

Request to change glyphs of Kannada letters Vocalic L and Vocalic LL and their vowel signs

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This document requests to change the representative glyphs of four Kannada characters. Presently these are provided in the code charts as follows:

0C8C ಌ KANNADA LETTER VOCALIC L

0CE1 ಌ̣ KANNADA LETTER VOCALIC LL

0CE2 ಌ̣̣ KANNADA VOWEL SIGN VOCALIC L

0CE3 ಌ̣̣̣ KANNADA VOWEL SIGN VOCALIC LL

However after examining the original texts, grammatical works and other sources in Kannada we could not get any attestations of above characters using existing glyphs.

With reference to the vowel signs Vocalic L, Vocalic LL L2/04-364 proposed these signs based on non-native secondary sources where upturned vowels O and OO are used, evidently due to lack of proper glyph support at that time and these cannot be considered as correct glyph for these characters.

The proposed forms are evolutionarily associated with Southern Brahmi-derived scripts ೞ of Malayalam, ೞ of Grantha, ೞ of Balinese and ೞ of Khmer.

Thus, it is requested that the glyphs given in this document which are original and unique to Kannada based on native texts be used for above four characters in the Code chart.

Proposed glyphs

0C8C KANNADA LETTER VOCALIC L



0CE1 KANNADA LETTER VOCALIC LL



0CE2 KANNADA VOWEL SIGN VOCALIC L 

0CE3 KANNADA VOWEL SIGN VOCALIC LL 

References

Campbell, C. *Elements of Canarese Grammar*, Bangalore.1854

Fleet, J. F. *Sanskrit and Old Canarese Inscriptions*.The Indian Antiquary, Vol.VI. 1881

Harkness, Henry. *Ancient and Modern Alphabets of the Popular Hindu Languages of the Southern Peninsula of India*. Royal Asiatic Society.1837.

Keshiraja, edited by Ferdinand Kittel. *Śabdamaṇidarpaṇa*, Kanarese Mission book and Track depository,Mangalore .1920

Krishnamacharya, ಹೊಸಗನ್ನಡ ನುಡಿಗನ್ನಡಿ *hosagannaḍa nuḍigannaḍi*, a Grammar of the Modern Canarese Language. Mangalore. 1838.

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A GRAMMAR OF THE
OF PRONUNCIATION.

ಅ

Expresses an obscure sound like the English a in the words abound, about, &c. and is inherent in every consonant that is not followed by another vowel ; or that has not the full sound of the letter restricted by the mark ಾ.

ಃ

Is like the same letter when pronounced long, as in the words all, wall, ball, &c.

ಇ

Has precisely the same sound as the French i, in the word ni.

ಊ

Is the same vowel with a lengthened sound.

ಉ

Has the sound of u in the words bull, full, pull, &c.

ಊಃ

The same sound lengthened, and may be expressed in Roman characters by ü.

ಋ ಠ ಌ ಡ.

These four letters are only used in Sanscrit words. Their pronunciation on the western side of the Peninsula, and, generally speaking, in Southern India, is rü rü and lü lü; the u possessing nearly the same sound that it has in French in the words nue, flux, tuent, salut, &c.

ಎ

Is the same as the French é in the words qualité, égalité, &c.

ಏ

Is the same vowel with a lengthened sound.

ಐ

Is pronounced exactly like the English word eye, a feature of the face ; and may be expressed in Roman characters by ai.

ಒ

Has that full sound of the letter o which is common to every language.

Figure 2. Use of VOCALIC L and VOCALIC LL in a Kannada (from M'Kerrell 1820: 2).

17. ಪ್ರ. ಪ್ರಸ್ತಗಳಪ್ಪು?
ಉ. ಅ ಐ ಉ ಋ ೠ ಏ ಓ ಏವು ಏವೂ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಗಳು.
18. ಪ್ರ. ವರ್ಣಗಳಪ್ಪು?
ಉ. ಅ ಈ ಉ ಋ ೠ ಏ ಓ ಏ ವ ಓ ಡೆ ಇವು ಒಂಧತ್ತಿ ವರ್ಣಗಳು.
19. ಪ್ರ. ವರ್ಣಗಳಪ್ಪು ವಿವರ?

Figure 3. Use of VOCALIC L and VOCALIC LL in book- *Hosagannada nudigannadi*. Here ೠ is written as letter I with a vertical stroke probably due to lack of specific glyph (from Krishnamacharya 1838).

