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

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1. Introduction. A number of 18th-and 19th-century orthographies exist for Albanian; one of the most interesting from a typographic point of view is called Vithkuqi ([viθkucçi]), from the town it was devised in. It is also sometimes called after its inventor, Naum P. Veqilharxhi ([vecçilhardʒi]), and has been known by various spellings of the town, Büthakukye or Beitha Kukju. The script was devised between 1824 and 1845, and was broadly phonemic, though it lacked specific letters for four of the modern Albanian phonemes. Recently some revivalist effort has been made for artistic and cultural purposes, in which modern equivalents for these gaps have been proposed. This proposal includes characters for this purpose as well as the characters attested from the mid-19th century.

The script first appeared in Veqilharxhi's Albanian spelling book in 1844, which was published in an expanded version in the following year. A copy of the expanded work was discovered in Athens in the Gennadius Library, and was reprinted in 1983. According to Robert Elsie, Vithkuqi "was also the first and only one of the original Albanian alphabets of the period to have been printed in book form." The script was known to Albanian folklorist Spiro Dine, who learned it as a child, and was mentioned by the Austrian consul in Janina, Georg von Hahn in his three-volume work, *Albanesische Studien*.

I worked with the late Robert Elsie preparing the previous version of this proposal, which never benefitted from his review due to his untimely death. He had written on the Vithkuqi script in Elsie 2017, and I will repeat the introductory material here:

Naum Veqilharxhi (1797-1846), was one of the first nationalist figures to formulate the ideals and objectives of the Albanian nationalist movement in its budding stages. He also devoted himself to the creation of an original Albanian alphabet. Veqilharxhi stemmed of a family from the village of Bredh near Vithkuq in the Korça region. His father emigrated to the island of Ithaca in Greece where Naum was born in December 1797. The Ionian isles were taken over by Britain in 1811 and Naum Veqilharxhi and his two brothers seem to have acquired British citizenship there. A few years later, he and his brothers moved to Romania, which was the most popular destination for young Albanians in search of work and a better life. In 1821, he seems to have taken part in a Wallachian uprising against the Turks, and spent the rest of his life as a lawyer, as far as is known, in the port of Brăila on the Danube. He died in Constantinople around 1846. Albanian nationalist tradition has it that he was poisoned at the hands of Greek Orthodox fanatics linked to the patriarch of Constantinople, but there does not seem to be any concrete proof of this allegation. It is, however, known that the

patriarchate was very much at odds with all expressions of non-Greek nationalism in the Balkans.

In a letter that Naum Veqilharxhi circulated in Greek, he pointed to the backwardness and misery of the Albanians as a result of centuries of Turkish rule, and stressed the need for a new Albanian alphabet as a means of overcoming this stagnation and of uniting the country. Moral and political decay arose in particular from "neglect in the cultivation of our national language and its replacement by foreign languages." But how was the Albanian language to be cultivated without an alphabet acceptable to all religious communities, i.e. to Muslim, Orthodox and Catholic Albanians?

Around 1824 or 1825, Veqilharxhi began working on a 33-letter alphabet of his own invention. The idea of an Albanian spelling book, using this alphabet, was probably inspired by the spelling book of the Bulgarian educator Petar Beron (1799-1871), with whom Veqilharxhi was in contact in Romania. The Bulgarian spelling book, known as the *Riben Bukvar* [Fish Primer] because of the fish illustration on the back cover, was published in Kronstadt (Brașov) in 1824 and, as the first non-religious publication in Bulgarian literature, it was of great influence.

Veqilharxhi printed the first eight-page version of his Albanian spelling book, in his new script, in 1844. This tiny booklet, entitled *Fort i shkurtër e i përdorshim ëvetar shqip, për çdo sicillë qëdo të mpsonjë të kënduarit e të shkruarit bukur shqip* (Very Small and Useful Albanian Spelling Book for Everyone Who Wishes to Learn to Read and Write Albanian Well), was distributed throughout southern Albania, from Korça to Berat, and was received, as it seems, with a good deal of enthusiasm. At the end of the following year, the booklet was augmented to a 48-page edition, entitled *Fare i ri ëvetar shqip për djelm nismëtorë nxjerë e dhënë mbë dritë tani herën e parë, për djem të vegjël me një të zgjedhur nga disa gjë të mirash e të fitimëshme* (Very New Albanian Spelling Book for Elementary Schoolboys Published Now for the First Time for Young Boys with a Selection of Some Good and Profitable Things). A copy of this rare edition, long thought lost, was discovered in the Gennadius Library in Athens and was reprinted in 1983.

The significance of Veqilharxhi's alphabet, which reminds one at first glance of a type of cursive Armenian, lies in the fact that it was not connected to the traditions of any particular religious community (as are Greek and Arabic script). As a politically neutral creation, it might have found acceptance among all Albanians, had it survived the test of time. It was also the first and only one of the original Albanian alphabets of the period to have been printed in book form.

