

**Title:** Allocating the Pau Cin Hau Scripts in the Unicode Roadmap  
**Author:** Anshuman Pandey (pandey@umich.edu)  
**Status:** Individual Contribution  
**Action:** For consideration by UTC  
**Date:** 2010-07-26

## 1 Introduction

Pau Cin Hau developed two writing systems in the early decades of the 20th century in what is now Chin State, Myanmar. These are ecclesiastical scripts associated with the Laipian religious tradition, which was also founded by Pau Cin Hau. One of these scripts is described in the document “Preliminary Proposal to Encode the Pau Cin Hau Script in ISO/IEC 10646” (N3781 L2/10-080). The scripts have not yet been allocated in the Unicode roadmaps.

The original version of the present document did not suggest names to be used in allocating the scripts. A revision of the original provided names for the scripts that were based upon structural classifications, which turned out to be somewhat problematic. The present version suggests temporary names for purposes of identification and allocation. Permanent names for the scripts will be assigned when formal proposals are submitted.

## 2 Recommendations

An immediate allocation for the two scripts in the Unicode roadmaps will facilitate the writing of proposals and the development of fonts, which will benefit from stable code points.

Ideally, these scripts would be allocated in the Basic Multilingual Plane (Plane 0) since they are currently used by the Laipian community, although for limited ceremonial purposes. However, there is insufficient space in the BMP for both scripts. Therefore, the scripts should be allocated in contiguous blocks in the Supplementary Multilingual Plane (Plane 1) using the names specified below and the corresponding number of code points:

- *Pau Cin Hau A*: This script may require nearly 1,050 code points. This number is based upon a traditional count of characters found in a Laipian recitation text. ‘Pau Cin Hau A’ is a syllabary-like system that is written left-to-right.
- *Pau Cin Hau B*: This script requires at minimum 57 code points. It is an alphabet-like system that is written left-to-right. ‘Pau Cin Hau B’ is the script described in N3781 L2/10-080, where it is simply called ‘Pau Cin Hau’.

A preliminary proposal for ‘Pau Cin Hau A’ is currently being authored and a font is being developed. A revision of N3781 into a final proposal for ‘Pau Cin Hau B’ is also underway and will be submitted soon.