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

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This document replaces N3273R2 and L2/07-197R2. It is essentially the same document, but it includes a punctuation character which was not available to the author when the previous document was published. See §3 and Figures 17 and 18.

**1. Background.** The Imperial Aramaic script is the head of a rather complex family of scripts. It is named from the use of Aramaic as the language of regional and supraregional correspondance in the Persian Empire though, in fact, the language was in use in this function already before that. The practice continued after the demise of the Persian Empire and was the starting-point for the writing-systems of most of the Middle Iranian languages, namely Inscriptional Parthian, Inscriptional Pahlavi, Psalter Pahlavi, Book Pahlavi, and Avestan. Imperial Aramaic has many other descendents, including Mongolian and possibly Brahmi.

The term "Imperial Aramaic" refers both to a script and to a language. As a script term, Imperial Aramaic refers to the writing system in use in the Neo-Assyrian and Persian Empires, and was used to write Aramaic, but also other languages. There is no script code for Imperial Aramaic yet registered by ISO 15924. As a language term, Imperial Aramaic refers to a historic variety of Aramaic, as spoken and written during the period roughly from 600 BCE to 200 BCE. The Imperial Aramaic language has been given the ISO 639 language code in "arc".

The earliest Aramaic language texts were written in the Early Aramaic alphabet, one of the forms of early Western Semitic writing or old Canaanite script, which also included the Phoenician alphabet of the Phoenicians. This complex of early Western Semitic writing is encompassed in the UCS, encoded in the Phoenician block, U+10900..U+1091F. The Aramaeans had adopted this Canaanite or Phoenician form of script during the 11th or 10th century BCE. By the mid-8th century BCE the form of the script had begun to diverge, and by the end of that century, the cursive form used by the Aramaeans had been standardized as what later became the official script of the Neo-Assyrian Empire. It remained in use, through succeeding empires, for at least another four centuries.

Imperial Aramaic is an historic script, and as for many other historic scripts, which often saw continuous change in use over periods of hundreds or thousands of years, its delineation as a script is somewhat problematic. This issue is particularly acute for historic Semitic scripts, which share basically identical repertoires of letters, which are historically related to each other, and which were used to write closely related Semitic languages. In the UCS, the Imperial Aramaic script is intended for the representation of

the Imperial inscriptions and hands script which stands between its mother, the Canaanite (or Phoenician) group of script forms, and its many daughters, only one of which is Square Hebrew.

Some scholars consistently transliterate the texts written in the Imperial Aramaic script into Square Hebrew (see Figure 3). In such contexts, because the relationship between the Imperial Aramaic letters and Square Hebrew letters is one-to-one and quite regular, the transliteration is conceived of as simply a font change. Other scholars of Aramaic transliterate texts into Latin. The encoding of the Imperial Aramaic script does not invalidate such scholarly practice; it is simply intended to make it possible to represent Imperial Aramaic and similar textual materials directly in the historic script, rather than as specialized font displays of transliterations in modern Square Hebrew. (See Figure 16.)

**2. Processing.** Imperial Aramaic is an alphabetic script written right-to-left, in *scriptio continua* or with spaces between words.

