# Proposal to Encode Chinese Characters Used for Transcribing Slavonic

L2/13-009; IRG N1954

(Revised: May 12th, 2014)

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## **Introduction**

This document details the proposed addition of Chinese ideographs used for transliterating Slavonic syllables. The following documents are enclosed in this folder:

- IRG\_Unicode\_13009.A.pdf: This document, which presents the relevant evidence for the proposed new characters, as well as the proposal summary sheet.
- 2) IRG\_Unicode\_13009.B.xlsx, which is an Excel file containing the U-Source ID, Status, Unicode Codepoint, Radical-Stroke Count, Virtual Kangxi Dictionary Count, IDS Source, and Final Stroke Count. A summary of this table is presented as Figure 1 in this document.
- 3) **IRG\_Unicode\_13009.ttf**, which contains the TrueType font for the proposed characters. The characters are located in the Private Use Area starting with U+E000 with the codepoint incrementing by one for each character. The order of characters is the same as the order in Table 1.
- 4) **IRG\_Unicode\_13009.zip**, which is a zip folder containing bitmaps of all the proposed characters. The filenames of the individual bitmaps correspond with the U-Source ID of the corresponding character.

This submission is sponsored by the Script Encoding Initiative at UC Berkeley, an organization with Class C liaison to SC2. This submission is *not* sponsored by the Unicode Technical Committee or the Unicode Consortium. SEI is using the "UTC-" prefix as a U-Source identifier as a convenience, so there will be a well-known, stable source. The characters in this submission are listed in UAX #45 with these "UTC-" identifiers. Please note that a "UTC-" number in UAX #45 does not mean that the character with that identifier is sponsored by the Unicode Technical Committee. It is simply a catalogue number.

The following changes have been made since the last submission:

- 1) The request for sorting the letters by Slavonic phonological ordering has been withdrawn.
- Additional information regarding the way the characters were originally created has been added.
- Information regarding the use of these characters in Japanese transliterations has been added.
- 4) Information regarding vertical and horizontal display of the characters has been added.

### **Background**

The development of renewed contacts between the Russian and Chinese Empires in the time period between A.D. 1700 and 1900 led to an interest in the translation of Slavonic literary documents into both classical and vernacular Chinese. One of the main forces encouraging these translations was the Russian Mission (roughly equivalent to an embassy) in Beijing. Many of these translations are unusual in that they created new Hanzi characters to represent syllables not usually found in Chinese. In order to properly digitise these documents, there is a need to encode these characters in Unicode, so that their significance, usage, and occurrence can be more easily elucidated.

One area where there was an acute need for special Hanzi characters was in the translation of liturgical texts into Chinese and Japanese. In order to accomplish this task for Chinese, Archimandrite Gurias (*né* Gregory Platonovich Karpov)<sup>1</sup>, head of the 14<sup>th</sup> Russian Mission in Beijing, devised a series of Hanzi characters for representing syllable structures not found in Chinese. Subsequently, under the direction of Archimandrite Innocent (*né* Ivan Appolonovich Figurovsky)<sup>2</sup>, the head of the 18<sup>th</sup> Russian Mission, a decision was taken to translate the texts into the vernacular Chinese language, primarily Mandarin, and to simplify the characters used. Nevertheless, a few new characters were introduced. Similiarly, the translator Michael Hakugoku<sup>3</sup> adopted Archimandrite Gurias's series of characters for transcribing these sounds into the Japanese script using slightly different phonetic values, for example, □□利爾 which is used to represent the sound *ri* in Chinese, represents a final *l* in Japanese. Since the same kanji can represent multiple readings depending on context in the Japanese language, Archimandrite Gurias's transliteration scheme was supplemented and quickly replaced by katakana in providing Slavonic-derived readings of proper names under the direction of Bishop Nikolai (*né* Ivan Dimitrovich Kasatkin)<sup>4</sup>, the head of the first Russian Mission in Japan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Later, he became the Archbishop of Tauria and Simferopol (1867). In 2008, he was glorified by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. His name is also given as Gury, which is a transliteration based on the Slavonic form. <sup>2</sup> Later, he became the Bishop of Pereslavl (1902), the Archbishop of Beijing (1921), and then Metropolitan of Beijing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Michael Hakugoku Kiyoshi (白極潔) was born in Sendai. There is limited information about his life, but it is known that he was in the 4<sup>th</sup> year of the seminary programme in 1878. It is also known that he later became a translator after graduation and that he died young.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> He later become the Archbishop of Tokyo in 1907.

