



Title: Proposal to Encode the JAIN OM for Devanagari in ISO/IEC 10646
Source: Script Encoding Initiative (SEI)
Author: Anshuman Pandey (pandey@umich.edu)
Status: Liaison Contribution
Action: For consideration by UTC and WG2
Date: 2013-04-25



1 Introduction

This is a proposal to encode a new character in the ‘Devanagari Extended’ block of the Universal Character Set. Proposed properties of the character are as follows:

GLYPH	CODE	CHARACTER NAME	GC	CCC	BIDI	MIRRORED	LINEBREAK
	A8FD	DEVANAGARI JAIN OM	Lo	0	L	N	AL

2 Description

The  DEVANAGARI JAIN OM is used in Jain texts written in Devanagari. It occurs in both the ‘Jain Nagari’ style and in modern Devanagari. It is used in manuscripts and printed materials and websites, in text and in display environments, such as emblems, paintings, and other ornamental media (see figures for examples).

The DEVANAGARI JAIN OM is graphically distinct from the  U+0950 DEVANAGARI OM. When in a word environment, its headstroke may extend rightward past the descender to join with the following letter (see figure 3). It bears some structural similarity to the sign  used in the Ranjana script for representing *om*, but there are several differences between the two.

The DEVANAGARI JAIN OM represents the sound and concept of *om* as do related OM characters in other scripts. However, Jain iconology has an extended conceptualization of the sign that is based upon its graphical structure: the sign is written using five strokes, which represent the *pañca-parameṣṭhi* “five great entities” (see figures 7 and 8).

Similar to DEVANAGARI OM and distinctive OM characters in other scripts, there is a requirement for representing DEVANAGARI JAIN OM in plain text. For these reasons, it cannot be treated as a glyphic variant of DEVANAGARI OM or be unified with other characters already encoded in the UCS. It must be encoded separately.

3 Character Data

Character Properties Character properties given in the data format of `UnicodeData.txt`:

```
A8FD;DEVANAGARI JAIN OM;Lo;0;L;;;;;N;;;;;
```

Linebreaking Properties Linebreaking properties given in the data format of `LineBreak.txt`:

```
A8FD;AL # DEVANAGARI JAIN OM
```

4 Acknowledgments

I would like to thank Srinidhi (Kendriya Vidyalaya, Tumkur, Karnataka) for contacting me regarding the DEVANAGARI JAIN OM and for requesting that I propose it for encoding in Unicode, and for providing specimens of manuscripts containing the character.

This project was made possible in part with support from the Script Encoding Initiative at the University of California, Berkeley.

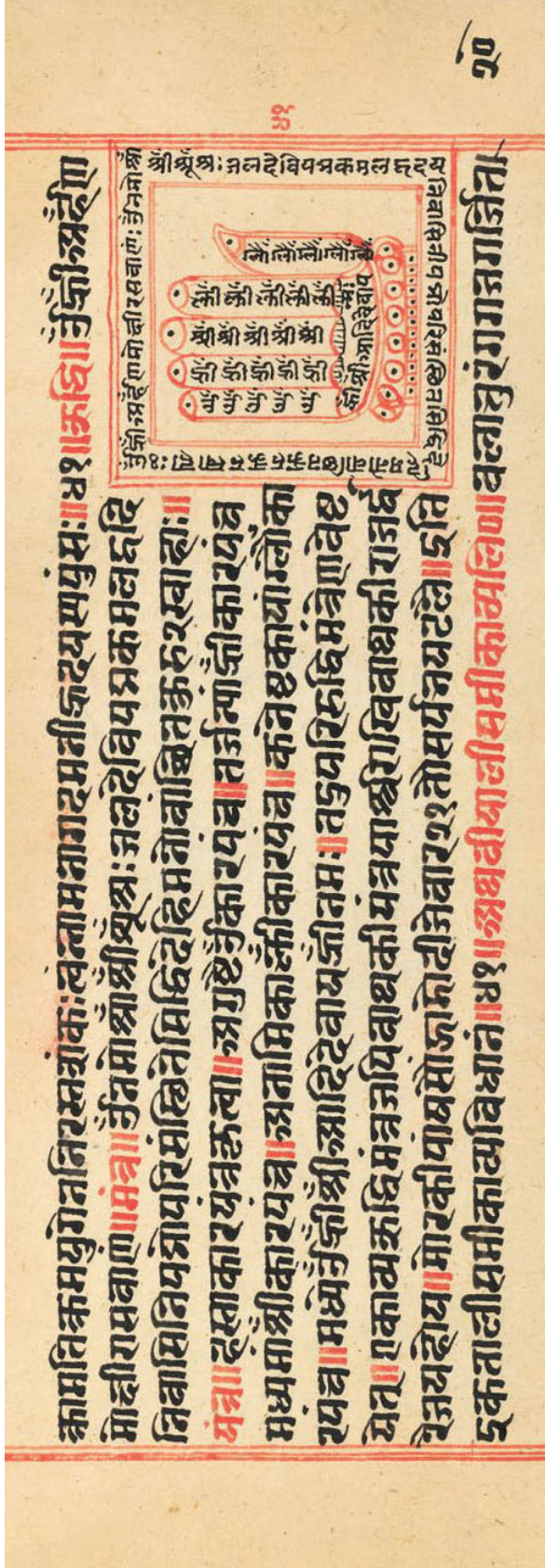


Figure 1: The use of DEVANAGARI JAIN OM in a folio of a cosmological manuscript written in 'Jain Nagari'. The bottom image shows the occurrences of the sign in the folio.

