

Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set
International Organization for Standardization
Organisation Internationale de Normalisation
Международная организация по стандартизации

Doc Type: Working Group Document

Title: Preliminary proposal for encoding the Meroitic script in the SMP of the UCS

Source: Michael Everson

Status: Individual Contribution

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

Date: 2008-08-04

This document replaces N2134 (1999-10-02), N1638 (1997-09-18), and contains the proposal summary form.

1. Introduction. The Meroitic script appeared with the rise of the Meroitic Kingdom in the third century BCE, though Egyptian writing (both hieroglyphic and demotic) would certainly have been known and was used previously in the Nubian city of Meroë, a city which is about 6 km north-east of the modern Kabushiya station near Shendi, Sudan, about 200 km north-east of modern Khartoum. Meroitic was used until some time after the fall of the Meroitic Empire in the first half of the fourth century CE. The values of the script's characters are known, but the language itself remains unknown, apart from names and a few other words.

2. Structure. The script has a monumental form, derived from Egyptian Hieroglyphs, and a cursive form, derived from Egyptian Demotic, which was used considerably more frequently than the monumental form. Although there is a one-to-one relationship between Hieroglyphic Meroitic and Demotic Meroitic, the argument that the two should be treated as font variants is not compelling. Publications which cite Meroitic in the original script rather than in transliteration regularly preserve the distinction between Hieroglyphic and Demotic.

It is worth noting that while Hieroglyphic Egyptian and Hieratic Egyptian are unifiable with one another, Demotic Egyptian is not unifiable with either. Meroitic is *typically* written in its Demotic form. Not a single glyph between Hieroglyphic Meroitic and Demotic Meroitic is similar enough to its counterpart to indicate a “glyph variation” relationship as such a relationship is typically understood. Again, the Hieratic vs. Demotic distinction applies. Like Old Nuskhuri Georgian and modern Mkhedruli Georgian, the Meroitic script is really two scripts used for the same language. Scholars need to be able to distinguish, in plain text, Hieroglyphic Meroitic from Demotic Meroitic.

3. Directionality. The primary direction of writing is right-to-left as for Egyptian texts, though (as for Egyptian) left-to-right is used decoratively in hieroglyphic columns. Egyptian has both right-to-left and left-to-right directionality; Egyptian has been encoded with left-to-right directionality as this is the predominant modern usage for Egyptian text—but for Meroitic right-to-left directionality is preferred, in part because no bilingual texts have come to light. Unlike Egyptian, where one reads into the faces of the people and animals, in Meroitic, the reading direction follows the way the people and animals are looking.

4. Punctuation. Word dividers are employed more or less regularly. [TO BE DESCRIBED AND ENUMERATED.]

5. Numbers. Meroitic numbers are fairly well known. Ones, tens, hundreds, and thousands are known; characters for 60, 90, and 900 are not yet known; neither are the numbers for 4,000, 6,000, 7,000, 8,000, and 9,000, though the number for 10,000 is cited in secondary literature (a number chart, see Figure 4). There is a system to the number shapes, as there are in Egyptian Hieratic, so gaps have been left in the code table for the numbers as yet unattested.

6. Names and ordering. Most of the Meroitic letters have readings with an inherent *-a* (unless a vowel follows the consonant), though those letters may also represent their consonant without the *-a* vowel.

7. Issues. Twenty-four symbols are given in the attached code table. A number of these are known to be used in conjunction with numbers and are perhaps determinatives of different types of goods. A number of these with very similar glyphs may not be unique characters at all. Further study of these is required.

8. Unicode Character Properties.

10980;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER A;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10981;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER E;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10982;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER I;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10983;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER O;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10984;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER YA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10985;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER WA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10986;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER BA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10987;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER BA-2;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10988;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER PA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10989;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER MA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
1098A;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER NA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
1098B;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER NA-2;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
1098C;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER NE;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
1098D;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER NE-2;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
1098E;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER RA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
1098F;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER RA-2;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10990;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER LA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10991;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER KHA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10992;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER HHA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10993;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER SA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10994;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER SA-2;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10995;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER SE;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10996;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER KA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10997;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER QA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10998;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER TA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10999;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER TA-2;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
1099A;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER TE;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
1099B;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER TE-2;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
1099C;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER TO;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
1099D;MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER DA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
1099E;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER A;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
1099F;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER E;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
109A0;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER I;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
109A1;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER O;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
109A2;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER YA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
109A3;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER WA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
109A4;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER BA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
109A5;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER PA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
109A6;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER MA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
109A7;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER NA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
109A8;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER NE;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
109A9;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER RA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
109AA;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER LA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
109AB;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER KHA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
109AC;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER HHA;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;