CANARESE GRAMMAR.

ಕನ್ನಡ ವ್ಯಾಕರಣನಾ ರ.

೧. ಕನ್ನಡ ವ್ಯಾಕರಣವು ಕನ್ನಡ ಭಾಷೆಯನ್ನು ಯು
ಕ್ತವಾಗಿಯೂ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟವಾಗಿಯೂ ಮಾತನಾಡುವದಕ್ಕೂ ಬ
ರೆಯುವದಕ್ಕೂ ತಿಳಿಸುತ್ತದೆ.

OF LETTERS.

ವರ್ಣಗಳನ್ನು ಕುರಿತು.

೨. ಕನ್ನಡ ಭಾಷೆಯ ವರ್ಣಗಳು ಐವತ್ತು ಮೂರು.
ಅವು ಯಾವವಂದರೆ, ಅ ಆ ಇ ಈ ಉ ಊ ಋ ೠ ಏ ಓ
ಏ ಐ ಉ ಋ ೠ ಏ ಓ ಏ ವ ಓ ಡೆ ಇ; ಕ ಖ ಗ ಘ
ಙ, ಚ ಛ ಜ ಝ ಞ, ಟ ಠ ಡ ಢ ಣ, ತ ಥ ದ
ಧ ನ, ಸ ಫ ಬ ಭ ಮ, ಯ. ರ ಲ ವ, ಶ ಷ ಸ
ಹ ಳ ಙ್ಕ ಎಂದು ಐವತ್ತು ಮೂರು.

Figure 4. An excerpt from Kannada Grammar book showing the letters Vocalic L and Vocalic LL (from Campbell 1854:5).

3. ಇವು ಸ್ವರಗಳೆಂದೂ ವ್ಯಂಜನಗಳೆಂದೂ ಎರಡು ವಿಧವು.

೪. ಅ ಕಾರ ಮೊದಲು ಔ ಕಾರದ ವರಿಗೂ, ಹದಿನಾರು ವರ್ಣಗಳೂ ಸ್ವರಗಳೂ.

೫. ಇವು ಪ್ರಸ್ವವೆಂದೂ ದೀರ್ಘವೆಂದೂ ಎರಡು ವಿಧವು.

೬. ಅ ಇ ಉ ಋ ಋ ಌ ಌ, ಈ ಏಳು ಪ್ರಸ್ವಗಳೂ; ಆ ಈ ಉ ಋ ಋ ಌ ಌ ಐ, ಈ ಒಂಭತ್ತು ದೀರ್ಘಗಳೂ.

೭. ಸೊನ್ನೆ-೦-ಎಂಬುವದಕ್ಕೆ ಅನುಸ್ವಾರವೆಂದೂ, ಎರಡು ಸೊನ್ನೆ-೧-ಎಂಬುವದಕ್ಕೆ ವಿಸರ್ಗವೆಂದೂ, ಹೇಳುವದು.

೮. ಕ ಕಾರದ ಮೊದಲು ಳ ಕಾರದ ವರಿಗೂ ವ್ಯಂಜನಗಳೂ.

೯. ಙ ಕಾರವು ಕ ಕಾರ ಏ ಕಾರಗಳಿಂದ ಹುಟ್ಟಿದ್ದು.

೧೦. ವರ್ಣಗಳು ಒಂದಕ್ಕೊಂದು ಶೇರಿದರೆ, ರೂಪ ಭೇದವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ; ಹ್ಯಾಗಂದರೆ, ಕ ಕಾ ಕಿ ಕೀ ಕು ಕೂ ಕೃ ಕೌ ಕೆ ಕೇ ಕೈ ಕೊ ಕೋ ಕೌ, ಕ್ಕ ಕ್ಕೆ ಕ್ಕೈ ಕ್ಕೊ ಕ್ಕೋ ಕ್ಕೌ, ಕ್ಕೃ ಕ್ಕೌ ಕ್ಕೈ ಕ್ಕೊ ಕ್ಕೋ ಕ್ಕೌ, ಕ್ಕೃ ಕ್ಕೌ ಕ್ಕೈ ಕ್ಕೊ ಕ್ಕೋ ಕ್ಕೌ, ಕ್ಕೃ ಕ್ಕೌ ಕ್ಕೈ ಕ್ಕೊ ಕ್ಕೋ ಕ್ಕೌ.

