

TWO DAY NATIONAL SEMINAR ON

CONVERGENCE AND RESULTING UNIFORMITY IN THE USAGES AND PATTERNS OF QUANTIFIERS AND QUALIFIERS IN INDIAN LANGUAGES WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO CULTURAL HERITAGE AND NEP 2020

A GRAND ACADEMIC DELIBERATION

V.I.S Centenary Program No. 12



REPORT

The two day National Seminar on “Convergence and Resulting Uniformity in the Usages and Patterns of Quantifiers and Qualifiers in Indian Languages with special reference to Cultural Heritage and NEP 2020” organized under the auspices of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India in Collaboration with the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysuru and the International School of Dravidian Linguistics commenced at 10:30 am on the 8th October 2026 at the Raja Raja Varma Auditorium, Prof. V.I. Subramoniam Memorial ISDL Complex, Menamkulam, Thiruvananthapuram by singing Vande Mataram and the National Anthem. Dr. L. Darwin, Secretary, DLA and HOD, Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala warmly welcomed the dignitaries and the participants.

Immediately after the welcome address, the dignitaries were honored. Prof. G.K. Panikkar, Dean, DLA honored Prof. Mohanan Kunnummal, the Vice - Chancellor of the University of Kerala with a shawl. Followed by this, the other dignitaries were also honoured by the researchers of DLA and ISDL.

CONTENTS

National Seminar on Quantifiers and Qualifiers - A Grand Academic Deliberation	1
Invitation - Online Lecture Series	2
Literacy and Juvenile Justice Training Programme - Report	2
Web Talk	3
Prof. V.I.S Centenary Lifetime Achievement Awards	4
Invitation - Online Lecture Series	4
Invitation - Online Lecture Series	5
Seminar at Annamalai University	5
Kamal-E-Fan Award	5
'Aryan Invasion Theory : A Linguistic Perspective' - Report	6
Invitation - Online Lecture Series	6
Invitation - Online Lecture Series	7
'Structure of Malayalam from a Diachronic Perspective' - Report	7
Lecture by Prof. M.J. Warsi - Report	8
Lecture by Prof. Appasamy Murugaiyan - Report	9
Announcement : Call For Papers	9
Obituary	9
'Expressing Politeness in Pronouns in Dravidian and in Classical Tamil'	10
12th All India Conference of Linguistics and Folklore	10
A Young Linguistics Enthusiast from USA Visits ISDL	11
An Etymological Link between North Dravidian and Tamil	12

This was followed by the Chairman's address by Prof. Bhupinder Singh Khaira, President, DLA and Former Professor and Dean, Punjabi University, Patiala and President, Punjabi Linguistic Association.

Prof. (Dr.) Mohanan Kunnummal, the Honourable Vice-Chancellor of the University of Kerala who is also a medical specialist in neurology and radiology, delivered the Inaugural Address and formally inaugurated the seminar. In his address he explicitly described the process of qualification and quantification by citing examples and delivered a thought provoking speech linking the human brain and the thousands of languages spoken all over the earth.



He said, whatever the languages human beings speak, they all originate in the same area of the human brain. He also mentioned about the importance of NEP 2020 which suggests the introduction of mother tongue in the educational system of the country which helps students for easy acquisition of knowledge. He pointed out the vast potentiality of DLA and ISDL to develop more, so as to attain the status of a deemed to be university very soon. Followed by the inaugural address, the special address was delivered by Prof. K. Karunakaran, Chairman, ISDL and Former Vice-Chancellor, Tamil University,



Thanjavur. He also stressed the need for introducing mother tongue in education. Prior to his address Prof. K. Karunakaran honoured the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Mohanan Kunnummal by presenting a shawl. Prof. A Murigeppa, Former Vice-Chancellor, Kannada University, Hampi in his special address emphasized the need to study mother tongue in accordance with NEP 2020. Prof. Bhakthavathsala Reddy in his special address reminded the importance of folklore. Through Folklore one can study the language and the culture of the people.

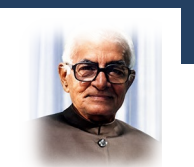


The special addresses were followed by felicitation speeches by Rev. (Fr.) Albert M., Manager, Marian College of Arts and Science, & St. Jacobs Training College, Menamkulam and by Prof. Hepsy Rose Mary, HOD, Department of Tamil, University of Kerala. The inaugural function came to the end with the Vote of Thanks by Dr. L.R. Premkumar, LJRO, CIIL, Mysuru and the Coordinator of the Seminar. He conveyed a very cordial thanks to all the participants including senior professors, faculty members, scholars, students, staff and fellows of the DLA and ISDL.