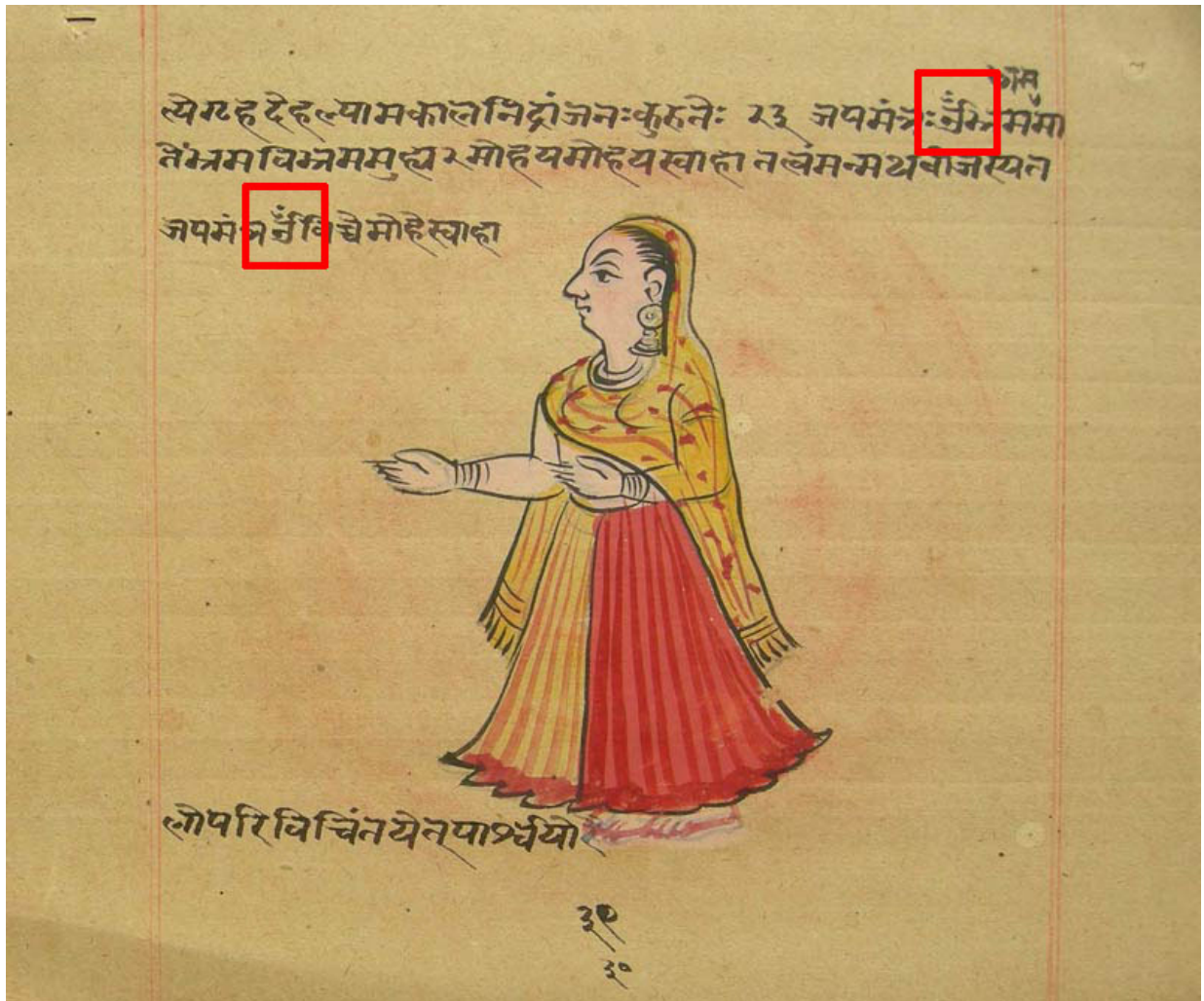


Figure 2: The use of DEVANAGARI JAIN OM in a manuscript written in modern Devanagari.

JAINA: Federation of Jain Associations in North America

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1/30/2013
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Figure 5: The DEVANAGARI JAIN OM used in-line on the website of the Federation of Jain Associations in North America (<http://www.jaina.org/>).

