



DLA NEWS

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pp. xiv + 162, Rs. 240/- (US\$ 24/-)

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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

**A BRIEF REPORT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS BY
PROF. A. MURIGEPPA**

***President, Dravidian Linguistic Association of India &
Former Vice-Chancellor, Kannada University, Hampi***

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At the outset, Prof. Murigeppa mentioned the 3rd All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists held at Karnatak University, Dharwad in which he was actively involved as a student who just completed his M.A. course in Linguistics from that University. Then he began his Presidential Address by stating that the study of languages in the beginning was mainly descriptive in nature. Because of the training in Structural Linguistics, particularly descriptive Grammar, many of the uncovered languages, Tribal speech forms and the Dialects of many Dravidian languages were prepared. Thus the documentation of the speech forms may be of a language or a dialect was carried out. Sometimes the scholars were in a dilemma with regard to the status of a speech form, whether to treat it as a dialect or an independent language. There was a lot of uncertainty noticed while going through the studies regarding the status of indigenous speech forms.

Some scholars who earlier identified the 'dialectal' status to a particular indigenous speech form later switched over their claim seeking 'independent language' status to it. For instance, 'ka:ʈtu na:yaka' was identified by Dr. Natanasabhpathy (1980) as an 'Archaic Dialect of Kannada', whereas at a later stage, while revising his Ph.D. thesis into a book form during 1986, he himself started to claim it as an 'independent language'. So also, initially though 'Irula' was recognized as a dialect of Tamil both by Gerord F. Diffloth (1968-69) and R. Perialwar (1974), in the later stage of their research, both of them began to claim it as an independent language (1969 and 1978).

Prevalence of juxtaposed viewpoints among the scholars on the linguistic status of indigenous speech forms was also quite common. For instance, 'Mullu Kurumba' was identified as an 'Independent language' by D. Sathya Joseph (1982), while in 2018, it was claimed to be a 'Dialect of Malayalam' by N. Rajasekharan Nair. 'Jenu Kurumba' was recognized as an 'Independent language' by Kamil V. Zvelebil (1980). Contrary to this, Natanasabhpathy (1986) claimed it as a synonym of 'Kattunaika'.

[To be continued]

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Report of the 47th AICDL & INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM on Language Endangerment

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The post-inaugural session of the conference witnessed two memorial lectures. Prof. K. Karunakaran delivered *Prof. V.I. Subramoniam Memorial Lecture*. He discussed the qualities of Prof. VIS as an administrator, academician and builder of academic institutions. He also praised the publications of DLA and Prof. VIS's sense and sensibility in the production of *Dravidian Encyclopaedia* and *Dravidian Tribal Encyclopaedia*.

Dr. L. Ramamoorthy delivered *Prof. Nagamma Reddy Memorial Lecture*. In his speech, Dr. Ramamoorthy discussed various issues on language endangerment and related them to biodiversity and the loss of various types of flora and fauna from the environment just like languages.

The post-lunch session also witnessed two memorial lectures. Prof. Usha Devi, former Professor, P.S. Telugu University, Hyderabad delivered *Prof. Chekuri Rama Rao Memorial Lecture*. The topic of her lecture was *Understanding Sentence in Telugu: Traditional and Modern Approaches*. This paper looked at the Indian grammarian's approaches to understand languages by taking two very influential grammatical works 'Andhra Bhasha Bhushanam' by Mulaghatika Ketana of 13th century and 'Balavyakaranamu' by Paravastu Cinnaya Suri of 19th century.

Prof. Scaria Zacharia delivered *Smt. Lachhmi Jessaram Gidwani Memorial Lecture*. The topic of his discussion was on *Convergence and Divergence in Everyday Life: Vernacularisation*

of Language, Literature and Religion. He stressed the importance of different types of media in general and the digital media in particular since it has become the third variety of human language after the spoken and written varieties. Similarly religion as a social institution has always used effective interaction for its survival. The use of metaphors is central to religious communications of all kinds. Through this mode of religious interaction, humans are divinized and diversity is humanized.

