Sociolinguistic background Introduction

The Miao nationality is one of the minorities in China that have a relatively large and scattered population with a long history. According to China's fifth population census conducted in 2000, the Miao population in China numbered 8,940,116, mainly distributed in provinces and regions like Guizhou, Hunan, Yunnan, Sichuan, and Guangxi. According to Chinese historical records, the Miao nationality originally lived in the vicinity of China's Yellow River basin. For various reasons, they later migrated to China's southwest. Some even dispersed to Southeast Asia, Europe and America. According to legend, the Miao people had once had their own script, but it was lost during migration.

The Northeastern Yunnan Simple Miao script (hereafter called the "Simple Miao script") was designed for those Miao people known as Dahua Miao 大花苗 ("Big Flowery Miao") living in northwestern Guizhou Province and northeastern Yunnan Province in China. According to linguistic survey analysis, the Miao language is divided into three dialects: the Western Hunan dialect, the Eastern Guizhou dialect, and the Sichuan-Guizhou-Yunnan dialect. The last of these is further divided into the Sichuan-Guizhou-Yunnan sub-dialect, the Northeastern Yunnan sub-dialect, and the Guiyang sub-dialect. Significant differences among these Miao dialects and sub-dialects render them mutually unintelligible. The Northeastern Yunnan dialect is the one spoken by the Dahua Miao, whose population is estimated at about 500,000.

The Simple Miao script was created by British missionary Samuel Pollard, who went to preach in the areas of Zhaotong in Yunnan and Weining in Guizhou in early 20th century, together with Miao and Han intellectuals Yang Yage, Zhang Yuehan, and Stephen Li. This script adopted some of the Cree letters used in northeastern Canada as well as some Miao pictographs, and so it is a unique script deserving separate encoding.
After creating the Simple Miao script, Pollard and his associates promoted its use by establishing schools in the areas of Weining, Guizhou and Zhaotong, Yunnan such that many Miao people came to master this script. Impact was so extensive that even the Yi people and the Lisu people in the areas of Kunming and Luquan used this script to write their language. In 1905, Pollard and his associates edited and published "Hua Miao Book I" and "Hua Miao Book II" in the Simple Miao script. In 1916, British pastor Wang Shude and Yang Yage of the Miao people group started out from Shimenkan in Weining, Guizhou and traveled through Kunming, Hanoi, Hong Kong, and Shanghai to reach Yokohama in Japan to make copper type for Simple Miao characters. After returning to China, they translated and published books like the "New Testament" and "Ancient Songs". In early versions of the Simple Miao script, tones were specified with vowel marks to the upper right, right, lower right and other positions of the consonant. As this caused inconvenience in typesetting, in the 1950s Yang Rongxin and other Miao people in Weining, Guizhou started to improve the script. They designed letters for tones, placing them all to the lower right of the consonant. In the 1980s, Miao intellectuals in areas like Kunming and Chuxiong further improved Yang Rongxin's revision and created the "Normalized Miao script". Script use was promoted with the translation and publication of the "Miao-Chinese Concise Dictionary", the Miao-Chinese textbook series "Language" for Primary 1-3 students, and other literature, with as many as 10,000 copies printed. In Guizhou and Yunnan, it is estimated that tens of thousands of people are currently using this script.

It has been more than 100 years since the creation of the Simple Miao script. It is generally endorsed by those Miao people speaking the Northeastern Yunnan sub-dialect. During the process of its development and use, several revisions were made leading to the existence of different versions. However, they were all based on the original foundation using the same alphabet system. Users who have mastered one version can quickly learn to read another. Therefore, different versions can be unified in encoding.

**Script name**

The common English name for the Simple Miao script is the Pollard script. The name registered in ISO 15924 is “Pollard Phonetic” with the code “Plrd”. However, this name is not correct given Samuel Pollard was not the only person who created the script. In fact, many of the world's scripts are not named after a person. Most importantly, compared to the Romanized Miao script created in the 1950s to write the Northeastern Yunnan Miao sub-dialect, this script is considered easy to learn and master by the Miao people. It is thus fitting to call it the "Northeastern Yunnan Simple Miao script", which the Miao nationality gladly accepts. Therefore, we believe we should respect the
preference of the Miao people and name the script accordingly. As for the name "Pollard Phonetic" registered in ISO 15924, it should be changed to "Northeastern Yunnan Simple Miao".

