAR LETTER SHAN NA; Lo; 0; L;;;;; N;;;;
107A; MYANMAR LETTER SHAN PHA; Lo; 0; L;;;;; N;;;;;
107B; MYANMAR LETTER SHAN FA; Lo; 0; L;;;;; N;;;;
107C; MYANMAR LETTER SHAN THA; Lo; 0; L;;;;; N;;;;
107D; MYANMAR LETTER SHAN HA; Lo; 0; L;;;;; N;;;;;
107E; MYANMAR CONSONANT SIGN SHAN MEDIAL WA; Mn; 0; NSM;;;;; N;;;;;
107F; MYANMAR VOWEL SIGN SHAN AA; Mc; 0; L;;;;; N;;;;;
1080; MYANMAR VOWEL SIGN SHAN E; Mc; 0; NSM;;;;; N;;;;;
1081; MYANMAR VOWEL SIGN SHAN E ABOVE; Mn; 0; NSM;;;;;;;;
1082; MYANMAR VOWEL SIGN SHAN FINAL Y; Mn; 0; NSM;;;;; N;;;;
1083; MYANMAR SIGN SHAN TONE-2; Mc; 0; L;;;;; N;;;;;
1084; MYANMAR SIGN SHAN TONE-3; Mc; 0; L;;;;; N;;;;;
1085; MYANMAR SIGN SHAN COUNCIL TONE-4; Mc; 0; L;;;;; N;;;;
1086; MYANMAR SIGN SHAN TONE-5; Mc; 0; L;;;;; N;;;;;
1087; MYANMAR SIGN SHAN TONE-6; Mc; 0; L;;;;; N;;;;;
1088; MYANMAR SIGN SHAN COUNCIL EMPHATIC TONE; Mn; 0; NSM; ;; ;; N; ;; ;;
1089; MYANMAR VOWEL SIGN RUMAI PALAUNG FA; Lo; 0; L;;;; N;;;;
108A; MYANMAR SIGN RUMAI PALAUNG TONE-6; Mc; 0; L;;;;; N;;;;
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Bibliography

Sung Sum, Gant Kham. 2001. ပစ္ပ်ပိုတ်,ချေးဂါမ်းတရား = Shan dictionary. လျှံသိဝ်း [Lashio]: [s.n.]. Sao Tern Moeng. 1995. Shan-English dictionary. Kensington: Dunwoody Press. ISBN 0-93-1745-92-6 ခူးမှိုင်းလီ [Khū: Mūing: Lī]. [s.d.]. ပစ္ပ်ဂိုဆ်းလိဂ်းထံး ပါဆိမ့်, (Shan-Thai reader). သွဆ်မေးလိဂ်းထံး 200 ထုဝ်းမှင်း (Shan-Thai reader).

Acknowledgements

This project was made possible in part by a grant from the U.S. National Endowment for the Humanities, which funded the Universal Scripts Project (part of the Script Encoding Initiative at UC Berkeley), and also by support from Payap University, Chiang Mai.

