



DLA NEWS

**V.I. SUBRAMONIAM
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*Vol. II: Studies on Indian Languages
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Rs. 1,150/- (US\$ 105/-)

Dravidian Syntactic Typology
Sanford B. Steever, 2017, PB, Demy 1/8,
pp. xiv + 162, Rs. 240/- (US\$ 24/-)

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OCTOBER 2020

A MONTHLY OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT OF DLA (2019-2020)

The Dravidian Linguistic Association of India was started in 1971. It is one of the pioneer academic associations of India which attracted the attention of not only the Dravidian scholars but also of the researchers from all over India and abroad. DLA is one of the associations which function for the upcoming of Dravidian languages. Along with this, it also concentrates on the other language families of India. Now DLA has taken steps to give more attention to the Tribal languages also. Truly speaking, the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India is the backbone of the International School of Dravidian Linguistics. It supports the ISDL in all its academic activities. So is the case with the financial matters also. In addition, it also extends support to the publication of *IJDL* and the *DLA News*.

DLA is actively engaged for the progress of linguistic studies in general and Dravidian Linguistics in particular. *DLA News*, a monthly newsletter, is regularly published in which the activities of all linguistics departments and the news on conferences, seminars, awards etc., are given. *IJDL* and *DLA News* are given free of cost to the life-members of DLA. In addition, all DLA and ISDL publications are given at 50% discount to the life-members of the DLA.

Membership in DLA

DLA has 1,168 active life-members at present. During the year 2019-2020, 43 new scholars enrolled as life-members of DLA. Most of these scholars are the students of reputed universities. The membership fee obtained during the financial year 2019-2020 is Rs. 1,29,000/-.

Sale of DLA Publications

DLA together with ISDL is one of the leading publishers on linguistics in India and has already published 146 reputed works which have immense popularity and wide range of readership throughout India and abroad. During the financial year 2019-2020, revenue from the sale of publications has increased and the total sales proceeds is Rs. 1,92,549/-.

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Books Published during 2019-2020

1.	Collected Papers on Tamil	Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan (Ed.)
2.	The Riddle that is Tamil	R. Kothandaraman
3.	Tributes of Love and Affection: Reminiscences of Prof. V.I. Subramoniam	Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan, T.P. Sankarankutty Nair & C.S. Hariharan (Eds.)
4.	Index of Kanassa Ramayanam	Puthussery Ramachandran
5.	The Dravidian Culture and its Diffusion	T.K. Krishna Menon
6.	The Mother Goddess in Bengal and in Kerala	T. Madhava Menon
7.	Evolution of Malayalam	Anantaramayyar Chandrasekhar

Endowment Funds**V.I. SUBRAMONIAM ENDOWMENT FUND**

Contribution received for V.I. Subramoniam Endowment Fund during this financial year is Rs. 7,500/-. The total contribution for V.I. Subramoniam Endowment Fund received up to 31-03-2020 is Rs. 4,98,146 /-.

DLA NEWS - ENDOWMENT FUND

The total DLA News Endowment Fund now stands at Rs. 2,14,842/-. An amount of Rs. 1,801/- was received as donation to DLA News Endowment Fund during the year 2019-2020.

Rent from DLA City Office Building

The DLA City Office building is given for rent to M/s Talent Academy Pvt. Ltd. and we have collected an amount of Rs. 13,13,433/- towards rent from the tenant during the financial year 2019-2020 (April 2019 to February 2020). Due to the corona pandemic

lockdown, the rent for the month of March 2020 is not yet credited by the tenant.

[To be continued]

Administrative & Publication Division
Dravidian Linguistic Association of India

DRAFT NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY 2020 – COMMENTS

1. **Introduction:** “*Vision of this Policy*” (Concluding paragraph in “Introduction”): Ambitiously, the “Vision” envisages that the learners in India should be equipped with a “deep-rooted pride in being Indian”, as well as “reflecting a truly global citizen”. The “fundamental principles that will guide the educational system at large (sic!), as well as the individual institutions within it” have been listed in the preceding paragraphs that declare this “Vision”.

