



# DLA NEWS

## PAPERS ON MALAYALAM LINGUISTICS AND RHETORICS

Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan, 2025, PB,  
Demmy 1/8, pp. 192,  
Rs.400/- (US\$ 40/-)

## THE INFLUENCE OF SARASVATIKANTHABHARANA ON PRAKRIYASARVASVA

P. Visalakshy, 2024, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 216,  
Rs. 450/- (US\$ 45/-)

## ENGLISH-BANGLA-MALAYALAM BASIC VOCABULARY

Dhrubajyoti Das, 2024, PB, Crown 1/4, pp. 133,  
Rs. 450/- (US\$ 45/-)

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April 2026

A MONTHLY OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

## 53<sup>RD</sup> ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTS & SYMPOSIUM ON NEP 2020: EQUIPPING REGIONAL LANGUAGES FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

The 53rd All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists (AICDL) together with a Symposium on “NEP 2020: Equipping Regional Languages for Higher Education” is going to be held at Punjabi University, Patiala from 18th to 20th of June 2026 under the auspices of the Department of Punjabi and Linguistics & Punjabi Lexicography in collaboration with the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), International School of Dravidian Linguistics (ISDL), and the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India (DLA). The AICDL is an ideal platform for scholars and students in India and abroad to present and deliberate upon their research findings and study. Apart from the academic deliberations, the highlight of the conference is a series of special lectures delivered by eminent scholars.

Special lectures to be delivered at 53rd AICDL, Patiala.

### A. ENDOWMENT LECTURE

1. **PROF. ANVITA ABBI ENDOWMENT LECTURE**  
**Prof. S. Imtiaz Hasnain** (Former Professor of Socio Linguistics, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh)

### B. MEMORIAL LECTURES

1. **PROF. V.I. SUBRAMONIAM MEMORIAL LECTURE**  
**Prof. R.C. Sharma** (Former Professor & Head, Dept. of Linguistics, Delhi University)
2. **PROF. SUNITI KUMAR CHATTERJI MEMORIAL LECTURE**  
**Prof. Ronki Ram** (Former Professor, Institute for Development and Communication, Chandigarh)
3. **PROF. NAGAMMA REDDY MEMORIAL LECTURE**  
**Prof. Jaiteg Singh Khaira** (Pro Vice Chancellor & Dean of Faculty of Computer Science, Chitkara University, Patiala)
4. **PROF. KARUNASINDHU DAS MEMORIAL LECTURE**  
**Prof. Ramesh Bharadwaj** (Former Professor & Head, Dept. of Sanskrit, Delhi University)
5. **PROF. S.K. VERMA MEMORIAL LECTURE**  
**Prof. Rajesh Sharma** (Former Professor & Head, Dept. of English, Punjabi University, Patiala)
6. **PROF. A. CHANDRASEKHAR MEMORIAL LECTURE**  
**Prof. S. Kunjamma** (Former Professor & Head, Dept. of Linguistics, University of Kerala)
7. **PROF. CHEKKURI RAMARAO MEMORIAL LECTURE**  
**Prof. K. Karunakaran** (Former Vice-Chancellor, Tamil University, Thanjavur)
8. **PROF. H.M. MAHESWARAIAH MEMORIAL LECTURE**  
**Prof. Bhakthavatsala Reddy** (Former Dean, School of Folk and Tribal Lore, Telugu University, Warangal)
9. **PROF. K. MAHADEVA SASTRI MEMORIAL LECTURE**  
**Prof. Suhnu Ram Sharma** (Former Professor & Head, Dept. of Linguistics, Deccan College, Pune)
10. **DR. PARSO GIDWANI & LACHHMI JESSARAM MEMORIAL LECTURE**  
**Prof. Bhupinder Singh Khaira** (Former Professor of Linguistics, Punjabi University, Patiala, President, PLA and Vice President, DLA)

### CONFERENCE CALENDAR

ISDL Governing Council Meeting	18/06/2026 (4 PM)
IJDL Annual Meeting	18/06/2026 (5 PM)
Inauguration of the Conference	18/06/2026
DLA General Body Meeting	19/06/2026 (5 PM)
Valediction	20/06/2026

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We request all the interested delegates to register for the conference as early as possible to ensure accommodation. For details, visit our website [www.ijdl.org](http://www.ijdl.org)



**Link for registration : <https://forms.gle/S6128rrETNZXkQuYA>**

The pdf registration form can also be downloaded from our website ([www.ijdl.org](http://www.ijdl.org)). The requisite registration fee can be remitted in person or by bank transfer.

