



Figure 1. The shape of AVAGRAH is different from what has been proposed in Unicode 4.0.0 Beta. The above figure is taken from Bangla Edition of Srimod Bhagawath Geeta. The two positions of AVAGRAH is marked by rectangles.

Addition of “Bengali Letter YA-PHALAA” to the Bengali Block

Introduction

This character য় (YA-phalaa) is proposed with U09FB code. This character is a presentation form of the character য (YA, U+09AF). It takes this shape depending upon the context. This is one of the most frequent characters (19th Position) with frequency 1.44%. It could be applied to nominal form of any consonant or conjunct or even to the vowel. Application of this character may either bring in repetitive sound or 'ya'-ness of the character it is applied to. Though it is a presentation form of an existing character, it should be treated like a separate character because of the two reasons.

Reason I

This character may appear along with a vowel where the conjunct formation rules cannot be applied. As for example:

অ + য + া --> অ্যা

Reason II

Apart from that, রা (RA, U+09B0) and য (YA, U+09AF) combination has two different conjunct forms:

র + য --> র্য

র + য --> র্যা

Using the same conjunct rule both of them cannot be formed. If it is treated as a combining character, rather than an original form of YA, both of these issues could be solved.