



DLA NEWS

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Sanford B. Steever, 2017, PB, Demy 1/8,
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AUGUST 2019

A MONTHLY OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

47th ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTS & INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM *on Language Endangerment*

20-22 June 2019

Central University of Karnataka, Kalaburagi

INAUGURAL ADDRESS BY

VICE CHANCELLOR PROF. H.M. MAHESHWARAI AH

Central University of Karnataka

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I am one among those senior Dravidologists who has been involved with the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India and its conferences since 1973 i.e., from the 3rd All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists held at Karnatak University, Dharwad under the able leadership of my teacher Prof. R.C. Hiremath. The conference which was presided over by Prof. G.J. Somayaji was the third one in the series and the first one in Kannada soil.

The major South Indian languages like Tamil, Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam etc., that belong to a separate family are pronounced on clear terms only in the beginning of the 19th century. It is F.W. Ellis [1780-1819] who explicitly brought this fact to the notice of scholars. Later, Robert Caldwell termed this group of languages as Dravidian. There exist many languages belonging to the Dravidian family, both in India and abroad. More than one-fifth of the Indian population speaks any one of the Dravidian languages.

The Dravidian Linguistic Association of India (DLA) was formed in 1971 to encourage studies on Dravidian from a broader perspective. Under the auspices of the DLA, the All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists (AICDL) is held every year in which scholars from both India and abroad participate.

A notable event after Rev. Caldwell's monumental work *A Comparative Grammar of Dravidian or South Indian Family of Languages* is the establishment of DLA which carried the study of Dravidian languages to another level. The work done so far by and through the DLA is commendable. Linguistics has taken rapid strides in USA and Europe. This also influenced many countries to enter the field. With the help of Rockefeller Foundation, Dr. S.M. Katre, the then Director of Deccan College conducted short-term summer and autumn schools on Linguistics. The people who got trained in these schools got further specialization in USA and they were helpful in organising linguistic studies and linguistic departments in many universities. The institutions devoted to the study of Dravidian linguistics are many. The Departments

of Linguistics are established in many universities, viz. Deccan College (Pune), Annamalai University, University of Kerala, Osmania University are the earlier institutions. Later, in South India, Madurai Kamaraj University, Bharathiar University (Coimbatore), Karnatak University (Dharwad), University of Mysore, Kannur University, Malayalam University started Departments of Linguistics. Among the Central Universities established in 2009 in south India, only Central University of Karnataka and Central University of Kerala started Departments of Linguistics. In Central University of Karnataka due importance is given for Dravidian Linguistics and Dravidology in the curriculum of M.A. studies.

In the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century, many great scholars from Tamil, Kannada, Telugu and Malayalam contributed to the field of comparative Dravidian and Dravidian linguistics. Prof. A. Narasimhayya, Prof. R. Narasimhacharya, Dr. G.S. Gai, Prof. T.N. Shrikantayya, K.V. Subbayya, C.P. Venkatarama Ayyar, K. Ramakrishnayya, L.V. Ramaswamy Ayyar, K. Godavarma are very prominent Indians scholars in this respect whose contributions are remarkable. The western scholars who served in India also contributed to the field of Dravidian linguistics. Scholars like Rev. F. Kittel, Rev. Gundert, Rev. R. Caldwell, Prof. M.V. Emeneau, Prof. T. Burrow, Prof. Kamil V. Zvelebil have made this field very rich by their exemplary contributions.

In all these institutions, a big group of Dravidologists have done a remarkable job. Prof. V.I. Subramoniam, Prof. G.K. Panikkar, Prof. Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan, Prof. Prabodhachandran Nayar, Prof. A.P. Andrewskutty, Prof. B. Gopinathan Nair, Prof. P. Somasekharan Nair, Prof. M. Rama of Kerala University,

