# Proposal to encode Malayalam minor fractions

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# §1. Thanks

I thank Anshuman Pandey for drawing my attention to Malayalam fractions, Cibu Johny for providing attestation samples, and Elmar Kniprath for background checks into dictionaries.

# §2. Background

Recently I submitted a proposal to encode Tamil fractions and symbols (see L2/12-231 and L2/13-047). I had noticed that Malayalam already has the major fractions  $^{1}/_{4}$ ,  $^{1}/_{2}$  and  $^{3}/_{4}$  encoded (based on which I had submitted L2/09-376 for the Tamil major fractions alone). I later found out that Malayalam also has a rich set of minor fractions while examining other earlier documents. Despite their introduction as far back as L2/05-152, they have not yet been encoded. I hence submit this proposal to encode 10 minor fractions for Malayalam.

It is to be noted that these same fractions (as mentioned in L2/05-152) are also shown in the Kerala Govt's documents L2/05-175 and L2/05-249, of which only the major fractions were formally proposed in the summary document L2/05-295 and subsequently encoded. The present proposal seeks to complete the set of Malayalam fraction characters.

# §3. List of characters

The Tamil/Grantha/Malayalam region has historically always been very close in various matters, of which script is one. It is hence not surprising that Malayalam should also contain the same set of minor fractions as in Tamil and with the same names (with of course slight morphological changes).

The list of Malayalam fractions is as follows:

	Glyph	x/320	Value	Words	Malayalam name
1.	പ്ത	1/320	1/320	one three-hundred-and-twentieth	muntiri
2.	$\widehat{\omega}$	2/320	1/160	one one-hundred-and-sixtieth	arakkāņi
3.	മ	4/320	1/80	one eightieth	kāṇi
4.	൙	8/320	1/40	one fortieth	aramā

5.	$   \sim $	12/320	3/80	three eightieths	mūnnukāṇi
6.	го	16/320	1/20	one twentieth	orumā
7.	വമ	20/320	1/16	one sixteenth	mākāņi
8.	$\mathbf{w}$	32/320	1/10	one tenth	raṇṭumā
9.	ഹം	40/320	1/8	one eighth	arakkāl
10.	w	48/320	3/20	three twentieths	mūnnumā
11.	w	60/320	3/16	three sixteenths	muṇṭāṇi
12.	൞	64/320	1/5	one fifth	nālŭmā
13.	6	80/320	1/4	one quarter	kāl
14.	බ	160/320	1/2	one half	ara
15.	ൻ	240/320	3/4	three quarters	mukkāl

A comparison with the list of Tamil fractions (L2/12-231 p 3) indicates that the only missing items are  $k\bar{a}lv\bar{i}cam$   $^{1}/_{64}$ , araiv $\bar{i}cam$   $^{1}/_{32}$  and mukk $\bar{a}lv\bar{i}cam$   $^{3}/_{64}$ . As we have already noted (ibid p 8), even in Tamil these "were probably a later development for convenience". Therefore it is possible that they were not in use in Malayalam.

Of the above written forms, the last three, the major fractions, are already encoded at 0D73, 0D74 and 0D75. The sign for  $k\bar{a}ni$   $^{1}/_{80}$  is merely 0D2E Letter MA  $\Omega$  (or a slight glyphic variant thereof). The sign for the smallest fraction muntiri  $^{1}/_{320}$  is merely a stacked presentation of the syllable P·TA (0D2A 0D4D 0D24):

Note that in current Malayalam orthography this stack may not be used and the cluster written as പ്ത. Hence fonts may not provide the stacked presentation by default. In this case, the accepted sequence used to request C2-conjoining forms may be used to request the stack: PA + ZWJ + VIRAMA + TA (see for instance TUS 6.1 p 299 for Bengali R·YA or p 315 for Telugu R·MA). Of course, this requires the font to support this sequence.

As per the guidance received from the UTC regarding Tamil letters which are additionally used for fractions or symbols (see L2/13-047 §1.1 p 1) I have not proposed these two written forms (i.e. P·TA for  $^{1}/_{320}$  and MA for  $^{1}/_{80}$ ) as separate characters. If the UTC deems that the situation here is different, I request to be informed so I can change this.