The Albanian folklorist Spiro Dine (1844-1922) reported that he learnt Veqilharxhi's alphabet as a child in the Vithkuq region. It was also known to the Austrian consul in Janina, Johann Georg von Hahn (1811-1869), who referred to it in his three-volume *Albanesische Studien* (Albanian Studies), Jena 1854, saying: "… an attempt at composing [an Albanian alphabet] was actually made a few years ago by an Albanian called Büthakukje [i.e. Vithkuq] who seems to have had no idea of the existence of the present [i.e. Todhri] alphabet. He invented a number of random letters for the sounds in his language and had his work printed. It was included in Auer's comparative tables."

However, the resonance of this original alphabet was in fact limited, due primarily to the author's premature death one year after the second edition of his spelling book, but also perhaps to financial and technical considerations. In the mid-nineteenth century, when publishing was making great strides even in the Balkans, a new script required a new font for printing which would have resulted in added costs for any prospective publisher. As such, although reasonably phonetic and denominationally neutral, Veqilharxhi's alphabet never took hold.

Despite the fact that Latin won the day in Albanian orthography, and in connection with the last sentence above, it is worth citing a note from a private correspondence between Robert Elsie and Deborah Anderson, in which he described the importance of the Vithkuqi and Todhri scripts.

> Both of these scripts are known to educated Albanians and are mentioned briefly in school education in Albanian literature courses. However, there is little information about them beyond this. They are both of great cultural significance to Albanians and should not be forgotten. The Veqilharxhi script is better known because there was a 19th century book publication in it. The Todhri script was used in handwritten letters and communications in central Albania. I have recently found an indication that it was still being used by an old woman, Dona Xhuvani, in Elbasan who died about 1930.

2. Processing. Vithkuqi is a simple, casing alphabetic script written from left to right horizontally. There is no ligation. Several characters make use of non-productive diacritics and have been encoded atomically for simplicity and to reflect their phonemic status.

3. Script and character names. Faulmann (who was followed by Taylor and Diringer) erroneously considered "Büthakukye" to be a form of Veqilharxhi's name, though it refers to the place-name Vithkuqi (now Vithkuq). The names used for the characters here are based on those of the modern Albanian alphabet, with *ç* written CH, *e* written E, and *ë* written EH.

4. Numerals and punctuation. European digits and punctuation are used with Vithkuqi.

5. Traditional repertoire. Examination of the 19th-century texts shows three anomalies vis à vis modern Albanian orthography.

5.1. Two letters *B*. There are two letters B in Vithkuqi, ꞏ *Bb* BE and ꞏ *Bβ* BHE. Upper-case ꞏ BE is attested in only four words in the text we have: ꞏ *Bukur* 'beautifully', ꞏ *Bëntorit* 'maker, creator', ꞏ *Bredhi* (a place-name), and ꞏ *Bredhasi* (a person from Bredhi). Upper-case ꞏ BHE appears in the word ꞏ *Bythkuqi* (the place-name Vithkuqi). This place-name means 'red butt', where ꞏ *kuqi* (['kucçi]) is 'red' and where ꞏ *βythë* 'butt' has dialect forms *vithë* ['viθə] and *bythë* ['byθə]. Whether the phoneme was /β/ and then split into /v/ and /b/ or whether the letter was devised as polyvalent is a matter for historians of Albanian phonology, but Veqilharxhi distinguished the two letters. No lower-case form for BHE has yet been seen, but since stability guarantees permit the addition of upper-case letter subsequent to the encoding of its lower-case equivalent but forbid the reverse, and since the script's structure is casing, the lower-case letter ꞏ has been devised and is proposed here. (Other letters are similarly distinguished only by size.) See Figures 1, 2, 4, 6.

5.2. Two letters *H*. In general The letter ꞏ *Hh* is used, but in three instances another letter, ꞏ *Hħ*, is found. This is found in ꞏ *Veqilħarçi* (for *Veqilharxhi*, where the second element is a Turkish loan from *harcı* 'mortar'), in the Turkish loanword ꞏ *baħt* 'fate', and in the name of Noah's son ꞏ *Ħam*. In this proposal the name given to this letter is KHI (cf Greek *chi*). See Figure 5.

5.3. Semi-consonant *i*. The Albanian phoneme *gj* [ɟj] is not written with a single letter in the 19th-century materials, but as a digraph with a special form of *i* *i*: ꞏ *gĩ*. In this proposal the name given to this letter is IJE.

5.4. Missing letter *rr*. The Albanian phoneme *rr* [r] contrasts with the phoneme *r* [ɾ]. In the 19th-century materials, this phoneme is not represented with a dedicated Vithkuqi letter. It may have been represented by a sequence *ꞏ *rr*, but no word with this phoneme is represented in the texts we have seen.

5.5. Missing letter *xh*. The Albanian phoneme *xh* [dʒ] contrasts with the phoneme *ç* [tʃ]. In the 19th-century materials, these two phonemes are represented with the same Vithkuqi letter, ⱳ *ç* (38 times for *ç*, 3 times for *xh*).

5.6. Missing letter *zh*. The Albanian phoneme *zh* [ʒ] contrasts with the phoneme *sh* [ʃ]. This phoneme is not written with a single letter in the 19th-century materials, but as a digraph of ⱴ *sh* plus ⱺ *z*, ⱴⱺ *shz*.

