ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2
PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM TO ACCOMPANY SUBMISSIONS
FOR ADDITIONS TO THE REPERTOIRE OF ISO/IEC 10646[1]
Please fill all the sections A, B and C below.
Please read Principles and Procedures Document (P & P) from
http://www.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/principles.html **for guidelines and details before filling this form.**
Please ensure you are using the latest Form from http://www.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/summaryform.html**.**
See also http://www.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/roadmaps.html **for latest *Roadmaps*.**

A. Administrative

1. **Title:** Bengali Om character
2. Requester's name: Barun Kumar Sahu
3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution): Individual
4. Submission date: 16 May 2011
5. Requester's reference (if applicable):
6. Choose one of the following:
   This is a complete proposal: Complete proposal
   (or) More information will be provided later:

B. Technical – General

1. Choose one of the following:
   a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters): No
      Proposed name of script:
   b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block: Yes
      Name of the existing block: 0x0980..0x.09FF; Bengali
2. Number of characters in proposal: One
3. Proposed category (select one from below - see section 2.2 of P&P document):
   A-Contemporary   A   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? Bengali Om
   b. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review? Yes
5. Fonts related:
   a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font to the Project Editor of 10646 for publishing the standard?

   b. Identify the party granting a license for use of the font by the editors (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.):

6. References:
   a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?
   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)?
   It will be same as Devanagari Om (U+0950), Gujarati Om (U+0AD0), Tamil Om (U+0BD0)

8. 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 for such information on other scripts. Also see UAX #44: http://www.unicode.org/reports/tr44/ and associated Unicode Technical Reports for information needed for consideration by the Unicode Technical Committee for inclusion in the Unicode Standard.

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[1] Form number: N3802-F (Original 1994-10-14; Revised 1995-01, 1995-04, 1996-04, 1996-08, 1999-03, 2001-05, 2001-09, 2003-11, 2005-01, 2005-09, 2005-10, 2007-03, 2008-05, 2009-11, 2010-10)

C. Technical - Justification

1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before?	*No*
If YES explain	
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.)?	*No*
If YES, with whom?	
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?	*Yes*
Reference: *See section* **Information on user community** *in the attached proposal*	
4. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare)	*Yes*
Reference: *See section* **Context of use** *in the attached proposal*	
5. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community?	*Yes*
If YES, where? Reference: *See section* **Currency of use** *in the attached proposal*	
6. After giving due considerations to the principles in the P&P document must the proposed characters be entirely in the BMP?	
If YES, is a rationale provided?	*Yes*
If YES, reference: *See section* **Rational for being in BMP** *in the attached proposal*	
7. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)?	*The code point may be 0x09D0, conforming to Om in other Indic scripts*
8. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence?	*No*
If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?	
If YES, reference:	
9. Can any of the proposed characters be encoded using a composed character sequence of either existing characters or other proposed characters?	*Yes*
If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?	*Yes*
If YES, reference: *See section* **Combining character** *in the attached proposal*	
10. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to an existing character?	*No*
If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?	
If YES, reference:	
11. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences?	*Yes*
If YES, is a rationale for such use provided?	*Yes*
If YES, reference: *See section* **Combining character** *in the attached proposal*	
Is a list of composite sequences and their corresponding glyph images (graphic symbols) provided?	
If YES, reference:	
12. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as control function or similar semantics?	*No*
If YES, describe in detail (include attachment if necessary)	
13. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility character(s)?	*No*
If YES, is the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic character(s) identified?	

Shape of Bengali Om character

Information on user community: Bengali Om character is a Hindu sacred/mystical syllable and religious symbol. It is used by Bengali, Assamese and Manipuri speaking Hindus. They are concentrated in various parts of Bangladesh and the following Indian states: West Bengal, Assam, Tripura, Jharkhand, Bihar, Manipur, Meghalaya, Delhi, Chhattisgarh etc. There are smaller numbers of Hindu Bengalis in other parts of the world also. The strength of the user community is about 100 million. (Om character is there in various scripts, such as in Devanagari, Gujarati, Tamil, Grantham, Telugu, Kannada, Bengali, Balinese, Tibetan, Jain etc. Om is also important in Buddhism and Jainism.) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Om provides good amount of information on Om.

Context of use: Om (or aum) is the most important Hindu religious symbol, and is a sacred incantation. Many hymns begin or end with Om. It symbolizes the primordial and eternal sound of the Creation. It denotes harmony and divinity. It also symbolizes Hinduism, just as Cross symbolizes Christianity. However, Om is not just a symbol: it also has a pronunciation.

Currency of use: Om is used in most Hindu religious scriptures, rituals and shrines. Most of the Hindu hymns contain Om. Google search (especially, Google Image search) with the keyword "Bengali Om" shows up innumerable instances of use of the Bengali Om character.

Rational for being in BMP: Om character has already been encoded for Devanagari script (U+0950), Tamil script (U+0BD0), Tibetan script (U+0F00) and Gujarati script (U+0AD0). All of them are in the BMP. Since Bengali Om is no different, it also may be in the BMP.

Combining character: We can think of Bengali Om as comprising Bengali characters U+0993 and U+0981 (i.e., ও + ঁ → ওঁ). However, Bengali Om is semantically different. At times, Bengali Om character is given some resemblance to Devanagari Om character (U+0950, ॐ) by adding a small 'tail' to Bengali Om.
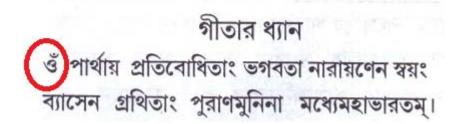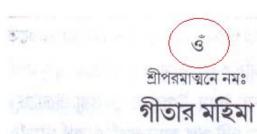
Properties
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09D0;BENGALI OM;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
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Figures (all from a book on the Gita in Bengali)

গীতার ধ্যান

ওঁ পার্থায় প্রতিবোধিতাং ভগবতা নারায়ণেন স্বয়ং
ব্যাসেন গ্রথিতাং পুরাণমুনিনা মধ্যেমহাভারতম্।

Figure 1

ওঁ

শ্রীপরমাত্মনে নমঃ

গীতার মহিমা

প্রকৃতপক্ষে শ্রীমদ্ভগবদ্গীতার মাহাত্ম্য বাক্য
দ্বারা বর্ণনা করবার সামর্থ্য কারও নেই ; কারণ এটি

Figure 2

শ্রীশ্রীগুরুগীতা ৫৬

ইদং কবচমজ্ঞাত্বা যদি মন্ত্রং জপেৎ প্রিয়ে।
তৎসর্বং নিষ্ফলং কৃত্বা গুরুর্যাতি সুনিশ্চিতম্।। ১৪

শিবে রুষ্টে গুরুস্ত্রাতা গুরৌ রুষ্টে ন কশ্চন।। ১৫

ইতি কঙ্কালমালিনীতন্ত্রে শ্রীগুরুকবচং সমাপ্তম্।

ওঁ তৎ সৎ ওঁ

সমাপ্ত

Figure 3

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