

## On LATIN CAPITAL LETTER F WITH STROKE

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2022-06-27

The characters ꝱ U+A798 LATIN CAPITAL LETTER F WITH STROKE and ꝲ U+A799 LATIN SMALL LETTER F WITH STROKE were proposed for encoding in *Revised proposal to encode “Teuthonista” phonetic characters in the UCS*, N4081, L2/11-202. The representative glyph of the uppercase of the casing pair, ꝱ U+A798, is based on one sample from Diedrich Westermann (translated by A. L. Bickford-Smith), *A study of the Ewe language*, 1930, p. 16 and is as follows:

ꝱ  
A798

The following representative glyph is recommended:

ꝴ

Because the lowercase letter ꝲ U+A799 LATIN SMALL LETTER F WITH STROKE was used in Ewe (ISO 639-3: ewe), in the Chaga dialect of the Mochi language (ISO 639-3: old) and in the 1924 version of the Anthropos alphabet but not in any known alphabet specific to German dialectology, the character annotations for U+A799 should not say “also used in German dialectology”.

Several orthographies have been used for Ewe in Ghana, Togo and Benin, often using different letters for the voiceless bilabial fricative [ɸ]. The British and Foreign Bible Society (BFBS) 1913 orthography used the case pair ꝴ and ꝵ. Riebshtein 1926 also uses ꝵ but its uppercase was not found. Westermann used Carl Meinhof’s orthography with ꝴ and ꝵ in most of his works before using the 1927 International Institute of African Languages and Cultures (IILAC) “Africa Alphabet” with ꝴ and ꝵ.

The IILAC, led by Diedrich Westermann from 1926 to 1939, used the f hook letter, ꝴ and ꝵ, in IILAC 1927, *Practical Orthography of African Languages*, edited by Westermann, Daniel Jones and others. According to John Kelly in the introduction to *Practical Orthography of African Languages*, 1990, p. xv: *The real practicality of the system was questioned by commentators, such as a correspondent from Southern Sudan who pointed that because of the Institute’s use of the ‘long f’ for the voiceless bilabial fricative, no systematic use of italics would be possible.* The alphabet was nonetheless adopted for Ewe in 1927 and was introduced in Westermann 1928, *Evefiala: Ewe-English dictionary*. Westermann 1930 (translated by A. L. Bickford-Smith), *A study of the Ewe language*, uses the lowercase ꝵ instead of ꝵ, as well as ꝶ (not encoded) instead of ꝷ, and seems to be the only work by Westermann to do so. IILAC 1930, *Practical Orthography of African Languages*, reworked in large part by Ida Ward, or Westermann and Ward 1933 use ꝵ as well. The Gold Coast government 1930 orthography uses ꝵ as it adopted the IILAC Africa alphabet. This is the orthography still used today

in Ewe.

The representative glyph of Ꝣ U+A798 LATIN CAPITAL LETTER F WITH STROKE should be changed to a capital F with stroke because:

- the current representative glyph is different from the capital used in Westermann 1930, with a stroke instead of a tilde (Ꝣ instead of Ꝥ in Westermann 1930);
- Westermann 1930 uses a temporary orthography, slightly different from IIALC 1927 and IIALC 1930, using Ꝥ instead of Ꝣ, as well as Ꝥ (not encoded) instead of Ꝣ;
- the representative glyph Ꝣ is confusable with (or arguably even a variant of) Ꝣ U+0191 LATIN CAPITAL LETTER F WITH HOOK (which often has its stroke extending on both sides of the vertical stem);
- the capital F with stroke, Ꝣ, used in the Bible in Ewe, *British Kple Duta-BibliahaboꝢo*, published by the BFBS in 1913, is a variant of U+A789 LATIN CAPITAL F WITH STROKE.
- a capital F with stroke, Ꝣ, has a shape easily associated with the character name.

The capital F with high stroke form, Ꝣ, is unfortunately confusable with Ꝣ U+20A3 FRENCH FRANC SIGN, especially in fonts where U+20A3 is a double struck capital F or capital F with low stroke.