*S. Abdul Samed
(to be continued....)*

INVITATION

Prof. V.I. Subramoniam
Centenary Celebrations
(Program No.15)



**Topic: “Morphological Clues to a
Mongolic - Dravidian Relationship :
Tracing Deep Linguistic Links”**

**LIVE**

17th October 2026
10:30 am (IST)

All are cordially invited

Mode of Lecture :

Virtual (Google meet)

Link :

<https://meet.google.com/fjp-crhr-ghc>



Speaker

Prof. Uma Maheshwar Rao

Former Professor of Linguistics
CALTS, University of
Hyderabad

WEB TALK

**Issues in South Asian Language Contact:
The Case of Retroflexion**

The Department of Linguistics, Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), Aligarh, is organising a Web Talk titled “*Issues in South Asian Language Contact: The Case of Retroflexion*” on 22nd October 2026 (Thursday) at 8:00 PM IST. The talk will be delivered by Prof. Hans Henrich Hook (Research Professor, Department of Linguistics, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, USA). The Web Talk will be presided over by Prof. Md. Rizwan Khan (Dean, Faculty of Arts, Aligarh Muslim University) and Prof. M.J. Warsi (Chairperson, Department of Linguistics, Aligarh Muslim University).

Mode : Online Date: 22nd October 2026 (Thursday)
Time: 8:00 PM (IST)

Anju B.

**LITERACY AND JUVENILE JUSTICE
TRAINING PROGRAMME**

Report

The Literacy and Juvenile Justice training programme was convened on Thursday, 10 September 2026 by the Department of Language, Culture and Society at the SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST) and the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC). A total of 105 people participated in the event, including 13 from centres such as the University of Madras, Ambedkar Law University, JHA Agarsu College, and Agurchand Manmull Jain College. The other participants included students, scholars, and professors from different departments of SRMIST Kattankulathur, such as the School of Law, Social Work, Criminology, Mathematics, Networking Communication, and Mechanical Engineering.

The inaugural function commenced with a welcome address by Prof. L. Kavitha Nair, Head of the Department of Language, Culture and Society. Prof. Anuradha Saibaba, Professor and Assistant Dean at the SRM School of Law delivered the Presidential Address. Shri Anjanee Anuj, Presenting Officer of the National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi, delivered the Chief Guest's address and Dr. J. Karisma, Assistant Professor, Department of Language, Culture and Society, SRMIST proposed the Vote of Thanks.

The first technical session was led by Dr. N. Vijayan from the Department of Linguistics at Bharathiar University. Technical Session II : Lecture on “Legal Safeguards and Retributive Justice” was delivered by Advocate Sathiya G., Samam Chambers, Chennai. Mr. Haridas K, the PAATHAI Project Coordinator from Kelly's Observation Home delivered his lecture in the next session on Judicial Response and Social Reintegration. The concluding session on Rehabilitative Measures and De-Addiction was led by Dr. S. Ramanathan, a Consultant from the De-Addiction Centre, Chengalpattu.

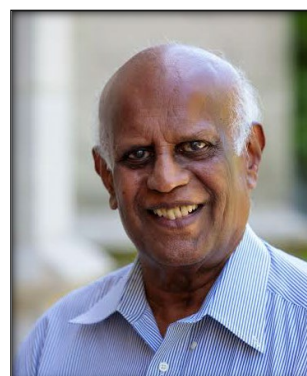
J. Karisma

PAPERS IN LINGUISTICS, G.K. Panikkar (Ed.), Mary Susan, S. Abdul Samed, N. Muraleedharan Nair (Asst. Eds.), 2023, HB, Demmy 1/8, pp. 512, Rs.1000/- (US\$ 80/-) **AN ACCOUNT OF BANGLA DISCOURSE PARTICLES**, Rajat Ghosh, 2023, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 142, Rs.300/- (US\$ 30/-) **GLOSSARY OF GRAMMATICAL TERMS IN TRADITIONAL MALAYALAM GRAMMARS**, C.S. Jayakumari Kunjamma, 2023, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 232, Rs.450/- (US\$ 45/-) **THE ART AND EDIFICE OF GENDERLECT**, B. Sreedevi, 2023, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 160, Rs.320/- (US\$ 32/-) **A DICTIONARY OF SANSKRIT, PRAKRIT AND PALI WORDS IN TAMIL AND MALAYALAM**, N. Gopinathan Nair, 2022, HB, Crown 1/4, pp. 988, Rs.2300/- (US\$ 230/-)

PROF. VIS CENTENARY LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The Dravidian Linguistics Association (DLA) will confer Prof. VIS Lifetime Achievement Awards to Prof. D. P. Pattanayak and Prof. E. Annamalai in recognition of their outstanding academic achievements and significant contributions to the development of linguistics in India.