Conspicuously, the list does NOT include the acquisition of survival skills, nor inculcate a sense of the dignity of labour in the diverse forests, muddy fields and dusty pastures of India. It ignores agriculture and basic skills not merely as a means of livelihood but also as an essence of the human values that shape it as a global mission. The Policy objectives do not include a sense of the vibrancy of democracy at the local self-government level, of commerce in the small towns, and the misery of the struggle for existence in the teeming cities.

This lack of perspective is reflected throughout the policy document. The draft clearly indicates that it has been prepared from the viewpoint of the pedagogue and the technocrat, the bureaucrat and the businessman, rather than that of the FARMER and the VILLAGER. The young Indian that the policy seeks to produce will be better off in the urbanized cultures outside India, solving the

Latest Publications: THE DRAVIDIAN CULTURE AND ITS DIFFUSION, T.K. Krishna Menon, 2020, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 58, Rs. 75/- (US\$ 7.50/-). THE MOTHER GODDESS IN BENGAL AND IN KERALA, T. Madhava Menon, 2020, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. vi + 463, Rs. 600/- (US\$ 60/-). INDEX OF KANĀSSĀ RĀMĀYAṆAM, Puthussery Ramachandran, 2020, HB, Demy 1/8, pp. 1122, Rs. 1930/- (US\$ 193/-). COLLECTED PAPERS ON TAMIL, Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan (Ed.), 2019, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. x + 374. Rs. 400/- (US\$ 40/-). TRIBUTES OF LOVE AND AFFECTION: REMINISCENCES OF PROF. V.I. SUBRAMONIAM, Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan, T.P. Sankarankutty Nair & C.S. Hariharan (Eds.), 2019, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. vi + 212, Rs. 300/- (US\$ 30/-).

problems of technology and advancement for affluent employers, rather than making life better and more humanly fulfilling in the villages of India. It will foster the export of expert manpower from India, rather than the retention of those who will be competent to make of India a better home for Indians.

Suggestion: *The recital, viz., “rootedness and pride in India” may be expanded, thus:*

“a rootedness and pride in India, and in the dignity of labour in its varied forests, muddy fields and dusty pastures, in the business and entrepreneurial opportunities in its small towns, in easing the travails of survival in its teeming cities, and as continuum of India’s rich culture and diverse knowledge systems”;.....

This may be followed up by adding a concluding paragraph:

“This policy envisions the generation of Indians who primarily live as Indians in India, working through and enhancing the vitality of its organizations for local self-government, inspired by mastery of the potential of new developments in technology for improving local productivity and prosperity. It embraces Indians who will make the big villages and small towns of India vibrant centres of culture as well as of employment, industry and profits. It includes Indians who will strive to make living in our teeming cities more human. And it accommodates Indians who will migrate out into the wide world, and become truly the Global Citizens of the future”.

2. Early Childhood Care & Education: The innovation, including education of children in the age group 3-6, as integral to Educational Policy, is welcome. Very correctly, the document declares:

“ECCE ideally consists of flexible, multi-faceted, ...music and movement.... The overall aim of ECCE will be to attain optimal outcomes in the domains of: physical and motor development, ... numeracy”.

The write-up goes on to outline what apparently is intended to be a nation-wide

uniformity of *details*, in addition to objectives. This will be frustrating, because of the uncountable variation in condition through the country, even within the limits of a village. Therefore, *a framework that “will serve as a guide both for parents and for early childhood care and educational institutions” should apply to broad objectives and methodologies, rather than to detailed processes and procedures.*

The document goes on to enumerate:

“ECCE shall be delivered through a significantly expanded.... Institutions consisting of (a) stand-alone Anganwadis.....stand-alone pre-schools – all of which would recruit workers/teachers specially trained in the curriculum and pedagogy of ECCE”.

The recital continues with a series of institutions, qualifications of personnel, and continued professional development of these institutions.