Prof. T.P. Meenakshisundaram, Prof. K. Kushalappa Gowda, Prof. S. Agestyalingam, Prof. S.V. Shanmugam, Prof. P.S. Subrahmanyam, Prof. N. Kumaraswamy Raja, Prof. K. Prabhakara Warier, Prof. K. Murugayyan, Prof. Thinnappan, Prof. K. Balasubramaniam, Prof. K. Karunakaran, Prof. Srinivasa Varma, Prof. N. Rajasekharan Nair, Prof. Natana Sabapathy, Prof. M. Ganesan of Annamalai University, Prof. M.M. Bhat, Prof. Shankara Kedilaya, Prof. K. Kushalappa Gowda, Prof. Pon. Kothandaraman, Prof. Prabhakara Warier, Prof. C. Ramaswamy, Prof. N. Deivasundaram of Madras University, Prof. Muthushanmugam, Prof. Israel, Prof. Subbayya of Madurai Kamaraj University, Prof. Bh. Krishnamurti, Prof. H.S. Ananthanarayana, Prof. B.R.K. Reddy, Prof. C. Ramarao, Prof. Somayaji, Prof. Donappa, Prof. Nagamma Reddy, Prof. G. Umamaheshwara Rao, Prof. Panchanan Mohanty, Prof. Bhakthavatsala Reddy of Osmania and Andhra Universities, Prof. D. Javare Gowda, Prof. H.M. Nayak, Prof. Somasekhara Gowda of Mysore University, Prof. M. Chidananda Murthy, Prof. Hampa Nagarajayya, Prof. K.P. Bhat of Bangalore University, Prof. R.C. Hiremath, Prof. C.R. Sankaran, Prof. J.S. Kulli, Prof. William Madtha, Prof. K. Anban, Prof. A. Murigeppa, Prof. H.M. Maheshwaraiah of Karnataka University, Prof. S. Saundattimath of Gulbarga University, Prof. D.N.S. Bhat, Prof. H.S. Biligiri, Prof. Peri Bhaskara Rao of Deccan College, Prof. A. Chandrasekhar and Prof. Subba Rao of Delhi University, Prof. D.P. Pattanayak, Prof. E. Annamalai, Prof. Tirumalai, Prof. Gnanasundaram, Prof. K. Ramaswamy, Prof. B.B. Rajapurohit, Dr. Upadhyaya, Dr. Susheela P. Upadhyaya, Dr. R. Mahadevan, Dr. Gurubasave Gowda, Dr. L. Ramamoorthy, Prof. Pon. Subbayya, Prof. Umarani Pappuswamy of CIIL - Mysore, Prof. Chidambaranatha Pillai, Prof. K. Rangan, Prof. Periyalvar, Prof. S. Rajaram, Prof. Chittira Puttira Pillai, Prof. Muralidharan

Latest Publications: INDEX OF BHĀṢĀKAUṬĀLĪAM, S. Sarojani Amma, 2019, HB, Demy 1/8, pp. 1854. EUROPEAN IMPACT ON MODERN TAMIL WRITING AND LITERATURE, Somalay, 2019 (Reprint), PB, Crown 1/4, pp. 88. FOREIGN MODELS IN TAMIL GRAMMAR, T.P. Meenakshisundaram, 2019 (Reprint), PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 8+330+iv. SYNTACTIC AND SEMANTIC ROLES IN BANGLA AND MALAYALAM, Dhruvajyoti Das, 2019, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. xviii + 250. SEMINAR ON DIALECTOLOGY, V.I. Subramoniam (Ed.), P. Somasekharan Nair & B. Gopinathan Nair (Asst. Eds.), 2019 (Reprint). PB. Demy 1/8. Pp. 16 + 120. DRAVIDIAN, Suniti Kumar Chatterji, 2019 (Reprint). PB. Demy 1/8. Pp. 6 + 84.

of Tamil University - Thanjavur, Prof. Shivananda Viraktamatha of Banaras Hindu University, Prof. H.M. Maheshwaraiah, Prof. C. Ramaswamy, Prof. K.S. Nagaraja, Prof. Rajeshwari Maheshwaraiah of Central University of Karnataka are the stars in the galaxy of Dravidian Linguistics.

What are the achievements in the field of Dravidian Linguistics is history now.

The language endangerment or language extinct phenomena at global level though not recent have gained importance now. Any language is to be regarded as endangered if children do not learn it fully any more or not at all. Many languages in India became extinct during the propagation of English (British rule).

In view of the aims and in pursuance of the direction by the Government of India, the Central University of Karnataka started a Centre for Endangered Languages in November 2015. The Centre's main aim is the preservation and promotion of endangered languages through documentation and revitalisation for restoring the status of these languages used to enjoy in the past. The Centre also works to empower the endangered language communities in all possible ways by training the persons from among them for sustainable development.

