

To: Unicode Technical Committee
From: Debbie Anderson, SEI, UC Berkeley
Subject: Additional information on L2/18-084 TAKRI VOWEL SIGN VOCALIC R by Srinidhi A and Sridatta A
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The following is additional information from the proposal authors, Srinidhi A and Sridatta A, on TAKRI VOWEL SIGN VOCALIC R (which they proposed in L2/18-084):

I had proposed this character as currently Takri served as block that unifies all varieties of the script. But after seeing the Sirmauri proposal which requested for disunification, I had questioned whether it should be unified or not. Currently in Chambeali forms is chosen as representative glyphs for code chart as most printed books used this form.

This character is based on the Mandiali form of Takri. The Mandi form is more closer to Sharada than Chamba form of Takri. I believe distinct encoding of Mandeali script is not required, it should be unified with either Takri or Sharada. There are some differences between Mandeali and Sharada/ Chambeali forms, but it does not require separate encoding. It requires study of more actual primary sources and manuscripts to say whether it should be unified with either Takri or Sharada.

Except Sirmauri-Jaunsari varieties all other Takri forms doesn't require separate encoding as of now. They show high typographical similarity, there may be differences in some letters, but majority of letters are similar. They can be represented using either Dogra, Takri or Sharada, based on which block/script they are more closer.

Coming back to question whether whether Takri vowel sign Vocalic R should be encoded or not, I think we don't know currently whether it exists in other forms of Takri, except Mandeali. The shape of glyph likely to remain same even if it exists in other varieties. It can be encoded in Takri as we saw earlier SHA, RRA, KHA were encoded in Takri based on other Takri varieties not present in Chambeali form. I think Anshuman Pandey can give more details as he had proposed Dogra, Takri and Sharada scripts earlier.