The f with stroke, Ꝣ, was also used in Chaga dialect of the Mochi language (ISO 639-3: old) in Tanzania, notably in the Bible in Chaga (Gospel of John), Fassmann 1905, but its uppercase was not found. Raum 1909 uses Ꝣ in Chaga, which was also used in one of the Ewe orthographies.

As shown in L2/11-202, the 1924 version of the Anthropos alphabet by Wilhelm Schmidt uses the lowercase Ꝣ but it doesn't use the uppercase. The 1907 version of the Anthropos alphabet used the ligature ff or the letter Ꝣ instead of Ꝣ. The Anthropos alphabet was intended to be used as a general phonetic alphabet and was not specific to German dialectology. In Heepe 1928, the 1924 version of the Anthropos alphabet is presented in its own chapter and is not in the "Deutsche Mundarten" [German dialects] chapter. The IPA and other general phonetic alphabets also have their own chapters in Heepe 1928.

## Proposed notes in Unicode charts and NameList

The Unicode charts for Currency Symbols (Range: 20A0-20CF) and for Latin Extended-D (Range: A720-A7FF) have the following annotations:

20A3

\* France

A798

x (latin capital letter f with hook - 0191)

A799 LATIN SMALL LETTER F WITH STROKE

\* old Ewe orthography

\* also used in German dialectology

They should be updated with the following:

20A3

\* France

x (latin capital letter f with stroke - A798)

A798

x (latin capital letter f with hook - 0191)

x (french franc sign - 20A3)

A799 LATIN SMALL LETTER F WITH STROKE

\* old Ewe orthography

\* also used in the Anthropos phonetic alphabet

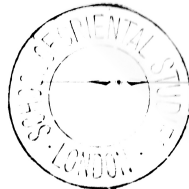
## Samples

NUBABLA YEYE

LA

FE AGBALÊ

LE EWEGBE ME.



BRITISH KPLE DUTA-BIBLIAHABO  
1913.

Figure 1. BFBS 1913, inner cover page, showing F U+A798 LATIN CAPITAL LETTER F WITH STROKE used in the 1913 Ewe Bible.

MOSE FE AGBALÊ GBÂTQ.

Rehemewqwg.  
1. Le gomedzedzea me Mawu wo  
dzifo kple anyigba.<sup>a</sup> 2 Ke anyi-  
gba le nyama, nonome meli ne o,  
ele fuflu, eye viviti do de tsi gba-  
na la nku me, eye Mawu fe Gbo-  
gbo le agba sam le tsia dzi.  
3 <sup>d</sup>Eye Mawu gblo be: Kekeli  
nedo! Eye kekeli do. 4 Eye Mawu  
<sup>a</sup> Dg. 17, 24;  
Nyad. 4, 11;  
Heb. 11, 3;  
Yoh. 1, 1-3.  
<sup>b</sup> Ps. 136, 7-9.  
<sup>d</sup> Ps. 33, 9; Kor.  
II. 4, 6.  
ano dzifolilia nu, bene woaklê de  
anyigba dzi! Eye wova me ne-  
nema. 16 Tete Mawu wo nu keklê  
ga eveawo. Ewo gato, bena wa-  
du nkeke dzi, kple sueto, bena  
woadu za dzi, hekpe de gletiviwo  
nu.<sup>b</sup> 17 Eye Mawu tsq wo do  
dzifolilia nu, bena woaklê de anyi-  
gba dzi, 18 woadu nkeke kple

Figure 2. BFBS 1913, Genesis showing F U+A798 LATIN CAPITAL LETTER F WITH STROKE and f U+A799 LATIN SMALL LETTER F WITH STROKE used in the 1913 Ewe Bible.

70 **CHAGA (KICHAGA) : MOCHI DIAL.**

S. of Kilima-Njaro, Kenya Colony.

Kifa Ruva alevukunda vuyana katana alekya  
mana oke o vomii kimumu, kundu orio mndu momi-  
dikya naladekefo, indi navone moo fo mlungana.

1905

Figure 3. BFBS 1921 p. 18 showing ꝑ U+A799 LATIN SMALL LETTER F WITH STROKE used in the 1905 Chaga Bible (Gospel of John).