Language is not only a tool for communication but also a base for the intellectual outputs of knowledge, culture and civilization of mankind. Due to the impact of science and technology and the process of globalization, many of the world languages are at the verge of extinction. Language endangerment may lead to the loss of a language and historical and ethnic identity. India has the largest number of endangered languages in the world.

In such a situation, most of the languages are unsafe, as they are under threat by many external and

internal forces. To save such languages, the fluency of the mother tongue should be improved among the speakers, especially the younger generation.

Language endangerment or loss or death is a global phenomenon accelerated because of scientific and technological developments and globalization in the 21st century. Linguists, members of endangered language communities, governments, non-governmental organizations and UNESCO and European Union are actively working to save and stabilize endangered languages. *UNESCO Atlas of World's Languages in Danger* (2009 edition) provides country-wise statistical data of the endangered languages of the world. Countries like India, USA and Indonesia are on the top with the highest number of endangered languages.

In the light of the present situation, the Government of India felt the need for studying the trends in language endangerment to evolve remedial measures for revitalization, to identify methods of preservation of the languages, cultures, rituals etc., and thus the UGC instituted many Centres for endangered languages (CFEL) throughout India. The Central University of Karnataka is preferred and made a nodal Centre to take lead in the study of endangered languages in South India. So the CFEL in our University started functioning from November 2015. The documentation and analysis of 12 languages (Arebase, Belari, Betta Kuruba, Byari, Chenchu, Erava, Havyaka, Irula, Koracha, Koraga, Pattegar and Sanketi) are completed.

What compels the situation in this field is that there should be permanent academic activity. The centres should function as permanent bodies. Even it may be desired to recommend instituting a Central Institute of Indian Endangered

A HISTORY OF MALAYALAM METRE, N.V. Krishna Warrior, 2018. HB. Demy 1/8. Pp. 14 + 376. Rs. 870/- (US\$ 87/-). **LEXICON OF TRAVANCORE INSCRIPTIONS**, R. Vasudeva Poduval, 2018. HB. Pp. 10 + 128. Rs. 350/- (US\$ 35/-). **A LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL STUDY OF MALAYALAM AND TAMIL**, Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan, 2018, PB, Demy 1/8, Pp. 10 + 183, Rs. 250/- (US\$ 25/-). **A LINGUISTIC DESCRIPTION OF EĪUTTACCHAN'S ADHYĀTMA RĀMĀYAṆAM**, N.R. Gopinatha Pillai, 2018, PB, Demy 1/8, Pp. 20 + 548, Rs. 850/- (US\$ 85/-).

Languages. The number of endangered languages in the Dravidian family may be more than 50. The revitalization and development of these languages should be the present-day demand and the young linguists' duty is to see these waning languages be brought back to their natural force through which the culture and ethnic knowledge hidden in them can be shared.

I am very much proud to inaugurate this linguists' conference and symposium and invite the veteran and young Dravidologists to work to empower and develop the Minor and Tribal languages, as India's real wealth is its languages and culture. Let us strive to bring back their glory in the galaxy of languages.

I humbly thank you all not only for providing me the occasion to inaugurate this conference but also for providing me an occasion to have you all on this beautiful campus of the Central University of Karnataka.

Thank you.

LINGUISTIC MINORITIES IN KERALA

As per the 2011 census report of India, there are 36 languages in Kerala. In this state 97.03 percentage of the total population have Malayalam as mother tongue. Bengali (29059), Hindi (45817), Telugu (35380), Tamil (498938), Kannada (86995) and Tulu (124256) are the other chief languages spoken in Kerala. Speakers of Kannada, Konkani, Tamil and Tulu, excepting a few migrants among them, can be considered as permanent settlers or natives of Kerala. North Indians employed in IT sector and construction field are mainly using Hindi for interactions. A considerable number of Telugu (35380), Urdu (13687), Panjabi (1344), Marathi (31642) and Gujarathi (4460) speakers are from the business sector. North, North-West and North-East Indians employed in construction works use their own mother tongues namely Assamese (5752), Bodo (44), Dogri (225), Arabi (240), Kashmiri (645), Maithili (214), Sindhi (154), Adi (24),

Afghan (12), Tibetan (7) and Tripuri (13). They generally use Hindi as link language. Speakers of Kui (16), Kurukh (52), Godi (5), Malto (74) and Munda (17) are also found using Hindi as a link language. Kodagu speakers migrated in northern Taluks of Kerala use a mixed language by incorporating the linguistic features of Kodagu, Malayalam and Tamil. Tamil, Kannada and Tulu people settled in Kerala use Malayalam also in discourse level.