As such, with the current situation, 10 new characters are proposed to be encoded.

# §4. Attestations

അ പാരാ	നൂറ്	പത്ത്	്ണങ
അത്വിരം	എ=100		പ <sub>ല</sub>
00mg	മൂന്നു	നാല്	അഞ്ച്
0=2	ന_=3	രം4	(ദി = 5
ഡ് = e	ഏഴ്	എട്	ഒമ്പയ്ക്
	೧=7	ഗൃ=8	നം = 9
മുക്കാൻ	അര $d = \frac{1}{2}$	കാല്	അരക്കാല്
ബ = <u>इ</u>		6~ = 1_4	പനം! = 1 <u>8</u>
രണ്ടു മാ സ = 1	മാ കാണി പമ = <u>1</u>	ഒരു മാ സ = <u>1</u>	അര മാ രം = 1 40
ຜາວອກໃ $\Delta = \frac{1}{80}$	$\widehat{\omega} = \frac{1}{160}$	ുന്തിരി $\frac{1}{600} = \frac{1}{320}$	കീഴ് കാല് ച്ച (‡)
മൂന്നു കാണി	നാല് മാ	മൂന്നു മാ	അരക്കാണി മുതിരി $\widehat{\omega}$ പ = $\frac{3}{320}$ $\frac{1}{160} + \frac{9}{320}$
12 = 380	ഗ് = 1/5	ഡ <sup>2</sup> 3	

Figure 28b,

Prācīna Gaṇitaṃ Malayāḷattil, Prof C K Moosathu, Kerala State Institute of Language, 1980. (cited in Kerala State Govt docs L2/05-175 p 3 and L2/05-249 p 4,

also in Peter Constable's L2/05-152 p 2, UTC's L2/05-295 p 3)

Note that this does not show 3/16. It shows all other fractions with their names.

60~.60~ 34.34	$= 60 20$ $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{16}$	= 27	9 16
<b>命</b> . め <del>3</del> · ½	$=6$ 1 $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8}$	=	3 8
<b>3</b> · 1 4	= Ma		3 16
62. M2 3 3 4 16	$= N \times \frac{1}{10} + \frac{3}{80} + \frac{1}{320}$	= \	9 64
a. M 3/4 3/5	$= \mathcal{N} \mathcal{Q}_{10} + \frac{1}{80}$	=	980
る。 3 4 · 16	$= \frac{72}{30} + \frac{1}{160} + \frac{1}{320}$	= 0	<u>3</u> 64
6 · M 3 · 3 4 · 80	$ = \frac{1}{40} + \frac{1}{320} $	1 ± ()	9 320
<b>一部</b> ・	$= \frac{1}{320} + \frac{1}{320} \cdot \frac{1}{2}$	15/200	<u>3</u> 640

Ibid fig 28c.

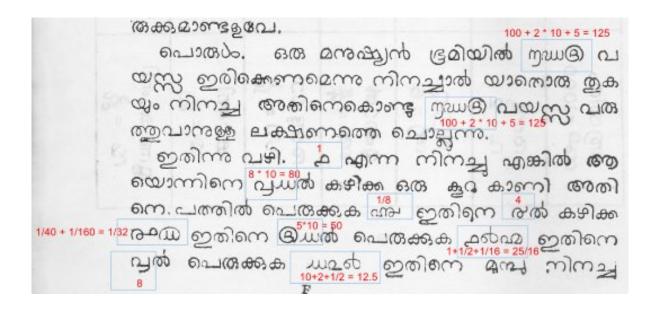
This sample shows 3/16 (third section from top). This fraction is known as muntani, as can be verified from sources like Hermann Gundert's Malayalam dictionary of 1872.

This sample also illustrates actual usage of the fractions.