Prof. D. P. Pattanayak is a distinguished Indian linguist, social scientist, academician, and author. He is the founding Director of the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysuru, and former Chairman of the Institute of Odia Studies and Research, Bhubaneswar. In recognition of his contributions to language development and linguistic scholarship, he was



awarded the Padma Shri in 1987. He also played a significant role in the development and promotion of Bodo and in securing recognition as classical language to Odia.

Prof. E. Annamalai is a Visiting Professor of Tamil at the University of Chicago and a former Director of the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysuru. He has also held visiting professorships and academic appointments at several prestigious institutions worldwide, including the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies and the International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden. His scholarly contributions have significantly advanced the study of Tamil and contributed to broader research in linguistics.

Both the scholars have made distinguished contributions to linguistic research and scholarship, enriching the understanding of language and advancing the development of linguistics in India and internationally. Their academic achievements, sustained research, and commitment to linguistic inquiry have established them as eminent figures in the field.

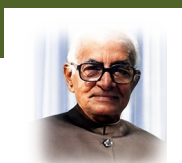
Through these Lifetime Achievement Awards, the Dravidian Linguistics Association seeks to recognise their distinguished academic careers, scholarly accomplishments, and enduring contributions to linguistic studies. The initiative reflects the Association's commitment to honouring scholars whose works have significantly enriched linguistic knowledge and research.

The conferment of these awards will serve as a tribute to the two distinguished scholars' enduring academic legacies and their continued influence on generations of linguistics researchers, teachers, and students.

Dhrubajyoti Das

INVITATION

Prof. V.I. Subramoniam
Centenary Celebrations
(Program No.16)

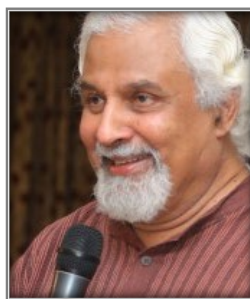


**Topic: "Constructing Theories of
Constructions: Sentences, Words and
Morph-Morphemes"**



LIVE

24th October 2026
10:30 am (IST)

SPEAKERS

Prof. K.P. Mohanan

Former Professor at the Indian
Institute of Science Education and
Research (IISER), Pune;
Taught at the University of Texas at
Austin, MIT, Stanford University, and
the National University of Singapore
(NUS)



Prof. Tara Mohanan

Member of the Kerala State
Committee for four-year
Undergraduate Program
Foundation Courses;
Taught at the National University
of Singapore (NUS)

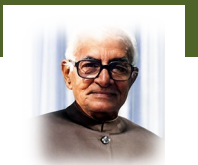
All are cordially invited

Mode of Lecture : Virtual (Google meet)

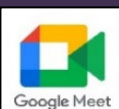
Link : <https://meet.google.com/fjp-crhr-ghc>

INVITATION

Prof. V.I. Subramoniam
Centenary Celebrations
(Program No.17)



**Topic: “Linguistic Family and
Language Identity”**

**LIVE**

28th October 2026
10:30 am (IST)

All are cordially invited

Mode of Lecture :

Virtual (Google meet)

Link :

<https://meet.google.com/fjp-crhr-ghc>



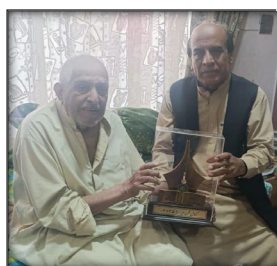
Speaker

Prof. G. Balasubramanian
Former Vice-Chancellor,
Tamil University, Thanjavur,
Formerly Professor of Linguistics
& Rector, Dravidian University,
Kuppam

SEMINAR AT ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY**V.I.S Centenary Celebrations Program No. 18**

The Centre of Advanced Study in Linguistics and the Department of Tamil Studies and Research, Annamalai University, Annamalainagar in collaboration with the Dravidian Linguistics Association of India (DLA) and the International School of Dravidian Linguistics will be organising a Centenary Celebration Seminar on “V.I. Subramoniam’s Contributions to Tamil Linguistics: Contemporary Perspectives” on 5 November 2026. The event aims to commemorate the life and enduring scholarly contributions of Prof. V.I. Subramoniam, one of the eminent pioneers of modern Tamil and Dravidian linguistics. It will provide a forum for scholars and researchers to explore the continuing relevance of his linguistic insights and their implications for present-day research in Tamil linguistics, Dravidian linguistics, historical and comparative linguistics, dialectology, sociolinguistics, semantics, grammar, lexicography, language documentation, and digital approaches to Tamil linguistics.

