

Submitted by: Amandeep Singh
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Subject: Correcting the name and position of U+262C currently labeled as ADI SHAKTI but, is Sikh religion's symbol ☯ 'Khanda' .

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

I have been working on Punjabi language for more than half of a decade. While looking for Sikh religion's symbol 'Khanda', I came across Unicode U+262C named 'ADI SHAKTI', which is incorrect in its entirety. I don't know who proposed this name before it was accepted in Unicode version 1.1 stated as:

'Unicode 1.1 Composite Name List, including default properties # Revision of July 5, 1995 (1.1.5)'

with details:

262C;ADI SHAKTI;So;0;ON;;;;;N;;;;;

But problem with this name is that 'ADI SHAKTI' is not even known to native speakers of Punjabi language and Sikh people at all. The symbol in question is commonly known as 'KHANDA' or ਖੰਡਾ (in Gurmukhi script) among Punjabi people as well as Sikh religion. Even the wikipedia page for religious and political symbols corrects the mistake by adding the correct name 'Khanda' to the description of the symbol in miscellaneous symbol block. see:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religious_and_political_symbols_in_Unicode#Miscellaneous_Symbols_block

Now with this incorrect name and inappropriate positioning of the symbol in miscellaneous block resulted in two undesired outcomes.

- 1). It did not get the recognition and its position in Gurmukhi table (<https://unicode.org/charts/PDF/U0A00.pdf>), it rightfully deserved.
- 2). It was left out of almost all of the tech giants like Microsoft, Google, and Apple etc. in their Gurmukhi keyboards designed around Unicode.

These two outcomes resulted in a catch 22 situation of further ignorance about this widely popular and well know symbol in Sikh religion and Punjabi people otherwise.

Thus, I hereby propose:

- 1). Changing the name from 'ADI SHAKTI' to 'Khanda'
- 2). The correct placement of the symbol in Gurmukhi table (within the range: 0A00–0A7F) preferably near/next to the symbol 'EK ONKAR' (U+0A74).

Thanks for your consideration in advance.

With warm regards,

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