

Proposal to Encode the Maithili Script in ISO/IEC 10646

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1 Introduction

This is a proposal to encode the Maithili script in the Universal Character Set (UCS). The recommendations made here are based upon the following documents:

- L2/06-226 “Request to Allocate the Maithili Script in the Unicode Roadmap”
- N3765 L2/09-329 “Towards an Encoding for the Maithili Script in ISO/IEC 10646”

2 Background

Maithili is the traditional writing system for the Maithili language (ISO 639: mai), which is spoken predominantly in the state of Bihar in India and in the Narayani and Janakpur zones of Nepal by more than 35 million people. Maithili is a scheduled language of India and the second most spoken language in Nepal. Maithili is a Brahmi-based script derived from Gauḍī, or ‘Proto-Bengali’, which evolved from the Kuṭila branch of Brahmi by the 10th century CE. It is related to the Bengali, Newari, and Oriya, which are also descended from Gauḍī, and became differentiated from these scripts by the 14th century.¹ It remained the dominant writing system for Maithili until the 20th century. The script is also known as Mithilākṣara and Tirhutā, names which refer to Mithila, or Tirhut, as these regions of India and Nepal are historically known. The Maithili script is known in Bengal as *tirute*, meaning the script of the Tirhuta region.²

The Maithili script is associated with a scholarly and scribal tradition that has produced literary and philosophical works in the Maithili and Sanskrit languages from at least the 14th century CE. The earliest records in the script are inscriptional records found on temples in Bihar and Nepal that are dated to the 13th century. The Maithil Brahmin community has used the script for maintaining *pañjī* (genealogical records) since the 14th century. Printing in Maithili began in the 1920s with the production of metal fonts in Calcutta. This continued until the 1950s, at which time Devanagari formally replaced the script. The Maithili script is still used for producing genealogical records, manuscripts of religious texts, personal correspondence, and printing books. It is also used in signage in north Bihar and is permitted as an optional script for writing the civil services examination in Bihar.

¹ Salomon 1998: 41.

² Chatterji 1926: 225.

Users of Maithili have adapted the script for use in a range of technologies. Since the 1950s, the Maithili Akademi, Chetna Samiti, and other literary societies have been publishing literary, educational, and linguistic materials in the Maithili script using metal type and offset presses (see figures 2 and 3). Beginning in the 1990s, users adapted Maithili for use on computers through the creation of digitized typefaces. Today, there is substantial literary activity in Maithili in the digital medium, such as the production of books and periodicals using desktop publishing software. These are available in print and electronic forms (see Figure 11). The hinderance to full use and support of Maithili in digital media is the absence of a Unicode standard for the script. Maithili users have sought to overcome this issue by developing Maithili fonts that are based upon legacy encodings or mapped to Devanagari or random Unicode blocks. The persistent problem is that the lack of a character-encoding standard for Maithili prevents its representation in plain text. This issue has impeded efforts to use the script for routine activities such as writing e-mails, publishing blogs, and developing websites, and for generating resources such as a Maithili Wikipedia.

The Government of India recognized Maithili as a scheduled language in 2004, a status that provides official support for the development of the language. Scheduled status for Maithili has revitalized interest in the traditional script for the language. In 2005, in a presentation to the Unicode Technical Committee, Dr. Om Vikas of the Department of Information Technology, Government of India noted the historical importance of Maithili (Tirhuta) and expressed the Department's interest in including the script in the Unicode standard (see (L2/05-063)). An encoding for Maithili in the UCS will permit the use of the script in plain text, provide a standard and stable means of supporting current usage of the script, and will facilitate the development of new resources and technologies for Maithili.

3 Proposal Details

3.1 Script Name

The name of the script is 'Maithili'. It is also known by the names Mithilakshar, and Tirhuta. Each of the names are attested historically and in current use. The name 'Tirhuta' would be the most appropriate name for the script since it is the name recognized by the user community. Indeed, the Script Encoding Initiative (2006) also recognizes the script under the name "Tirhuta," with "Maithili" and "Mithilakshar" as alternate names. However, 'Maithili' is a convenient designation due to the association of the script with the language of the same name, and for the present purpose it is sufficient for identifying the script.

3.2 Character Repertoire

The 85 letters in this proposal comprise the core set of Maithili letters and signs. The proposed code chart and names list is provided in Figure 1. The convention used for naming Maithili characters in the UCS follows that used for Devanagari. Maithili is currently allocated in the Supplementary Multilingual Plane at the range U+11480..U+114DF.

3.3 Encoding Considerations

Although Maithili is an independent script, several of its characters bear resemblance to those of Bengali (see discussion in N3765 L2/09-329). These include the shapes of some consonants, vowels, and vowel signs (see tables 3–7 and Section 4.21). These similarities, however, are superficial. The actual differences are visible in the behaviors of characters in certain environments, such as consonant-vowel combinations and in consonant conjuncts, that are common in standard Maithili orthography. Despite the similarities between the two scripts, Maithili cannot be unified with Bengali. In fact, some orthographic features of Maithili prevent

mutual intelligibility with Bengali. Proper representation of Maithili in plain-text requires the preservation of its distinct rendering behaviors. This can only be accomplished at the character level, through character content that is independent of font changes, alterations to text styles, or other formatting.

4 Writing System

4.1 Structure

The general structure (phonetic order, *mātrā* reordering, use of *virāma*, etc.) of Maithili is similar to that of other Indic scripts based upon the Brahmi model. The script is written from left-to-right.

4.2 Virāma

The Maithili 𑒧 VIRAMA is identical in function to the corresponding character in other Indic scripts.

4.3 Vowels

There are 14 vowel letters:

𑒧	A	𑒧	U	𑒧	VOCALIC L	𑒧	O
𑒧	AA	𑒧	UU	𑒧	VOCALIC LL	𑒧	AU
𑒧	I	𑒧	VOCALIC R	𑒧	E		
𑒧	II	𑒧	VOCALIC RR	𑒧	AI		

4.4 Vowel Signs

There are 15 combining vowel signs:

𑒧	SIGN AA	𑒧	SIGN UU	𑒧	SIGN VOCALIC LL	𑒧	SIGN O
𑒧	SIGN I	𑒧	SIGN VOCALIC R	𑒧	SIGN E	𑒧	SIGN O
𑒧	SIGN II	𑒧	SIGN VOCALIC RR	𑒧	SIGN SHORT E	𑒧	SIGN AU
𑒧	SIGN U	𑒧	SIGN VOCALIC L	𑒧	SIGN AI		

There are 3 two-part vowel signs: 𑒧 SIGN AI, 𑒧 SIGN O, 𑒧 SIGN AU. Note the method of writing 𑒧 SIGN AI: The first element is written before the consonant and the other attaches above the letter (compare Bengali 𑒧 SIGN AI).

The signs 𑒧 SHORT E and 𑒧 SHORT O do not have independent forms because the sounds they represents do not occur word initially.

Certain vowel signs have special rendering behaviors when they occur in consonant-vowel combinations with certain consonants (see Section 4.7).

4.5 Representation of Vowel Letters and Signs

Some atomic vowel letters may be represented using a sequence of a base vowel letter and a vowel sign. Also, some atomic vowel signs may be represented using a sequence of two vowel signs. This practice is not recommended. The atomic character for the vowel letter and sign should always be used. The characters in question are specified below:

RECOMMENDED	NOT RECOMMENDED
आ VOWEL LETTER AA	अ VOWEL LETTER A + ी VOWEL SIGN AA
ऋ VOWEL LETTER VOCALIC RR	ऀ VOWEL LETTER VOCALIC R + ृ VOWEL SIGN VOCALIC R
ॠ VOWEL LETTER VOCALIC L	ॠ LETTER LA + ृ VOWEL SIGN VOCALIC R
ॡ VOWEL LETTER VOCALIC LL	ॠ LETTER LA + ृ VOWEL SIGN VOCALIC RR
ए VOWEL LETTER AI	ए VOWEL LETTER E + े VOWEL SIGN SHORT E
औ VOWEL LETTER AU	ओ VOWEL LETTER O + े VOWEL SIGN SHORT E
ै VOWEL SIGN AI	े VOWEL SIGN E + े VOWEL SIGN SHORT E
ो VOWEL SIGN O	े VOWEL SIGN E + ी VOWEL SIGN AA
ी VOWEL SIGN SHORT O	ी VOWEL SIGN AA + े VOWEL SIGN SHORT E
ौ VOWEL SIGN AU	े VOWEL SIGN E + ी VOWEL SIGN SHORT O

4.6 Consonants

There are 33 consonant letters:

क	KA	ঞ	NYA	ध	DHA	न	LA
ख	KHA	ठ	TTA	न	NA	र	VA
ग	GA	ठ	TTHA	प	PA	श	SHA
घ	GHA	ड	DDA	फ	PHA	ष	SSA
ङ	NGA	ढ	DDHA	ब	BA	स	SA
च	CA	ण	NNA	भ	BHA	ह	HA
छ	CHA	त	TA	म	MA		
ज	JA	थ	THA	य	YA		
झ	JHA	द	DA	व	RA		

Each consonant letter bears an inherent vowel, represented by /a/. This inherent vowel is silenced using the ् VIRAMA. Certain consonants have special rendering behaviors when they occur in conjuncts (see Section 4.8) or in word-final position (see Section 4.9).

4.7 Consonant-Vowel Combinations

Combinations of consonants and vowels are written using combining vowel signs. Certain CV combinations have special rendering behaviors. These are described below:

- **Contextual form of VOWEL SIGN U** The vowel sign ू U has the contextual form ्र, which is used with certain consonants and is written with these letters as a ligature.

	<i>gu</i>	<i>ju</i>	<i>ṇu</i>	<i>du</i>	<i>nu</i>	<i>pu</i>	<i>mu</i>	<i>lu</i>	<i>śu</i>	<i>su</i>
Maithili	ग	ज	ण	द	न	प	म	ल	श	स
Bengali	গু	জু	ণু	দু	নু	পু	মু	লু	শু	সু

In Bengali, the element ্র represents *ba-phala*, or the subjoined form of ব BA and is used in the creation of conjuncts. For example, স্ব represents Maithili *su*, but Bengali *sva*; in Maithili, *sva* is written as স্ব.

