

**Title:** Proposal to encode Quranic Alternate Dammatan used in Quran published in Pakistan

**Action:** For consideration by UTC and ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2/WG2

**Author:** Lateef Sagar Shaikh

**Date:** 25-Apr-2014


## Introduction

Quran published in Pakistan uses different shape for Dammatan. This shape is different from the one used in native Arabic speaking countries. This document proposes the character.

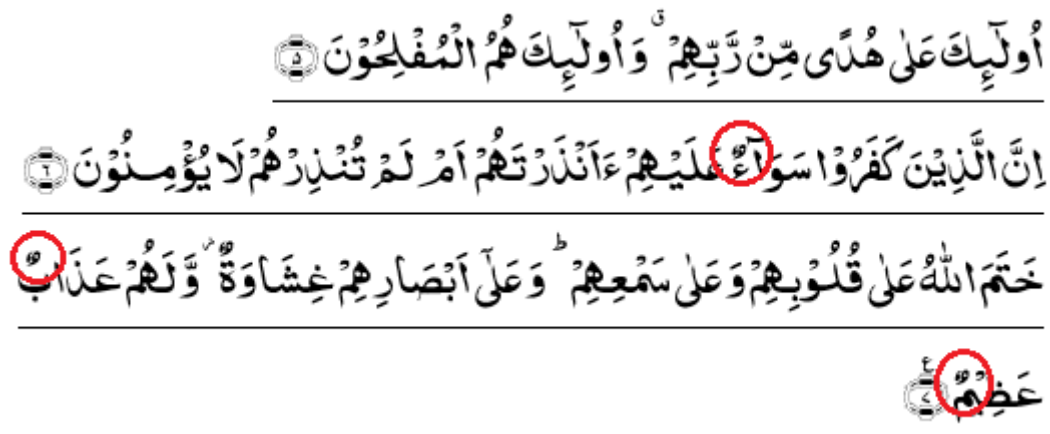
## Requests

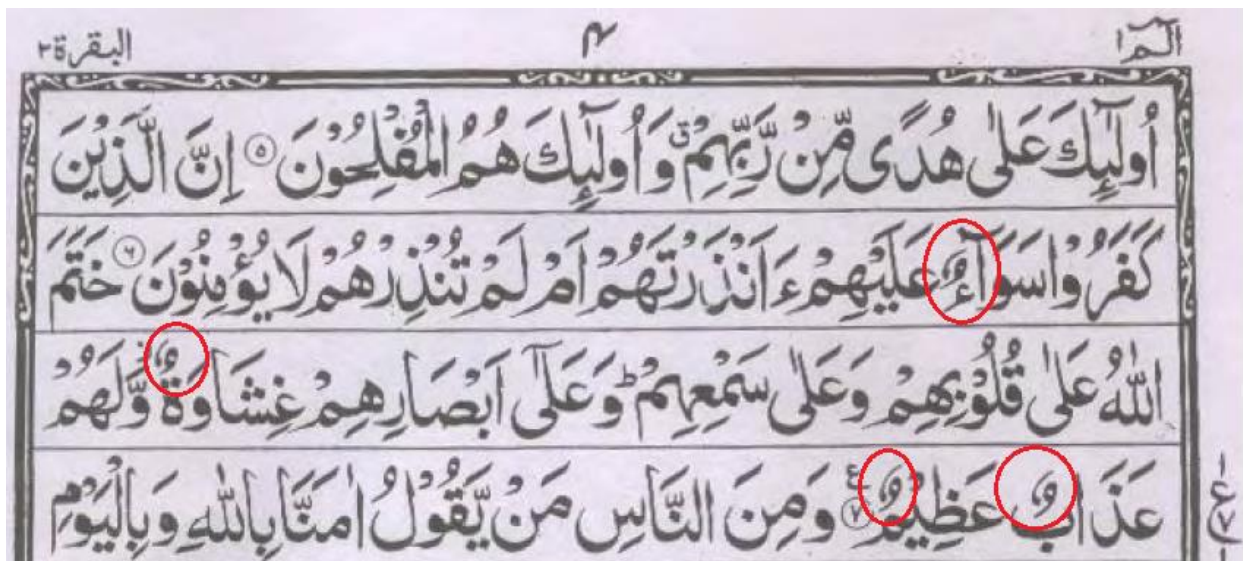
The author requests the encoding of alternate dammatan which is used in Quranic text written and published in Pakistan.

