

February 2, 1999

TITLE: Proposal that Myanmar VOWEL SIGN E be Stored in Phonetic Order
(i.e. After its Consonant)

SOURCE: Joe Becker

STATUS: Expert contribution

ACTION: For consideration at UTC #79/L2 #176

In Brahmi-derived scripts, vowel sign glyphs may occupy various locations, including *before* the syllable's consonant glyph, i.e. the vowel sign may appear to the left of the consonant on the baseline.

According to the Unicode principle of logical ordering, every vowel sign *character* should be coded *after* its consonant, i.e. stored in logical phonetic order in the coded text, regardless of the rendered location of the glyph(s) that represent it.

This principle is applied in all Brahmi-derived script encodings except for Thai, because of the need for compatibility with an existing national standard, and Lao, because it is nearly identical to Thai.

In the case of Myanmar (Burmese), this issue arises only for one character:

U+1031 MYANMAR VOWEL SIGN E



























The storage position of this character is unspecified (and need not be specified) in FPDAM 26 - Myanmar/Burmese - ISO/IEC WG2 N1913, but it needs to be specified in Unicode 3.0.

The proposal is to specify that this vowel sign be stored in phonetic order, consistent with the Unicode logical principle and with all other encodings apart from the Thai/Lao compatibility exception.

FPDAM for ISO/IEC 10646-1: 1993/Amd. 26: 1999 (E)

TABLE 240 - Row 10: MYANMAR

100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107

0	 000	 016	 023	 048	 064	 080	
1	 001	 017	 025	 049	 065	 081	
2	 002	 018		 050	 066	 082	
3	 003	 019	 026		 067	 083	
4	 004	 020	 027		 068		

[END]