As per the census report of 2011, the number of non-Malayalees comes to 2.5 million approximately. Even though all languages except Malayalam spoken in Kerala are linguistically minor, two out of them namely Tamil and Kannada only enjoy the status of linguistic minority. Konkani is also in the picture, after it was declared as official language of the state of Goa. 2011 census supplies the following picture:

Bengali	29,061
Gujarathi	4,760
Hindi	51,928
Kannada	86,995
Konkani	69,449
Malayalam	3,24,13,213
Tamil	5,02,516
Telugu	35,380
Tulu	1,24,266

Even though Tulu has more speakers than Kannada, Tulu is not a minority language since it has not found a place in the 8th schedule of the constitution of India. In Kerala, there is no district in the state where a minority language is spoken by 50% or more of the district population. In Devikulam Taluk of Idukki district, the percentage of Tamil speakers is about 48.53 whereas in Peerumedu Taluk of the same district the figure is 36.55. In other Taluks of Kerala, the population of Tamilians is in between 0.18 and 0.21 percentage.

[To be continued]

Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan

OBITUARY

Prof. Alibha Dakshi (68) passed away on 29th June 2019. She was born in a lower middle class family on 24th January 1951 in Kolkata. She graduated from Sanskrit College, did her M.A. in Comparative Philology from Calcutta University with first class and first rank and obtained one gold and two silver medals for her creditable success. She took her Ph.D. from Calcutta University on *Aspect in Bengali*. She joined CIIL, Mysore as Research Assistant through UPSC in 1974. Later, in 1978, she joined Visva Bharati. She retired from there as Professor in 2016. Prof. Alibha Dakshi has ten voluminous works and three poems to her credit. *Learning Bengali on a Phonetic Basis* earned acclaim as the best model in language teaching. Among her other works, a *Linguistic Dictionary*, a book on onomatopoeia, books on *Charya Geeti*, a *Bengali Grammar for English Speakers* are all important works through painstaking research. Her *Bhasha Chintak Rabindranath* is a monumental compilation of important writings on Rabindranath, considered to be the first Asian work on linguistic studies on any language (in this case, Bengali) as early as 1881. There are numerous articles she contributed in journals. She had close contact with Prof. William Radice of SOAS (London), Prof. O'Connell (Canada), Mme Alijabetha Wanter (Warsaw), Mme Brosellina (St. Petersburg University) all of whom were teaching Bengali.

She was respected by all her colleagues, students and friends for her pleasing manners and for her hard and sincere work. She was one of the early life-members of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India and had close contact with DLA, ISDL and IJDL. It might be God's wish that the last article she wrote *Kol and Dravidian Influences in the Structure of Bengali* happened to be published in the June 2019 issue of IJDL.

We, the members of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India and the International School of Dravidian Linguistics express our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved members of her family.

PATHANS OF KERALA

(Continued from June 2019 issue)

In Uttar Pradesh, the Pathans are divided into 16 subgroups, viz. Afridi, Bangas, Bakarzai, Barech, Dandini, Durrani, Ghor, Gusti, Ghauri, Kaknar, Khalil, Lodhi, Mohammad, Mohammadzai, Orakzai and Yusufzai. In Himachal Pradesh, the Pathans are a numerically small community having about 26 subgroups, and they live in Una and Hamirpur districts.

In Gujarat, the Pathans belong to the stock of Mughal Pathan and Kabuli Pathan groups. They are divided into 12 to 13 lineages on the basis of their complexion or based on the names of ancestors, like Ghori, Lodi and Surak.

In Rajasthan, the Pathans are well-known as *Bahadur* meaning 'brave'. Their males use 'Khan' as a surname and females use 'Khanam' or 'Bibi'. They are distributed in the Durgapur area.

