ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2/WG2 N2361R

2001-07-14

Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set International Organization for Standardization Organisation Internationale de Normalisation Международная организация по стандартизации

Doc Type: Working Group Document

Title: Revised proposal to encode the Osmanya script in the SMP of the UCS

Source: Michael Everson Status: Expert Contribution

Action: For consideration by JTC1/SC2/WG2

Date: 2001-07-14

Replaces: N1948 (1999-01-25)

A. Administrative

1. Title

Revised proposal to encode the Osmanya script in the SMP of the UCS.

2. Requester's name

Michael Everson, (WG2 member for Ireland).

3. Requester type

Expert contribution.

4. Submission date

2001-07-14.

5. Requester's reference

6a. Completion

This is a complete proposal.

6b. More information to be provided?

No.

B. Technical – General

1a. New script? Name?

Yes. Osmanya.

1b. Addition of characters to existing block? Name?

No.

2. Number of characters

40.

3. Proposed category

Category B.1.

4. Proposed level of implementation and rationale

As a simple left-to-right alphabetic script, Osmanya requires Level 1.

5a. Character names included in proposal?

Yes.

5b. Character names in accordance with guidelines?

Yes.

5c. Character shapes reviewable?

Yes (see below).

6a. Who will provide computerized font?

Michael Everson.

6b. Font currently available?

Yes.

6c. Font format?

TrueType.

7a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts, etc.) provided?

Yes. See the bibliography below.

7b. Are published examples (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of use of proposed characters attached?

Yes, see below.

8. Does the proposal address other aspects of character data processing?

Yes; see Unicode properties below.

C. Technical – Justification

1. Contact with the user community?

Yes, with Osman Abdihalim Osman Yusuf Keenadiid, grandson of Osman Yusuf Keenadiid, the inventor of the script.

2. Information on the user community?

Mostly the scholarly and library communities, since the script was abandoned in 1973 in favour of Latin orthography for Somali. But there is some ordinary use as well.

3a. The context of use for the proposed characters?

Used to write Somali, especially from 1961–1973 (when Osmanya enjoyed official sanction); Osmanya was devised in 1920–1922.

3b. Reference

See bibliography below.

4a. Proposed characters in current use?

Yes.

4b. Where?

By scholars and librarians; there is still some native use.

5a. Characters should be encoded entirely in BMP?

No.

5b. Rationale

Accordance with the Roadmap.

6. Should characters be kept in a continuous range?

Yes.

7a. Can the characters be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence?

No.

7b. Where?

7c. Reference

8a. Can any of the characters be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to an existing character?

No.

8b. Where?

8c. Reference

9a. Combining characters or use of composite sequences included?

No.

9b. List of composite sequences and their corresponding glyph images provided?

Nο

10. Characters with any special properties such as control function, etc. included?

No.

E. Proposal

The Osmanya script, called in Somali **4S7** 8m59n9 far Soomaali 'Somali writing' or **4985928S** Cismaanya, was devised in 1920–1922 by **4985928 8m374 HUSSO80** (Cismaan Yuusuf Keenadiid) to represent the Somali language. It replaced an attempt by Sheikh Uweys of the Confraternity Qadiriyyah (died 1909) to devise an Arabic-based orthography for Somali. It has in turn been replaced by the Latin orthography of Muuse Xaaji Ismaaciil Galaal (1914-1980). In 1961 both the Latin and Osmanya scripts were adopted for use in Somalia, but in 1969 there was a coup, with one of its stated aims the resolution of the debate over the country's writing system. Latin orthography was adopted finally in 1973. Gregersen said in 1977 that some 20,000 or more people use Osmanya in private correspondance and in bookkeeping and that several books and a fortnightly journal **2h78UO** Horseed ('Vanguard') was published, all "cyclostyped" which I take to be equivalent to "cyclostyled" and to mean 'mimeographed'.

Structure

Osmanya is a simple alphabetic script, read from left to right in horizontal lines running from top to bottom. It has 22 consonants and 8 vowels. Unique long vowels are written for AA, EE, and OO; long UU and II are written with the consonants WAW and YA.