1	1	1 ←	11	1-	1 + 10 ←
2	V	2 ←	12	2	2 + 10 ←
3	\//	3 ←	13	1// -	3 + 10 ←
4	1\//	1 + 3 ←	14	11// -	1 + 3 + 10 ←
5	1/1//	2 + 3 ←	15	1/1//	2 + 3 + 10 ←
6	\ <i>!!</i> \ <i>!!</i>	3 + 3 ←	16	\//\// ->	3 + 3 + 10 ←
7	1 <i>\1/\1/</i>	1 + 3 + 3 ←	17	1\ <i>//\//</i> <b>~</b>	$1 + 3 + 3 + 10 \leftarrow$
8	\/\/ <i>/\/\</i>	2 + 3 + 3 ←	18	\/\//\// <del>```</del>	$2 + 3 + 3 + 10 \leftarrow$
9	\ <i>!!\\!!\\!</i>	3 + 3 + 3 ←	19	\//\//\//	$3 + 3 + 3 + 10 \leftarrow$
10	<b>~</b>	10 ←	100	-1	100 + 1 ←
20	3	20 ←	200	すて	100 + 2 ←
30	<b>~</b> ~	10 + 20 ←	300	∽\//	100 + 3 ←
40	33	20 + 20 ←	400	51/1/	100 + 1 + 3 ←
50		10 + 20 + 20 ←	500	∽\/\//	100 + 2 + 3 ←
60	ふふふ	20 + 20 + 20 ←	600	∽\//\//	100 + 3 + 3 ←
70		$10 + 20 + 20 + 20 \leftarrow$	700	51/1/1	$100 + 1 + 3 + 3 \leftarrow$
80	~~~~	$20 + 20 + 20 + 20 \leftarrow$	800	∽\/\//\//	$100 + 2 + 3 + 3 \leftarrow$
90	<u> </u>	$10 + 20 + 20 + 20 + 20 \leftarrow$	900	<i>∽\∥\∥\∥</i>	$100 + 3 + 3 + 3 \leftarrow$
3000		1000 + 3 ←	30000	<b>当</b> ミ	10000 + 3 ←

**4. Names and ordering.** The names used for the characters here are based on the transliteration given in Driver 1976 and Rosenthal 1995. The order of the characters in the code charts is their alphabetical order.

**5. Reference glyphs.** The glyphs used in the code table are based on the Elephantine cursive. See Figures 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8.

# 6. Bibliography

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## 7. Unicode Character Properties

10840;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	ALEPH;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10841; IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	BETH;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10842;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	GIMEL;L0;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10843; IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	DALETH;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10844; IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	HE;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10845;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	WAW;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10846;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	ZAYIN;Lo;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
10847;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	HETH;Lo;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
10848; IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	TETH;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10849;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	YODH;Lo;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
1084A; IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	KAPH;Lo;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
1084B;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	LAMEDH;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
1084C;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	MEM;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
1084D;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	NUN;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
1084E;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	SAMEKH;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
1084F;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	AYIN;Lo;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
10850;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	PE;Lo;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
10851;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	SADHE;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
10852;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	QOPH;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
•			RESH;Lo;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
10854;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	SHIN;Lo;0;R;;;;;N;;;;;
10855;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	LETTER	TAW;Lo;0;R;;;;N;;;;;
•			ONE;No;0;R;;;;1;N;;;;;
10859;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	NUMBER	TWO;No;0;R;;;;2;N;;;;;
1085A; IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	NUMBER	THREE;No;0;R;;;;3;N;;;;;
1085B;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	NUMBER	TEN;No;0;R;;;;10;N;;;;;
1085C;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	NUMBER	TWENTY;No;0;R;;;;20;N;;;;;
1085D;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	NUMBER	ONE HUNDRED; No; 0; R;;;; 100; N;;;;;
•			ONE THOUSAND;No;0;R;;;;1000;N;;;
1085F;IMPERIAL	ARAMAIC	NUMBER	<pre>TEN THOUSAND;No;0;R;;;;10000;N;;</pre>

# 8. Acknowledgements

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# Figures

עציא אירא-בטאין ניא איז אין וון עאי גבא רצי רוואר בא איראי וברר שאר גע אירא איראין איי ות טוןת דותר אדר אתראה וזראה לא שאור של אל אל אל אל וא לארו שואר יי בערי א ה האני אי אירו אר ען אי ואי היר הרצ אין הייי וא הניאהי יילי אי דוניא האר אר העאיק אב טברר כאררא יך עין טברא ארואה רצורא ה ואהרא על עשא יב יניאיניל או עו עיניין ט באקעיעני עי איריא וע לעטר צעאא איבא או אינערד אוא בעוב או איניין א אינערד אוא בעוב אנטאיה שב שניא א על אי בער היה כורא ואנו ואי ואכואא ואנאי א קרבר שא מינישוא וב אחר או היצ בשמי עוון אר שאין בט ערן אונחות ונשיין וכובל ויהרוניאב ע וא אווד אן ען טצרך טל וא אתרי וע אקטוד ריונים אד אתראה איואד) ע לו ליאד بردد، دور ۱۱ بود، امور دم المو שנייי וה הכר עייסופיארשורה הנכוון באון 5 - + 5 y 45

Figure 1. Petition to the governer of Judah from Elephantine, given in Naveh 1987.