QR code for  
Registration

Please send the filled-up registration form to the Secretary-DLA by post or by e-mail to [dlavis1971@gmail.com](mailto:dlavis1971@gmail.com) on or before 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2026.

### REGISTRATION FORM

**53<sup>rd</sup> All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists**  
The Department of Punjabi & Linguistics and Punjabi  
Lexicography, Punjabi University, Patiala  
(18<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> June, 2026)

Name (Prof./Dr./Mr./Ms.) : \_\_\_\_\_  
Gender : \_\_\_\_\_  
Address (Office) : \_\_\_\_\_  
(Residence) : \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone : \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail : \_\_\_\_\_  
Mode of Participation : Online   
Offline   
Life-Member of DLA : YES  NO   
Ph.D. Researcher without Fellowship, M.A./M.Phil. Student : YES  NO   
Student of the Host University : YES  NO   
Accommodation Needed : YES  NO   
Mode of Journey : \_\_\_\_\_  
Date & Time of Arrival : \_\_\_\_\_  
Date & Time of Departure : \_\_\_\_\_  
Title of the Paper : \_\_\_\_\_  
Details of Registration Fee Remittance : \_\_\_\_\_

\*M.O./D.D./Cheque/in favour of Treasurer DLA  
Bank Transfer

[Account Name : All India Conference and Seminar

Account No. : 336602010006321

Bank : Union Bank of India;

Branch : Menamkulam, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

IFSC Code : UBIN0533661 SWIFT Code : UBININBBKHU]

*Be proud to be a Life Member of  
DLA and avail the special  
privileges. For details visit our  
website : [www.ijdl.org](http://www.ijdl.org)*

### 53<sup>rd</sup> AICDL - REGISTRATION FEE

#### Online Participants

(a) Students & Research Scholars without Fellowships	₹. 1500/-
(b) Life Members and Research Scholars with fellowship	₹.2000/-
(c) All others	₹. 2500/-

Offline Participants	India/Other SAARC countries	Non- SAARC countries
Life-members of DLA & Research Scholars with Fellowships	₹. 2500/-	US\$ 250/-
Students and Research Scholars without Fellowships	₹.2000/-	US\$ 250/-
Local students	₹.1500/-	
Other categories of delegates	₹. 3500/-	US\$ 350/-

Date :

Signature

\* Payment of **registration fee** is to be made to: Treasurer-DLA, 53<sup>rd</sup> AICDL, V.I. Subramoniam Memorial ISDL Complex, St. Xavier's College P.O., Thiruvananthapuram - 695 586.

**The application forms for life-membership and institutional membership of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India can be downloaded from [www.ijdl.org](http://www.ijdl.org)**

The filled-up registration form should reach the Secretary, Dravidian Linguistic Association of India on or before 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2026.

- **Only those registrants who participate through offline mode are eligible for conference kit.**
- **Online participants will be issued only the soft copy of the certificate.**

### DEADLINES - 53<sup>rd</sup> AICDL

#### (a) Paper Presentation

Last Date (Abstracts)	31 MAY 2026
Last Date (Full-Length Papers)	07 JUNE 2026
Last Date (Display Items)	07 JUNE 2026

[not more than 15 pages- A-4 size].

Abstracts not exceeding 200 words including key words.

Abstracts may be sent to email :

[53aicdl@gmail.com](mailto:53aicdl@gmail.com)

#### (b) Awards and Prizes

Last date of Nomination for Awards : 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2026

Publications for assessment may please be sent to  
[dlavis1971@gmail.com](mailto:dlavis1971@gmail.com)

