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A MONTHLY OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTICS ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

**45<sup>th</sup> ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF  
 DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTS &  
 INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM  
 on  
 Case, Agreement and Postpositions  
 (23-25 June 2017, University of Delhi)**

Those who would like to participate and present papers in the **45<sup>th</sup> All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists & International Symposium on Case, Agreement and Postpositions** are requested to register their names and send the abstracts of their papers as early as possible. The registration fee (Rs. 1,000/- [US\$ 150/-] for life-members and students, and Rs. 2,000/- [US\$ 300/-] for others) may please be sent to the Treasurer, Dravidian Linguistics Association, V.I. Subramoniam

Memorial ISDL Complex, St. Xavier's College P.O., Thiruvananthapuram – 695 586, Kerala. In the case of students, *bona fide* certificates from the respective Heads of Departments are required. The abstracts of the papers can be directly mailed to Prof. R.C. Sharma, Professor & Head, Department of Linguistics, University of Delhi at [rcprof@yahoo.com](mailto:rcprof@yahoo.com). The life-membership fee for joining the Dravidian Linguistics Association may be sent to the Treasurer, DLA in the address mentioned above. The registration form for the conference and life-membership application form of the DLA are available at [www.ijdl.org](http://www.ijdl.org).

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**A GRAVE OMISSION IN THE UGC-APPROVED LIST OF JOURNALS**

As per UGC notification F.1-2/2016 (PS) Amendments dated 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017, it is seen that in the list of approved journals of the UGC, not a single journal in Linguistics from India or abroad is included. The two prestigious journals in Linguistics from India, *International Journal of Dravidian Linguistics* and *Indian Linguistics*, are not only recognized by most of the Indian universities, IIT-s and other research institutions of India but also by foreign universities and research institutions. If this omission is not urgently rectified, it will adversely affect the young teachers and researchers who aspire for advancement in their professional career. This is clear from the third paragraph of the above-mentioned UGC notification itself, given on page 2.

“The Standing Committee constituted by the University Grants Commission for identifying journals in different domains of knowledge has approved the *List of Journals* attached along with for the purpose of Career Advancement Scheme (CAS) and Direct Recruitment of teachers and other academic staff as required under the University Grants Commission (Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education) (4<sup>th</sup> Amendment) Regulations, 2016.”

All Heads of Departments of Linguistics, I hope, will take necessary steps for including *International Journal of Dravidian Linguistics* and *Indian Linguistics* in the UGC's approved list of journals. Since it is a dynamic list which may be reviewed from time to time, we can be optimistic regarding the inclusion of these journals, if the concerned universities take up the matter.

G.K. Panikkar

#### COMMENTS ON UGC'S APPROVED LIST OF JOURNALS

*This is alarming and smacks of ignorance on the part of academicians attached to UGC. We should collectively work to convince UGC that the two most reputed journals on South Asian languages i.e., INDIAN LINGUISTICS and INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTICS, are included in the list.*

Anvita Abbi

*It appears that UGC is unaware of the existence of a subject like Linguistics in Indian universities. Hence, it is no wonder that they have not included journals having international standard like INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTICS and INDIAN LINGUISTICS in their list of recognized journals. It is also due to a lapse on the part of the Departments of Linguistics of various Indian universities.*

Abdul Samed

#### HONOUR FOR PUTHUSSERI RAMACHANDRAN

Punjab Linguistics Association, Patiala has elected **Dr. Puthusseri Ramachandran**, Hon. Professor, International School of Dravidian Linguistics and one among the founders of Dravidian Linguistics Association and International School of Dravidian Linguistics, as its *Hon. Fellow*, taking into consideration his contribution in the field of Indian linguistics.

