

JTC1/SC2/WG2 N4547

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Having read N4542 Proposal to Encode Five Mongolian Head Marks, we present the following comments.

1. Inputting Bira (U+1800) + ZWJ (U+200D) is not an ideal way of implementing the  (named Triple Birga in N4542). A better way needs to be discussed and developed.

2. There are at least 9 BIRGAs in Mongolian excluding the ornament variants:

, these are so-called Horizontal BIRGAs.

, these are so-called Vertical BIRGAs.

, this glyph occurs in the work of Розднѣва (a Russian scholar) in 1915 only. It is not found in original Kalmyk documents, its usage is not the same as that in original Kalmyk documents either. This glyph may occur anywhere in columns of Mongolian, but other BIRGAs occur on upper left of a page only.

There is no enough spaces for all 9 BIRGAs in column U+181X.

3. Names like BIRGA ONE, BIRGA TWO, ... .. BIRGA NINE could be an option of naming methods. They are not as important as other issues.

4. The BIRGAs listed above are not nominal forms but variants of U+01800. Whether or not being regarded as nominal forms should be determined by their behaviors in Mongolian rather than other scripts. A

practical way may be processing all of them in fonts such as OpenType, AAT, etc.?

We are trying to implement all BIRGAs and Mongolian presentation forms in UCS way, and we welcome more information from authors of N4542 and others.