Figure 5. An excerpt from Kannada Grammar book showing the letters Vocalic L and LL (from Campbell 1854:6).

<i>English</i>	A	A'	I	I'	U	U'	Ri	Ri'	Li	Li'	E	E'	Ai	O	O'	Au	Am	Ah
<i>Kannataka</i>	ಅ	ಆ	ಇ	ಈ	ಉ	ಊ	ಋ	ೠ	ಲ	ಲಃ	ಎ	ಐ	ಒ	ಓ	ಔ	ಌ	಍	ಏಃ
<i>Kannataka</i>	ಕೆ	ಕೇ	ಕೈ	ಕೊ	ಕೋ	ಕೌ	ಕೃ	ಕೌ	ಕೈ	ಕೊ	ಕೋ	ಕೌ	ಕೃ	ಕೌ	ಕೈ	ಕೊ	ಕೋ	ಕೌ

Figure 6. A table showing the letters Vocalic L ,Vocalic LL and their vowel signs in Kannada script (from Harkness 1837).



Figure 7. A Kannada inscription of Jain Siddhachakra showing the letter Vocalic L along with other vowels.

COPPER-PLATE GRANT OF THE WESTERN CHĀLUKYA DYNASTY.
DATED ŚAKA 535.

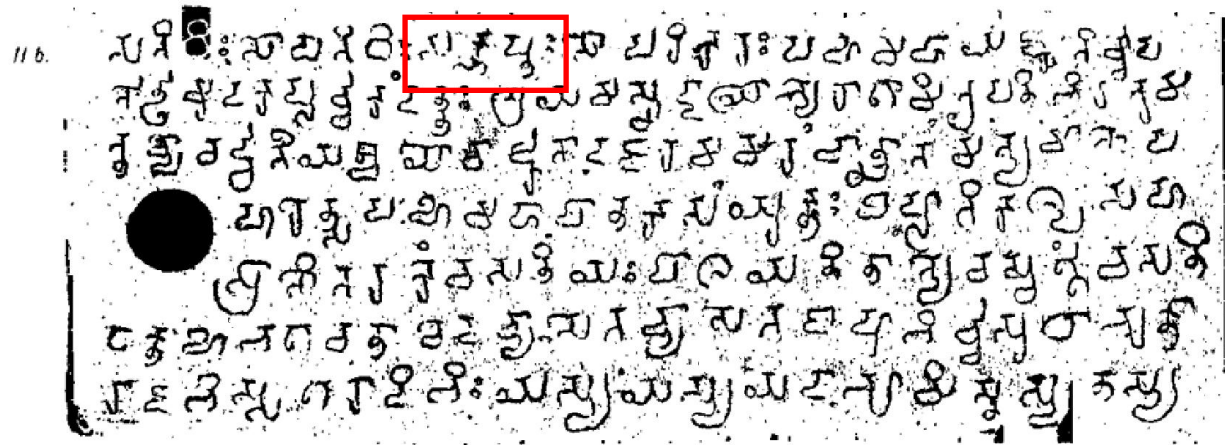


Figure 8. A Sanskrit inscription written in Old Kannada script belonging to Western Chalukya dynasty dated śaka 535 showing the vowel sign vocalic l in the word ‘saklptah’ from which modern form is derived (from Fleet 1881:73).