## Character name and shape

Shape	Suggested code point	Name
	U+061D	ARABIC ALTERNATE DAMMATAN

## Figures





## Historical Background of Quran's writing styles

There are multiple writing style of Quran. The one used in Arabic speaking countries is widely known as Uthmani style. Quran scribes and publishers in Pakistan use a different style. Over the centuries Islamic Scholars of Indian subcontinent have developed this style and it is widely used throughout India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

The major difference between Uthmani and Pakistani style is the marks. Since Arabic is not a native language of Indian subcontinent therefore these marks were developed for proper pronunciation of Quran. And hence Quran reciter from both the regions recite in exactly same manner.

## Description

**ARABIC ALTERNATE DAMMATAN** – Linguistically it is same as ARABIC DAMMATAN (U+064C). However, Quranic text in Pakistan uses the proposed shape instead of U+064C.

In order to type Quranic text, font developers in Pakistan have to create special fonts to cater this requirement. Unfortunately when the font is changed to any other font then the text does not look the same.

Since both shapes are used in same language (Arabic) but in different countries/region, therefore it is not possible to create one single font that can be used to display Quranic text in both the styles.

## Confusability

In terms of UTS #39 Unicode Security Mechanism, the proposed character could participate in forming the following confusable pairs:

061D ; 064C # Alternate Dammatan vs Dammatan

061D ; 064F 0657 # Alternate Dammatan vs Damma + Inverted Damma

## Acknowledgement

The author wishes to thank Mohammad Jahangir for all his help in explaining all marks used in Pakistani style of Quran publications.

## Reference

1. Holy Quran – published by Taj Company Limited. (16-lines quran-e-karem(Final).pdf)

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/102516615/16-Line-Taj-Company-Quran-E-Pak>

2. Holy Quran – published by Nooe-r-Hidayat ([www.noorehidayat.org](http://www.noorehidayat.org))

<http://noorehidayat.org/index.php?p=cnt&c=quran.zip>

**ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2  
PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM TO ACCOMPANY SUBMISSIONS  
FOR ADDITIONS TO THE REPERTOIRE OF ISO/IEC 10646<sup>1</sup>.**

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

Please read Principles and Procedures Document (P & P) from <http://std.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://std.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/summaryform.html>.

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

**A. Administrative**

1. Title:	Proposal to encode Quranic Alternate Dammatan used in Pakistan
2. Requester's name:	Lateef Sagar Shaikh
3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution):	Individual Contribution
4. Submission date:	4/25/2014
5. Requester's reference (if applicable):	
6. Choose one of the following:	
This is a complete proposal:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(or) More information will be provided later:	<input type="checkbox"/>

**B. Technical – General**

1. Choose one of the following:		
a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters):	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Proposed name of script:		
b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Name of the existing block:	Arabic	
2. Number of characters in proposal:	1	
3. Proposed category (select one from below - see section 2.2 of P&P document):		
A-Contemporary <input type="checkbox"/>	B.1-Specialized (small collection) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	B.2-Specialized (large collection) <input type="checkbox"/>
C-Major extinct <input type="checkbox"/>	D-Attested extinct <input type="checkbox"/>	E-Minor extinct <input type="checkbox"/>
F-Archaic Hieroglyphic or Ideographic <input type="checkbox"/>	G-Obscure or questionable usage symbols <input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Is a repertoire including character names provided?	Yes	
a. If YES, are the names in accordance with the "character naming guidelines" in Annex L of P&P document?	Yes	
b. 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?	Lateef Sagar Shaikh	
b. Identify the party granting a license for use of the font by the editors (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.):	Lateef Sagar Shaikh lateef_sagar@yahoo.com	
6. References:		
a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?	Yes	
b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of proposed characters attached?	Yes	
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)?	Yes	
	See the section titled Character name and shape	

**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.

<sup>1</sup> Form number: N4502-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, 2012-01)

### 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:	No
3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example: size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included? Reference:	Yes <i>Muslims in Pakistan, There are around 18 Million Muslims in Pakistan</i>
4. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare) Reference:	Quranic <i>The proposed mark is very common in Quran published in Pakistan</i>
5. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community? If YES, where? Reference:	Yes <i>Most of recent published Qurans use this character</i>
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:	Yes Yes <i>Character could be kept with their counterparts in Arabic block</i>
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:	Yes Yes <i>See the sections titled "Historical Background of Quran's writing styles" and "Description"</i>
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, or could be confused with, an existing character? If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided? If YES, reference:	Yes Yes <i>See the sections "Description" and "Confusability"</i>
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:	Combining Yes <i>The character is combining, as can be seen in samples</i> No
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)	No
13. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility characters? If YES, are the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic characters identified? If YES, reference:	No