Table 1 shows a summary of the proposed 20 characters along with their standard Mincho (print) and Kaishu (brush stroke) forms, while Figure 1 presents a screenshot of the corresponding Excel spreadsheet file that contains additional required information. The characters will be named according to the conventions of CJK Unified Ideographs standard. Of the proposed characters, all but the abbreviation for Jesus and Christ and the simplified *ri* form were first proposed by Archimandrite Gurias. The increased emphasis on translating into the vernacular Chinese language led to character simplification. In most cases, the right-hand component was dropped and the resulting character was used. The following cases have special simplifications, namely □雷爾 simplified to 列, □魯爾 to 嚕, □伊克 to 乞, □伊合 to 吸, □耶 格 to 碣, □耶克 to either 楷 or 碣, □耶合 to 中, and □伊格 to 吉. All of the simplified forms are already encoded in Unicode and hence do not need to be added. In addition to the simplification, Archimandrite Innocent introduced an abbreviation character for the names *Christ* and *Jesus*, which were then used in the translations (see for example, Figure 20 and Figure 21). Finally, it can be noted that the simplified *ri* form was also developed and used.

It can be noted that Slavonic transliteration characters are optimised for vertical reading, that is, the characters are combined so that the right-hand character represents the first (initial) sound and the left-hand character represents the rime (or remainder), for example, in □ 英微, the 微 represents the initial /v/ sound, while 英 represents the rime /in/. This representation is true for all the proposed characters, except for the abbreviations for Jesus and Christ. For these two characters, the individual elements are arranged vertically to form a single character. This optimisation for vertical display raises the question of what if anything should be done when these characters are displayed in left-to-right, horizontal text. Based on an analysis of the texts, the authors propose that nothing special should be done for the characters when they are displayed horizontal, for the following reasons:

- Since these characters are primarily of historical interest, they will be found in most cases displayed in a vertical environment. One-off citation examples would not change the situation, even in a left-to-right, horizontal context.
- 2) There are no examples of such characters being used in a left-to-right, horizontal context and so practically speaking, this issue is moot, as there would not be any historical

precedent for treating them any differently. Furthermore, it can be noted that in right-toleft, horizontal contexts, the letters are written as shown (as this would be expected).

3) If these characters are to be used in left-to-right, horizontal context, then it would be best to leave them as they currently stand, since it could be conceivable to treat them as a single unit that has lost any connection to its origin. In such cases, as there are no extant examples of left-to-right, horizontal usage, the proper stacking behaviour is undefined.

U-Source ID	Radical- Stroke Count	Virtual Kangxi Dictionary Count	IDS	Source	First Stroke Count
UTC-01179	140.18	1071.201	Ⅲ英微	UTCDoc L2/13-009 1	2
UTC-01180	128.12	970.091	Ⅲ耶格	UTCDoc L2/13-009 2	2
UTC-01181	9.14	120.111	□田伊格	UTCDoc L2/13-009 3	1
UTC-01182	128.9	968.391	Ⅲ耶克	UTCDoc L2/13-009 4	2
UTC-01183	9.11	116.041	Ⅲ伊克	UTCDoc L2/13-009 5	2
UTC-01184	64.19	464.251	□拉爾	UTCDoc L2/13-009 6	4
UTC-01185	138.17	1014.011	□□郎爾	UTCDoc L2/13-009 7	4
UTC-01186	78.16	584.091	Ⅲ列爾	UTCDoc L2/13-009 8	2
UTC-01187	75.23	564.231	□楞爾	UTCDoc L2/13-009 9	2
UTC-01188	173.19	1383.061	□雷爾	UTCDoc L2/13-009 10	2
UTC-01189	115.16	861.451	□□利爾	UTCDoc L2/13-009 11	2
UTC-01190	115.7	854.201	□□利尔	UTCDoc L2/13-009 12	2
UTC-01191	15.22	133.561	□凌爾	UTCDoc L2/13-009 13	1
UTC-01192	122.28	950.371	□羅爾	UTCDoc L2/13-009 14	3
UTC-01193	170.23	1363.191	□隆爾	UTCDoc L2/13-009 15	3
UTC-01194	195.18	1480.431	□魯爾	UTCDoc L2/13-009 16	2
UTC-01195	128.8	968.221	Ⅲ耶合	UTCDoc L2/13-009 17	2
UTC-01196	9.10	114.051	Ⅲ伊合	UTCDoc L2/13-009 18	1
UTC-01197	1.6	78.131	□合一	UTCDoc L2/13-009 19	3
UTC-01198	1.8	78.171	───	UTCDoc L2/13-009 20	3

