Korea JTC1/SC2, Committee on Character Codes

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Status: NB position
Subject: R.O.Korea's comments RE: IRG N1771 (Japan's Proposal of Oracle Bone Coding Framework)
Relevant documents: IRN N1771

1. Related IRG resolution (M36.2): 

Resolution IRG M36.9: Old Hanzi Encoding Architecture Unanimous
Action: All Member Bodies

The IRG accepts the recommendation from the Old Hanzi Expert Group and requests its members to review IRGN1771 and provides feedback for discussion in IRG#37.

2. R.O.Korea's feedback:

R.O.Korea discussed this issue within domestic committee and concluded as follows:

R.O.Korea thinks Japan's approach using character glyph model is appropriate.
Some comments RE: IRG N1771 are shown below:

2.1 Criteria for selecting/choosing a representative form/glyph

- In Table in IRG N1771: Character - Glyph mapping for sample code chart on page 4, out of several glyphs, one character is chosen as a representative form or glyph. R.O.Korea wonders if a consensus is made within Old Hanzi group regarding a criterion for selecting a representative form out of several glyphs. (In N1771, there seems no such explanation.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HEX</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>CHAR</th>
<th>Glyphs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XX000</td>
<td>ORACLE BONE ORIGIN</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XX001</td>
<td>ORACLE BONE AFFAIR</td>
<td></td>
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2.2 Displaying a character: a mechanism to select a specific variant?

Unlike ordinary CJK ideographs, there seem not so small variations among glyphs belonging to one character. R.O.Korea wonders, once Oracle Bone characters are encoded, if one representative glyph will be used for display or somehow different glyph will be selected using some mechanism.

When we consider encoding Oracle Bone characters, it will be better to consider display issue at the same time. Therefore, R.O.Korea suggests that the current proposal N1771 be augmented with display issue.

(Of course, it is not necessary to use one fixed display method for displaying Oracle Bone characters; however, we need to consider what alternative(s) can be used for displaying Oracle Bone characters.)

2.3 Names of Oracle Bone characters

In N1771, names have meaning of the character such as “ORIGIN”, “AFFAIR”. If we are going to encode thousands of Oracle Bone characters, will it be desirable to name characters in that way? Or will be better not to include meaning in character names as we did with CJK unified or CJK compatible character names.

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