6. Modern repertoire. Modern interest in the older Albanian scripts naturally attracts innovation related to modern orthography. (We have seen similar concerns from modern users of Old Hungarian script.) One artist from Kosovo, Edon Muhaxheri, began his research on the Vithkuqi script with the tables found in Faulmann's 1880 *Das Buch der Schrift* (see Figure 1). Unfortunately some errors in Faulmann's analysis led Muhaxheri to make a few errors but he made use of one of the four diacritical marks used in Vithkuqi to extend his alphabet. Details about the previous version of his alphabet are given in N4854. Here is a photograph of his glyph repertoire:
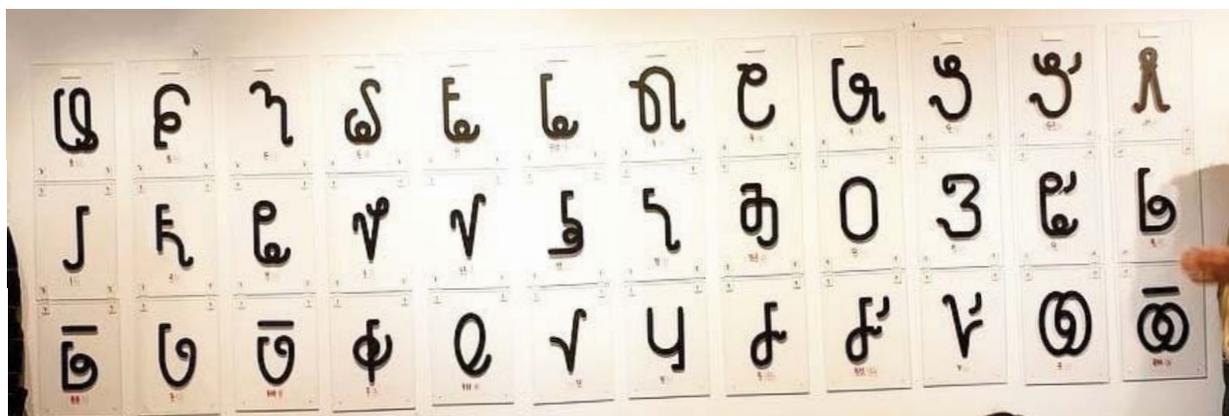
The alphabet has given here is: ⱺ *a*, ⱡ *b* (perhaps using the Ɛ glyph), ⱬ *c*, ⱳ *ç*, ⱦ *d*, ⱨ *dh*, ⱴ *e*, ⱱ *ë*, Ⱳ *f*, ⱸ *g*, ⱸ *gj*, ⱪ *h*, ⱥ *i*, ⱡ *j*, ⱪ *k*, ⱴ *l*, ⱴ *ll*, ⱷ *m*, ⱪ *n*, ⱪ *nj*, ⱺ *o*, ⱬ *p*, ⱪ *q*, ⱱ *r*, ⱱ *rr* (glyph to be changed to ⱱ), ⱱ *s*, ⱱ̄ *sh*, ⱦ *t*, ⱡ *th*, ⱴ *u*, ⱴ *v*, ⱪ *x*, ⱪ *xh* (glyph to be changed to ⱳ), ⱴ̌ *y*, ⱺ *z*, and ⱺ̄ *zh*. The older letters not found in this image are Ɛ, ⱥ, and ⱥⱥ *ħ*.

The original script made use of a variety of letter-heights, as shown here:

Filling the gaps for modern use is something that is natural for a revived script like Vithkuqi. While Veqilharxhi's original script was defective in some regards, it is reasonable for modern users to expect to

be able to distinguish 𐔖𐔜𐔂 *çupa* 'the girl' and 𐔖𐔜𐔂 *xhupa* 'jackets'. Popularity of the script amongst Albanians is increasing; Muhaxheri informs me that he has had numerous requests for tattooing designs.

Here is an example of a translation of the Lord's Prayer into mid-19th-century Albanian, in the font used by Faulmann, and in the version of the font which has been compared with the ascenders and descenders in Veqilharxhi's primer.

Jati iny çy jë by kiël, Kiofty shyntyruary ymyri it. Arty brëtyria jotë, U byfty urdyri it, si kuntry bynëty dy kiël ashtu e dë by dë. Ëpna navët butyn' e sormë çy na duhety për fistyny. E dë dylëna fajëty tona, si kuntry dyłëjëmy e dë na ata çy fyłëjyny dy nëvët. E dëmos na lyshoc nëvët dy dony pirasmo. Po shpytona navët nga i ligu. Së jotija yshty brëtyria e dë fukia e dë łuvdimi dy jëty ty pasosury vyrtët.