Further, this sample (bottom-most section, before  $\mathfrak{S}^{1/2} )$  also shows the word  $k\bar{l}$  (spelt as  $k\bar{l}$ la for some reason) used to downscale the fraction by the magnitude of the lowest minor fraction:  $^{1/320}$ . The system used is apparently identical to that in Tamil and more details of the same may be obtained from my Tamil fractions proposal L2/12-231 §4.5 p 10. However unlike in Tamil so far no attestation has been obtained in Malayalam for a separate abbreviated symbol for the downscaling term  $k\bar{l}$ l.

```
67/ \frac{1}{2} [\frac{1}{2}] = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2
```

Ibid fig 28c.



Kaṇakkadhikāram, Mānavan Māppilla, cited in aforementioned Kerala Govt docs

# §5. Characters not proposed

# §5.1. Pending further research

Yet another source "Kēraļattilē prācīna lipi mātṛkakaļ" by one Dr N Sam, 2006, seems to show (on p 72) some additional glyphs for some of the lower fractions:  $k\bar{l}$  muntiri ( $^1/_{320} \times ^1/_{320}$ ),  $k\bar{l}$  ara(y) $kk\bar{a}$  $\dot{n}$ i ( $^1/_{320} \times ^1/_{160}$ ),  $k\bar{l}$  oruma ( $^1/_{320} \times ^1/_{80}$ ),  $k\bar{l}$  aray $kk\bar{a}$ l ( $^1/_{320} \times ^1/_{8}$ ),  $k\bar{l}$  kāl ( $^1/_{320} \times ^1/_{4}$ ),  $k\bar{l}$  ara ( $^1/_{320} \times ^1/_{2}$ ) and  $k\bar{l}$  mukkāl ( $^1/_{320} \times ^3/_{4}$ ) – these are marked below in red:

ഭിന്നസംഖൃക	60s	200	40-0
<b>റ</b> കീഴ്മുന്തിരി	<b>റ</b> അരമ (1/40)	<b>&amp;</b> മാകാണി (1/16)	<b>രഹം</b> മുക്കാൽമാകാണി
<b>L</b> കീഴ്അരയ്ക്കാണി	<b>e</b> l "	w "	BANK "
🕙 കീഴ്ഒരുമ	<b>്സ</b> മുക്കാണി (3/80)	ന്നു അരയ്ക്കാൽ	നാണയങ്ങൾ
🕰 കീഴ്അരയ്ക്കാൽ	<b>U</b> ഒരുമ (1/20)	1പ്പ "	🥟 രൂപ
ന്ന് കീഴ്കാൽ	J "	<b>െ</b> കാല് (1/4)	പണം
<b>ഞ</b> കീഴ്അര	സ ഇരുമ (1/10)	ര അര (1/2)	∟ " (കൊച്ചി)
ന്ന കീഴ്മുക്കാൽ	મ "	<b>d</b> "	ഗരം" (കൊച്ചി)
<b>65</b> മുന്തിരി (1/320)	ന്ധ മൂന്നുമ (3/120)	<b>67</b> മുക്കാൽ (3/4)	<b>പ്രാ</b> ചക്രം
<b>സ</b> അരയ്ക്കാണി (1/160)	<b>ന്റ</b> മുണ്ടാണി (3/16)	<b>6</b> "	കാശ്
<b>ര</b> കാണി (1/80)	<b>∂</b> U <sup>mora</sup> (1/5)	എ "	

However many of the glyphs in the above chart are highly similar if not identical to Tamil written forms and fractions. For instance  $^{1}/_{20}$  oruma,  $^{1}/_{10}$  irumā and  $^{3}/_{20}$  mūnnumā are written quite similar to their Tamil forms  $\sqcup$ ,  $\overset{\circ}{\sim}$  and  $\overset{\circ}{\sim}$ . As such, further research is required to ascertain to which script these characters belong so that they may be appropriately encoded. The above table also contains some glyphs for currency (marked in blue) whose status is the same.

