To: Script Encoding Working Group and UTC
From: Dalia Al-Shahrabi and Jan Kučera
Date: 16 January 2025
Subject: Feedback on the names of Arabic Honorifics

The authors would like to bring attention to the names of some of the Arabic honorific characters as accepted for publication in Unicode 17.0.

Incorrect Grammar

- U+10ED5 ARABIC LIGATURE QUDDISA SIRR**A**HUM
- U+10ED6 ARABIC LIGATURE QUDDISA SIRR**A**HUMAA

In these phrases, the verb QUDDISA has a passive form and requires a case change on the object, expressed by *fatha* changing into *damma*. The correct spellings therefore should be as follows:

- U+10ED5 ARABIC LIGATURE QUDDISA SIRR**U**HUM
- U+10ED6 ARABIC LIGATURE QUDDISA SIRR**U**HUMAA

Note that the same situation occurs in the character U+10ED7 ARABIC LIGATURE QUDDISAT ASRAAR**U**HUM which is spelled correctly. Furthermore, the L2/24-077 clearly shows *damma* in the representative glyph for U+10ED5:

Incorrect Spelling

Second, the authors would like to point out that the spelling of

- U+FBCB ARABIC LIGATURE RADI ALL**A**HU TAAALAA ANHUM

is inconsistent with all the other characters in L2/24-077 spelling ALL**AA**HU or ALL**AA**H (reflecting the spelling in Arabic better).

Note that the current Unicode 17.0 data contain 8 characters spelling ALL**A**H and 30 characters spelling ALL**AA**H. Therefore, the character name should be spelled as follows:

- U+FBCB ARABIC LIGATURE RADI ALL**AA**HU TAAALAA ANHUM

Further Inconsistencies

The authors also note the inconsistency of spelling other marks across Arabic characters. The character U+FDCC ARABIC LIGATURE SALLALLAAHU ALAYHI WA-ALAA AALIHEE WA-SALLAM proposed in L2/24-002 and accepted for publication in Unicode 17.0 spells ALAYH**I** but AALIH**EE** despite both words ending in *kasra*, although the only other occurrence (in an already encoded character U+FD4C) also spells AALIH**EE**.

The naming of Arabic characters in the standard seems to be quite inconsistent in general. There are 13 characters with ALAYH**I** in their name and 6 with ALAYH**E**; *damma* is sometimes transcribed as U, sometimes as OU; *wa-* is sometimes with a dash and sometimes without, even in the same character (U+FD4C).