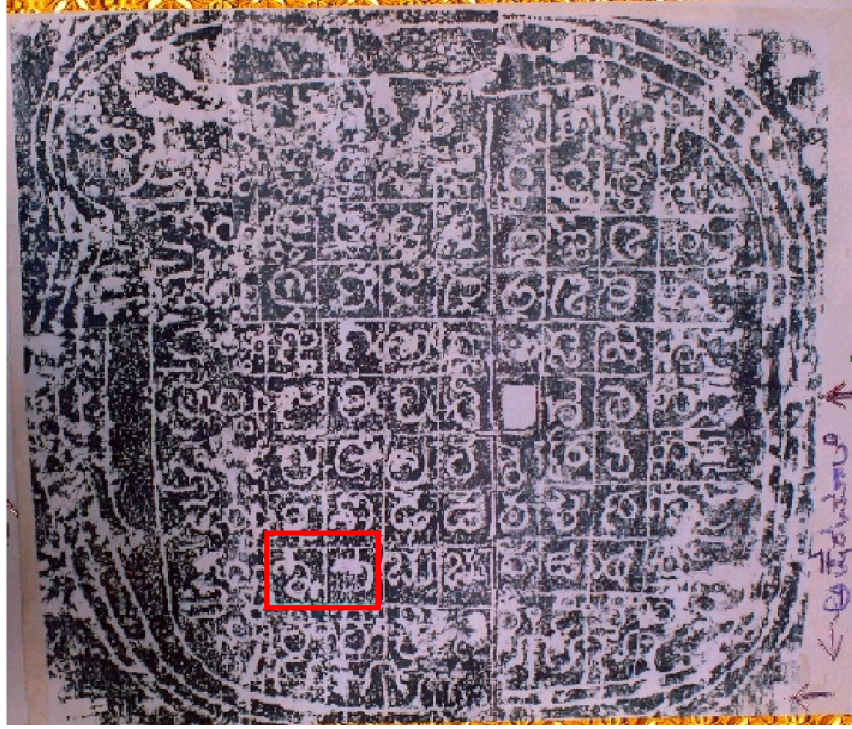


Figure 9. An inscription showing the letters Vocalic L and Vocalic LL along with other letters.

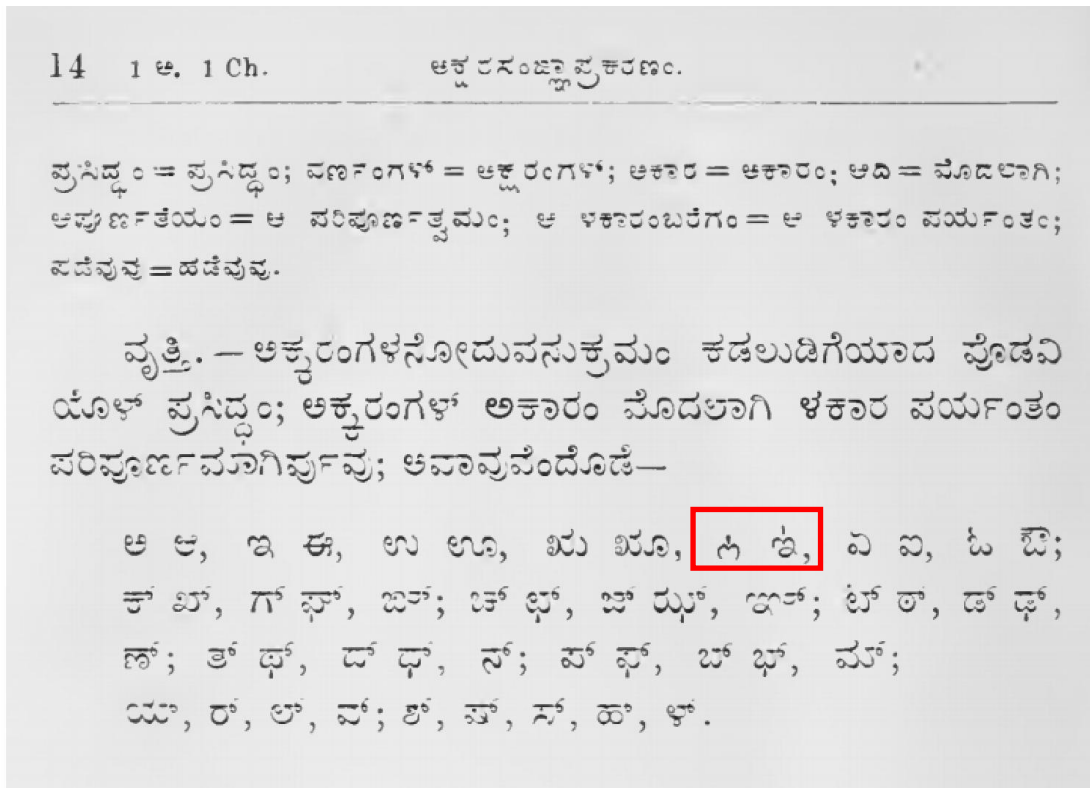


Figure 10. Use of VOCALIC L and VOCALIC LL in book- *Śabdamanidarpaṇa*. Here ಳ is written as letter I with a vertical stroke probably due to lack of specific glyph.