Figure 1: Summary of the Excel file containing the character information

Table 1: Summary of proposed new characters

Comparition	U-Source ID	Form			
Composition		Kaishu	Mincho	Comments	
Ⅲ英微	UTC-	英微	英微		
82F1,5FAE	01179	Λψα	入1/%	equivalent to vin (вин) as in Навин (Nun, 那回英微)	
Ⅲ耶格	UTC-	耶格	耶格		
8036,683C	01180	. 11 / 11	ЦЦК	equivalent to ge (ге) as in Нигер (Niger, 尼回耶格爾)	
□□伊格	UTC-	伊格	伊格		
4F0A,683C	01181	V 10	11/11	equivalent to gi (ги) as in Сергия (Sergius, 些爾Ш伊格乙)	
□□耶克	UTC-	鿣	鿣		
8036,514B	01182		4190	equivalent to ke (ке) as in Кесария (Caesarea, Ш耶克薩Ш利爾亞)	
□伊克	UTC-	鿙	鿙		
4F0A,514B	01183		1776	equivalent to ki (ки) as in Езекия (Hezekiah, 耶捷回伊克亞)	
□□拉爾	UTC-	鿜	拉爾		
62C9,723E	01184	121413	J-2449	equivalent to <i>ra</i> (pa) as in Израиль (Israel 伊斯Ш拉爾伊利)	
□□郎爾	UTC-	郎爾	郎爾		
90CE,723E	01185	r ( 1443)		equivalent to <i>ran</i> (ран) as in Аран (Haran, 哈爾Ш郎爾)	
□□列爾	UTC-	列面	列爾		
5217,723E	01186	\ \kkl	/ <b>!!!?</b>	equivalent to re (pe) as in Hasaper (Nazareth, 那匝回列爾特)	

	U-Source ID	Form		2	
Composition		Kaishu	Mincho	Comments	
□楞爾	UTC-	楞爾	楞爾		
695E,723E	01187	1/ <b>3 Proj</b>	177166	equivalent to ren (рен) as in Терентий (Terence, 鐵Ш楞爾提乙)	
□雷爾	UTC-	雷爾	重而		
96F7,723E	01188	HAN	田内	equivalent to reia (рея) as in назареянин (Nazarene, 那作回雷爾)	
□利爾	UTC-	鿠	利爾	equivalent to <i>ri</i> (ри) as in Христос (Christ, 合 印爾斯托斯); can also	
5229, 723E	01189	×1 1 ×1×1	<b>E</b> PALL'I'	represent a final <i>l</i> in Japanese transcriptions.	
□□利尔	UTC-	称	称		
5229,5C14	01190	141.	ባኒኒካ	Simplified variant of 回利爾. Same usage as the traditional <i>ri</i> .	
□凌爾	UTC-	凌爾	凌雨		
51CC,723E	01191	XM	<b>《</b> 久]柳]	equivalent to <i>rin</i> (рин) as in Коринф (Corinth, 适Ш凌爾福)	
□羅爾	UTC-	羅爾	羅爾		
7F85,723E	01192	STAN)	亦出四列	equivalent to ro (po) as in романский (Roman, Ш羅爾瑪)	
□隆爾	UTC-	隆爾	这一个		
9686,723E	01193	任期	<b>[</b> ' <b>王[4</b> ]	equivalent to ron (рон) as in Аарон (Aaron, 阿阿回隆爾)	
□魯爾	UTC-	魚爾	會兩		
9B6F,723E	01194		日内	equivalent to <i>ru</i> (ру) as in Иерусалим (Jerusalem, 耶Ш魯爾薩利	

	U-Source ID	Form		2	
Composition		Kaishu	Mincho	Comments	
□□耶合	UTC-	耶合	聆		
8036,5408	01195		기만니	equivalent to khe (xe) as in Сихем (Shechem, 西Ш耶合木)	
□□伊合	UTC-	鿘	鿘		
4F0A,5408	01196	1/12	1711	equivalent to <i>khi</i> (хи) as in Мелхий (Melchi, 芈利回伊合乙)	
□合一	UTC-	合	合	abbreviation for the word Christ (Христос, Khristos). The full form in	
5408,4E00	01197			·Classical Chinese would be 合□利爾斯托斯.	
───	UTC-	仓	鿗	abbreviation for the word Jesus (Иисус, Iisus). The full form in	
4EBA,4F0A,4E00	00198	<u></u>	17.	Classical Chinese would be 伊伊穌斯.	