The Pathans in Tamil Nadu are Urdu-speaking Muslims migrated to Tamil Nadu in three periods. The first period is during the Madurai sultanate between 1335 and 1378, the second during the Mughal period during the reign of Aurangzeb and the subsequent establishment of the Carnatic state, and the last during British rule. The Pathans in Tamil Nadu are known as *pathan* or *paṭṭāni*. The hereditary chief of the Pathan of Tamil Nadu is the Nawab of Arcot. In Tanjore in Tamil Nadu, Mohammedans who speak Hindustani and claim pure Mohammedan descent are called as Dakanis. In other districts of Tamil Nadu, they are called *paṭṭāniḡal* to distinguish them from Labbais and Maruckāyars. There are 8 subgroups for Pathans in Delhi, in West Bengal 5 and in Bihar 11.

S. Abdul Samed

TO THE ATTENTION OF ALL DLA MEMBERS

A few copies of the *DLA News* and *IJDL* are either undelivered to the addressee or returned to the sender due to incorrect mailing address. Change of address if any may kindly be intimated to the Secretary, Dravidian Linguistic Association of India, V.I. Subramoniam Memorial ISDL Complex, St. Xavier's College P.O., Thiruvananthapuram – 695 586, Kerala.

Editor



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V.I. Subramoniam Memorial ISDL Complex
St. Xavier's College P.O.
Thiruvananthapuram - 695 586

Tel. 0471-2704953, 2704951, 2704282
Fax 0471-2704953

Website: www.ijdl.org

E-mail: dlatvm@gmail.com

ijdlisdl@gmail.com

PROF. H.S. ANANTHANARAYANA HONOURED

The Asiatic Society (An autonomous Body under Ministry of Culture, Government of India), Kolkata awarded Professor Suniti Kumar Chatterji Memorial Lectureship for the year 2018 to **Professor H.S. Ananthanarayana**. Prof. Ananthanarayana delivered a lecture titled *Indian Sources of Western Linguistics* on 29th July 2019.

48TH ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTS

The General Body of the DLA at its meeting on 21st June 2019 at the Central University of Karnataka, Kalaburagi accepted the invitation of the Punjabi University to hold the 48th AICDL at the Department of Linguistics and Punjabi Lexicography, **Punjabi University, Patiala**.

NEW PUBLICATIONS OF ISDL

- STUDIES ON BANGLA LINGUISTICS**
Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan (Ed.)
2019, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. viii + 385
- EVOLUTION OF A COMPOSITE CULTURE IN KERALA**
B. Padmakumari Amma
2019, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. xiv + 341
- EFFECTIVITY AND CAUSATIVITY IN TAMIL**
K. Paramasivam
2019 Reprint, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 6 + 83

LIST OF DLA LIFE-MEMBERS

(In the Chronological Order; Continued from the last issue)

Name and Address	Amount	Date of Joining
102. K. Govinda Reddy Chellasathu B.O. Vadakkanadal South Arcot, Tamil Nadu	₹ 200	3-4-1974
103. Dr. N. Mahalingam 49, St. Mary's Road, Sakthinilayam Madras - 18, Tamil Nadu	₹ 200	2-6-1974
104. Dr. A.C. Sekhar Department of Linguistics Delhi University, 4 Lucknow Road, Delhi	₹ 200	29-6-1974
105. Dr. F.B.J. Kuiper Huize Valckenbosch, Van Tetslan - 2 3707 VD Zeist, Netherlands	\$ 50	17-7-1974

[To be continued]

ISDL RESEARCH FORUM

LIST OF PAPERS PRESENTED IN JULY 2019

03.07.2019

Commonness in Mother Goddess Worship in Kerala and Bengal - Part II T. Madhava Menon IAS

10.07.2019

Terminological Analysis of Information Technology Terms in English, Tamil and Malayalam D. Mano

24.07.2019

Digital Malayalam Dr. Krishnakumar K.

NEW LIFE-MEMBERS OF DLA

(July 2019)

- Mr. Ajit Gargeshwari** (Membership No. 1372/2019)
20/10, 9th Main Road, 2nd Cross, R.M.V. Extension, Sadashivanagar,
Bangalore - 560 080, Karnataka
- Dr. Rajat Ghosh** (Membership No. 1373/2019)
20, Zenana Enclave, Perukavu P.O., Thiruvananthapuram - 695 573,
Kerala
- Ms. Riya Singh** (Membership No. 1374/2019)
Asst. Professor, Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, Opposite Directorate
Office, Street No. 8, United Colony, Half Nagarjan, Dimapur -
797 001, Nagaland