Eminent professors and scholars from different parts of India and abroad are expected to participate in the seminar, sharing their insights into Prof. Subramoniam’s academic legacy and its significance for present-day linguistic studies.

KAMAL-E-FAN AWARD

On Wednesday, September 16, 2026, a ceremony was held at the Quetta office of the Pakistan Academy of Letters to present the Kamal-e-Fan Award 2025 to the distinguished poet, writer, and intellectual, Dr. Abdul Rahman Brahui.

The ceremony was attended by Dr. Qayyum Bedar, Director of the Balochistan office, Mr. Asad Rehman Gilani, Federal Secretary of the National Heritage and Culture Division, and Hon. Federal Minister Mr. Aurangzeb Khan Khichi.

In their speeches, the speakers paid tribute to Dr. Abdul Rahman Brahui for his literary and scholarly contributions. They pointed out that throughout his long literary career, he had rendered valuable services for the promotion and development of the Brahui language and literature. Through his creative and research endeavors, he had also played an important role in introducing the literary heritage of Balochistan at the national level.

Due to Dr. Abdul Rahman Brahui’s ill health and physical weakness, the award was presented to him at his home.

Nazir Shakir Brahui

A SOCIO-CULTURAL, HISTORICAL AND LINGUISTIC STUDY OF THE PATHANS OF KERALA, S. Abdul Samed, 2022, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 104, Rs.130/- (US\$ 13/-) **MAPPILA MIGRANTS IN ANDAMANS - A SOCIO-LINGUISTIC STUDY**, N. Muraleedharan Nair, 2022, PB, Demy 1/8, pp.225, Rs.260/- (US\$ 26/-). **GRAMMAR OF RĀMACARITAM**, Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan, 2022, HB, Demy 1/8, pp. 395, Rs.500/- (US\$ 50/-). **TAGORE’S GITANJALI**, K. Jayakumar, 2022, PB, Demy 1/8, pp.95, Rs. 130/- (US\$ 13/-). **ENDANGERED SPEECHES OF IDUKKI IN KERALA**, V.R. Prabodhachandran Nayar & K. Velappan, 2021, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 12+500, Rs. 660/- (US\$ 66/-).

V.I.S Centenary Program No. 09 - Report**Lecture by Dr. Abhinavkumar Mishra**

Professor and Head, Dept. of Linguistics, Banaras Hindu University; Commonwealth Academic Fellow;
and Secretary, Linguistic Society of India (LSI)

on “ARYAN INVASION THEORY (AIT): A LINGUISTIC PERSPECTIVE”

As part of Prof. V.I. Subramoniam Centenary Celebrations, the International School of Dravidian Linguistics (ISDL) organized a special online lecture titled “Aryan Invasion Theory (AIT): A Linguistic Perspective,” by Dr. Abhinav Kumar Mishra at the Seminar Hall, Rabindra Bhavan, ISDL campus, on 26th Sept. 2026, at 11:00 a.m. IST.

The lecture examined the Aryan Invasion Theory from a linguistic perspective, highlighting the historical development of the Indian subcontinent. The topic holds considerable significance in historical and comparative linguistics, particularly in discussions concerning Indo-Aryan and Dravidian languages, language contact, and the reconstruction of linguistic history. The program provided an academic platform to engage with linguistic evidence and scholarly interpretations relevant to these complex historical questions. Dr. Mishra dismissed the theory of Aryan invasion and the view of non-Indian origin of languages spoken and written in India.

The lecture drew enthusiastic participation from scholars, faculty members, research scholars, and students from universities and academic institutions in India and abroad. Participants attended both in person and online, contributing to an engaging and intellectually stimulating academic exchange. The open discussion session was particularly noteworthy, with participants raising thoughtful questions and sharing perspectives on the subject. The lively interaction enriched the deliberations and provided an opportunity for further scholarly reflection on the linguistic and historical dimensions of the topic.

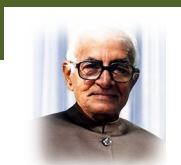
The program formed an integral part of the centenary initiatives commemorating Prof. V.I. Subramoniam, whose pioneering contributions continue to inspire research and scholarship in Dravidian linguistics. By addressing a significant and widely discussed issue in historical linguistics, the lecture encouraged critical engagement with questions of language classification, linguistic evidence, migration, and the interpretation of historical processes.

The successful conduct of the program reaffirmed the International School of Dravidian Linguistics' commitment to fostering academic dialogue, promoting critical inquiry, and advancing research in linguistics and allied disciplines. The lecture by Prof. Abhinav Kumar Mishra, an internationally reputed linguist served as one of the valuable and scholarly academic deliberations of V.I.S. Centenary Celebrations.