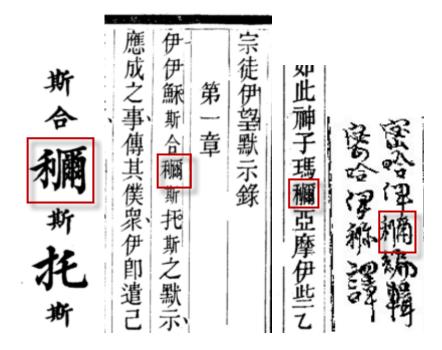


Figure 2: Examples of CJK SLAVONIC IDEOGRAPH RI (first, from left) from the cover page of the New Testament translated by Archimandrite Gurias (1864), (second) Book of Revelation showing use of the same character (1864), (third) from the front matter from the New Testament (1864), and (fourth) example from the cover page of a Japanese translation of the commentaries on the Gospel of St. Matthew (Archimandrite Michael of Kursk, Ming 15/16). It should be noted that in the last example the proposed character is used to represent an original final *l* in Michael.

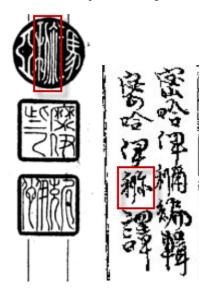


Figure 3: Example of CJK SLAVONIC IDEOGRAPH SIMPLIFIED RI from (left) the front matter from the New Testament (1864) in chopmark seal style and (right) example from the cover page of a Japanese translation of the commentaries on the Gospel of St. Matthew (Archimandrite Michael of Kursk, Ming 15/16). It should be noted that in the last example the proposed character is used to represent an original final *l* in Michael.

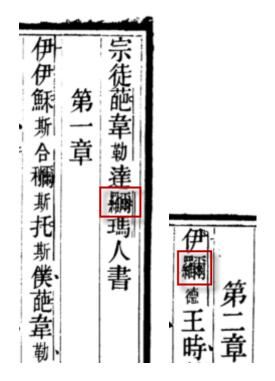


Figure 4: Example of CJK SLAVONIC IDEOGRAPH RO (left) from the start of the Epistle to the Romans (1864) and the name Herod at Matthew 2:1 from the New Testament (1864).



Figure 5: Example of CJK SLAVONIC IDEOGRAPH RIN from the start of the First Epistle to the Corinthians (1864).

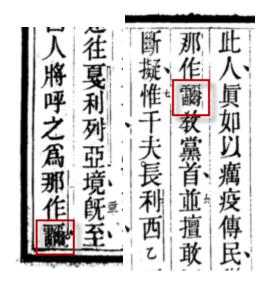


Figure 6: Examples of CJK SLAVONIC IDEOGRAPH REIA from (right) Matthew 2:23 and (left) Acts 24:5 (1864).



Figure 7: Example of CJK SLAVONIC IDEOGRAPH RU from Matthew 2:1 (1864).



Figure 8: Example of CJK SLAVONIC IDEOGRAPH RE from Matthew 2:23 (1864).

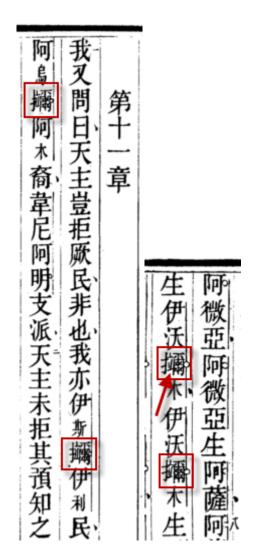


Figure 9: Examples of CJK SLAVONIC IDEOGRAPH RA (left) Romans 11:1 and (right) Matthew 1:8 (1864).



Figure 10: Example of CJK SLAVONIC IDEOGRAPH KI from Matthew 1:9-10 (1864).



Figure 11: Example of CJK SLAVONIC IDEOGRAPH KHI from Matthew 2:18 (1864).



Figure 12: Example of CJK SLAVONIC IDEOGRAPH GE from Mark 3:17 (1864).



Figure 13: Examples of CJK SLAVONIC IDEOGRAPH KE from (left) Matthew 16:1 and (right) Matthew 16:13 (1864).