Figure 2. Letter of Adon found at Saqqarah in Egypt, given in Naveh 1987.



FIGURE 57. Introduction to a quitclaim written at Elephantine, 26 August 440 B.C.E. (Sayce and Cowley 1906, papyrus F, lines 1–3).

 $\rightarrow$ ב -/// לאב הו יום -/// // לפתנס שנת = /// // ארתחשסש מלכא אמר פיא 'yp rm' 'klm šsšhtr' 25 tnš snhpl 19 mwy wh b'l 14 b-בר פחי ארדיכל לסון בירתא למבטחיה ברת מחסיה בר ידניא 'yndy rb hyshm trb hyhtbml 'tryb nwsl lkydr' yhp rb ארמיא זי סון לדגל וריזת על דינא זי עבדן בסון נפ<sub>ר</sub>/<sup>ר</sup>ת על כספ psk l' t<sup>r</sup>/dpn nwsb ndb' yz 'nyd l' tzyrw lgdl nws yz 'ymr'

**Figure 3.** Imperial Aramaic text from Elephantine, dated -440-08-26 BCE, taken from Goerwitz 1996. Here the text is transliterated into Hebrew and Latin. In Imperial Aramaic, the text reads:

כ העון לאכ מו יוע העועועו שנא העועו ואושנש גלנא אער נווי אררינל לנו כראא לעכטווימכרא צוושיה כר ירניא ארעיא וי כון לרא וריוא טן רינא וי ככון זכרא אל נכ

Imperial	Inscrip	tions	Pah	lavi
Aramaic	Parthian	Persian	Psalter	Book
'('ālep)* 🛛 🗙	ת	L	11	ىر
(bēţ) <b>J</b>	5	ل	1	ل
(gimel) 人	1	د	د	و
l (dāle <u>t</u> ) <b>9</b>	7	3	د	- g
h (hē) <b>7)</b>	<del>d</del> t	2~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	2	16
w (wāw) 🂙	2	2	L	1
z (zavin)	>	5	2	S
ḥ(ḥēṯ) <b>Л</b>			N	
ţ (ţēţ) <b>(</b>	דר	٤ ? 3		
y (yô <u>d</u> ) 🔨	)	2	د٥	g
k (kap) <b>Y</b>	7	13	2	3
I (lāmed)	5	Ş	5	2
m (mēm <u>)</u>	5	ち	セ	-6
n (nūn) 🧳	J	٤	L	W
s (sāmc <u>k</u> )	ノロフ	カ	لا	لا ا
' ('ayin) 🗸	フ	W	7= W	W
p (pē) 2		Q	a 	e C
ș (șādē) h	2	50	E	<u> </u>
q (qōp) p	て	m	— m	== n
r (rēš) <b>7</b>	*	W	W	W
ś š (ś/šīn) 🛛 🗸	E	22		4
ι (tāw)	n	Σ'	p	β

Figure 4. Table showing Imperial Aramaic, Inscriptional Parthian, Inscriptional Pahlavi, and Book Pahlavi, from MacKenzie 1971.

Monum.	Papyrus	Babylon.	Wert	Monum.	Papyrus	Babylon.	Wert	Monum.	Papyrus	Babylon.	Wer
4	<b>x</b>	N	'a	6	86	00	ţ	2	2	<u>ں</u> و	р
4	ל צ	ታ ኃ	b	Z 1	11	רכ	У		۲۲	٢٧	ş
У	1	41	g	74	<b>44</b>	<u> </u>	k	79	ኮኮ	ちら	q
4	47	47	d	66	٢٦	35	1	4	44	47	r
۸Л	۸	ħπ	h	म भ	カカ	סמצ	m	V	٧V	¥ ¥	š
Ч	٦	٦	w	4	נן	J]	n	h	h	ከЛ	t
Z 2	1	t H	z	٩	¥ #	⊿□	£				
ኣዘካ	н	hн	X	υ	y	ע נו	³a				

ARAMÄISCH.

