Zaima Styling Use Cases & CSS Limitation Exploration

intended audience: W3C reviewers familiar with the Ruby Markup and the CSS Ruby Layout Module Level 1 who can suggest refinements and styling techniques. Specialists in the Yaredic Zaima practice who can review the use cases and suggest others.

Zaima is the name given to the small cantillation annotations in the Ge'ez language hymnary that are rendered in one or more rows above base text. In this article the markup and CSS styling elements developed for rendering Ruby content are applied to Zaima samples that represent the most challenging use cases. The goal is to discover from application any limitations in markup and styling fascilities to support the requirements of Zaima presentation.

An equally important goal in developing digitally rendered samples is determining with practitioners what characteristics of the calligraphic tradition must be preserved in electronic media. Stylistic features in Zaima presentation may be idiosyncratic to a scribe, artifacts of the scribal process and tools, and need not be rendered in electronic documents. Other features may convey meaning that is critical to the practice and must be rendered in the same way electronically.

USE CASES

Use cases are selected that represent particular challenges in presentation beyond the regular Ruby use cases. Use cases are borrowed from a previous survey in a, now depreciated, article on Zaima Annotation which in turn provides the full page sources of the samples appearing here.

The samples here present focused layout requirements in isolation from their larger context. Larger samples will be produced to help access the overall readibility of electronically laid out Zaima in general, and to evaluate the layout choices made here.

Use Case 1

Features:

- Fairly simple.
- Clear left align of , over h in 2nd row. Question: Is this positioning important vs a default center alignment?
- Spanning and centered miliket on 2nd, 3rd and 4th rows over the last two letters. The spanning-centered layout may or may not be important.
- Use Case Question: What is the correct positioning of the annotation in all rows?



Figure 1 Selot Kidassie p. 113

- Had to specify a 2nd column width or the example gets cut off by the table. A rendering engine appears not be calculating cell content width correctly.
- In the alternative rendering, unable to right align ruby-text over the final base character on rows 1, 2 and 3 using "ruby-align: right".
 - # and 1 on rows 2 and 3 respectively appear to overhang the right side of c unexpectedly. c on row one aligns with the right side of c as expected. This may be attributable to the font and not the layout engine.
 - Is the first or second redendering preferable? Does the difference impact vocalization?

