# Proposal to Encode Additional Wasla Characters for the Holy Quran

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July 4th, 2017

## Introduction

The standard printed Quran (Madina Mushaf) has only one character for a wasla.



Depending on its position or a character before it or if a user starts reciting after a pause, the same wasla character can be read differently: with a fatha, or a kasra, or a damma. For a person who doesn't know Arabic, it's not possible to know the exact sound that wasla represents. If we consider most Muslims don't speak Arabic and many of them read the Quran without Arabic knowledge, more than 1 billion people might be reading those words wrong.

## Proposed Characters

I propose to leave U+0671 (Arabic Letter Alef Wasla) character for words with an original fatha, like:

<div dir="rtl">

ٱلله      ٱلْكِتَابُ      ٱلَّذِى

</div>

and add two new characters to represent words that begin with an original damma or an original kasra like:

<div align="right">

اَرْجِعِى     اَدْخُلُوهَا

</div>

That will clear the confusion and help people recite the Holy Quran correctly.

I tried to create the shapes as familiar as possible, so users accepted them easily and didn't make them uncomfortable. For a wasla with an original damma, I chose a wasla with dot in front of it. A dot in front of a character historically used to denote a damma. For a wasla with an original kasra, I changed the position of the wasla symbol. Placing a symbol like a dot under a letter used to denote a kasra before the introduction of contemporary kasra symbol.

*Proposed Glyphs and Unicode Data*

| Shape | Name |
|---|---|
| اُ | 08D2;ARABIC LETTER ALEF WASLA WITH ORIGINAL DAMMA;Lo;0;AL;;;;;N;;;;; |
| اُ | FBC2;ARABIC LETTER ALEF WASLA WITH ORIGINAL DAMMA ISOLATED FORM;Lo;0;AL;<isolated> 08D2;;;;N;;;;; |
| ﺄُ | FBC3;ARABIC LETTER ALEF WASLA WITH ORIGINAL DAMMA FINAL FORM;Lo;0;AL;<final> 08D2;;;;N;;;;; |
| اِ | 08D3;ARABIC LETTER ALEF WASLA WITH ORIGINAL KASRA;Lo;0;AL;;;;;N;;;;; |
| اِ | FBC4;ARABIC LETTER ALEF WASLA WITH ORIGINAL KASRA ISOLATED FORM;Lo;0;AL;<isolated> 08D3;;;;N;;;;; |
| اِ | FBC5;ARABIC LETTER ALEF WASLA WITH ORIGINAL KASRA FINAL FORM;Lo;0;AL;<final> 08D3;;;;N;;;;; |

**ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2**
**PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM TO ACCOMPANY SUBMISSIONS**
**FOR ADDITIONS TO THE REPERTOIRE OF ISO/IEC 10646**[1]
**Please fill all the sections A, B and C below.**
**Please read Principles and Procedures Document (P & P) from** http://std.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/principles.html **for guidelines and**
**details before filling this form.**
**Please ensure you are using the latest Form from** http://std.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/summaryform.html **.**
**See also** http://std.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/roadmaps.html **for latest *Roadmaps*.**

## A. Administrative

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. **Title:** | *Proposal to Encode Additional Wasla Characters for the Holy Quran* |
| 2. Requester's name: | *Murodulla Begmatov* |
| 3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution): | *Individual contribution* |
| 4. Submission date: | *July 4th, 2017* |
| 5. Requester's reference (if applicable): | |
| 6. Choose one of the following: | |
|     This is a complete proposal: | *Yes* |
|     (or) More information will be provided later: | |

## B. Technical – General

1. Choose one of the following:
    a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters):
        Proposed name of script:
    b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block:    *Yes*
        Name of the existing block:    *Arabic*

2. Number of characters in proposal:    *6*

3. Proposed category (select one from below - see section 2.2 of P&P document):
   A-Contemporary    **X**   B.1-Specialized (small collection)     B.2-Specialized (large collection)
   C-Major extinct     D-Attested extinct     E-Minor extinct
   F-Archaic Hieroglyphic or Ideographic     G-Obscure or questionable usage symbols

4. Is a repertoire including character names provided?    *Yes*
    a. If YES, are the names in accordance with the "character naming guidelines"
        in Annex L of P&P document?    *Yes*
    b. 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?
                                  *Murodulla Begmatov*
    b. Identify the party granting a license for use of the font by the editors (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.):

6. References:
    a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?    *Yes*
    b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources)
    of proposed characters attached?

7. Special encoding issues:
    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)?    *No*

8. Additional Information:

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. Examples of such properties are: Casing information, Numeric information, Currency information, Display behaviour information such as line breaks, widths etc., Combining behaviour, Spacing behaviour, Directional behaviour, Default Collation behaviour, relevance in Mark Up contexts, Compatibility equivalence and other Unicode normalization related information. See the Unicode standard at http://www.unicode.org for such information on other scripts. Also see Unicode Character Database ( http://www.unicode.org/reports/tr44/ ) and associated Unicode Technical Reports for information needed for consideration by the Unicode Technical Committee for inclusion in the Unicode Standard.

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**C. Technical - Justification**

1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before? _ _ _ _ _ _ *No* _ _ _ _ _

    If YES explain _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

2. Has contact been made to members of the user community (for example: National Body,

    user groups of the script or characters, other experts, etc.)? _ _ _ _ _ _ *No* _ _ _ _ _

        If YES, with whom? _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

        If YES, available relevant documents: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example:

    size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included? _ _ _ _ _ _ *Yes* _ _ _ _ _

    Reference: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ *Muslims, anyone who reads Quran in Arabic* _ _ _ _ _

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

    Reference: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ *Recitation; common* _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

5. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community? _ _ _ _ _ _ No _ _ _ _ _

    If YES, where?  Reference: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

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

    in the BMP? _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

        If YES, is a rationale provided? _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

        If YES, reference: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

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

8. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing

    character or character sequence? _ _ _ _ _ _ *No* _ _ _ _

        If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided? _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

        If YES, reference: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

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

    existing characters or other proposed characters? _ _ _ _ _ _ *No* _ _ _ _

        If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided? _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

        If YES, reference: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

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

    to**,** or could be confused with, an existing character? _ _ _ _ _ _ *No* _ _ _ _

        If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided? _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

        If YES, reference: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

11. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences? _ _ _ _ *No* _ _ _ _

    If YES, is a rationale for such use provided? _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

        If YES, reference: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

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

        If YES, reference: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

12. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as

    control function or similar semantics? _ _ _ _ _ _ *No* _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _ _    If YES, describe in detail (include attachment if necessary) _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

13. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility characters? _ _ _ _ _ _ *No* _ _ _ _

    If YES, are the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic characters identified? _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

        If YES, reference: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

**Enclosed:**

1. wasla-with-damma.png

2. wasla-with-damma-isolate.png

3. wasla-with-damma-end.png

4. wasla-with-kasra-png

5. wasla-with-kasra-isolate.png

6. wasla-with-kasra-end.png