Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set
International Organization for Standardization
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Международная организация по стандартизации

Doc Type: **Working Group Document**
Title: **Proposal to revise the glyph of one Old Turkic character**
Source: **Michael Everson and Andrew West**
Status: **Individual Contribution**
Action: **For consideration by JTC1/SC2/WG2 and UTC**
Date: **2021-08-24**
Refer to: **N3357R2 (L2/08-071)**

This document requests the replacement of the glyph of U+10C47 ᴏʟᴅ ᴛᴜʀᴋɪᴄ ʟᴇᴛᴛᴇʀ ᴏʀᴋʜᴏɴ ᴏᴛ. The letter in question occurs only in the the *Irk Bitig* 𐰃𐰺𐰴 𐰋𐰃𐱅𐰃𐰏 ‘Book of Omens’ (British Library Or.8212/161); it occurs three times there, in Omens 17, 45, and 53. Its glyph was encoded on the basis of the glyphs in Tekin 1968 (Figure 1c in N3357R2, Figure 1 below) and von Gabain 1941 (Figure 2 in N3357R2 and below). Neither is a good representation of the glyph as it actually occurs in the manuscript, and no inscriptional form of it is known. The change requested is simply a replacement as shown here. Figures 3, 4, and 5 show the letter as it occurs in the manuscript. The glyph in Figure 4 is the clearest and is the model for the glyph correction proposed:

Bibliography

Tekin, Talât. [1968]. *A grammar of Orkhon Turkic*. Bloomington: Indiana University.
——. 1993. *Irk Bitig (the book of omens)*. Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz. ISBN 3-447-03426-2
von Gabain, A. 1941. *Alttürkische Grammatik mit Bibliographie, Lesestücken und Wörterverzeichnis, auch Neutürkisch*. Mit vier Schrifttafeln und sieben Schriftproben. (Porta Linguarum Orientalium; 23) Leipzig: Otto Harrassowitz.

Figures.

Figure 1. Notes on additional Old Turkic letters, from Tekin1968.

Figure 2. Table of Old Turkic letters in Orkhon and Yenisei, taken from von Gabain 1941.
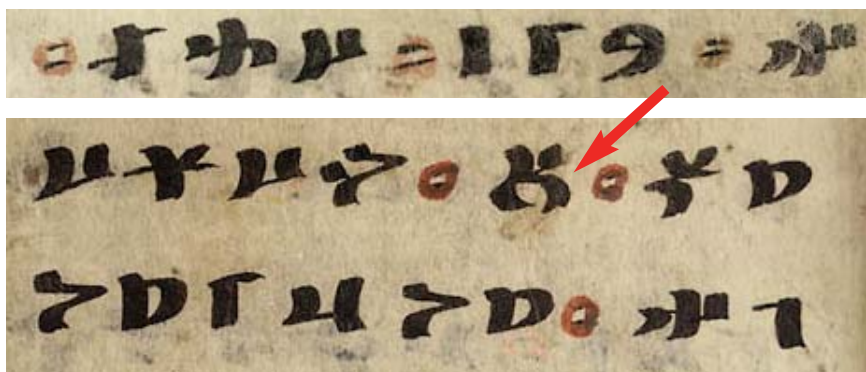

Figure 3. Omen #17 from BL Or.8212/161, ff. 17v–18r.

Transcription and translation on the third and fourth lines below are based on Tekin 1993:12–13.

y²is²·öza·y¹s¹·ᴏᴛ·k²öšöpn²·

yiş üzä yaş ᴏᴛ körüpän

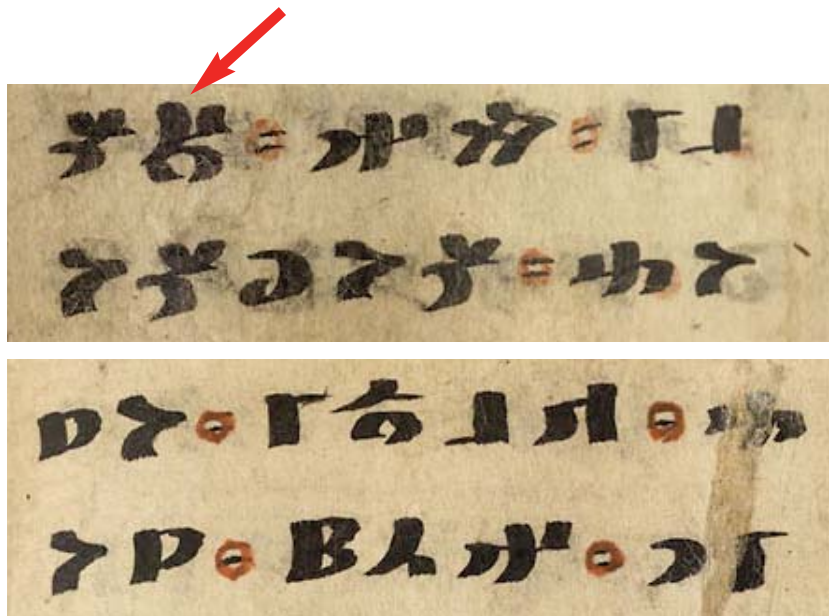Having seen fresh grass on a mountain pasture

Figure 4. Omen #45, from BL Or.8212/161, f. 39r-39v.
Transcription and translation on the third and fourth lines below are based on Tekin 1993:20–21.

·)ⲅⅅ〉·ⲅⲟⲤⲗⲗ·ⲏⲤⲅⲟⲤⲤ·ⲏⲤⲤⲏⲟ· ꞉ ⲟ〉Ⲥⅅ〉꞉ⲅ⊙⊐Ⲗⲏ꞉ⲏ〉Ⲥꞿ⊐〉Ⲥꞿ꞉ⲏ〉Ⲥꞿⲏ꞉

·OTs¹oz·s¹ob¹s¹oz·k¹l¹t¹i·oy¹in¹·
OTsuz subsuz kaltı uyın?
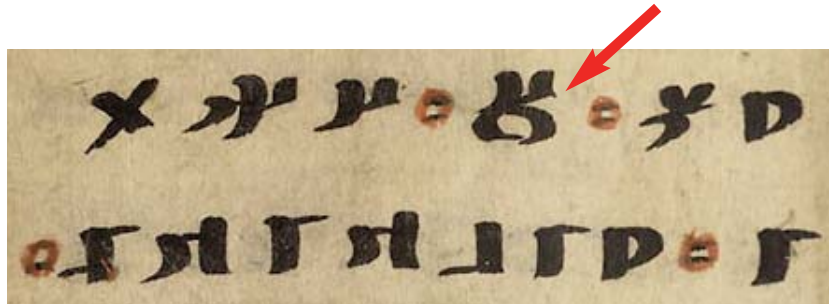How shall I be able [to manage] without water and grass?

Figure 5. Omen #53, BL Or.8212/161, f. 46r.
Transcription and translation on the third and fourth lines below are based on Tekin 1993:22–23.

·ⲅⲭⲏꞀⲚ·ⲏ·Ⲥⅅ ꞉ ⲅⲭⲏⲏⲢ꞉ ⲏ ꞉ ⲭⲣⅅ
y¹s¹·OT·ön²d²i·
yaş OT·ündi·
The fresh grass sprouted