Use Case 2

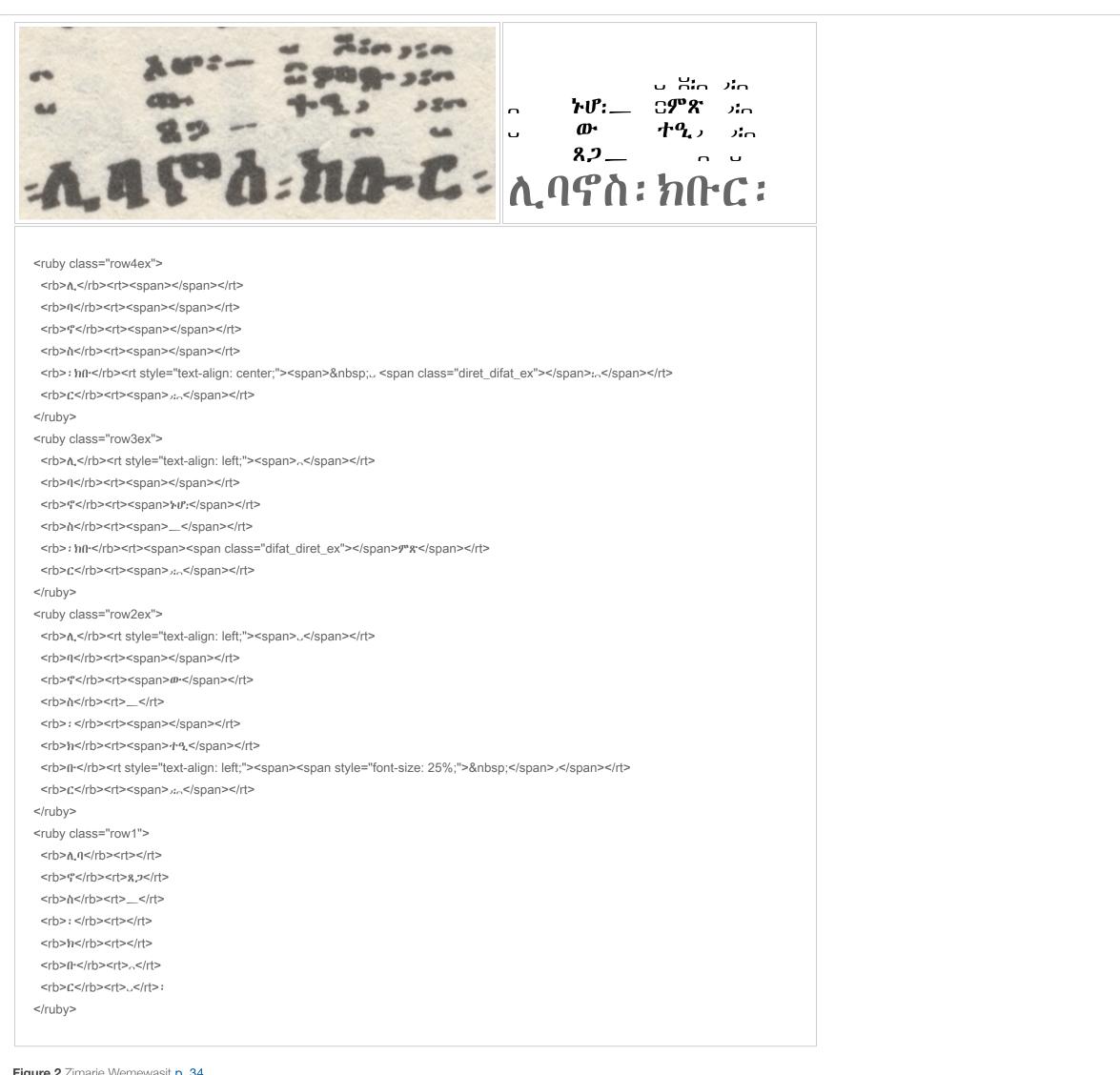


Figure 2 Zimarie Wemewasit p. 34

Issues:

```
C
 <ruby class="row5ex">
  <rb>ሊባ</rb><rt><span></span></rt>
  <rb>
<rb>
<fc></rb></rt>
  <rb>ስሃ: ና</rb><rt><span></span></rt>
  <rb>ከብ</rb><rt><span>&nbsp; &nbsp; &nbsp;</span></rt>
  <rb>c</rb><rt span style="text-align: right;"><span>c</span></rt>
 </ruby>
 <ruby class="row4ex">
  <rb>Λ.</rb><rt><span></span></rt>
  <rb>qq</rb><rt><span>,</span></rt>
  <rb>ስሃ: ና</rb><rt><span></span></rt>
  <rb>h-ก</rb><rt><span>&nbsp; &nbsp;</span></rt>
  <rb>c</rb><rt span style="text-align: right;"><span>c</span></rt>
 </ruby>
 <ruby class="row3ex">
  <rb>Λ.</rb><rt><span>_&nbsp;</span></rt>
  <rb>ባኖስ</rb><rt><span>,መን</span></rt>
  <rb>y</rb><rt><span>.</span></rt>
  <rb>: ናክብ</rb><rt><span></span></rt>
  <rb>c</rb><rt span style="text-align: right;"><span>c</span></rt>
 </ruby>
 <ruby class="row2ex">
  <rb>Λ.</rb><rt><span>.&nbsp;</span></rt>
  <rb>ባኖስ</rb><rt><span>ሪደረ:ລንን</span></rt>
  <rb>y</rb><rt><span>,,</span></rt>
  <rb>: </rb><rt></rt>
  <rb>f</rb><rt><span>.</span></rt>
  <rb>ก-ก</rb><rt></rt>
  <rb><</rb><rt span style="text-align: right;"><span><</span></rt>
 </ruby>
 <ruby class="row1">
  <rb>ሊ</rb><rt></rt>
  <rb>y</rb><rt>,,</rt>
  <rb>: </rb><rt></rt>
  <rb>G</rb><rt>.</rt>
  <rb>ก<sub>*</sub>ก</rb><rt></rt>
  </ruby>
```

Figure 3 Zimarie Wemewasit p. 34

Issues:

• Unable to right align ruby-text over the final base character on rows 1, 2 and 3. Attempts were made with variations on: style="float: right; text-align: right; white-space: nowrap;"

Alternate Rendering

</ruby>

</ruby>

<ruby class="row1">

<rb>hห: ឆ្គ</rb>

<rb>@</rb><rt>_:</rt>

<rb>£</rb><rt>.</rt>:

<rb>1: §</rb><rt>;:::;</rt>

<rt>ንሴ:,;;;,,</rt>

<rb>£</rb><rt></rt>

Figure 4 Zimarie Wemewasit p. 68

</ruby>

</ruby>

<ruby class="row1">

<rb>ኮነ: ፩</rb>

<rb>@</rb><rt>_:</rt>

<rb>£</rb><rt>.</rt>:

<rb>£</rb><rt></rt>

Issues:

- Unable to right align ruby-text over the final base character on rows 1, 2 and 3. Attempts were made with variations on: style="float: right; text-align: right; white-space: nowrap;"
- Is the first or second redendering preferable? Does the difference impact vocalization?