#### (b) Last date for Registration

31<sup>st</sup> May 2026

# INAUGURATION OF V.I.S. CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS - HIGHLIGHTS

*Continued from the March issue*



**Latest Publications:** PAPERS ON MALAYALAM LINGUISTICS AND RHETORICS, Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan, 2025, PB, Demmy 1/8. pp. 192, Rs. 400/- (US\$ 40/-) THE INFLUENCE OF SARASVATIKANTHABHARANA ON PRAKRIYASARVASVA, P.Visalakshy, 2024, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 216, Rs. 450/- (US\$ 45/-) PAPERS IN LINGUISTICS Vol. II, Panikkar (Ed.), S. Abdul Samed, N. Muraleedharan Nair (Asst. Eds.), 2024, PB, Demmy 1/8, pp. 320, Rs. 650/- (US\$ 65/-) DRAVIDIAN TOWNS IN THE MAHAVASTU AND MILINDAPANHA A DEMOGRAPHIC STUDY, Bryan G. Levman, 2023, PB, Demmy 1/8, pp. 152, Rs. 350/- (US\$ 30/-)



**ELAMITE AND DRAVIDIAN : A REASSESSMENT**, Filippo Pedron, 2023, PB, Demmy 1/8, pp. 264, Rs.450/- (US\$ 40/0) **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/-)

## **NATIONAL SEMINAR ON 'CONTEMPORARY RELEVANCE OF INDIAN KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS'**

*Report - Continued from the March issue*

The symposium on 'Contemporary Relevance of Indian Knowledge Systems' from 2.00 PM to 5.00 PM was conducted at the A.R. Raja Raja Varma Auditorium, ISDL Complex, Thiruvananthapuram. The session focused on examining the contemporary significance and practical applications of Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) in the domains of language, culture, education, philosophy, and interdisciplinary studies. The session was moderated by Prof. Bhupinder Singh Khaira, who introduced the theme and emphasized the need to revisit indigenous knowledge frameworks in the context of globalization, technological transformation, and educational reforms. Eminent scholars like: (1) Prof. B.N. Patnaik (2) Prof. R.C. Sharma (3) Prof. Niladri Sekhar Dash (4) Prof. James Daniel (5) Prof. K. Karunakaran (6) Prof. K. Rengan (7) Prof. A. Murigeppa (8) Prof. Panchanan Mohanty (9) Prof. Rajasekharan Nair (10) Prof. Renuga Devi and (11) Prof. Ataulla Khan participated in the symposium. The speakers collectively addressed themes such as: Epistemological foundations of Indian Knowledge Systems, Indigenous linguistic theories and their modern implications, Oral traditions and knowledge transmission, Integration of IKS into higher education curricula, Digital documentation of traditional knowledge and Comparative perspectives between classical Indian thought and contemporary academic discourse. The deliberations underscored that Indian Knowledge Systems are not merely historical constructs but living traditions that continue to inform social practices, ethical frameworks, ecological consciousness, and community knowledge structures. The symposium concluded with a vibrant exchange of ideas among participants and the audience. The moderator summarized the key insights, noting that the integration of Indian Knowledge Systems into research, policy and pedagogy is both a scholarly responsibility and a cultural necessity.

The second day's first session began at 10:00 a.m. and online special session began at 9:30 a.m. at the Rabindra Bhavan Seminar Hall and Online Hall (First Floor). The first offline session of the seminar was conducted from 10.00 AM to 11.30 AM under the chairmanship of Prof. R. C. Sharma. The session included a series of scholarly presentations addressing various aspects of Indian knowledge traditions and related cultural practices. The first paper was presented by Prof. Mahidas Bhattacharya, on the topic "IKS & VIS", where he discussed the relationship between Indian Knowledge Systems and contemporary perspectives in visual and cultural studies. He also narrated the contributions of V.I. Subramoniam to promote Indian Knowledge Systems. The second presentation was delivered by Prof. N. Rajasekharan Nair. His paper focused on rituals and socio-cultural practices, highlighting their significance within the framework of Indian Knowledge Systems and Traditional Cultural Heritage. The third paper was presented by Dr. Pradeep Kumar, Deputy Director, KIRTADS. His presentation titled "Ethno-Medicine Practices among the Tribal People: An Appraisal in the Contemporary Context" examined traditional healing practices among tribal communities and their relevance in the present context. The fourth presentation was delivered by Prof. L. Ramamoorthy. His paper titled "Indian Knowledge System for Literary Appreciation" explored how traditional Indian knowledge frameworks can contribute to understanding and appreciating literary works. The session witnessed active participation and thoughtful discussions. The chairperson appreciated the presenters for their insightful contributions and highlighted the relevance of integrating traditional knowledge systems with contemporary academic discourse.

