

On the sequence of Avagraha followed by Anusvara or Visarga

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In the point 21, page 28 of "Recommendations to UTC #163 April-May 2020" L2/20 -105 on Script Proposals, had a discussion if the co-occurrence of *Avagraha* with a following a *Anusvara* or *Candrabindu* is found in Sanskrit text. This document provides the attestations for the sequence of Avagraha followed by Anusvara in Sanskrit texts from Kannada and Devanagari scripts and also discusses on the sequence of Avagraha followed by Visarga.

One of the uses of Avagraha in Sanskrit is to indicate the elision of the sound *a* due to Sandhi.

The usages in Sanskrit texts written in Kannada script for the sequence of Avagraha followed by Anusvara are given below.

In the following example, the graphical anusvara indicates the linguistic anusvara.

From ಅಮರಕೋಶ ed. and transl. by Vid. Ranganatha Sharma, 2008

೬. ಮನುಷ್ಯವರ್ಗಃ

೧೧೯

ಅಮಾಂಸೋ ದುರ್ಬಲಶ್ಚಾತೋ ಬಲವಾನ್ ಮಾಂಸಲೋಽಂಸಲಃ |

ತುಂದಿಲಸ್ತುಂದಿಭಸ್ತುಂದೀ ಬೃಹತ್ಕೃಕ್ಷಿಃ ಪಿಚಂಡಿಲಃ ||

೬೧೩

In the following examples the graphical anusvara is used for representing the homorganic nasal of the following consonant.

From ಶ್ರೀವಿಷ್ಣುಸಹಸ್ರನಾಮ published by Gita Press, Gorakhpur

ಜೀವೋ ವಿನಯಿತಾ ಸಾಕ್ಷೀ ಮುಕುಂದೋಽಮಿತವಿಕೃಮಃ |

ಅಂಭೋಽನಿಧಿರನಂತಾತ್ಮಾ ಮಹೋದಧಿಶಯೋಽಂತಕಃ

||೬೮||

From ಸಸ್ವರ ವೇದಮಂತ್ರಾಃ published by Ramakrishna Ashrama, Mysore, 2015

ಶಿಷ್ಯಾನುಶಾಸನಮ್

ವೇದಮನೂಚ್ಯಾಚಾರ್ಯೋಽಂತೇವಾಸಿನಮನುಶಾಸ್ತಿ | ಸತ್ತಂ
 ವದ | ಧರ್ಮಂ ಚರ | ಸ್ವಾಧ್ಯಾಯಾನ್ಮಾಪ್ರಮದಃ | ಆಚಾರ್ಯಾಯ
 ಪ್ರಿಯಂ ಧನಮಾಹೃತ್ಯ ಪ್ರಜಾತಂತುಂ ಮಾ ವ್ಯವಚ್ಛೇದ್ಧೀಃ | ಸತ್ಯಾನ್ನ

ಮನೋಮಯಕೋಶವಿಷಯಃ

ಯತೋ ವಾಚೋ ನಿವರ್ತಂತೇ | ಅಪ್ರಾಪ್ಯ ಮನಸಾ ಸಹ |
 ಆನಂದಂ ಬ್ರಹ್ಮಣೋ ವಿದ್ವಾನ್ | ನ ಬಿಭೇತಿ ಕದಾಚನೇತಿ | ತಸ್ಯೈಷ
 ಏವ ಶಾರೀರ ಆತ್ಮಾ | ಯಃ ಪೂರ್ವಸ್ಯ | ತಸ್ಮಾದ್ವಾ ಏತಸ್ಮಾ
 ನ್ಮನೋಮಯಾತ್ | ಅನೋಽಂತರ ಆತ್ಮಾ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಮಯಃ |
 ತೇನೈಷ ಪೂರ್ಣಃ | ಸ ವಾ ಏಷ ಪುರುಷವಿಧ ಏವ | ತಸ್ಯ

From ಸೇಡಿಯಾಪು ಛಂದಸ್ಸಂಪುಟ published by Rashtrakavi Govind Pai Samshodhana
 Kendra, Udupi, 2006

ಛಂದೋಽಂತರಂಗರಸರಂಗತರಂಗಭಂಗಿ
 ವ್ಯಾವಲ್ಗನಸ್ಫುರಣಬಂಧುರಧೀವಿಲಾಸಂ |
 ಶ್ರೀಸೇಡಿಯಾಪುಬುಧಬದ್ಧ ಕೃತಿದ್ವಯೇನ
 ವಿಂದನ್ ಜನೋಽಯಮಿಹವಂದನಲಗ್ನಚಿತ್ತಃ ||

The Usages in Devanagari is given below. The Anusvara is placed above Avagraha
 centred horizontally.

From Sanskrit Grammar by Whitney (1950)

https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Page:Sanskrit_Grammar_by_Whitney_p1.djvu/37

b. If the elided initial-vowel is nasal, and has the **anusvāra-sign (70, 71)** written above, this is usually and more properly transferred to the eliding vowel ; but sometimes it is written instead over the **avagraha-sign**: thus, for so 'ñçumān, from so añçumān, either सो ऽश्रुमान् or सोऽश्रुमान्.

In the following verse from Vetālapañcaviṃśati portion of Kathāsaritsāgara

यान्तं च तं शवान्तःस्थो वेतालोऽंमस्थितोऽब्रवीत्।
राजन्नध्वविनोदाय कथामाख्यामि ते शृणु॥ 12.8.58

yāntaṃ ca taṃ śavāntaḥstho vetālo'ṃsasthito'bravīt.

rājannadhvavinodāya kathāmākhyāmi te śṛṇu.. 12.8.58

(<https://www.wisdomlib.org/hinduism/book/kathasaritsagara-sanskrit/d/doc336383.html>)

In the following verse from Bhagavadgītā

यद्यद्विभूतिमत्सत्त्वं श्रीमदूर्जितमेव वा।
तत्तदेवावगच्छ त्वं मम तेजोऽंशं संभवम्॥ 10.41
yadyadvibhūtimatsattvaṃ śrīmadūrjitameva vā.
tattadevāvagaccha tvaṃ mama tejo'ṃśasaṃbhavam.. 10.41

While no examples from texts or printed books are provided for the sequence of Avagraha followed by Visarga, the sequence can occur in grammatically valid Sanskrit sentences.

Consider the following examples,

कृष्णोऽं- Aḥ is synonymous with Kṛṣṇaḥ

शंकरोऽं- Aḥ is synonymous with Śaṅkaraḥ

Summary

Thus the sequences Avagraha following Anusvara or Visarga needs to be considered valid in the Unicode Standard and by the rendering engines. They need to be displayed without the insertion of dotted circles.