In rural India, the HOME is the primary focus of the child’s world. The transposition of a child from its home to any sort of institution for any part of the day is initially traumatic, and may be perpetually vicious. In households where both parents have to work hard, and from morning to night outside their homes, the deposit of their child in an institution may be a wrench, particularly if the institution is at some distance away from either their place of residence or their place of work.

It is vital that the FAMILY of the child, the household of which it is native, and which is most of its perceived world, should be involved in this learning process, and work in tandem to such institutions however professionally they be devised and managed.

The household should NOT be seen as something external to these institutions of ECCE. The personnel of these institutions should be psychologically conditioned to recognize the HOUSEHOLD of the child as the primary learning

THE RIDDLE THAT IS TAMIL, R. Kothandaraman (Ed.), 2019, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. iiv + 480, Rs. 750/- (US\$ 75/-). **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 BHĀṢĀKAUṬĀLIAM**, S. Sarojani Amma, 2019, HB, Demy 1/8, pp. 1854, Rs. 1650/- (US\$ 165/-).

locale. The personnel should establish working relationships with the parents of the child, so that the experiential training comprised in **life-as-lived by the child**, and of **instructions-as-administered by the trained personnel**, work in tandem.

The Policy statement continues to stress: “responsibility for ECCE curriculum and pedagogy will lie with MHRD” etc., all at New Delhi. Such centralization of so vast a variability of conditions will be frustrating. Each institution will have to work with a set of families and households diverse in every aspect of livelihood and activity. Languages, culture, geography, vary in this vast country.

Suggestion: The paragraph now concluding the section, viz., “The responsibility ... school education”, may be replaced with:

“It is essential that the wide variability of conditions and requirements entail correspondingly variable responses from the personnel, as well as from the policy making levels of the States. The Central Ministries of MHRD, Women and Child Development, Health and Family Welfare and Tribal Affairs will, in consultation with the State Governments, devise general guidelines for the recruitment and training of personnel for the institutions envisaged in the program. The State Governments will devise variable programs to fulfil these general objectives at the level of each settlement in the State. Special provisions will be made for children belonging to Members of the Scheduled Tribes, and such other special groups as the State Governments may decide upon.

In the formulation and execution of ECCE, care shall be taken to integrate the members of the household of the child in active participation of the program. It shall be the responsibility of the personnel in charge of the local institutions to ensure that the commitment to the welfare of the child is total, and that no trauma of separation from the family milieu is a consequence of any activity. The Central Government shall constitute a special joint task force

to liaise with corresponding agencies in the States to ensure that the integration of early childhood care and universal education at school is smooth and friendly to the child”.

Extension to ST areas

The Policy refers to the extension of ECCE to ST areas in a brief paragraph:

“ECCE will be introduced in Ashramshalas ... The process for integration ... of ECCE will be similar to that detailed above”.

The ST world in India has changed radically after the implementation of PESA and of the Forest Rights Act. The essence of these changes is that it is no longer legal to “administer” these areas as if the ST people had no rights of dissent. Nor does the spirit of these enactments favour the imposition of “improvements” by technocratic agencies without the informed consent of the ST people. The nature of the Family and the procedures for bringing up the children are significant cultural elements in the life of the ST people. They have age old, and well-established methods of bringing up their children – several of them far more advanced than those in non-tribal India; and several of them so far advanced that even the present “Policy” has not internalized them. The tacit assumption in the Policy document therefore seems to be totally anachronistic.

[To be continued]

T. Madhava Menon (IAS Retd.)

Former Vice-Chancellor, Kerala Agricultural University

REMNANTS OF IRON AGE FOUND AT TRIPRANGODE

In a rare find, the Kozhikode unit of the State Archaeology Department has discovered an early Iron Age burial monument from a rock-cut chamber claimed to be over 2,000 years old at Triprangode village in Tirur taluk in Malappuram district. K. Krishnaraj of the Archaeology Department says 16 pottery and three iron implements were recovered from the chamber recently following a land-leveling work on the premises of a newly built house.