The same source also shows (on p 73) other glyphs for measures. (Compare the Tamil measures list under L2/12-231 §3.2 p 4.) However some of these are not sufficiently legible and some of which are again highly similar to Tamil/Grantha numerals and symbols and hence require the same verification as for the lower fractions as mentioned before:

111.	and arthresis a	ദ്രാവക/ധാനൃ	അളവുകൾ	all of the state of the state of
W	ഉരി	U	കുറുണി	ക്ര ചകട്ട
رمہ	"	J	"	ന കലം
<b>~</b> &^	ആഴക്ക്	25	പതക്ക്	ሚ "
0	ഉഴക്ക്	น	ഇരുകുറുണി	R. "
•	"	ho	മുക്കുറുണി	£ "
0	മൂഴക്ക്	N	നാങ്കുറുണി	<b>&amp;</b> തൂണി
us <sub>i</sub>	"	ெ	അയ്ങ്കുറുണി	<b>6</b> 1 "
<b>6</b> _	നാഴി	€nu	അറുകുറുണി	പ്പു ഇരുതുണ്
2	,,	v-6)	പടി	

One however notes that the names of the measures are again highly similar to Tamil: uri,  $\bar{a}$ lakkŭ, ulakkŭ, mūlakkŭ, nāli, kuruṇi, patakkŭ, ... paṭi, ... kalam, tūṇi etc. Nevertheless, the script identity of the glyphs must be verified. It would also be preferable to ascertain the value of these measures (again, comparing with Tamil) before they are encoded.

# §5.2. Not valid candidates for encoding

The sources also attest glyphs for the numerals 20, 30, 40, ... 90 (ibid p 65):

1/cul 24 -31	-41 موللي
Lawae -32	~~~ -42
-33	12mm −43
-34	な <sup>い</sup> ほい <sup>-44</sup>
-35	<b>1</b>
	-32 -32 -33 -34 -34

@w <u>m</u> -56	<b></b>	<b>ॻ</b> ਘ_ <b>™</b> -76	<del>റ</del> ്നമ -‱	w‱ <u>m</u> -96
ලා <b>ා</b> ණ -57	<b>.</b> 23 -67	<b>IN</b> I -77	വ്ണമ -87	M2CU _57 -97
<u>ഐ</u> -58	ದುಗ್ -es	<b>೨</b> 300 −78	വ <b>ധച</b> -88	ഗയ് ച -98
@w/X -59	<b>27</b> w 169	ച്ചാ 🖓 -79	<del>റ</del> ്ചസ√X -89	<b>VX</b> m √ <b>X</b> -99
<b>™</b> -60	70 ساگ	<u>→</u> m -80	<b>√XW</b> −90	<b>5</b> -100

However, a close examination will reveal that these are merely ligatures of 2  $\Omega$ , 3  $\Omega$ , 4  $\delta$  etc with  $\omega$  for 10. For instance for twenty we fuse 2 and 10 i.e.  $\Omega$  +  $\omega$  to get  $\Omega$ .

As such these are not valid candidates for separate encoding. An appropriate font catering to this old orthography may merely substitute the sequences 0D68 Two + 0D70 TeN etc with the appropriate ligated glyph etc.

It would be useful to document this fact in the Unicode chapter on Malayalam.

There is also an old system of denoting numerals entirely by letter forms called akṣarapallī. This is unlike the prevalently used system called aṅkapallī using digits where at best some digits are just similar to letters. In akṣarapallī, outright letter forms are used for numbers.

Ibid pp 70,71 gives the numbers from 1 to 100 in this system:

m _ 1	g _ 11	요_ 21	린 _ 31	雪-41
m _ 2	a m - 12	₩ - 22	e _ 32	m - 42
තු _ 3	g) _ 13	තු _ 23	ह्य <u>-</u> 33	啊 _ 43
\$ _ 4	量 _ 14	设 - 24	eg - 34	强 - 44
€ _ 5	- 15	15 _ 25	en - 35	ر الله به
an _ 6	20 _ 16	10 _ 26	ej _ 36	25 - 46
© _ 7	9 _ 17	B _ 27	린 _ 37	3 - 47
e _ 8	2 _ 18	LD _ 28	리 _ 38	- 48
6G_9	OB _ 19	LG _ 29	ല _ 39	ng - 49
0 _ 10	LD _ 20	EJ _ 30	2d - 40	ബ 50
ബ ന _ 51	© _ 61	© - 71	20 _ 81	em _ 91
ബ ന _ 52	m _ 62	Ø - 72	-20 - 82	m - 92
m) - 53	m _ 63	ලා <sub>– 73</sub>	20 m - 83	m - 93
· 54	9 - 64	\$ - 74	-20 - 84 - 84	- 94
mi - 55	<b>2</b> - 65	- 75	20 - 85	m - 95
ബ _ 56	@ _ 66	© - 76	20 - 86	om _ 96
ബ ് _ 57	9 _ 67	ලි <sub>- 77</sub>	عران _ 87 الا _ 87	E _ 97
ബ <del>ഗ</del> _ 58	© _ 68	9 _ 78	20 - 88	m _ 98
ബ ടൈ _ 59	ng _ 69	100 - 79	aro 89	m _ 99
10 60	100 70	200 90	em 90	