<rt>7ሴ:,:::.,</rt>

<rb>1: §</rb><rt>,:::,</rt>

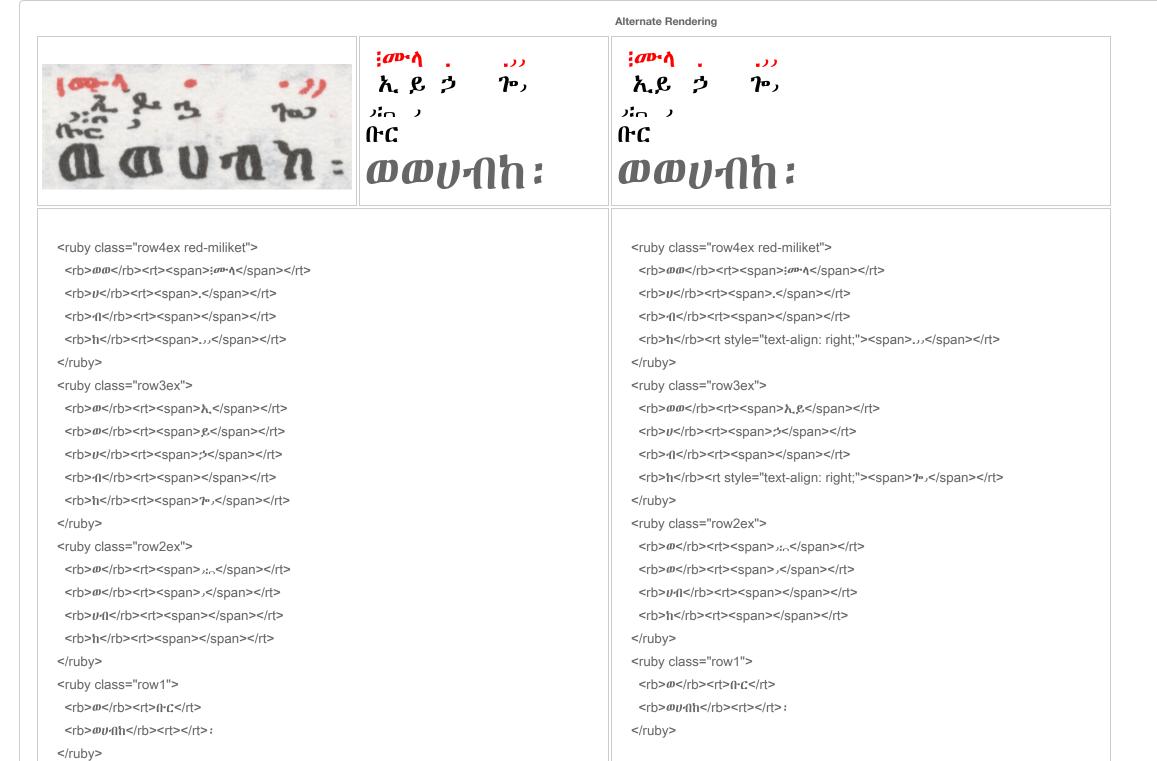


Figure 5 Merha Liqawnt p. 127

Issues:

- Verify & or & in row 3
- Right justify desired for h, above ϕ on row 3, and for both h, above h on rows 3 and 4 respectively
- : would vanish if placed after the closing ruby tag as per:
- <rb>**๛บาก**</rb><rt></rt></ruby>:

Accordingly it was placed just within the closing ruby tag as per:

<rb>**ወ**ሀብከ</rb><rt></rt>:</ruby>

This may be a browser issue or an issue with the markup approach taken.

• Is the first or second redendering preferable? Does the difference impact vocalization?