#### IMPERIAL CHOLAS AND THEIR BRONZES

##### 1. Cholas - Origin and Expansion

The Cholas were one of the three independent kings who ruled over Tamizhakam in the southern tip of peninsular India, when Asoka Mourya ruled the other parts of India (extending from Gandhara in the north to Karnataka in the south, as inscribed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> inscriptions of Asoka Mourya (B.C. 272-232). *Chilappathikaram*, an ancient Tamil work of the second century C.E., gives a vivid description of the Chola capital of Kavery Poom Pattinam, the capital of the Cholas, on the shores of the Bay of Bengal - a seaport, frequented by Yavanas (Greeks, Romans etc.). A substantial part of Kavery Poom Pattinam was engulfed by the sea at the end of the second century C.E. and the Cholas shifted their capital to Urayur, Chidambaram and Pazhayarai. Nothing is known about the history of the Cholas during what is known as Kalapra interregnum (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> century C.E.). The Pallavas, a splinter group of Satavahanas, established a kingdom (Kumara Vishnu - 375 C.E.) with Kanchi as their capital and held sway over the northern part of Tamizhakam for over a period of 600 years. The Cholas regrouped under Vijayalaya (850 C.E.) by defeating Mutharayers but they had to accept the overlordship of the Pallavas for some time. They gradually built up their military capability. Aditya Chola 1 (871-907 C.E.) defeated the Pallava king Aparajitha in 873 C.E., married a Pallava princess and absorbed their lineage into his own. The Cholas ruled over South India for about 400 years (850-1279). The Chola empire reached its peak during the reign of

Rajendra Chola I (1014-1044 C.E.) when the empire included the whole of South India, Sri Lanka and Maldives and their influence spread to Kalinga, Odha and Vangadesa. With the conquest of the seaport of Vilinam and its suburb, Kandalur Salai, which is hailed as a great victory in their Prasasthi, the Cholas gained full control over maritime trade. The Cholas had a powerful navy which was capable of mounting attacks on the island nations of South East Asia, and the vessels of South Indian merchants who formed various types of guilds could go up to China in search of trade. Such was the power of the Cholas that, in later periods, the Chinese used to call the entire south Indians as "Solies" (Ravindran, K., "Ming China and contacts with Calicut", *IJDL* Vol. XLV No. 1 January 2016, pp. 142-154). The prosperity of the Cholas came from extensive paddy cultivation and improved methods of irrigation adopted by Vellalas (a community that specialised in agriculture) [Meenakshi Sundaram, K., *Contribution of the Tamils to Indian Culture* Vol. 1, International Institute of Tamil Studies, 1995, p. 3], booties levied from defeated kingdoms and from foreign maritime trade. A considerable portion of the state revenue was utilised for building and renovating temples and organising various rituals and temple festivals in which the whole population participated. The Saivite religion was declared as state religion and the Chola country became an empire when the opulence of the river Kavery united with the force of the Bhakthi Movement that turned into people's movement (Sreenivasan, M. & P. Periyalwar, *Sahitya Akademi*, 2014, p. 15). The Chola period was definitely the golden age of the Tamils and the Chola Empire was the greatest empire of the Dravidians in known history.

## 2. Bronze Images - *utsavamurties*

The Saivite saints Tirunavukkarasar, Gnana Sambandhar and Sundaramurti who composed the Seven Thevarams (Saiva Cannons) and Saint Manikkavasagar who lived prior to 9<sup>th</sup> century C.E., by launching the Bhakthi Movement, were successful in driving out the Jain and Buddhist religions from Tamizhakam. The Chola emperors followed the path shown by the saints by constructing temples in the *Dravida* style and hundreds of huge temples rose in the Kavery delta. The temples were either new ones or renovations of earlier ones. Rajaraja I (984-1014 C.E.) built the Brijadeswara temple, a *kal-thali* (stone

temple) in Tanjavur in 1010 C.E. (a world heritage site). His son Rajendra I (1014-1044) built the Gangaikonda Cholapuram temple after his successful raid on Vangadesa. A Chola ancestor, Chenkannan, built several temples in Chola Nadu. Sembian-ma-devi, a Chola queen, was responsible for the construction of the temples.