Ordering and names

Alphabetical ordering follows the order of the Arabic alphabet, and is given here as specified by Osman Abdihalim Yuusuf Osman Keenadiid. This ordering is similar to the ordering given in Diringer 1996 and reported in Gregerson 1977 for Cerulli 1932 and Maino 1951. The names are as given by Osman. Glyphs are taken from *Afkeenna iyo fartysa* ('our language and it's handwriting') 1971, which was supplied to me by Osman.

Code positions proposed in the table are based on the Roadmap to tthe SMP.

Unicode Character Properties

Spacing letters, category "Lo", bidi category "L" (strong left to right) 0001 0480 - 0001 049D

Spacing digits, category "__", bidi category "L" (strong left to right) 0001 04A0 - 0001 04A9

Bibliography

[s.n.]. 1971. SUHÜRRS 98h USTURSS: Whith Hm 440. MS5S7: hm 888HS 98h 84h 84h 9008. [Afkeenna iyo fartiisa: buug koowaad ('Our language and its handwriting: book one'). Xamar: Goosanka afka iyo suugaanta Soomaalida.]

Cerulli, Enrico. 1932. "Tentativo indigeno di formare un alfabeta somalo", in *Oriente Maderno* 12:212–13.

Diringer, David. 1996 (1947). *The alphabet: a key to the history of mankind*. Munshiram Manoharlal. ISBN 81-215-0748-0

Gaur, Albertine. 1992. A history of writing. London: British Library. ISBN 0-7123-0270-0

Gregersen, Edgar A. 1977. *Language in Africa: an introductory survey*. New York: Gordon and Breach. ISBN 0-677-04380-5

Maino, Mario. 1951. "L'alfabeta 'Osmania' in Somalia", in Rassegna di Studi Etopici 10:108–21.

Nakanishi, Akira. 1990. Writing systems of the world: alphabets, syllabaries, pictograms. Rutland, VT: Charles E. Tuttle. ISBN 0-8048-1654-9

Annex A

In N1948 I have samples from Nakanishi 1990, Gaur 1990, and Gregerson 1977. At the end of this document, I attach a selection of pages from *Afkeenna iyo fartiisa*.

Row 104: OSMANYA

	1048	1049	104A
0	ð	N	0
1	y	5	S
2	ન	S	ε
3	1	ħ	Ti
4	M	યુ	8
5	R	8	l
6	0	S	y
7	7	L	J
8	Ъ	9	C
9	8	h	U
Α	8	J	
В	y	9	
С	ጼ	ш	
D	4	m	
E	\mathcal{H}		
F	H		

G = 00 P = 01

Row 104: OSMANYA

dec	hex	Name	dec	hex	Name
	80123456789ABCDEF0123456789ABCDEF0123456789ABCDEF	OSMANYA LETTER BA OSMANYA LETTER TA OSMANYA LETTER TA OSMANYA LETTER XA OSMANYA LETTER XA OSMANYA LETTER KHA OSMANYA LETTER BEL OSMANYA LETTER SA OSMANYA LETTER SA OSMANYA LETTER SHIN OSMANYA LETTER DHA OSMANYA LETTER GA OSMANYA LETTER WA OSMANYA LETTER OSMANYA LETTER OSMANYA LETTER O OSMANYA DIGIT TREO OSMANYA DIGIT THREE OSMANYA DIGIT SEVEN OSMANYA DIGIT SEVEN OSMANYA DIGIT SIX			



SSSURPS

9 & h

4574835



Afkeenna iyo fartiisa 'our language and its handwriting' yhh ymh so

Buug koowaad 'book one'

In this PDF file, I have annotated a few pages with transliterations and translations. Of interest to students of writing systems are pages 21 and 66. Of interest to students of phonology and morphology are pages 62, 63, 64, and 65.