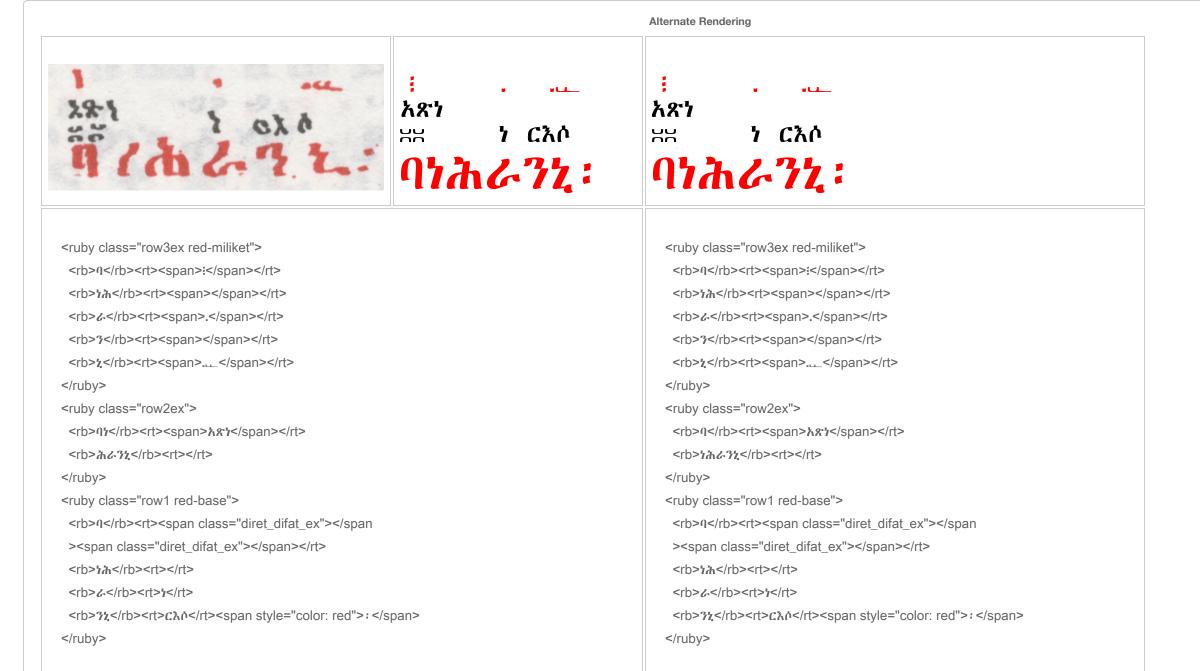


Figure 6 Merha Liqawnt p. 128

Issues:

- Unable to right align ruby-text over the final base character on rows 1, 2 and 3. Attempts were made with variations on: style="float: right; text-align: right; white-space: nowrap;"
- Is the first or second redendering preferable? Does the diference impact vocalization?

```
ከመ ፀሐ ይ
ርኢ ክዎነ። ጋር፣ ፴
ስላመከ፡ 78ውዕ፡
 <ruby class="row3ex red-miliket">
  <rb>n</rb><rt><span></span></rt>
  <rb>^</rb><rt><span>:</span></rt>
  <rb></rb><rt><span></span></rt>
  <rb>h: </rb><rt><span>:an-</rb>
  <rb>3</rb><rt><span></span></rt>
  <rb>%</rb><rt><span>.</span></rt>
  <rb>•o-</rb><rt><span>.</span></rt>
  <rb>6: </rb><rt><span></span></rt>
 </ruby>
 <ruby class="row2ex">
  <rb>n</rb><rt><span></span></rt>
  <rb>ሳ</rb><rt><span style="visibility: hidden;">c ኢ</span></rt>
  <rb></rb><rt><span></span></rt></rb>
  <rb>h: </rb><rt><span>h@</span></rt>
  <rb>7</rb><rt style="text-align: right;"><span>e</span></rt>
  <rb>%</rb><rt><span>-h</span></rt>
  <rb>•</rb><rt><span>•</span></rt>
  <rb>o: </rb><rt><span></span></rt>
 </ruby>
 <ruby class="row1">
  <rb>^</rb><rt></rt>
  <rb>@h: </rb><rt>hP<span class="diret_difat_ex"></span>:_</rt>
  <rb>?</rb><rt></rt>
  <rb>8</rb><rt>,0:</rt>
  <rb>๛</rb><rt>ดฺ</rt>
  <rb>6: </rb><rt></rt>
 </ruby>
```

Figure 7 Merha Liqawnt p. 128

Issues:

• Unable to right align ruby-text over the final base character on rows 1, 2 and 3. Attempts were made with variations on: style="float: right; text-align: right; white-space: nowrap;"

