

Chinese Buddhism Project

Assigned number L2/16-066

Proposal on creating 2 Chinese Ancient Characters

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Date: January 28, 2016

Section 1. Introduction

There are many ancient Chinese characters in Buddhism Sutra. As these characters do not appear frequently in daily life, they do not exist in the regular Chinese typing system. Therefore, people have trouble to type out these ancient characters in their computer and distributed wrong Mantra/Sutra online.

Section 2. Justification for Encoding

Currently, these 2 proposed Chinese Characters do not exist in the Chinese Typing system. However, these 2 words appear frequently in Buddhism handbooks. The current solution for displaying these 2 characters on web are either scanning a printed handbook into PDF or using Chinese characters that carry the same sound. Therefore, if these 2 words can be made and incorporated into the SimSun or Mingliu families in the long run, it can benefit many people for distributing the correct version of mantra online.

Section 4. Appendix

1. Not Case Sensitive.
2. These two characters are made of ordinary characters in Chinese Typing System. 𠃉, 迷, 少, 兔 all exist in the Chinese typing system.
3. Not white-space characters.
4. No numeric value
5. These 2 proposed characters can be made by combining existing characters
 - 𠃉 + 迷 (Combine horizontally) (𠃉 is at the left of 迷)
 - 少 + 兔 (Combine vertically) (少 is at the top of 兔)
6. Not punctuation characters

Section 5. Bibliographic information

The first route to prove the existence of the 2 proposed words is to use Wikipedia and Baidu. The second method is to use publishing from a reputed temple,.

- 1) On Wikipedia, 如意輪觀音陀羅尼 shows that it is a mantra from 觀音菩薩 (Avalokiteśvara). 𠃉 + 迷 was incorrectly replaced by 𠃉 (under mantra section, line 4, 5th word) because 𠃉 + 迷 does not exist.

<https://zh.wikipedia.org/wiki/%E5%A6%82%E6%84%8F%E8%BC%AA%E8%A7%80%E9%9F%B3%E9%99%80%E7%BE%85%E5%B0%BC>

2) On Baidu, 大吉祥天女咒 shows that it is a mantra from 金光明經 and it is one of the 十小咒 in Buddhism morning class. 少+免 was replaced with [少/免] (under mantra section, line 11, 6th word) because 少+免 does not exist.

<http://baike.baidu.com/view/1804735.htm>

On Wikipedia, it doesn't give any description and that's why I include Baidu for this mantra. 少+免 was replaced with 筭 (under mantra section, line 5, 11st word)

<https://zh.wikisource.org/wiki/%E5%8D%81%E5%B0%8F%E5%92%92/%E5%96%84%E5%A5%B3%E5%A4%A9%E5%92%92>

3) Venerable Hsuan Hua (宣化上人) is one of the most respected monks in the world. His temple, Dharma Realm Buddhist Association, has published many sutra and mantra. I will use one of his online sutra in PDF version to illustrate the words I am proposing.

http://www.drbachinese.org/online_reading/drba_others/10_small_mantras_090909.pdf

For 𠄎 + 迷, please go to PDF page 1, line 10, the 5th word

For 少 + 免, please go to PDF page 10, line 28, the 4th word

Therefore, 𠄎 + 迷 and 少+免 are essential words for Buddhism morning class, and it is beneficial to have these words being created.