- **Ligatures formed with VOWEL SIGN U** Combinations of certain consonants and the vowel sign ू U are written as special ligatures:

	<i>ku</i>	<i>tu</i>	<i>dhu</i>	<i>bhu</i>	<i>ṽu</i>	<i>yu</i>	<i>ru</i>	<i>ṣu</i>	<i>hu</i>
Maithili	क	त	ध	भ	य	र	ष	ह	
Bengali	কু	তু	ধু	ভু	যু	রু	ষু	হু	

- **Ligatures formed with VOWEL SIGN UU** Combinations of certain consonants and the vowel sign ू UU are written as special ligatures:

	<i>kū</i>	<i>dhū</i>	<i>rū</i>	<i>hū</i>
Maithili	कु	धु	रु	हु
Bengali	কূ	ধূ	রূ	হূ

- **Ligatures formed with VOWEL SIGN VOCALIC R** Combinations of certain consonants and the vowel sign ू VOCALIC R are written as special ligatures:

	<i>kṛ</i>	<i>tṛ</i>	<i>bṛ</i>	<i>bhṛ</i>	<i>hṛ</i>
Maithili	कृ	तृ	बृ	भृ	हृ
Bengali	কৃ	তৃ	বৃ	ভৃ	হৃ

4.8 Consonant Conjuncts

Consonant clusters are generally represented as complex ligatures (see Table 7). Certain consonants have other special rendering behaviors when they occur in clusters. These are described below:

1. **Letter TA** The representation of ত TA as C₁ is determined by C₂. If C₂ is ত TA, য YA, ব RA, or র VA, the conjunct is written as a ligature or with subjoined forms of C₂. With all other consonants, TA takes the two-part form ে. For example, *tka* is written as কে, eg. সবকোন *saratkāla*. This behavior of TA resembles Bengali ৎ KHANDA TA, eg. সরৎকাল *saratkāla*. However, unlike KHANDA TA, it is unnecessary to encode ে as an independent character because the context for its use are predictable. A variant form of ে attested in recent printed materials is ত্, eg. সবত্‌কাল *saratkāla*.
2. **Letter NA** When ন NA is C₂ in conjuncts with certain consonants, it takes the subjoined form ্. This form is used when the following consonants are C₁: KHA (খু *khna*); PHA (ফু *phna*); SA (সু *sna*).

3. **Letter BA** The letter बा BA has the following contextual forms when it appears in the following environments:

- (a) *Consonant-vowel combinations* The letter BA take the conjunct contextual form when it is written with ॠ SIGN VOCALIC R. This combination is written not as *बृ, but as ब्र.
- (b) *Conjunct onset* When BA is C₁ in certain clusters it takes the shape ब्र, eg. ब्र bda.
- (c) *Conjunct final* When BA is C₂ it has the form ॠ, eg. म्र mba; compare म्र mu and म्र mva.

4. **Letter YA** When य YA is C₂, its representation in a conjunct is dependent upon C₁:

- (a) *Atomic ligature* If C₁ is TA, it combines with YA to form a ligature: त्र tya (Bengali ত্য).
- (b) *Post-base form* In conjuncts with other letters, YA takes the form ॠ and is written sequentially after C₁: थ्र tya. With some consonants, the post-base form joins with the base consonant to form a distinct ligature:

	dya	nya	bhya	śya	sya	hya
Maithili	द्य	न्य	भ्य	श्र	स्र	ह्र
Bengali	দ্য	ন্য	ভ্য	শ্য	স্য	হ্য

5. **Letter RA** The shape of RA as C₁ is dependent upon C₂:

- (a) *Repha* With the majority of consonants, RA as C₁ is written as ৠ repha, eg. ৠ rpa.
- (b) *Ligature* In some cases, RA forms a ligature with C₂. This is the common representation when GA is C₂: ৡ rga (Bengali র্গ).

6. **Letter LA** When LA is C₂, it takes the subjoined form ॡ: क्ल kla (Bengali ক্ল), फ्ल phla (Bengali ফ্ল), श्ल śla (Bengali শ্ল).

7. **Letter VA** When VA is C₂, it takes the subjoined form ॢ, eg. ॢ sva.

4.9 Contextual Forms of Consonants

Certain consonants have special forms when they appear in word-final positions:

1. **Letter TA** The sequence <TA, VIRAMA> is written as ॣ (not ।) at word-final position.
2. **Letter MA** the sequence <MA, VIRAMA> is written as ॥ (not ७) at word-final position.

4.10 Nasalization

Nasalization is indicated by ॥ CANDRABINDU and ॥ ANUSVARA. These signs are written centered above the base. If written with an above-base sign or a letter with a graphical element that extends past the headstroke, they placed to the right of such these signs and elements.

4.11 Characters for Representing Sanskrit

The following characters are attested in Vedic and classical Sanskrit manuscripts written in Maithili:

1. ॐ VISARGA This sign represents an allophone of र RA or स SA at word-final position in Sanskrit orthography.
2. ँ GVANG This sign represents nasalization. It belongs to the same class of characters as उ U+1CE9 VEDIC SIGN ANUSVARA ANTARGOMUKHA, ऒ U+1CEA VEDIC SIGN ANUSVARA BAHIRGOMUKHA, etc.
3. ॠ ardhavisarga Represents /x/ *jihvāmūlīya* and /ϕ/ *upadhmānīya*. This character is not proposed for independent encoding and should be unified with ॠ U+1CF2 VEDIC SIGN ARDHAVISARGA.

4.12 Nukta

The ॠ NUKTA is used for writing sounds that are not represented by a unique character, such as allophonic variants and sounds that occur in local dialects or in loanwords. The following combinations of consonant letter + NUKTA are attested in Maithili:

/ɽ/	ड़	DDA + NUKTA
/ɽh/	ढ़	DDHA + NUKTA
/l/	लॠ	LA + NUKTA
/j/	यॠ	YA + NUKTA

The NUKTA may be written with any vowel or consonant letter. If other combining marks, such as a vowel sign or ANUSVARA, also appear with the base character, then the NUKTA is written first, eg. लो <LLA, NUKTA, SIGN AA>.

The graphical structures of बै BA and वै VA possess a dot; however this dot is semantically not equivalent to NUKTA. These letters do not decompose to NUKTA and are treated as atomic characters.

4.13 Punctuation

Maithili uses । DANDA and ॥ DOUBLE DANDA. These should be unified with the Devanagari characters । U+0964 DEVANAGARI DANDA and ॥ U+0965 DEVANAGARI DOUBLE DANDA.

4.14 Abbreviation

The ॐ ABBREVIATION SIGN is used for marking abbreviations.

4.15 Digits

Maithili has a full set of decimal digits: ० ZERO, १ ONE, २ TWO, ३ THREE, ४ FOUR, ५ FIVE, ६ SIX, ७ SEVEN, ८ EIGHT, ९ NINE.

4.16 Number Forms and Unit Marks

Number forms and unit marks are found in Maithili documents (see Figure 9). The most common characters are signs for writing fractions: eg. ॥ U+A831 NORTH INDIC FRACTION ONE HALF, ॥ U+A832 NORTH INDIC FRACTION THREE QUARTERS, etc.; and currency marks: eg. ॥ U+A838 NORTH INDIC RUPEE MARK. These characters may be represented using those encoded in the ‘Common Indic Number Forms’ block (U+A830..U+A83F), which are described in N3367 L2/07-354. Also used are Bengali ‘currency numerators’, eg. ॥ U+09F4 BENGALI CURRENCY NUMERATOR ONE.

4.17 Symbols

There are two script-specific symbols in Maithili:

1. ॥ ANJI This symbol is an important and uniquely Maithili character that is used in the invocations of letters, manuscripts, books, and charts of the Maithili script. The sign *añjī* is said to represent the tusk of the deity Gaṇeśa, patron of learning.
2. ॐ OM This symbol is a unique character in Maithili. In Bengali, the sign is represented as ॐ, which is a simple combination of o and CANDRABINDU.

4.17.1 Variant Characters

Maithili has variant forms for several letters, character elements, and conjuncts:

- The letter ॠ RA has two variant forms: (a) ॠ and (b) ॠ. These variants produce consonant-vowel ligatures: (a) ॠ ru and ॠ rū; and (b) ॠ ru and ॠ rū.
- The character ॡ VOCALIC R has the variant form ॡ
- The character ॢ VOCALIC RR has the variant form ॢ,
- The conjunct-onset form of ॣ TA is represented as both ॣ and ॣ.

All variant forms should be managed at the font level.

4.18 Collation

The basic collating order for Maithili is as follows:

॥ ANJI < ॠ A < ॠ AA < ॠ I < ॠ II < ॠ U < ॠ UU < ॡ VOCALIC R <
 ॡ VOCALIC RR < ॢ VOCALIC L < ॢ VOCALIC LL < ॣ E < ॣ AI < ॣ O < ॣ AU <
 ॣ KA < ॣ KHA < ॣ GA < ॣ GHA < ॣ NGA < ॣ CA < ॣ CHA < ॣ JA < ॣ JHA <
 ॣ NYA < ॣ TTA < ॣ TTHA < ॣ DDA < ॣ DDHA < ॣ NNA < ॣ TA < ॣ THA <
 ॣ DA < ॣ DHA < ॣ NA < ॣ PA < ॣ PHA < ॣ BA < ॣ BHA < ॣ MA < ॣ YA <
 ॣ RA < ॣ LA < ॣ VA < ॣ SHA < ॣ SSA < ॣ SA < ॣ HA < ॣ SIGN AA <
 ॣ SIGN I < ॣ SIGN II < ॣ SIGN U < ॣ SIGN UU < ॣ SIGN VOCALIC R <
 ॣ SIGN VOCALIC RR < ॣ SIGN VOCALIC L < ॣ SIGN VOCALIC LL < ॣ SIGN SHORT E <
 ॣ SIGN E < ॣ SIGN AI < ॣ SIGN SHORT O < ॣ SIGN O < ॣ SIGN AU <
 ॣ CANDRABINDU < ॣ ANUSVARA < ॣ VISARGA < ॣ VIRAMA

Combinations of consonant letter + NUKTA are sorted with the base letter.

The symbol 𑒧 GVANG has the same collation weight as 𑒧 ANUSVARA.

4.19 Linebreaking

Letters, vowel signs, and digits behave as in Bengali.