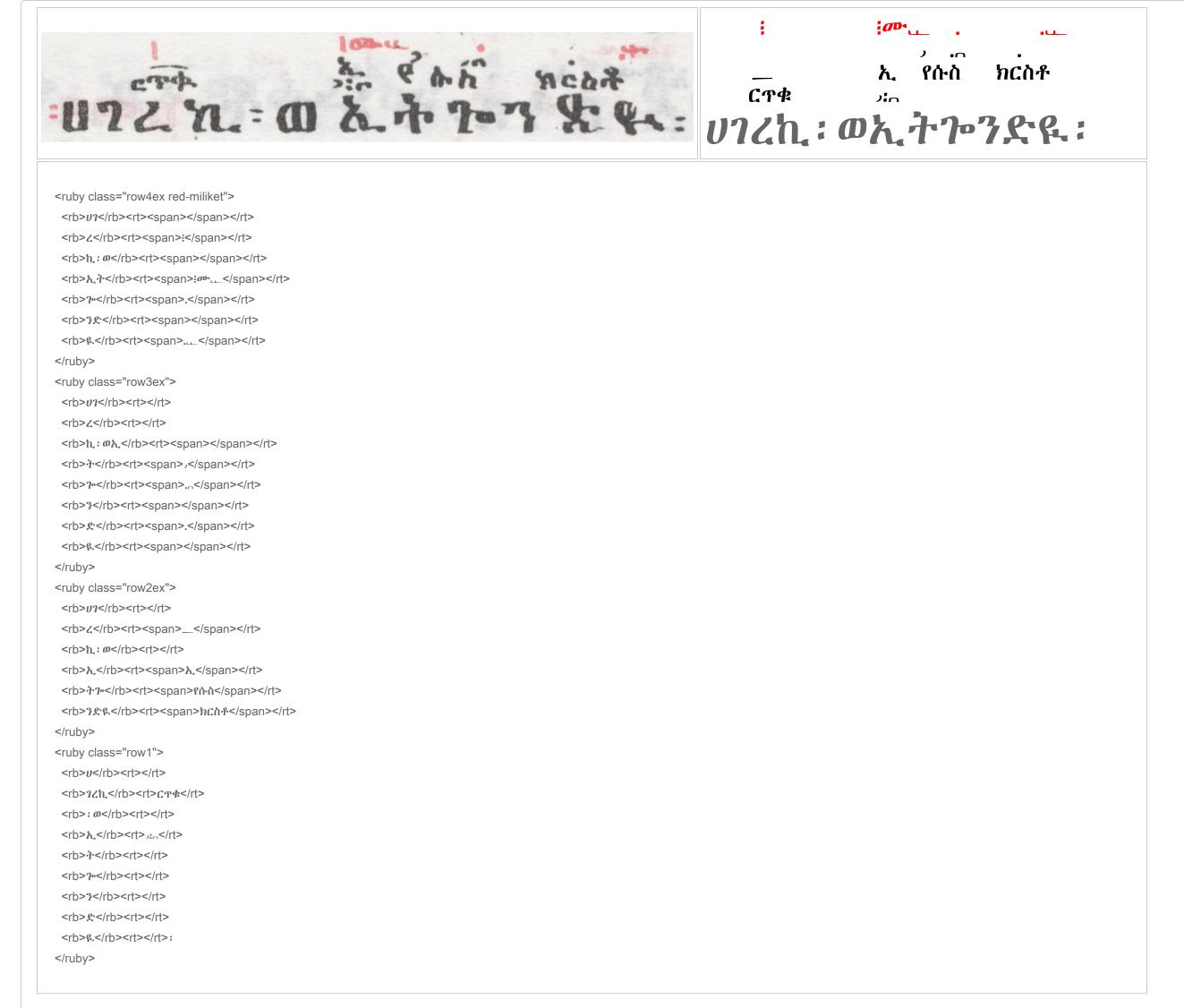


Figure 8 Merha Liqawnt p. 23

Issues

• Unable to right align ruby-text over the final base character on rows 1, 2 and 3. Attempts were made with variations on: style="float: right; text-align: right; white-space: nowrap;"

Use Case 9

Features:

- The ::::: sequence spans 2 letters along a render line rising at a slight angle to the right.
- The alternate rendering divides the ::::: sequence over ? and ? seprately.
- TBD: Add a context note (modes, ceremonies).

Alternate Rendering) ! i; <ruby class="row2ex"> <ruby class="row2ex"> <rb>-t</rb><rt>,</rt> <rb>-t</rb><rt>,</rt> <rb>,67</rb><rt>:::;!</rt> <rb>,9</rb><rt>::</rt> </ruby> <rb>**?**</rb><rt>:;</rt> <ruby class="row1"> </ruby> <rb>+:</rb><rt></rt> <ruby class="row1"> <rb>*,*</rb><rt>,</rt> <rb>-t:</rb><rt></rt> <rb>ን</rb><rt>ሰ₀</rt>: <rb>,e</rb><rt>,</rt> </ruby> <rb>**%**</rb><rt>**n**</rt>: </ruby>

Figure 9 Selot Kidasie p. 9

Issues:

- Unable to use "ruby-align: space-between;" to distribute ::::: over \$7.
- Is anything lost when the rising qirts marks are arranged fully horizontal and not rising? Can the Zaima be reproduced vocally in the same way?
- Is the first or second redendering preferable? Does the difference impact vocalization?

Use Case 10

Features:

- Fairly simple.
- Presence of the chord 2 which must render inline with a row.
- The ::::: sequence spans 2 or possibly 3 letters along a render line rising at a slight angle to the right.
- TBD: Add a context note (modes, ceremonies).

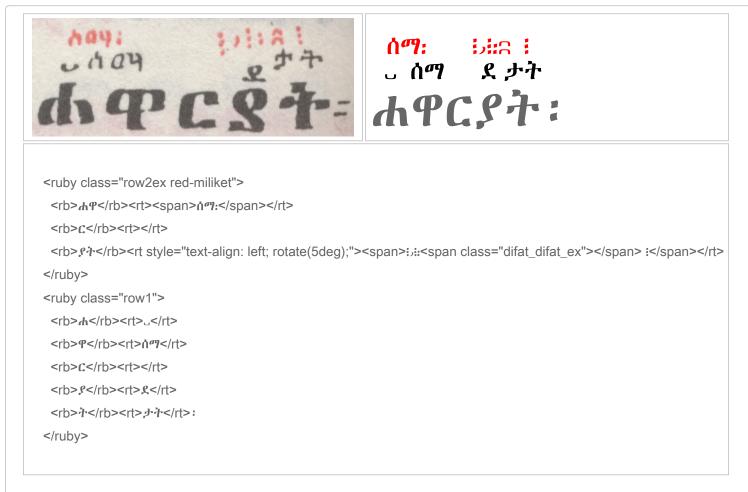


Figure 10 Selot Kidassie p. 129

Issues:

- Unable to use "ruby-align: space-between;" to distribute ነ። c sover ርያት.
- Determine if the bottom row is actually two rows.
- Determine if & above & might actually be &.