[**Courtesy:** The write-up of Shri. Biju Govind in *The Hindu* dated 30 September 2020]

EUROPEAN IMPACT ON MODERN TAMIL WRITING AND LITERATURE, Somalay, 2019 (Reprint), PB, Crown 1/4, pp. 88, Rs. 185/- (US\$ 18/-). **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/-).

**DR. SOMASEKHARAN NAIR & DR. ANDREWSKUTTY
MEMORIAL LECTURES
ISDL Campus, 6 November 2020**

Dr. P. Somasekharan Nair and Dr. A.P. Andrews Kutty Memorial Lectures will be held on 6th November 2020 in the International School of Dravidian Linguistics campus at Menamkulam. Dr. P. Somasekharan Nair endowment lecture will be delivered by Dr. Raghavan Payyanad. Dr. D. Benjamin will deliver Dr. A.P. Andrews Kutty endowment lecture.

**TWO-DAY INTERNATIONAL VIRTUAL
CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGE TEACHING
AND LEARNING IN ESL/EFL SETTING:
STATUS AND PROSPECTS
REPORT**

The Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala in collaboration with the Department of English, Tamar University, Yemen conducted a two-day International Virtual Conference on Language Teaching and Learning in ESL/EFL Settings: Status and Prospects on 20th and 21st September 2020. Inaugurating the ceremony, Dr. P.P. Ajayakumar, Honourable Pro Vice Chancellor, University of Kerala pointed out that as teachers, our own experience was more important than the theories and approaches we had been familiarized with and he expressed hope that the presentations in the conference should prove a beacon to help in formulating our own theories of learning and teaching. In the inaugural ceremony, the welcome note was given by Prof. S.A. Shanavas, Coordinator and Chairman of the Conference, Head of the Department of Linguistics and the felicitations were accorded by His Excellency Yahia Ghobar, the Consul-General of the Republic of Yemen in Mumbai, Abdul Khadar Al Amar on behalf of Vice Rector, Yemen, Prof. Jayachandran, Dean, Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Kerala and Prof. Ahmed Al-Domini, Dean, Faculty of Education. Dr. Ameen Al Gamal, the Organizing Secretary, introduced the objectives of the conference and Dr. Prema proposed the vote of thanks.

[To be continued]
S.A. Shanavas

Review. A LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL STUDY OF MALAYALAM AND TAMIL Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan. 2018. Thiruvananthapuram: International School of Dravidian Linguistics. Pp. 183.

(Continued from the last issue)

Chapter 7: From Proto West Coast dialect to Malayalam

The paper intends to give a description of the evolution of Tamil and Malayalam as two separate independent languages from a proto type. The works of scholars like Kamil Zvelebil, A. Govindan Kutty and S.V. Shanmugam are referred to in support of his claim that there existed a proto Tamil-Malayalam stage before their evolution as separate languages. According to Zvelebil, the proto Tamil-Malayalam group had two subgroups such as Tamil-Malayalam and Kannada. In support to his claim, he had exhibited some archaic features that exist in Tamil-Malayalam but not in any other Dravidian languages, such as phone [ɻ], alveolar stop [ɽ] and palatalization of [k] to [c]. Similarly, Govindan Kutty also claimed in his book (1972) that the separation of west coast dialect from east coast dialect occurred in the remote past even before the Sangam period for which he had provided certain evidences such as retention of palatal [ɲ] in Malayalam which has been changed to dental [n] in Tamil. The proto 2nd person pronoun oblique base is [in] but in Tamil it is [un] but Malayalam retained the [in]. Instead of the existence of so many facts, scholars like Elamkulam Kunjan Pillai claimed that the proto-Tamil-Malayalam had been Tamil in reality but his claim has been refuted with a long list of evidences. Some of them are as follows:

- i. The proto form of *Kaṇṇu* in Tamil and *Kaṇṇu* in Malayalam is *Kaṇtu*. The derivation denotes the existence of a common stage.
- ii. Moreover, when we look into the languages of Kerala before 9th century C.E., there were only two languages Sanskrit and Centamil. In due course of time, the glory of Centamil diminished and Sanskrit-oriented local tongue became more prominent. The “Miśrabhāṣa” gave birth to a dialect Maṇṇipravāḷa which later on evolved into a literary genre.