Alphabetical order is not given in this book but it is: δ , Ψ , \mathcal{L} , I, \mathcal{H} , \mathcal{R} , O, $\mathbf{7}$, \mathcal{L} , $\mathbf{3}$, $\mathbf{2}$, \mathcal{L} ,

- Michael Everson 2001-06-06









SOPPER SUSSEMB ARE SHIS SHISSOMS

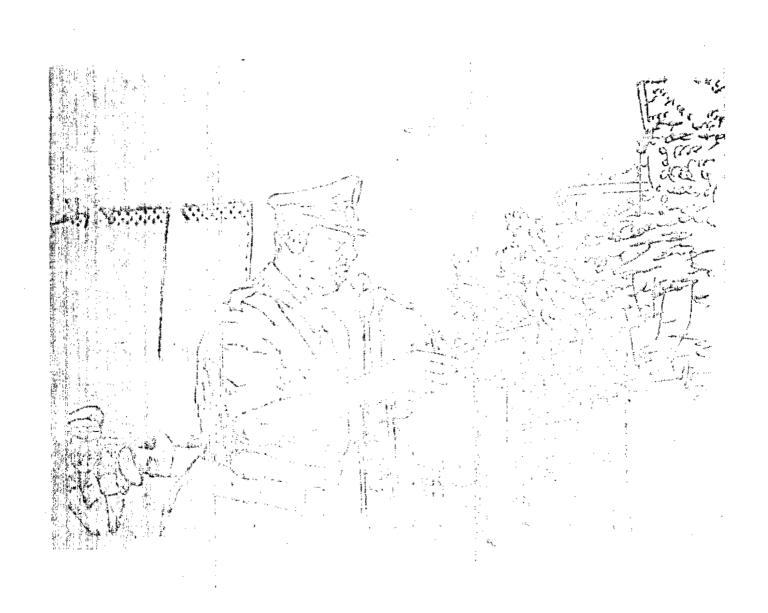
MSSS7 SUJS

Goosanka afka iyo suugaanta Soomaalida 'briefing(?) Somali language and literature' Xamar 1971

INDUSTRIE GRAFICHE DELLA SOMALIA

19NNI, **S**55920WNI 5SMS510 8**9**890 **\#S771** m OSOHS &**\%**\#9\#92S\\$S&S

Jaalle, ammaanduule Maxamed Siyaad Barre oo dadka guubaabinahaya 'Chief of staff Maxamed Siyaad Barre speaking to the people'

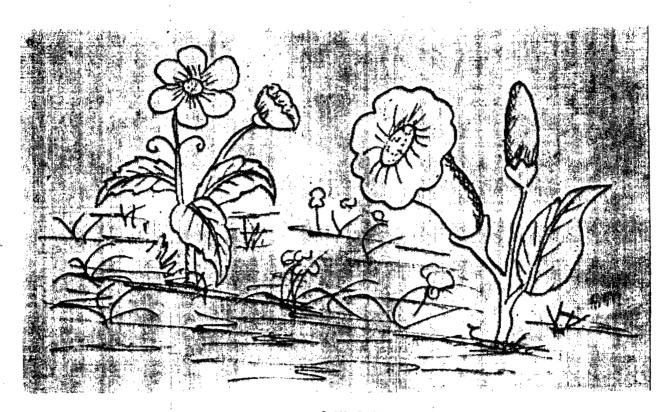


a a a a

AUSM AN A HAYAN 5AROAN

મ**ત્ર**ક્કા ત્રેષ્કળ ત્રજ્જ

. ઇનગેન્ય ટસ્સ્ટિંગ . આમ ટેંગ્ટેંગ્ટેન્



HSK

-δ-1

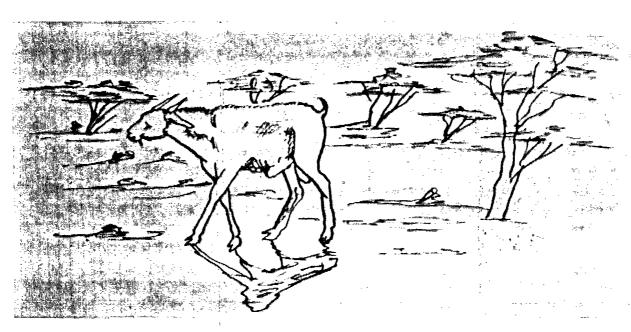
h h h h

hose khiheh haha hehho



h7k9 &57. h05& kh052. ESNLG kh7h&h.h24h0 9&h ANhN.





h7 % 9

- 58 -

н н н н

kalluun karsan 'cooked fish'; kitaabka keen 'bring the holy book'

SSNAK SHEPPEK SS625K SANNSK

sonkor 'sugar'

