

Proposal to encode svara markers for the Jaiminiya Archika

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This is a proposal to encode svara markers for the Jaiminiya Sama Veda Archika. Two characters are requested to be encoded:



*1CF8 VEDIC TONE RING ABOVE



*1CF9 VEDIC TONE DOUBLE RING ABOVE

Two characters are to be reused with appropriate annotations and will *not* be disunified:



0951 DEVANAGARI STRESS SIGN UDATTA



1CD2 VEDIC TONE PRENKHA

§1. Background

The Jaiminiya Sama Veda (hereafter JSV) has been traditionally chiefly practiced in the states of Tamil Nadu and Kerala, with a minority following in Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. The earliest manuscripts of the JSV on palm leaf are to be found in the Grantha script, and the tradition holds that the historically Tamil-speaking region (which includes Kerala) was the home of the JSV – both of which facts corroborate each other.

The earliest texts of the JSV in Grantha script were adapted into the Malayalam script in Kerala, probably parallel to the evolution of the latter script from the former. Inquiries of scholars working with manuscript collections in Chennai, New Delhi and Berlin reveal that there are no known palm leaf manuscripts or really old paper manuscripts of the JSV in Devanagari (or other scripts). It seems all JSV texts derive from Grantha sources.





Now it has been previously well documented in N3366 etc that the JSV uses syllables consisting of regular vowels and consonants for its svara marking. However what has not been noted in N3366 etc (perhaps because it was not known at the time) is that said svara marking is limited to the Gana part of the JSV. The svara marking of the JSV Archika is a different matter entirely and has *not* been documented in N3366 etc.

This is possibly because the JSV Archika has not been published with svāra-s at all so far. To our knowledge the only printed publication of this text in any script has been the *Sama Veda of the Jaiminīyas* (ed. Dr Raghuvēer, International Academy of Indian Culture, Lahore, 1938) in Devanagari, and this edition does not have svāra-s.

Our own attestation for these svāra markers then comes from hitherto unpublished palm leaf manuscripts in the Grantha script and from Devanagari paper manuscripts thence adapted. I record my gratitude to the scholars of the Jaiminiya Sama Veda who provided access to these manuscripts.

§2. List of svāra markers

Four svāra markers are observed in the JSV Archika, all above base:

- 1)  Ring Above
- 2)  Double Ring Above
- 3)  Vertical Line Above
- 4)  Horizontal Line Above

Of these, the latter two are already encoded in Unicode as 0951 DEVANAGARI STRESS SIGN UDATTA (alias VEDIC TONE SVARITA) and 1CD2 VEDIC TONE PRENKHA. These may be reused for the JSV Archika with appropriate annotations. The other two are proposed to be encoded as 1CF8 VEDIC TONE RING ABOVE and 1CF9 VEDIC TONE DOUBLE RING ABOVE.

It is noted that the exact semantics of these svāra markers are not very clear at present. As the Archika-s of other schools of the Sama Veda have the regular set of svāra-s – udatta, anudatta, svarita and pracaya, it is presumed that the JSV Archika has the same. However, the exact way in which these four Jaiminiya svāra markers denote those four svāra-s needs further study – the relationship is certainly not one-to-one.

Nevertheless, these characters are attested to be consistently used in the JSV Archika, and hence should be encoded in Unicode. Their encoding would also be helpful in the study of their usage patterns leading to a better understanding of their semantics.

