

DLA NEWS

**V.I. SUBRAMONIAM
COMMEMORATION VOLUMES**
Vol. I: Studies on Dravidian - Crown ¼,
 pp. xx + 515, Rs. 1,280/- (US\$ 110/-)
*Vol. II: Studies on Indian Languages
 and Cultures* – Crown ¼, pp. xx + 458,
 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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AUGUST 2021

A MONTHLY OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

48th AICDL

The COVID-19 situation in Kerala still remains uncontrolled. Among the everyday account of the new COVID-affected persons of our country, about 50% (on some days even more) are now reported from Kerala. Hence the details regarding the holding of 48th AICDL are not yet chalked out. Hope the situation will soon improve. Any decision in this regard if taken will be announced immediately. We are extremely sorry for the inconvenience caused to the intended participants of the 48th All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists.

Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan
 Director, ISDL & Dean, DLA

THE DRAVIDIAN CONNECTION OF SHRI BUDDHA

Dr. Bryan Levman in his monograph "Proto-Dravidian influence on Indo-Aryan Phonology, Morphology and Syntax" (to be published in *IJDL*) opines that Gautama Buddha's Sakya clan was an indigenous group whose native tongue was a non-Indo-Aryan language, most probably a form of proto-Dravidian, judging from the etymology of the toponyms in the area and other cultural words borrowed from Dravidian into Old Indic (Vedic) and Middle Indic (Pāli). Levman further states "Since the Buddha was born into the Sakya clan – which the toponyms suggest was a Dravidian-speaking group – it is reasonable to assume that he was multi-lingual and taught his disciples in both Dravidian and Indo-Aryan languages."

GLIMPSES ON DLA

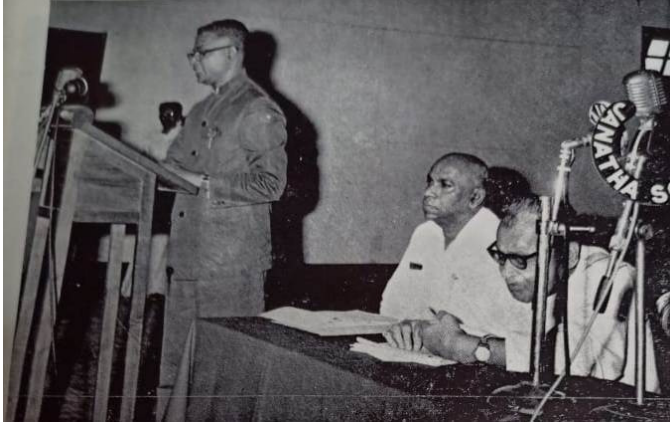
(Continued)

The inaugural ceremony of the First All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists was held in the Convocation Hall of the University of Kerala, Palayam Campus, Thiruvananthapuram on 3rd June 1971. The venue of the conference was named 'Kerala Panini Hall' in honour of the great Malayalam grammarian A.R. Rajaraja Varma who is better known as 'Keeraḷa Paaṇini'. The conference gates were named as Tolkaappiyar, Kesiraja and Nannaya in honour of the three renowned grammarians of Tamil, Kannada and Telugu.

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Inaugural Function

The inaugural function began with a welcome address by Prof. V.I. Subramoniam. He indicated the grammatical tradition of Kerala and pointed out that the Malayalam grammarians made use of the knowledge of other Dravidian languages to establish the identity of Malayalam. He said that the Dravidian linguistic studies had received a severe setback in the early and middle periods of the 20th century. In his view, it might be due to various reasons such as lack of proper care and support from those in power. In the early part of post-Independence period, the authorities had to give more attention to the official languages of India i.e., Hindi and English. In addition people of any country, in general, do not show much appreciation to the in-depth studies of the regional languages. So also the reluctance to adopt modern linguistic techniques for language studies resulted in the paucity of hands in the field of study and research in Dravidian linguistics. In this function, V.I. Subramoniam also announced his decision for the publication of the *International Journal of Dravidian Linguistics* from the Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala and said that Vol. 1 Issue 1 will be brought out in January 1972. In this context, he gratefully acknowledged the encouragement extended by the authorities of the University of Kerala for starting the publication of such a journal. After the welcome address, the conference was inaugurated by H.E. Shri. V. Vishwanathan, the Governor of Kerala. In his inaugural address, he covered many points such as the discontinuity of the Dravidian culture from the days of Mohenjodaro to the first attested documents in Tamil,