Die aramäische Schrift findet man sowohl neben der Keilschrift wie selbstständig in Inschriften und auf Papyrus, in Assyrien und in Ägypten. Die hier mit "Babylonisch" bezeichneten Buchstaben sind den Inschriften entnommen, welche LAYARD bei seinen Ausgrabungen auf 8 irdenen Schüsseln fand.



	ARAN	IEAN.		Pl	EHLE.	VI.		INDO- BACTRIAN,	ARMENIAN. (Reversed.)	GEORGIAN, (Itevened.)	
			ARSA	CIDAN.	SASS	ANIAN.	PARSI.	BAC	ARM (Rey	680 GEO	
	Satra- piks & Egypt.	Pal- MYRA.	Coins & Gems,	Haji- abad B.	Haji abad A.	Coins.	MS.	KAPUR- DI-GIRI.	Oldest MSS.	Oldes: MSS.	
	Sec. iv. & iii. B.C.	Sec. ii. A.D.	Sec. i. & ii. A.D.	Sec. iii ^.D.	Sec. iii.	Sec. iv. to vi. A.D.	Modern	Sec iii. B.C.	Sec.ix.	Sec. x:	
8	X	Х	цv	עע	لا	L.	ىد	2	IJ	5	
ב	5	Э	ר	3	2	1	<u> </u>	7	A	Ч.,	:
נ	λ	Х	77	צ.	>	2	6	q	ሳ	Ъ	1
٦	4	7	1	77	3	Э	و	4	ጉ	T	
a -	רי	ы	र म	ਚ	イ	r	છ	7	ป	Г	
1	1	7	17	27	2	2	>	7	n	ſ	f
1	1	۲		44	2 5	2	ک	у	2	մ	
Π	н	Ν	н	N	r	л		22	ב	F	•
5	5	6						ょ	Ь	Ъ	,
,	1	7	111	)	2	)	د	1	H	T	
כ	4	ั่ม	ម។	ン	2 5	12	9	5	어	р	
5	ι	ЪJ	ISU	<b>}</b> }	2	1	7	1	٦	Ч	:
מ	y	Ъ	አካ	ኝኃ	かとう	a	é	v	υ	ъ	
נ	1	34	L	ر	٤	L	}	49	J	R	14
۵	うそ	2	ワ	Л	り	ケッ	ు	п	3	ሪ	
ע	У	צ		<b>ソ</b> (7)				7¢	Ч	0	.4
פ	1	J		٧٧	9	9	ა	h	r	U	-
Z	14	ų			5	የባ	r,	የነ	٤	٢	20
ק	77	٦	77	ת לל	2	31		7° 7	ל 1	ĥ	39
2	4	У Е	VE	5	11	J J	м	1	1 U	Ъ ч	3
ח	۴	ſi	չը հի	'n	r	P	10	+	บ Ն	ه و	2
	I I.			IV.		¥1.	VII.	VIII.	<u>тх.</u>	- <b>v</b>	-

#### THE IRANIAN ALPHABETS.

Figure 6. Table of Iranian alphabets, from Taylor 1883, showing Imperial Aramaic in column I.