Two more memorial lectures scheduled were delivered on 21.6.2019. Prof. Rajeshwari Maheshwaraiah delivered *Prof. Karunasindhu Das Memorial Lecture*. She explained in detail the influence of Sanskrit on Dravidian languages with special emphasis on Kannada language. Prof. Hemalatha Nagarajan, Department of Linguistics and Contemporary English, EFL University, Hyderabad delivered *Prof. Shivendra K. Verma Memorial Lecture*. The topic of her speech was on *Symbiotic Relationships in Language and Language Learning*. Having listed the different types of symbiotic relations in nature, the question addressed in her speech is whether there are correspondences to these relationships in language. She concluded saying the structure taught must be presented in relevant contexts to illustrate its function and use.

Paper-presentation sessions started on 20th afternoon. There were 16 sessions. Session I was chaired by Dr. Rajasekharan Nair. Five papers were presented in this session on *Morphology, Syntax and Semantics*. Prof. G.K. Panikkar presented a paper titled 'Malayalam Reflexive Pronominal Forms and their Diverse Functions'. This paper attempted to identify the extended usages of Malayalam reflexive pronouns. He stressed that the functions of reflexive pronouns in Malayalam are not only limited to express

Latest Publications: *STUDIES ON BANGLA LINGUISTICS*, Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan (Ed.), 2019, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. viii + 385, Rs. 450/- (US\$ 45/-). *EVOLUTION OF A COMPOSITE CULTURE IN KERALA*, B. Padmakumari Amma, 2019, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. xiv + 341, Rs. 350/- (US\$ 35/-). *EFFECTIVITY AND CAUSATIVITY IN TAMIL*, K. Paramasivam, 2019 Reprint, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 6 + 83, Rs. 150/- (US\$ 15/-). *INDEX OF BHĀṢĀKAUṬĀLĪAM*, S. Sarojani Amma, 2019, HB, Demy 1/8, pp. 1854, Rs. 1650/- (US\$ 165/-). *EUROPEAN IMPACT ON MODERN TAMIL WRITING AND LITERATURE*, Somalay, 2019 (Reprint), PB, Crown 1/4, pp. 88, Rs. 185/- (US\$ 18/-).

reflexive sense but also has extended functions like reflexive singular pronoun *tān* is also used as a second person singular pronoun and besides nominal function, the singular reflexive pronominal form performs adjectival and adverbial function. Dr. S. Kunjamma presented her paper on *Syntactic and Semantic Roles of Locatives in Malayalam*. In this paper, various aspects of these syntactic and semantic roles of locatives in Malayalam are explained in detail. Dr. Gail Coelho presented her paper *Changes to PDr Front Vowels in Kodagu and Betta Kurumba*. This paper compared certain vowel changes in Kodagu with similar changes that have also occurred in Betta Kurumba, a South Dravidian tribal language spoken in the Nilgiri-Wayanad Hills of South India, and the similarities point to a common ancestor. Mr. Madhusoodana Pai *et al* presented *Semantics of Morpho-syntactic Case Markers in Indian Languages: Sanskrit a Case Study*. In this paper, the authors discuss the nature of semantics expressed by the *upapadan* words can be classified into three categories. The paper suggests the semantic analysis of the relations due to *upapada*-s. Mohan Raj S.N. presented his paper *Taxonomy of Nominalization in Malayalam*. He has discussed nominalization on non-relativized verb stems, nominalization by regular processes, nominalization by irregular processes, nominalization by suffixation, nominalization by zero suffixation, nominalization by stem modification and distinction between irregular and regular nominalization processes.

Session II was chaired by Prof. M. Rama. Four papers were presented in this session. Dr. K. Rangan presented his paper *The Role of Head Category in Tamil Syntax*. He has discussed various aspects of Tamil syntax and explained the role of Head category. Selvaraj R. presented *Sandhi Splitter for Malayalam*. Sandhi splitter is a

base-level work for an efficient Morphological Analyser and the Sandhi-splitting describes the process by which a word is split up into its root and suffixes and identification of sufficient Sandhi rules can develop an accurate Sandhi splitter. Reshma C. presented her paper on *Reduplication Words in Malayalam Nursery Songs*. The grammatical structure of nursery songs is very simple and the use of reduplication in this area is needed to search how it can influence the children using reduplication words in nursery songs. Dr. K. Suryanarayana presented a paper *Multiple Meanings of Verbal Roots: A Case Study of the Sanskrit Verbal Root √gam and its Meanings*. This paper studies the verbal root √gam meaning *gatau* (to go). Dhatupatha mentions this single meaning; an examination of the usage of this verbal root in different Sanskrit works shows that it was employed in as many as 29 meanings.