4.20 Character Properties

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11480;MAITHILI ANJI;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
11481;MAITHILI LETTER A;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
11482;MAITHILI LETTER AA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
11483;MAITHILI LETTER I;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
11484;MAITHILI LETTER II;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
11485;MAITHILI LETTER U;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
11486;MAITHILI LETTER UU;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
11487;MAITHILI LETTER VOCALIC R;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
11488;MAITHILI LETTER VOCALIC RR;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
11489;MAITHILI LETTER VOCALIC L;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
1148A;MAITHILI LETTER VOCALIC LL;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
1148B;MAITHILI LETTER E;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
1148C;MAITHILI LETTER AI;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
1148D;MAITHILI LETTER O;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
1148E;MAITHILI LETTER AU;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
1148F;MAITHILI LETTER KA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
11490;MAITHILI LETTER KHA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
11491;MAITHILI LETTER GA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
11492;MAITHILI LETTER GHA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
11493;MAITHILI LETTER NGA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
11494;MAITHILI LETTER CA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
11495;MAITHILI LETTER CHA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
11496;MAITHILI LETTER JA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
11497;MAITHILI LETTER JHA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
11498;MAITHILI LETTER NYA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
11499;MAITHILI LETTER TTA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
1149A;MAITHILI LETTER TTHA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
1149B;MAITHILI LETTER DDA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
1149C;MAITHILI LETTER DDHA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
1149D;MAITHILI LETTER NNA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
1149E;MAITHILI LETTER TA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
1149F;MAITHILI LETTER THA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114A0;MAITHILI LETTER DA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114A1;MAITHILI LETTER DHA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114A2;MAITHILI LETTER NA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114A3;MAITHILI LETTER PA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114A4;MAITHILI LETTER PHA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114A5;MAITHILI LETTER BA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114A6;MAITHILI LETTER BHA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114A7;MAITHILI LETTER MA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114A8;MAITHILI LETTER YA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114A9;MAITHILI LETTER RA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114AA;MAITHILI LETTER LA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114AB;MAITHILI LETTER VA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114AC;MAITHILI LETTER SHA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114AD;MAITHILI LETTER SSA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114AE;MAITHILI LETTER SA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114AF;MAITHILI LETTER HA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;

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114B0;MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN AA;Mc;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114B1;MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN I;Mc;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114B2;MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN II;Mc;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114B3;MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN U;Mn;0;NSM;;;;N;;;;;
114B4;MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN UU;Mn;0;NSM;;;;N;;;;;
114B5;MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN VOCALIC R;Mn;0;NSM;;;;N;;;;;
114B6;MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN VOCALIC RR;Mn;0;NSM;;;;N;;;;;
114B7;MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN VOCALIC L;Mn;0;NSM;;;;N;;;;;
114B8;MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN VOCALIC LL;Mn;0;NSM;;;;N;;;;;
114B9;MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN E;Mc;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114BA;MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN SHORT E;Mn;0;NSM;;;;N;;;;;
114BB;MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN AI;Mc;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114BC;MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN O;Mc;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114BD;MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN SHORT O;Mc;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114BE;MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN AU;Mc;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114BF;MAITHILI SIGN CANDRABINDU;Mn;0;NSM;;;;N;;;;;
114C0;MAITHILI SIGN ANUSVARA;Mn;0;NSM;;;;N;;;;;
114C1;MAITHILI SIGN VISARGA;Mc;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114C2;MAITHILI SIGN VIRAMA;Mn;9;NSM;;;;N;;;;;
114C3;MAITHILI SIGN NUKTA;Mn;0;NSM;;;;N;;;;;
114C4;MAITHILI SIGN AVAGRAHA;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114C5;MAITHILI GVANG;Mc;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114C6;MAITHILI ABBREVIATION SIGN;Po;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114C7;MAITHILI OM;Lo;0;L;;;;N;;;;;
114D0;MAITHILI DIGIT ZERO;Nd;0;L;;0;0;0;N;;;;;
114D1;MAITHILI DIGIT ONE;Nd;0;L;;1;1;1;N;;;;;
114D2;MAITHILI DIGIT TWO;Nd;0;L;;2;2;2;N;;;;;
114D3;MAITHILI DIGIT THREE;Nd;0;L;;3;3;3;N;;;;;
114D4;MAITHILI DIGIT FOUR;Nd;0;L;;4;4;4;N;;;;;
114D5;MAITHILI DIGIT FIVE;Nd;0;L;;5;5;5;N;;;;;
114D6;MAITHILI DIGIT SIX;Nd;0;L;;6;6;6;N;;;;;
114D7;MAITHILI DIGIT SEVEN;Nd;0;L;;7;7;7;N;;;;;
114D8;MAITHILI DIGIT EIGHT;Nd;0;L;;8;8;8;N;;;;;
114D9;MAITHILI DIGIT NINE;Nd;0;L;;9;9;9;N;;;;;

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4.21 ‘Confusable’ Characters

Several Maithili characters resemble those of Bengali. Some of these are ‘confusable’ homographs:

- The glyph ঝ represents va in Maithili, but রা in Bengali.
- The glyph ঞ represents RA in Maithili, but বা in Bengali.
- The glyph ঞ represents LA in Maithili, but ন্না in Bengali.
- The glyph ঞ represents NNA in Maithili, but লা in Bengali.

Below is a list of Maithili characters that may be ‘confusable’ with those encoded in the Bengali block:

1148B MAITHILI LETTER E	; 098F BENGALI LETTER E
1148C MAITHILI LETTER AI	; 0990 BENGALI LETTER AI
1148D MAITHILI LETTER O	; 0993 BENGALI LETTER O
1148E MAITHILI LETTER AU	; 0994 BENGALI LETTER AU
1148F MAITHILI LETTER KA	; 0995 BENGALI LETTER KA
11490 MAITHILI LETTER KHA	; 0996 BENGALI LETTER KHA
11491 MAITHILI LETTER GA	; 0997 BENGALI LETTER GA
11492 MAITHILI LETTER GHA	; 0998 BENGALI LETTER GHA
11494 MAITHILI LETTER CA	; 099A BENGALI LETTER CA
11496 MAITHILI LETTER JA	; 099C BENGALI LETTER JA
11498 MAITHILI LETTER NYA	; 099E BENGALI LETTER NYA
11499 MAITHILI LETTER TTA	; 099F BENGALI LETTER TTA
1149B MAITHILI LETTER DDA	; 09A1 BENGALI LETTER DDA

1149D	MAITHILI	LETTER	NNA	;	09B2	BENGALI	LETTER	LA
1149E	MAITHILI	LETTER	TA	;	09A4	BENGALI	LETTER	TA
1149F	MAITHILI	LETTER	THA	;	09A5	BENGALI	LETTER	THA
114A0	MAITHILI	LETTER	DA	;	09A6	BENGALI	LETTER	DA
114A1	MAITHILI	LETTER	DHA	;	09A7	BENGALI	LETTER	DHA
114A2	MAITHILI	LETTER	NA	;	09A8	BENGALI	LETTER	NA
114A3	MAITHILI	LETTER	PA	;	09AA	BENGALI	LETTER	PA
114A7	MAITHILI	LETTER	MA	;	09AE	BENGALI	LETTER	MA
114A8	MAITHILI	LETTER	YA	;	09AF	BENGALI	LETTER	YA
114A9	MAITHILI	LETTER	RA	;	09AC	BENGALI	LETTER	BA
114AA	MAITHILI	LETTER	LA	;	09A3	BENGALI	LETTER	NNA
114AB	MAITHILI	LETTER	VA	;	09B0	BENGALI	LETTER	RA
114AD	MAITHILI	LETTER	SSA	;	09B7	BENGALI	LETTER	SSA
114AE	MAITHILI	LETTER	SA	;	09B8	BENGALI	LETTER	SA
114B0	MAITHILI	VOWEL	SIGN AA	;	09BE	BENGALI	VOWEL	SIGN AA
114B1	MAITHILI	VOWEL	SIGN I	;	09BF	BENGALI	VOWEL	SIGN I
114B9	MAITHILI	VOWEL	SIGN E	;	09C7	BENGALI	VOWEL	SIGN E
114BC	MAITHILI	VOWEL	SIGN O	;	09CB	BENGALI	VOWEL	SIGN O
114BD	MAITHILI	VOWEL	SIGN SHORT O	;	09D7	BENGALI	VOWEL	SIGN LENGTH MARK
114BE	MAITHILI	VOWEL	SIGN AU	;	09CC	BENGALI	VOWEL	SIGN AU
114BF	MAITHILI	SIGN	CANDRABINDU	;	0981	BENGALI	SIGN	CANDRABINDU
114C1	MAITHILI	SIGN	VISARGA	;	0983	BENGALI	SIGN	VISARGA
114C2	MAITHILI	SIGN	VIRAMA	;	09CD	BENGALI	SIGN	VIRAMA
114C3	MAITHILI	SIGN	NUKTA	;	09BC	BENGALI	SIGN	NUKTA
114C4	MAITHILI	SIGN	AVAGRAHA	;	09BD	BENGALI	SIGN	AVAGRAHA
114D0	MAITHILI	DIGIT	ZERO	;	09E6	BENGALI	DIGIT	ZERO
114D1	MAITHILI	DIGIT	ONE	;	09E7	BENGALI	DIGIT	ONE
114D2	MAITHILI	DIGIT	TWO	;	09E8	BENGALI	DIGIT	TWO
114D6	MAITHILI	DIGIT	SIX	;	09EC	BENGALI	DIGIT	SIX

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	1148	1149	114A	114B	114C	114D
0	ि 11480	ख 11490	द 114A0	ा 114B0	ं 114C0	० 114D0
1	त्र 11481	ग 11491	ध 114A1	ि 114B1	ं 114C1	१ 114D1
2	था 11482	घ 11492	न 114A2	ी 114B2	् 114C2	२ 114D2
3	ज 11483	ङ 11493	प 114A3	ृ 114B3	ं 114C3	३ 114D3
4	झ 11484	च 11494	फ 114A4	्र 114B4	ॢ 114C4	४ 114D4
5	ड 11485	ढ 11495	र 114A5	ृ 114B5	ॣ 114C5	५ 114D5
6	डि 11486	ज 11496	झ 114A6	ृ 114B6	ॣ 114C6	६ 114D6
7	झ 11487	न 11497	म 114A7	ृ 114B7	ॣ 114C7	७ 114D7
8	झ 11488	ए 11498	य 114A8	ृ 114B8		८ 114D8
9	नृ 11489	ऊ 11499	व 114A9	े 114B9		९ 114D9
A	नृ 1148A	ठ 1149A	न 114AA	ै 114BA		
B	ए 1148B	ड 1149B	र 114AB	ै 114BB		
C	ई 1148C	ढ 1149C	श 114AC	ो 114BC		
D	उ 1148D	ण 1149D	ष 114AD	ी 114BD		
E	ऊ 1148E	त 1149E	स 114AE	ौ 114BE		
F	क 1148F	थ 1149F	ह 114AF	ँ 114BF		

Table 1: Proposed code chart for Maithili

The Maithili script is also known by the names 'Tirhuta' and 'Mithilakshara'.

