

2009-04-21

Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set
International Organization for Standardization
Organisation Internationale de Normalisation

Title: Ad hoc report on Nüshu

Source: Nüshu Ad hoc, WG2#54

Action: to be reported to JTC1/SC2/WG2

Reference: WG2 n3598 (China)

WG2 n3449 (UK)

WG2 n3497 (Script Encoding Initiative at UC Berkeley)

Attendees:

Ms. Zhao Liming, China,

Mr. Chen Zhuang, China

Mr. Andrew West, UK

Ms. Deborah Anderson, USA

Mr. Tero Aalto, Finland

Dr. Lu Qin, IRG

Ms. Wei Lin-mei, TCA

Mr. Andre Szabolcs Szelp, AUT

The proposer introduced the differences between WG2 n3598 and its previous versions:

1. Some character names were changed according to comments from WG2 n3497 (Script Encoding Initiative at UC Berkeley).
2. Explanation of Nüshu variants.

The ad hoc discussed comments from WG2 n3449 (UK), which questioned why a few characters listed in *Nüshu basic characters and its origin verification* were not included in China's proposal. Ms Zhao explained that these "missing" characters were not

original Nüshu characters, but were derived from Hanzi, and that alternative “true Nüshu” characters included in WG2 n3598 were preferred. It was also explained that the proposed set of characters is intended for modern use only, and is not intended to include all attested Nüshu characters. The ad hoc agreed not to encode characters that are not required for modern use at this time.

The ad hoc suggested that China prepare an updated proposal with revisions:

1. Add one more character: Nüshu Iteration Mark.
2. Update fonts and explanations of glyph/font modifications.

In addition, China was invited to consider changing the name “Nüshu” to “Nyushu” as “Nüshu” is technically unacceptable and “Nushu” has a different meaning.