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**TITLE:** Comments on Nushu (N4376 and N4341)

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The document provides general comments and notes discrepancies between N4376 “Nüshu ad hoc report” and N4341 “Updated proposal for encoding Nyushu in the SMP of the UCS.”

In this document, **N4341** and characters that appear in it are in **BOLD** type.

### **I. General Comments and Questions**

a. Can China provide an improved font to Michael Everson and Michel Suignard?

It is advisable to adjust the glyphs and font after reviewing the comments below, especially based on § II.1 (Glyphs).

b. In the mapping data in **N4341** (pp. 35-53), the entries for William Chiang’s book *We Two Know the Script* seem to have some errors. Below are some examples:

1B001 L2, P162 should be: L5, P162

1B00A L2,P165 should be: L1, P165

1B00D L2, P146 should be: L1, P146

(“L” indicates a separate entry under the heading “pronunciation”, and not a separate line number.)

Can China verify the entries on the right-hand side above are correct?

(A corrected mapping should be included as part of the proposal.)

c. Minor editorial note: In the names list for N4376 “Nüshu ad hoc report”, remove the annotation “could be...” in:

1B14D  NUSHU CHARACTER I5-A

- could be i21

Rationale: Many other characters have alternative readings, as listed in pp. 76-95 of **N4341**, but these do not appear in annotations as “could be”.

d. In the final proposal, explain the meaning of the numbers in the names (“33” “42” etc.). (This was noted in N4376, the Ad Hoc report.)

e. The order has not been taken into consideration in this document; it is possible some re-ordering may be necessary.

f. Character names seem to be based on the top entry in the listing on pages 76-95 of N4341. The author of this document is still double-checking to verify this principle has been consistently applied to all character names. Most of the comments in § II.2 deal with this issue. (Note: It is assumed that the transcription of N4376 has been adopted for names.)

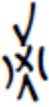
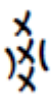
## II. Specific Comments

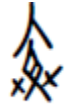

### 1. Glyphs



a. A few glyphs are different between the code chart of the Ad Hoc report N4376 and N4341. Are the glyphs in N4341 the most up-to-date?

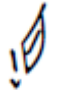

Examples of the differences in glyphs include:

[N4376 vs. N4341]

	vs.	
1B1A6 NG44		1B0A7 NG-A

	vs.	
1B25D CIE21		1B15E XIE-B

	vs.	
1B27A FI21		1B17D FY-B

	vs.	
1B1C6 PHW21		1B0C7 IOU-B

b. There are a few glyph differences between glyphs on pp. 76ff. of **N4341** and the shapes appearing on the repertoire list on pp. 6-24 of **N4341**.

Do all the glyphs on pp. 6-24 on **N4341** reflect the preferred shape?

For example, on p. 94, LU35 appears as , but on p. 14, **1B0B7 LU-A** is . (This character = **1B1B6 NUSHU CHARACTER LU35** in **N4376**.)

c. Glyph error in **N4376**

In **N4376**, there seems to be a glyph error. The glyphs for **1B22F NUSHU CHARACTER TSHEW5** and **1B24C NUSHU CHARACTER KAU44** seem to be the same, though they are differentiated in **N4341**.

The glyph for **TSHEW5** should mirror what is in **N4341**; just removing the vertical line on the left-hand side would make it identical to **1B229 NUSHU CHARACTER TSOU42**:



[**N4376**]



**1B22F NUSHU CHARACTER TSHEW5**



**1B24C NUSHU CHARACTER KAU44**

[**N4341**]



**1B130 Nyushu character TSHEY**



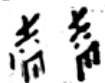
**1B14D Nyushu character KAU-B**

Cf. p. 94 of **N4341**



ts'əu<sup>5</sup> 错<sup>78</sup>  
(错)

p. 92 of **N4341**

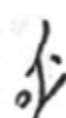



(高)

kau <sup>44</sup>	高 <sup>281-244</sup> 糕 <sup>1</sup> 篙 <sup>1</sup>
ku <sup>44</sup>	哥 <sup>8</sup> 孤 <sup>6</sup>
loj <sup>42</sup>	篮 <sup>7</sup>
kou <sup>44</sup>	勾 <sup>5</sup> 钩 <sup>2</sup> 沟 <sup>2</sup>
kou <sup>35</sup>	稿 <sup>1</sup>
k'ou <sup>44</sup>	敲 <sup>1</sup>