Sign

11480 ऀ MAITHILI ANJI

Independent vowels

11481 अ MAITHILI LETTER A
11482 आ MAITHILI LETTER AA
11483 इ MAITHILI LETTER I
11484 ई MAITHILI LETTER II
11485 उ MAITHILI LETTER U
11486 ऊ MAITHILI LETTER UU
11487 ऋ MAITHILI LETTER VOCALIC R
11488 ॠ MAITHILI LETTER VOCALIC RR
11489 ऌ MAITHILI LETTER VOCALIC L
1148A ॡ MAITHILI LETTER VOCALIC LL
1148B ए MAITHILI LETTER E
1148C ऐ MAITHILI LETTER AI
1148D ओ MAITHILI LETTER O
1148E औ MAITHILI LETTER AU

Consonants

1148F क MAITHILI LETTER KA
11490 ख MAITHILI LETTER KHA
11491 ग MAITHILI LETTER GA
11492 घ MAITHILI LETTER GHA
11493 ङ MAITHILI LETTER NGA
11494 च MAITHILI LETTER CA
11495 छ MAITHILI LETTER CHA
11496 ज MAITHILI LETTER JA
11497 झ MAITHILI LETTER JHA
11498 ञ MAITHILI LETTER NYA
11499 ट MAITHILI LETTER TTA
1149A ठ MAITHILI LETTER TTHA
1149B ड MAITHILI LETTER DDA
1149C ढ MAITHILI LETTER DDHA
1149D ण MAITHILI LETTER NNA
1149E त MAITHILI LETTER TA
1149F थ MAITHILI LETTER THA
114A0 द MAITHILI LETTER DA
114A1 ध MAITHILI LETTER DHA
114A2 न MAITHILI LETTER NA
114A3 प MAITHILI LETTER PA
114A4 फ MAITHILI LETTER PHA
114A5 ब MAITHILI LETTER BA
114A6 भ MAITHILI LETTER BHA
114A7 म MAITHILI LETTER MA
114A8 य MAITHILI LETTER YA
114A9 र MAITHILI LETTER RA
114AA ल MAITHILI LETTER LA
114AB व MAITHILI LETTER VA
114AC श MAITHILI LETTER SHA
114AD ष MAITHILI LETTER SSA
114AE स MAITHILI LETTER SA
114AF ह MAITHILI LETTER HA

Dependent vowel signs

114B0 ा MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN AA
114B1 ि MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN I
114B2 ी MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN II
114B3 ु MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN U
114B4 ू MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN UU
114B5 ॠ MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN VOCALIC R
114B6 ॡ MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN VOCALIC RR
114B7 ॢ MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN VOCALIC L
114B8 ॣ MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN VOCALIC LL
114B9 े MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN E
114BA ो MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN SHORT E

114BB ै MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN AI
114BC ौ MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN O
114BD ॊ MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN SHORT O
114BE ो MAITHILI VOWEL SIGN AU

Various signs

114BF ॰ MAITHILI SIGN CANDRABINDU
114C0 ॱ MAITHILI SIGN ANUSVARA
114C1 ॲ MAITHILI SIGN VISARGA
114C2 ॳ = halant
114C3 ॴ MAITHILI SIGN NUKTA
114C4 ॵ MAITHILI SIGN AVAGRAHA
114C5 ॶ = vedic anusvara
114C6 ॷ MAITHILI ABBREVIATION SIGN

Sign

114C7 ॸ MAITHILI OM

Digits

114D0 ० MAITHILI DIGIT ZERO
114D1 १ MAITHILI DIGIT ONE
114D2 २ MAITHILI DIGIT TWO
114D3 ३ MAITHILI DIGIT THREE
114D4 ४ MAITHILI DIGIT FOUR
114D5 ५ MAITHILI DIGIT FIVE
114D6 ६ MAITHILI DIGIT SIX
114D7 ७ MAITHILI DIGIT SEVEN
114D8 ८ MAITHILI DIGIT EIGHT
114D9 ९ MAITHILI DIGIT NINE

Table 2: Proposed names list for Maithili

मिश्रिबन्ध आजी सिद्धिरस्तु
mishri bhandh ājī siddhirastu



স্ব স্বা ঙা ঙী ঙ ঙ্গ ঙ্গ ঙ্গ ঙ্গ ঙ্গ ঙ্গ ঙ্গ ঙ্গ ঙ্গ ঙ্গ ঙ্গ ঙ্গ ঙ্গ
 অ আ ই ইঁ উ উঁ ঋ ঋ ল্ ল্ ঐ ঐ ঐ ঐ ঐ ঐ ঐ ঐ
 a ā i ī u ū r lr e ai o au am ah

r f ʃ () ɹ ɻ ɽ ɿ ʊ ː ˑ ˈ ˌ ˎ . (l)
 r f ʃ ː ˑ ˈ ˌ ˎ : ˑ ˈ ˌ ˎ (l)
 ā i ī u ū r e ai o au am̃ ã ah r r halant full stop

ক	খ	গ	ঘ	ঙ	চ	ছ	জ	ঝ	ঞ	ট	ঠ	ড (ড়)	ঢ (ঢ়)	ণ
ক	খ	গ	ঘ	ঙ	চ	ছ	জ	ঝ	ঞ	ট	ঠ	ড (ড়)	ঢ (ঢ়)	ণ
ka	kha	ga	gha	ṅa	ca	cha	ja	jha	ña	ṭa	ṭha	ḍa (ṛa)	ḍha (ṛha)	ṇa
ত	থ	দ	ধ	ন	প	ফ	ব (বঁ)	ভ	ম	য	র	ল	ব (বঁ)	শ
ত	থ	দ	ধ	ন	প	ফ	ব	ভ	ম	য	র	ল	ব	শ
ta	tha	da	dha	na	pa	pha	ba	bha	ma	ya	ra	la	va	śa
					ষ	স	হ	ঋ	ত্র	ঙ				
					ষ	স	হ	ঋ	ত্র	ঙ				
					ṣa	sa	ha	kṣa	tra	jña				

मात्रायुक्त अक्षर, संयुक्ताक्षर, अर्ध अक्षर ओ आँकक आखर
(mātrāyukta akṣara, saṁyuktākṣara, ardhā akṣara o āṅkaka ākhara)

क ङ ञ अ ण ई ई ऋ ए ऌ ऍ उ ङ ङ ङ ङ ङ ङ ङ ङ ङ
 कु कृ कृ कृ कृ कृ कृ कृ कृ कृ कृ कृ कृ कृ कृ कृ कृ कृ कृ कृ
 ku kū kr̥ kt̥a kra ŋka ŋga cca ŋca nta nthā nda tu tū tr̥ tta tya tva ddha dya ndha

ਭ ਯ ਕ ਕਾ ਊ ਈ ੜਿ ੜਿ ੜਿ ੜਿ ੜਿ ੜਿ ੜਿ ੜਿ ੜਿ ੜਿ ੜਿ ੜਿ
 ਬੁ ਧੁ ਰ ਰੰ ਗੰ ਸ਼ੁ ਅ ਪੁ ਷ਕ ਟ ਣਾ ਸਤ ਫੁ ਹ੍ਰ ਛ ਛ ਛ ਛ ਛ ਛ
 bḥr̥ yu ru rū ṛga śu śra śu śka śta śna sta hu hū hna hna hla hr hma

ॐ ऋ ॢ ॣ । ॥ ० १ २ ३ ४ ५ ६ ७ ८ ९ ०
 १ २ ३ ४ ५ ६ ७ ८ ९ ० १ २ ३ ४ ५ ६ ७ ८ ९ ०
 g j t th n p m y l v ś ṣ s

2 2 2 8 5 6 7 + ~ 0

१ २ ३ ४ ५ ६ ७ ८ ९ १०

one two **three** four five six seven eight nine zero

अकुर

३३

अकुर

सरल अपन व्यवहार) *akutīla*—*Adj.* Simple, honest, unblunted.

अकुर—वि० । जे कुण्टित नहि होअए, अप्रतिबन्ध, सर्वत्र प्रसरणीय, उदार । [अ^३ + सं० कुण्ट] लाल० रामा० ७३ *akunītha*—*Adj.* Unobstructed, not blunted, vigorous, able to work.

अकुरित अकुण्टित—वि० । अस्कुचित, अलज्जित, अनुग्रह, अवरिद्ध, निर्विघ्न । [अ^३ + सं० कुण्टित] तु० क० अकुण्ट । *akunīhita*—*Adj.* Unblunted, continuous.

अकुरा-मकुरा अकुना-मकुना—मकुना, छोटा एवं स्त्री जाति केर (बिना बहरापल दाँतक) हाथी । [१ सं० मकु + नी (स्त्री० प्र०) शब्दानुकरणे अकुना] तु० क० अदना-फदना (दे०) । मै० सा० ३३४ (अकुना-मकुना के बतिआबए चौदह सए दन्तर) *akunā makunā*—Tuskless (female or minor) elephant.

अकुरित अकुपित—वि० । क्रोधित नहि, शान्त । का० प्र० । [सं०] एका० २६ । *akupita*—*Adj.* Not angry, normal, P. F.

अकुरा अकुरा—अँकुरा (दे०) केर विक० रू० । [सं० अकुर] अमर० ३२६ (अकुरा नवीन पत्र) *akurā*—*Alt.* of *ākurā* (q. v.).

अकुल^१ अकुल^१—वि० । कुलरहित, अथलाह कुल । [अ^३ + कुल] (महादेव अकुल एवं अनादि क्षत्रि); (कुल, अकुल केर बिनु विचार कए नहि सम्बन्ध स्थिर करब उचित नहि) *akula*^१—*Adj.* not well known family, belonging to a low family.

अकुल^२ अकुल^२—वि० । आकुल (दे०) केर लु० का० रू० । वि० मजु० २१० (अकुल अलप वेआकुल लोचन) *akula*^२—*Adj.* Obs. Poet. form of *ākula* (q. v.).

अकुला अकुला—पू० क्रि० । अकुलाए (दे०) केर संक्षिप्त रू० । [आकुल + आ] तु० क० अकुला (डा० उ० ना० ति० २५१) *akulā*—*Part.* Short form of *akulāe* (q. v.).

अकुलाए अकुलाए—अकुलाए केर पू० क्रि० एवं क्रि० वि० क रू० । *akulāe*—*Part.* and *Adv.* form of *akulāe*.

अकुलाथि अकुलाथि—क्रि० । आकुल (दे०) केर मध्य० आद० भू० रू० । का० प्र० । [आकुल + अथि] रामा० १६४ (बिरही जन मन-मन अकुलाथि) *akulāthi*—*V.* Past. sec. pers. hon. of *ākula* (q. v.).

