Proposal to Add Three UTC-Source Polysyllabic Ideographs to UAX #45

Individual Contribution

For consideration by UTC

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1. **Characters**

This document proposes the following characters for U-Source.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Character</th>
<th>Representation</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>圖</td>
<td>圖門書</td>
<td>13.10</td>
<td>圖書 ‘books’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>岔</td>
<td>岔門合</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td>合同</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>蠍</td>
<td>蠍敕令</td>
<td>66.12</td>
<td>敕令</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The evidence will be given below.

2. **Evidence**


It is ordinarily accepted that the character U+5715 圖 for the word 圖書館 ‘library’ was proposed by the Chinese library science expert Du Dingyou in early 20th century and later caught on both in China and Japan (where it is read toshokan); see Polysyllabic characters in Chinese writing by Victor H. Mair. Nevertheless, it is a less common knowledge that in that article where 圖 is proposed (杜定友 [Du Dingyou] 1927. 圖 [Tushuguan]. Tushuguanxue jikan 2.1: 164-65) Du actually introduces two characters.

This second character is 圖門書, 圖 without bottom stroke, that should stand for 圖 ‘books’ alone:

Du says: “If you wish to write 圖 alone, remove its [圖’s] last stroke, write 圖門書; this symbolizes the absence of territorial restrictions.”
This article is followed by a response written by Chen Boda (陈伯达) who defends Du’s proposal by citing several polysyllabic characters he encounters frequently. Most of these are well-known Japanese coinages (such as the characters for SI units), but two are unencoded:

⿱敕令 read *chìlìng* ‘rescript’; used on healing talismans

⿻冂合 read *hétóng* ‘contract’; used on deeds

3. Acknowledgements
The author thanks David Branner, who graciously agreed to share the primary evidence of the characters under consideration and Andrew West, who designed the glyphs for his seminal font, BabelStone HAN PUA.