## 2. Name Discrepancies

a. On p.80 of N4341, “pai35” is given as the top name:

 pai<sup>35</sup>    本 212-178-9  
 pou<sup>35</sup>    打 289

However, the repertoires in both proposals have the name “POU”:

[N4376]



[N4341]

1B15A NUSHU CHARACTER POU35

1B05A Nyushu character POU

Is the preferred name POU, or should it be changed to PAI35?

b. On p.82 of N4341, the top name for the character  is “ie21”:

 (依/个) ie<sup>21</sup>    □个<sup>302</sup>  
 p'ø<sup>35</sup>    派<sup>3</sup>

However, in N4341, PHEO-B [sic] is the name, whereas in N4376 it is IE21-A:

[N4376]




[N4341]

1B172 NUSHU CHARACTER IE21-A

1B072 Nyushu character PHEO-B

Can China confirm the preferred name?

c. On p.82 of N4341, the name assigned to the character  is “tsoe”:

    tso<sup>13</sup>    在 1274  
 (在)    tso<sup>21</sup>    再<sup>369</sup> 载<sup>138</sup> 债<sup>1</sup>  
    tso<sup>44</sup>    灾<sup>1</sup> 裁<sup>1</sup>

However, in N4341 the name is ZAI, which is not listed on p.82.

[N4376]


[N4341]


1B176 NUSHU CHARACTER TSOE13

1B076 Nyushu character ZAI

\*also zai

Can China confirm the name should be TSOE13?

d. On p.83 of N4341, the character  has the name “lau21” as its top name:

	lau <sup>21</sup>	到 <sup>258</sup>
	(老/比) lau <sup>13</sup>	老 <sup>97</sup>
	lai <sup>21</sup>	凳 <sup>3</sup>


However N4376 has the name “lau13.”

[N4376]  
1B18E NUSHU CHARACTER LAU13  
\*also lau21 or lau21-b

[N4341]  
1B08F Nyushu character LAU-B


Is the preferred name LAU21 or LAU13?  
(If the name is changed, take into consideration the character below.)


Also note the following:

	lau <sup>21</sup>	到 <sup>1425</sup>
	lau <sup>13</sup>	老 <sup>274</sup>

[N4376]  
1B18D NUSHU CHARACTER LAU21

[N4341]  
1B08E Nyushu character LAU-A

e. On p.86 of N4341, the top name for the character  is “tshoe35”:


	(采)	ts'ø <sup>35</sup>	采 <sup>8</sup> 踩 <sup>5</sup>
		vuuə <sup>5</sup>	压 <sup>1</sup>
		ts'ø <sup>5</sup>	插 <sup>1</sup>



As noted below, N4376 uses “tshoe5”:

[N4376]  
1B21A NUSHU CHARACTER TSHOE5

[N4341]  
1B11B Nyushu character TSHEO-B

Should the name be corrected to TSHOE35?


f. On p.87 of N4341, the top name given to the character  is "tcyu44":

  tcyu<sup>44</sup> 珠<sup>113-18</sup> 朱<sup>12-1</sup>  
(主) tcyu<sup>33</sup> 具<sup>6</sup> 拄<sup>4</sup>

However, N4376 names the character "tcyu33":

[N4376] [N4341]  
1B1B9 NUSHU CHARACTER TCYU33 1B0BA Nyushu character JYU-C

Change the name to TCYU44?


g. On p.89 of N4341, the name given for  is "tcing44", but in N4376, the name is "CING44":


 tciŋ<sup>44</sup> 经<sup>76</sup> 坚<sup>5</sup> 兼<sup>2</sup> 肩<sup>1</sup> 占<sup>1</sup>  
(经/正) kai<sup>35</sup> 粳<sup>3</sup>

