

# Re: Indian language fonts to be included as default fonts in windo

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Word/microsoft.public.word.docmanagement/2008-02/msg01597.html>

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- *From:* grammatim <[grammatim@xxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:grammatim@xxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 21 Feb 2008 04:47:43 -0800 (PST)
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On Feb 21, 6:07 am, Ashok Kothare  
<[AshokKoth...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:AshokKoth...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

Dear Grammatim, we are working for windows and not mac.

I was explaining to you that Windows handles this better than Mac, because Unicode is fully implemented.

One more point he missed is that my fonts are free of cost. Interesting enough my fonts work very well on both mac and linux.

You never said — are they TrueType? or are they PostScript?

XP has now devnagari fonts but to activate them one need go in controll panel and activate the driver to make them functional.

A very simple procedure that needs to be done only once. If you buy a computer in India, it presumably comes with those "drivers" already activated, because your operating system presumably is set for Hindi, Tamil, etc.

unless that are supported by such drivers they cannot come and it is experienced that quite often XP fails to activate them and one is helpless.

Admittedly, I have never heard of anyone having trouble activating them, but I have not known many people who tried.

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Quite often computer stops responding and one has to close the machine. Luckily Grammtim's computer is working well. But when he may experience this he will admit usefulness of my fonts! With my fonts this situation can not arrive because my fonts are based on keyboard default driver. And so they are more reliable. Grammatim may not be aware that Indian users are not so competent to work all that.

Neither am I, certainly. I never used a Windows computer before September 2005 and very shortly I was familiar with typing in non-Roman scripts.

Before that, I used precisely the sort of fonts you are describing, ones that sit uncomfortably on top of roman-alphabet fonts, where nearly all the compound aksharas had to be typed by using keys other than the ones for the basic consonant aksharas.

A very specialised working that XP needs is not understood by these people according to my experience.

You just said that Indians are stupid!

So to make work easy for our indian users my fonts are today found to be of much use. Grammatim, this is not just writing text but my intention is to make available fonts on internet also. Devnagari fonts with extra driver are not accepted easily by many browsers and also servers such as hotmail, goggle, yahoo etc. Since my fonts are ASCII based (english unicode) they can be easily accepted by these servers. If servers accept these fonts business in email and other internet activity shall grow in volumes.

If they are not found on every individual's computer, then those individuals will not be able to read those websites. If the websites use Unicode-encoded characters, then anyone with a basic Windows installation (XP or Vista, at least, and probably earlier ones as well) will be able to read the websites.

Today people can not communicate properly in english and so email activity is limited to english only but when my fonts are made available to them people will spend more time on internet and that is business.

People happily transliterate non-roman-alphabet languages into roman alphabet for using email in any language.

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And so my suggestion is having many hidden benefits which we can not discuss on this platform.

\_None\_ of this topic is appropriate on this newsgroup.

I hope my explanation clears the doubts about extra usefullnes of my fonts to windows and internet.

I must thank grammtim for the lively interaction. Sadly I did not find any new point in his reaction.

Actually I had sent one reply a little while ago but I felt that the reply is not sent and so this is second reply.

Yes, this is the first response to my posting at 11:05 am on Feb 19.

"grammatim" wrote:

On Feb 19, 9:55 am, Ashok Kothare  
<AshokKoth...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Both Vikrant and grammatin have missed the issue. As for vikrant I must say thanks for atleast admiring my effort to help writing Indian languages with english keyboard. Grammatin may not be knowing that unicode for devnagari are still not standardised.

If Devanagari is in Unicode (and it is), then by definition it is standardized. I happen to have the Sanskrit and Hindi IMEs activated on my computer at the moment and I have no trouble typing Sanskrit and Hindi, on my ordinary 107-key keyboard.

Even if tommorrow they are standardised using them may need a separate multikeyed (126 keys) keyboard. It is a big work to do all that and so at present using english unicode and english keyboard to write Indian languages is by far the best option. Grammatin says he used many fonts and mastering their each key notations was not easy. I agree to his point and that is because all the fonts he has tried are with

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special drivers  
to get large number of characters on english key board.

