

Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set  
International Organization for Standardization  
Organisation Internationale de Normalisation  
Международная организация по стандартизации

**Doc Type: Working Group Document****Title: Preliminary proposal to encode Quikscript characters in the UCS****Source: Michael Everson****Status: Individual Contribution****Action: For consideration by JTC1/SC2/WG2 and UTC****Date: 2013-04-16**

**0. Introduction.** Ronald Kingsley Read was the designer of the Shavian alphabet, a new alphabet intended for writing English which has been encoded in the UCS. In 1966, after extensive testing of Shavian with English speakers from around the world, Read introduced Quikscript, a revised form of Shavian. Also known as the “Read alphabet”, Quikscript has more ligatures than Shavian, which is intended to make it easier to write by hand. Its appearance is more cursive than Shavian. See Figures 3 and 4.

Quikscript might be encoded as a script on its own, or as an extension to Shavian. If the latter approach is used, a number of Shavian characters should be encoded to fill gaps in the UCS in order to support Quikscript. Four of these characters are disunifications from Shavian; that is, they represent sounds which are supported by Shavian letters, but which are unique and different letterforms unrelated to the Shavian originals. Five characters are additions for new sounds not supported in Shavian. And two characters are additional punctuation which could be used by any script.

|   |      |                          |
|---|------|--------------------------|
| { | 2E43 | LEFT ANGLED PARENTHESIS  |
| } | 2E44 | RIGHT ANGLED PARENTHESIS |

|   |       |                                  |   |       |                      |
|---|-------|----------------------------------|---|-------|----------------------|
| ſ | 10570 | SHAVIAN LETTER QUIKSCRIPT HE     | ø | 10463 | SHAVIAN LETTER HA-HA |
| √ | 10571 | SHAVIAN LETTER QUIKSCRIPT WHY    |   |       |                      |
| 6 | 10572 | SHAVIAN LETTER QUIKSCRIPT MAY    | ſ | 10465 | SHAVIAN LETTER MIME  |
| ø | 10573 | SHAVIAN LETTER QUIKSCRIPT NO     | \ | 1046F | SHAVIAN LETTER NUN   |
| 3 | 10574 | SHAVIAN LETTER QUIKSCRIPT LOW    | C | 10464 | SHAVIAN LETTER LOLL  |
| ε | 10575 | SHAVIAN LETTER QUIKSCRIPT LLAN   |   |       |                      |
| ϕ | 10576 | SHAVIAN LETTER QUIKSCRIPT LOCH   |   |       |                      |
| X | 10577 | SHAVIAN LETTER QUIKSCRIPT EXCITE |   |       |                      |
| X | 10578 | SHAVIAN LETTER QUIKSCRIPT EXAM   |   |       |                      |

**1. Disunified characters.** The basic structural scheme of Shavian has to do with pairings of tall and deep characters (signifying voiceless and voiced consonants) and mirroring and/or rotation for vowels and

liquids. Four characters used in Quikscript differ structurally from their counterparts in Shavian, and should be encoded as extensions to Shavian.

|                 |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                 |                |                |            |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|------------|
| High characters | ɹ <sub>p</sub> | ɹ <sub>t</sub> | ɹ <sub>k</sub> | ɹ <sub>f</sub> | ɹ <sub>θ</sub> | ɹ <sub>s</sub> | ɹ <sub>ʃ</sub> | ɹ <sub>tʃ</sub> | ɹ <sub>j</sub> | ɹ <sub>ŋ</sub> | Shavian    |
| Deep characters | ɹ <sub>b</sub> | ɹ <sub>d</sub> | ɹ <sub>g</sub> | ɹ <sub>v</sub> | ɹ <sub>ð</sub> | ɹ <sub>z</sub> | ɹ <sub>ʒ</sub> | ɹ <sub>dʒ</sub> | / <sub>w</sub> | ɹ <sub>h</sub> | Shavian    |
| High characters | ɹ <sub>p</sub> | ɹ <sub>t</sub> | ɹ <sub>k</sub> | ɹ <sub>f</sub> | ɹ <sub>θ</sub> | ɹ <sub>s</sub> | ɹ <sub>ʃ</sub> | ɹ <sub>tʃ</sub> | ɹ <sub>j</sub> | ɹ <sub>ŋ</sub> | Quikscript |
| Deep characters | ɹ <sub>b</sub> | ɹ <sub>d</sub> | ɹ <sub>g</sub> | ɹ <sub>v</sub> | ɹ <sub>ð</sub> | ɹ <sub>z</sub> | ɹ <sub>ʒ</sub> | ɹ <sub>dʒ</sub> | / <sub>w</sub> | ɹ <sub>h</sub> | Quikscript |