The ancient Dravidian temples were made of wood, and later they used bricks for the construction of temples. Stone and rock-cut style were introduced in temple architecture in a later period. The icons were made of stone. The practice of carrying the icon in procession in chariots (rathas) during festivals around the streets of the villages and towns in which the temple was situated required an icon which could be easily handled and this resulted in large-scale production of icons cast in bronze of suitable sizes known as *utsavamurties* to deputise for the main deities during such occasions. This necessitated large investment and the employment of sculptors of eminence in the casting of *utsavamurties* and other bronze images. The Cholas patronised this art.

When Rajaraja I completed the Brijadeswara temple in Tanjavur, he and his family members donated 66 bronze images to the temple, all decked with jewels and precious stones, and the full details are provided in the inscriptions in the temple. Except for two images, one of dancing Siva and the other of his spouse Sivakami, all the other idols disappeared. The temple, however, displayed 76 superb bronzes during the celebrations (September 2011) to mark the 1000<sup>th</sup> year of the consecration of the temple.

The Cholas disappeared from the scene in the 13<sup>th</sup> century C.E. but the devotional world that brought the bronzes is still intact. Lord Siva is more revered than ever and the great Chola temples at Chidambaram and Tanjore are still thriving and bustling.

## 3. Dancing Girl of Mohenjo-Daro

A bronze image of a 15-year-old dancing girl was excavated from the Indus Valley site of Mohenjo-Daro in 1926. The image of the sacred dancer that was cast in about 2500 B.C. is a small one having the size of a palm (10.58 x 5 mm.) which

the noted archaeologist Gregory Possehi hailed as “the most captivating piece of art from an Indus site”. She has a relatively short trunk, long legs and arms, her head tilted back slightly, and a bun of wavy hair slants across the back of her head. The parted legs, one hand tucked above the hip, the other carried forward in movement, convey dynamic grace. She has lost her feet. She has large eyes, flat nose, well-fed cheeks, broad forehead, high neck, subdued belly, moderately sexed breasts and a sensually modelled waist part. She is naked but wears 25 bangles on her left arm, 4 bangles on her right arm, a necklace with three pendants, and holds an object in her left hand. The image proved that the Indus people deliberately alloyed copper with tin in order to obtain bronze that is more malleable and strong (Ifraan Habib, *The Indus Civilisation. A Peoples History of India 2*, Second Reprint 2002, pp. 29, 30, 52, 53. The image is kept in Indian Museum, New Delhi. A sketch of the figure of the same dancing girl was found in a potsherd excavated from Bhairana, Haryana.). They also indulged in dancing as a form of entertainment. The image effectively conveys the feelings of spirituality and sensuality. Several other objects including bronze mirrors were excavated from Indus valley sites. Bronze mirrors known as *Aranmula Kannadi* are even now manufactured by traditional methods in the Aranmula village of the Alapuzha district of Kerala. In spite of the disappearance of Indus valley civilisation, their bronze casting techniques continued to flourish in the Dravidian south.



[To be continued]

K. Ravindran

## NAVATI CELEBRATIONS

The inaugural function of the Navati celebrations of the Department of Malayalam, University of Madras was held on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at 3.30 p.m. in the Platinum Jubilee Auditorium, Marina Campus, University of Madras, Chennai. The inaugural address was delivered by Sri. K. Jayakumar, Vice-Chancellor, Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayalam University, Tirur. Dr. P.M. Girish, Head, Department of Malayalam welcomed the dignitaries and Dr. O.K. Santhosh offered the formal vote of thanks.

Recent Publications: **The Morphosyntax of the Dravidian Languages**, P.S. Subrahmanyam, 2013, HB, Demy 1/8, pp. xxx + 687, Rs. 1,000/- (US\$ 100/-). **A Survey of Smriti Literature**, N.P. Unni, 2013, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 8 + 164, Rs. 200/- (US\$ 20/-).