7. Ordering.
Ordering is as in the code chart, and follows modern Latin Albanian alphabetic order.

8. Unicode Character Properties

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10570;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER A;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;10597;
10571;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER BE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;10598;
10572;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER BHE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;10599;
10573;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER CE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;1059A;
10574;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER CHE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;1059B;
10575;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER DE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;1059C;
10576;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER DHE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;1059D;
10577;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER E;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;1059E;
10578;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER EH;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;1059F;
10579;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER FE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105A0;
1057A;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER GE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105A1;
1057B;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER GJE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105A2;
1057C;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER HE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105A3;
1057D;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER KHI;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105A4;
1057E;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER I;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105A5;
1057F;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER IJE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105A6;
10580;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER JE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105A7;
10581;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER KE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105A8;
10582;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER LE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105A9;
10583;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER LLE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105AA;
10584;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER ME;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105AB;
10585;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER NE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105AC;
10586;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER NJE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105AD;
10587;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER O;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105AE;
10588;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER PE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105AF;
10589;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER QE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105B0;
1058A;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER RE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105B1;
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1058B;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER RRE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105B2;
1058C;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER SE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105B3;
1058D;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER SHE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105B4;
1058E;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER TE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105B5;
1058F;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER THE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105B6;
10590;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER U;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105B7;
10591;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER VE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105B8;
10592;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER XE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105B9;
10593;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER XHE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105BA;
10594;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER Y;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105BB;
10595;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER ZE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105BC;
10596;VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER ZHE;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;;105BD;
10597;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER A;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10570;;10570
10598;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER BE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10571;;10571
10599;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER BHE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10572;;10572
1059A;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER CE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10573;;10573
1059B;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER CHE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10574;;10574
1059C;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER DE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10575;;10575
1059D;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER DHE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10576;;10576
1059E;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER E;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10577;;10577
1059F;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER EH;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10578;;10578
105A0;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER FE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10579;;10579
105A1;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER GE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;1057A;;1057A
105A2;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER GJE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;1057B;;1057B
105A3;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER HE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;1057C;;1057C
105A4;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER KHI;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;1057D;;1057D
105A5;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER I;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;1057E;;1057E
105A6;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER IJE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;1057F;;1057F
105A7;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER JE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10580;;10580
105A8;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER KE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10581;;10581
105A9;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER LE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10582;;10582
105AA;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER LLE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10583;;10583
105AB;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER ME;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10584;;10584
105AC;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER NE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10585;;10585
105AD;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER NJE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10586;;10586
105AE;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER O;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10587;;10587
105AF;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER PE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10588;;10588
105B0;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER QE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10589;;10589
105B1;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER RE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;1058A;;1058A
105B2;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER RRE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;1058B;;1058B
105B3;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER SE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;1058C;;1058C
105B4;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER SHE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;1058D;;1058D
105B5;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER TE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;1058E;;1058E
105B6;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER THE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;1058F;;1058F
105B7;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER U;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10590;;10590
105B8;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER VE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10591;;10591
105B9;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER XE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10592;;10592
105BA;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER XHE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10593;;10593
105BB;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER Y;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10594;;10594
105BC;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER ZE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10595;;10595
105BD;VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER ZHE;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;10596;;10596
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Initiative at UC Berkeley) in respect of the Vithkuqi encoding. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the National Endowment of the Humanities.

Figures.

SCHRIFT BÜTHAKUKYE'S.

Zeichen	Wert	Zeichen	Wert	Zeichen	Wert	Zeichen	Wert	Zeichen	Wert	Zeichen	Wert
Ꝏ ᴀ	a a	Ꙋ ꙟ	w v	ℓ ℓ	th	ϴ	n n	ⱦ ⱦ	t t	Ꞩ ꞩ	ts x
ℰℛ	e ë,e	ꜧ Ɛ Ɛ	b b,β	ꙮ ⱳ	dz z	Ꞃ ꞃ	ṅ nj	Ꝟ ꙡ	f f		
ꙃ ɩ	i i	Ꙅ ꙅ	g g	Ꙡ ᴀ	k k	Ꙇ ꙇ	p p	ꙙ ꙙ	χ h		
Ꝋ ꝋ	o o	ꜧ ꜧ	y j	Ꙡ́ ᴀ́	k' q	ꙗ ꙗ	r r	Ꝓ ꝓ	ks kh		
Ꙋ ᴠ	i̧ u	ꙇ ꙇ	ð dh	Ꙣ ꙣ	l l,ll	Ꙋ ꙟ	z s	ꙏ ꙏ	ts c		
Ꙋ̇ ᴠ̇	ü y	ꞇ ꞇ	d d	Ꙅ ꙅ	m m	Ꙋ̄ ꙟ̄	s' sh	Ꙋ̊ ꙟ̊	ts' ç		

