

ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2/WG2 N3720

2009-10-26

**Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set
International Organization for Standardization
Organisation Internationale de Normalisation**

**Title: A Quick Response to WG2n3696: Review of Jurchen
Proposal (Documents N3628 and N3688)**

Source: China

Action: For consideration by JTC1/SC2/WG2

**References: WG2n3696, WG2n3688, WG2n3618,
WG2n3628, WG2n3639**

Having quickly reviewed *WG2n3696: Review of Jurchen Proposal (Documents N3628 and N3688)*, we generally accept the suggestions in that document and with the following comments:

1. Character Repertoire, Variants and Fonts

The Chinese proposals collect all characters of *Jurchen Characters Dictionary* (女真文辞典), in order to help users compare them with their counterparts in the dictionary. It is true that the dictionary is not perfect, the main problem may be its processing of glyph variants. Most suggestions (in WG2n3696) on perfecting character repertoire and correcting fonts are good and acceptable.

2. Reconstructed Readings

As we know, the Daniel Kane 1989 Reconstructed Readings are mainly based on the *Nuzhen Yiyu* (女真译语) edited by the Bureau of Huitong (会同馆) whose transliterations are very different to that edited by the Bureau of Siyi (四夷馆), while the latter was used as basis of reconstructing readings for the *Jurchen Characters Dictionary* (女真文辞典). Therefore, the Daniel Kane 1989 can not provide sufficient reconstructed readings for the Jurchen repertoire in current proposals.

3. Character Names

We agree to provide individual names for Jurchen characters. We agree that some symbols used by Jin Guangping are not convenient for foreign scholars, thus symbols which are widely accepted can be used for character names, as suggested. But, there are too many same symbols introduced in **WG2n3696** to reflect reading differences, i.e., readers can not pronounce Jurchen characters correctly according to their alphabetic spelling. We would like improve them as the following:

ε=ee

ə=ae

ï=ii

dz=dz

dz̥=dzy

ɟ=j

ç=c

ʃ=sh

tɕ=ts

tʃ=zh

ŋ=ng

g=g

Note: Some of the errors of Jin Guangping's reconstruction mentioned in **WG2n3696** are clerical errors, others are introduced because of shortage of knowledge on ancient Chinese readings. At all, it is a learned issue. For Jurchen characters encoding, we have to work on the basis of existing works before new achievement reached.

4. Radicals and Duplicated Characters

We need more time to check them one by one.

5. Other comments in WG2n3696

We need more time to review other comments, especially to check the character positions in pages of *Jurchen Characters Dictionary* (女真文辞典) listed in **WG2n3696**.

Conclusion

We agree that the proposal on Jurchen Characters should be made

available for further review. We would like to work together with the author of **WG2n3696** for an updated proposal.