Figures

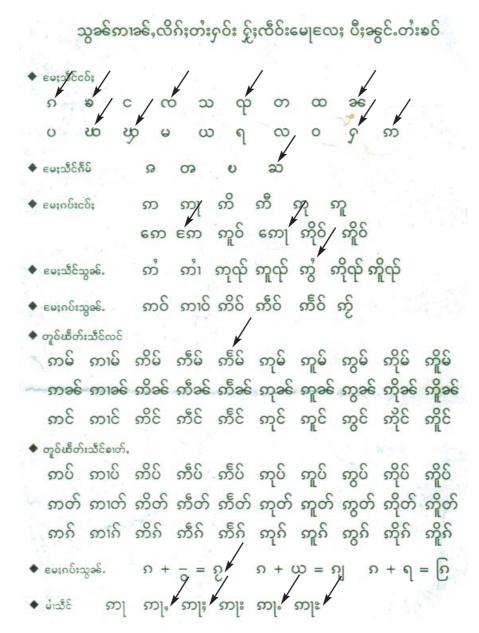


Figure 1. Sample from a Shan-Thai reader, showing

o letter shan ka, ≈ letter shan kha, ∞ letter shan ca, ≈ letter shan nya, ≈ letter shan na, ≈ letter shan pha, ≈ letter shan fa, o letter shan ha, ∞ letter shan a, ⇒ letter shan tha, ε vowel sign shan e, o vowel sign shan aa, ³ vowel sign shan final y, ° vowel sign shan e above, consonant sign shan medial wa, o, sign shan tone-2, o; sign shan tone-3, o. sign shan tone-5, and o sign shan tone-6.

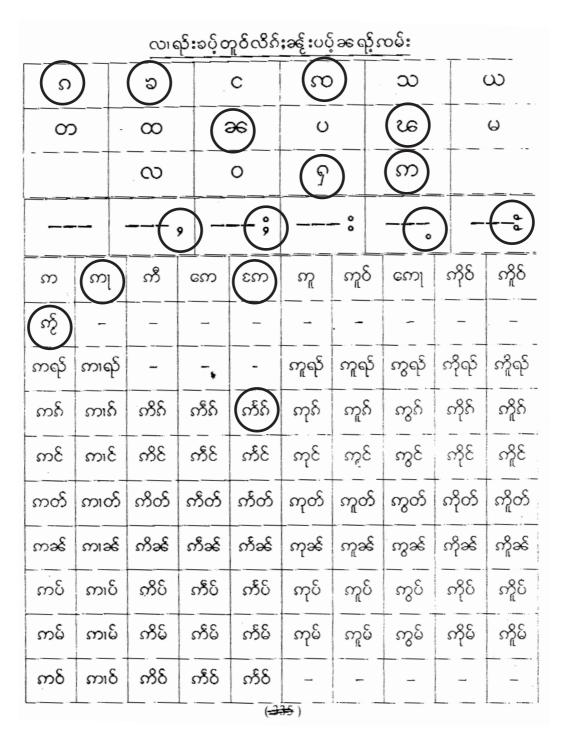


Figure 2. Sample from a Sung Sum's Shan dictionary, showing o letter shan ka, o letter shan ka, o letter shan na, c letter shan pha, o letter shan ha, o letter shan a, o, sign shan tone-2, o; sign shan tone-3, o. sign shan tone-5, and o sign shan tone-6, o lowel sign shan aa, c vowel sign shan e, c consonant sign shan medial wa, b vowel sign shan e above,

$\omega - \omega$

the eleventh letter of the Shan alphabet, the fourth in the class of aspirated consonants and the second in the class of labials. Up, which is in the class of labiodental, is the twelfth letter of the new Shan alphabet, and the usage of up or up is determined by the dialect of the region.

Figure 3. Sample from Sao Tern Moeng 1995 showing alternate glyphs for & LETTER SHAN PHA and & LETTER SHAN FA.



Figure 4. Sample from a Shan Council reader, showing \circ SIGN SHAN COUNCIL EMPHATIC TONE (in the three examples to the right) and \circ SIGN SHAN COUNCIL TONE-4 (in the example to the left).