HSSHm28SE . SSSMKS8K

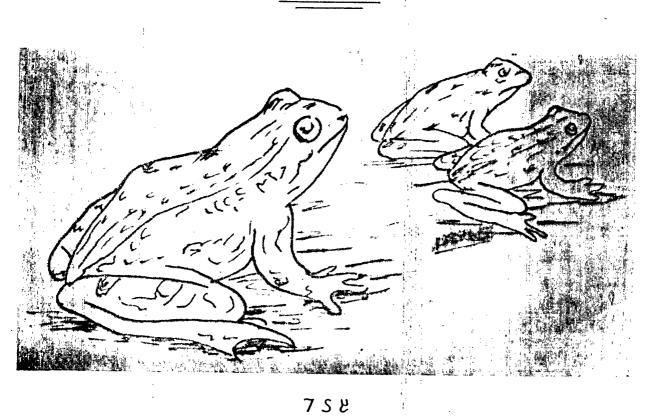


SUUUSE

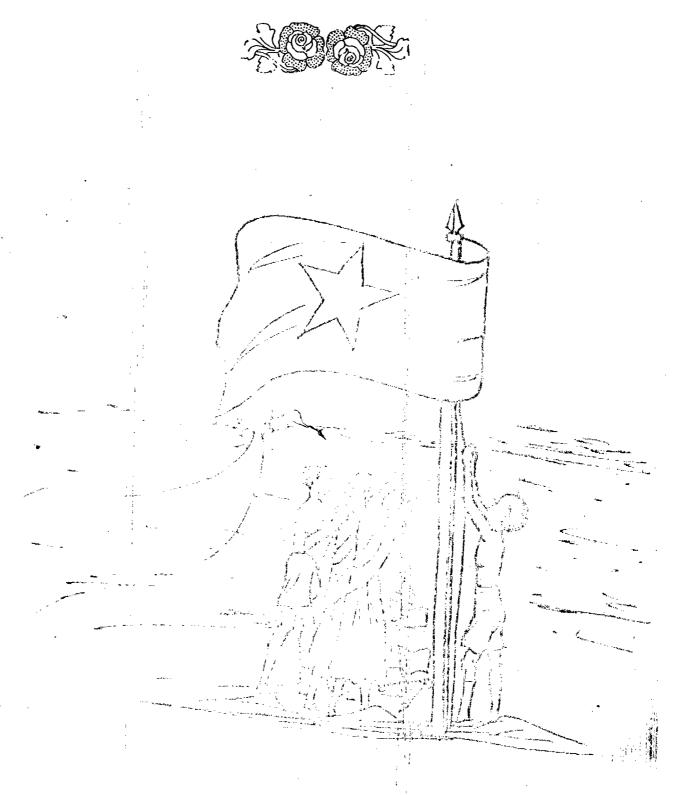
kalluun 'fish'

7 7 7 7

758 7588 HA 85758. 747 **%%**7ℓ8 98ħ 7**U**7 **2ℓ%**9. NLE 75h 98h 75490. 79MS 98h 07557. **નેડમ7800ડનેડટ ઝુડ7ડમેડે8**3ડેટ.



				- os - (2	<u>)</u>		
		S N 9	UH S	3 m 5 9 N	9 O S		
		alifka	soomaali	da 'Somali alp	habet'		
			furayaa	ashii 'vowels'			
			<u>4 1 1</u>	8998			
i	9	9.		es, ese es	. 8 – –	8	(ii)
е	<i>b</i> ,	b .	-		. u	-u	ee
а	S	5.		• • • • • •	9	G	aa
0	h	h .			. m – –	-m	00
u	A	ત .	<i></i>		. %	%	(uu)
		, ç) 9 W W	5258988	R ,		
		_		ashii 'consona	• 1		
h	ય	H	k	r	7		
,	ŏ	ጼ	g	I	N	0	d
X	M	!	j	m	5	4 ,	f
С	у	8	У	n	S	%	W
q	\mathcal{H}	8	S	dh	Ъ	щ	b
kh	R	8	sh	t	બ		



%9 45NS24U228 98h 570508

SFR F C S & S & C Z



 5UNSES
 NARA
 A7A7h
 5\$89190HS
 S&9
 A

 487SZ
 WSM9
 NMRA
 A7A79
 92
 UYYU

 NARA
 NAWYYSZ9ON,
 S5S
 WSM
 NARA

 YS74h.
 5A8N9ZHS
 92
 YS88SZ
 5UNSE

 8UMO9Z
 WSMSE
 3UMO9Z
 5\$89190HS

 5\$89190HA
 WAMW
 HS
 FUMUE9
 5A8N9ZHS

 m
 VSZ, 7SR
 98h
 OA5S7YS.
 5\$891908SOS

 8m59N9OS
 FLOO9RMOHS
 NMBA
 O8OSYSSE
 ?

