

To: UTC

From: Deborah Anderson, SEI, UC Berkeley

Date: 6 August 2007

RE: Shaping behavior of Burushaski characters and other Arabic additions in L2/06-149

In response to the Unicore email from Bob Hallissey dated Fri Jul 13 2007 (and a response by Ken Whistler), I have checked with the proposal author, Elena Bashir, on the Arabic shaping behavior properties for the characters in document. Based on her input, the following two characters should have their ArabicShaping.txt entries changed in the 5.1 version (contained in <http://www.unicode.org/Public/5.1.0/ucd/ArabicShaping-5.1.0d1.txt>) from "R" to "D":

077A; YEH BARREE WITH DIGIT TWO ABOVE; R; YEH BARREE

077B; YEH BARREE WITH DIGIT THREE ABOVE; R; YEH BARREE

Dr. Bashir reports in an email to me dated 6 August 2007:

The linking behavior of these characters follows the same pattern as do the basic Perso-Arabic characters. There are no characters which join only from the left. The characters which join only from the right are those which belong to the shape classes of alif, re, dal, and the single letter waw. All the other letters can join from both right and left. Note especially that this applies to the characters based on BaRi heh as well.

The characters based on YEH BARREE should join both on the right and left. This is because this character is also used for the medial sound [e], not only for final [e] as in Urdu. The fact that most fonts have this character joining only on the right is causing lots of problems for us in our Pashto and Khowar online dictionaries in the DSAL project.

She is having her collaborator double-check the entries.

Current entries

076E; HAH WITH SMALL TAH BELOW; D; HAH

076F; HAH WITH SMALL TAH AND 2 DOTS; D; HAH

0770; SEEN WITH SMALL TAH AND 2 DOTS; D; SEEN

0771; REH WITH SMALL TAH AND 2 DOTS; R; REH

0772; HAH WITH SMALL TAH ABOVE; D; HAH

0773; ALEF WITH DIGIT TWO ABOVE; R; ALEF

0774; ALEF WITH DIGIT THREE ABOVE; R; ALEF

0775; DOTLESS YEH WITH DIGIT TWO ABOVE; D; YEH

0776; DOTLESS YEH WITH DIGIT THREE ABOVE; D; YEH

0777; DOTLESS YEH WITH DIGIT FOUR BELOW; D; YEH

0778; WAW WITH DIGIT TWO ABOVE; R; WAW

0779; WAW WITH DIGIT THREE ABOVE; R; WAW

077A; YEH BARREE WITH DIGIT TWO ABOVE; R; YEH BARREE

077B; YEH BARREE WITH DIGIT THREE ABOVE; R; YEH BARREE

077C; HAH WITH DIGIT FOUR BELOW; D; HAH

077D; SEEN WITH DIGIT FOUR ABOVE; D; SEEN