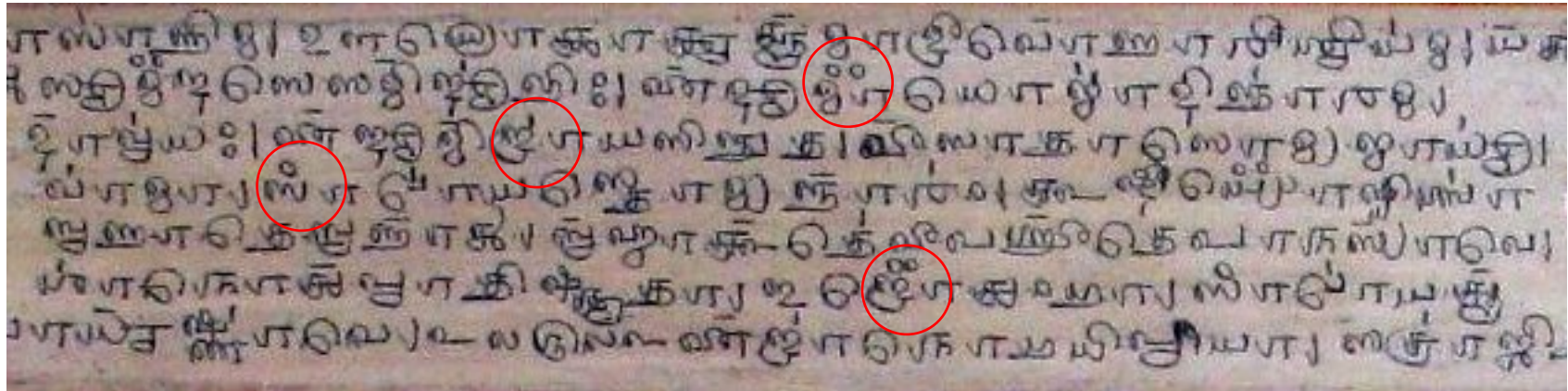
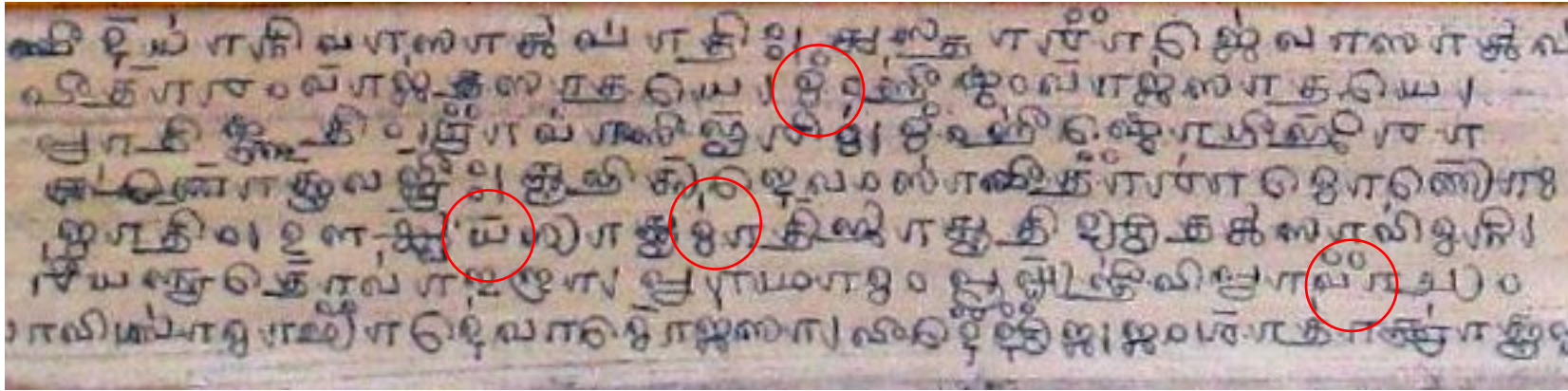
The names proposed for the two characters to be newly encoded are based on the visual form (as for 1CD8 VEDIC TONE CANDRA BELOW) rather than the semantics (as for 1CD0 VEDIC TONE KARSHANA) as the latter are not yet clearly determined.

Annotations to the effect “also used in Jaiminiya Sama Archika” are requested to be added to the existing characters 0951 and 1CD2 which are being reused.

§3. Attestation

Handwritten text in Tamil script, likely a legal document or record. Several characters are circled in red, indicating specific points of interest or errors. The text is dense and appears to be a formal declaration or attestation.

Handwritten text in Tamil script, continuing the document. Several characters are circled in red, similar to the first image, highlighting specific details or corrections. The script is consistent with the first image, suggesting it is part of the same document.