Figure 1. Faulmann's 1880 chart of Vithkuqi. Modern letter values in red.
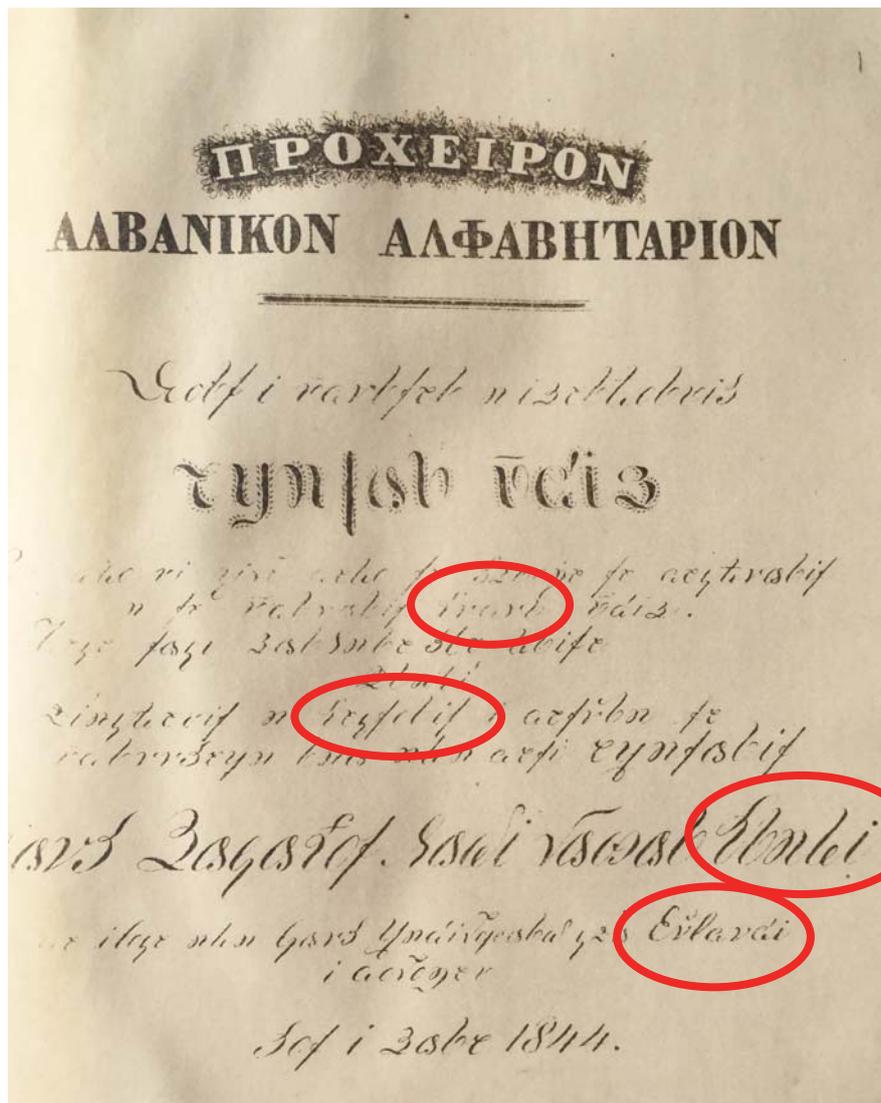
Figure 2. Title page of the .1844 edition of Veqilharxhi's primer.
Circled in red are the words ꜧⱴᴀⱴ *Bukur*, ꜧⱬꝝꝋⱬ *Bëntorit*, ꜧⱳꙟꙇ *Bredhi*, and Ɛ̃ꙟᴀⱴᴀꙇ *Bythkuqi*
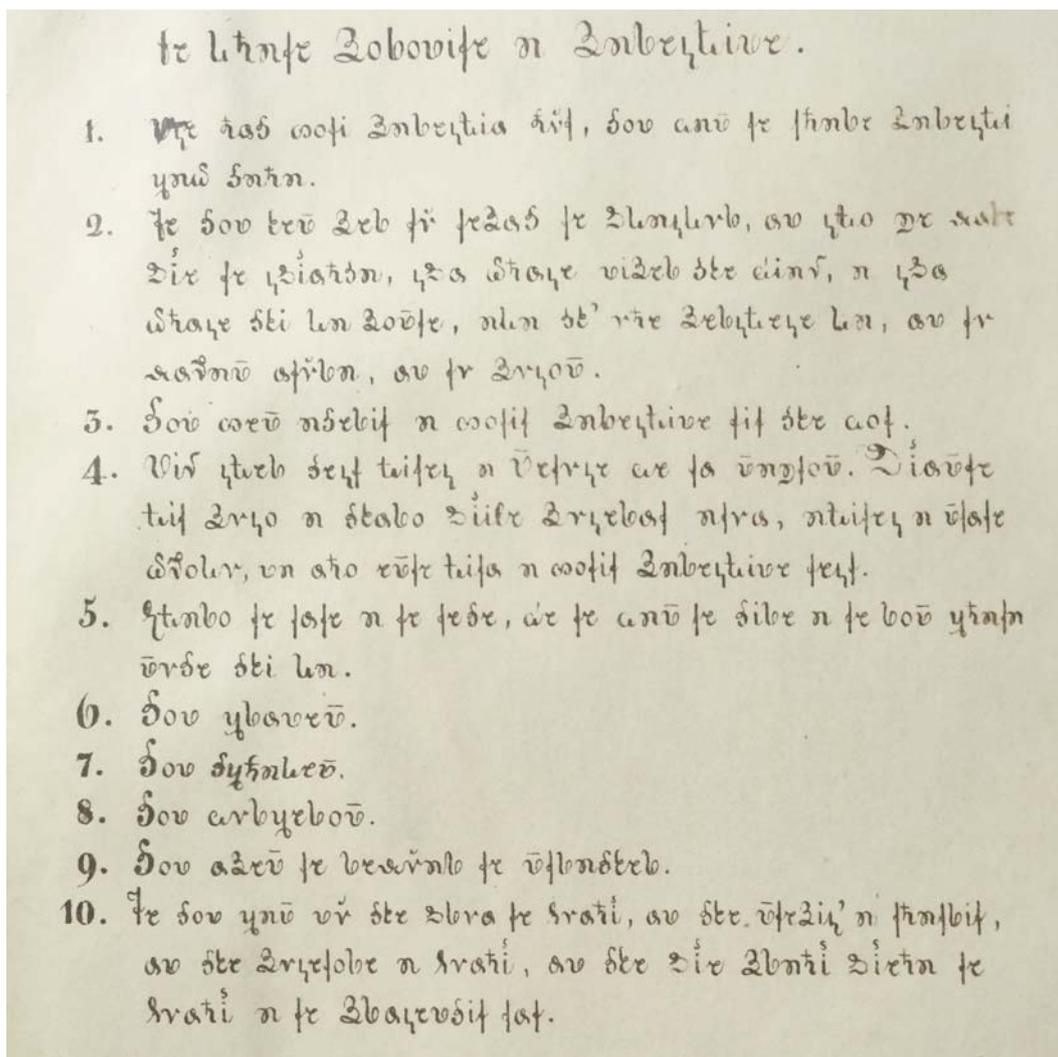
Figure 3. The Ten Commandments from the 1844 edition of Veqilharxhi's primer. The text reads:

