

Tai Nüa

Analysis by Michael Everson (1999-01-13) of N966,
Proposal for encoding Dehong Dai script on BMP of ISO/IEC 10646, from China, 1994-01.

The names Tai Mau, Dehong Dai and Laai Dai have also been used for this script. A thorough analysis of the script must be undertaken. Of concern are the following features:

1. Order is a bit peculiar vis à vis Brahmic.
2. x14 — x20 are vowels, but are they used as letters or as vowel signs?
3. x21 — x2C appear to be vowels with final consonants that could be represented as consonants + (invisible) virama, or – depending how these are used – by six unique coded finals.
4. “Tones” x2D — x31 are undefined.
5. x3B is called DIGIT TEN but is probably DIGIT ZERO.
6. Note that the original unclear photocopy of N966 was based on a bitmap font printed with a weak ribbon; I have tried to fill in some of the gaps in the scan.

	0	1	2	3
0	000	016	032	048
1	1 001	2 017	3 033	4 049
2	2 002	3 018	4 034	5 050
3	3 003	4 019	5 035	6 051
4	4 004	5 020	6 036	7 052
5	5 005	6 021	7 037	8 053
6	6 006	7 022	8 038	9 054
7	7 007	8 023	9 039	0 055
8	8 008	9 024	0 040	2 056
9	9 009	0 025	1 041	1 057
A	A 010	1 026	2 042	3 058
B	B 011	2 027	3 043	0 059
C	C 012	3 028	4 044	6 060
D	D 013	4 029	5 045	7 061
E	E 014	5 030	6 046	8 062
F	F 015	6 031	7 047	9 063

x00	SPACE	x20	OI
x01	GA	x21	UM
x02	HA	x22	UN
x03	NGA	x23	UNG
x04	ZA	x24	UB
x05	SA	x25	UD
x06	YA	x26	UG
x07	DA	x27	OM
x08	TA	x28	ON
x09	LA	x29	ONG
x0A	BA	x2A	OB
x0B	PA	x2B	OD
x0C	MA	x2C	OG
x0D	FA	x2D	TONE
x0E	WA	x2E	TONE
x0F	HHA	x2F	TONE
x10	QA	x30	TONE
x11	K	x31	TONE
x12	C	x32	DIGIT ONE
x13	NA	x33	DIGIT TWO
x14	A	x34	DIGIT THREE
x15	I	x35	DIGIT FOUR
x16	IE	x36	DIGIT FIVE
x17	IA	x37	DIGIT SIX
x18	U	x38	DIGIT SEVEN
x19	O	x39	DIGIT EIGHT
x1A	UA	x3A	DIGIT NINE
x1B	EE	x3B	DIGIT TEN
x1C	E	x3C	reserved
x1D	AI	x3D	reserved
x1E	AE	x3E	reserved
x1F	UI	x3F	reserved