Palm leaf manuscripts of the Jaiminiya Sama Veda Archika in the Grantha script
(Some instances of the four svara markers have been highlighted)

प्रा॒ति॒त्य॒द्या॒रु॒मा॒ ध्वा॒रं॑ । गो॒पी॒ या॒ य॒त्रा॒ ह्य॒स्य॑ ।
मा॒रु॒क्नी॑ र॒ग्ना॒ आ॒ग॒हि ॥ ६॥
अ॒श्व॒क्ष॒त्वा॒ वारा॑ व॒न्तं॑ । वं॒ न्ये॑ ध्या॒ आ॒ग्नि॒न्ना॒म॒ग्निः॑ ।
स॒म्रा॒ज॒न्त॒मा॒ ध्वा॒ रा॒णां॑ ॥ ७॥
औ॒र्वा॒ श्रु॒त्वा॒ ज॒स्र॒ च्छू॒जि॑ । आ॒प्ना॒वा॒ ना॒वा॒क॒ ह्य॑ ।
आ॒ग्नि॑ सा॒ म॒य्रा॒वा॒ स्म॑ ॥ ८॥

अ॒ग्ने॒ र॒क्ष॒ जो॒ अ॒हा॒सः॑ । प्रा॒ती॒स्म॒ के॒वरि॑ षा॒ता॑ ।
ता॒पी॒ष्ठे॒ राज॑रो॒ क॒हा ॥ ४॥
अ॒ग्ने॒ यं॒ ध्वा॒ ही॒ये॒ ता॒वा॑ । अ॒ध्वा॒ सो॒के॒ वा॒सा॒ ध्वा॒वाः॑ ।
आ॒रं॒वा॒ ह॒न्त॒मा॒ज्ञा॒वा॑ ॥ ५॥
नि॒त्वा॒ न॒क्ष॒य॒ वि॒स्प॒ते॑ । द्यू॒म॒न्तं॑ धी॒म॒हे॒ वा॒यं॑ ।
सू॒वी॒रा॒ भ॒ज॒न्त॑ आ॒ ह॒तः॑ ॥ ६॥
अ॒ग्नि॒र्मु॒र्धा॒ की॒वाः॑ का॒कू॒त् । पा॒तीः॑ पृ॒थि॒व्या॒ आ॒यं॑ ।
आ॒पां॑ रे॒तां॑ सि॒जि॒न्व॒ति ॥ ७॥

Paper manuscripts of the Jaiminiya Sama Veda Archika in the Devanagari script
(The svara markers are written using different coloured ink)

§4. Unicode Character Properties

1CF8;VEDIC TONE RING ABOVE;Mn;230;NSM;;;;;N;;;;;
1CF9;VEDIC TONE DOUBLE RING ABOVE;Mn;230;NSM;;;;;N;;;;;

§5. Official Proposal Summary Form

A. Administrative

1. Title

Proposal to encode svara markers for the Jaiminiya Archika

2. Requester's name

Shriramana Sharma

3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution)

Individual contribution

4. Submission date

2011-Jul-07

5. Requester's reference (if applicable)

6. Choose one of the following: This is a complete proposal (or) More information will be provided later

This is a complete proposal.

B. Technical – General

1. Choose one of the following:

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

No.

1b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block, Name of the existing block

Yes. Vedic Extensions.

2. Number of characters in proposal

2 (two)

3. Proposed category

Category B1 specialized small.

4. Is a repertoire including character names provided?

Yes.

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

Yes.

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

Yes.

5. Fonts related:

a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font to the Project Editor of 10646 for publishing the standard?

Shriramana Sharma.

b. Identify the party granting a license for use of the font by the editors (include address, e-mail etc.)

Shriramana Sharma.

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

No.

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.

See detailed proposal.

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?

Dr Kirtikant Sharma, IGNC, New Delhi. Dr Peter Scharf, Brown University, USA.

2c. If YES, available relevant documents

None specifically. The matter was discussed in person and via email/phone.

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

Scholars of the Jaiminiya Sama Veda and researchers handling manuscripts related to it.

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

Common in the context of Jaiminiya Sama Veda Archika.

4b. Reference

See detailed proposal.

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

Yes.

5b. If YES, where?

In Tamil Nadu.

6a. After giving due considerations to the principles in the P&P document must the proposed characters be entirely in the BMP?

Yes.

6b. If YES, is a rationale provided?

6c. If YES, reference

These characters belong in the Vedic Extensions block in the BMP.

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

Preferably, as they are related and there is sufficient space in the Vedic Extensions block.

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

No, given that svara markers are always disunified from European diacritics.

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?

Yes, the proposed 1CF8 VEDIC TONE RING ABOVE is similar to 030A COMBINING RING ABOVE.

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

Yes.

10c. If YES, reference

Svara markers are always disunified from European diacritics.

11a. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences?

Yes.

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

11c. If YES, reference

These svara markers are by nature non-spacing combining marks.

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

No.

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)?

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

If YES, reference:

No.

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