**Script Description**

**Syllable Component Order**

The Simple Miao script is used for tonal languages. All syllables are of the form C V (V) T

Each syllable is divided into an initial and a final. The initial is the initial consonant and the final consists of the vowel cluster and the tone. Nasalization and voicing are considered as initial rather than final.

**Marking of the linguistic qualities of syllable initials**

It is possible to know linguistic characteristics of the consonant by some of the marks contained within the letters. The people who use the script view the entire combination of marks in the syllable initial as a single character, so it would be wrong to break the initial characters apart into grapheme clusters. In contrast the users of the script view the separate vowel sounds and tone characters of the syllable finals as separate characters.

**Character storage order**

The placement of the tone marker is arbitrary. Both CTV(V) and CV(V)T are possible in the 1936 recension. However, to keep the storage order in the 1936 recension consistent with the 1988 recension visual order, it is proposed that the tone be stored as the last character in the syllable.

**Tone marking – tone categories or tone values**

The 1936 recension uses tone positions to express tone categories. These positions are named as if the initial character was a body: head, shoulder, waist, and foot. There are also numbers that correspond to the positions.

The reformed, New Miao and 1988 Chuxiong recension scripts mark actual tone values. These values are numbered. Tone values have graphical representation (except for one which is unmarked), but the representation used is not consistent across the different reformed versions. While the graphical shape is not completely consistent, the tone number and values do map across all versions. Therefore the graphical variations in the various reformed and 1988 versions should be treated as font issues.
Fifth tone category

Originally Pollard used five locations for the tone categories. As the script was refined the fifth position underneath the initial, called the “floor” position, was dropped in most areas. But in some Miao dialects the fifth tone category still exists. A code point is included for this floor position for historical documents, or in case some dialect needs a fifth tone category. See illustration 1 below.

Punctuation

Users of the Simple Miao script freely use the same punctuation marks as Chinese and Latin. No new encodings for punctuation are required. Often texts use underlines, double underlines, and wavy underlines to distinguish names of people, place names and book titles, but this is a word processing attribute and not an encoding issue.

Music notation

Users of the Simple Miao script use the same musical notation of numbers, dots and dashes that is common in China. Often particular letters designed by Pollard are used for the scale in place of the numbers. Sometimes symbols resembling Lisu tone marks are used instead. No additional encodings are required for musical notation if Lisu tone symbols are adopted into the standards.

Line-breaking

Line breaks occur in place of spaces or after punctuation. A line break may not be inserted between any Simple Miao character, or before punctuation. There is no line breaking hyphenation.

Word breaking

Word breaking occurs only before a consonant. Syllables of consonant, vowels and tone are never split.

Archaic experimental or rare characters

There are some rare characters that were used in some of the experimental reform scripts. It is assumed that these characters are archaic. Enwall (1994b) has an excellent treatment of the history of these experimental reforms. It is possible that since hundreds or as many as tens of thousands of people were taught these reformed scripts that they may not truly be dead writing systems. These few characters are not encoded because they were experimental and no publishing used these characters.
Viability of the script

The script is vibrant, living and showing no signs of dying. Usage continues to grow both within the many Miao dialects, and also is spreading into different ethnic groups. The Basic Multilingual Plane (BMP) would be the appropriate place to encode it if space allows.

Composites with “wart”

There is a mark called a “wart” in English. This is only known to be extant in relatively recent A-Hmao writings. There are two graphical forms, a “left” and a “right”. Both of these forms represent the same function and sometimes vary predictably depending on the shape of the character it appears in, but there is a great deal of regional variation. By default, the “wart” is applied to the left side so it is not confused with a vowel. If the base grapheme is hollow on the right side, the “wart” sometimes is applied to the right to reduce space used in printing.

The “wart” is said to represent a “reduced stress”, and is almost certainly a different way to represent the dot-like mark in “half-voiced” characters of the Chuxiong style of the Simple Miao script. The dot-like mark containing characters and “wart” characters are never used together. Separate code points are not required for the “wart”-containing characters, since they are a style difference from the dot-like containing characters. The “wart” and “dot-like” mark are unified because the differences are visual, that is, these differences are font implementation issues and not encoding issues. See the illustration below.

Encoding order

There is wide variation in collating order. Even with the more comprehensive Chuxiong 1988 recension where there is a definite collating order prescribed, there is frequently variation in the order where the “Y” character should be in the order. This sequence is close to the 1936 style sequence that is taught in government schools in Guizhou province. Following the 1988 style sequence (initials then vowels), the tone value and tone category markers are included.

