

L2/11-211JTC1/SC2/WG2 N4077
2011-05-24Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set
International Organization for Standardization
Organisation Internationale de Normalisation
Международная организация по стандартизации

Doc Type: Working Group Document
Title: Sources for the Encoding of Jurchen
Source: UK
Status: National Body Contribution
Action: For consideration by JTC1/SC2/WG2 and UTC
Date: 2011-05-24

The proposal to encode the Jurchen script submitted by the Chinese NB (N3628 and N3788) is based solely on the 1984 dictionary of Jurchen compiled by Prof. Jin Qizong (金啓琮), but this source is not ideal as it is relatively old, uses handwritten characters, includes very many insignificant glyph variants, and includes some unknown characters that may or may not be variants of other characters in the dictionary. It has come to our attention that a more recent dictionary of Jurchen, *The Great Dictionary of Jurchen Language* (女真文大辭典), compiled by Jin Qizong and his daughter Prof. Aisin Gioro Ulhicun (烏拉熙春), was published in Japan in 2003 (see <http://www.apu.ac.jp/~yoshim/newpage7.htm>). We have been unable to obtain a copy of this dictionary, but it apparently includes a revised and expanded repertoire of Jurchen characters, and it is likely that it will be a more reliable source for encoding Jurchen than the 1984 dictionary. We feel that the encoding of Jurchen cannot progress until we have an opportunity of comparing the proposed Jurchen character repertoire in N3788 with the contents of the 2003 dictionary. We therefore request the Chinese NB to revise the Jurchen proposal to include mappings to the 2003 dictionary and any additional characters from the 2003 dictionary, as well as revised glyph forms and character readings where necessary.