Note that Quikscript retains the same pairings that Shavian does—except for ɹ<sub>QUIKSCRIPT HE</sub>, which is disunified from ɹ<sub>HA-HA</sub>; it is not a deep character mirror of ɹ<sub>HUNG</sub>.

|                         |                |                |            |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------|
| Right-facing characters | ɹ <sub>l</sub> | ɹ <sub>m</sub> | Shavian    |
| Left-facing characters  | ɹ <sub>r</sub> | ɹ <sub>n</sub> | Shavian    |
| Right-facing characters | ɹ <sub>l</sub> | ɹ <sub>m</sub> | Quikscript |
| Left-facing characters  | ɹ <sub>r</sub> | ɹ <sub>n</sub> | Quikscript |

Note that Quikscript ɹ<sub>MAY</sub> and ɹ<sub>NO</sub> are not mirrored characters like Shavian ɹ<sub>MIME</sub> and ɹ<sub>nun</sub> are, and that Quikscript abandons the Shavian mirrored ɹ<sub>LOLL</sub> and ɹ<sub>ROAR</sub> pairing in favour of a new ɹ<sub>LOW</sub> and ɹ<sub>LLAN</sub> pairing.

**2. New characters.** The Quikscript variant of Shavian introduces five new characters for five sounds; the new ones are coloured red here:

|         |                |                |                |                 |                 |
|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Compare | ɹ <sub>m</sub> | ɹ <sub>t</sub> | ɹ <sub>x</sub> | ɹ <sub>ks</sub> | ɹ <sub>gz</sub> |
|         | / <sub>w</sub> | ɹ <sub>l</sub> | ɹ <sub>k</sub> | ɹ <sub>ks</sub> | ɹ <sub>gz</sub> |

Note that Quikscript retains the same pairings that Shavian does—except for ɹ<sub>QUIKSCRIPT HE</sub>, which is disunified from ɹ<sub>HA-HA</sub>.

**3. Punctuation characters.** Quikscript employs angled instead of curved parentheses. These can be used in Latin as well as Shavian/Quikscript text, and so are proposed for the Supplemental Punctuation block. See Figure 2.

|   |      |                          |
|---|------|--------------------------|
| ⌈ | 2E43 | LEFT ANGLED PARENTHESIS  |
| ⌋ | 2E44 | RIGHT ANGLED PARENTHESIS |

**4. Issues.** Quikscript can easily be analysed as a set of extensions to a cursive form of Shavian, but some members of the Quikscript community are concerned that this will not be advantageous to them in the long term. They argue that they should be able to represent both Shavian and Quikscript in the same document without having to switch fonts, in the same way that Cyrillic and Greek and Latin can be. They also argue that readers of Quikscript really aren't readers of Shavian and would find themselves disadvantaged in, for example, internet cafés where some generic UCS-enabled font supported Shavian

and its extensions but did not have a specific Quikscript font. This question of legibility should not be underestimated.

### 5. Unicode Character Properties

If Quikscript is encoded as a set of extensions to Shavian, the properties would be as follows.

```
2E43;LEFT ANGLED PARENTHESIS;Pi;0;ON;;;;;Y;;;;;
2E44;RIGHT ANGLED PARENTHESIS;Pf;0;ON;;;;;Y;;;;;
10570;SHAVIAN QUIKSCRIPT LETTER HE;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
10571;SHAVIAN QUIKSCRIPT LETTER WHY;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
10572;SHAVIAN QUIKSCRIPT LETTER MAY;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
10573;SHAVIAN QUIKSCRIPT LETTER NO;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
10574;SHAVIAN QUIKSCRIPT LETTER LOW;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
10575;SHAVIAN QUIKSCRIPT LETTER LLAN;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
10576;SHAVIAN QUIKSCRIPT LETTER LOCH;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
10577;SHAVIAN QUIKSCRIPT LETTER EXCITE;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
10578;SHAVIAN QUIKSCRIPT LETTER EXAM;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
```

### 6. Ordering

These characters should be inserted into the unified sort order for Shavian as follows.