[N4376] [N4341]  
1B1D5 NUSHU CHARACTER CING44 1B0D6 Nyushu character JING-A

The name in N4376 appears to be an error for TCING44.


h. On p. 91 of N4341, there is a character "siong21":

 sioŋ<sup>21</sup> 姓<sup>65</sup> 性<sup>1</sup>  
x (岁) cy<sup>21</sup> 岁<sup>48</sup>  
huot<sup>13</sup> 幸<sup>5</sup>  
huot<sup>35</sup> 反<sup>4</sup>  
vut<sup>5</sup> 鸭<sup>4</sup>  
ciot<sup>13</sup> 犯<sup>1</sup>


There is no SIONG21 or CY21 in N4376, and the nearest match seems to be 1B249  NUSHU CHARACTER CY44 (=1B14A Nyushu character XY-B).


Is this the same character? If so, the name should be changed.


i. On page 91 of N4341, the character name seems to have left off an initial “n”. Is that correct?

 iou<sup>13</sup> 咬<sup>9</sup>  
(有)

Cf. 1B266  NUSHU CHARACTER NJIOU13 (=1B167 Nyushu character NIOU-B)

j. On p. 93 of N4341, the character  has the name “tci44”, at the head of the entry:


 (娇)	tɕi <sup>44</sup>	今 <sup>207-22</sup> 鸡 <sup>81-22</sup> 饥 <sup>34-4</sup>
		机 <sup>15-3</sup> 基 <sup>3</sup> 稽 <sup>1</sup>
	tɕiu <sup>44</sup>	娇 <sup>138-13</sup> 招 <sup>8</sup> 朝 <sup>1</sup>
	tɕi <sup>5</sup>	轿 <sup>71</sup>
	tɕiu <sup>33</sup>	急 <sup>28</sup>
	tɕi <sup>33</sup>	直 <sup>28</sup> 值 <sup>6</sup> 及 <sup>2</sup> 极 <sup>2</sup> 置 <sup>2</sup>
		忌 <sup>2</sup> 蟄 <sup>1</sup> 寂 <sup>1</sup>
	tɕy <sup>44</sup>	居 <sup>13</sup> 闺 <sup>1</sup> 俱 <sup>1</sup>
	tɕy <sup>33</sup>	绝 <sup>9</sup>
	tɕi <sup>35</sup>	这 <sup>6</sup>
	tɕie <sup>44</sup>	襟 <sup>2</sup> 金 <sup>1</sup>


This appears to be the same as  TCIU44-A in N4376:

[N4376] [N4341]  
1B26F NUSHU CHARACTER TCIU44-A 1B170 Nyushu character JI-B


Verify this is the same character, and, if so, rename it accordingly (TCI44).


k. P.95 of N4341 lists a character “tsou42”:


 (爱/ )	tsou <sup>42</sup>	愁 <sup>82-73</sup>
	ŋ <sup>33</sup>	爱 <sup>24-16</sup> (又读u <sup>21</sup> )
	tsau <sup>42</sup>	曹 <sup>17</sup>

This character seems to be the same as 1B23A  NG21 in N4376 (=1B13B Nyushu character NG).

Verify this is the same character, and, if so, adjust its name accordingly (TSOU42-A).

1. On p. 95 of N4341, the name for the character  is “tciang33”:

 (贵/坤)	tɕiaŋ <sup>33</sup>	贵 <sup>393-29</sup>
	kuo <sup>21</sup>	挂 <sup>63</sup> 怪 <sup>18</sup>
	kua <sup>13</sup>	跪 <sup>27-6</sup>
	kuou <sup>44</sup>	更 <sup>19</sup> 棍 <sup>17</sup>
	tɕiaŋ <sup>33</sup>	总 <sup>3</sup>
	ko <sup>21</sup>	介 <sup>3</sup>
	tɕy <sup>21</sup>	桂 <sup>2</sup>
	kuo <sup>35</sup>	拐 <sup>1</sup>
	k'uai <sup>21</sup>	困 <sup>1</sup>