These were also mentioned in L2/05-173 and L2/06-260. The latter also provides samples (which I separately verified via Elmar Kniprath) from Reinhold Gruenendahl's 2001 work "South Indian Scripts in Sanskrit Manuscripts and Prints" (ISBN 3-447-04504-3) p 94:

က	m	$\mathcal{G}$	(CB)	യ	ഹാ		$\mathbb{Q}$	ശ്വെ
na	nna	nya	şkra	jhra	hā	gra	pra	dre
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>2</b> 3	ഥ	ല	al	ബ	<b>@</b>	ത്ര	ΩΩ	ണ
ma	tha	la	pta	ba	tra	rŭ	cha	ņа
10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90
670	)		×					
ña								
100								

(The above sample gives the wrong Malayalam glyphs for nya 3 and dre 9, but the transliterations correctly correspond to the numerical values.)

Based on this attestation, L2/06-260 had suggested that these characters be encoded. However, they are clearly a system of re-use of letters for numbers and cannot be encoded. Even though the previous samples show non-standard ligating and stacking behaviour (see for example the lower element of the stack denoting 9 in 19, 29 etc taking a vowel sign), each written form is unambiguously associated with a numerical value irrespective of its position and presumably a linear presentation would also not be unacceptable. In any event, higher level protocols than encoding can take care of this stacked presentation and it is not necessary for the encoding model to cater to it.

It is to be noted that this akṣarapallī system was evidently devised by scholars who needed to include numbers into verses. For instance, mathematical or astronomical treatises would require an easy way of representing numbers (rather than by their full words), and the fact that a great amount of Sanskrit scientific literature is in the form of metered verse would require that letters be used and also restrict their count. Thus the letter forms (whether simple letters or ligatures) which were most similar to the separate written forms of the numbers were used to denote those numbers in the olden days. (Ref:

Appendix on Palaeography in "South Indian Temple Inscriptions", T N Subramanian, Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras, 1953-1957, p 1567.) Thus, the specific letter forms came to be associated with the specific numbers and this notation continued to be used even after the shapes of the letter forms and those of the digits diverged in their separate evolutions. As a result, not only in Malayalam but old Indic manuscripts in other Indic scripts exhibit this system of denoting numbers too.

Therefore this is to be merely seen as a re-use of letter forms and hence does not warrant separate encoding.

# §6. Nature of proposed encoding

As mentioned at the outset, this document proposes to encode only the 10 minor fractions which are clearly attested and not representable by existing letter characters. There are more than ten empty codepoints in the Malayalam block but not contiguously. Therefore it is not possible to encode all the proposed characters contiguously. Due to the availability of sufficient codepoints in the existing Malayalam block there is no need for a supplementary block unlike what was requested for Tamil in L2/12-231 (p 2). A judicious allotment of codepoints is found to be sufficiently meaningful and practicable.

The proposed allotment is as follows. (For reference see the chart on p 13.)