Të dhjetë porositë e perëndisë

1. S̶Unë jam zoti perëndia jyt, mos kesh të tjerë perëndi veç meje.
2. Të mos bësh për ty tëpam të gdhendur, as ndo një farë gjë të ngjajmë, nga çjanë sipër mbë qiell, e nga çjanë mbi dhe poshtë edhe mb' ujë përndënë dhe, as tu falesh atyre, as tu punosh.
3. Mos zësh emërit e zotit perëndisë tit mbë kot.
4. Sill ndër mënt ditën e shëtunë kë ta shenjtosh. Gjashtë dit puno e mbaro gjithë punërat etua, editën e shtatë çlodhu, se ajo dita e zotit perëndisë tënt.
5. Ndero të tatë e të tëmë, që të kesh të mirë e të rosh vjete shumë mbi dhe.
6. Mos vrasësh.
7. Mos mvjedhësh.
8. Mos kurvërosh.
9. Mos apësh të rëfyer të shtrembër.
10. Të mos vesh sy mbë grua të huaji, as mbë shtëpin' e tjetrit, as mbë punëtorë e huaji, as mbë gjë preji gjëje të huaji e të pranësmit tat.

8
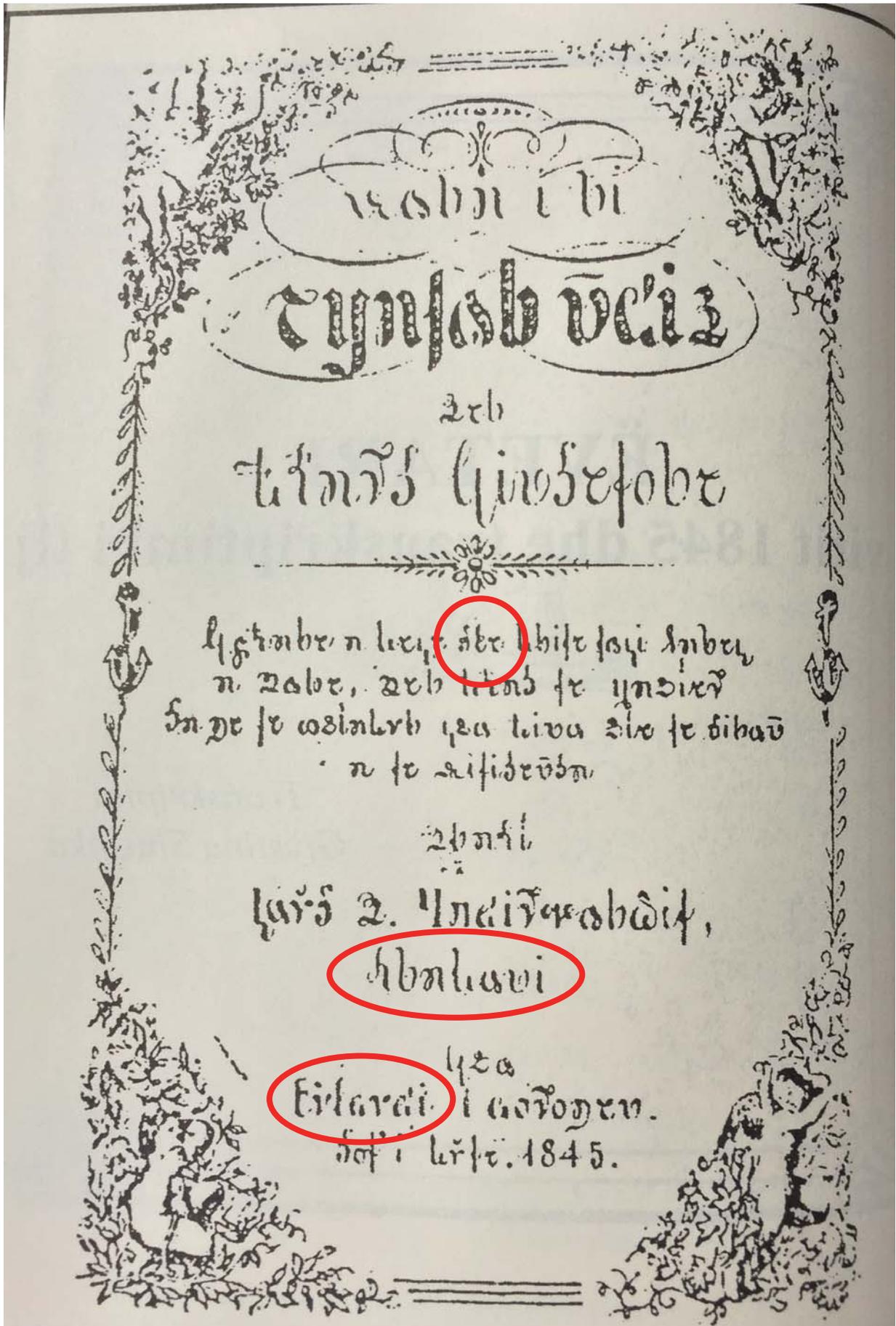
Figure 4. Title page of the .1844 edition of Veqilharxhi's primer.
Circled in red are the words ꭰꮓꮃ *mbë*, ꮷꮂꮃꮲꭲ *Bredhasi*, and Ɛꮲꮮꭰꮳꭲ *Bythkuqi*