137 **EWĖ, or EFĖ.**

S. Togoland, &c., W. Africa.

Elabena ale gbege Mawu lõa heheame bena,  
wòtsò ye ñuto fe Tenuvi hena, bena amesiamé, si  
hòá edzi sena la, mele tsòtsrõ ge o, ke bon wòakpò  
agbe mavò.

1913

Figure 4. BFBS 1921 p. 34 showing ꝑ U+A799 LATIN SMALL LETTER F WITH STROKE used in the BFBS 1913 Ewe Bible.

ꝑ is pronounced with both lips ; i.e. it is a bilabial  
ꝑ (capital : ꝑ̄).  
w is a bilabial semi-vowel resembling the English  
w in ' wall '.

Figure 5. Westermann 1930 p. 16, showing ꝑ̄ U+A798 LATIN CAPITAL LETTER F WITH STROKE with the F hook tilde form.

Old form.	New form.	Old form.	New form.
Ð ð	Ð ð	ꝑ ꝑ	ꝑ ꝑ
Ḡ ḡ	Ḡ ḡ	ꝑ̄ ꝑ̄	ꝑ̄ ꝑ̄
Ḥ ḥ	Ḥ ḥ	ꝑ̄ ꝑ̄	ꝑ̄ ꝑ̄
Ḣ ḣ	Ḣ ḣ	ꝑ̄ ꝑ̄	ꝑ̄ ꝑ̄
Ḥ ḥ	Ḥ ḥ	ꝑ̄ ꝑ̄	ꝑ̄ ꝑ̄
Ḣ ḣ	Ḣ ḣ	ꝑ̄ ꝑ̄	ꝑ̄ ꝑ̄

Figure 6. Education Department, Gold Coast 1930 p. 17 showing ꝑ̄ U+0191 LATIN CAPITAL LETTER F WITH HOOK used in the new Gold Coast government alphabet, with a stroke extending on both sides of the vertical stem.

Romaines.	Italiques.	Manuscrites.	Romaines.	Italiques.	Manuscrites.
a A	<i>a A</i>	<i>a A</i>	l L	<i>l L</i>	<i>l L</i>
b B	<i>b B</i>	<i>b B</i>	m M	<i>m M</i>	<i>m M</i>
ß B	<i>ß B</i>	<i>ß B</i>	n N	<i>n N</i>	<i>n N</i>
c C	<i>c C</i>	<i>c C</i>	ŋ N	<i>ŋ N</i>	<i>ŋ N</i>
d D	<i>d D</i>	<i>d D</i>	o O	<i>o O</i>	<i>o O</i>
đ Đ	<i>đ Đ</i>	<i>đ ou dr D</i>	o O	<i>o O</i>	<i>o O</i>
e E	<i>e E</i>	<i>e E</i>	p P	<i>p P</i>	<i>p P</i>
ε E	<i>ε E</i>	<i>ε E</i>	r R	<i>r R</i>	<i>r ou r R</i>
ə Ə	<i>ə Ə</i>	<i>ə Ə</i>	s S	<i>s S</i>	<i>s ou s S</i>
f F	<i>f F</i>	<i>f F</i>	ſ Σ	<i>ſ Σ</i>	<i>ſ Σ</i>
f F	<i>f F</i>	<i>f F</i>	t T	<i>t T</i>	<i>t T</i>
g G	<i>g G</i>	<i>g G</i>	u U	<i>u U</i>	<i>u U</i>
y Y	<i>y Y</i>	<i>y Y</i>	v V	<i>v V</i>	<i>v V ou v V</i>
h H	<i>h H</i>	<i>h H</i>	u U	<i>u U</i>	<i>u ou v U</i>
x X	<i>x X</i>	<i>x X</i>	w W	<i>w W</i>	<i>w W</i>
i I	<i>i I</i>	<i>i I</i>	y Y	<i>y Y</i>	<i>y Y</i>
j J	<i>j J</i>	<i>j J</i>	z Z	<i>z Z</i>	<i>z Z</i>
k K	<i>k K</i>	<i>k K</i>	z Z	<i>z Z</i>	<i>z Z</i>

Figure 7. IILCA 1930 p. 18 showing F U+0191 LATIN CAPITAL LETTER F WITH HOOK used in the IILCA “Africa alphabet”, with a stroke extending on both sides of the vertical stem.

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