1021-11-6 **Pal S. Asija*** (Pal@OurPal.com), 7 Woonsocket Ave, Shelton, CT 06484-5536. *Fixing the Decimal Number System for Posterity to Obviate Millinium Confusion.* Preliminary report.

This paper and concomitant presentation propose a slight modification to the decimal number system to obviate a confusion that occurs at the turn of every decade, century and millennium. In our current decimal system Zero is used in multiple semantics, meanings and ways. This proposal introduces a new symbol to limit the use of zero to a single meaning. More than one solution is suggested. Preferred solution is pointed out. The approach is equally applicable to other number systems such as octal, hexadecimal and even binary number system used in Von Neumann electronic digital computers. A decimal number system should have ten unique symbols. While (0-9) are ten symbols. The use of zero as connoting nothing and as placeholder and/or as a number has caused unnecessary confusion, which can be avoided in the future by author's proposal. Suggestions are also made for its implementation. Even though it is breathtakingly simple, it can easily take a decade or two for smooth implementation during the conversion period. In this respect its implementation is akin to FPS (Foot Pound Second) to metric or non-decimal to decimal currency conversion undertaken by many countries. (Received March 25, 2006)

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