the beauty of the oneness of the Indian culture, the influence of Sanskrit on the Dravidian languages, the importance of studying the Sumerian and the Mediterranean cultures to understand Dravidian culture thoroughly, the influence of religion and culture on the development of languages etc. During the function, Shri. C. Achyutha Menon, Hon. Chief Minister of Kerala felicitated the five elderly scholars: Prof. S.K. Chatterji, Prof. T.P. Meenakshi-sundaram, Prof. G.J. Somayaji, Prof. Elamkulam Kunjan Pillai and Prof. M. Mariappa Bhat by garlanding and by giving silver shawls and golden rings to them. In the absence of Prof. Elamkulam Kunjan Pillai due to illness, his son received the *upahara-s* on his father's behalf. The Chief Minister Shri. Achyutha Menon praised the decision of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India to honour the five renowned scholars. He pointed out that it is in accordance with the tradition of Kerala. Honouring not only the native scholars but also the non-native scholars is a tradition followed by the Maharajas of Travancore, the Maharajas of Kochin and the Zamorins of Calicut. Immediately after the Chief Minister's speech, Prof. S.K. Chatterji delivered the presidential address. He surveyed the state of Dravidian studies so far done and indicated the works remaining to be done in the future. He stressed the contribution of Dravidians to Indian culture and its importance for Sanskrit studies. In addition to the local scholars and delegates from Kerala, over 250 delegates from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and a dozen delegates from North India and from foreign countries attended the conference. Dr. George Jacob, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Kerala described the conference as a milestone in the study of Dravidian Linguistics in India. The inaugural function came to an end with a vote of thanks by Dr. Puthusseri Ramachandran.

Academic Sessions

The academic sessions began at 11.15 a.m. in the Russian and German lecture halls of the University of Kerala. Eight sessions of 2 hours duration were held on 3rd and 4th June 1971. About

Latest Publications: INDEX OF RĀMAKATHAPPĀṬṬU, G. Sulekha, 2021, HB, Demy 1/8, pp. 1742, Rs. 1960/- (US\$ 196/-). INDIAN STYLISTICS, Desamangalam Ramakrishnan, 2020, PB, Crown 1/4, pp. 8 + 73, Rs. 170/- (US\$ 17/-). MALAYALAM AS A CLASSICAL LANGUAGE, Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan (Ed.), 2020, PB, Crown 1/4, pp. xx+616, Rs. 1250/- (US\$ 125/-). COLLECTED PAPERS OF V.I. SUBRAMONIAM, Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan (Ed.), 2020, HB, Crown 1/4, pp. 6+187, Rs. 450/- (US\$ 45/-). EVOLUTION OF MALAYALAM, Anantaramayyar Chandrasekhar, 2020, PB, Crown 1/4, pp. 8+216, Rs. 450/- (US\$ 45/-). THE DRAVIDIAN CULTURE AND ITS DIFFUSION, T.K. Krishna Menon, 2020, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 58, Rs. 75/- (US\$ 7.50/-).

10 papers were discussed in each session. Prominent scholars and Professors presented very informative papers covering almost all branches of linguistics.

3rd June 1971

Morning sessions

In the two parallel sessions of 3rd morning, nine papers on the topic 'Sanskrit and Malayalam' under the chairmanship of Dr. P.K. Narayana Pillai were presented and in the second session ten papers on syntax under the chairmanship of Dr. K. Raghavan Pillai and Mr. James Lindholm were presented.

Afternoon sessions

In the afternoon session, 10 papers on grammar and lexicon were presented under the chairmanship of Prof. Sooranad P.N. Kunjan Pillai. In the second parallel session, 11 papers on sociolinguistics were presented under the chairmanship of Mr. Wolfrom Gude.

4 June 1971

Morning sessions

In the morning sessions, 13 papers on Historical linguistics and 8 papers on Grammatical theory were presented. The chairmen were Drs. K.M. George and K. Mahadeva Sastri and Mr. N.V. Krishna Warriar and Prof. M. Mariappa Bhat.

Afternoon sessions

In the afternoon sessions, 10 papers on Dialect Studies and 10 papers on Applied Linguistics were presented. Dr. K.N. Ezhuttachan chaired the session on Dialect Studies and Prof. G. J. Somayaji and Prof. N. Krishna Pillai chaired the session on Applied Linguistics.

Out of the 102 papers received, 80 of them were read in person and were discussed. The languages covered were Badaga, Hindi, Kannada, Kurukh, Malayalam, Malto, Paniya, Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu and Tulu. All the papers presented were of high standard. In the inaugural function, two books *Vowel Duration in Malayalam* by S. Velayudhan and *Intensive Course in Telugu* by N. Sivaramamurthy were released by Prof. S.K. Chatterji.