DRAVIDIAN, Suniti Kumar Chatterji, 2019 (Reprint), PB, Demy 1/8, Pp. 6 + 84, Rs. 150/- (US\$ 15/-). **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/-). **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/-).



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Chapter 8: Sangam and Post Sangam works In Malayalam

Among the Dravidian languages, Tamil and Malayalam possess such a close affinity and at times it becomes difficult to demarcate between Tamil and Malayalam. The literatures written till 9th century are considered as a stage of Tamil Malayalam classical period but the language of these literatures is intelligible neither to the present-day Tamilians nor to the Malayalees. Therefore, the works have been translated separately in both the languages. This paper deals with the Malayalam translations of the Sangam and post-Sangam works. The readers of Malayalam had to wait till 1595 C.E. to get a translation of a Classical Tamil work "Kural" which marks the beginning of the translation of Sangam Literature in Malayalam. Next in the line of translation was *Cilappatikarām* which has 6 translations in Malayalam but among them S. Ramesan Nair's *Cilappatikarām* stands as the best poetic version of the original text. Most of the Akam and Puram songs had their translations in Malayalam. G. Vaidyanatha Ayyer's Malayalam version of *Patirrupattu* is not a word-to-word translation rather he had introduced the original text in Malayalam with commentary on important areas. V.R. Parameswaran Pillai was the first to print the original version of *Puranānūru* in Malayalam though his interpretation is a bit traditional. *Akanānūru* was translated in Malayalam by Nenmāra P. Viswanathan Nair which is more of a commentary than a translation. N.V. Krishna Varier's *Akam Kavita* is more accurate and equivalent in both literal and structural level. Apart from analysing the translations of these literary works, the paper also deals with a detailed description of the translation of grammatical treatises such as *Tolkāppiyam*, *Nannūl* etc.

[To be continued]

Tirumala Pal Biswas

LIST OF DLA LIFE-MEMBERS (In the Chronological Order; Continued)

137. Prof. S.D. Lourdu 56, B-2, Sarah Tucker College Road Perumalpuram, Thirunelveli – 7, Tamil Nadu	₹ 220	15-4-1975
138. Dr. K.M. Prabhakara Warrior Sagar Apartment, Thiruvalluvar Nagar Thiruvannamipur, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	₹ 220	15-7-1975
139. Dr. Anantakrishna Pillai Kurinci Street, RV Puram, Nagercoil – 1 Tamil Nadu	₹ 220	15-7-1975
140. Dr. V. Mini 'Deepthi', Pongumoodu, Medical College P.O., Trivandrum, Kerala	₹ 200	31-12-1975

[To be continued]

ISDL RESEARCH FORUM

LIST OF PAPERS PRESENTED IN SEPTEMBER 2020

16.9.2020: *Suniti Kumar Chatterji's Views on the Word 'Dravidian' – A Supplement*

Prof. Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan

23.9.2020: *Linguistic Reorganization of the States in India*

Prof. T. Jamal Mohammed

30.9.2020: *Communication Disorders in Children*

Dr. Jeena S. Nair

NEW PUBLICATION OF ISDL

EVOLUTION OF MALAYALAM

Anantaramayyar Chandrasekhar, 2020, PB, Crown 1/4, pp. 8+216, Rs. 450/- (US\$ 45/-)

NEW LIFE-MEMBERS OF DLA (September 2020)

- Dr. Vidyarati Joshi** (Membership No. 1406/2020)
C/o D.N. Joshi, Upper Mawprem, Shillong – 793 002, Meghalaya
- Dr. Ganga Brahma** (Membership No. 1407/2020)
Village Hadanpara, Ward 8, Kokrajhar – 783 370, Assam

DLA NEWS ENDOWMENT FUND

27.9.2020 Prof. Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan Rs. 90.00

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