Need for space for additional characters

Because the consonants have visually encoded within them certain linguistic features, and since only those values that are actually used are encoded, the script might logically expand. For this reason it is recommended that a few code points be reserved beyond the space required for this proposal. The reasonable argument for keeping the additional code points fairly low is that the 1988 recension is quite extensive, and is likely to cover most requirements from a language found in South West China.
### Suggested encoding

#### Suggested names list

Names use the equivalent New Miao writing where possible, but there is not a one-to-one mapping between the Latin based New Miao writing and the Simple Miao script. For example, New Miao writing uses nothing where the Simple Miao script uses “Y” to carry other characteristics of the syllable, such as nasalization and voicing. This mismatch between the reasoning of the different scripts leaves these names particularly arbitrary. Due to regional accent variations, there is also inconsistency between different sources.

#### Suggested names list

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<th>Offset</th>
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0015 ＣULLET  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NZH
0016 ㎝ハ’  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NZH STRESSED
0017 ㎝ㆦ’  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NCH
0018 _RTC  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER TC
0019 _RTC’  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER TC STRESSED
001A _RTC’  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER Q
001B ＣReset  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NJ
001C 昶’  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NJ STRESSED
001D 昶’  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NQ
001E Ｊ  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER DL
          → U+1403 CANADIAN SYLLABICS I
001F 叆’  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER DL STRESSED
0020 _RTC’  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER TL
0021 昶Da  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NDL
0022 昶Da’  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NDL STRESSED
0023 昶Da’  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NTL
0024 Ｊ  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER TL PALATALIZED
0025 ᠠ’  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER DL PALATALIZED STRESSED
0026 🖑  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER DL PALATALIZED
0027 ＲDa  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NTL PALATALIZED
0028 昶Da’  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NDL PALATALIZED STRESSED
0029 昶Da’  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NTL PALATALIZED
002A  昀  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER Z
002B  المالية  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER C STRESSED
002C  المالية’  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER C
002D  Ct  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NZ
002E  Ct'  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NC STRESSED
002F  Ct'  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NC
0030  T  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER Q
0031  T'  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER DR STRESSED
0032  T'  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER TR
0033  Ct  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NTR
0034  Ct'  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NTR STRESSED
0035  Ct'  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NDR
0036  y  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER H
0037  y'  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER H STRESSED
0038  y'  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER H ASPIRATED
0039  Cy  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NH
003A  Cy'  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NH STRESSED
003B  Cy'  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER NH ASPIRATED
003C  v  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER V
       → U+142F CANADIAN SYLLABICS PE
003D  v'  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER V STRESSED
003E  v'  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER V ASPIRATED
003F  a  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER Y
       → U+1431 CANADIAN SYLLABICS PAAI
0040  a'  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER Y STRESSED
0041  a'  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER Y ASPIRATED
0042  a  SIMPLE MIAO LETTER ZTL
       → U+15C5 CANADIAN SYLLABICS GHO
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SIMPLE MIAO LETTER S

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER F

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER H

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER R OTHER

- Only used for loan words in contrast with 3

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER W

→ U+144C CANADIAN SYLLABICS TE

(Reserved for future use)

(Reserved for future use)

(Reserved for future use)

(Reserved for future use)

(Reserved for future use)

(Reserved for future use)

Vowels

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER A

→ U+1428 CANADIAN SYLLABICS FINAL SHORT HORIZONTAL STROKE

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER O

→ U+1424 CANADIAN SYLLABICS FINAL RING

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER E

→ U+1548 CANADIAN SYLLABICS RI

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER I

→ U+1422 CANADIAN SYLLABICS FINAL TOP HALF RING

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER U

→ U+14D1 CANADIAN SYLLABICS CARRIER NG

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER YU

→ U+1423 CANADIAN SYLLABICS FINAL RIGHT HALF RING

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER AI

→ U+144A CANADIAN SYLLABICS WEST CREE P
SIMPLE MIAO LETTER EI

- The shape of this letter has become more angular since 1936.
- This sound cannot be uniquely expressed in New Miao writing. The Hanyu pinyin characters are used for the name.