अकुलाबए अकुलाबए—क्रि० । आकुल (दे०) केर प्रे० रू० । [आकुल + अब] मन० ८१ (दलमलित धरनी अकुलाबए) *akulābae*—*V.* Cau. of *ākula* (q. v.).

अकुलाय अकुलाय—क्रि० वि०, पू० क्रि० । अकुलाए (दे०) केर विक० रू० । [आकुल + आय] रामा० २५७ (कपिल सकल विकल अकुलाय); मोद १७१-१८ (लोचन समवेदना करथि अकुलाय); एका० (स्त्रा अकुलाय कुलायमे कनइत गेल समाय) *akulāya*—*Part.* *Adv.* *Alt.* of *akulāe* (q. v.).

अकुलिन अकुलिन—वि० । अकुलीन (दे०) केर प्रा० लु० का० रू० । वि० ने० १६८ (अकुलिन सजो यदि कए सदभाव); वि० मजु० (ताल०) १२५ (अकुलिन बोल नहि ओढ़ धरि निरबह); पु० प० ७२ (अकुलिन पापोत्साह); चन्द्र० ११४ (अकुलिन लोके धरनि परिपूत) *akulina*—*Adj.* Obs. E. Poet. form of *akulīna* (q. v.).

अकुलिनि अकुलिनि—वि० । अकुलीन (दे०) केर स्त्री० रू० । [अ^३ + कुल + इनि] Grierson. अकुलिनि विआही कुलक उपहास = नीच कुलोत्पन्ना स्त्रीसँ विवाह कएलासँ अपनहु अभिजात्य वंशक उपहास होइत छैक । *akulini*—*Adj.* Fem. of *akulīna* (q. v.).

अकुलीन अकुलीन—वि० । नीच कुलक नहि, छोटा, अथलाह वा नीच वंशक । [अ^३ + कुलीन (दे०)] तु० क० १ बं०, ने० अकुलीन; २ अकुलिन (दे०) । पु० प० ३६ (अकुलीनक संसर्गसँ...); मि० ३७४ (कोनो व्यक्ति अकुलीन मोसाहेब पदपर रहैत...) *akulīna*—*Adj.* Low-born, of no high descent.

अकुलैलहुँ अकुलैलहुँ—क्रि० । आकुल (दे०) केर भूत०, उत्त० एवं मध्य० पु०, आद० रू० । [आकुल + अलहुँ (दे०)] तु० क० १ म० अतावील होये; २ अकुलाए-य (दे०) । सुक्तिपुष्पा ४३ । *akulailahū*—*V.* Past. first and second person hon. of *ākula* (q. v.).

अकुशल अकुशल—वि० । कार्यकुशल नहि, अनिपुण । [सं०] तु० क० बं० हि० उ० ने० अकुशल । कीर्ति० ३७ (अकुशल बेविहि एक्क पइ अवर तुन्ह परताप) *akusala*—*Adj.* Not expert, not well-versed, not well.

अकुसी अकुसी—अँकुसी (दे०) केर विक० रू० । वि० मजु० ५७१ (जटा देल अकुसी लगाय) *akusi*—*Alt.* form of *ākusi* (q. v.).

अकृतज्ञ अकृतज्ञ—वि० । कृतज्ञ, नीच, अधम । [सं०] तु० क० बं० अकृतज्ञ । *akṛtajña*—*Adj.* Ungrateful.

अकृतज्ञता अकृतज्ञता—कृतज्ञता, नीचता । [अ^३ + सं० कृत-ज्ञता] मोद ६७, २५ (अकृतज्ञता मैथिल समुदाय केर प्रधान दोष) ऐ० ६६, १५ (अहाँकेँ अकृतज्ञता लिखव व्यर्थ) *akṛtajñatā*—Ungratefulness, meanness.

अकृतार्थ अकृतार्थ—क्रि० वि० । कृतार्थ नहि, व्यर्थमनोरथ, असफल । [अ^३ + कृतार्थ] तु० क० बं० अकृतार्थ । रा० शि० ४४ *akṛtārtha*—*Adj.* Unsatisfied.

अकृत्य^१ अकृत्य^१—वि० । नहि कएल । [अ^३ + कृत्य (दे०)] कीर्तिलता ४५ (साहस उत्साह अकृत्य बाधा बलि कए दधीचि करो स्पष्टा साथ) *akṛtya*^१—*Adj.* Not done.

अकृत्य अकृत्य—वि० । नहि करबा योग्य (कार्य) । [सं०] तु० क० बं० अकृत्य । *akṛtya*—*Adj.* That which should not be done.

अकृत्रिम अकृत्रिम—वि० । नैसर्गिक, स्वाभाविक, कृत्रिम नहि, निष्कपट, निश्चल, बिना शृङ्गारकेँ । [अ^३ + कृत्रिम] तु० क० हि० बं०

Figure 2: An excerpt from the *Bṛhat Maithilī Śabdakośa*, a Maithili-English dictionary (from Mishra 1973: 13).

স্বামেনিবেদন

ঐতিহাসিক মিহানুপৰ নিৰ্মিত ঙ্গ শব্দকোশ মেখিলীভাষাক বৃহৎ কোশ শিক। ঙ্গ মেখিলী ও মেখিলীতৰ বিদ্বান্ দ্ব্যক হেতু পুস্তকত কএন গেল স্বষ্টি। মেখিলীক বিদ্বান্ চাহেত চুনাহ জে স্বনকা একটা তেহন নীক শব্দকোশ হোঙনহি জাহিঁ ও মেখিলীক প্ৰাচীন সাহিত্যকৈঁ বঁখি ও স্বাস্বাদন কএ সকথি এওঁ জাহিঁ ও লগভগ ১০০০বৰ্ষক পৰম্পৰাদ্বাৰা স্থিৰ কএন শব্দক শুল্ল ৰূপ ও শৈলী নিৰ্ধাৰণ কএ সকথি। স্বাওৰো, যদি ঙ্গ এখনক্স স্বাবশ্যক বঁখন জায় তঁ, ঙ্গ মিহি ভএ জাএ জে ঙ্গ ভাষা প্ৰাচীনে কানসঁ গ্ৰন্থ-স্থ ভাষা বহন স্বষ্টি, স্বাত্মক কোনো তেহন উপভাষা নহি শিক জে এখানে জাগৃত ভএ স্বপন স্বস্তিৰ বঁনাএ বখৰাঁক প্ৰযাস কএ বহন স্বষ্টি। মেখিলীতৰ বিদ্বান্কেঁ এহি শব্দকোশক বঁজতো ভাৰতীয়-স্বায়ভাষাক কতিয় ভাষাবৈজ্ঞানিক বিষয়ক জ্ঞান হোএতনহি জকৰ স্বৰূপ মোভাগ্যসঁ স্বাঙও মেখিলীভাষা স্ৰ-স্থিত বখনে স্বষ্টি, বিশেষতঃ মেখিলীসঁ সম্বন্ধিত ভাষাসমূহক হেতু, যথা, গুজৰাতি, হিন্দী, বঁগলা, স্বম-মিষা, উড়িষা এওঁ নেপালীক হেতু। এহীদ্বাৰেঁ যত-তত বিস্তৃত ভৱনামেক এওঁ বঁয়প্ৰতিময়ামেক ঠিগ্গণী দেল গেল স্বষ্টি তথা বোমন নিপিম শব্দমভ এওঁ স্বগ্ৰেজীমে ওকৰ মথ্য স্বৰ্গমভ দেল গেল স্বষ্টি, জাহিঁ মেখিলীসঁ স্বনভিচ্চ বিদ্বান্ নীক জকাঁ মেখিলী শব্দমভকৈঁ বঁখি সকথি, যতপি এহি কাৰণেঁ বঁজমা শব্দ-কোশক সীমা স্বতিক্ৰমণ কএ বিস্কোশক সীমামে এহি গ্ৰন্থকৈঁ চন জএবঁক স্বাশঁকা ভএ জাঙচ।

এহি শব্দকোশক বিন্যাস এহি প্ৰকাৰেঁ কএন গেল স্বষ্টি জে মেখিলীক যাবতো শব্দাবলীক এহি-মে সমাবেশ ভএ জাএ। যতপি এতএ মুখ্যতঃ মৃদিত (নিখিত) সাহিত্য মাতক ওপযোগ কএন গেল স্বষ্টি তথাপি কতকো বাচ্য ও উপভাষাক শব্দমভকৈঁ মোহো স্থান দেবঁক চেজা কএন স্বষ্টি। মেখিলীক শব্দক জাতক ৰূপ হোঙত চুক, জাতক প্ৰকাৰক শব্দ হোঙচ, প্ৰত্যেক প্ৰত্যয় ও পদনুকৰ স্বৰূপ এহি শব্দ-কোশমে দেল গেল স্বষ্টি। তস্ম, তদ্বব—মভ শব্দকৈঁ এতএ স্থান দেল গেল স্বষ্টি। হঁ, শব্দ বখৰাঁক ঙ্গ মিহানু স্বীকাৰ কএন গেল স্বষ্টি জে জে শব্দ মেখিলীমে ব্যবহৃত হো তকবহিটা শব্দকোশমে স্বী-কাৰ কএন জাএ। তথাপি বঁজত যাবধান ভেনো ওত্ব কোনো-কোনো শব্দ চুটিএ গেল স্বষ্টি। তাহি হেতু দ্বিতীয় সংস্কৰণমে এওঁ প্ৰথমক্স সংস্কৰণক সনুমে একটা শত্ৰুমে চুঠৈ এওঁ স্বপুৰ সামগ্ৰীকৈঁ শুল্ল কএ সমা-বেশ কৰবঁক বিচাৰ স্বষ্টি। বস্তুতঃ হমবানোকনিক সমক্স দ্বগ মাঝা চুন—এক ঙ্গ, জে শব্দসংগ্ৰহক পুৰিয়াকৈঁ পুনঃ চনাওন জাএ এওঁ মভটা সংগ্ৰহিত শব্দকৈঁ দোহৰাওন জাএ, কিন্তু তাহিমে কতক্স বিপ্ৰাম লএ সন্তক্স হোএবঁক সম্ভাবনা নহি চুন। দোমৰ মাঝা ঙ্গ, জে (জেনা কোশকাৰ ডাক্টৰ সএমস্বন জান-সন কহনে চুখি) জতবঁ শব্দসংগ্ৰহ ভএ গেল স্বষ্টি তকৰা ওপযোগ কৰবঁক স্ববসৰ স্বনকা দিএক। স্বাৰ্থিক কাৰণক্স সঁ জতবেঁ ভেল তকৰে সমপ্ৰতি ওপযোগ কএ লেবঁ সঁভব ভেল। কাৰণ সৰকাৰ ও স্বন্য দাতা স্বাৰ্থিক সহায়তা দেবঁক হেতু পুস্তকক কিছু স্বঁশ চুপাএ দেবঁক স্বাগ্ৰহ কএন। এহো ধাৰণা হমবাসভকৈঁ ভএ গেল জে যদি কিছু স্বঁশ চুপত তঁ বিদ্বান্‌লোকনিক (স্বাশা কবেত চুী 'স্বস্থ') সমালোচনা হোএত জাহিঁ হমবাসভক গ্ৰন্থক প্ৰণয়ন-ক্ৰিয়া উচিতকৈঁ ভএ বহন স্বষ্টি বা নহি তথা ওহিমে কী কিছু স্ধাৰ কএন জা সকৈচু জাহিঁ চুপেত-চুপেত মোহো কিছু শুল্ল কএন জা সকএ এতাদি লাভ হোএত।

Figure 3: An excerpt from the preface to *Bṛhat Maithilī Śabdakośa* (from Mishra 1973: 25).