The online session of the National Seminar was conducted from 9.30 AM to 11.30 AM under the chairmanship of Prof. Ataullah Khan. The session featured a number of online presentations that explored various dimensions of Indian Knowledge Systems, language, culture, and education. The first

paper was presented by Dr. Nazir Shakir Brahui, titled “V.I. Subramoniam’s Love for the Brahui Language.” The presenter highlighted the scholarly interest of V. I. Subramoniam in the Brahui language and discussed the importance of its linguistic preservation and cultural identity. The second presentation was delivered by Murali Krishnan T. R., who shared insights related to Indian Knowledge Systems and their interdisciplinary relevance. The third paper was presented by Ramesh Chandra Pradhani on “Indian Knowledge System and Holistic Learning Approaches.” The presentation emphasized the holistic approach embedded in traditional Indian knowledge and its applicability in contemporary academic and cultural contexts. The fourth presentation was delivered by Dr. Sajila, focusing on Indian Knowledge Systems and Holistic Education: A Panchakosha Perspective”, emphasizing the relevance of indigenous knowledge traditions in shaping educational perspectives. The session witnessed active participation and engaging discussions. The chairperson appreciated the presenters for their insightful contributions and emphasized the importance of integrating traditional knowledge systems with contemporary research perspectives.

*Annie Tisha Jerald  
(to be continued....)*

### **V.I.S Centenary Celebrations Program No. 3.**

#### **NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON “NEW TRENDS IN TRIBAL LANGUAGE STUDIES”**



The three day National Workshop on “New Trends in Tribal Language Studies” was organized by the International School of Dravidian Linguistics in collaboration with KIRTADS, the Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala, and SCERT Kerala, from 17th to 19th March 2026 at the Seminar Hall, Rabindra Bhavan, V.I.Subramoniam Memorial ISDL Complex, Thiruvananthapuram. It focused on the significance, preservation, and development of tribal languages in Kerala.

The workshop commenced on 17th March 2026 at 11:00 AM with a Welcome address by Dr. Pradeep Kumar K.S. Deputy Director, KIRTADS. The session was presided over by Prof. G.K. Panikkar, Hon. Director, ISDL. Dr. Mithun Premraj IAS, Director, Directorate of Scheduled Tribes Development Department, Government of Kerala inaugurated the workshop. Dr. A.T. Lijisha, KIRTADS presented the theme of the workshop.

The workshop included expert-led sessions on documentation, preservation, and modern research trends in tribal language studies, with active participant engagement. It was attended by over 30 experts, representatives from eight tribal communities including Kani, Paniya, and Irula, and around 20 research fellows, and a few observers.

The valedictory session was held on 19th March 2026, featuring a welcome address by Dr. N. Muraleedharan Nair, ISDL and presided over by Prof. R.B. Sreekala, Director, School of Languages and Professor ORI & Manuscripts Library, University of Kerala. The valedictory address was delivered by Prof. Ravisankar S. Nair, formerly of the Central University of Kerala. Special addresses were delivered by Dr. Indu Menon, KIRTADS and Dr. S.K. Syam, Dept. of Linguistics, University of Kerala. Participants shared feedback and Dr. A.T. Lijisha presented the report. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Remya L.B., ISDL.

The workshop was highly informative and productive, contributing to academic discussions on tribal languages. It offered a platform for knowledge exchange and successfully proposed practical steps for validating existing tribal data and developing effective methods for future data collection.

*Remya L.B.*

**V.I.S Centenary Celebrations Program No. 4.****NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON SOCIAL STRATIFICATION AND SOCIAL JUSTICE THROUGH LANGUAGE**

On April 6, 2026, the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India (DLA) and the International School of Dravidian Linguistics (ISDL) convened a one-day National Symposium titled "Social Stratification and Social Justice through Language" as part of the Centenary Celebrations of Prof. V.I. Subramoniam. The symposium provided a platform for rigorous scholarly inquiry into the intersection of linguistics, socio-political identity, and systemic equity.

The program commenced at 10:00 AM with a welcome address by Dr. L.B. Remya, SRF, ISDL. The keynote address was delivered by Prof. K. Karunakaran, former Vice Chancellor of Tamil University, Thanjavur. Prof. Karunakaran's address established the theoretical framework for the day, offering a comprehensive investigation into the symposium's core themes.