$\int p < 1 t < \text{c} k < \text{x} ks < \text{d} x < J f < \text{d} \theta < S s < \text{L} f < \text{z} tf < \backslash j < \text{Q} \eta <$   
 $\text{L} b < \text{v} d < \text{p} g < \text{x} gz < \text{r} v < \text{e} \delta < \text{z} z < \text{z} 3 < \text{z} dz < / w < \text{J} m < \text{g} h < \text{r} h <$   
 $\text{c} l < \text{z} l < \text{f} m < \text{6} m < \text{i} i < \text{L} \epsilon < J \text{ae} < \text{r} \text{a} < \text{v} v < \text{v} \text{v} < \text{z} \text{a}\text{v} < \text{f} a: <$   
 $\text{v} r < \text{z} \text{t} < \text{v} n < \text{d} n < \text{h} i: < \text{r} ei < \text{z} ai < \text{z} \text{a} < \text{O} o\text{v} < \text{A} u: < \text{z} \text{v} < \text{z} \text{v}: <$   
 $\text{v} ar < \text{v} \text{v}r < \text{v} \text{e}\text{ar} < \text{v} \text{z}r < \text{v} \text{a}r < \text{v} \text{i}\text{a}r < \text{v} i:\text{a} < \text{v} ju:$

Note that the normal ordering for Quikscript is significantly different than that for Shavian. For instance, the tall/deep characters alternate, rather than the run of tall characters followed by the run of deep characters. This also can be considered to be a reason to disunify the two scripts. Yet another reason is that two of the Shavian letters as used in Quikscript ( $\text{v} \text{z}r$  and  $\text{x} \text{v} ju:$ ) are considered to be simple ligatures.

$\int p < \text{f} b < \text{l} t < \text{v} d < \text{c} k < \text{g} g < \text{z} \theta < \text{L} \delta < \text{d} f < \text{e} v <$   
 $S s < \text{z} z < \text{L} f < \text{z} 3 < \text{z} tf < \text{z} dz < \text{f} j < / w < \text{r} h < \text{J} m <$   
 $\text{Q} \eta < \text{6} m < \text{d} n < \text{z} l < \text{v} r < \text{d} x < \text{z} \text{t} < \text{x} ks < \text{x} gz <$   
 $\text{l} i < \text{A} i: < \text{L} \epsilon < \text{e} ei < J \text{ae} < \text{g} ai < \text{f} a: < \text{v} \text{v}: <$   
 $\text{v} v < \text{v} \text{v} < \text{r} \text{a} < \text{f} \text{a}\text{v} < \text{O} o\text{v} < \text{v} \text{v} < \text{A} u:$

Figures

THE QUICKSCRIPT ALPHABET

: 1 : 2 : 3 : 4 : 5 : 6 : 7 : 8 : 9 : 10 :

|                           |                 |                 |                 |                 |                  |                 |                     |                   |                  |                  |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| KEYWORD<br>& as in<br>No. | P-ea<br>up<br>1 | B-ay<br>be<br>2 | T-ea<br>to<br>3 | D-ay<br>do<br>4 | K-ey<br>can<br>5 | G-ay<br>go<br>6 | TH-aw<br>think<br>7 | TH-ey<br>the<br>8 | F-ee<br>for<br>9 | V-ie<br>of<br>10 |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|

: 11 : 12 : 13 : 14 : 15 : 16 : 17 : 18 : 19 : 20 :

|                           |                  |                  |                    |                      |                      |                    |                  |                  |                   |                    |
|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| KEYWORD<br>& as in<br>No. | S-ee<br>so<br>11 | Z-oo<br>is<br>12 | SH-e<br>show<br>13 | J'ai<br>vision<br>14 | CHeer<br>which<br>15 | J-ay<br>just<br>16 | Y-e<br>you<br>17 | W-ay<br>we<br>18 | H-e<br>have<br>19 | WH-y<br>what<br>20 |
|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|

: 21 : 22 : 23 : 24 : 25 :

|                         |                   |                  |                  |                    |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| KEYWORD<br>as in<br>No. | -ing<br>ink<br>21 | M-ay<br>me<br>22 | N-o<br>and<br>23 | L-ow<br>will<br>24 | R-oe<br>are<br>25 |
|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|

