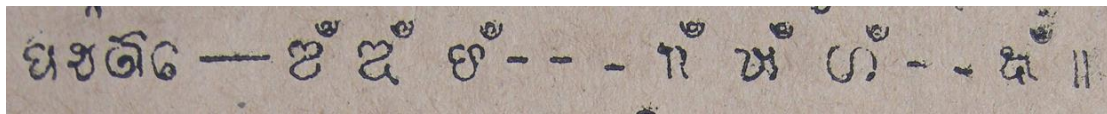


Date: 2014-08-07**Proposal to encode Saurashtra Sign Candrabindu**Vinodh Rajan vrs3@st-andrews.ac.uk

Saurashtra script was encoded in Unicode 5.0 by the proposal L2/05-222R2. However, it appears that the original proposal has missed an important character among the Indic scripts – the *Candrabindu* sign. While researching old Saurashtra script primers, there were several instances of *Candrabindu* character being utilized by the Saurashtra script. This document proposes the inclusion of the *Candrabindu* character in the Saurashtra block of the UCS.



Saurashtra Primer (1880) showing Candrabindu with consonant series

A8C5 ્ SAURASHTRA SIGN CANDRABINDU

Character Properties

A8C5;SAURASHTRA SIGN CANDRABINDU ;Mn;0;NSM;;;;;N;;;;;

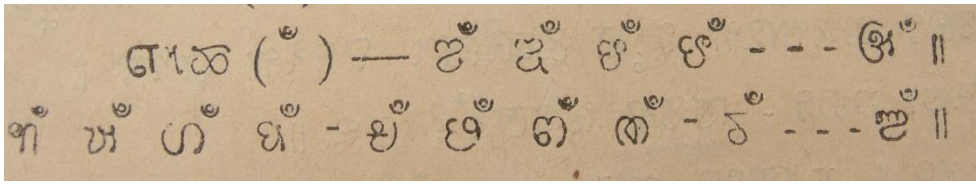
Positioning of Saurashtra Sign Candrabindu

Unlike other Indic scripts it can be seen that the *Candrabindu* character is not positioned directly at the top of a character. Rather, it is positioned slightly to the left. This placement is similar to that of Malayalam *Virama*. It is necessary for font designers to note this nuance while designing fonts for the Saurashtra script.

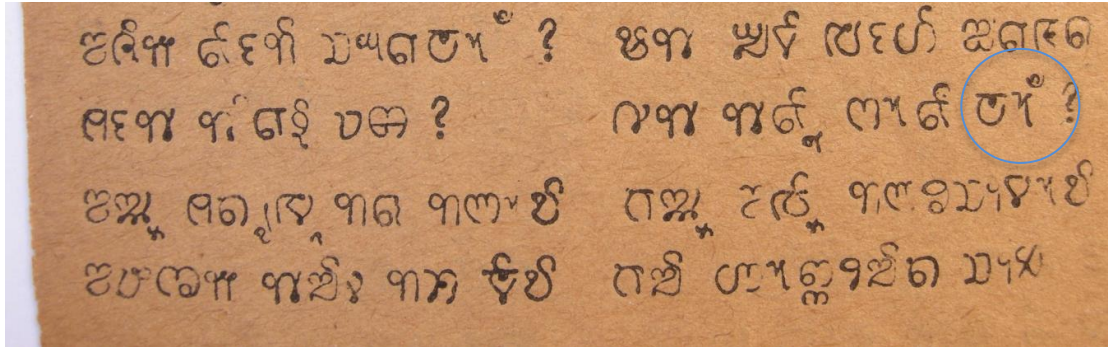
Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Markanday Sureshkumar for all the necessary attestations for the *Candrabindu* character and Prabu M Rangachari for the Unicode font with the *Candrabindu* glyph.

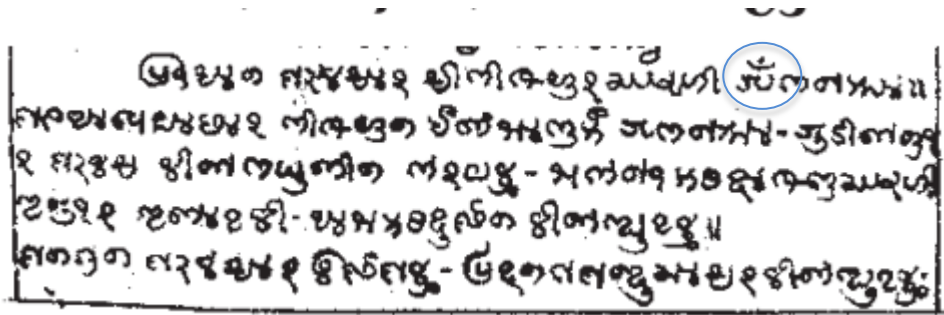
Additional Attestations



Sample from a book on Saurashtra grammar (1905)



Sample from Saurashtra Bodhini (1906)



Sample from Aksharavali (1876)

**ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2
PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM**

A. Administrative

1. Title:
Proposal to encode SAURASHTRA SIGN CANDRABINDU
2. Requester's name:
Vinodh Rajan
3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution):
Individual Contribution
4. Submission date:
21st July 2014
5. Requester's reference (if applicable):
6. (Choose one of the following:)
This is a complete Proposal

B. Technical - General

1. (Choose one of the following:)
- a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters):
No
- b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block:
Yes. Saurashtra block
2. Number of characters in proposal:
One
3. Proposed category
Category A
4. Is a repertoire including character names provided?:
Yes
- a. If YES, are the names in accordance with the 'character naming guidelines' in Annex K of ISO/IEC 10646-1?
Yes
- b. Are the character shapes attached in a reviewable form?
Yes
6. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font (ordered preference: True Type, PostScript or 96x96 bit-mapped format) for publishing the standard?
Prabu M Rangachari
If available now, identify source(s) for the font (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.) and indicate the tools used:
Prabu M Rangachari, Fontforge
7. References:
- a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?
Yes
- b. Are published examples (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of use of proposed characters attached?
Yes
8. Special encoding issues:
Does the proposal address other aspects of character data processing (if applicable) such as input, presentation, sorting, searching, indexing, transliteration etc. (if yes please enclose information):
No.

C. Technical - Justification

1. Has contact been made to members of the user community (for example: National Body, user groups of the script or characters, other experts, etc.)?

Yes

If YES, with whom?

Jeyakumar C K & Markanday Sureshkumar

If YES, available relevant documents?

The communication was through e-mail.

2. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example: size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included?

Digitization of old Saurashtra texts.

3. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare)

Rare

4. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community?

No

If YES, where?

5. After giving due considerations to the principles in N 1352 must the proposed characters be entirely in the BMP?

Yes

If YES, is a rationale provided?

It is an addition to the Saurashtra block encoded in the BMP

If YES, reference:

6. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)?

N/A. A single character is proposed

7. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence?

No

8. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to an existing character?

No.

If YES, reference:

9. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences (see clause 4.11 and 4.13 in ISO/IEC 10646-1)?

Yes.

10. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as control function or similar semantics?

No