Arup Pandit

INVITATION

**Prof. V.I. Subramoniam
Centenary Celebrations
(Program No.19)**



**Topic: “Linguistic Convergence and
its Present-day Status and
Significance in Tamil Literary and
Spoken”**

All are cordially invited

Mode of Lecture :

Virtual (Google meet)

Link :

<https://meet.google.com/fjp-crhr-ghc>



LIVE

**10th November 2026
10:30 am (IST)**



Speaker

**Prof. K. Karunakaran
Former Vice-Chancellor,
Tamil University, Thanjavur**

INVITATION

**Prof. V.I. Subramoniam
Centenary Celebrations
(Program No.20)**



**Topic: “Repetition - A Strategy for
Formation of Words in Kannada”**

All are cordially invited

Mode of Lecture :

Virtual (Google meet)

Link :

<https://meet.google.com/fjp-crhr-ghc>



LIVE

12th November 2026

10:30 am (IST)

Speaker

Prof. A. Murigeppa

Chairman, Peoples Parliament

Reception Committee.

Former VC, Hampi, Kannada University



“STRUCTURE OF MALAYALAM FROM A DIACHRONIC PERSPECTIVE”

Online Lecture by Prof. S. Kunjamma

V.I.S Centenary Program No. 10

Report

As Part of the Prof. V.I. Subramoniam Centenary Celebrations (Programme No. 10) the International School of Dravidian Linguistics, Thiruvananthapuram organized an online lecture on **“Structure of Malayalam from a Diachronic Perspective”** on 30 September 2026. The lecture was delivered by Prof. S. Kunjamma, Former Professor and Head, Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala. The lecture highlighted the importance of studying Malayalam through a historical linguistic framework which involves examining changes in phonology, morphology, syntax, and vocabulary. It also highlights the historical relationship between Malayalam and other Dravidian languages, particularly Tamil, and the influence of language contact on its development. Prof. S. Kunjamma illustrated her views with several examples, helping participants to understand the evolution of Malayalam and the relationship between its older and contemporary forms. The programme provided an appropriate academic setting for reflecting on the historical dimensions of Malayalam linguistics. It also underscored the importance of historical evidence, comparative analysis, and interdisciplinary approaches in the study of language. Overall, the lecture “Structure of Malayalam from a Diachronic Perspective” delivered by Prof. Kunjamma was of immense value for researchers, teachers, and students interested in Malayalam linguistics, Historical linguistics, and Dravidian language studies.

Annie Tisha Jerald

TO THE WELL WISHERS OF V.I. SUBRAMONIAM CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

As already announced, the year-long centenary celebrations of Prof. V.I. Subramoniam has commenced from 18th February 2026. It is envisaged as a grand academic event having intermittent academic programs throughout the year. Those who would like to support this celebration financially may make their contributions to the following account.

A/C No. 336602010008000 Union Bank of India, Menamkulam Branch, Trivandrum

IFSC Code : UBIN0533661, Swift code : UBININBBKHU

Please share the details of the payment along with the name and contact number of the remitter to dlavis1971@gmail.com

“MULTIDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVE IN HIGHER EDUCATION: TOWARDS A MULTILINGUAL KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY”

Lecture by Prof. M.J. Warsi

V.I.S Centenary Program No. 11**Report**

Prof. M.J. Warsi, Chairman, Department of Linguistics, Aligarh Muslim University delivered an invited talk as part of the Prof. V.I. Subramoniam Centenary Celebrations on 05-10-2026 by virtual mode at 10.30 AM.

Speaking from a multilingual perspective, Prof. Warsi explained that India presents an ideal platform for the discussion of multilingualism. It is part of everyday social life for many Indians. Individuals frequently switch over from one language to another depending on context, relationship, purpose, and communicative need. A person may use one language at home, another in the classroom, yet another in administration, and perhaps a combination of two or more languages in digital spaces. Despite this plurality, the practical machinery of governance in independent India has revolved chiefly around two languages i.e., English and Hindi, leaving much of the remaining linguistic landscape to negotiate access to education, digital services, livelihoods, and environmental governance largely on unequal terms. This asymmetry is felt most acutely by tribal, rural, and minority-language populations. Furthermore, our formal educational structures have often been much more rigid than the multilingual practices of the communities they serve.

Referring to the National Education Policy 2020, Prof. Warsi, expressed that NEP-2020 has given considerable attention to Indian languages and multilingualism, particularly by emphasising the importance of education in the learner's home or local language wherever feasible. However, as academics, we must distinguish between policy intention and institutional implementation. A policy can recognise multilingualism, but its success ultimately depends on what happens inside classrooms, departments, libraries, examination systems, research environments, and teacher-training programs.