109AD;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER SA;Lo;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109AE;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER SE;Lo;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109AF;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER KA;Lo;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109B0;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER QA;Lo;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109B1;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER TA;Lo;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109B2;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER TE;Lo;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109B3;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER TO;Lo;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109B4;MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER DA;Lo;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109B5;MEROITIC FRACTION ONE HALF;No;0;R;;;;;1/2;N;;;;;
109B6;MEROITIC FRACTION ONE TENTH;No;0;R;;;;;1/10;N;;;;;
109B7;MEROITIC FRACTION TWO TENTHS;No;0;R;;;;;2/10;N;;;;;
109B8;MEROITIC FRACTION THREE TENTHS;No;0;R;;;;;3/10;N;;;;;
109B9;MEROITIC FRACTION FOUR TENTHS;No;0;R;;;;;4/10;N;;;;;
109BA;MEROITIC FRACTION FIVE TENTHS;No;0;R;;;;;5/10;N;;;;;
109BB;MEROITIC FRACTION SIX TENTHS;No;0;R;;;;;6/10;N;;;;;
109BC;MEROITIC FRACTION SEVEN TENTHS;No;0;R;;;;;7/10;N;;;;;
109BD;MEROITIC FRACTION EIGHT TENTHS;No;0;R;;;;;8/10;N;;;;;
109BE;MEROITIC FRACTION NINE TENTHS;No;0;R;;;;;9/10;N;;;;;
109BF;MEROITIC NUMBER ONE;No;0;R;;;;;1;N;;;;;
109C0;MEROITIC NUMBER TWO;No;0;R;;;;;2;N;;;;;
109C1;MEROITIC NUMBER THREE;No;0;R;;;;;3;N;;;;;
109C2;MEROITIC NUMBER FOUR;No;0;R;;;;;4;N;;;;;
109C3;MEROITIC NUMBER FIVE;No;0;R;;;;;5;N;;;;;
109C4;MEROITIC NUMBER SIX;No;0;R;;;;;6;N;;;;;
109C5;MEROITIC NUMBER SEVEN;No;0;R;;;;;7;N;;;;;
109C6;MEROITIC NUMBER EIGHT;No;0;R;;;;;8;N;;;;;
109C7;MEROITIC NUMBER NINE;No;0;R;;;;;9;N;;;;;
109C8;MEROITIC NUMBER TEN;No;0;R;;;;;10;N;;;;;
109C9;MEROITIC NUMBER TWENTY;No;0;R;;;;;20;N;;;;;
109CA;MEROITIC NUMBER THIRTY;No;0;R;;;;;30;N;;;;;
109CB;MEROITIC NUMBER FORTY;No;0;R;;;;;40;N;;;;;
109CC;MEROITIC NUMBER FIFTY;No;0;R;;;;;50;N;;;;;
109CE;MEROITIC NUMBER SEVENTY;No;0;R;;;;;70;N;;;;;
109CF;MEROITIC NUMBER EIGHTY;No;0;R;;;;;80;N;;;;;
109D1;MEROITIC NUMBER ONE HUNDRED;No;0;R;;;;;100;N;;;;;
109D2;MEROITIC NUMBER TWO HUNDRED;No;0;R;;;;;200;N;;;;;
109D3;MEROITIC NUMBER THREE HUNDRED;No;0;R;;;;;300;N;;;;;
109D4;MEROITIC NUMBER FOUR HUNDRED;No;0;R;;;;;400;N;;;;;
109D5;MEROITIC NUMBER FIVE HUNDRED;No;0;R;;;;;500;N;;;;;
109D6;MEROITIC NUMBER SIX HUNDRED;No;0;R;;;;;600;N;;;;;
109D7;MEROITIC NUMBER SEVEN HUNDRED;No;0;R;;;;;700;N;;;;;
109D8;MEROITIC NUMBER EIGHT HUNDRED;No;0;R;;;;;800;N;;;;;
109DA;MEROITIC NUMBER ONE THOUSAND;No;0;R;;;;;1000;N;;;;;
109DB;MEROITIC NUMBER TWO THOUSAND;No;0;R;;;;;2000;N;;;;;
109DC;MEROITIC NUMBER THREE THOUSAND;No;0;R;;;;;3000;N;;;;;
109DE;MEROITIC NUMBER FIVE THOUSAND;No;0;R;;;;;5000;N;;;;;
109E3;MEROITIC NUMBER TEN THOUSAND;No;0;R;;;;;10000;N;;;;;
109E4;MEROITIC LOGOGRAM RMT;Lo;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109E5;MEROITIC LOGOGRAM IMN;Lo;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109E6;MEROITIC SYMBOL VIDJ;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109E7;MEROITIC SYMBOL VIDJ-2;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109E8;MEROITIC SYMBOL FLAG;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109E9;MEROITIC SYMBOL FLAG-2;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109EA;MEROITIC SYMBOL SKEIN;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109EB;MEROITIC SYMBOL GOURD;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109EC;MEROITIC SYMBOL CURL;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109ED;MEROITIC SYMBOL EAR OF MAIZE;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109EE;MEROITIC SYMBOL ARROW;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109EF;MEROITIC SYMBOL ARROW-2;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109F0;MEROITIC SYMBOL ARROW-3;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109F1;MEROITIC SYMBOL LEFT FORK;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109F2;MEROITIC SYMBOL RIGHT FORK;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109F3;MEROITIC SYMBOL SYMMETRICAL FORK;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109F4;MEROITIC SYMBOL SYMMETRICAL FORK WITH HAT;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109F5;MEROITIC SYMBOL SYMMETRICAL FORK WITH INVERTED HAT;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109F6;MEROITIC SYMBOL BEAN;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109F7;MEROITIC SYMBOL BEAN-2;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109F8;MEROITIC SYMBOL BEAN-3;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109F9;MEROITIC SYMBOL HAMMER;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
109FA;MEROITIC SYMBOL FENCED LETTER NE;So;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;