The symposium featured two primary lectures exploring distinct yet complementary facets of sociolinguistics. Prof. N. Rajasekharan Nair, Adjunct Professor, Bharathiar University, presented a study titled "Misrepresentation of Initials in Malayalam Personal

Names: A Socio-political Investigation." The discourse examined the phenomenon of Keralites adopting initials derived from English spelling rather than native Malayalam phonology. Prof. Nair argued that this practice reflects a lingering English hegemony and concluded with a proposal for reclaiming linguistic autonomy by deriving initials directly from the Malayalam script.

Prof. M. Sreenathan, Retd. Senior Professor of Linguistics, Malayalam University & SRF, ISDL, delivered a lecture on "Social Stratification and Social Justice through Language." Utilizing the theoretical frameworks of Basil Bernstein (elaborated and restricted codes) and Pierre Bourdieu (symbolic capital), Prof. Sreenathan analyzed language as a social institution and a site of power. The session covered critical topics including language ideology, educational equity, and the mechanisms of linguistic exclusion. The lecture culminated in a discussion on language as a primary tool for social resistance and the achievement of linguistic equity.

The symposium was chaired by Prof. S. Kunjamma, Former Head, Dept. of Linguistics, University of Kerala. Following the presentations, a scholarly discussion ensued, featuring contributions from distinguished attendees, including Prof. G.K. Panikkar, Hon. Director, ISDL, Prof. M. Rama, Former Director, ISDL, Prof. Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan, Honorary Professor, ISDL, Dr. S. Abdul Samed, Treasurer, ISDL, Dr. Darwin L, Head, Dept. of Linguistics, University of Kerala, Dr. N. Muraleedharan Nair, Former SRF, ISDL.

The event was moderated by Dr. Annie Tisha Jerald, JRF, ISDL and concluded with a formal Vote of Thanks proposed by Dr. Anju. B, JRF, ISDL.

*Arup Pandit*

**TALK ON PANIYA LANGUAGE**

On March 6, 2026, Dr. K. Umaraj, Head of the Department of Linguistics at Madurai Kamaraj University, delivered a talk at the Dept. of Linguistics, Central University of Kerala on the Linguistic and Cultural Revitalization of the Paniya Community. He emphasized the critical need to document endangered languages to prevent the permanent loss of unique indigenous knowledge systems and cultural heritage. By integrating indigenous items like the *tudi* and *kuzhal* into digital educational tools will help to restore community pride. The program, which the students attended with great eagerness, commenced with an introduction by Department Head Dr. S. Thennarasu and concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. G. Palanirajan.



*Thennarasu Sakkan*

## PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS OF CAS IN LINGUISTICS

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON "DIGITAL LINGUISTICS: BRIDGING TRADITION AND TECHNOLOGY"

#### Report

The Centre of Advanced Study in Linguistics (CASL), Annamalai University, one of the foremost centres of linguistic research in India, celebrated its Platinum Jubilee with a landmark International Conference on "Digital Linguistics: Bridging Tradition and Technology" held from 11 to 13 March 2026. The conference was organised in collaboration with the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Ministry of Education, Government of India, Mysuru, and the All India Tamil Linguistics Association (AITA), Coimbatore.

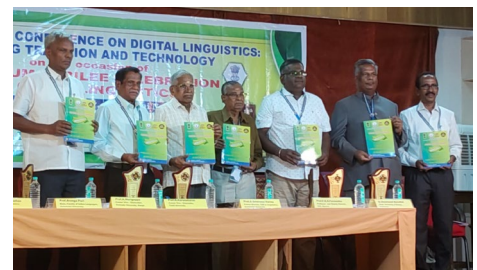


Established in 1954 as the Department of Dravidian Philology, the Centre evolved into the Department of Linguistics in 1956 and was elevated to the status of a Centre of Advanced Study in Linguistics in 1963 by the UGC, making it one of the pioneering institutions in India dedicated to advanced research in linguistics. Over seven decades, the Centre has guided more than 233 Ph.D. scholars, published over 100 scholarly books, and earned international recognition for its contributions to Dravidian linguistics, Tamil dialects, tribal language documentation, and applied linguistics. The Platinum Jubilee conference sought to honour this legacy while charting a future that bridges classical linguistic scholarship with modern digital technologies.