Hebrew	Mešo	Aramaic papyri	Palmyr. inscrip- tions	Nabat inscrip- tions, Sinai	Parthian inscrip- tions	Persian inscrip- tions	Isalter	Book Pahlawi	Irans- Liter- ation
8	4	~	8	R	7	Ц	ىد	ىد	2
1	3	כ	ч	ک در ت	つ	1	_	L	B
7	1	入	λ	412	イ	۷.	ح	(ڌ) د	g
٦	4	4,1	प्	Y, 7	ブ	3	و	(ر.و.) (ژ)د	d
ת	3	1	K	≠,t°	러	ょ	4	(7 <del>8</del> 7)	-H
٦	۲	า	2	1,1	?	2	L	١	ε
	¥, 35	)	1	١	5	2	ک	5	z
Π	Ħ	n	н	٣,٨	Ν	S	ور	بد_	h., H
ы	8	6	6	V, S	<b>35</b>	٤	-	-	Ţ
<b>n</b>	4	X	٦	5,3	١	2	د	(به , یه) د	y(j-)
<u>ר, ל</u>	للإ	4	3	3,9°	У	2	ع	9	k
5	(		5	5,5	ろ	7	l	(لح) کر	ł
ם,ם	y	ጛ	ц	V,0,0	*7	ନ୍ଧ	4	<del>ب</del>	711.
ין, <b>ר</b>	y	ነ,ን	14.	7,1	لہ	Σ	L	1	n.
σ	丰	3	ກ	D	п	າ	ىد	9- , در	5
צ	0	J	У	Y, 4	У	2	L	1	۲
∋, ŋ•	2	า	3	9, 2	S	٩	۵	ର	٢
×, y•	ħ	۲	મ	J.P.	٨	5	6	ৎ	c,Ş
P	<b>P</b>	P	5	J.J	ק		-		Q
7	4	7,7	પ	ז, <b>ר</b> ,ל	7	2	L	}	٢
ש	$\sim$	4	V	V, F.X	4	ರಾ	22	<b>ب</b> ـــ	š
П	×	Þ	h	n,đ	מ	r	6,0	ф	t

Alphabets.

۰.

**Figure 7.** Table of Iranian alphabets, from Nyberg 1964. The Aramaic papyri column refers to Imperial Aramaic.

<u>.</u>					
	Egypt 5th cent. B.C.	Doad Sea Scrolls (Qumrān) 1st cent. B.C. to 1st cent.A.D.	Trans- litera- tion	Name	Approximate Pronunciation
8	×	*	,	٦ālep	glottal stop
3	7	د	b, <u>b</u>	bēţ	b, spirant b (bilabial v)
1	X	A	g, ĝ	gimel	g, spirant g
1	4	r	d, ₫	dāleţ	d, spirant d (like th in there)
<b>7</b>	1	Π	h	hē	h
1	7	1	w	wāw	w
ł	1	1	z	zayin	Z
п	11	11	ķ	hệt	pharyngal fricative h
ŋ	0	ы	ţ	ț <u>ēt</u>	"emphatic" (i.e., velarized) t
	-	1	У	yöd	У
כ (ך)	Z	43	k, <u>k</u>	kap	k, spirant k
۶	4	1	1	lāmed	1
a (۵)	カ	ns	m	mēm	m
(J) 1	カノフ	13	n	nūn	n
ð	3	ש	8	sãmek	8
	Ŭ	ע	c	'ayin	voiced laryngal (similar to the sound of incipient vomiting)
(ŋ) D	)	21	p, p	pē	p, spirant p (bilabial f)
Z (7)	hp	45	ş	şādē	"emphatic" s
P	4	P	q	qēp	"emphatic" k
٦.	アアンシン	Ч	r	rēš	r
6	*	v	ś	śîn	palatalized (?) s
<b>v</b>	<b>V</b> v š		š	šīn	sh
r	h l	л	t, <u>t</u>	tāw	t, spirant t (like th in think)

Figure 8. Alphabet chart showing Elephantine glyphs in the first column, Taken from Rosenthal 2006.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
¥	¥	X	ス	я	,	'ālæp
ギョームヨイ	9	Ÿ	ב	2	b	bēţ
1	$\wedge$	$\wedge$	A	۲	g	gímæl
4	7	4	Ч	ד	đ	dálæt
Ħ	$\neg$	-1	Π	π	h	hē
	٦	7	1	۱	w	wāw
ΙZ	1	)	1	T	z	zájin
日		11	н	п	ķ	hēt
$\otimes$	Ь	6	Ь	ט	ţ	ţēţ
2	F	*	1	•	j	jõd
1 7	ዛ	y	J	⊃ (ד)	k	$ka\bar{p}$
L	L	4	Ļ	۲	l	låmæd
ック	ሻ	カカ	20	(¤)a	m	mēm
5	٦	>	12	۱() <sup>۲</sup>	n	nūn
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**Figure 9.** Alphabet chart from Segert 1975. Column 1 is Old Aramic and would be unified with Phoenician. Columns 2 and 3 are Imperial Aramaic. Column 4 is Biblical Aramaic and would be unified with Hebrew.