Expressing further, Prof. Warsi stated that linguistic diversity needs to move beyond its traditional silo within education and cultural-preservation policy and has to become part of mainstream developmental planning. The role of multilingualism in India's sustainable development can be understood through three important institutional channels: education, digital infrastructure, and environmental governance.

Prof. Warsi concluded by emphasizing that a sustainable India must be multilingual in how it produces knowledge, delivers education, communicates with its citizens, and imagines its future. After the lecture many questions were asked by both Online and Offline participants, from India and abroad and Prof. Warsi effectively replied to them all. Dr. Remya L.B. welcomed the speakers and the participants while Dr. Annie Tisha Jerald proposed the vote of thanks. The google meet ended at 1 PM.

*N. Muraleedharan Nair***BE PROUD TO BE A LIFE MEMBER OF DLA AND AVAIL SPECIAL PRIVILEGES**

Requests to become a member of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India (DLA), India's leading association in linguistics, so as to get free copies of the International Journal of Dravidian Linguistics and the DLA News. So also the DLA members are eligible to get 50% discount for all DLA / ISDL publications and discounts in registration fee for ISDL/DLA sponsored conferences, Workshops and Seminars.

For details visit our website : www.ijdl.org

INDEX OF BHARATAMALA, R. Saraswathy Kutty Amma, 2021, HB, Demy 1/8, pp.892, Rs.1100/-(US\$ 110/-). **INDEX OF BHARATAMALA**, R. Saraswathy Kutty Amma, 2021, HB, Demy 1/8, pp.892, Rs.1100/-(US\$ 110/-). **COLLECTED PAPERS OF LV RAMASWAMI IYER**, G.K. Panikkar, K. Rangan & Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan (Eds.) 2021, HB, Demy 1/8, pp.826, Rs. 990/- (US\$ 99/-) **INDEX OF EARLY MANIPRAVAĀLA WORKS**, N. Gopinathan Nair, 2021, PB, Crown 1/4, pp. 1086, Rs. 2240/- (US\$ 224/-). **INDEX OF RĀMAKATHAPPĀṬṬU**, G. Sulekha, 2021, HB, Demy 1/8, pp. 1742, Rs. 1960/- (US\$ 196/-). **THE DRAVIDIAN CULTURE AND ITS DIFFUSION**, T.K. Krishna Menon, 2020, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 58, Rs. 75/- (US\$ 7.50/-).

“RECONSTRUCTING THE HISTORICAL SYNTAX OF TAMIL AND PROTO-DRAVIDIAN: EVIDENCE FROM EARLY TAMIL INSCRIPTIONS”

Lecture by Prof. Appasamy Murugaiyan

V.I.S Centenary Program No. 13

Report

The 13th Online Lecture in the series of Prof. V.I. Subramonium Centenary Celebrations was delivered by Prof. Appasamy Murugaiyan of École Pratique des Hautes Etudes, Paris, France; through Google Meet on 14th October 2026, from 2. 30 pm to 4.00 pm. Prof. Murugaiyan presented his lecture on the topic: “Reconstructing the Historical Syntax of Tamil and Proto-Dravidian: Evidence from Early Tamil Inscriptions”. Prof. Murugaiyan started his lecture by addressing the core question of reconstructing historical syntax from Inscriptions. His answer is affirmative. The need to use new methodologies like Information Structure and Discourse Configurability are suggested. The significance of difference in case markings, postpositions, body parts, nature of verbs and word order are highlighted as essential corpus for reconstruction.

Prof. Murugaiyan by examining the traditional views concluded that the rigid SOV reconstruction of Proto-Dravidian may deviate from the real historical evidence, and the Proto- Dravidian syntax should be reassessed using epigraphic data. Sixty scholars both from India and abroad attended this well-studied and very informative lecture of Prof. Appasamy Murugaiyan.

D. Mano

OBITUARY

Mrs. Jaya Hariharan, the daughter of late Prof. V.I. Subramoniam passed away at 10.15 A.M on 10/10/2026 at Bangalore.

The staff, researchers and members of the DLA and ISDL express our heartfelt condolences on the demise of Mrs. Jaya Hariharan.



ANNOUNCEMENT: CALL FOR PAPERS

National Multidisciplinary Seminar on the theme: “Kinship, Address and Reference: Language as a Repository of Culture and Traditional Knowledge”

The Institute for Indian Folklore and FOSSILS, in collaboration with the Dravidian Linguistics Association (DLA), Thiruvananthapuram; Department of Telugu, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati; and the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysuru is organizing a National Multidisciplinary Seminar on the theme: “Kinship, Address And Reference: Language As A Repository Of Culture And Traditional Knowledge” on 16–18 December 2026 at Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh. The seminar is organized in connection with the centenary celebrations of Prof. V. I. Subramoniam and Prof. G. N. Reddy, recognizing their significant contributions to linguistics and multidisciplinary studies in South India. Researchers, academicians, scholars, and postgraduate research students are invited to submit original research papers exploring the relationship between language, culture, society, and traditional knowledge.