Session III on *Morphology, Syntax and Semantics* was chaired by Prof. Basavaraj P. Donur. Three papers were presented. Dr. Anuradha Sudharsan presented her paper *Noun stripping in Kannada*. The paper demonstrates that certain types of nouns occur in non-case-marked positions defying the case principle that every NP should possess a case. She has observed two types of Constructions in which object and subject nouns respectively occur in case-less positions. Noun-stripping refers to a phenomenon in which a noun gets stripped of its case inflections and occupies a non-case position. She further demonstrates that disjoint reference results in ungrammaticality if the CPC has a human subject.

[To be continued]

R.R. Thampuran

FOREIGN MODELS IN TAMIL GRAMMAR, T.P. Meenakshisundaran, 2019 (Reprint), PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 8+330+iv, Rs. 320/- (US\$ 32/-). **SYNTACTIC AND SEMANTIC ROLES IN BANGLA AND MALAYALAM**, Dhruvajyoti Das, 2019, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. xviii + 250, Rs. 300/- (US\$ 30/-). **SEMINAR ON DIALECTOLOGY**, V.I. Subramoniam (Ed.), P. Somasekharan Nair & B. Gopinathan Nair (Asst. Eds.), 2019 (Reprint). PB, Demy 1/8, Pp. 16 + 120, Rs. 160/- (US\$ 16/-). **DRAVIDIAN**, Suniti Kumar Chatterji, 2019 (Reprint), PB, Demy 1/8, Pp. 6 + 84, Rs. 150/- (US\$ 15/-).

LINGUISTIC MINORITIES IN KERALA

(Continued from the last issue)

Regarding the safeguards envisaged for the linguistic minorities, the Government of Kerala could not implement some of them due to certain technical and administrative reasons. In spite of administrative hurdles, the Government took several steps to safeguard the interest of linguistic minorities such as:

1. Made available the translation and dissemination of important government rules, regulations, notices etc., in minority languages viz., Tamil and Kannada where their speakers constitute 15% or more of the District / Taluk / Municipality population.

2. The ration cards, electoral rolls, various application forms, notices and name boards etc., are prepared by using minority language along with Malayalam where minority languages are spoken by 15% or more of its population.

3. Necessary steps were found taken for answering the queries and applications written in minorities languages in the said minority language itself. Linguistic minorities other than Tamil and Kannada, in the state may use English for all correspondences with the Government officers and in such cases the replies sent to them shall be in English.

4. Candidates belonging to linguistic minorities (Kannada and Tamil) who write Public Service Commission test in a language other than Malayalam should pass a language test in Malayalam conducted by the Kerala Public Service Commission for the completion of his/her promotion.

5. If the qualification for a post is below S.S.L.C., provisions were laid to issue question papers in minority languages also (Kannada and Tamil) to those who wish to choose minority language as medium.

6. Facilities for registration of documents in minority language are provided.

The following facilities are available for linguistic minorities in the education sector:

1. Linguistic Minorities Educational Institutions 2017-18

Level	Name of Minority Language	Number of Schools
Primary	Tamil / Kannada	112 / 91
Upper Primary / Middle	Tamil / Kannada	26 / 45
Secondary	Tamil / Kannada	61 / 49
Higher Secondary	Nil	Nil

Educational Facilities for Linguistic Minority students

Primary stage (I to V)

Facilities for using the minority language as a medium of instruction at the Primary stage of education are as follows:

Language	Schools
Tamil	112
Kannada	91

Sanskrit, Arabic and Urdu are taught as a subject at the Primary stage.

Language	Schools
Arabic	3,162
Sanskrit	3
Urdu	3

Upper Primary stage (VI to VIII) - Minority Languages as medium of instruction

Language	Schools
Tamil	34
Kannada	45

Arabic	1,619
Sanskrit	1,743
Urdu	1,089

Languages taught as a subject

Secondary stage (IX to X) - Minority Languages as medium of instruction

Language	Schools
Tamil	61
Kannada	49

Arabic	1,143
Sanskrit	1,161
Urdu	447

Languages taught as a subject

Higher Secondary stage (XI-XII) - Minority Languages taught as a subject

Language	Schools
Tamil	26
Kannada	33

In Higher Secondary stage, English is the medium of instruction. The candidates have the option to write the examination in Malayalam and minority languages viz., Tamil or Kannada.