However, this name does not agree with the name for  in N4371, “kua21”:

[N4376]	[N4341]
1B233 NUSHU CHARACTER KUA21	1B134 Nyushu character JIANG-C

This seems to have been an error for the second name in the list, “kuoe21”.  
Should the name be changed to “tciang33”?




m. On p. 95 of N4341, the top name listed for  is “nong44”:



	noi <sup>44</sup>	给 <sup>151-68</sup>
	fu <sup>33</sup>	会 (开~) <sup>106-51</sup> 活 <sup>9-6</sup>
(會/拿)		或 <sup>1</sup>
	fuə <sup>33</sup>	话 <sup>81</sup> 画 <sup>17</sup>
	vu <sup>33</sup>	会 (~不~) <sup>16-17</sup>
	fə <sup>33</sup>	佛 <sup>10-2</sup> 罚 <sup>1</sup>
	fu <sup>21</sup>	范 <sup>6</sup>
	huou <sup>33</sup>	悔 <sup>4-2</sup>
	y <sup>35</sup>	芋 <sup>1</sup>

However, the name proposed in N4376 for  is “fw21”:

[N4376]  
1B27C NUSHU CHARACTER FW21

[N4341]  
1B17D Nyushu character FY-B

There is also NONG44, currently  located at 1B25A (=1B15B Nyushu character NONG).


Are the two to be separately encoded as two characters ( NONG44 and  NONG44-A), or are they just variants of the same character?

### 3. Missing Characters?


After comparing the repertoires of the two proposals against the characters in pp. 76ff of N4341, I was not able to find the following amongst the proposed characters, although they may be present.

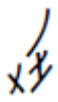
Can the proposal authors check to verify the following were included? If they were not, can they add them in a revised version of the proposal (if they are eligible)?

a. From p. 85 of N4341:


  $\text{o}^{44}$  衣<sup>93</sup>  
(衣)

b. From p. 86 of N4341:


  $\text{ku}\text{e}^{21}$   
(街/挂)  $\text{ku}\text{o}^{21}$   
 $\text{k}\text{o}^{44}$   
 $\text{ku}\text{o}^{44}$   
 $\text{k}'\text{o}^{44}$

Or is this the same as:  1B178 NUSHU CHARACTER KOE44 (=1B078 Nyushu character KEO-A), with a slightly different glyph?

c. From p.88 of N4341:


  $\text{pu}^{5}$  拨<sup>4</sup>北<sup>3</sup>  
(北)


d. From p.88 of N4341:

  $\text{hai}^{42}$  红<sup>221</sup>洪<sup>2</sup>鸿<sup>2</sup>  
(红)


Or is this the same as: 1B162  NUSHU CHARACTER HUOW42 (=1B062 Nyushu character HUOW-A)?

e. From p. 88 of N4341:

  $\text{p}'\text{u}\text{e}^{21}$  怕<sup>25</sup>帕<sup>4</sup>  
(怕/帽)  $\text{mau}^{33}$  帽<sup>4</sup>冒<sup>1</sup>  
 $\text{/mou}^{44}$

Or is this the same as 1B1C6  PHW21 (=1B0C7 Nyushu character IOU-B) ?


f. From p. 91 of N4341:

 (酒)      tsiou<sup>33</sup>      酒<sup>9</sup>


This does not seem to be the same as:

1B1F9  NUSHU CHARACTER TSIU33


g. From p. 91 of N4341:

 (英)      yn<sup>44</sup>      英<sup>91</sup>


h. From p. 92 of N4341:

 (門)      mai<sup>42</sup>      门<sup>23</sup> 闻<sup>78</sup>

i. From p. 93 of N4341:

 (埋)      mo<sup>42</sup>      埋<sup>11</sup>

k. From p. 94 of N4341:

 (莫)      mu<sup>33</sup>      莫<sup>11</sup>