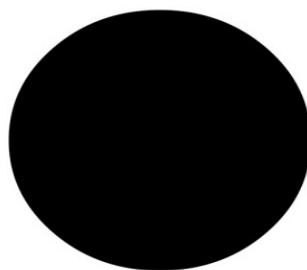
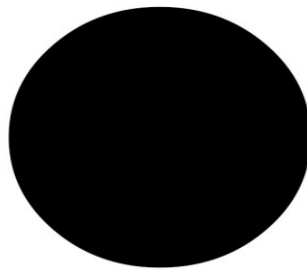




**PROPOSAL to INCLUDE  
PUNCTUATION of  
OLD TURKIC**



# **Proposal to Include Punctuation of Old Turkic**

Old Turkic Punctuation as two variants: Multiple Punctuation and  
Single Punctuation

YAZGA



February 6, 2024

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# Proposal to Include Punctuation of Old Turkic

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# **Proposal to Include Punctuation of Old Turkic**

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## Abstract

The Punctuation of Old Turkic writing system is not in Unicode. It is clearly an inseparable part of the script.

In this proposal we provide the evidence that these characters have been used and show an example case in another script.

## Introduction

Old Turkic writing system has punctuation. The character is common and is a standard symbol.

This punctuation is : **(multiple)** and sometimes a variant is used as • **(single)**.

Since there are two variants, two consecutive CodePoints are needed in the Unicode Standard.

## Suitability for inclusion

These symbols are characters according to the definition in the Glossary, and do not appear in the Archive of Notices of Non-Approval. As of this writing, they are not included in the Unicode Pipeline Table or BETA.

Non-inclusion of these symbols would impair researchers, historians, technical writers and readers since punctuation is part of Old Turkic writing system and must be used.

# Evidence of use

fig. 1 and fig. 2 show evidence of the use of each of these variants in ancient media. fig. 3 shows an example in a modern document.

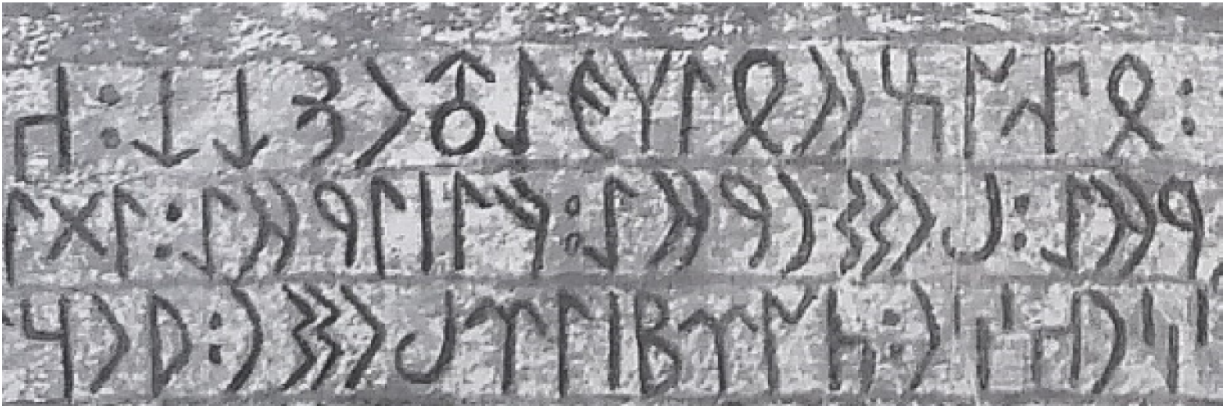


Figure 1: Example of : usage in running text from Second Tonyukuk Monument (image taken from Radloff (1995))