→ U+14A1 CANADIAN SYLLABICS C

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER AO

→ U+1426 CANADIAN SYLLABICS FINAL SHORT VERTICAL STROKES

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER EU

→ U+154B CANADIAN SYLLABICS RA

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER W

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER AN

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER ANG

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER IE

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER IU

- Some sources claim IOU, this spelling is consistent with Hanyu pinyin)

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER YU

- This sound is written as 'I' in New Miao writing.

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER I

- Note that TONE VALUE 5 has the same shape

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER IA

→ U+1546 CANADIAN SYLLABICS RI

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER UA

→ U+1543 CANADIAN SYLLABICS RE

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER EN

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER ENG

- Only used with Chinese borrow words.
- Possible alternative representation style

SIMPLE MIAO LETTER ANG

- Only used in combination with other vowels

(Reserved for future use)

(Reserved for future use)

(Reserved for future use)

(Reserved for future use)
008B (Reserved for future use)
008C (Reserved for future use)
008D (Reserved for future use)
008E (Reserved for future use)
008F (Reserved for future use)

**Tone value markers**

0090 • SIMPLE MIAO TONE VALUE 1
  • This character has no graphical value.
0091 □ SIMPLE MIAO TONE VALUE 2
0092 △ SIMPLE MIAO TONE VALUE 3
0093 □ SIMPLE MIAO TONE VALUE 4
0094 △ SIMPLE MIAO TONE VALUE 5
0095 □ SIMPLE MIAO TONE VALUE 6
0096 △ SIMPLE MIAO TONE VALUE 7
0097 □ SIMPLE MIAO TONE VALUE 8

**Tone category markers**

0098 • SIMPLE MIAO TONE CATEGORY HEAD
0099 □ SIMPLE MIAO TONE CATEGORY SHOULDER
009A □ SIMPLE MIAO TONE CATEGORY WAIST
009B □ SIMPLE MIAO TONE CATEGORY FOOT
009C □ SIMPLE MIAO TONE CATEGORY FLOOR
009D (Reserved for future use)
009E (Reserved for future use)
009F (Reserved for future use)

**Suggested Unicode character properties**

Relative offset is used for the code point in this table.

0000;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER B;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
0001;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER B STRESSED;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
0002;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER P;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
0003;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER PB;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
0004;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER ND;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
0005;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER ND STRESSED;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
005B;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER HNGG;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
005C;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER HNGG ASPIRATED;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
005D;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER HX;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
005E;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER J STRESSED;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
005F;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER Q;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0060;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER SH;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
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0062;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER S;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0063;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER F;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0064;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER H;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0065;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER R OTHER;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0066;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER W;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0067; (Reserved for future use)
0068; (Reserved for future use)
0069; (Reserved for future use)
006A; (Reserved for future use)
006B; (Reserved for future use)
006C; (Reserved for future use)
006D; (Reserved for future use)
006E; (Reserved for future use)
006F; (Reserved for future use)
0070;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER A;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0071;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER O;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0072;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER E;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0073;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER I;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0074;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER U;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0075;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER YU;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0076;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER AI;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0077;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER EI;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0078;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER AO;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0079;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER EU;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
007A;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER A;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
007B;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER W;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
007C;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER AN;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
007D;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER ANG;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
007E;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER IE;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
007F;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER IU;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0080;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER YU;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0081;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER IA;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0082;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER IA;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0083;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER IA;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0084;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER EN;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0085;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER ANG;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0086;SIMPLE MIAO LETTER ANG;Lo;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0087; (Reserved for future use)
0088; (Reserved for future use)
0089; (Reserved for future use)
008A; (Reserved for future use)
008B; (Reserved for future use)
008C; (Reserved for future use)
008D; (Reserved for future use)
008E; (Reserved for future use)
008F; (Reserved for future use)
0090;SIMPLE MIAO TONE VALUE 1;Mc;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0091;SIMPLE MIAO TONE VALUE 2;Mc;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0092;SIMPLE MIAO TONE VALUE 3;Mc;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0093;SIMPLE MIAO TONE VALUE 4;Mc;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0094;SIMPLE MIAO TONE VALUE 5;Mc;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0095;SIMPLE MIAO TONE VALUE 6;Mc;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0096;SIMPLE MIAO TONE VALUE 7;Mc;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0097;SIMPLE MIAO TONE VALUE 8;Mc;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0098;SIMPLE MIAO TONE CATEGORY HEAD;Mn;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
0099;SIMPLE MIAO TONE CATEGORY SHOULDER;Mn;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
009A;SIMPLE MIAO TONE CATEGORY WAIST;Mn;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
009B;SIMPLE MIAO TONE CATEGORY FOOT;Mn;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
009C;SIMPLE MIAO TONE CATEGORY FLOOR;Mn;0:L;;;;;N;;;;;
009D; (Reserved for future use)
009E; (Reserved for future use)
009F; (Reserved for future use)

Bibliography


Unknown editors (1984), “Black Yi songbook”. Yunnan Sheng Jidujiao Xiehui 云南省基督教协会 “Yunnan Province Christian Association”.