ရာမဲင့်တအာင်း

ချွေးတဲ့မ် -အိုက်လွယ်ကန်

ခည်တလည်းခြူဝ်းမျိုးအဲတအာင်း အဲဂေါည်းဒေးပါ ချိုင်ကဒည်အာရှတိုက် ပါနောဂေါည်းဇား မွန်ဂို အမိုးအနောည် မွန်ဂိုလွိုက်အုပ်စု မွန်ဗမာ အဲဂီဟာည်, ဒီပေန်အေမ်းကတာည်းဒီပဲနဲး တာ်တီ, ဆမ့်အဲဟိုမ်းအဲဟာ, စီဖလ်ပ့်စာမ်းလား; ပါကိုင်းခယ်လေး, ဟာဝ်းညျာပစာန်း အေမ်း ယန်စီကျန် စီလေး, တယ်လာ်း ကိုင်းတန်ဟောင်။ စလာဘိုးပဒီး ဟာဝ်းလာ်းပစာန်းဗန်းတိုက် ယူနန်ပြည်နယ် ကိုင်းမုန့်ပန်း၊ မုန့်ရန့်၊ ပေါက်ဆန်၊ လိင်ချမ်း၊ ကျန်းခမ်း၊ တက်ဟုန်ကျို ရီမ်းကိုင်းမန်စီ (ဗေင်လာ) အိုင်ဇူးဟိုနတင် လှင့်စာင်ဟောင် ဂေါည်းစောတ်လေးရှိ တောန်းဒီ။ ကလင်္ကြးချိုးမာ်းဟည့်ရာန်, ကမာ်းဟာဝ်း။

အနောည်မွန် ဂို အလွိုက်ခြူင်းတအာင်းအဲစလားပါနောင်္ဂေါည်း စားမွန်ဂိုစီလေပ့်ဂေါည်းလားပါ အရှေ့တောင်အာရှ။ ဓါည်းဒီးအဲစီဟာည်, ဘိုးဒီပေန်ပဲန်းတာ်အဲဟိုမ်း ဇိုင့်ကည့်အိုင် ဟာည်းဒီဇာကျာက်တမာည်းအိုင် ဒဲင့် ဆိုက်ဒဲဝ့်နာန်း စီလောင်တော, လေးလာ့်အေမ့်တမာင်း ကာည်းအေမ်း သံလွင် ကဲအီလောင်လေးတော, အေမိတမာင်း လေပံ့ဟာင်းခေင်းကိုင့်အိုင်ဘျာန်း ဂေါည်းလေးလာ်း ပါဟောင်ကိုင်းချေမ်း လှင်နမ့်ခမ်း၊ မူဆယ်၊ ကိုတဲ့ခါည်၊ လားဆေဝ်၊ နံမ့်မတူ၊ မာန်တုံ၊ နမ့်ဆန်၊ ဆီပေါ၊ ကျောက်မဲ၊ မိူင်းကုတ်၊ မိူင်းမေတဲ့ ဂေါည်းဟာင်း ကပ့်တော်သီနိန်ဒီး။

အီလောင်လော,လေ ;အေမ်း သံလွင် ကဲရှိဝ်း စီဂေါည်းဟာဝ်းညှာ ဗန်းခောက် ကိုင်းချွှေမ်း လှင့်မှိုင်းယာင်း၊ မိုင်းခါက်၊ ကျဲင့်တုန်၊ မိုင်းကိုင်၊ လဲရွှား၊ စေးတီး၊ မာန်တမ်၊ မိုင်းနောင်း၊ မိုးနဲ၊ ရပ်စောပ်၊ ကလော၊ အောင်ပါန်း၊ ပိင့်တိယ ဂေါည်းဟာဝ်းကံပ်တော်အိုင်ဒီ;နီး။

အနောည်ကတူရ် အမျိုး ဆာမ်လုံ ကဲစီခူည်းလေး ထူင်းမှေမ်းတအာင်း တော,လေးလာ်းချောင်း အေ့မ်တမာဝ်း စီလေးတယ်လာ်း ကိုင်းပါ နမ့်ဆန် ဂေါည်းအုန်း ကံပ့်တော်အိုင်ဒီ,နီး။

Figure 5. Sample from a Rumai Palaung reader published in 2005, showing ⊖ LETTER RUMAI PALAUNG FA alongside :: MYANMAR SIGN DOT BELOW (Rumai Palaung tone 1), :: MYANMAR SIGN VISARGA (Rumai Palaung tone 3), :, SIGN SHAN TONE-2 (Rumai Palaung tone 4), :; SIGN SHAN TONE-3 (Rumai Palaung tone 5), and :; SIGN RUMAI PALAUNG TONE-6.

