

Draft UTC Proposal — Replace Chakma Code Chart Font (individual Submission)

Proposal to Replace the Chakma Code Chart Reference Font

Title: Replace the Unicode Code Chart Reference Font for the Chakma block (U+11100–U+1114F)

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Affiliation: Independent type designer; developer of the “**ChakmaUnicode-Regular**” font and creator of Chakma keyboard layouts

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Scope of this proposal

This document requests a *non-normative* update to the reference font used for the Unicode Code Charts in the Chakma block (U+11100–U+1114F). No changes to character repertoire, code points, names, or properties are proposed.

1. Requested action

1. Replace the current reference font for the Chakma block with **ChakmaUnicode-Regular** (latest release: on 12 August 2025), designed by **Bivuti Chakma**.
2. Update the chart production pipeline to use **ChakmaUnicode-Regular** beginning with the next charts refresh after UTC approval.

2. Rationale and benefits

- **Community alignment.** Chakma Unicode font reflects the authentic forms taught and used by the Chakma community, including schools, literature, and digital communication. It represents the community’s identity more accurately than the existing reference font.
- **Ease of reading and learning.** The glyph shapes are familiar to native readers, making them easier for children and learners to recognize and adopt.
- **Complete coverage.** The font supports the full Chakma block (U+11100–U+1114F), including combining marks, digits, and punctuation.
- **Mark positioning.** OpenType GPOS tables (mark/mkkmk) ensure correct rendering of candrabindu, anusvara, visarga, and vowel signs with all base letters.
- **Legibility in charts.** Stroke contrast and counters are optimized for Unicode chart sizes, preventing clipping or crowding in cells.
- **Open license.** The font is released under an accepted open license for Unicode charts (see 5).

3. Evidence and representative examples

- Independent vowels and consonants: U+11103 CHAKMA LETTER AA, U+1110A CHAKMA LETTER KAA.
- Combining marks with consonants: U+11100 SIGN CANDRABINDU, U+11101 ANUSVARA, U+11127–U+11134 vowel signs.
- Digits U+11136–U+1113F.
- Common words and syllables used in schoolbooks.

Appendix A (to be attached): side-by-side comparison of current chart font vs. ChakmaUnicode-Regular font.

4. Impact analysis

- **Normative impact:** None. Only chart appearance changes.
- **Compatibility:** No effect on existing data or implementations.
- **Backwards compatibility:** Maintained; charts may change artwork but not encoding.

5. Font details and licensing

- **Font name:** ChakmaUnicode-Regular
- **Designer/Owner:** Bivuti Chakma
- **File(s):** ChakmaUnicode-Regular.ttf
- **Coverage:** Full Chakma block (U+11100–U+1114F)
- **Technical:** OpenType GPOS mark/mkmm; tuned metrics
- **License:** SIL Open Font License 1.1 (OFL)
- **OpenType name IDs:**
 - ID 0 *Copyright notice:* © Bivuti Chakma
 - ID 8 *Manufacturer:* Bivuti Chakma
 - ID 9 *Designer:* Bivuti Chakma
 - ID 13 *License Description:* Licensed under SIL Open Font License 1.1
 - ID 14 *License Info URL:* <https://openfontlicense.org/>

6. Author and legal declarations

- **Author:** Bivuti Chakma (individual). Country of residence: Bangladesh. Email: bsereye@hotmail.com
- **Contributor License Agreement (CLA):** Will execute the Unicode Individual CLA (via GitHub). My GitHub Id: <https://github.com/Bivuti>
- **IP statements:** To the best of my knowledge, no other party holds IP rights to the Chakma script. This proposal concerns only chart font artwork.

7. Requested timeline

Please consider this request at the next UTC meeting. If accepted, apply the new font to Chakma charts in the subsequent update cycle.

8. Acknowledgments

Thanks to the Chakma community, educators, and language activists for reviewing and supporting the glyph forms.

9. Contact



Bivuti Chakma

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Appendix A. Representative specimens

(Attach comparison images showing key letters, marks, digits, and sample words, with embedded fonts in the PDF.)