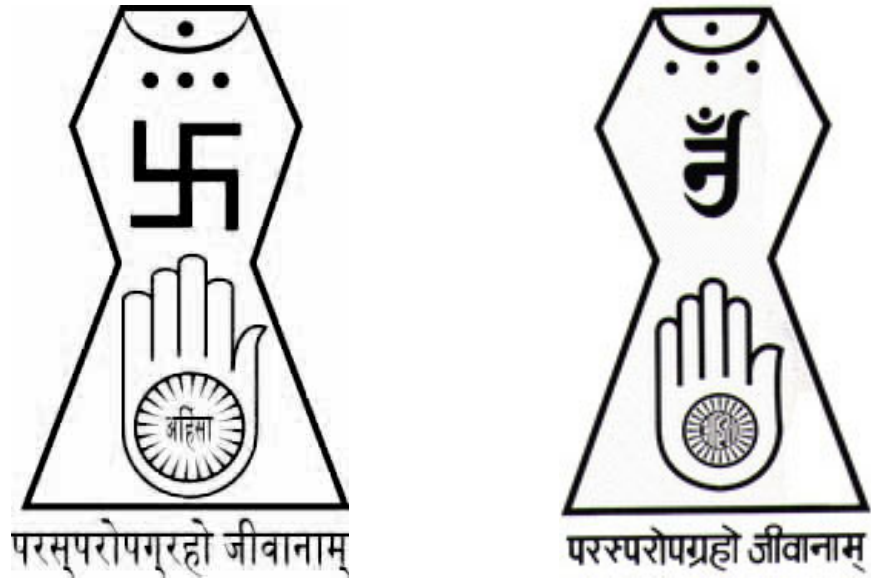


Figure 6: The standard Jain symbol (left) and a modified version (right), which uses the DEVANAGARI JAIN OM instead of the 卐 *svastika*. This version is used by the Federation of Jain Associations in North America, as shown in the mast of the website excerpt in figure 5.

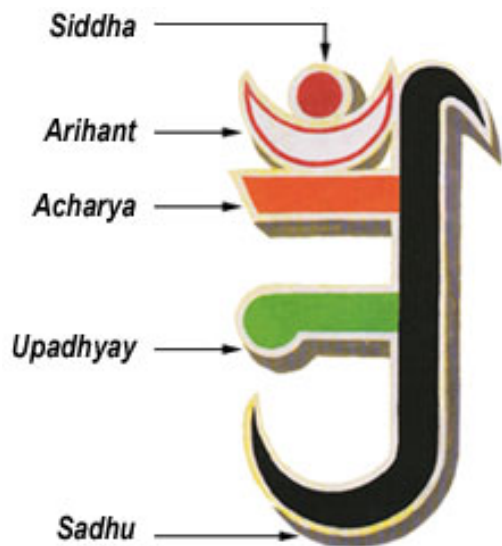


Figure 7: Traditional analysis of components of the DEVANAGARI JAIN OM.



Figure 8: Traditional analysis of components of the DEVANAGARI JAIN OM.



Figure 9: The DEVANAGARI JAIN OM in marble with *pañca-parameṣṭhi* on a wall of a Jain temple at Shri Shatrunjaya Tirtha in Palitana, Gujarat.



Figure 10: Oil painting of the DEVANAGARI JAIN OM by Udayraj Gadnis.



Figure 11: An opaque watercolor painting from Jaipur, c.1840, of the DEVANAGARI JAIN OM.



Figure 12: A slight glyphic variant of DEVANAGARI JAIN OM in which a protrusion extends out of the dot.

**ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2
PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM TO ACCOMPANY SUBMISSIONS
FOR ADDITIONS TO THE REPERTOIRE OF ISO/IEC 10646¹**

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

Please read Principles and Procedures Document (P & P) from <http://www.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://www.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/summaryform.html>.

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

A. Administrative

1. Title:	Proposal to Encode the JAIN OM for Devanagari in ISO/IEC 10646
2. Requester's name:	<i>Script Encoding Initiative (SEI) / Anshuman Pandey (pandey@umich.edu)</i>
3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution):	<i>Liaison contribution</i>
4. Submission date:	<i>2013-04-25</i>
5. Requester's reference (if applicable):	
6. Choose one of the following:	
This is a complete proposal:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
(or) More information will be provided later:	<input type="checkbox"/>

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:		
Name of the existing block:	<i>Devanagari Extended</i>	
2. Number of characters in proposal:	<i>1</i>	
3. Proposed category (select one from below - see section 2.2 of P&P document):		
A-Contemporary <input checked="" 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 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?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	
a. If YES, are the names in accordance with the "character naming guidelines" in Annex L of P&P document?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	
b. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	
5. Fonts related:		
a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font to the Project Editor of 10646 for publishing the standard?	<i>Anshuman Pandey</i>	
b. Identify the party granting a license for use of the font by the editors (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.):	<i>Anshuman Pandey (pandey@umich.edu)</i>	
6. References:		
a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	
b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of proposed characters attached?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	

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.

¹ Form number: N4102-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	No
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:	Yes <i>Users belonging to the Jain community and Jain organizations</i>
3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example: size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included? Reference:	Yes <i>The character is used by the Jain community and by scholars who study Jain manuscripts</i>
4. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare) Reference:	Common <i>The character is currently and commonly used in text and display environments</i>
5. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community? If YES, where? Reference:	Yes
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:	Yes Yes <i>The Devanagari Extended block is in the BMP</i>
7. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)?	N/A
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:	No
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:	No
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:	No
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:	No No
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)	No
13. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility characters? If YES, are the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic characters identified? If YES, reference:	No