• Is anything lost when the rising qirts marks are arranged fully horizontal and not rising? Can the Zaima be reproduced vocally in the same way?

Use Case 11

Features:

• Right side overhang, rising.

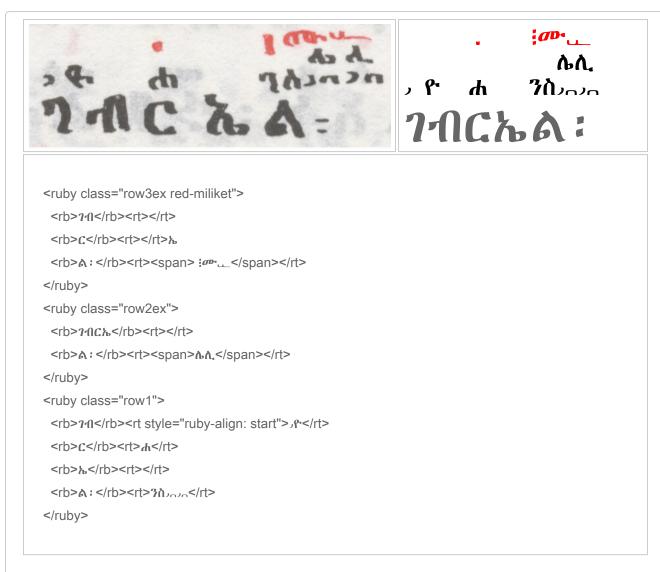


Figure 11 Selot Kidasie p. 83

Issues:

• Unable to right align ruby-text over the final base character on rows 1, 2 and 3. Attempts were made with variations on: style="float: right; text-align: right; white-space: nowrap;"

Use Case 12

Features:

Right side overhang, rising.

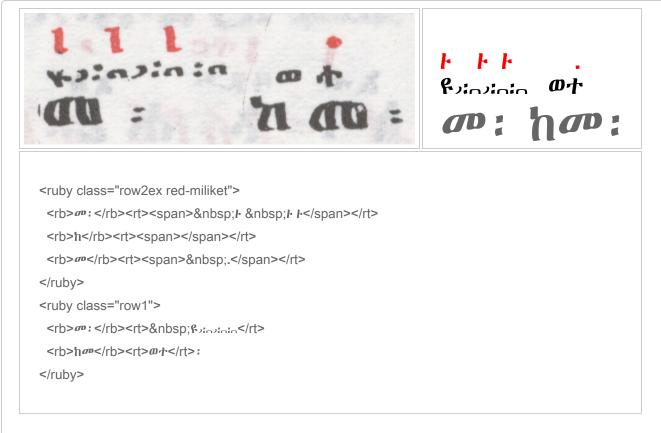


Figure 12 Merha Liqawnt p. 66

Issues:

Use Case 13

Features:

Inner overhang, falling.

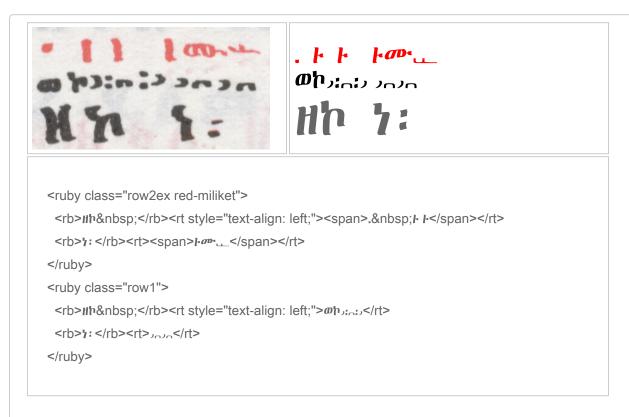


Figure 13 Merha Liqawnt p. 84

Issues:

Use Case 14

Features:

Inner overhang.

```
<ruby class="row2ex red-miliket">
<rb>n, </rb></rb></rb></rb>
</rb>
```

Figure 14 Merha Liqawnt p. 84

Issues:

- "text-align: left;" of n-n: in the rt over: h had no effect, until an " " was added in the rb.
- An " " was added to after : λ to force alignment of \mathbf{n} over : and not the white space before it. This forced space between : and λ.