Major themes include: (1) Kinship systems and social organization (2) Address and reference practices across languages and cultures (3) Kinship terminology and semantic change (4) Language as a repository of culture and traditional knowledge (5) Ritual vocabulary and cultural continuity (6) Classical, vernacular, and folk literature (7) Oral traditions, folklore, tribal lore, and indigenous knowledge (8) Language, identity, social hierarchy, and relationships (9) Globalization, migration, and changing family structures (10) Documentation and preservation of linguistic and cultural heritage.

Abstract Submission Guidelines

- Submit an extended abstract of 500–750 words.
- Clearly present the central idea or argument, research materials, and proposed approach.

Last date for abstract submission: 25 October 2026.

Email: fossilsindia@yahoo.com

WhatsApp: 9440170703, 9491420180

Remya L.B.

EXPRESSING POLITENESS IN PRONOUNS IN DRAVIDIAN AND IN CLASSICAL TAMIL**Online Lecture by Prof. E. Annamalai****V.I.S Centenary Program No. 14****Report**

The International School of Dravidian Linguistics (ISDL), Thiruvananthapuram, organized an online lecture on "Expressing Politeness in Pronouns in Dravidian and in Classical Tamil" on 14th October 2026 at 4:00 p.m. IST through Google Meet. The lecture was conducted as part of the Prof. V. I. Subramoniam Centenary Celebrations (Program No. 14).

The lecture was delivered by Prof. E. Annamalai, a distinguished linguist currently serving as a Visiting Professor of Tamil at the University of Chicago. He is the former Director of the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysuru, and has held visiting academic positions at several prestigious international institutions.

The lecture focused on the relationship between language, politeness, and social interaction, with special emphasis on the use of pronouns in Dravidian languages and Classical Tamil. It highlighted how pronouns function not merely as grammatical elements but also as expressions of respect, social relationships, and interpersonal distance. The discussion offered insights into the linguistic strategies through which speakers convey politeness and social distinctions in different communicative contexts. The lecture also provided the notions of expressing politeness in semiotic dimensions, pragmatics and lexical choices of respectability.

The programme enriched the participants' understanding of the relationship between linguistic forms and social behaviour. The lecture was academically valuable for researchers and students interested in Dravidian linguistics, Tamil language, and the sociolinguistic dimensions of the Dravidians, particularly of the Tamils.

Kunjamma S.
12TH ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF LINGUISTICS AND FOLKLORE (2027)
4-6 FEBRUARY, 2027

The Department of Punjabi, Central University of Punjab in association with Punjabi Linguistics Association, Patiala and the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India is organizing the 12th All India Conference of Linguistics and Folklore (2027) during 4-6 February, 2027 at University Auditorium, Central University of Punjab, Ghudda (Bathinda)

The theme of the conference is Folklore is Language : Linguistic Perspectives, Cultural Knowledge and Emerging Technologies.

Areas of deliberations are Folklore as Language : Theoretical and Interdisciplinary Perspectives, Linguistic and Sociolinguistic Dimensions of Folk Performances, Language Contact, Folk Traditions and the Dynamics of Multilingual India. Punjabi Folklore : Linguistic Heritage, Oral Traditions and Digital Transformation, Eco-Folklore, Language and Traditional Ecological Knowledge, Indian Knowledge Systems through Linguistic Perspectives, NEP-2020, Mother-Tongue Pedagogy, and Language Revitalization, Digital Humanities, Language Resources and Digital Archives of Folklore, AI, LLMs, Linguistic Diversity and the Future of Folklore, Folklore across Time, Space and Languages.

Patron : Dr. Ramakrishna Wusirika, Vice Chancellor (Acting), Central University of Punjab

Co-Patron : Dr. Bhupinder Singh Khaira, President, Punjabi Linguistics Association and President, Dravidian Linguistic Association of India

Organizing Committee

Convener : Dr. Shahila Zafar, Dean, School of Languages, Literature and Culture, CU Punjab

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Members: Dr. Rishpal Singh Virk, Head, Department of Performing and Fine Arts, CU Punjab

Dr. Madhulika Ben Patel, Head, Department of Hindi, CU Punjab

Important dates : **Abstract submission : 12 January, 2027** | **Full Paper : 25 January, 2027,**
Last Date for Registration, 20 January, 2027. E mail : Hod.punjabi@cup.edu.in

Bhakthavathsala Reddy

A YOUNG LINGUISTICS ENTHUSIAST FROM USA VISITS ISDL

The International School of Dravidian Linguistics (ISDL) was delighted to receive Mr. A.D Riddle and his son, Mr. Arthur Riddle, a Grade 12 student from the United States to ISDL on 3rd October 2026.