TABLE XX - Row 10: MYANMAR

	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109
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2	C	3	ဢ	े	J	C	ា		ै	
3	ಬ	9	33	©	9	೮	ာ		್ಕ	
4	С	န	<u></u>	6	9	е	ា		్ర	
5	0	O	വ	်	၅	e		Ω		
6	8	O	വേ	ं	G	ు		ವಿ	٥.	
7	0	Ŋ	00		5	ು		8	~~~	
8	စု	ဘ	ල		0	ಿಲ		ရာ	्	
9	ဉ	a	ဩ	[၉	ಿಂ		æ	0	
Α	ည	ယ	ဪ	ိ	1	Ç		33	ႂ	
В	Se Company	ရ	ी	্য	II	ભુ		rg		
С	CJ	လ	ာ	្ន	COJ	0		ಖ		
D	ဍ	0	ိ	ွ	ଗ୍ର	Ja		ႁ		
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F	ന	ဟ	ု	ဿ	କ୍ଷ	ှ		ા		

G = 00 P = 00

TABLE XX - Row 10: MYANMAR

hex	Name	hex	Name
00 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 ABC DDEF 10 11 21 31 41 51 61 71 81 91 ABC DDEF 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22	MYANMAR LETTER KA MYANMAR LETTER KHA MYANMAR LETTER GA MYANMAR LETTER GA MYANMAR LETTER GA MYANMAR LETTER GA MYANMAR LETTER CHA MYANMAR LETTER CA MYANMAR LETTER CA MYANMAR LETTER JA MYANMAR LETTER JA MYANMAR LETTER NYA MYANMAR LETTER NYA MYANMAR LETTER NYA MYANMAR LETTER NYA MYANMAR LETTER THA MYANMAR LETTER THA MYANMAR LETTER THA MYANMAR LETTER DDA MYANMAR LETTER DA MYANMAR LETTER BA MYANMAR LETTER BA MYANMAR LETTER BHA MYANMAR LETTER BA M	59 55B 55C 55E 661 62 63 645 667 68 69 66E 701 72 37 75 77 77 78 81 82 83 84 85 87 88 98 88 89 99 99 99 99 99 99 99 99 99	MYANMAR LETTER MON NGA MYANMAR LETTER MON NGA MYANMAR LETTER MON BBE MYANMAR CONSONANT SIGN MON MEDIAL NA MYANMAR CONSONANT SIGN MON MEDIAL NA MYANMAR CONSONANT SIGN MON MEDIAL MA MYANMAR CONSONANT SIGN MON MEDIAL MA MYANMAR CONSONANT SIGN MON MEDIAL LA MYANMAR CONSONANT SIGN MON MEDIAL LA MYANMAR LETTER SGAW KAREN SHA MYANMAR SIGN SGAW KAREN HATHI MYANMAR SIGN SGAW KAREN HEPO (This position shall not be used)
Group 00		Diana 00	Pow

A. Administrative

1. Title

Proposal for encoding Myanmar characters for Shan and Palaung in the UCS.

2. Requester's name

UC Berkeley Script Encoding Initiative (Universal Scripts Project); authors: Michael Everson and Martin Hosken

3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution)

Liaison contribution.

4. Submission date

2006-09-08

- 5. Requester's reference (if applicable)
- 6. Choose one of the following:

6a. This is a complete proposal

Yes.

6b. More information will be provided later

Nο

B. Technical – General

1. Choose one of the following:

1a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters)

Nο

Proposed name of script

1b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block

Yes.

1c. Name of the existing block

Myanmar.

2. Number of characters in proposal

23

3. Proposed category (A-Contemporary; B.1-Specialized (small collection); B.2-Specialized (large collection); C-Major extinct; D-Attested extinct; E-Minor extinct; F-Archaic Hieroglyphic or Ideographic; G-Obscure or questionable usage symbols)

Category A.

4a. Proposed Level of Implementation (1, 2 or 3)

Level 2

4b. Is a rationale provided for the choice?

