

Maddah or hamza, etc., relative to vowels

Introduction

Figuring out the “correct” rendering of sequences of combining marks is one of the challenges of this script. Herein are some references.

Advice from Unicode list about Maddah

One foray into this question was to ask on the Unicode list how combining *maddah* interacted with other vowel marks. The resultant thread^[1] makes it pretty clear that *maddah* should be rendered above any other vowel marks.

Roozbeh Pournader’s proposal — now UTR-53

In Unicode document L2/14-1272^[2], Roozbeh Pournader proposed to fix the “broken” Arabic combining class values by standardizing on a mark order to be used for rendering. This became UTR-53^[3] Unicode Arabic Mark Rendering which documents the Arabic Mark Transient Reordering Algorithm (AMTRA).

¹ Hallissy and Pournader, 2011, Rendering of U+0653 ARABIC MADDAH ABOVE, [Unicode list archives](#).

² Roozbeh Pournader, 2014, Standardizing the order of Arabic combining marks, [L2/14-127](#).

³ Roozbeh Pournader, Bob Hallissy, Lorna Evans [Unicode Technical Report #53 \(UTR53\)](#)

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