Mr. Arthur Riddle is an emerging scholar with a keen interest in Dravidian languages and linguistics. Aspiring to deepen his understanding of linguistics and explore opportunities for research in the field, he searched online for institutions engaged in linguistic studies and research. This search led him to discover the International School of Dravidian Linguistics, following which he contacted the institution via email and expressed his desire to visit.

During their visit, the father and the son had the opportunity to learn about ISDL's academic activities, research initiatives, and publications. They also explored the institution's extensive library, which houses a rich collection of scholarly works on linguistics and related disciplines. The Publications of ISDL and DLA captured their attention. The young visitor was fascinated by the collection of publications and the wealth of knowledge represented in the publication wing.

Reflecting on his son's enthusiasm, Mr. Riddle remarked that his son was as delighted and curious as a child standing in a candy shop. Mr. Riddle also expressed his son's keen interest in conducting research at the International School of Dravidian Linguistics in the future. Recognising ISDL as a reputed centre for linguistic studies and research, the young scholar expressed his hope of returning to the institution to pursue research and further his academic interests in linguistics. He left the institution with great enthusiasm and expressed his eagerness to explore future opportunities for academic engagements with ISDL.

Prof. S. Kunjamma, Senior Fellow of ISDL, along with a team of researchers under her guidance, accompanied the visitors and provided the necessary assistance and facilities to make their visit informative and comfortable.

The visit was a joyful and enriching experience for both the visitors. Before leaving, they also expressed their interest in taking DLA life membership.

One of the most interesting and memorable moments of the visit occurred when the young visitor came across a DLA publication entitled 'Riddle that is Tamil' authored by Dr. Kothandaraman. The coincidence between the title of the book and the young visitor's surname, the book Riddle, brought him considerable amusement and delight. He was particularly excited to hold the book, and his father captured the moment in a photograph. This unexpected and charming coincidence added a special touch to their visit, making it even more memorable.

Greeshma C.

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/-). **THE RIDDLE THAT IS TAMIL**, R. Kothandaraman (Ed.), 2019, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. xxiii + 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/-).



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AN ETYMOLOGICAL LINK BETWEEN NORTH DRAVIDIAN AND TAMIL

There are very few cognates that are shared only between Tamil and the North Dravidian languages of Brahui, Kurux and Malto. This is so because Tamil represents one very conservative pole among the Dravidian languages in retaining native vocabulary. Moreover, there exists like nowhere else: the Sangam corpus - a true compendium of Dravidian lexemes. On the other hand, the North Dravidian languages are ones that have lost most of their native lexicon, especially Brahui. In this squib, I bring forth a new etymological link between Kurux, Malto and Tamil, which was unforeseen and not documented even in the Dravidian Etymological Dictionary.

What I precisely consider here is a set of cognates, shared only between Tamil, Kurux and Malto:

Tamil okkāru sit

DEDR 930

Kur. okknā (ukkyas) to sit down, seat oneself, alight, perch, hold a session, come to a standstill, acquire steadiness, reside; **okkrnā** to sit down in order to breathe or recover oneself;

okta'ānā to invite to sit down, give firmness to, settle.

Malt. oke to sit, be situated; **okete** to sit down, settle; **oktre** to place, put down, make to sit.

Here I need to stress the importance of Dialect studies in bringing out new etymological links between the entries already listed in DEDR. **okkāru** is one such cognate that arose in the author's mind because of his dialect awareness as it is a common, colloquial Tamil word. It is surprising that the makers of DEDR didnot come upon the Tamil cognate. What is even more surprising is that this word has no cognates in other South Dravidian languages and the Central Dravidian languages.

Traditional Tamil grammarians come up with hypercorrected forms for the colloquial **okkāru** ஒக்காரு, for use in the high registers. Such a form is **உட்கார்** [uṭka:r] whose initial **உ** [u] is based on the analogy of words like **உடல்** [uḍel] 'body' ~ **ஒடல்** [oḍel], **உன்** [un] 'yours' ~ **ஒன்** [on] which have a lowering of the first vowel. They have even come up with a related form **உளுக்காரு** [uḷukka:ru] which again is completely a hypercorrected form based on vowel lowering and lateral-stop assimilation that happened in Modern Tamil leading from Old Tamil.

Ramprashanth Venkatakrishnan