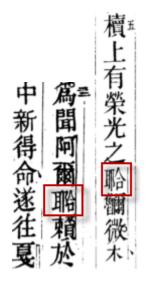


Figure 14: Examples of CJK SLAVONIC IDEOGRAPH KHE from (left) Matthew 2:22 and (right) Hebrews 9:5 (1864).

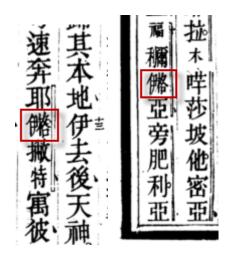


Figure 15: Examples of CJK SLAVONIC IDEOGRAPH GI from (left) Matthew 2:13 and (right) Acts 2:10 (1864).



Figure 16: Example of CJK SLAVONIC IDEOGRAPH RON from Luke 1:5 (1864).



Figure 17: Examples of CJK SLAVONIC IDEOGRAPH RAN from (left) Acts 7:2, 4 and (right) 1 Corinthians 16:22 (1864).

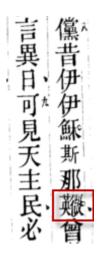


Figure 18: Example of CJK SLAVONIC IDEOGRAPH VIN from Hebrews 4:8 (1864).



Figure 19: Examples of CJK SLAVONIC IDEOGRAPH REN from (left) *The Summary of New Testament Salvation History: Life of Christ* translated by Archimandrite Gurias (1861) and (right) title page of the *Mirror of an Orthodox Confession* by St. Demetrius (Dimitry) of Rostov translated by Archimandrite Gurias (Saint Demetrius of Rostov, 1860).

Figure 20: Examples of CJK SLAVONIC IDEOGRAPH CHRIST from (left) Psalm 2:2 from Bishop Innocent's translation of the Psalter into Mandarin (Psalter in Mandarin, 1910) and (right) extract from a manuscript of the Horologion translated into the vernacular Chinese language found in Harbin, China from 1930/40.

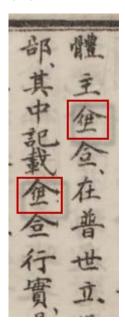


Figure 21: Example of CJK SLAVONIC IDEOGRAPH JESUS from Bishop Innocent's translation of the commentary on the Gospel of St. Matthew (1911).

# **Acknowledgement**

The authors would like to acknowledge of help of John Jenkins in preparing the IRG submission.

# **References**

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- *New Testament in Chinese*. (1864). (Archimandrite Gurias, Trans.) Beijing: Russian Mission. Retrieved from http://archive.wul.waseda.ac.jp/kosho/bunko08/bunko08\_d0417/
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- The Summary of New Testament Salvation History: Life of Christ. (1861). (Archimandrite Gurias, Trans.) Beijing: Russian Mission. Retrieved from http://nla.gov.au/nla.genvn1815414

### Annex F: IRG Repertoire Submission Summary Form

	ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2/IRG						
PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM TO ACCOMPANY SUBMISSIONS							
FOR ADDITIONS OF CJK UNIFIED IDEOGRAPHS TO THE REPERTOIRE OF ISO/IEC 10646							
Please fill in all the sections below.							
Please read Principles and Procedures Document (P & P) from <a href="http://appsrv.cse.cuhk.edu.hk/~irg/irg31/lRGN1562.pdf">http://appsrv.cse.cuhk.edu.hk/~irg/irg31/lRGN1562.pdf</a> for guidelines and details before filling in this form.							
Please ensure you	are using the latest Form from http://appsrv.c		ionForm pdf				
	appsrv.cse.cuhk.edu.hk/~irg/UCV.html for lates						
A. Administrative		•					
1. IRG Project Code:	SEI Urgently I	Needed Characters					
2. Title:	Proposal to Encode Chinese Cha	racters Used for Transo	cribing Slavonic				
3. Requester's region/cour	ntry name: Script En	coding Initiative, UC Berke	eley				
4. Requester type (Nationa	al Body/Individual contribution):	Liaison contribution	(class C to SC2)				
5. Submission date:		Novembe	er 2013				
6. Requested Ideograph T	ype (Unified or Compatibility Ideographs)	Unified Ide	ographs				
	s requester have the intention to register the		N/A				
	approval? (Registration fee will not be char	ged if authorized by the					
IRG.)							
	Request or Urgently Needed)	Urgently N	Veeded				
8. Choose one of the follow							
This is a complete proposal: Yes							
(or) More information will be provided later:							
B. Technical – General							
1. Number of ideographs in	n the proposal:		20				
2. Glyph format of the proc	2. Glyph format of the proposed ideographs: (128x128 "bmp" files or TrueType font file)						
	e names are the same as their Source IDs?						
•	If TrueType font, all proposed glyphs are put into BMP PUA area?						
	If TrueType font, data for Source IDs vs. character codes are provided?						
3. Source IDs:							
	ideographs have a unique, proper Source L	D (country/region code	Yes				
and less than 9 alphanumeric characters)?							
	4. Evidence:						
a. Do all the proposed ideographs have the separate evidence document which Yes contains at least one scanned image of printed materials (preferably dictionaries)?							
b. Do all the printed materials used for evidence provide enough information to track Yes							
them by a third party (ISBN numbers, etc.)?							
5. Attribute Data Format: (Excel file or CSV) Excel File							