३० मैथिली-प्रथम-पुस्तक ।

छप्पनम पाठ ।

मिश्र वर्ण ।

विष्टी (१) ।

श्रीहर्षिः । कोशनाथ ।

रै० र० १ सो० '३१

नि स्मृति सकनमर्द्धनामय चिह्नजरी श्री-
कलिह रौरुके श्रीश्रीनाथक शुभाशिरादि ।
एतय क्रमन । अहाँक क्रमन पत्र आगए
प्राप्तु भेन अछि । पछि आनन्दित भेनम् ।
आगाँ समाचाह ये हमहा सुननामे आरन
अछि ये दहभर्क्षामे मिथिनाकहक डापा
होमय नगनिक अछि । यदि से सह तँ अहाँ
डा पत्र देवेत एक प्रति मिथिनाकहक
रर्ष-पहिचय कीनिमेर आग्रह मिथिनाकह
शीधिकय हमहा सर्क्ष ओही अकहमे पत्र
र्यरहाह कर । अहाँ यदि से कर शिकर तँ

समर्पण ।



हे शिरनोकवासिनि जननि !

अहाँकेँ अहण हयत, आगसँ प्रायः
इ० र० पर मैथिनी निपिदाहा अकहाहभु
भेना उतुह हमहा मिथिनाकह शिखाउन अहाँ
अपनहि ये शिथि नेना पय हमहा देराकह,
केथी तथा रर्क्षना ककहद्गसँ शीथय नहि
पडन । अतः मैथिनी निपिमे प्रथम सीसका-
कह-व्यतिथ पस्तक डा 'मैथिनी-प्रथम-पस्तक'
आग ओही श्रुतिक हकथि अहाँक ककमन-
मे रिनैष प्रीक्षा-भक्तिपरक अर्पण कहेत छी
आग्रह आशि कहेत छी अहाँलोकनिक
आशीरर्क्षसँ धनः मिथिनाकमात्रमण्डी अहाँ-
नोकनियकाँ अपना सन्तानकेँ प्रथम
मिथिनाकहक शिक्का देत ।

प्रणत--
मातनरमी, १३३५. } क्षीरनाथ ।

Figure 5: The preface from *Maithilī Prathama Pustaka*, printed in Maithili type (from Rāya 2003).

Figure 6: An excerpt from *Maithilī Prathama Pustaka* (from Rāya 2003: 30). The passage begins with the symbol *añjī*.

MAITHILI SCRIPT - VOWEL, CONSONANT AND COMBINED LETTERS										६७
मैथिली लिपि - स्वर, व्यञ्जन एवं मिश्रवर्ण.										
अ अा इ ई उ ऊ ऋ ॠ ऌ ॡ ए ऐ ओ औ अं अः										
A	Ā	I	Ī	U	Ū	Ṛ	Ṝ	Ḍ	Ḍ̄	Ḍ̄
क	ख	ग	घ	ङ	च	छ	ज	झ	ञ	
KA	KHĀ	GA	GHA	ṆA	CHA	CHHA	JA	JHA	ṆA	
ट	ठ	ड	ढ	ण	त	थ	द	ध	न	
ṬA	ṬHA	ḌA	ḌHA	ṆA	TA	THA	DA	DHA	NA	
प	फ	ब	भ	म	य	र	ल	व	श	ष
PA	PHA	BA	BHA	MA	YA	RA	LA	VA	SHA	ṢA
ह	स	ह	क्ष	त्र	ज्ञ					
HA	SA	HA	KṢA	TRA	JṆA					
क	का	कि	की	कु	कू	के	कै	को	कौ	कं
KA	KĀ	KI	KĪ	KU	KŪ	KE	KAI	KO	KAU	KAM
श्री	ॐ	क्य	क्र	कू	कृ	क	स्व	ख	स्त	ल
SHRĪ	AUM	KYA	KRA	KLA	KKA	RKA	SKA	SHCHA	STHA	STA
१	२	३	४	५	६	७	८	९	१०	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

Figure 7: Chart of Maithili (from Śākyavamaśa 1974: 67).

झारदा	गुरुमुखी	कैथि	बंगला	मैथिली	उत्कल	गुजराती	देवनागरी
७ 1	१ 1	१ 1	१ 1	१ 1	१ 1	१ 1	१ 1
३ 2	२ 2	२ 2	२ 2	२ 2	२ 2	२ 2	२ 2
३ 3	३ 3	३ 3	३ 3	३ 3	३ 3	३ 3	३ 3
४ 4	४ 4	४ 4	४ 4	४ 4	४ 4	४ 4	४ 4
५ 5	५ 5	५ 5	५ 5	५ 5	५ 5	५ 5	५ 5
६ 6	६ 6	६ 6	६ 6	६ 6	६ 6	६ 6	६ 6
७ 7	७ 7	७ 7	७ 7	७ 7	७ 7	७ 7	७ 7
८ 8	८ 8	८ 8	८ 8	८ 8	८ 8	८ 8	८ 8
९ 9	९ 9	९ 9	९ 9	९ 9	९ 9	९ 9	९ 9
१० 10	१० 10	१० 10	१० 10	१० 10	१० 10	१० 10	१० 10

Figure 8: Comparison of digits of Maithili and other scripts (from Śākyavamśa 1974: 76).

पाइ	आना	टाका	कनमा	सेर
१)	१)	१)	१)	१)
२)	२)	२)	२)	२)
३)	३)	३)	३)	३)
४)	४)	४)	४)	४)
५)	५)	५)	५)	५)
६)	६)	६)	६)	६)
७)	७)	७)	७)	७)
८)	८)	८)	८)	८)
९)	९)	९)	९)	९)
१०)	१०)	१०)	१०)	१०)

Figure 9: Chart of number forms used in Maithili (from Rāya 2003: 39).

Tirhuta Lipi: The Native Script of Maithilee

अ आ इ ई उ ऊ
अस्त्रा ञ ण ड ढ

ए ऐ ओ औ अं अः
ए ऐ ओ औ अं अः

क ख ग घ ङ
क ख ग घ ङ

च छ ज झ ञ
च छ ज झ ञ

ट ठ ड ढ ण
ट ठ ड ढ ण

त थ द ध न
त थ द ध न

प फ ब भ म
प फ ब भ म

Tirhuta Lipi: The Native Script of Maithilee

य र ल व श ष स ह
य व न र श ष स ह

क्ष त्र न्न
क्ष त्र न्न

क का कि की कु कू
क का कि की कु कू

के कै को कौ कैं कः
के कै को कौ कैं कः

म प वृ सँ र्
म प वृ सँ र्

स्त्र श्र
स्त्र श्र

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Produced by: eCube: Solutions & Research, using Tirhuta Lipi Font available (free) at <http://www.tirhutalipi.fr.com>
Email: tirhutalipi@yahoo.com

Figure 10: A chart of the Maithili script typeset with the digitized Maithili font, “Tirhuta,” developed by eCube: Solutions & Research (2003).

रि दे ह विदेह Videha बिदेह विदेह प्रथम मैथिली पाक्षिक ई पत्रिका Videha Ist Maithili Fortnightly
e Magazine बिदेह प्रथम मैथिली पाक्षिक ई पत्रिका 'विदेह' ८० म अंक १५ अप्रैल २०११ (वर्ष ४



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ततेक पाँक भवि देतीह जे जतेक मोनक कष्टा मोनमे
सोचरँ ताहिँ रैशी उपजत ।

कनेक महग खेत किनराक ह्वाँ तँ मोड रँना आ गम्हाविक
गाछ नग रँना खेत कीनू । एतए नोक खेतीसँ रैशी रँसोराँस
नेन जमीन कीनि बहन छथि ।

डकही पोखवि रँना खेतकेँ रँठमोतब कहन जागत अछि ।
पहिले ब्रह्मावत कपमे किनको मँगनीमे बाजा द्वावा भेठन
होएतहि । पहिले सुनेए छिये नीक खेती बहए ह्दा आग
कान्हि पानि भवन बँह छै । गनाकामे जे छिड़्खा धानक खेती
होगत अछि से खली रँधमे ।

रँडका कोना, धूवपव, भोवहा आ पुर्णाहा रँधक अतिविज आग
कान्हि किछ गोठे छहवक ठनानपव सेहो खेती-रँबी शुक क२
देने छथि, सीठी रँना क२ खेती केनिहावक संख्या भूगोनक
पोखीमे भने पहाडपव मात्र देखोने होथि । महीसक मवनापव
कन्नारोहक स्रव आ जादूठेना, ककरो दवरँज्जापव पूजन हुन
वातिमे फेरकँ । आरँ नोको ह्दा रँमि गेन अछि जे आ
कोनो छेड़ एक किवदानी अछि ।

प्रमि-म३.स्र-पशुपानन आधावित महिसराँव ब्रह्मा रँहन एहि गामक
चाककात पठन निखन (ह्दा एकठाँ चोवक ठेन सेहो अछि
ओतए), ततेक नहि पठन निखन आ ह्दहद्वँव गाम सभ अछि ।
पड़ मक चोव सभक हिन्मत नहि छन्हि जे एहि गाममे कोनो
जातिक घबमे चोवि क२ नेथि । एहि गाममे जे रियाह भ२
गेन तँ सभठाँ ह्मादी जमीनक निपठाँव भ२ जागत अछि, नोक
समगव भ२ जागत अछि । एतएसँ हसेबी दूब-दूब धवि जागत
अछि । ह्दमक जमीनक नगड़ एक निपठाँवासँ न२ क२ रौठ

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Figure 11: Excerpt from a Maithili e-journal published as PDF (from *Videha* 2011: 22

Table shewing the various alphabets used in Mithila.