109FB;MEROITIC SYMBOL JAR;So;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
109FC;MEROITIC SYMBOL OFFERING TABLE;So;0;R;;;;N;;;;;

9. Bibliography.

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10. Acknowledgements. This project was made possible in part by a grant from the U.S. National Endowment for the Humanities, which funded the which funded the Universal Scripts Project (part of the Script Encoding Initiative at UC Berkeley) in respect of the Meroitic encoding.

	1098	1099	109A	109B	109C	109D	109E	109F
0	10980	10990	109A0	109B0	109C0	109D0	109E0	109F0
1	10981	10991	109A1	109B1	109C1	109D1	109E1	109F1
2	10982	10992	109A2	109B2	109C2	109D2	109E2	109F2
3	10983	10993	109A3	109B3	109C3	109D3	109E3	109F3
4	10984	10994	109A4	109B4	109C4	109D4	109E4	109F4
5	10985	10995	109A5	109B5	109C5	109D5	109E5	109F5
6	10986	10996	109A6	109B6	109C6	109D6	109E6	109F6
7	10987	10997	109A7	109B7	109C7	109D7	109E7	
8	10988	10998	109A8	109B8	109C8	109D8		109F8
9	10989	10999	109A9	109B9	109C9	109D9	109E9	
A	1098A	1099A	109AA	109BA	109CA	109DA	109EA	
B	1098B	1099B	109AB	109BB	109CB	109DB		
C	1098C	1099C	109AC	109BC	109CC	109DC	109EC	
D	1098D	1099D	109AD	109BD	109CD	109DD	109ED	109FD
E	1098E	1099E	109AE	109BE	109CE	109DE	109EE	
F	1098F	1099F	109AF	109BF	109CF	109DF	109EF	

