

# Proposal to Encode Section Marks for Kaithi in ISO/IEC 10646

L2/09-089

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## 1 Purpose

This is a proposal to encode two characters used for delimiting text boundaries in Kaithi (U+11080). These characters were discussed in N3389 L2/08-194, but were not recommended for encoding at that time. New research indicates that these characters, while functionally and graphically equivalent to other punctuation signs already encoded in the UCS, are semantically distinct characters that require independent encoding.

## 2 Description

U+110BE KAITHI SECTION MARK

U+110BF KAITHI DOUBLE SECTION MARK

The section-mark characters appear frequently in written Kaithi documents as punctuation that mark the end of sentences and paragraphs. In printed Kaithi, DANDA and DOUBLE DANDA are used for the same purpose; however, the use of these are rare in written documents. The section marks, therefore, are required for completely encoding hand-written Kaithi.

The KAITHI SECTION MARK is generally used to mark the end of a sentence, while KAITHI DOUBLE SECTION MARK is used to delimit larger blocks of text, such as paragraphs. Both generally extend to the margin of the text-block. The specimen below illustrates the use of both characters (Grierson 1899: Plate X):

भाउयोउगनउगनउगनभाउयोः १२ मई १९८८ ८० ईसवी =  
अनीननसुउपाजासिममिहममनीगमोपामीमभुवनीप्रगना ६।७।—

The properties for the characters are:

110BE;KAITHI SECTION MARK;Po;0;L;;;;N;;;;;  
110BF;KAITHI DOUBLE SECTION MARK;Po;0;L;;;;N;;;;;

## 3 References

- Grierson, George A. 1899. *A Handbook to the Kaithi Character*. 2nd rev. ed. of the title *A Kaithi Handbook*, 1881. Calcutta: Thacker, Spink & Co.
- Pandey, Anshuman. 2008. "Proposal to Encode the Kaithi Script in ISO/IEC 10646". ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2/WG2 N3389 L2/08-194. May 5, 2008. <http://std.dkuug.dk/jtc1/sc2/wg2/docs/n3389.pdf>