Figure 5. From page 34 of the 1845 edition of Veqilharxhi's primer. The name ꞁꞁꞮꞮꞁ *Ḥam* has been circled.

Figure 6. From page 35 of the 1845 edition of Veqilharxhi's primer. Here the word ꞁꞁꞁꞁꞁꞁ *gërbjë* (an archaic word for 'tower') is circled twice. In the second instance it is printed larger, though still in lower-case as the B should appear differently in all caps: ꞁꞁꞁꞁꞁꞁ *GËRBJË*.

Figure 7. From page 41 of the 1845 edition of Veqilharxhi's primer.
The name ℒαγααγ *Hanaan* 'Canaan' has been circled.

Figure 8. From page 51 of the 1845 edition of Veqilharxhi's primer.
On the last line is the word 𝔊ℏⅆℬℏ𝔊 *MBARIM* 'END', though again it has the lower-case shape of the b,
as though it were 𝔊ℰⅆℬⅈ𝔊 *mbarim* 'end'.

Figure 9. An unfortunately poor scan of some font repertoires, perhaps from Veqilharxhi's primer.
The transcription of the top two sections is:

Ⴍ, Ⴇ, Ⴖ, ⴑ, Ⴍ, Ⴕ, Ⴛ̌, Ⴗ, ⴠ,
 A, Ë, E, I, O, U, Y, V, B[1],

Ⴃ, Ⴢ, ⴠ, Ⴊ, Ⴒ, Ⴊ, Ⴍ, Ⴉ, Ⴉ́,
B[2], G, J, DH, D, TH, Z, K, Q,

Ⴤ, Ⴥ̃, Ⴆ, ⴋ, Ⴌ, Ⴋ, Ⴑ, Ⴓ, Ⴓ̄,
LL, L, M, N, NJ, P, R, S, SH,

Ⴕ, Ⴑ, ⴏ, ⴁⴚ, ⴣ, Ⴥ, Ⴒ
T, F, H[1], H[2], C, Ç, X

Ⴍ, Ⴇ, Ⴖ, ⴑ, o, Ⴕ, Ⴛ̌, Ⴗ, ⴠ, Ⴢ, ⴠ,
 a, ë, e, i, o, u, y, v, b, g, j,

Ⴊ, Ⴒ, Ⴊ, Ⴍ, Ⴉ, Ⴉ́, Ⴤ, Ⴥ̃, Ⴆ, ⴋ, Ⴌ,
dh, d, th, z, k, q, ll, l, m, n, nj,

Ⴥ, Ⴒ, Ⴓ, Ⴓ̄, Ⴕ, Ⴑ, ⴏ, ⴁⴚ, ⴣ, Ⴥ, Ⴒ
p, r, s, sh, t, f, h[1], h[2], c, ç, x

	1057	1058	1059	105A	105B
0	10570	10580	10590	105A0	105B0
1	10571	10581	10591	105A1	105B1
2	10572	10582	10592	105A2	105B2
3	10573	10583	10593	105A3	105B3
4	10574	10584	10594	105A4	105B4
5	10575	10585	10595	105A5	105B5
6	10576	10586	10596	105A6	105B6
7	10577	10587	10597	105A7	105B7
8	10578	10588	10598	105A8	105B8
9	10579	10589	10599	105A9	105B9
A	1057A	1058A	1059A	105AA	105BA
B	1057B	1058B	1059B	105AB	105BB
C	1057C	1058C	1059C	105AC	105BC
D	1057D	1058D	1059D	105AD	105BD
E	1057E	1058E	1059E	105AE	
F	1057F	1058F	1059F	105AF	