Hieroglyphic alphabet

10980	𐎀	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER A → 13000 𐎀 egyptian hieroglyph a001
10981	𐎁	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER E → 13184 𐎁 egyptian hieroglyph h006
10982	𐎂	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER I → 1301E 𐎂 egyptian hieroglyph a026
10983	𐎃	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER O → 130FE 𐎃 egyptian hieroglyph f001
10984	𐎄	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER YA → 131CC 𐎄 egyptian hieroglyph m017a
10985	𐎅	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER WA → 1336F 𐎅 egyptian hieroglyph v004
10986	𐎆	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER BA → 130DE 𐎆 egyptian hieroglyph e011
10987	𐎇	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER BA-2 → 130C0 𐎇 egyptian hieroglyph d058
10988	𐎈	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER PA → 132AA 𐎈 egyptian hieroglyph q003
10989	𐎉	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER MA → 13153 𐎉 egyptian hieroglyph g017
1098A	𐎊	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER NA → 13217 𐎊 egyptian hieroglyph n035a
1098B	𐎋	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER NA-2 → 13216 𐎋 egyptian hieroglyph n035
1098C	𐎌	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER NE → 131D2 𐎌 egyptian hieroglyph m022a
1098D	𐎍	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER NE-2
1098E	𐎎	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER RA → 1308B 𐎎 egyptian hieroglyph d021
1098F	𐎏	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER RA-2
10990	𐎐	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER LA → 130ED 𐎐 egyptian hieroglyph e023
10991	𐎑	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER KHA → 1340D 𐎑 egyptian hieroglyph aa001
10992	𐎒	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER HHA → 131BC 𐎒 egyptian hieroglyph m012
10993	𐎓	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER SA → 131B7 𐎓 egyptian hieroglyph m008
10994	𐎔	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER SA-2 → 13283 𐎔 egyptian hieroglyph o034
10995	𐎕	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER SE → 133DB 𐎕 egyptian hieroglyph y001
10996	𐎖	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER KA → 1316C 𐎖 egyptian hieroglyph g038
10997	𐎗	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER QA → 1320E 𐎗 egyptian hieroglyph n029
10998	𐎘	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER QA-2 → 1320E 𐎘 egyptian hieroglyph n029
10999	𐎙	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER TA → 1337F 𐎙 egyptian hieroglyph v013
1099A	𐎚	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER TA-2 → 1337F 𐎚 egyptian hieroglyph v013
1099B	𐎛	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER TA-3 → 131FE 𐎛 egyptian hieroglyph n016
1099C	𐎜	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER TE → 131FE 𐎜 egyptian hieroglyph n016 → 13254 𐎜 egyptian hieroglyph o004

1099D	𐎝	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER TE-2 → 13254 𐎝 egyptian hieroglyph o004
1099E	𐎞	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER TO → 13111 𐎞 egyptian hieroglyph f018
1099F	𐎟	MEROITIC HIEROGLYPHIC LETTER DA → 13080 𐎟 egyptian hieroglyph d010

Demotic alphabet

109A0	ϣ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER A
109A1	ϥ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER E
109A2	Ϧ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER I
109A3	ϧ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER O
109A4	Ϩ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER YA
109A5	ϩ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER WA
109A6	Ϫ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER BA
109A7	ϫ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER PA
109A8	Ϭ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER MA
109A9	ϭ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER NA
109AA	Ϯ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER NE
109AB	ϯ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER RA
109AC	ϰ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER LA
109AD	ϱ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER KHA
109AE	ϲ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER HHA
109AF	ϳ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER SA
109B0	ϴ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER SE
109B1	ϵ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER KA
109B2	϶	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER QA
109B3	Ϸ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER TA
109B4	ϸ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER TE
109B5	Ϲ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER TO
109B6	Ϻ	MEROITIC DEMOTIC LETTER DA

Logograms

109B7	ϻ	MEROITIC LOGOGRAM RMT
109B8	ϼ	MEROITIC LOGOGRAM IMN

Symbols

109B9	Ⲁ	MEROITIC SYMBOL FLAG
109BA	ⲁ	MEROITIC SYMBOL FLAG-2
109BB	Ⲃ	MEROITIC SYMBOL SKEIN
109BC	ⲃ	MEROITIC SYMBOL GOURD
109BD	Ⲅ	MEROITIC SYMBOL CURL
109BE	ⲅ	MEROITIC SYMBOL EAR OF MAIZE
109BF	Ⲇ	MEROITIC SYMBOL ARROW
109C0	ⲇ	MEROITIC SYMBOL ARROW-2
109C1	Ⲉ	MEROITIC SYMBOL ARROW-3
109C2	ⲉ	MEROITIC SYMBOL LEFT FORK
109C3	Ⲋ	MEROITIC SYMBOL RIGHT FORK
109C4	ⲋ	MEROITIC SYMBOL SYMMETRICAL FORK
109C5	Ⲍ	MEROITIC SYMBOL SYMMETRICAL FORK WITH HAT
109C6	ⲍ	MEROITIC SYMBOL SYMMETRICAL FORK WITH INVERTED HAT
109C7	Ⲏ	MEROITIC SYMBOL BEAN → 132F4 𐎛 egyptian hieroglyph s029 logogram s
109C8	ⲏ	MEROITIC SYMBOL BEAN-2
109C9	Ⲑ	MEROITIC SYMBOL BEAN-3
109CA	ⲑ	MEROITIC SYMBOL HAMMER
109CB	Ⲓ	MEROITIC SYMBOL FENCED LETTER NE
109CC	ⲓ	MEROITIC SYMBOL JAR