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Figure 10. Table of Aramaic, Palmyrene, and Nabataean alphabets from Lidzbarski 1962 (1898).

SCHRIFTTAFEL II. ARAMÄISCH.

Sources		
Sources	_	
S 18	1	1
S 61	11	2
S 8	11/	3
S 19	1 1//	4
S 61	<b> ' \</b> //	5
S 19	\// <i>\//</i>	6
S 61	1 11 11	7
CIS. II <sup>1</sup> 147	N/ N// N//	8
S 62	11 \11 \11	9
L		

**Figure 11.** Table of Aramaic figures for the numbers 1 to 9, copied from Sachau 1911, abbreviated as S, from fifth century BCE papyri from Elephantine. Taken from Ifrah 2000.



**Figure 12.** Table of Aramaic figures for the numbers 10 to 90, from fifth century BCE papyri from Elephantine. Taken from Ifrah 2000.

S 61	100 × 5	500	S 19		100
CIS II <sup>1</sup>	<b>* V V/V/</b> 100 × 8	800	S fragm. 3	<b>51</b> 100 × 2	200
S 61	<b>*</b> <i>III <b>   </b> <i>   </i> 100 × 9</i>	900	S 19	100 × 4	400

**Figure 13.** Table of Aramaic figures for the 100s attested in fifth century BCE papyri from Elephantine. Taken from Ifrah 2000.



**Figure 14.** Table of Aramaic figures for the 1000s. Forms attested in fifth century BCE papyri from Elephantine are given in black. Taken from Ifrah 2000.

Papyrus du Vatican

Figure 15. Typeset Aramaic text including numbers, taken from the Imprimerie Nationale 1990.



Figure 16. The Bilingual Inscription from Armazi (1. century A.D.), from the Fundamentals of an Electronic Documentationof Caucasian Languages and Cultures project. This image is from http://armazi.uni-frankfurt.de/armazibl.htm#bilingva. Professor Jost Gippert states of this:
"I used both a Roman transliteration and a transliteration in Hebrew characters *BECAUSE* no Aramaic encoding has been available so far."



**Figure 17.** Manuscript TAD C1.1: 697 P13446F recto; Ahiqar col. 11; Accounts F recto cols. 1-3, held in the Staatliche Museen, Berlin. Photograph by Bruce Zuckerman and Kenneth Zuckerman, courtesy of West Semitic Research, Rolling Hills Estates, California. Pictured is the IMPERIAL ARAMAIC SECTION SIGN.



Figure 18. Transcription of the text above showing the IMPERIAL ARAMAIC SECTION SIGN.

# **Row 108: IMPERIAL ARAMAIC**

	1084	1085	hex	Name
0	<b>X</b>	)	40 41 42 43 44 45 46	IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER ALEPH IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER BETH IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER GIMEL IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER DALETH IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER HE IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER WAW IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER ZAYIN
1	>	p	47 48 49 4A 4B 4C	IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER HETH IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER TETH IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER YODH IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER KAPH IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER LAMEDH IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER MEM
2	٦	ア	4D 4E 4F 50 51	IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER NUN IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER SAMEKH IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER AYIN IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER PE IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER SADHE
3	7	7	52 53 54 55 56 57	IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER QOPH IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER RESH IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER SHIN IMPERIAL ARAMAIC LETTER TAW (This position shall not be used) IMPERIAL ARAMAIC SECTION SIGN
4	1	V	58 59 5A 5B 5C 5D	IMPERIAL ARAMAIC NUMBER ONE IMPERIAL ARAMAIC NUMBER TWO IMPERIAL ARAMAIC NUMBER THREE IMPERIAL ARAMAIC NUMBER TEN IMPERIAL ARAMAIC NUMBER TWENTY IMPERIAL ARAMAIC NUMBER ONE HUNDRED
5	)	۲	5E 5F	IMPERIAL ARAMAIC NUMBER ONE THOUSAND IMPERIAL ARAMAIC NUMBER TEN THOUSAND
6	1			
7	"	¥		
8	G	1		
9	4	V		
A	y	\//		
В	L	-		
С	ク	3		
D	5	5		
E	>	X		
F	V	A		