It is noted that the three already-encoded major fractions are in the eighth column of the Malayalam block at 0D73, 0D74, 0D75. There are three empty codepoints next to those at 0D76, 0D77, 0D78. In Oriya, the fractions  $^{1}/_{16}$ ,  $^{1}/_{8}$  and  $^{3}/_{16}$  are found in addition to the major fractions  $^{1}/_{4}$ ,  $^{1}/_{2}$  and  $^{3}/_{4}$  and they are encoded immediately after them (in that order) from 0B72 to 0B77. The same would make sense for the Malayalam fractions  $^{1}/_{16}$ ,  $^{1}/_{8}$  and  $^{3}/_{16}$  as well (since in any case we cannot place all the minor fractions together). The rest of the minor fractions are proposed to be placed in ascending order of value (as seen in \$3 of this document) at the bottom of column 6 (i.e. 0D5x) where there is sufficient space and which would also be visually close to the Malayalam digits.

This encoding still leaves sufficient (contiguous) space in the Malayalam block for future additions as well if necessary.

Appropriate informative aliases, annotations and cross-references to existing characters (where applicable) should be added to the proposed characters. The existing fractions should also be provided such informative aliases giving their Malayalam names.

# §7. Unicode Character Properties etc

(These may also be found as attachments to this PDF.)

# §7.1. Additions to UnicodeData.txt

```
0D59; MALAYALAM FRACTION ONE ONE-HUNDRED-AND-SIXTIETH; No;0;L;;;;1/160;N;;;;;
OD5A; MALAYALAM FRACTION ONE FORTIETH; No; 0; L;;;; 1/40; N;;;;
OD5B; MALAYALAM FRACTION THREE EIGHTIETHS; No; 0; L;;;; 3/80; N;;;;;
OD5C; MALAYALAM FRACTION ONE TWENTIETH; No;0;L;;;;1/20;N;;;;
OD5D; MALAYALAM FRACTION ONE TENTH; No; 0; L;;;; 1/10; N;;;;
OD5E; MALAYALAM FRACTION THREE TWENTIETHS; No; 0; L;;;; 3/20; N;;;;;
OD5F; MALAYALAM FRACTION ONE FIFTH; No;0;L;;;;1/5;N;;;;
OD76; MALAYALAM FRACTION ONE SIXTEENTH; No; 0; L;;;; 1/16; N;;;;
OD77; MALAYALAM FRACTION ONE EIGHTH; No; 0; L;;;; 1/8; N;;;;
OD78; MALAYALAM FRACTION THREE SIXTEENTHS; No; 0; L;;;; 3/16; N;;;;
                                §7.2. Changes to NamesList.txt
@@ -59,4 +59,5 @@
0D2D
       MALAYALAM LETTER BHA
0D2E
       MALAYALAM LETTER MA
       * also used to denote the fraction one eightieth (kaani)
       MALAYALAM LETTER YA
0D2F
0D30 MALAYALAM LETTER RA
@@ -113,4 +114,22 @@
        * used alone to write the /au/ dependent vowel in modern texts
       x (malayalam vowel sign au - 0D4C)
+@
               Minor fractions
       Some minor fractions are represented by letters.
+@+
       The fraction one three-hundred and twentieth "muntiri" is denoted by the syllable
```