109CD ◻ MEROITIC SYMBOL OFFERING TABLE
 109CE ⚔ MEROITIC SYMBOL VIDJ
 109CF ⚔ MEROITIC SYMBOL VIDJ-2

Fractions


109D0 ½ MEROITIC FRACTION ONE HALF
 109D1 ⅀ MEROITIC FRACTION ONE TENTH
 109D2 ⅁ MEROITIC FRACTION TWO TENTHS
 109D3 ⅂ MEROITIC FRACTION THREE TENTHS
 109D4 ⅃ MEROITIC FRACTION FOUR TENTHS
 109D5 ⅄ MEROITIC FRACTION FIVE TENTHS
 109D6 ⅅ MEROITIC FRACTION SIX TENTHS
 109D7 ⅆ MEROITIC FRACTION SEVEN TENTHS
 109D8 ⅇ MEROITIC FRACTION EIGHT TENTHS
 109D9 ⅈ MEROITIC FRACTION NINE TENTHS

Numbers

Ones

109DA Ⅰ MEROITIC NUMBER ONE
 109DB Ⅱ MEROITIC NUMBER TWO
 109DC Ⅲ MEROITIC NUMBER THREE
 109DD Ⅳ MEROITIC NUMBER FOUR
 109DE Ⅴ MEROITIC NUMBER FIVE
 109DF Ⅵ MEROITIC NUMBER SIX
 109E0 Ⅶ MEROITIC NUMBER SEVEN
 109E1 Ⅷ MEROITIC NUMBER EIGHT
 109E2 Ⅸ MEROITIC NUMBER NINE






Tens

109E3 Ⅹ MEROITIC NUMBER TEN
 109E4 Ⅺ MEROITIC NUMBER TWENTY
 109E5 Ⅻ MEROITIC NUMBER THIRTY
 109E6 Ⅼ MEROITIC NUMBER FORTY
 109E7 Ⅽ MEROITIC NUMBER FIFTY
 109E8  <reserved>
 109E9 Ⅾ MEROITIC NUMBER SEVENTY
 109EA Ⅿ MEROITIC NUMBER EIGHTY

Hundreds

109EC ⅰ MEROITIC NUMBER ONE HUNDRED
 109ED ⅱ MEROITIC NUMBER TWO HUNDRED
 109EE ⅲ MEROITIC NUMBER THREE HUNDRED
 109EF ⅴ MEROITIC NUMBER FOUR HUNDRED
 109F0 ⅵ MEROITIC NUMBER FIVE HUNDRED
 109F1 ⅶ MEROITIC NUMBER SIX HUNDRED
 109F2 ⅷ MEROITIC NUMBER SEVEN HUNDRED
 109F3 ⅸ MEROITIC NUMBER EIGHT HUNDRED

Thousands

109F4 ⅹ MEROITIC NUMBER ONE THOUSAND
 109F5 ⅺ MEROITIC NUMBER TWO THOUSAND
 109F6 ⅻ MEROITIC NUMBER THREE THOUSAND
 109F7  <reserved>
 109F8 ⅽ MEROITIC NUMBER FIVE THOUSAND
 109F9  <reserved>
 109FA  <reserved>
 109FB  <reserved>
 109FC  <reserved>
 109FD ⅿ MEROITIC NUMBER TEN THOUSAND

Figures

43 5 (43: 11) 5/11 43 5/11 6: 11
 : 5 5 7 5 2 7 : 5 11 7 5 11 9 5 11 7 : 5 11 11
 15 5 7 7 5 11 11 3 1 7 5 5 (19) 14
 5 2 5 7 : 3 1 7 5 5 (5/11 12) 14 5 11 7 7

REM 0089

5 5 7 14 5 11 7 13 : 48 15 5 2 4 11 14 : 4 11 5 11 3 : 48 11 7 43 5 11 15
 5 11 5 11 11 11 4 5 5 2 : 17 17 5 5 : 43 5 5 7 : 9 4 7 6 : 43 5 11 11 (48 15
 17 5 5 5 5 2 7 11 11 7 7 : 48 15 5 7 5 5 11 11 : 11 5 5 5 11 11 11 7 : 4 7

REM 0088

: 45 9 1 7 2 4 11 2 7 5 8 : 3 1 8
 : 4 11 11 11 5 8 : 4 11 1 3
 : 48 11 7 5 11 11 4 3 : 4 9 5 1 3 : 11 7

REM 0133

Figure 1. Text in Demotic Meroitic from Hofmann 1991.

