

Proposal for Glyph Correction: U+06C4 ARABIC LETTER WAW WITH RING WITHIN

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Summary

This proposal requests a correction to the reference glyph of U+06C4 ARABIC LETTER WAW WITH RING WITHIN, used in the Kashmiri language. The current Unicode reference glyph incorrectly positions the small ring on the body of the waw. All attested sources — including a classical Kashmiri dictionary, a school textbook, an official government publication, and a daily newspaper — consistently show the ring at the final (tail) stroke of the letter. No change to the character's code point, name, or any normative property is requested.

Important note on current fonts: No Unicode font known to the author currently renders U+06C4 with the correct glyph. All existing implementations inherit the erroneous glyph form from the incorrect Unicode reference chart. This proposal addresses the root cause at the standard level.

Description of the Glyph Error

The Arabic letter WAW (و, U+0648) consists of a rounded head, a body, and a descending tail stroke. U+06C4 is distinguished from plain WAW solely by the presence of a small ring. The critical question is: where does this ring belong?

The current Unicode reference glyph places the ring on the upper body of the waw. This is incorrect. The ring must appear at the terminus of the tail stroke — that is, at the very end of the letter's final descending stroke. This is demonstrated by every source examined.

06C4 و ARABIC LETTER WAW WITH RING
• Kashmiri

Figure 1: Current erroneous reference glyph as shown in the Unicode Arabic code chart (U+06C4).
The ring is incorrectly placed on the body of the waw.

Evidence : Correct Glyph Form

The following four independent published sources all show the ring at the final stroke of the waw, confirming the correct form of U+06C4.

Source 1: Kashir Dictionary (handwritten / classical manuscript form)

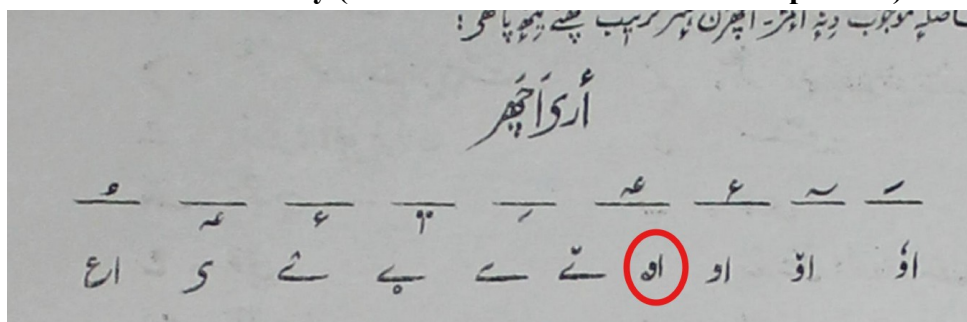


Figure 2

Source: Kashir Dictionary. Digital Library of India / Internet Archive.

The handwritten entry clearly shows the waw letter with the ring attached to the terminal end of the tail stroke, not on the body. The circled character in the image is the correct form.

Source 2: JKBOSE Class 6 Kashmiri Language Textbook



Figure 3

Source: JKBOSE (Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education), Kashmiri Language Textbook, Class VI (2024).

An official school textbook published by the J&K Board of School Education. The underlined letter in the typeset text shows the waw with the ring at its tail, as taught to students learning the Kashmiri script.

Source 3: Constitution of India (Kashmiri Translation)

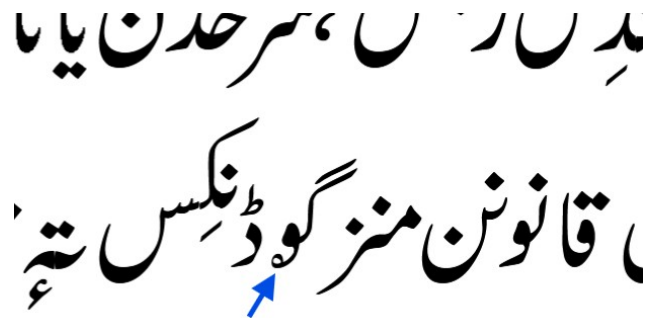


Figure 4

Source: Constitution of India, official translation into the Kashmiri language. Government of India (2025).

An authoritative government publication. The arrow in the image points to U+06C4 rendered with the ring correctly positioned at the end of the tail stroke.

Source 4: Daily Kahwat — Kashmiri Daily Newspaper

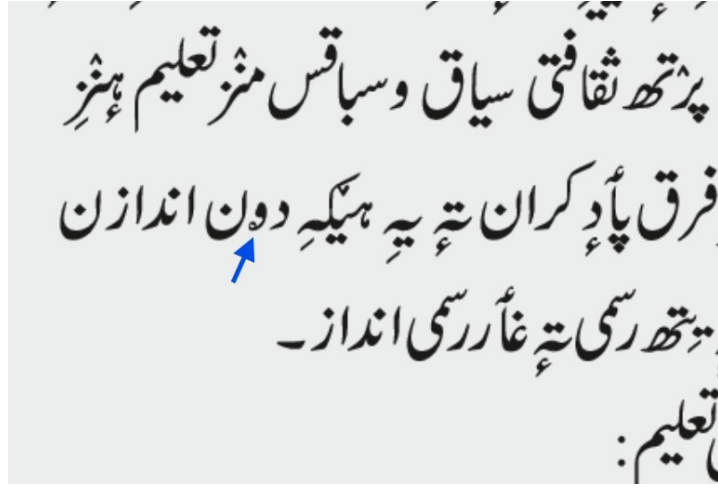


Figure 5

Source: Daily Kahwat, Kashmiri-language daily newspaper. Edition dated March 10, 2026, Page 5.

A contemporary Kashmiri-language newspaper in active publication. Its typesetting independently confirms the placement of the ring at the tail stroke of the waw, demonstrating continued living use of the correct glyph form in modern media.

4. Proposed Correction

The reference glyph for U+06C4 should be updated to show the ring at the terminus of the tail stroke of the waw, as attested in all four sources above. The corrected glyph should:

- Place the ring at the end of the descending tail stroke (not on the body/bowl)
- Maintain proportions consistent with the overall waw letterform
- Be clearly distinguishable from U+0648 (plain WAW) and other waw-based variants

No change is proposed to the code point (U+06C4), character name, General Category (Lo), Bidi Class (AL), Joining Type (R), Joining Group (WAW), or any other normative or informative property. The UnicodeData.txt entry remains unchanged:

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06C4;ARABIC LETTER WAW WITH RING WITHIN;Lo;0;AL;;;;;N;;;;;
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6. References

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4. Daily Kahwat. Kashmiri-language daily newspaper, edition March 10, 2026, p. 5.
<https://epaper.dailykahwat.com/?date=10/03/2026&page=5&url=home&ced=11>
5. The Unicode Consortium. The Unicode Standard, Version 16.0.
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Submitted to the Unicode Script Encoding Working Group via
<https://sew.unicode.org/submission>