- 48 -

simidda furayaasha 'vowels' gaaggaab 'short'; dheerdheer 'long'

895900S

47788985

9 : 9	ι : ι	s : s	h : h	a : A
09797	rin	¥SO	3hn	3 <i>ብ</i> ዬ
0 9 797	2 L N	<i>y.</i> S0	3 h n	તે ન્દ

8 : 8	u : u	9 : 9	m : m	. 'h : 'h
080	AUS .	०९४	Ym0	ሇ ፟፟ጜ
080	SUK	09 8	₩ /m O	ሇ ፟፟፝፝፝፞፞፞፞፝፝፞፞



– ሃћ –
adaygga xarfaha 'gemination?'

SOSERRS MS74SES

b	y	0	7	U.	1
xabad	MS¥SO	H9Oh	45 7 h	4SNS&	falay
xabbad	MS##S0	H900h	¥S77ħ	4SNNS&	fallay
g	A	8	5	S	n
xuuga	ለ ዀ ፟ጜS	98 <i>l</i>	S547	32SUK	keenay
xuugga	ለ lm %%S	988 <i>l</i>	S55 %7	32SSNK	keennay



MSYYSO MSYSO HA VSYOSE. H900SOS H90N. 4S7S OS7UUO 4S77SOS 4**S**EUNR. USM9E
USNSEYS USNNSE.

SSSAPSS . HAMM 28 KHUSO SAMMM 986 HS88.

55%7 48 555%7 48 59%58 . 985%7 48**98** 44858, 988585 49898 448858.

– 40 –

¥ S N 9 5 S O O S 5 S & S ¥ S

กรษ

daah	0 9 8	go'.	%ho o	madax	5SOSM	<i>ેડક</i>	sac	US77SH	tarraq
daaha	0 9 85	goa	ao' NhS	madaxa	5SOSMS	8848	saca	<i></i> US 775 <i>HS</i>	tarraqa
daahu	0 9 8A	gou	Nhd	maduxu	5SOAMA	<i>ઢતમુત</i>	sucu	<i></i> ปร775 27	tarraqu
daahii	0 9 88	goy	ስ <i>ኬ</i> &	madixii	5509M&	3948	sicii	નઽ 77ઽ ૠ&	tarraqii
jookh	Imh	tog	ป ไ	xay	MS&	588	miis	898	shaash
jookha	Imas	togga	ሇ ፞ ዀ ጺጜS	xayga	MS&RS	2K635	miiska	ે ૧૮ ૫&	shaashkii
jookhu	lmhd	toggu	ժԽ ռռ <i>դ</i>	xaygu	MS& R A	588HA	miisku	24 2 23	shaashka
jookhii	Imh&	toggii	ન ે	xaygii	MS&R&	583 <i>4</i> 8	miiskii	୧୨୧ਖ਼ନ	shaashku
						:			
wiil	4.8 0	war	<i>5</i> 7	wan	Szw	oso	dad	\mathcal{H} h \mathcal{L}	qof
wiilka	%& กมร	warka	<i></i> ሤ\$7∦\$	wanka	<i>ጜያሪዝ</i> ያ	OSOHS	dadka	<i>ዝ</i> ኬሢዘS	qofka
wiilku	น &กมล	warku	_ฺ %ऽ7มู่ส	wanku	њsг _а н	OSOHA	dadku	ዝħ _ነ ሂቭቭ	qofku
wiilkii	% &N4&	warkii	<i>%S7#</i> &	wankii	3KS2ℋ	oso48	dadkii	3KVM 8	qofkii

qaboow	\mathcal{H} S \mathcal{Y} \mathcal{H} \mathcal{H}	OS₩	dab
qaboowga	ℋ Տ ሣ깨℆ጼՏ	OS₩#S	dabka
qaboowgu	ℋ <mark>Տ</mark> ሣዀ℆ጺቭ	osพหล	dabku
qaboowgii	ℋ <mark>Տ</mark> ሣኰ ℆ ℀	3k&SO	dabkii