: 26 : 27 : 28 : 29 : 30 : 31 : 32 : 33 : 34 : 35 :

|                           |                   |                    |                   |                      |                 |               |                   |                   |                 |                 |
|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| KEYWORD<br>& as in<br>No. | I-t<br>busy<br>26 | EA-t<br>even<br>27 | E-t<br>ever<br>28 | EIGH-t<br>able<br>29 | A-t<br>as<br>30 | I<br>my<br>31 | A-h<br>calm<br>32 | AWE<br>haul<br>33 | O-x<br>on<br>34 | OY<br>oil<br>35 |
|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|

: 36 : 37 : 38 : 39 : 40 :

|                |  |                          |                           |                              |                              |
|----------------|--|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| KEYWORD<br>No. | U-tter<br>in: <u>us</u> , <u>murmurous</u><br>in: <u>among</u> , <u>girder</u><br>36 | OU-t<br>how<br>now<br>37 | OWE<br>toe<br>dough<br>38 | f-OO-t<br>pull<br>good<br>39 | OO-ze<br>truth<br>boot<br>40 |
|----------------|--|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|

For the y/oo sound in 'Ewe, Use, Few' combine Nos. 17+40: write

h :

For the sounds of ai/r in 'Pair, Dare, There', Nos. 29+25: write

e :

Figure 1. The basic Quikscript alphabet.





## A. Administrative

1. Title

**Proposal to encode additional Shavian characters in the UCS.**

2. Requester's name

**Michael Everson**

3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution)

**Individual contribution.**

4. Submission date

**2013-04-17**

5. Requester's reference (if applicable)

6. Choose one of the following:

6a. This is a complete proposal

**Yes.**

6b. More information will be provided later

**No.**

## B. Technical – General

1. Choose one of the following:

1a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters)

**Yes.**

Proposed name of script

**Shavian Quikscript Extensions; Supplemental Punctuation.**

1b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block

**No.**

1c. Name of the existing block

2. Number of characters in proposal

**11 (9, 2)**

3. Proposed category (A-Contemporary; B.1-Specialized (small collection); B.2-Specialized (large collection); C-Major extinct; D-Attested extinct; E-Minor extinct; F-Archaic Hieroglyphic or Ideographic; G-Obscure or questionable usage symbols)

**Category B.1.**

4. Is a repertoire including character names provided?

**Yes.**

4a. If YES, are the names in accordance with the "character naming guidelines"

**Yes.**

4b. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review?

**Yes.**

5. Fonts related:

5a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font to the Project Editor of 10646 for publishing the standard?

**Michael Everson.**

5b. Identify the party granting a license for use of the font by the editors (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.):

**Michael Everson, Fontographer.**

6. References:

6a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?

**No.**

6b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of proposed characters attached?

**Yes.**

7. Special encoding issue: 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)?

**Yes. Unicode character properties above.**

8. Additional Information: Submitters are invited to provide any additional information about Properties of the proposed Character(s) or Script that will assist in correct understanding of and correct linguistic processing of the proposed character(s) or script.

**See above.**

## C. Technical - Justification

1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before? If YES explain

**No.**

2. 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, via the Quikscript Yahoo discussion list, Read\_Alphabet**

2a. If YES, available relevant documents

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

**Users of Quikscript.**

4a. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare)

**Relatively rare.**

4b. Reference

5a. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community?

**Yes.**

5b. If YES, where?

**In texts written in Quicksript**

6. After giving due considerations to the principles in the P&P document must the proposed characters be entirely in the BMP?

**No.**

6a. If YES, is a rationale provided?

6b. If YES, reference

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

**Yes.**

8a. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence?

**No.**

8b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

8c. If YES, reference

9a. Can any of the proposed characters be encoded using a composed character sequence of either existing characters or other proposed characters?

**No.**

9b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

9c. If YES, reference

10a. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to an existing character?

**No.**

10b. If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

10c. If YES, reference

11a. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences?

**Yes.**

11b. If YES, is a rationale for such use provided?

**No.**

11c. If YES, reference

11d. Is a list of composite sequences and their corresponding glyph images (graphic symbols) provided?

**No.**

11e. If YES, reference

12a. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as control function or similar semantics?

**No.**

12b. If YES, describe in detail (include attachment if necessary)

13a. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility character(s)?

**No.**

13b. If YES, is the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic character(s) identified?