Use Case 15

Features:

• Left side overhang.

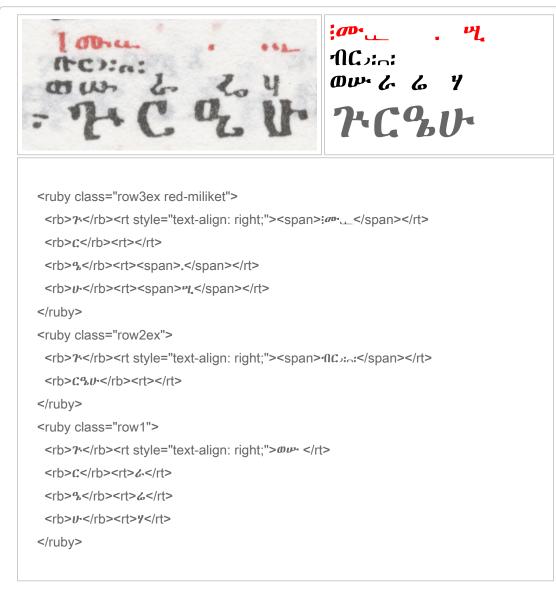


Figure 15 Merha Liqawnt p. 21

Issues:

• Unable to right align ruby-text over the final base character on rows 1, 2 and 3. Attempts were made with variations on: style="float: right; text-align: right; white-space: nowrap;"

Use Case 16



Figure 16 Selot Kidasie p. 213

Issues:

- Unable to right align ruby-text over the final base character on rows 1, 2 and 3. Attempts were made with variations on: style="float: right; text-align: right; white-space: nowrap;"
- Is the first or second redendering preferable? Does the diference impact vocalization?

```
:m,4:5::
                                                                                                                                                                                                ለ
                                                                                                           ይሕ፤ ኪያከ፡ ንሴብሕ፡ እግዚአ፡
         ት፤ ኪያክ፡ 3 ዊ ኗ ሽ፡ እግዚአ፡
ይሕ፤ ኪያከ፡ ንዌድስ፡ አግዚአ፡
 <span style="font-size: 50px;">ይሕ፤</span
 ><ruby class="row3ex red-miliket">
  <rb>h,</rb><rt><span></span></rt>
  <rb>$</rb><rt><span></span></rt>
  <rb>h</rb><rt><span></span></rt><rb>: 7</rb><rt><span></rt>
  <rb>ሴብሕ</rb><rt><span>:៣.ረ:›::</span></rt><rb>: </rb>*/rb><rt><span></rt>
  <rb>ๆน</rb><rt><span></span></rt>
  <rb>\(\chi<\rb><\rt><\span></\rb>
 </ruby>
 <ruby class="row2ex red-miliket">
  <rb>h,</rb><rt><span></span></rt>
  <rb>?h</rb><rt><span>:;::::</span></rt><rb>: 7</rb><rt><span>&nbsp;_</span></rt>
  <rb>a</rb><rt><span>:</span></rt>
  <rb>-n</rb><rt><span>,,</span></rt>
  <rb>\(\lambda</rb></rb></rb>\(\rangle /rb></rb></rb>\(\rangle /rb></rb>\(\rangle /rb></rb>\(\rangle /rb></rb>
  <rb>ๆห.</rb><rt><span></span></rt>
  <rb>\h</rb><rt><span>\h</span></rt>:
 </ruby>
 <ruby class="row1">
  <rb>h,</rb><rt>__</rt>
  <rb>,?</rb><rt>.</rt>
  <rb>h</rb><rt>#</rt><rb>: 7</rb><rt>&nbsp;_</rt>
  <rb>^rb>^c/rb><rt>></rt>
  <rb>-n</rb><rt>,</rt>
  <rb>\h</rb><rt>\_</rb>:</rb>\h</rb><rt>&nbsp;__</rt>
  <rb>ๆแ</rb><rt></rt>
  <rb>አ</rb><rt>ሰ</rt>:
 </ruby>
<br/><br/>
 <span style="font-size: 50px;">ይሕ፤</span
 ><ruby class="row2ex red-miliket">
  <rb>h,s</rb><rt><span>:,:,</span></rt>
  <rb>h</rb><rt><span>2&</span></rt>
  <rb>: 7</rb><rt><span>&nbsp;_</span></rt>
  <rb>g</rb><rt><span>:</span></rt>
  <rb>£'</rb><rt><span>,,</span></rt>
  <rb>\u00e5</rb><rt><span>_</span></rt>:<rb>\u00e5</rb><rt><span>&nbsp;__</span></rt>
  <rb>ๆห_</rb><rt><span></span></rt>
  <rb>አ</rb><rt><span>ሰ</span></rt>:
 </ruby>
 <ruby class="row1">
  <rb>h,</rb><rt>__</rt>
  <rb>P</rb><rt>.</rt>
  <rb>h</rb><rt>4</rt><rb>: 7</rb><rt>&nbsp; </rt>
  <rb>&</rb><rt>,</rt>
  <rb>£</rb><rt>,</rt>
  <rb>\h</rb><rt>\c/rb><rt>\c/rb><rt>\c/rb><rt>&nbsp;__</rt>
  <rb>ๆน</rb><rt></rt>
  <rb>አ</rb><rt>ሰ</rt>:
 </ruby>
```