- 46 -

\$SN95500S 5SRS\$S

₽**L**009R

	,				
યુટ્રષ્ટ	$nh\delta$	Hh77SM	<i></i> 69 494	<i>%S79X</i>	waraaq
%S&OS	NWOOS	HW77SMOS	<i></i> Ъ9₩9 ₩ 0S	<i>%S79HOS</i>	waraaqda
મડ ઇ ૦ત	<i>NN804</i>	HW77SMOA	<i></i> ₽9₩9₩0 <i>A</i>	% \$79X0A	waraaqdu
<i>સઽ</i> ૪૦૪	NH808	Hh775M08	<i> </i> 9 ઝ9 308	<i>%S79H0&</i>	waraaqdii
<i>ખડ</i> ેઠક્રે	M9009R	8 U 8	દાપુર	OS79%&&	daraawiish
HS8SROS	M9009%•lS	8 46 805	દાપુકનટ	OS79%& ୧ નS	daraawiishta
<i>KSBSROA</i>	M9009%ปล	603 U 8	દાપજનન	OS79%&શ્નો	daraawiishtu
%S8SK0&	M9009X•l&	3034 13	<i>દા</i> ાજનજ	<i>0</i> ઽ79%& ૧ ન&	daraawiishtii
	·			N M	
<i>ሤ</i> 9ル	4 S7	rps	y so	vzs	naf
<i>₩</i> 9&S	4 ડ7નડ	N9S4S	\$500 S	ટડપનડ	nafta
୷୬୧୵	પડ7ન ત	ત્મુક્ટના ૧૫	#S001	્ટડપનન	naftu
<i>ઝુ</i> ૧૯	પડ7ન હ	8ษ5२Л	₩S00&	ક્રમ્પર	naftii
	caaw y o	ોર્પ <i>મડ</i> ા	y kab		
	caawda 494	જે. જે.	US kabta		
	caawdu y 9 4	૾૾ૺૺૺૺ ૠઽૡ૰	ฟล kabtu		
	caawdii 397	v0 & 454	√& kabtii		

- 4.4 -

lambarrada soomaalida 'Somali numbers'

NS54577808 3m59N905

rug 0	7 .7 % (%myh)	0	SSS	ℓ shan 5
koow 1	ส ท ษ	5	₽	y lix 6
labo 2	NSYh	ε	dh00h4S	j toddoba 7
saddex 3	3SOOLM	π	3 9 00U0	C siddeed 8
afar 4	S4S7	ŏ	3SR9N	U sagaal 9



toban 10 UNUSS	so	n 9 mosa	90 lixdan 60
labaatan 20 ルSሧらもS S	E0	4h00h494S2	30 toddobaatan 70
soddon 30 3hOOh 2	πο	8 9 00U-US8	CO siddeetan 80
afartan 40 SUS7US2	80	S289828	UO sagaashan 90
konton 50 Hh2•h2	EO	ሣ ሎℋሎル	500 boqol 100

- 40 -

5545803501 98h 29829 (5)

46 4574645 SE 49 4549 984 8**9590** 5545808501 984 89829.

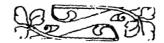
18988908: 487 58490 484 4 489888844 489888844 4898888

55#5808501: 92492 2mnsese hsnys
h**9**8955eseh. hsny hsn
ds9885 h9ne y587 se **55**5
8**5**ymn se.

\$\$000 \text{\$982908}: \text{\$\text{\$\sigma}\$} \text{\$\

5545808501: 29 52985 Rm748 92 4**5**87m4h
450 50984 590
50984 88845W7 M 0642885

\$988908: S89RA OMRRE HG MMRESOG, HSMES HG HSEOBSOG, SYGTUES HG ESBUG M HSEOHSERS HARG.



554580350L 98h 29229 (8)

554580350988 549748 44 R91m058. WANN ASUSSE 180908. WANN ASSE WANN ASSE SEEN NOW ASSES 1809018 WAS SEEN NEW ASSES 1809018 WAS SEEN MEN



