

# Joomla 1.5 and MariaDb – Collation problem

We found the hard way that all Joomla 1.5 ( yes there are still joomla 1.5 ) have problem with the collation of the database when you use UTF 8 characters . After several experiments with collation we found in some blogs that the answer is pretty easy. You have to change a line in the mysqli file in Joomla.

**in `libraries/joomla/database/database/mysqli.php`**

or (depending on your setting)

**`libraries/joomla/database/database/mysqli.php`**

**comment the line 186**

```
return ($verParts[0] == 5 || ($verParts[0] == 4 && $verParts[1] == 1 && (int)$verParts[2] >= 2));
```

**and add this instead (assuming these days you'll have unicode supported database):**

```
return 1;
```

**the code looks like:**

```
function hasUTF()
{
$verParts = explode( '.', $this->getVersion() );
// return ($verParts[0] == 5 || ($verParts[0] == 4 && $verParts[1] == 1 && (int)$verParts[2] >=
2));
return (1);
}
```

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