Unknown editors (unknown), “White Yi songbook”, Yunnan Sheng Jidujiao Xiehui 云南省基督教协会 “Yunnan Province Christian Association”.
Illustrations

Illustration 1: Chart of complete Chuxiong Simple Miao script system. (Wang Yangcai, 2005).


Illustration 6: Musical notation with Simple Miao letters replacing the numbers in Bai Yi hymnal.
Illustration 7: (Left) “Hymnbook is Lakkia” from Cambridge University Library showing the “floor” fifth tone category. Illustration 8: (Right) “John in Laka” from Cambridge University Library showing the “floor” fifth tone category.
### A. Administrative

1. **Title:** Preliminary proposal for encoding the Northeastern Yunnan Simple Miao script  
2. **Requester's name:** China  
3. **Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution):** Member body  
4. **Submission date:** 2007-09-14  
5. **Requester's reference (if applicable):** CN/07-007  
6. **Choose one of the following:**  
   - This is a complete proposal:  
     - No  
   - (or) More information will be provided later:  
     - Yes

### B. Technical – General

1. **Proposed name of script:** Northeastern Yunnan Simple Miao  
2. **Number of characters in proposal:** 139  
3. **Proposed category (select one from below - see section 2.2 of P&P document):**  
   - 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

4. **Is a repertoire including character names provided?** Yes  
   - a. If YES, are the names in accordance with the “character naming guidelines” in Annex L of P&P document?  
     - Yes  
   - b. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review?  
     - Yes

5. **Who will provide the appropriate computerized font (ordered preference: True Type, or PostScript format) for publishing the standard?** David Morse  
   - If available now, identify source(s) for the font (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.) and indicate the tools used:

6. **References:**  
   - a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?  
     - Yes  
   - b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of proposed characters attached?  
     - Yes

7. **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)?  
     - Addressed throughout proposal

### 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. Examples of such properties are: Casing information, Numeric information, Currency information, Display behaviour information such as line breaks, widths etc., Combining behaviour, Spacing behaviour, Directional behaviour, Default Collation behaviour, relevance in Mark Up contexts, Compatibility equivalence and other Unicode normalization related information. See the Unicode standard at [http://www.unicode.org](http://www.unicode.org) for such information on other scripts. Also see [http://www.unicode.org/Public/UNIDATA/UCD.html](http://www.unicode.org/Public/UNIDATA/UCD.html) and associated Unicode Technical Reports for information needed for consideration by the Unicode Technical Committee for inclusion in the Unicode Standard.
### C. Technical - Justification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If YES explain</td>
<td>Preliminary proposal by Jenkins (L2/97-104) has not moved forward for 10 years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Has contact been made to members of the user community (for example: National Body, user groups of the script or characters, other experts, etc.)?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If YES, with whom?</td>
<td>Yunnan Minority Language Commission, David Morse, Joakim Enwall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example: size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference:</td>
<td>See Sociolinguistic background Introduction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare)</td>
<td>common</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference:</td>
<td>Scriptures, dictionaries, song books, textbooks…</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If YES, where? Reference:</td>
<td>Northeastern Yunnan, China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. After giving due considerations to the principles in the P&amp;P document must the proposed characters be entirely in the BMP?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If YES, is a rationale provided?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If YES, reference:</td>
<td>Vibrancy and size of potential user community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If YES, reference:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Can any of the proposed characters be encoded using a composed character sequence of either existing characters or other proposed characters?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If YES, reference:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to an existing character?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If YES, reference:</td>
<td>Although some appear similar to Cree letters, this is a different script altogether with different behaviours. Hence, it would be best to encode them as a block</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If YES, is a rationale for such use provided?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If YES, reference:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as control function or similar semantics?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If YES, describe in detail (include attachment if necessary)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility character(s)?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If YES, is the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic character(s) identified?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If YES, reference:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>