Yes.

4c. If YES, reference

Brahmic Level 2 implementation.

5a. Is a repertoire including character names provided?

Yes.

5b. If YES, are the names in accordance with the "character naming guidelines" in Annex L of P&P document?

Yes

5c. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review?

Yes.

6a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font (ordered preference: True Type, or PostScript format) for publishing the standard?

Michael Everson.

6b. If available now, identify source(s) for the font (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.) and indicate the tools used:

Michael Everson, Fontographer.

7a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?

No.

7b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of proposed characters attached?

Yes.

8. Special encoding issues: Does the proposal address other aspects of character data processing (if applicable) such as input, presentation, sorting, searching, indexing, transliteration etc. (if yes please enclose information)?

9. Additional Information: Submitters are invited to provide any additional information about Properties of the proposed Character(s) or Script that will assist in correct understanding of and correct linguistic processing of the proposed character(s) or script.

See above.

C. Technical – Justification

1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before? If YES, explain.

Yes, similar characters have been submitted before. See N2768, N3043, N3044, N3080

2a. Has contact been made to members of the user community (for example: National Body, user groups of the script or characters, other experts, etc.)?

Yes.

2b. If YES, with whom?

San Lwin (Director General, Myanmar Language Commission), Tun Tint (Myanmar Language Commission), Thein Oo (President, Myanmar Computer Federation), Kyaw Thein (Vice-President, Myanmar Computer Federation), Myint Myint Than (Director, Myanmar Computer Federation), Zaw Htut (Myanmar Computer Professional Association, Myanmar's NET), Htoo Myint Naung (MyMyanmar Project, Technomation Studios, Universities of Computer Studies Yangon), Myint Thu (MyMyanmar Project, Myanmar Heritage Publications), Ngwe Tun (Mon—Myanmar Computer Professional Association, Solveware Solution, Myanmar Info-Tech), Maung Maung Thant (Myanmar Computer Professional Association), Jai Pah Bung Mein (Shan—SSi Technologies), Saw Hare Sei (S'gaw Karen—Ayeyawady Data Centre), Saw Baldwin Khaing Oo (S'gaw Karen—Ayeyawady Data Centre), Nant Silver Tun (Western Pwo Karen—Pwo Kayin Conference), William Wai Lin Kyaw (Myanmar Computer Professional Association, Myanmar Linux Users Group), Ye Myat Thu (Alpha Mandalay, Alpha Info-Tech), Keith Stribley (Thanlwinsoft).

2c. If YES, available relevant documents

3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example: size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included?

People in Myanmar.

4a. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare)

Common.

4b. Reference

5a. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community?

Yes.

5b. If YES, where?

In Myanmar.

6a. After giving due considerations to the principles in the P&P document must the proposed characters be entirely in the BMP?

Yes.

6b. If YES, is a rationale provided?

Yes.

6c. If YES, reference

Contemporary use and accordance with the Roadmap.

7. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)?

N/A.

8a. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence?

8b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

Some of the Shan tone marks look superficially like punctuation marks, but they are combining characters and typically have a hollow dot.

8c. If YES, reference

9a. Can any of the proposed characters be encoded using a composed character sequence of either existing characters or other proposed characters?

No.

9b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

9c. If YES, reference

10a. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to an existing character?

Yes.

10b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

Yes.

10c. If YES, reference

See "Issues" above.

11a. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences?

Yes

11b. If YES, is a rationale for such use provided?

Yes.

11c. If YES, reference

Brahmic vowel and consonant signs.

 $11d. \ Is \ a \ list \ of \ composite \ sequences \ and \ their \ corresponding \ glyph \ images \ (graphic \ symbols) \ provided?$

Nο

11e. If YES, reference

12a. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as control function or similar semantics?

No.

12b. If YES, describe in detail (include attachment if necessary)

13a. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility character(s)?

No

13b. If YES, is the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic character(s) identified?