# A. Administrative

### 1. Title

Preliminary proposal for encoding the Imperial Aramaic script in the SMP of the UCS2. Requester's name UC Berkeley Script Encoding Initiative (Universal Scripts Project); Author: Michael Everson. 3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution) Liaison contribution. 4. Submission date 2007-08-25 5. Requester's reference (if applicable) 6. Chaese are of the following:

6. Choose one of the following:

6a. This is a complete proposal

No.

6b. More information will be provided later

# Yes.

# **B.** Technical – General

1. Choose one of the following:

1a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters)

Yes.

1b. Proposed name of script

## Imperial Aramaic.

1c. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block

No.

1d. Name of the existing block

2. Number of characters in proposal

## 31.

3. Proposed category (A-Contemporary; B.1-Specialized (small collection); B.2-Specialized (large collection); C-Major extinct; D-Attested extinct; E-Minor extinct; F-Archaic Hieroglyphic or Ideographic; G-Obscure or questionable usage symbols)

# Category C.

4a. Is a repertoire including character names provided?

Yes.

4b. If YES, are the names in accordance with the "character naming guidelines" in Annex L of P&P document?

Yes.

4c. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review?

Yes.

5a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font (ordered preference: True Type, or PostScript format) for publishing the standard?

## Michael Everson.

5b. If available now, identify source(s) for the font (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.) and indicate the tools used:

Michael Everson, Fontographer.

6a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?

Yes.

6b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of proposed characters attached? **Yes.** 

7. Does the proposal address other aspects of character data processing (if applicable) such as input, presentation, sorting, searching, indexing, transliteration etc. (if yes please enclose information)?

Yes.

8. Submitters are invited to provide any additional information about Properties of the proposed Character(s) or Script that will assist in correct understanding of and correct linguistic processing of the proposed character(s) or script. Examples of such properties are: Casing information, Numeric information, Currency information, Display behaviour information such as line breaks, widths etc., Combining behaviour, Spacing behaviour, Directional behaviour, Default Collation behaviour, relevance in Mark Up contexts, Compatibility equivalence and other Unicode normalization related information. See the Unicode standard at http://www.unicode.org such information other scripts. Also see Unicode Character Database for on http://www.unicode.org/Public/UNIDATA/UnicodeCharacterDatabase.html and associated Unicode Technical Reports for information needed for consideration by the Unicode Technical Committee for inclusion in the Unicode Standard. See above.

# **C.** Technical – Justification

1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before? If YES, explain.

No.

2a. Has contact been made to members of the user community (for example: National Body, user groups of the script or characters, other experts, etc.)?

Yes.

2b. If YES, with whom?

## Jost Gippert.

2c. If YES, available relevant documents

3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example: size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included?

#### Semiticists and other scholars.

4a. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare)

Historical use.

### 4b. Reference

5a. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community?

#### Yes.

5b. If YES, where?

#### Scholarly publications.

6a. After giving due considerations to the principles in the P&P document must the proposed characters be entirely in the BMP? **No**.

NO.

6b. If YES, is a rationale provided?

# 6c. If YES, reference

7. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)?

#### Yes.

8a. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence?

#### No.

8b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

8c. If YES, reference

9a. Can any of the proposed characters be encoded using a composed character sequence of either existing characters or other proposed characters?

#### No.

9b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

#### 9c. If YES, reference

10a. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to an existing character?

#### No.

10b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

#### 10c. If YES, reference

11a. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences (see clauses 4.12 and 4.14 in ISO/IEC 10646-1: 2000)?

#### No.

11b. If YES, is a rationale for such use provided?

11c. If YES, reference

11d. Is a list of composite sequences and their corresponding glyph images (graphic symbols) provided?

#### No.

11e. If YES, reference

12a. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as control function or similar semantics?

#### No.

12b. If YES, describe in detail (include attachment if necessary)

13a. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility character(s)?

No.

13b. If YES, is the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic character(s) identified?