L2/25-014

TO: UTC
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This document provides a summary of the UC Berkeley Script Encoding Initiative's recent activities.

Proposals/documents

Proposals that have involved SEI include the following:

- Revised Proposal for Encoding the Mwangwego Script in the UCS [L2/25-039], Oreen Yousuf and Daniel Yacob
- Proposal to encode Sirmauri in Unicode [L2/25-038], Anshuman Pandey and Biswajit Mandal

Ongoing Script Work

Anshuman Pandey is currently working on Book Pahlavi (with Roozbeh Pournader), Proto-Cuneiform (with Steve Tinney), Proto-Elamite, Vatteluttu (with Jan Kučera), Lampung (with Febri Muhammed Nasrullah and Ariq Syauqi), Ranjana, Linear Elamite, Kulitan, Byblos, Proto-Sinaitic, and Kerinci (with Febri Muhammed Nasrullah). Oreen Yousuf is currently working on N'ti, Sheek Bakrii Saphaloo, Nsibidi, Minim Dag Moore, and Oduduwa.

SEI is funding a collaborative effort on a proposal and font for Classical Maya hieroglyphs (with Andrew Glass, Gabrielle Vail, and Alexandre Bassi). Together with the Unicode Consortium, we are funding work on Codical Maya hieroglyphs (with Andrew Glass and Carlos Pallan). We are also overseeing the creation of a learning guide and PUA keyboard for the Bété script (with Adam Yeo, Charles Riley, Neil Patel, Craig Cornelius, Tex Texin, and Oreen Yousuf).

Script Proposals in Progress

The following scripts have received SEI support in the past and are either in a preliminary stage, or are almost ready for approval, but require more information.

Script Proposals in Active Development

- Bété (Yeo et al) [<u>L2/23-279</u>]
- **Book Pahlavi** (Pandey) [L2/24-040]
- Kerinci (Pandey) [L2/16-074]
- **Kulitan** (Pandey) [*L*2/15-232]
- Lampung (Pandey) [L2/22-044]
- Linear Elamite (Pandey) [L2/21-233]
- Maya Hieroglyphs Classic (Vail) [L2/23-020]
- Maya Hieroglyphs Codical (Pallán) [L2/23-228]
- **Persian Siyaq** (Pandey) [L2/21-105]
- Proto-Cuneiform (Pandey) [L2/23-190]
- Proto-Elamite (Pandey) [L2/23-196)]
- **Proto-Sinaitic** (Pandey) [L2/19-299]

- **Ranjana** (Pandey) [*L*2/23-028]
- Seal (Cook) [L2/22-279]

Work Awaiting More Information

- Afáka (Everson) [N4292=L2/12-228]
- **Bagam** (Everson) [*N*4293=*L*2/12-229]
- **Balti 'A' and 'B'** (Pandey) [*N3842=L2/10-231, N4016=L2/11-103*]
- **Bhujinmol** (Pandey) [*L*2/14-283]
- **Coorgi-Cox** (Pandey) [*N*4287=*L*2/12-217]
- Dhimal (Pandey) [N4140=L2/11-348]
- **Eebee Hmong** (Everson) [*N*4668=*L*2/15-180]
- **Eskaya** (Pandey) [*N*4499=*L*2/13-229]
- Kpelle (Everson and Riley) [N3762=L2/10-063]
- Landa (Pandey) [*N*3768=*L*2/10-013]
- Loma (Everson) [*N*3756=*L*2/10-005; *cf. L*2/17-059, *L*2/17-233]
- Magar Akkha (Pandey) [N4036=L2/11-144]
- Palaeohispanic, South and Palaeohispanic, North [L2/22-146, L2/22-147]
- **Pallava** (Pandey) [L2/18-083]
- Pau Cin Hau Syllabary (Pandey) [L2/16-014]
- **Pyu** (Pandey) [*N*3874=*L*2/10-295]
- Rejang Numbers (Pandey) [L2/18-081]
- **Siyaq** -- Diwani [*L*2/15-066*R*] (Pandey) (cf. *L*2/15-340)
- Tangsa Khimhun (Pandey) [*N*4497=*L*2/13-230]
- Tani Lipi (Pandey) [N3823=L2/10-146]
- Tikamuli (Pandey) [N3963=L2/10-465]
- Woleai (Everson) [*N*4146=*L*2/11-362]
- Zou (Pandey) [N3864=L2/10-254]

Grant Support

SEI's script research from July 1 2024 onward is funded by an award to UC Berkeley by the Mellon Foundation. SEI was also awarded a grant from the Internet Society Foundation that started July 2024, and offers support for travel, proposal review work by Jan Kučera, and the creation of a blog. Work by Anshuman Pandey is also being supported through the Unicode Adopt-a-Character (AAC) program.

Research Activities

SEI's latest research efforts include preparing a "Script Readiness Rubric" and a set of "Principles Underlying Script Readiness" to help communicate a script's viability for Unicode inclusion. These will be posted on SEI's redesigned website, expected to go live in Spring 2025.

SEI launched a pilot program for a new fieldwork fellowship to conduct exploratory research on a script. In Fall 2024, SEI is funding Ariq Syauqi to investigate the differences in traditional and contemporary Lampung. SEI is also funding Adam Yeo under the same pilot program to trial a prototype font and keyboard for the Bété script and report on community uptake, insights from which will be shared with a "new script incubator" initiative being spearheaded by Endangered Alphabets.

Debbie Anderson has also been helping identify language experts to review CLDR data.