### C. Technical - Checklist

Une	derstandings of the Unification Checklist					
1.	Has the requester read ISO/IEC 10646 Annex S and did the requester understand the unification policy?	Yes				
2.	Has the requester read the "Unifiable Calligraphic Variations" (contact IRG technical editor through the Rapporteurfor the latest one) and did the requester understand the unifiable variation examples?	Yes				
3.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
	aracter-Glyph Duplication Checklist( <u>http://www.itscj.ipsj.or.jp/sc2/open/pow.htm</u> ntains all the published ones and those under ballot)					
4.	Has the requester checked that any of the proposed ideographs is <b>not unifiable</b> with the unified or compatibility ideographs of ISO/IEC 10646?	Yes				
	If yes, which version of ISO/IEC 10646 did requester check? (e.g. 10646:2003)	10646:2013				
5.	Has the requester checked that any of the proposed ideographs is <b>not unifiable</b> with the ideographs in Amendments of current ISO/IEC 10646? (As of 2009, Amendment 1, 4, 5, 6and 8 have CJK ideographs.)	N/A				
	If yes, which amendments did requester check?	N/A				
6.	Has the requester checked that any of the proposed ideographs is <b>not unifiable</b> with the ideographs in the current IRG working sets or proposed amendments of ISO/IEC 10646? (As of 2009, PDAM 6 and PDAM 8 have CJK ideographs.)	Yes				
	If yes, which draft amendments did requester check?	Extension F				
7.	Has the requester checked that any of the proposed ideographs is <b>not unifiable</b> with the ideographs in the current working M-set and D-set of the IRG? (Contact IRG chief editor and technical editor through the IRG Rapporteur for the newest list)	Yes				
		GN1921 (CJK				
	Ex	t. F. v1.0)				
8.	Has the requester checked that any of the proposed ideographs is <b>not unifiable</b> with the	Yes				
	over-unified or mis-unified ideographs in ISO/IEC 10646? (Check Annex E of this document).					
9.	Has the requester checked that any of the proposed ideographs <i>has similar ideograph(s)</i> with the ideographs in the current standardized or working set mentioned above?	Yes				
10.	Has the requester checked that any of the proposed ideographs <i>has variant ideograph(s)</i> with the ideographs in the current standardized or working set mentioned above?	Yes				
	ribute Data Checklist					
11.	Do all the proposed ideographs have attribute data such as the KangXi radical code, stroke count and first stroke?	Yes				
12.	Are there any simplified ideographs (ideographs that are based on the policy described in 簡 化字總表) in the proposed ideographs?	No				
	If YES, does your proposal include proper simplified/traditional indication flag for each proposed ideograph in attribute data?					
	Do all the proposed ideographs have the document page number of evidence documents in attribute data?	Yes				
14.	Do all the proposed ideographs have the proper Ideographic Description Sequence (IDS) in attribute data?	Yes				
	If NO, how many proposed ideographs do not have the IDS?					
15.	If the answer to question 9 or 10 is yes, do the attribute data include any information on similar/variant ideographs for the proposed ideographs?	Yes				

IRG N1954 Appendix - Rationale for "Urgently Needed" Status

1) The requested 20 characters are found in books that are currently being digitized. Hence, there is a need for a stable representation of these characters in the digitisation database. Also, there would be issues with searching for information in the database, if the representation changes. (Without an encoding in the UCS, there would be a need to use the long format manner, wherein you use the partition characters and the subcharacters [Ideographic Description Sequences].)

2) Preparation of digital copies of these books (for subsequent printing digitally or hard copy) requires these characters to have unique codepoint. It would be best to have them placed in the proper location now, rather than assign them locations in the Private Use Area and then having to recode all the digital copies again later.

3) The expected wait for Extension G would place an unacceptable delay on this project.