## PROF. CHEKURI RAMA RAO ENDOWMENT LECTURE

Mrs. C. Ranganayaki has sent a cheque for Rs. 1,50,000/- (Rupees one lakh and fifty thousand only) to the International School of Dravidian Linguistics as endowment fund towards organizing every year an Endowment Lecture at the Annual All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists organized by the Dravidian Linguistics Association and International School of Dravidian Linguistics. The main areas preferred for this endowment lecture are: 1. Telugu Linguistics and Stylistics, 2. Theoretical Linguistics and 3. Lexicography and Journalistic Writing.

## SYNTACTIC AND SEMANTIC ROLES EXPRESSED BY THE SYNTHETIC MARKER [-e] OF BANGLA AND ITS COUNTERPART IN MALAYALAM

(Continued from the last issue)

1.2.4. The marker *-e* (followed by the analytic marker zero) is joined with (1) common nouns denoting irrational beings and (2) collective nouns. It then expresses the **subject** and the **agent**.

E.g. With irrational beings:

(4.a) [ *biṛal-e duḍḍ<sup>h</sup> k<sup>h</sup>eet<sup>h</sup>ilo* ]  
cat milk drink- Pst.T.(perf) 3p  
[-e] marker  
**subject**  
**agent**

(4.b) [ *pu:cca pa:l kuṭiccu* ]  
cat milk drink-Pst.T.  
marker - $\emptyset$  (zero)  
**subject**  
**agent**

“Cat drank milk.”

An example for a collective noun:

(4.c) [ *lok-e eṭa bol<sup>h</sup>e* ]  
public this speak- Pr.Con.T. 3p  
[-e] marker  
**subject**  
**agent**

- (4.d) [ a:ʃukaʃ itə paɾayunnu ]  
 people this speak-Pr.T.  
 marker. -ø  
**subject**  
**agent**

“People tell this.”

Therefore, in these cases, it has to be translated with the marker **zero** in Malayalam.

**1.2.5.** In sentences with the infinitive form of a verb followed by any form of the verbal noun *h—oa* (‘to be’), the marker **—e** (followed by the analytic marker zero and joined with the aforementioned two pronouns) expresses the **subject** and the **agent**. E.g.

- (5.a) [ ama-e dʒeɾe hɔbe ]  
 I go- (infinitive form)  
 [-e] marker  
**subject**  
**agent**

- (5.b) [ eni-kkə po:kaɳam ]  
 I go-(obligatory form)  
 [-kkə] marker  
**subject**  
**agent**

“I have to go”

Therefore, such sentences have to be translated with **-kkə** marker in Malayalam.

**1.2.6.** This marker, along with the analytic marker **zero**, expresses the semantic role of **destination**.

- (6.a) [ ʃi:ta mandir-e dʒa:be ]  
 sita to temple go – F.T.3p  
 [-e] marker  
 x  
**destination**

- (6.b) [ si:ta ambalaɳtil po:kum ]  
 sita temple go - F.T.  
 [-il] marker  
 x  
**destination**

“Sita will go to temple.”

Therefore, when it expresses **destination**, it has to be translated with **-il** marker in Malayalam.

[To be continued]  
 Dhruvajyoti Das

## SEMINARS / LECTURES

**PROF. P. SOMASEKHARAN NAIR &  
 PROF. A.P. ANDREWSKUTTY  
 MEMORIAL LECTURES**

**9 February 2017**

**International School of Dravidian Linguistics,  
 Thiruvananthapuram**

**Prof. R.C. Sharma**, Head of the Department of Linguistics, Delhi University delivered Dr. P. Somasekharan Nair Memorial Lecture on the topic *Brain Evolution and Language: Some Issues* and **Prof. B. Ramakrishna Reddy** delivered Prof. A.P. Andrews Kutty Memorial Lecture on *The Linguistic Heritage of South Indian Tribes*.

**Dr. B. Ekbal**, Member, Kerala State Planning Board & Ex Vice-Chancellor, University of Kerala inaugurated the function. **Prof. N.P. Unni**, Ex Vice-Chancellor, Sreesankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady presided.