Exhibition

An exhibition of books relevant to Malayalam Language and Culture was organized under the auspices

of the State Institute of Languages, Kerala at the University Library, Thiruvananthapuram. More than 3000 books were exhibited. Teaching and Research Departments of the University of Kerala, Kerala Sahitya Academy and many publishing firms participated in the exhibition. In addition to this, the published works related to linguistics, cultural and historical aspects of the major Dravidian Languages, the research dissertations and rare manuscripts of the University Departments including the Dialect maps of Malayalam prepared by the Department of Linguistics were exhibited. The Dialect maps were one of the main attractions among the exhibits.

Hospitality

The University of Kerala, the staff and students of the Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala and the Organizers of the First All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists extended warm hospitality to the delegates by providing all the amenities including delicious food and proper accommodation during the entire period of the conference.

Entertainment

Prof. Nellai Krishnamoorthi of Swathi Thirunal Music Academy, Thiruvananthapuram and seven other professors of that Institution gave a pleasing music concert of the songs of Swathi Thirunal.

Organizing Secretaries

The organizing secretaries Dr. Puthusseri Ramachandran handled the Public relationship and Dr. G.K. Panikkar handled the Finance and Office management very efficiently.

The Support received

The University of Kerala gave a grant of Rs. 5000/- for the conduct of the conference and the Government of Kerala sanctioned an amount of Rs. 8000/- for the printing of the Proceedings of the conference. This is in addition to the sanction of free usage of the required infrastructure for the Conference including office space, classrooms for the sessions and the majestic Senate Hall from the part of the University of Kerala. So also, the Government of Kerala had treated the important foreign delegates and eminent Professors like S.K. Chatterji, T.P. Meenakshisundaram,

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 KAṆṆAŚŚA RĀMĀYAṆAM**, Puthusseri 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/-).

G.J. Somayaji, M. Mariappa Bhat, R.C. Hiremath, K. Mahadeva Sastri as State Guests and even provided a few State cars for the official trips of the chief guests.

Bhima Jewellers, Alappuzha offered 5 gold rings (8 gm each) and Parthas Textiles, Thiruvananthapuram offered 5 costly silk shawls to honour the 5 reputed linguists of India i.e., Prof. S.K. Chatterji, Prof. T.P. Meenakshisundaram, Prof. G.J. Somayaji, Prof. Elamkulam Kunjan Pillai and Prof. M. Mariappa Bhat. In addition, the general public of Thiruvananthapuram had given enthusiastic support and encouragement to the First All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists. Similarly, all the leading newspapers of South India had given due coverage to the whole function. The Researchers and Staff members of the Department of Linguistics and other language Departments of the University of Kerala had extended their full support to this conference.

The success of the conference was mainly due to the wholehearted academic, financial and manpower support rendered by eminent professors, scholars, students and by various institutions. The unflinching support received from the Government of Kerala, University of Kerala, State Institute of Languages, the University Library and from various academic institutions and many publication firms was specially noteworthy. The enthusiasm shown by the general public contributed a lot in this regard and the presence of participants from India and abroad was also an important feature for its great success. The hard work of the two able secretaries P. Ramachandran Pillai and G.K. Panikkar was very remarkable in making the conference an event in the history of linguistic studies on Dravidian.

Conference Souvenir

Mr. M.K.K. Nair, the Managing Director of FACT, released the Souvenir of the First All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists. Prof. T.P. Meenakshisundaram, the former Vice-Chancellor of Madurai University, distributed the certificates.

The Origin of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India

After the First All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists, due to the suggestion of the eminent scholars like Prof. Suniti Kumar Chatterji, Prof. T.P. Meenakshisundaram, Prof. G.J. Somayaji, Prof. Sooranad Kunjan Pillai, Prof. M. Mariappa Bhat etc., the idea of an

association for Dravidian Linguistic studies was mooted by Prof. V.I. Subramoniam, Prof. R.C. Hiremath and Prof. K. Mahadeva Sastri. A committee was constituted for the purpose and eminent scholars were nominated as its office-bearers.