The inaugural function was held at Libra Hall on 11 March 2026. The proceedings commenced with the auspicious Tamil Thai Vazhthu, followed by a warm welcome address by Prof. R. Saranya, Organizing Secretary. Prof. G. Srinivasa Varma, former Director of CAS in Linguistics, delivered the introductory note, tracing the illustrious journey of the Centre through its seven decades of excellence. The presidential address was delivered by Prof. P. Chandramohan, Director, CASL and Convener of the conference, who highlighted the significance of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations and the theme of the conference.

The conference was formally inaugurated by Prof. A. Murigeppa, Former Vice-Chancellor, Kannada University. The keynote address was delivered by Prof. K. Karunakaran, former Vice-Chancellor, Tamil University, who offered illuminating perspectives on the evolution of linguistic research in India and the imperatives of the digital age. The abstract volume was formally released by Dr. P.R.D. Fernandez, Professor Cum Deputy Director, Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysuru.

Special addresses were delivered by Dr. Elantamil Maruthai, University of Malaya, Malaysia while felicitation addresses were presented by a distinguished panel of scholars including Prof. Aranga Pari, Dean, Faculty of Indian Languages; Prof. N. Rajasekharan Nair; Prof. S. Natanasabapathy; Prof. Appasamy Murugaiyan; and Prof. L. Ramamoorthy. Former Directors of CAS in Linguistics were also felicitated and honored on this momentous occasion, recognizing their transformative contributions to the Centre.



The conference was organized under the overarching theme "Digital Linguistics: Bridging Tradition and Technology," which sought to foster a productive dialogue between classical linguistic scholarship and contemporary computational and digital approaches. The sub-themes addressed a wide spectrum of topics:

1. Digital Documentation of Dravidian and Tribal Languages; 2. Corpus Linguistics and Computational Approaches; 3. Artificial Intelligence, NLP, and Machine Translation; 4. Lexicographical Studies — Lexicons, Glossaries, and Bi/Multilingual Dictionaries in Digital Platforms; 5. Psycholinguistics and Clinical Linguistics in the Digital Age; 6. Language Teaching and Technology-Enabled Learning; 7. Educational and Forensic Linguistics; 8. Ethnolinguistics and Identity in Digital Humanities; 9. Digital Archiving and Heritage Preservation; 10. Other General Traditional Topics — Phonetics, Phonology, Morphology, Syntax, Semantics, and Pragmatics

### Plenary Sessions

As befitting a Platinum Jubilee celebration, the conference featured Plenary Session with senior-most professors and eminent linguists. This session addressed the evolution of linguistic research in India, the impact of digital tools on language documentation and pedagogy, the future of Dravidian Linguistics and its global relevance, and the integration of Artificial Intelligence with linguistics for inclusive communication.

### Participation

The conference witnessed enthusiastic participation from more than 80 delegates drawn from across India and abroad, including distinguished scholars from France, Singapore, Malaysia, and Sri Lanka. Delegates presented original research papers and engaged in spirited academic deliberations that enriched the intellectual fabric of the conference. The diversity of participants — ranging from senior professors to doctoral scholars — reflected the wide reach and relevance of the Centre's academic programmes.

### Valedictory Function — 13th March 2026

The three-day conference culminated in a Valedictory Function held on 13 March 2026 at CAS in Linguistics. The session commenced with welcome address by Dr. R. Lalitha Raja, Joint Secretary of the conference. Prof. P. Chandramohan, Director, CASL, delivered the presidential address, reflecting on the academic outcomes of the conference and expressing gratitude to all stakeholders. Prof. G. Srinivasa Varma, President of the Alumni Association, shared his remarks, emphasizing the enduring bond between the Centre and its academic community.

The valedictory address was delivered by Prof. K. Karunakaran, former Vice-Chancellor, Tamil University, who commended the efforts of the organizing team and the calibre of academic discourse witnessed during the conference. Special addresses were presented by an eminent panel of scholars: Prof. K. Rangan, Prof. Niladri Sekhar Dash, Prof. A. G. Natarajan, Prof. P. David Prabakar, Prof. K. Pasumpon, Prof. G. Palanirajan, Prof. Franklin Thambi Jose (Singapore), Dr. Niruba Jayasundara (Sri Lanka), Prof. Sundarabalu, Prof. R. Kumarasamy, and Prof. M. Ramesh Kumar.

