




To: Unicode Technical Committee  
 From: István Perczel (via Anshuman Pandey and Debbie Anderson, SEI, UC Berkeley)  
 Date: 10 June 2015  
 Title: Feedback on the Alphabetization of the Syriac letters for Garshuni (Suryani) Malayalam

*Note: The following is input from István Perczel, an expert on Garshuni Malayalam. Anshuman Pandey, the author of the the Syriac letters for Garshuni Malayalam proposal ([L2/15-156](#)), asked the question, "Is there a conventional sort order for the Garshuni Malayalam letters? For instance, where would they appear in a dictionary?" Below is the response.*

This is an interesting and difficult question. There is no existing dictionary order. There are Syriac-Garshuni Malayalam dictionaries but not vice versa. So, theoretically, there are two options: either follow the dictionary order of the Modern Malayalam alphabet, or follow the Syriac and add the specifically Malayalam letters as an addition, in their order according to the present-day Malayalam script. As the same Syriac letters can stand for very different Malayalam sounds, I think only the second option is feasible. Thus, you might keep the order of the Syriac letters from olaf to taw (1-22)

and then add the eleven new letters almost in the order you have cited them, but adding  =

Modern Malayalam ഏ, SSA after the  = Modern Malayalam റ, RA, and before the  =

Modern Malayalam ങ, or final ഞ, LLA. Otherwise the order seems to me perfect.