Capital letters

10570	ꕰ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER A
10571	ꕱ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER BE
10572	Ɛ̃	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER BHE
10573	ꕳ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER CE
10574	ꕴ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER CHE
10575	ꕵ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER DE
10576	ꕶ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER DHE
10577	ꕷ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER E
10578	ꕸ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER EH
10579	ꕹ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER FE
1057A	ꕺ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER GE
1057B	ꕻ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER GJE
		• innovation for modern use
1057C	ꕼ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER HE
1057D	ꕽ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER KHI
1057E	ꕾ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER I
1057F	ꕿ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER IJE
		• used in 19th-century orthography
10580	ꖀ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER JE
10581	ꖁ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER KE
10582	ꖂ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER LE
10583	ꖃ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER LLE
10584	ꖄ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER ME
10585	ꖅ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER NE
10586	ꖆ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER NJE
10587	ꖇ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER O
10588	ꖈ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER PE
10589	ꖉ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER QE
1058A	ꖊ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER RE
1058B	ꖋ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER RRE
		• innovation for modern use
1058C	ꖌ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER SE
1058D	ꖍ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER SHE
1058E	ꖎ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER TE
1058F	ꖏ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER THE
10590	ꖐ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER U
10591	ꖑ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER VE
10592	ꖒ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER XE
10593	ꖓ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER XHE
		• innovation for modern use
10594	ꖔ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER Y
10595	ꖕ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER ZE
10596	ꖖ	VITHKUQI CAPITAL LETTER ZHE
		• innovation for modern use

Small letters

10597	ꖗ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER A
10598	ꖘ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER BE
10599	ε	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER BHE
1059A	ꖚ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER CE
1059B	ꖛ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER CHE
1059C	ꖜ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER DE
1059D	ꖝ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER DHE
1059E	ꖞ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER E
1059F	ꖟ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER EH
105A0	ꖠ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER FE
105A1	ꖡ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER GE
105A2	ꖢ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER GJE
		• innovation for modern use
105A3	ꖣ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER HE
105A4	ꖤ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER KHI
105A5	ꖥ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER I
105A6	ꖦ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER IJE
		• used in 19th-century orthography
105A7	ꖧ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER JE
105A8	ꖨ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER KE
105A9	ꖩ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER LE

105AA	ꖪ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER LLE
105AB	ꖫ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER ME
105AC	ꖬ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER NE
105AD	ꖭ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER NJE
105AE	o	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER O
105AF	ꖯ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER PE
105B0	ꖰ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER QE
105B1	ꖱ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER RE
105B2	ꖲ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER RRE
		• innovation for modern use
105B3	ꖳ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER SE
105B4	ꖴ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER SHE
105B5	ꖵ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER TE
105B6	ꖶ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER THE
105B7	ꖷ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER U
105B8	ꖸ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER VE
105B9	ꖹ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER XE
105BA	ꖺ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER XHE
		• innovation for modern use
105BB	ꖻ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER Y
105BC	ꖼ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER ZE
105BD	ꖽ	VITHKUQI SMALL LETTER ZHE
		• innovation for modern use

A. Administrative

1. Title
Preliminary proposal for encoding the Vithkuqi script in the SMP of the UCS
2. Requester's name
UC Berkeley Script Encoding Initiative (Universal Scripts Project)
3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution)
Liaison contribution.
4. Submission date
2020-07-08
5. Requester's reference (if applicable)
6. Choose one of the following:
6a. This is a complete proposal
No.
6b. More information will be provided later
Yes.

B. Technical – General

1. Choose one of the following:
1a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters)
Yes.
1b. Proposed name of script
Vithkuqi.
1c. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block
No.
1d. Name of the existing block
2. Number of characters in proposal
78.
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 E.
4a. Is a repertoire including character names provided?
Yes.
4b. If YES, are the names in accordance with the "character naming guidelines" in Annex L of P&P document?
Yes.
4c. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review?
Yes.
5a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font (ordered preference: True Type, or PostScript format) for publishing the standard?
Jaon Glavy via Michael Everson.
5b. If available now, identify source(s) for the font (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.) and indicate the tools used:
Michael Everson, FontLab.
6a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?
Yes.
6b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of proposed characters attached?
Yes.
7. 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.
8. 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. Examples of such properties are: Casing information, Numeric information, Currency information, Display behaviour information such as line breaks, widths etc., Combining behaviour, Spacing behaviour, Directional behaviour, Default Collation behaviour, relevance in Mark Up contexts, Compatibility equivalence and other Unicode normalization related information. See the Unicode standard at http://www.unicode.org for such information on other scripts. Also see Unicode Character Database http://www.unicode.org/Public/UNIDATA/ UnicodeCharacterDatabase.html and associated Unicode Technical Reports for information needed for consideration by the Unicode Technical Committee for inclusion in the Unicode Standard.
See above.

C. Technical – Justification

1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before? If YES, explain.
No.
2a. 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, in L2/09-328.
2b. If YES, with whom?
Robert Elsie, Stiven Llupa, Edon Muhaxheri.
2c. 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?
See above.

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

To write the Albanian language.

4b. Reference

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

Yes.

5b. If YES, where?

In scholarly publications.

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

No.

6b. If YES, is a rationale provided?

6c. 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 (see clauses 4.12 and 4.14 in ISO/IEC 10646-1: 2000)?

No.

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

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?