**NATIONAL SEMINAR ON  
 INDIAN GRAMMATICAL TRADITION**

**10 February 2017**

**International School of Dravidian Linguistics,  
 Thiruvananthapuram**

A National Seminar on *Indian Grammatical Tradition* was held under the auspices of the International School of Dravidian Linguistics at the ISDL campus, Menamkulam on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2017. **Sri. Mohankumar IAS**, Director of Publication Instruction inaugurated the seminar and **Prof. B. Ramakrishna Reddy** presided over the inaugural function. Scholars from different parts of India presented papers. Teachers, researchers and M.A. students from different universities, colleges and institutions have actively participated in the deliberations.

**PROF. N. RAJENDRAN MEMORIAL LECTURE**

**1 February 2017**

**Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala**

*Prof. N. Rajendran Memorial Lecture* was delivered by **Prof. N. Bhakthavatsala Reddy** at the Seminar Hall of the Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON TRIBAL LORE AND LINGUISTICS

1-3 February 2017

Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala

A three-day *International Seminar on Tribal Lore and Linguistics* was organized by the Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala from 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2017. Dr. L. Ramamurthy inaugurated the function. Prof. G.K. Panikkar delivered the Presidential Address and Prof. M. Sreenathan delivered the keynote address.

### OBITUARIES

#### PROF. JAROSLAV VACEK

Prof. Jaroslav Vacek, renowned Czech Indologist, passed away on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017 at the age of 73. He served as Director of the Institute of South and Central Asian Studies at the Charles University in Prague. Being a Sanskrit scholar, he took an active role in the revival of interest in Sanskrit and other Indian languages in many European universities. For the past one decade, his field of research was on Dravidian linguistics. He was a member of the Advisory Board of the *International Journal of Dravidian Linguistics* and an active member of the Dravidian Linguistics Association. As recognition of his contributions, he got the *President's Award for Classical Tamil* from President Pranab Mukherjee in October 2013. His death is a great loss to scholars in the field of Indology. The members of the DLA and ISDL convey their heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

#### PROF. JAMES GAIR

Prof. James Gair, Emeritus Professor of Linguistics, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York passed away on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2016 at the age of 88. He was a

specialist in Sinhala, Pali and Tamil and contributed a lot to South Asian Linguistics. He served in the faculty of Modern Languages and Linguistics of Cornell University and later became Professor of Linguistics in this University. His demise is a loss to researchers and linguists. On behalf of the Dravidian Linguistics Association and the International School of Dravidian Linguistics, we express our heartfelt condolences.

#### PROF. S.V. SUBRAMANYAM

We are deeply saddened to report the demise of Prof. S.V. Subramanyam, former Professor and Head of the Department of Tamil, University of Kerala on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017. He is the first Ph.D. holder of the Faculty of Oriental Studies from the University of Kerala and the first scholar to achieve this under the guidance of Prof. V.I. Subramoniam. He was closely associated with the Dravidian Linguistics Association and participated in all its activities since its inception. He is a well-known scholar in Tamil and linguistics and has published many articles and books in Tamil. He also served as Director of International Institute of Tamil Studies. He was a recipient of several prestigious awards like *Ilakkiya Chemmal*, *Raja Sir Muthiah Chettiyar Memorial Award*, *Tolkappiya Chemmal Award* etc. On behalf of the Dravidian Linguistics Association and the International School of Dravidian Linguistics, Prof. Jeyakrishnan, Member of the Governing Council of ISDL placed a wreath and attended the funeral rites. His death is a great loss to Tamil language and linguistics. The members of the DLA and ISDL extend their sincere condolences to his bereaved family.

#### NEW ENROLMENT FOR LIFE-MEMBERSHIP OF DLA (January 2017)

1. **Alphi Paul** (Membership No. 1284/2017)  
10D, "Pavlon", Edappally P.O., Kochi - 682 024, Kerala