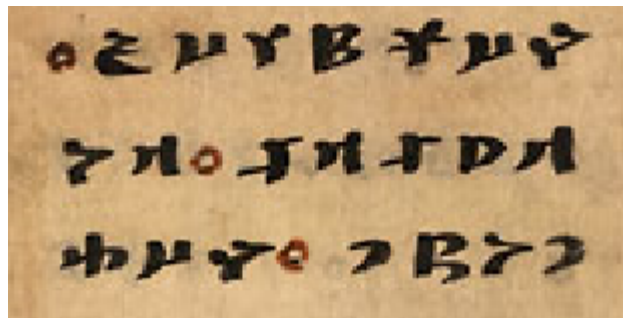


Figure 2: Example of • usage in running text from Irk Bitig (image taken from Guru (750AD))

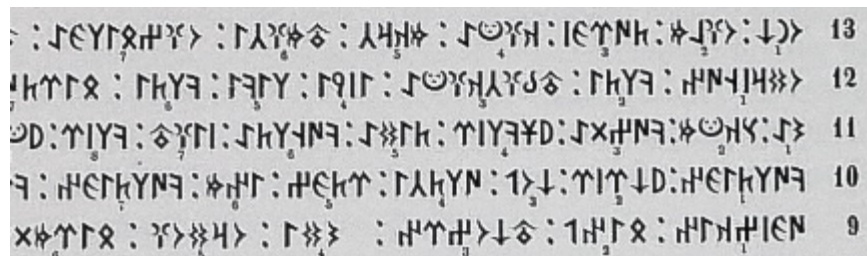


Figure 3: Example of usage in one of the publications of W. Radloff (image taken from Radloff (1995))

# How the punctuation is used

Old Turkic Punctuation is used between words as well as punctuation at the end of a sentence and a fin of a paragraph. Briefly it is used as:

- Word separator
- Phrase separator
- Sentence separator

## Character properties

Old Turkic is in Plane 1 (SMP) and is a right-to-left script, therefore punctuation should follow suite. Proposed characters should be placed directly after last character which is **𐰽 BASH 10C48**. Proposed characters should be kept together in a contiguous range.

Suggested character properties for the proposed glyphs are:

1. 10C49;OLD TURKIC MULTIPLE PUNCTUATION;Po;0;R;N;
2. 10C4A;OLD TURKIC SINGLE PUNCTUATION;Po;0;R;N;

Proposed glyphs are given in [tbl. 1](#) below.

Table 1: Proposed characters

No	Property	Name	CodePoint
1	:	Multiple Punctuation	10C49
2	•	Single Punctuation	10C4A

These two are essentially same character with an artistic difference similar to many of the same glyph (which already exist in the Old Turkic Block) with Orkhon and Yenisei variant.

An example punctuation can be found in Runic Script which is shown in [tbl. 2](#) below.

Table 2: Punctuation example From Runic

No	Property	Name	CodePoint
1	•	Single Punctuation	16EB
2	:	Multiple Punctuation	16EC

## Drawing the symbols

The proposed characters are part of Old Turkic. They may seem similar in appearance to other characters and could be confused. Examples are given below.

- Proposed : **Multiple Punctuation 10C49** compared to **Colon 003A**
- Proposed : **Multiple Punctuation 10C49** compared to **Two Dot Punctuation 205A**
- Proposed • **Single Punctuation 10C4A** compared to **Full Stop 002E**

To avoid confusion these considerations should be regarded properly.

## Other Considerations

Other characters such as **Two Dot Punctuation 205A** is being used to fulfill the need for punctuation for the time being. But these are problematic like sprinkling a left-to-right character over a right-to-left text body and cause some challenges in terms of text styling, word-



wrapping etc. Therefore Old Turkic Block should have its own punctuation.

Since the punctuation is also used as a space in the Old Turkic writing it should do line-breaking in the digital version.

## **Summary and conclusion**

The punctuation symbol : and its variant • are part of Old Turkic writing system and it is necessary that they are included in Unicode.

If a real world example desired to be seen please see [YAZGA - APP](#)

## **Correspondence**

Email and other information can be found at [YAZGA - HOME](#)

## **References**

- Guru. 750AD. *Irk Bitig*. British Library: British Library.
- Radloff, Wilhelm. 1995. *The Atlas of Historical Works in Mongolia (Selected Pages)*. Ankara: Turkish International Cooperation Agency - TICA.

**ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2  
PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM TO ACCOMPANY SUBMISSIONS  
FOR ADDITIONS TO THE REPERTOIRE OF ISO/IEC 10646<sup>1</sup>**

**Please fill all the sections A, B and C below.**

Please read Principles and Procedures Document (P & P) from <http://std.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/principles.html> for guidelines and details before filling this form.

Please ensure you are using the latest Form from <http://std.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/summaryform.html>.

See also <http://std.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/roadmaps.html> for latest *Roadmaps*.

**A. Administrative**

1. Title:	<b>Proposal to Include Punctuation of Old Turkic</b>
2. Requester's name:	YAZGA
3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution):	Individual contribution
4. Submission date:	February 8, 2024
5. Requester's reference (if applicable):	
6. Choose one of the following:	
This is a complete proposal:	Yes
(or) More information will be provided later:	

**B. Technical – General**

1. Choose one of the following:		
a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters):		
Proposed name of script:		
b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block:	Yes	
Name of the existing block:	Old Turkic	
2. Number of characters in proposal:	2	
3. Proposed category (select one from below - see section 2.2 of P&P document):		
A-Contemporary <input type="checkbox"/>	B.1-Specialized (small collection) <input type="checkbox"/>	B.2-Specialized (large collection) <input type="checkbox"/>
C-Major extinct <input type="checkbox"/>	D-Attested extinct <input type="checkbox"/>	E-Minor extinct <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
F-Archaic Hieroglyphic or Ideographic <input type="checkbox"/>	G-Obscure or questionable usage symbols <input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Is a repertoire including character names provided?	Yes	
a. If YES, are the names in accordance with the "character naming guidelines" in Annex L of P&P document?	Yes	
b. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review?		
5. Fonts related:		
a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font to the Project Editor of 10646 for publishing the standard?	YAZGA	
b. Identify the party granting a license for use of the font by the editors (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.):	<a href="https://yazga.dev/">https://yazga.dev/</a>	
6. References:		
a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?	Yes	
b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of proposed characters attached?	Yes	
7. Special encoding issues:		
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)?	No	

**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. 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/reports/tr44/> ) and associated Unicode Technical Reports for information needed for consideration by the Unicode Technical Committee for inclusion in the Unicode Standard.

<sup>1</sup> Form number: N4502-F (Original 1994-10-14; Revised 1995-01, 1995-04, 1996-04, 1996-08, 1999-03, 2001-05, 2001-09, 2003-11, 2005-01, 2005-09, 2005-10, 2007-03, 2008-05, 2009-11, 2011-03, 2012-01)

**C. Technical - Justification**

1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before? If YES explain _____	<i>No</i>
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.)? If YES, with whom? _____ If YES, available relevant documents: _____	<i>No</i>
3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example: size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included? Reference: _____	<i>No</i>
4. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare) Reference: _____	<i>Yes</i> <i>Proposal document</i>
5. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community? If YES, where? Reference: _____	<i>Yes</i> <i>Proposal document</i>
6. After giving due considerations to the principles in the P&P document must the proposed characters be entirely in the BMP? If YES, is a rationale provided? _____ If YES, reference: _____	<i>No</i>
7. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)?	<i>Yes</i>
8. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence? If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided? _____ If YES, reference: _____	<i>No</i>
9. Can any of the proposed characters be encoded using a composed character sequence of either existing characters or other proposed characters? If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided? _____ If YES, reference: _____	<i>No</i>
10. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to, or could be confused with, an existing character? If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided? _____ If YES, reference: _____	<i>Yes</i> <i>Yes</i> <i>Proposal document</i>
11. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences? If YES, is a rationale for such use provided? _____ If YES, reference: _____ Is a list of composite sequences and their corresponding glyph images (graphic symbols) provided? _____ If YES, reference: _____	<i>No</i>
12. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as control function or similar semantics? If YES, describe in detail (include attachment if necessary) _____ _____	<i>No</i>
13. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility characters? If YES, are the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic characters identified? If YES, reference: _____	<i>No</i>