#### "pta" (0d2a 0d4d 0d24) The fraction one eightieth "kaani" is denoted by the letter "ma" (0d2e)

MALAYALAM FRACTION ONE ONE-HUNDRED-AND-SIXTIETH +0D59 = arakaani

MALAYALAM FRACTION ONE FORTIETH +0D5A = aramaa

+0D5B MALAYALAM FRACTION THREE EIGHTIETHS = muunnukaani

+0D5C MALAYALAM FRACTION ONE TWENTIETH = orumaa

+0D5D MALAYALAM FRACTION ONE TENTH

= irumaa

+0D5E MALAYALAM FRACTION THREE TWENTIETHS

= muunnumaa +0D5F MALAYALAM FRACTION ONE FIFTH

= naalumaa

**@** Additional vowels for Sanskrit

0D60 MALAYALAM LETTER VOCALIC RR

### @@ -142,6 +161,15 @@

Fractions

0D73 MALAYALAM FRACTION ONE QUARTER

= kaal

MALAYALAM FRACTION ONE HALF 0D74

= ara

0D75 MALAYALAM FRACTION THREE QUARTERS = mukkaal

+0D76

MALAYALAM FRACTION ONE SIXTEENTH = maakaani

+0D77 MALAYALAM FRACTION ONE EIGHTH

= arakkaal +0D78 MALAYALAM FRACTION THREE SIXTEENTHS

= munntaani

Date mark

0D79 MALAYALAM DATE MARK

§8. Code Chart

	0D0	0D1	0D2	0D3	0D4	0D5	0D6	0D7
0		ഐ	0	0	ាំ		33	w
1			ഡ	С	್ನ		ഞ	უ
2	ं	8	ഡ	司	್ಟು		:்: எ	൲
3	 	ഓ	ണ	ഖ	::\ <u>\</u>		<b>்</b> ഞ	6
4		ഔ	ത	9				ති
5	അ	கூ	Ю	а				ഌ
6	ആ	ഖ	ß	S	െ		0	വമ
7	භ	S	w	ഷ	<b>€</b>	ာ	۵	൶
8	ഈ	ப	m	സ	ൈ		Q	en
9	ව	ങ	ഩ	ഹ		3	M	ra-
A	ల్గా	<u>م</u>	പ		ൊ	ని	д	ൺ
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# §9. Official Proposal Summary Form

### (Based on N3902-F)

#### A. Administrative

1. Title

### Proposal to encode Malayalam minor fractions

2. Requester's name

### Shriramana Sharma

3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution)

### **Individual Contribution**

4. Submission date

#### 2013-Mar-08

- 5. Requester's reference (if applicable)
- 6. Choose one of the following: This is a complete proposal (or) More information will be provided later

# This is a complete proposal.

- B. Technical General
- 1. Choose one of the following:
- 1a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters), Proposed name of script

No

1b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block, Name of the existing block

#### Malayalam

2. Number of characters in proposal

#### 10 (ten)

3. Proposed category

### Category B1, specialized small

4. Is a repertoire including character names provided?

Yes

4a. If YES, are the names in accordance with the "character naming guidelines" in Annex L of P&P document?

4b. 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?

### Shriramana Sharma

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

# Shriramana Sharma. jamadagni-at-gmail-dot-com

6a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?

Yes.

6b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of proposed characters attached?

Yes.

7. 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)?

8. 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.

Yes.

### C. Technical – Justification

1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before? If YES, explain.

No.

2a. Has contact been made to members of the user community (for example: National Body, user groups of the script or characters, other experts, etc.)?

#### Yes

2b. If YES, with whom?

# Cibu Johny, Radhakrishna Warrier, Rajeesh Nambiar, Mahesh Pai

2c. If YES, available relevant documents

### The matter was largely discussed in person or via email.

3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example: size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included?

## Those who desire to store as digital text old Malayalam text involving these characters.

4a. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare)

### Rare

4b. Reference

# See detailed proposal.

5a. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community?

# Not at large. Perhaps by scholars.

5b. If YES, where?

### Largely in research institutions around the world involved with Malayalam texts.

6a. After giving due considerations to the principles in the P&P document must the proposed characters be entirely in the BMP?

#### Yes

6b. If YES, is a rationale provided?

# The characters belong to the Malayalam block which is in the BMP and has sufficient space.

6c. If YES, reference

7. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)?

# Yes, as far as possible. See §6 for details.

8a. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence?

#### No.

8b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

8c. If YES, reference

9a. Can any of the proposed characters be encoded using a composed character sequence of either existing characters or other proposed characters?

#### Nο

9b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

9c. If YES, reference

10a. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to an existing character?

# Some characters are similar (but not identical) to existing Malayalam characters.

10b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

#### Yes

10c. If YES, reference

# There is some similarity but the proposed characters have a consistently distinct shape.

11a. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences?

#### Nο

11b. If YES, is a rationale for such use provided?

11c. If YES, reference

11d. Is a list of composite sequences and their corresponding glyph images (graphic symbols) provided?

12a. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as control function or similar semantics?

#### No.

12b. If YES, describe in detail (include attachment if necessary)

13a. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility character(s)?

#### No

13b. If YES, is the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic character(s) identified?

13c. If YES, reference:

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