مفردات من اللغات القديمة مكتوبة بكتابة ميريديتية : المروية

سابعاً : (1) المروية (المختلطة) مرتبسة ترتيباً هجائياً مروياً

5 2 ، 6 2 (الهجزة)

4/11 5W13 6 4/11 5W13 6 2 (أنظر 5W13 6 2) 5 3 6 2 (= "خبر") 10 : 6 2 3 5 6 3 3 6 3 6 2 (= "قربان خبر") . 204 (أنظر 6 2) 6 2 (= "أ") 10 10 11 10 10 10 8 4 4 6 2 (= "أ" ، أرض النيل) 9 4 4 6 2 ، 3 1 3 6 2 ("أرض النيل ، فاء") .	17 : 6 5 11 11 6 2 1 4 6 2 6 2 3 6 2 (اسم "أبون عيتا") 3 4 11 11 4 6 2 6 2 3 6 2 (انظر بعدها) 16 : 3 4 11 11 6 2 1 4 6 2 3 6 2 10 : 11 5 1 3 6 2 6 2 5 W13 6 5 W13 6 2 (= اسم "أوزير") 4 11 5 W13 14 : 4 11 5 W13 6 2 204 ("أوزير" ، وانظر 6 5 W13 6 2) . (11 11 1 3
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- 233 -

Figure 2. Text in Demotic Meroitic from 'Abd Allāh 1986.

٢٥١ (= اقديس) ، (= اقديسلو) (= اسم خنس ؟)

٢٥٢ (= انجملو)

• ٢٥٢

(ب)

٢٥٣ (= برملولو)

(د)

٢٥٣ • ٢٢٢ (إبيرة)
في (ووشين) "باميرة"

سادساً (١) : العروبة الهيروغليفية
(حسب الترتيب الهجائي العروى)

(الهجرة)

٢٠٣ • ١٢٩ • ١٢٨ • ١٢٦ • ١٢٥
• ٢٢٦ • ٢١٩ • ٢٠٤ (اسم امون) ٢٢٦

: : : :
: : : : :
تولكيتيل : "امون اريبتل السدي"
بالنقطة "٢٠٤" : : : :
: : : : :
توت) ، وانظر (منيا) •

"اسم"
• ٢٢٨ اريكتوزور

: : : :
وانظر : : (= اميني) •

٢١٩ • ٢٠٧ • ٢١٦ • ٢٠٢
٢٥١ • ٢٠٢ ٢٢٦

Figure 3. Text in Hieroglyphic Meroitic from 'Abd Allāh 1986.

A. Administrative

1. Title

Preliminary proposal for encoding the Meroitic script in the SMP of the UCS

2. Requester's name

Michael Everson

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

Individual contribution.

4. Submission date

2008-08-04

5. Requester's reference (if applicable)

6. Choose one of the following:

6a. This is a complete proposal

No.

6b. More information will be provided later

Yes.

B. Technical – General

1. Choose one of the following:

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

Yes.

1b. Proposed name of script

Meroitic.

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

No.

1d. Name of the existing block

2. Number of characters in proposal

30.

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 E.

4a. Is a repertoire including character names provided?

Yes.

4b. If YES, are the names in accordance with the "character naming guidelines" in Annex L of P&P document?

Yes.

4c. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review?

Yes.

5a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font (ordered preference: True Type, or PostScript format) for publishing the standard?

Michael Everson.

5b. If available now, identify source(s) for the font (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.) and indicate the tools used:

Michael Everson, Fontographer.

6a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?

Yes.

6b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of proposed characters attached?

Yes.

7. 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)?

Yes.

8. 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> for such information on other scripts. Also see Unicode Character Database <http://www.unicode.org/Public/UNIDATA/UnicodeCharacterDatabase.html> and associated Unicode Technical Reports for information needed for consideration by the Unicode Technical Committee for inclusion in the Unicode Standard.

See above.

C. Technical – Justification

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

No.

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?

Richard Lobban, Reginald Smith, Michael Zach

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?

Small community, scholars and historians.

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

Scholarly use.

4b. Reference

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

Yes.

5b. If YES, where?

Worldwide.

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

No.

6b. If YES, is a rationale provided?

6c. If YES, reference

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

Yes.

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

No.

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

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

Similarity to Egyptian hieroglyphs is genetic but superficial.

11a. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences (see clauses 4.12 and 4.14 in ISO/IEC 10646-1: 2000)?

No.

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

11c. If YES, reference

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

No.

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?