



DATE: 2012-10-20

ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2
Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set (UCS) - ISO/IEC
10646
Secretariat: ANSI

TITLE:	Comments on N4325, 4326 and N4327 (Tangut)
SOURCE:	China
STATUS:	NB Contribution
ACTION ID:	For consideration by WG2
DISTRIBUTION:	SC2/WG2
MEDIUM:	Electronic
NO. OF PAGES:	2
References:	N4325, 4326 and N4327

China welcomes proposals and comments from different countries on Tangut encoding. Having reviewed WG2 N4325, 4326 and N4327, Chinese Tangut experts have the following comments.


1.

N4325 cited some characters from 4 works of Prof. Li Fanwen (李範文), i.e., *Tangut-Chinese Dictionary* (《夏汉字典》2008), *Comparative Study of Wuyin Qieyun and Wenhai Baoyun* (《五音切韵与文海宝韵比较研究》2006), *Tangut-Chinese Dictionary* (《夏汉字典》1997), *Study of Homophones* (《同音研究》1986). The characters listed in N4325 are exactly same as those in previous proposals, plus character components. All these character components have already been in *The Processing System of Tangut Characters* (The Publishing House of Ningxia Renmin, 宁夏人民出版社2007) which was developed by Prof. Jing Yongshi (景永時).

2.

All Tangut characters in N4325, 4326 and N4327 are derived from handwritten glyphs by scholars or fonts developed in recent years, which contain some major or minor mistakes. In fact, the Chinese Tangut experts already found some mistakes in the proposals. A good news is that the working “A Project on Chinese Characters Repertoire” (中華字庫工程) organized by the Chinese government covers Tangut character set, the newly developed fonts are based on the original Tangut literatures to avoid mistakes. It is estimated that the character set and font can be prepared and contributed to WG2 for UCS in mid 2013.

3.

Recently, Chinese Tangut scholars found some characters undiscovered before, when studying Tangut characters, e.g.,  meaning country or nation (社稷), from *Xiao Jing* (《孝經》) written in Tangut characters. See Prof. Li Fanwen (李範文)'s “*Prof. Kychanov and the literatures unearthed from Khara-Khoto*” (《克恰诺夫与黑水城出土文献》, 见《西夏研究》2012年2期, 第8页). Unfortunately, these new production are not reflected in N4325, 4326 and N4327.

Conclusion:

To have high quality proposal(s) and a comparatively complete Tangut character set, China requires to take longer time to study current proposals and will contribute Tangut scholars' production later.