Textbooks in Minority Languages

SCERT has been entrusted with the task of the preparation and publication of textbooks and other teaching materials in minority languages and it is reported that these are supplied to students at the beginning of the academic session.

Safeguards for Linguistic Minorities in Kerala

- I. G.O. (Ms.) No. 758/Edn dated 28-12-1961.
- II. G.O. (Ms.) No. 506/62/PD dated 3-10-1962.
- III. G.O. (Ms.) No. 512/62/PD dated 3-10-1962.
- IV. G.O. (Ms.) No. 701 dated 22-12-1962 of Public (NI) Department.
- V. G.O. (Ms.) No. 344 dated 27-7-1963 of Public (NI) Department.

VI. G.O. (Ms.) No. 62 dated 18-2-1964 of Public (Rules) Department.

VII. G.O. (Rt.) No. 6324/2002/GAD dated 16-10-2002.

Important Government Orders on Reservation of seats for Linguistic Minority Students in Colleges/ + 2 Schools

I-A G.O. (Ms.) No. 152/95/H.Edn dated 27-9-1995.

I-B G.O. (Ms.) No. 148/90/H.Edn dated 1-8-1996.

I-C G.O. (Ms.) No. 130/98/H.Edn dated 22-10-1998.

I-D G.O. (Ms.) No. 163/2000/H.Edn dated 2-11-2000.

I-E G.O. (Ms.) No. 19/2001/G.Edn dated 24-1-2001.

I-F G.O. (Ms.) No. 235/2002/G.Edn dated 2-8-2002.

Important Government Orders on Language Test in Malayalam for Linguistic Minority recruited by Public Services etc.

II-A G.O. (Ms.) No. 142 dated 31-3-1966 of Public (Rules ND) Department.

II-B G.O. (Ms.) No. 261/PD dated 31-10-1974.

II-C G.O. (Ms.) No. 190/76/PD dated 21-6-1976.

II-D G.O. (Ms.) No. 381/78/GAD dated 16-8-1978.

II-E G.O. (Ms.) No. 356/82/GAD dated 3-11-1982.

II-F G.O. (Ms.) No. 164/84/GAD dated 31-5-1984.

II-G G.O. (Ms.) No. 142/86/GAD dated 30-4-1986.



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Important Government Order/Notification on the use of Minority Language for official purpose/printing of applications in Minority Language in Linguistic Minority areas

II-A G.O. (Ms.) No. 110 dated 21-3-1966 of Public (Rules) Department.

III-B Government Notification No. 7226/OL3/P&ARD dated 11-1-1984.

Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan

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

48TH ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTS

Prof. B.S. Khaira, President, Punjabi Linguistics Association has promised the wholehearted support and co-operation of the members of the Punjabi Linguistics Association for the successful conduct of the **48th AICDL** at the **Department of Linguistics and Punjabi Lexicography, Punjabi University, Patiala** under the able leadership of **Prof. Suman Preeth**, Head of the same Department.

LIST OF DLA LIFE-MEMBERS

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

Name and Address	Amount	Date of Joining
106. Prof. S. Bhattacharya Senior Fellow (DLA) Department of Linguistics, Kariavattom Trivandrum, Kerala	₹ 200	22-7-1974
107. Prof. Edgar C. Polome 2701 Rock Terra Drive, Austin Texas 78704, USA	\$ 60	5-8-1974
108. Dr. F.C. Southworth South Asian Regional Studies 820 Williams Hall, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia PA 19104, U.S.A.	₹ 240	7-8-1974

[To be continued]

ISDL RESEARCH FORUM LIST OF PAPERS PRESENTED IN AUGUST 2019

07.08.2019

Principles for revitalizing Endangered Languages

Dr. S. Abdul Samed

14.08.2019

Linguistic Implication of Pure Tamil Movement

Prof. Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan

21.08.2019

An Introduction to Prakrit **Prof. N. Gopinathan Nair**

28.08.2019

Developing an Integrated Curriculum using Mother Tongue: Integrated Resource Centre in Sundarban Island
Mrs. Thirumala Pal Biswas

NEW LIFE-MEMBERS OF DLA (August 2019)

1. **Ms. Gargi Roy**

(Membership No. 1375/2019)

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology (Madras), Chennai – 600 036, Tamil Nadu