[To be continued]

Abdul Samed

LINGUISTIC MINORITIES OF KERALA – BETTER AVENUES SUGGESTED

The Special Officer appointed by the Government of Kerala to study the problems faced by the linguistic minorities of the State of Kerala has submitted his report to the Chief Minister, Government of Kerala. Following are the important suggestions in the report of the Special Officer Prof. Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan:

1. Preference should be given to linguistic minorities permanently residing in Kerala in the quota of reservation for linguistic minorities in Government services than those belonging to other States.
2. In the Tamil and Kannada predominant areas, special attention is required on the part of the Government to post employees who can converse in the concerned minority language of the region.
3. The present cut-off year i.e., 1950 prescribed by the Government has to be re-fixed as 1970 as the residential requirement for considering a person as belonging to the linguistic minority of the Kerala State.
4. Though Tulu is spoken by 1.4 lakh people in the State of Kerala, the Special Officer points out that it does not come under the Official definition of 'minority language' since it is not the official language of any of the States of the Indian Union. Protection is needed for Tulu speakers also.
5. The question papers for the Teachers' Eligibility Test, Higher Secondary Examination etc., need to be provided to the required candidates in Tamil and Kannada also.

It is understood that a series of other recommendations do exist in the report for the protection of the rights and privileges of the people belonging to the linguistic minorities of Kerala.

[Courtesy: **Deccan Herald**, 21.7.2021]

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/-). **THE RIDDLE THAT IS TAMIL**, R. Kothandaraman (Ed.), 2019, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. iiv + 480, Rs. 750/- (US\$ 75/-).

REVIEW. Aligarh Journal of Linguistics (AJL) 2020-21

M.J. Warsi (Editor-in-Chief)

Vol. 10, Nos. 1 & 2, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh: Department of Linguistics, pp. 204, \$ 25/-.

The year 2020 is very special to us as Aligarh Muslim University has completed the hundredth year of its formation (1920-2020). To mark this memorable milestone, **Department of Linguistics** has decided to publish this issue of Aligarh Journal of Linguistics (AJL) as part of Centenary celebrations. The Volume 10, issues 1 and 2, comprises 25 research papers from diverse areas including book reviews.

The issue 1 contains fourteen research papers and one book review where in the first paper “Pre-editing and text standardization on a Bengali written text corpus”, Niladri Sekhar Dash describes the pre-editing and text standardizing process with special reference to Bengali text corpus. It also argues that text normalization is necessary for any text that is arbitrarily collected and stored in corpus. Therefore, text normalization solves many problems of spelling, text formatting, word identification and text reliability (Huang 2007). In the paper on “The evolution of Indian languages and a scriptological and linguistic survey of the world: Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar”, Richard Gauthier describes the evolution of Indian languages from pre-historic times to the present, and the detailed survey of the languages and scripts of the world. In the next paper, “Phonology of Bishnupriya, a contact language”, Nazrin B. Laskar discusses the phonology of Bishnupriya in terms of Language Contact where she discussed that Bishnupriya shares its phonology with Eastern Bengali (Sylheti), Assamese and Meitei. Further, she explains that the general rhythmic structure of Bishnupriya appears to be distinctly closer to Tibeto-Burman than any of the Indo-Aryan languages involved. In the paper on “Linguistic innovation in Kiran Desai’s fiction: A study of lexical category”, Babu Ray and Abhinav Kumar Mishra discuss the linguistic analysis of literary text where they describe the linguistic innovation of ‘Hullabaloo in the Guava Orchard’ and ‘The Inheritance of Loss’ particularly at the level of lexicons. Through using lexical innovations such as *lexical borrowing, reduplication, hybridization, the use of onomatopoeic words, acronyms, abbreviations and collocations* in their novels, the authors have, in fact, nativized the English language and have made it also

suitable for the expressions of indigenized or localized thought patterns as depicted in the novels. In the next paper entitled “Non-Finite Verbs in Banai”, Gayatri Das explores the tense agreement features in Banai. It also discusses that Banai does not have any person, number and gender agreement. Banai verbs agree only with the tenses. The non-finite verbs in Banai are of two types: infinitives and participles. Pangersenla Walling’s paper, “Structure of Ao relative clause”, deals with the nature of relative clause in Ao, a Tibeto-Burman language spoken in Nagaland. In this paper, Pangersenla Walling has talked about the various features of relative clauses in Ao such as the relative clauses in Ao can serve in any syntactic role that can be filled by an ordinary DP, relative clauses can serve as both subject and object, relative clauses in this language are mostly externally headed or headless etc. In the paper, “Mey (Shertukpen): Some Grammatical Phenomena”, Bishakha Das discusses some grammatical features of Mey language. He exclusively focuses on Personal and Demonstrative pronoun, Existential and Possessive construction, Temporality, Interrogative construction and Negation. In the paper on “Analysing Self-Talk: A Systematic Functional Linguistic Approach”, the author has chosen Shakespearean dramatic text which is conversational in nature, where he focuses on thought processes, particularly through categorization of mood structures, analysis of the discourse of soliloquy and the manner of self-expression. Aadil Amin Kak and Sajad Hussain Wani in their paper “Divergence patterns in Kashmiri to English Machine Translation: A study of question type” discuss some of the divergence patterns that one encounters while translating different question types from Kashmiri to English. It was found that divergence in different types of questions arises in a systematic pattern because of the typological differences between Kashmiri and English language. The paper “Compound Verb Formation in Assamese” by Diksha Konwar discusses the synthesis of different verbs, forming compound verbs in Assamese. It says that the light verb or vector plays a pivotal role in a compound verb construction. Furthermore, the paper also sheds some light on the reversed compound verb construction in the language and it has been established that reversal of the combination of V1 and V2 in a CV is possible in the language. The paper on “Structural Case Valuation in Adjectives of Modern Standard Arabic in the light of Phase Theory” by Muhammed Salim and Abdul Aziz Khan deals with the

