Title: Proposal to Encode the SIYAQ NUMBER MARK for Arabic

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Action: For consideration by UTC

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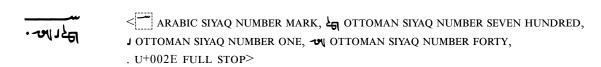
1 Introduction

This is a proposal to encode a new character in the 'Arabic' block of the Unicode standard:

Glyph	Code	Character name
	061D	ARABIC SIYAQ NUMBER MARK

2 Description

In some Siyaq traditions, the supertending mark — is written above numbers in order to indicate that they belong to a set (see figure 1). This mark is an abbreviation of the Arabic word مياق siyāq consisting of the initial form of سياق u+0633 ARABIC LETTER SEEN followed by _ u+0640 ARABIC TATWEEL. The sign extends the entire width of the numerical sequence. In code charts, the character is to be represented using the glyph in order to specify that it requires special rendering behavior. It is used in encoded text as follows:



The ARABIC SIYAQ NUMBER MARK may be used with all four Siyaq blocks.

3 Character Data

Character properties In the format of UnicodeData.txt:

061D; ARABIC SIYAQ NUMBER MARK; Cf; 0; AN; ;; ;; N; ;; ;;

Linebreaking properties In the format of LineBreak.txt:

061D;AL # Cf ARABIC SIYAQ NUMBER MARK

Arabic shaping properties In the format of ArabicShaping.txt:

061D; ARABIC SIYAQ NUMBER MARK; U; No_Joining_Group

4 References

Pihan, Antoine Paulin. 1860. Exposé des signes de numération usités chez les peuples orientaux anciens et modernes. Paris: L'imprimerie impériale.

5 Acknowledgments

I am grateful to Roozbeh Pournader for his detailed comments regarding the encoding of the four Siyaq blocks.

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NUMÉRATION TURQUE.

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Ce nombre représente effectivement, mais en abrégé, et en sous-entendant la conjonction wa, nécessaire entre les diverses quantités exprimées en arabe :

sittoumiàt wa wâh'ed wa àrba'yn (six cents et un et quarante). En turc, il se lit : alty suz gyrq bir.

En résumé, les chiffres syâq, dont les fonctionnaires turcs font tant de mystère, ne sauraient embarrasser longtemps quiconque sait un peu d'arabe; et les explications que nous avons données plus haut suffisent pour faire lire sans difficulté les nombres suivants, soit en arabe, soit en turc :

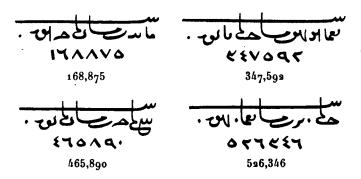


Figure 1: Usage of the Siyaq number sign (from Pihan 1860: 237).

Addendum to Acknowledgments

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