Tamil credit sign (U+0BF7) glyph shape from Printed Books Comment on L2/12-106 - Request for editorial updates to various Indic scripts

Dr. Naga Ganesan (naa.ganesan@gmail.com)

The Unicode Standard Tamil *credit sign*, U+0BF7 (Varavu, வரவு sign) sign shape is well established in Unicode compliant fonts for many years. Several Tamil scholarly conferences have been conducted by Govt. of Tamil Nadu and Universities, and 100s of scholars, officials, and the public of the Tamil populations use the current shape for U+0BF7. It is available in theses, dissertations, Govt. documents, newspapers etc ... and involves visually the letter, VA (வ)

Reading Mr. Sharma's L2/12-106 document, he has requested the glyph change for Tamil debit sign, U+0BF6 (patru, $\amalg \dot{m} \dot{m}$), to indicate the presence of the letter, PA (\amalg) visually in its glyph shape (pg. 3,

L2/106) and shown just that sign from G. U. Pope's 1855 book. However, S. Sharma has not shown the glyph shape for U+0BF7 right next to the debit sign available in the same book and also in several other scholarly works. Hence this note documenting the U+0BF7 (Varavu) sign showing visually the letter VA (Ω) in all the Printed publications for more than 150+ years. Here are the references from well-known publications showing debit sign U+0BF6 showing the letter, PA (L) and credit sign U+0BF7 showing the letter VA (Ω) . See Figures 1, 2 & 3 for published shapes for U+0BF6 and U+0BF6 respectively.

In case, TUS Editorial committee desires any change in the U+0BF6 (debit sign) and U+0BF7 (credit sign) from the widely used Unicode compliant Tamil fonts, it is requested that the Published books' glyphs be used which explicitly contain the letters, PA and VA respectively. It is important to recognize that L2/106 glyph shape is just hand-written, and is NOT from any Published works of 19th or 20th centuries.

In Appendix A, Tamil shapes for different signs showing the vertical bar at the end as in U+0BF7 are documented.

	Append	lix 1	
4	INTROD	UCTION	
viii. The follow	wing abbrevia	tions and sig	ns are in use :-
ான்செய் wet cultivation நூ	புன்செய் dry cultivation பறு	Cauରୀ a land measure ରୀ	மாளது current ந
ion Fib month B ^{er}	दिइझि day ब	வருஷம் _{year} ஸ or இல	ฟิลบ่อ ground เร็ง
Tamil Debit Sign with letter PA	பற்ற received பூ		Tamil Credit Sign with letter VA
மேற்படி aforesaid சூ	பணம் money பு	ቴጠታ cask ታኪ	வராகன் a pagoda ளை—
ரூபாய் சாழக டு or தடை	பொன் 10 fanamis டை	கஜம் a yard கிட	வரைக்கும் until சு or இ
मुप्री a square yard हि–	- अुड total	an anna M	பைசா a pie டபை
வகையரா belonging to வ	சல்வானம் more or less சுட	செல்லு paddy ஒ	สองเอ็ a measure รีพา
ब्रा कंट्रिकी a polite title for a ju द्व	nior most how	இहा म को क्विती nourable, a tüle	அம் யும் குர யூ

"A Handbook of the Tamil Language – TAMIL HAND BOOK" -Rev. G.U.Pope (1855) (Refer - 5th AES Reprint page 14 for above symbols)

Figure 1. Tamil debit and credit signs, showing letters PA and VA respectively (Dr. G. U. Pope, 1855)

INDIAN ABBREVIATIONS.

Figure 2. Tamil credit sign - Glyph shape, from Page 976, Myron Winslow, A comprehensive Tamil - English dictionary. Madras, 1862.

	TAMIL	53
	= CLITE what is spent	
ഷ്	= 创步山 charge	
പപ	= வரவு receipts	
– Agriculture	etc.	
- ngriculture No	= AOTTLD salt pan	
ஜஃற	= நெல்லு paddy	
Thyor	= நன்செய் wet cultivation	
E B	= BOLD ground	
L.	= புன்செய் dry cultivation	
	lian Currency	
- Angio-Ind	- 西町街 a Cash	
Ц.	= 1 1600T LD a Fanam = 80 Cash	
<u>କ</u>	= 61111 GOT ten Fanams	
ഒന	= のJJTI伝が a Pagoda=42 Fanams	
டசு	= 601日町 a Paisa or Pie	
ঞ	= AGOD an Anna	
	3	

Figure 3. Tamil Credit Sign

From Page 53, South Indian scripts in Sanskrit manuscripts and prints : Grantha Tamil - Malayalam - Telugu - Kannada - Nandinagari by Reinhold Grünendahl,

Wiesbaden : Harrassowitz, 2001

urs	പയപ്പ (വിഞ്ഞ)		
wy	പടപ്പററ (പടകടിരം)		
ver.	പടിത്തരം		
rever	പടിയേററം		
40	പിശാനം (കംഭക്ഷി)		
250	വ്ങ		
620	മുഖം (ദേശവിഭാഗം)		
MJ.	പിവരം		
2500	– പീട്ടിൽ		
so	- >>		

Appendix A: Tamil signs showing Vertical bars.

Mostly Tamil forms പലതം തമിധ രൂപമാണ് (Travancore) തിരുവിതാളൂർ.

Figure A-1. Tamil signs used in Kerala. Note the Vertical bars.

(Pg. 28, Dr. L. A. Ravi Varma, Pracheena Kerala Lipikal, 1934 (1st edition)