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 BHĀṢĀKAUṬALĪYAM**, 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/-).



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structural case valuation of adjectives of Modern Standard Arabic (MSA). It presents a morpho-syntax account of case in adjectives when occurring in small clauses, zero copular structures and copular constructions. They found that MSA exhibits nominative, accusative and genitive case. There is also accusative-genitive case syncretism. The next paper, "Word order of Moyon as a Tibeto-Burman Language" by Naorem Shomorjit Singh and Ch. Yashawanta Singh discusses the comparative analytical study of the constituent orders of Moyon and Manipuri at the sentence level. Both languages have a set of common features which are typical to OV Tibeto-Burman languages in placing genitive before the head noun, manner adverb before the verb, negatives after the verbs, question affixes at the end of the sentence, inflectional affixes indicating tense and aspect after the verb. Sagolsem Indrakumar Singh in his paper, "Bisyndetic structure of coordination in Manipuri: Logical, Binary and postpositive construction", describes the Manipuri bisyndetic coordination process, the coordination involving morphemic coordinators instead of lexical coordinators in syndetic level as well as asyndetic level, lacking overt coordinators. In the last paper on this issue, "Articulatory production of vowels in children with cochlear implant – An acoustic analysis", V. Jaya and Lalitha Raja R. describe the variations and compare the acoustic analysis of vowel production in hearing-impaired children with cochlear implants and age-matched peer groups with normal hearing. Further, this study will help in planning intervention and the treatment strategies for improving speech production, thereby improving their speech intelligibility. The last section of issue 1 of the journal includes a book review by Noman Tahir. The book by Nathan Badenoch and Nishant Choksi (2020) "Expressives in the South Asian linguistic area" provides a study of a wide range of contemporary and theoretical researches on "expressive", a concept widely used in the South Asian Linguistic Area.

[To be continued]

Noman Tahir

LIST OF DLA LIFE-MEMBERS

(In the Chronological Order; Continued)

187. Dr. Saroja Ramakrishnan 14/S, Dilwara Maharsi Karve Marg Mumbai – 400 021, Maharashtra	₹ 300	24-11-1977
188. Dr. K.L. Janert Institute of Indology, Albertos Mangus Plat, West Germany	US\$ 75	2-2-1978
189. Dr. B.C. Balakrishnan Editor, Sabdasaagaram, Akshara DTP Centre, Sasthamangalam, Trivandrum Kerala	₹ 300	13-2-1978
190. Dr. M.R. Unnithan Instructor in Kannada, Lal Bahadur Shastri Training Centre, Mussorie Uttar Pradesh	₹ 300	13-2-1978
191. Dr. N. Joseph Tamil University, Thanjavur – 1, Tamil Nadu	₹ 300	19-5-1978
192. Mr. S. Fanny Gupta 557, Koramangala 111, Bangalore – 34, Karnataka	₹ 300	1-7-1978

[To be continued]

ISDL RESEARCH FORUM

LIST OF PAPERS PRESENTED IN JULY 2021

- 14.7.2021: *Palaeography with Special Reference to Kerala*
Prof. Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan
- 28.7.2021: *Residues of Sangam Tīṇai in Kanyakumari District*
D. Mano

NEW LIFE-MEMBERS OF DLA (July 2021)

1. **Dr. Bryan G. Levman** (*Membership No. 1438/2021*)
9, Arowold Gate, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5 R 2W1
2. **Dr. Udoyan Banerji** (*Membership No. 1439/2021*)
Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics, Faculty of Arts, Banaras
Hindu University, Varanasi – 221 005, Uttar Pradesh

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