Devanagari	Kaithi	Maithili	English Transliteration	Devanagari	Kaithi	Maithili	English Transliteration
अ	अ	अ	a	अ	अ	अ	n
आ	आ	आ	ā	आ	आ	आ	t
इ	इ	इ	i	इ	इ	इ	th
उ	उ	उ	u	उ	उ	उ	d
ऊ	ऊ	ऊ	ū	ऊ	ऊ	ऊ	dh
ऋ	ऋ	ऋ	rī	ऋ	ऋ	ऋ	n
ॠ	ॠ	ॠ	rī	ॠ	ॠ	ॠ	t
ऌ	ऌ	ऌ	lī	ऌ	ऌ	ऌ	th
ॡ	ॡ	ॡ	lī	ॡ	ॡ	ॡ	d
ए	ए	ए	e	ए	ए	ए	dh
ऐ	ऐ	ऐ	ai	ऐ	ऐ	ऐ	n
ओ	ओ	ओ	o	ओ	ओ	ओ	p
औ	औ	औ	au	औ	औ	औ	ph
न	न	न	n	न	न	न	b
त	त	त	t	त	त	त	bh
थ	थ	थ	th	थ	थ	थ	m
द	द	द	d	द	द	द	y
ध	ध	ध	dh	ध	ध	ध	r
न	न	न	n	न	न	न	l
प	प	प	p	प	प	प	veru
फ	फ	फ	ph	फ	फ	फ	s
ब	ब	ब	b	ब	ब	ब	sh
भ	भ	भ	bh	भ	भ	भ	s
म	म	म	m	म	म	म	h

Figure 12: A chart of Maithili, Kaithi, and Devanagari (from Grierson 1882: Appendix 1a).

*A Sanskrit Sloka written in the three characters
of Mithila'.*

उद्गस्मास्वात्मीयताविहृमिदमेवास्मदृश्यते • ॥
दयालुरपियत्कुरोनास्मद्भुः सर्वजिहीर्षति ॥१॥

अस्मास्वात्मीअशमीहृमीदमेवासीअदीशीअटे •
दआहृनपीणत्कीरुोनास्मद्भुः सर्वजिहीर्व्येती • ॥१॥

*The Kayathi' character is not adapted for writing
Sanskrit. It has no form for short media' i and
has no semivowel ya.*

अस्मास्वात्मीयताविहृमिदमेवास्मदृश्यते • ॥
दयालुरपियत्कुरोनास्मद्भुः सर्वजिहीर्षति • ॥१॥

Figure 13: Sample text in Maithili, Kaithi, and Devanagari (from Grierson 1882: Appendix 1b).

Scripts Used in Writing Maithili											
मैथिली लिखबामे व्यवहृत लिपि											
(1) Tirhutā (2) Newārī (3) Nāgarī (4) Roman											
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
अ	अ	अ	a	च	छ	छ	chh	कृ	कृ	कृ	kri
आ	आ	आ	ā	ज	ज	ज	j	क्य	क्य	क्य	ky
इ	इ	इ	i	झ	झ	झ	jh	क्र	क्र	क्र	kr
ई	ई	ई	ī	ञ	ञ	ञ	ñ	क्व	क्व	क्व	kv
उ	उ	उ	u	ट	ट	ट	t	द्ध	द्ध	द्ध	ddh
ऊ	ऊ	ऊ	ū	ठ	ठ	ठ	th	त्त	त्त	त्त	tt
ऋ	ऋ	ऋ	ri	ड	ड	ड	d	श्र	श्र	श्र	shr
ए	ए	ए	e	ढ	ढ	ढ	dh	ष्ठ	ष्ठ	ष्ठ	sth
ऐ	ऐ	ऐ	ai	ण	ण	ण	ṇ	नु	नु	नु	nu
ओ	ओ	ओ	o	त	त	त	t	न्व	न्व	न्व	nv
औ	औ	औ	au	थ	थ	थ	th	ह्र	ह्र	ह्र	hm
अं	अं	अं	m̐	द	द	द	d	१	१	१	1
अः	अः	अः	ḥ	ध	ध	ध	dh	२	२	२	2
क	क	क	k	न	न	न	n	३	३	३	3
ख	ख	ख	kh	प	प	प	p	४	४	४	4
ग	ग	ग	g	फ	फ	फ	ph	५	५	५	5
घ	घ	घ	gh	ब	ब	ब	b	६	६	६	6
ङ	ङ	ङ	ṅ	भ	भ	भ	bh	७	७	७	7
च	च	च	ch	म	म	म	m	८	८	८	8
								९	९	९	9
								१०	१०	१०	10

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Figure 14: Comparison of Maithili, Newari, and Devanagari (from G. Jhā 1999: xxxi–xxxii).

बृहत् मैथिली शब्दकोश

बृहत् मैथिली शब्दकोश

BRĤAT MAITHILĪ ŚABDAKOŚA

Fascicule I

अ अ A—अव अव Ava

श्रीजयकान्तमिश्र

श्रीजयकान्तमिश्र

Jayakanta Mishra



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDY

SIMLA

Figure 15: Title page of *Brĥat MaithilĪ Śabdakośa* (from Mishra 1973).

मैथिल लिपि.

अ आ इ ई उ ऊ ऋ ॠ ए ऐ ओ औ अं अः
 ञ म न न्या ण ॡ ॢ ॣ । ॥ स म न न ए उ उ उं ॥
 क ख ग घ ङ च छ ज झ ञ ट ठ ड ढ ण न य द
 ढ न प फ ब भ म य र ल व श ष स ह का कि
 की कु कू के के को को १ २ ३ ४ ५ ६ ७ ८ ९
 की कु कू के के को को १ २ ३ ४ ५ ६ ७ ८ ९ .

बंगला लिपि.

अ आ इ ई उ ऊ ऋ ॠ ए ऐ ओ औ अं अः क ख ग घ
 अ आ इ ई उ ऊ ऋ ॠ ए ऐ ओ औ अं अः क ख ग घ
 ङ च छ ज झ ञ ट ठ ड ढ ण न य द ध न प फ
 ब भ म य र ल व श ष स ह का कि की कु कू के
 के को को कं कः १ २ ३ ४ ५ ६ ७ ८ ९ ० . य

Figure 16: Comparison of hand-written Maithili and Bengali letters (from Ojhā 1971: Plate LXXVIII).

[illegible]

Figure 17: Chart showing comparison of Maithili and Bengali (from S. Jha 1958: 54–55).

लिच्छवि पूर्वकाल PRE-LICHCHHAVI PERIOD	लिच्छविकाल LICHCHHAVI PERIOD		मल्ल एवं शाहकाल MALLA AND SHĀHA PERIOD							
	पूर्वलिच्छवि PRO-LICHCHHAVI	उत्तरलिच्छवि POST-LICHCHHAVI	किरात KIRAT	रञ्जना RANJANA	भुजिमा BHUJIMO	नेवारी NEWARI	मैथिली MAITHILI	तिब्बती TIBETAN	नन्दिनागरी NANDINAGARI	देवनागरी DEVANAGARI
𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	अ _A
𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	आ _Ā
𑒧	𑒧	𑒧		𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	इ _I
	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	ई _ī
𑒧	𑒧	𑒧		𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	उ _U
		𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	ऊ _ū
		𑒧		𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	ऋ _Ṛ
		𑒧		𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	ॠ _{Ṝ}
		𑒧		𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	ऌ _{Ṝ}
		𑒧		𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	ॡ _{Ṝ}
𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	ए _E
	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	ऐ _{AI}
𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	ओ _O
	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	औ _{AU}
𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	अं _{AM}
𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	अः _{AH}
𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	क _{KA}
𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	𑒧	ख _{KHA}

Figure 18: Excerpt from a chart of scripts used in Nepal (from Thāpā et al.).

Devanagari	Grantha	Kaithi	Mathi	Tulu	Sarada	Takari	Gurumukhi
अ	𑀅	𑀓	𑀧	𑌵	𑆑	𑆳	𑀲
आ	𑀆	𑀔	𑀨	𑌶	𑆒	𑆴	𑀳
इ	𑀇	𑀕	𑀩	𑌷	𑆓	𑆵	𑀴
ई	𑀈	𑀖	𑀪	𑌸	𑆔	𑆶	𑀵
उ	𑀉	𑀗	𑀫	𑌹	𑆕	𑆷	𑀶
ऊ	𑀊	𑀘	𑀬	𑌺	𑆖	𑆸	𑀷
ऋ	𑀋	𑀙	𑀭	𑌻	𑆗	𑆹	𑀸
ॠ	𑀌	𑀚	𑀮	𑌼	𑆘	𑆺	𑀹
ए	𑀍	𑀛	𑀯	𑌽	𑆙	𑆻	𑀺
ऐ	𑀎	𑀜	𑀰	𑌾	𑆚	𑆼	𑀻
ओ	𑀏	𑀝	𑀱	𑌿	𑆛	𑆽	𑀼
क	𑀀	𑀓	𑀧	𑌵	𑆑	𑆳	𑀲
ख	𑀁	𑀔	𑀨	𑌶	𑆒	𑆴	𑀳
ग	𑀂	𑀕	𑀩	𑌷	𑆓	𑆵	𑀴
घ	𑀃	𑀖	𑀪	𑌸	𑆔	𑆶	𑀵
ङ	𑀄	𑀗	𑀫	𑌹	𑆕	𑆷	𑀶
च	𑀅	𑀘	𑀬	𑌺	𑆖	𑆸	𑀷
छ	𑀆	𑀙	𑀭	𑌻	𑆗	𑆹	𑀸
ज	𑀇	𑀚	𑀮	𑌼	𑆘	𑆺	𑀹
झ	𑀈	𑀛	𑀯	𑌽	𑆙	𑆻	𑀺
ञ	𑀉	𑀜	𑀰	𑌾	𑆚	𑆼	𑀻
ट	𑀊	𑀝	𑀱	𑌿	𑆛	𑆽	𑀼
ठ	𑀋	𑀞	𑀲	𑍀	𑆜	𑆾	𑀽
ड	𑀌	𑀟	𑀳	𑍁	𑆝	𑆿	𑀾
ढ	𑀍	𑀠	𑀴	𑍂	𑆞	𑇀	𑀿
ण	𑀎	𑀡	𑀵	𑍃	𑆟	𑇁	𑁀
त	𑀏	𑀢	𑀶	𑍄	𑆠	𑇂	𑁁
थ	𑀐	𑀣	𑀷	𑍅	𑆡	𑇃	𑁂
द	𑀑	𑀤	𑀸	𑍆	𑆢	𑇄	𑁃
ध	𑀒	𑀥	𑀹	𑍇	𑆣	𑇅	𑁄
न	𑀓	𑀦	𑀺	𑍈	𑆤	𑇆	𑁅
प	𑀔	𑀧	𑀻	𑍉	𑆥	𑇇	𑁆
फ	𑀕	𑀨	𑀼	𑍊	𑆦	𑇈	𑁇
ब	𑀖	𑀩	𑀽	𑍋	𑆧	𑇉	𑁈
भ	𑀗	𑀪	𑀾	𑍌	𑆨	𑇊	𑁉
म	𑀘	𑀫	𑀿	𑍍	𑆩	𑇋	𑁊
य	𑀙	𑀬	𑁀	𑍎	𑆪	𑇌	𑁋
र	𑀚	𑀭	𑁁	𑍇	𑆫	𑇍	𑁌
ल	𑀛	𑀮	𑁂	𑍈	𑆬	𑇎	𑁍
व	𑀜	𑀯	𑁃	𑍉	𑆭	𑇏	𑁎
श	𑀝	𑀰	𑁄	𑍊	𑆮	𑇐	𑁏
ष	𑀞	𑀱	𑁅	𑍋	𑆯	𑇑	𑁐
स	𑀟	𑀲	𑁆	𑍌	𑆰	𑇒	𑁑
ह	𑀠	𑀳	𑁇	𑍍	𑆱	𑇓	𑁒
ळ	𑀡	𑀴	𑁈	𑍎	𑆲	𑇔	𑁓
ॠ	𑀢	𑀵	𑁉	𑍇	𑆳	𑇕	𑁔
ॡ	𑀣	𑀶	𑁊	𑍈	𑆴	𑇖	𑁕