Figure 17 Merha Liqawnt p. 103

Use Case 18



Figure 18 Merha Liqawnt p. 145

Issues:

• Unable to right align ruby-text over the final base character on rows 1, 2 and 3. Attempts were made with variations on: style="float: right; text-align: right; white-space: nowrap;"



Figure 19 Selot Kidasie p. 189

Issues:

• Is the first or second redendering preferable? Does the difference impact vocalization?

```
ラ : & や: & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : & c : &
```

```
<span style="font-size: 50px; color: red;">ผูงเรี</span>
<ruby class="row4ex red-miliket">
<rb>t</rb><rt><span>,</span></rt>
<rb>ጵር</rb><rt><span>›:ራቀ›:ト</span></rt>
</ruby>
<ruby class="row3ex red-miliket">
 <rb>1</rb><rt><span>,</span></rt>
 <rb>&</rb><rt><span></span></rt>
<rb>c</rb><rt><span>0·</span></rt>
</ruby>
<ruby class="row2ex red-miliket">
<rb>\r\s</rb><rt><span></span></rt>
<rb>c</rb><rt><span>.</span></rt>
</ruby>
<ruby class="row1">
<rb>¹</rb><rt><sub>0</sub></rt>
<rb>ጽር</rb><rt>፡፡ራቀ:ው</rt><span style="color: red;">። </span>
</ruby>
<br/> <br/> <br/>
<span style="font-size: 50px; color: red;">&hi
<ruby class="row4ex red-miliket">
 <rb>ትድሳት: ለ</rb><rt></rt>
 <rb>*\rb><rt><span>_</span></rt>
 <rb>%</rb><rt><span>,</span></rt>
 <rb>^</rb><rt><span>:</span></rt>
<rb>ን</rb><rt><span>ልየ</span></rt>
</ruby>
<ruby class="row3ex">
 <rb>→</rb><rt><span>_</span></rt>
 <rb>£</rb><rt></rt>
 <rb>^</rb><rt><span>:</span></rt>
 <rb>ት</rb><rt><span>ራቀ፡ው</span></rt>
<rb>: ለቅዱሳን፤ </rb><rt></rt>
</ruby>
<ruby class="row2ex red-miliket">
<rb>→</rb><rt></rt>
 <rb>£'</rb><rt></rt>
 <rb>^</rb><rt><span>,</span></rt>
 <rb>+</rb><rt><span>0</rb>
 <rb>: </rb><rt></rt>
 <rb>^</rb><rt><span>□</span></rt>
 <rb>ቅዱ</rb><rt></rt>
 <rb>^</rb><rt><span>:</span></rt>
 <rb>7 { <rb>7 { /rt>
</ruby>
<ruby class="row1">
 <rb>*</rb><rt>∪</rt>
 <rb>£</rb><rt></rt>
 <rb>^</rb><rt>.</rt>
 <rb>+</rb><rt>;></rt>
 <rb>: </rb><rt></rt>
```

<rb>^</rb><rt>_</rt></rt></rt></rb>

<rb>%</rb><rt></rb></rt></rb></rt></rb></rt></rb></rt>tstyle="text-align: left;">\hata_c</rt></ruby>

Figure 20 Selot Kidasie p. 253

Issues:

• Unable to right align ruby-text over the final base character on rows 1, 2 and 3. Attempts were made with variations on: style="float: right; text-align: right; white-space: nowrap;"

BROWSER SUPPORT

The article describes behavior for the following browser versions. We will try to update the article as behavior changes.

Browser		Version	Engine	Other browsers using that engine
O Chr	ome	60.0.3112.113	Blink	Opera, Vivaldi, etc.

Normative References

Tu'um Lisan Kasa, 🚜 🛠 ร นๆ 💇 Yared Zeimaw, Tinsaie Zegubaie Matemiya Beit, Addis Ababa, 1981 EC/1988

YeTinsaie YeMetsahft Mastemiya Dirjit, የዜማ አርዕስት ምልክት YeZaima Arist Milikt, Addis Ababa, 1983EC/1990

Birhanu Gesesse, Merigeta Dimtse, Priest and Zaima teacher at Urael Orthodox Church, Addis Ababa, 1999

Tinsaie Zegubaie Matamiya Beit, የቅዱስ ያሬድ ታሪክና የዜማ ምልክቶች YeKidus Yared Tarikna YeZaima Milketoc, Tinsaie Zegubaie Matemiya Beit, Addis Ababa, 1959EC/1966

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