

**Title: Comment on Zanabazar Square script in ISO/IEC 10646:2014 PDAM2**

**Source: suzuki toshiya (Hiroshima University, Japan),  
Takashi Matsukawa (Otani University, Japan) and  
Hitoshi Kuribayashi (Tohoku University, Japan)**

**Date: 2014-09-02**

**Action: For consideration by JTC1/SC2/WG2**

**Type: Expert Contribution**

We request to exclude Zanabazar Square script from PDAM2 for further discussion with the experts studying this script.

From 2014-08-10 to 13, the International Conference on Inscription Studies (organized by International Association for Mongol Studies) was held in Ulaanbaatar. Many experts of Old Turkic, Sogdian, Uyghur, Mongolian and Phagspa scripts participated from Mongolia. In the meeting, Takashi Matsukawa could contact with the experts; Ts. Shagdarsüren, D. Tumurtogoo and B. Otgonbaatar. Because nobody heard that the standardization process reached the ballot stage, Matsukawa briefly introduced the current status of Zanabazar Square script in ISO/IEC 10646:2014 PDAM2, and asked for their comments. Their responses were saying “the study of Zanabazar Square script is still in preliminary stage, further investigation is needed for the stable digitization”. At least, nobody recommended the proceeding.

In fact, **2 experts whose works are used as the base of WG2 N4511, Ragchaagiin Byambaa and Tseveliin Shagdarsürün commented that the study of Zanabazar Square script is still in the development, and not in the stage to make a stable character encoding standard.** Also, B. Otgonbaatar commented that the coverage of Byambaa’s collection would be insufficient to discuss the complete set for Zanabazar Square script. Matsukawa asked for Mongolian experts to submit the detailed review of PDAM2 text.

WG2 N4541 responded to the question 5 “Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community?” as “By scholars of Mongolian culture, history and linguistics” (see the last page of WG2 N4541). Thus, the consensus with these experts is quite important to develop a stable standard of the information interchange for Zanabazar Square script.

(end of document)