	MAITHILI	BENGALI	MAITHILI	BENGALI
A	अ	অ	<i>no dependent form</i>	
AA	आ	আ	া	া
I	इ	ই	ি	ি
II	ঈ	ঈ	ী	ী
U	उ	উ	ু	ু
UU	ऊ	ঊ	ূ	ূ
VOCALIC R	ऋ	ঋ	ৄ	ৄ
VOCALIC RR	ॠ	ঠ	৅	৅
VOCALIC L	ऌ	ঌ	৆	৆
VOCALIC LL	ॡ	ড	ে	ে
E	ए	এ	ে	ে
SHORT E	<i>no independent form</i>		েঁ	—
AI	ऐ	ঐ	ৈ	ৈ
O	ओ	ও	ৌ	ৌ
SHORT O	<i>no independent form</i>		ৌঁ	ৌঁ
AU	औ	ঔ	ৌ	ৌ

Table 3: Comparison of Maithili and Bengali vowel letters and signs (differences highlighted).

	MAITHILI	BENGALI		MAITHILI	BENGALI
KA	क	ক	DA	দ	দ
KHA	ख	খ	DHA	ধ	ধ
GA	ग	গ	NA	ন	ন
GHA	घ	ঘ	PA	প	প
NGA	ङ	ঙ	PHA	फ	ফ
CA	च	চ	BA	ब	ব
CHA	छ	ছ	BHA	भ	ভ
JA	ज	জ	MA	म	ম
JHA	झ	ঝ	YA	य	য
NYA	ঞ	ঞ	RA	र	র
TTA	ठ	ট	LA	ल	ল
TTHA	ठ	ঠ	VA	व	—
DDA	ड	ড	SHA	श	শ
DDHA	ढ	ढ	SSA	ष	ষ
NNA	ण	ণ	SA	स	স
TA	त	ত	HA	ह	হ
THA	थ	থ			

Table 4: Comparison of Maithili and Bengali consonant letters (differences highlighted).

	MAITHILI	BENGALI
ZERO	०	০
ONE	১	১
TWO	২	২
THREE	৩	৩
FOUR	৪	৪
FIVE	৫	৫
SIX	৬	৬
SEVEN	৭	৭
EIGHT	৮	৮
NINE	৯	৯

Table 5: Comparison of Maithili and Bengali digits (differences highlighted).

	MAITHILI	BENGALI
CANDRABINDU	◌ं	◌ঁ
ANUSVARA	◌ं	◌্ণ
VISARGA	◌ঃ	◌্ণ
VIRAMA	◌্	◌্
AVAGRAHA	ূ	ূ
ANJI	ূ	—
OM	ॐ	—
GVANG	◌ং	—

Table 6: Comparison of Maithili and Bengali miscellaneous signs (differences highlighted).

	MAITHILI	BENGALI		MAITHILI	BENGALI
<i>kta</i>	क	ক	<i>tta</i>	ठ	ত
<i>kra</i>	क्रे	ক্র	<i>tya</i>	न	ত্যা
<i>kṣa</i>	क्ष	ক্ষ	<i>tva</i>	व	ত্ব
<i>gga</i>	ग	গ	<i>ddha</i>	द	দ্ব
<i>gdha</i>	घ	ঘ	<i>dya</i>	ड	দ্য
<i>nika</i>	ङ	ক্ক	<i>ndha</i>	ढ	ক্ক
<i>nikha</i>	ङ्ख	ङখ	<i>nha</i>	न्ह	হ
<i>nga</i>	ङ्ग	ঙ্গ	<i>bda</i>	ढ्	ব
<i>ngha</i>	ङ्घ	ঘ	<i>bdha</i>	ढ्ह	ব্ব
<i>cca</i>	च	চ	<i>ścha</i>	ञ	ছ
<i>ccha</i>	छ	চ্ছ	<i>ṣṭa</i>	ष	ষ্ট
<i>jña</i>	ज	জ	<i>ṣṭha</i>	ष्ठ	ষ্ঠ
<i>ñca</i>	ञ	ঞ	<i>ṣṇa</i>	ष्ण	ষ
<i>ñcha</i>	ञ्च	ঞ্ছ	<i>rga</i>	र	র্গ
<i>ṭṭa</i>	ट	ট	<i>hṇa</i>	ल	হ
<i>ṭṭha</i>	ट्ठ	ট্ঠ	<i>hna</i>	ले	হে
<i>ṇṭa</i>	ण	ণ	<i>hma</i>	म	ম
<i>ṇṭha</i>	ण्ह	হ্ণ	<i>hra</i>	ह	হে
<i>ṇḍa</i>	ण्ड	ণ্ড	<i>hla</i>	ल	ল
<i>ṇḍha</i>	ण्ह	হ্ণ	<i>hva</i>	लह	লহ

Table 7: Comparison of conjunct forms used in Maithili and Bengali

**ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2
PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM TO ACCOMPANY SUBMISSIONS
FOR ADDITIONS TO THE REPERTOIRE OF ISO/IEC 10646¹**

Please fill all the sections A, B and C below.

Please read Principles and Procedures Document (P & P) from <http://www.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/principles.html> for guidelines and details before filling this form.

Please ensure you are using the latest Form from <http://www.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/summaryform.html>.

See also <http://www.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/roadmaps.html> for latest Roadmaps.

A. Administrative

1. Title:	Proposal to Encode the Maithili Script in ISO/IEC 10646
2. Requester's name:	<i>Script Encoding Initiative (SEI) / Anshuman Pandey (pandey@umich.edu)</i>
3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution):	<i>Liaison contribution</i>
4. Submission date:	<i>2011-05-05</i>
5. Requester's reference (if applicable):	
6. Choose one of the following:	
This is a complete proposal:	<i>Yes</i>
(or) More information will be provided later:	

B. Technical – General

1. Choose one of the following:	
a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters):	<i>Yes</i>
Proposed name of script:	<i>Maithili</i>
b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block:	
Name of the existing block:	
2. Number of characters in proposal:	<i>82</i>
3. Proposed category (select one from below - see section 2.2 of P&P document):	
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 ☐	
4. Is a repertoire including character names provided?	<i>Yes</i>
a. If YES, are the names in accordance with the "character naming guidelines" in Annex L of P&P document?	<i>Yes</i>
b. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review?	<i>Yes</i>
5. Fonts related:	
a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font to the Project Editor of 10646 for publishing the standard?	<i>Anshuman Pandey</i>
b. Identify the party granting a license for use of the font by the editors (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.):	<i>Anshuman Pandey (pandey@umich.edu)</i>
6. References:	
a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?	<i>Yes</i>
b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of proposed characters attached?	<i>Yes</i>
7. Special encoding issues:	
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)?	<i>Yes</i>

8. Additional Information:

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> for such information on other scripts. Also see Unicode Character Database (<http://www.unicode.org/reports/tr44/>) and associated Unicode Technical Reports for information needed for consideration by the Unicode Technical Committee for inclusion in the Unicode Standard.

¹ Form number: N3902-F (Original 1994-10-14; Revised 1995-01, 1995-04, 1996-04, 1996-08, 1999-03, 2001-05, 2001-09, 2003-11, 2005-01, 2005-09, 2005-10, 2007-03, 2008-05, 2009-11, 2011-03)

C. Technical - Justification

1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before? If YES explain	No
2. Has contact been made to members of the user community (for example: National Body, user groups of the script or characters, other experts, etc.)? If YES, with whom? If YES, available relevant documents:	Yes See text of proposal See text of proposal
3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example: size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included? Reference:	Yes Size of user community is unknown. Script is used for print and digital publications.
4. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare) Reference:	Common Script is presently used for writing Maithili. See text of proposal for details.
5. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community? If YES, where? Reference:	Yes Bihar (India) and Nepal. See text of proposal for details.
6. After giving due considerations to the principles in the P&P document must the proposed characters be entirely in the BMP? If YES, is a rationale provided? If YES, reference:	No
7. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)?	Yes
8. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence? If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided? If YES, reference:	No
9. Can any of the proposed characters be encoded using a composed character sequence of either existing characters or other proposed characters? If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided? If YES, reference:	No
10. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to an existing character? If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided? If YES, reference:	Yes Yes See text of proposal for similarities between Maithili and Bengali.
11. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences? If YES, is a rationale for such use provided? If YES, reference: Is a list of composite sequences and their corresponding glyph images (graphic symbols) provided? If YES, reference:	Yes Yes Combining vowel signs
12. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as control function or similar semantics? If YES, describe in detail (include attachment if necessary)	Yes Virama
13. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility characters? If YES, are the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic characters identified? If YES, reference:	No