No; as I said, I was using a Mac, before Unicode, and there were no "font drivers" in a Mac: there were only sets of 223 glyphs (255 less 32) assigned to the 223 available slots in an ordinary font. It was in fact impossible to make all Indian fonts interconvertible, because compound aksharas are formed differently in the different scripts, but it was possible to type every one of the ten standard Indic scripts (Devanagari, Bangla, Gujarati, Gurmukhi, Oriya, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, Sinhala) using the standard Mac keyboard, which is almost identical in layout and inventory to the standard PC keyboard.

Speciality of my  
fonts is that I have developed keyboard set up and that is  
copyrighted.. Fonts  
made with that keyboard set up makes it possible to write  
almost all marathi,  
hindi, sindhi, konkani and also bhojpuri and such modern  
indian languages but  
for sanskrit only up to 95% can be written. And that is not a  
big problem  
since, my expectation is that these fonts are used for modern  
languages and  
not sanskrit. By one estimate user of modern languages are  
99.999% and user  
of sanskrit are the rest 0.001%, this may explain my point.

Then, I'm sorry to say, your product is not adequate --- the Mac fonts and keyboard software created by Ecological Linguistics in the 1980s and 1990s could handle \_all\_ the needs of all the languages, classical and modern.

If my suggestion is accepted a large number of users will  
benefit immensely  
since they will get fonts in the price of the window and no  
extra cost.. This  
shall make using computers all the more economical.  
Presently fonts of  
private makers are costing a price and they each have their  
special problems,  
not to mention of.  
I hope this satisfies friends.

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The fonts and IMEs (what you may be referring to as "font drivers")  
\_are\_ included in the price of Windows (XP and Vista; I can't say how  
many years ago they were introduced). (All you need to do is go to the  
Control Panel called Regional and Language Options and install them.  
You will probably be asked to insert your Windows CD.) For most of the  
Indic scripts, only one font is included — Tahoma — and it is not  
particularly attractive. Thus if you, Ashok, have created good-looking  
fonts for Devanagari (and the other nine scripts), then you will sell  
many more copies if they are Unicode- and Windows-compatible than if  
they simply sit on top of the Latin-1 Unicode encoding (and no one  
will be able to share files with anyone who has not purchased your  
fonts, at, as you say, extra cost).

"Ashok Kothare" wrote:

I have developed Indian Language fonts to  
be used on english key board. I  
have been giving them to all those who want  
to use them on windows to write  
in Indian languages such as Hindi, Marathi,  
Konkani, Sindhi, Bhojpuri and  
more free of cost. My suggestion to  
microsoft is that they should accept  
these fonts as default fonts on their windows  
version of today and tomorrow.  
This will definitely improve use of windows  
in Indian Homes. Mcrosoft is  
already havig some versions of fonts to write  
in these languages but they  
need a special driver to be installed  
additionally. With my fonts which are  
based on default keyboard driver can work  
like english fonts on all microsoft  
programmes and also on other window  
based programmes. I am doing it to  
promote use of computers in Indian homes  
since, english is still not the  
language of Indian homes. My idea is, if  
microsoft accepts this suggestion  
many more users shall benefit by this  
facility. Presently, I can reach only a  
fraction of user through my resource. I want  
all concerned to vote for my  
suggestion for the benefit of all. I shall give  
my fonts to those interested  
in trying them if they ask for them on my  
email IDs ashokkoth...@xxxxxxxxx,

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ashokkoth...@xxxxxxxxxxxx,  
ashokkoth...@xxxxxxxxxxxx  
Hope to get your full support for this worthy  
cause. Thanks,  
Ashok Kothare.

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This post is a suggestion for Microsoft, and  
Microsoft responds to the  
suggestions with the most votes. To vote for  
this suggestion, click the "I  
Agree" button in the message pane. If you  
do not see the button, follow this  
link to open the suggestion in the Microsoft  
Web-based Newsreader and then  
click "I Agree" in the message pane.

<http://www.microsoft.com/office/community/en-us/default.aspx?mid=d329...>