The Chair,
Unicode Technical Committee

நூ.த.லோகசுந்தரம்
2.2.2042 (தி.ஆ.)
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14.2.2011 C E
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Dear Sirs,

Sub: More views, opinions and suggestions as feedback on proposal of encoding **Grantham** in ref to additional docs piled in L2 registry after my submission#1.

On proposal of Grantham script of Sanskrit in SMP

* The Docs L2/11-024 & L2/11-25

In the above submissions from professionals and academics of high caliber from Tamilnadu as epigraphists they opined that the **Grantham** script is much in need for study and research in history & culture of Tamil nadu. Their concern is justified and evident that they are interested in study of contents archived in original **Grantham** to be handled in the same script without any change in presentation formats i.e. without any difference from original form. They are not connected and interested in the deeper undercurrent layer as coding scheme with all its binaries logical operators, displays rendering engine et al. They need **Sanskrit** contents in the native **Grantham** script for study without any difference being brought into efficient and economical working parameters into it. Therefore **Grantham** whether in SMP or BMP does not make any difference to epigraphists. In my previous submission I have indicated that the glyph sets of **Grantham** script of **Sanskrit** language can only be in **Devanagari** block that is in BMP for the basic reason that any language cannot be issued with two different independent character sets under Unicode Standardization process.

* N L P

Natural language Processing with all its logical operators, **Spell checkers**, and other higher levels of it as **machine translation** etc in **AI** in **Sanskrit** language needs codes in a single coding scheme. Not only for **Sanskrit** even for any other language **NLP** cannot tolerate duality i.e.bicameral entities in handling contents which are in mixed and random codes of multiple coding schemes More so the canonical grammar of **Sanskrit** written in **Devanagri** cannot be different for the contents in **Grantham** script. Therefore the codes slots already used by the characters of **Sanskrit** language from **Devanagari** block should be one and the sole entity for **Sanskrit** and the proposal and claim for duplicate code slots for the same language **Sanskrit** under the banner as **Grantham** script is not entertain able. As mentioned in my previous submission **Grantham** is only a sister script to Devanagari for the **Sanskrit** language. Hence **Grantham** has to adopt the same code points as that of **Devanagari** to display contents with its own glyph sets.

The very basics of standardization will be lost if one language, **Sanskrit**, treated with special status of having two individual and comprehensive code sets under different planes, **that too for a language exists only in reading and writing mode**, the claim will be a blatant partiality meted out against many major living languages of India in day to day life with higher user community base as Marathi, Nepali, Kashmiri, Sindhi, Bhojpuri, Dogri Brijbhasha, Marwari, Gharwali Assamese Maithili and Manipuri which were made to share code points with others. **Indian currency** displays scripts of India's 15 recognized languages out of which only eight where named in the Unicode standardization process as scripts while many others along with minor living languages made to share common script.

* Proof-of-concept

Since **Grantham** script can use the same code points of **Devanagari** by the fact that there are no conflicts in character repertoire along with their orthography, these being two sister scripts of the same **Sanskrit,** there are attempts on anvil of font smith to forge new **Grantham** fonts, tentatively Styled as **'Siva Grantham'** and **'Muthu Vadam'** i.e. in two flavors. On completion and testing first one will be submitted as proof of concept.

* Adding few Tamil characters into Grantham Script Proposed in SMP

It is only a proponents' wish to write contents in **Tamil** language using **Grantham** script in a **transliteration mode**. This wish list is evidently to add characters to write **Tamil** contents avoiding lacuna in the repertoire of **Grantham.** This submission to Unicode's consideration is not entertain able from the simple fact that consortium is only for assigning internationally standardized characters of a language/script for global users under IT ambiance, which will go into ISO standards, and not for fulfilling some XX individuals' wild interest to write YY language in ZZ scripts. For adding new characters to any script those must possess sufficient mass, gravity and justification from large sized user community who are in continued use of it over a long period and that too without conflicts. Quoting a lone and single example of someone somewhere with their inability write **Tamil** content in **Tamil** script used **Grantham** script at their ease that is of an **exotic language** and claiming **Grantham** being used to write **Tamil** shall be totally an illusive statement and misrepresentation. See, how illogical it is, that, **Grantham** being used to write **Tamil** when it does not possess required repertoire of **Tamil** letters.

But,

      when **Devanagari** characters are used to display glyph sets of **Grantham** there will be chance for an automatic fulfillment of the above dream, as a **fallout**, since **Devanagari** is having in its repertoire all the needed characters in toto i.e.vowels as Short 'E' and Short'O', their vowel modifiers, and consonants as LLLA, RRA, NNNA. These features were provided already to cater portability of contents between Indic languages.

In the proof-of-concept font, that is what is in anvil as stated above, new entrant character/ glyphs to **Grantham** will have rationalized form in line with its canonical shapes and in rhythm with **Devanagari** ambiance, by use of fused-nukta, similar to one found inside the glyphs in that block, classified under **additional consonants** (0958>>>095F). This will avoid confusables to top positioning anuswara bhindhu of **Devanagri** and also distinct from **Tamil** puLLi.

Thanking You. I remain,

Yours Candidly

NDLogasundaram

Chennai 14.02.2011

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