

L2/12-200R

To: Dev Dass Manandhar, Samir Karmacharya, Bishnu Chitrakar and Anshuman Pandey

Source: Unicode Technical Committee

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Subject: On the encoding of the “Nepaalalipi” / “Newar” script

Date: 11 May 2012

The UTC has reviewed documents L2/12-003 and L2/12-120 and wishes to commend the authors on the thorough analysis and clear presentation of issues regarding the encoding of characters for the “Nepaalalipi” / “Newar” script.

With regard to some of the technical issues with outstanding differences between these proposals, the UTC makes the following findings:

1. The virama model is the appropriate one for this script.
2. The encoding of long *i* and *u* and dependent matras *-ai* and *-au* as atomic, single characters, rather than as sequences, is preferable.

These approaches would be most consistent with the encoding model and implementation strategy seen for related Indic scripts.

The UTC notes that the encoding model suggested for this script does not place any requirements on modern users of the script to use all of the encoded characters. It also does not require any particular ordering of the characters. Such issues are properly the concerns of local communities, and can be addressed by appropriate subsetting and tailoring of the encoded character repertoire.