The International Conference on "Digital Linguistics: Bridging Tradition and Technology" stands as a landmark event in the intellectual history of the Centre of Advanced Study in Linguistics at Annamalai University. By bringing together pioneering scholars from India and across the globe under the banner of the Platinum Jubilee, the conference reaffirmed the Centre's enduring commitment to advancing the frontiers of linguistic science — honouring the legacy of seventy years while embracing the transformative possibilities of the digital era. The academic deliberations, plenary discourses, and research presentations collectively underscored the immense potential of integrating traditional linguistic heritage with modern digital technologies, charting a forward-looking course for Dravidian linguistics in the twenty-first century.

*P. Chandramohan, Director, CASL*

### INTERNATIONAL TRIBUTE CONFERENCE ON E-LINGUISTICS

The International Tribute Conference on "E-Linguistics" was organized by the Department of Linguistics, School of Linguistics and Communication, Madurai Kamaraj University, on Thursday, April 02, 2026, on the eve of the retirement of Dr. K. Umaraj, the Head of the Department of Linguistics, at the Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalaam Arangu, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai. The inaugural function commenced at 10:30 a.m. with an Invocation and a Welcome Address by Dr. R. Kumarasamy. Following the introduction of the conference theme by Dr. K. Umaraj, Dr. T. Muthukrishnan (Former Head) Department of Linguistics, Bharathiar University, delivered a heartfelt encomium to Dr. K. Umaraj. The Inaugural Address was delivered by Prof. Dr. K. Karunakaran (Former Vice-Chancellor, Tamil University). The Presidential Address was offered by Dr. S. Muthiah (Registrar i/c, MKU). The academic proceedings were further enriched by a Special Address by Prof. Dr. M. Thirumalai (Former Vice-Chancellor, Tamil University) and a Keynote Address by Prof. Dr. G. Balasubramanian (Former Vice-Chancellor, Tamil University). Following these addresses, Thiru. A. Mohamed Jiyaputheen (Former District Session Judge and Full-time Member, State Official Language Commission, Tamil Nadu) shared his insights.



This academic programme featured the release of the conference proceeding, comprising 72 research papers. Additionally, a book "Viswakarma Vilasam" by Mr.V.Selvakumar and Mr. B. Selvakumaran, was also officially released. In addition, highlighting technological advancements in the field, three softwares viz, a Classical Tamil Dictionary, an E-reader for Tamil, and a Sentiment Analysis tool produced by Dr.K.Umaraj were also launched during this function. After the inaugural function, four technical sessions were conducted in which distinguished scholars had presented their research papers. The Valedictory Address was delivered by Dr.P.Kannadasan. The Presidential Address for the closing session was given by Prof. A. Velanganni Joseph. Prof.Dr.A.Sreenivasan and others delivered felicitation addresses.

*R.Kumarasamy (Organizing Secretary)*

### **ISDL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS**

Applications are invited for preparing a panel of candidates to be selected as Senior Fellows, Senior Research Fellows and Junior Research Fellows as and when vacancies arise. **Last date for the submission of application is 05.05.2026.**


#### **Qualifications**

1. Senior Fellows: one should be in the rank of a University Professor or a distinguished scholar with outstanding academic career.
2. Senior Research Fellows: Ph.D in Linguistics or related subject with at least 5 years standing in the research field.
3. Junior Research Fellows: Post Graduate degree in Linguistics or related subjects.

Please note that retired persons will also be considered for the award of Senior Fellowship and Senior Research Fellowship.

Applications can be submitted through **e-mail : [isdltvm@gmail.com](mailto:isdltvm@gmail.com)** or by post to - The Director, ISDL, St. Xaviers College P.O., Trivandrum - 695586

### **New Life Member of DLA**

<i>Name &amp; Address</i>	<i>Membership No.</i>
 Mr. Binto Alex Research Scholar, Dept. of Malayalam, St. Berchmans College, Changanassery, Kerala	<b>1727/2026</b>

### **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 18<sup>th</sup> 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, Thiruvananthapuram.

IFSC Code : **UBIN0533661** Swift code : **UBININBBKHU**  
 Please share the details of the payment along with the name and contact number of the remitter to [dlav1971@gmail.com](mailto:dlav1971@gmail.com)

## DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS, BHARATHIAR UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES IT'S RUBY JUBILEE

The Department of Linguistics, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, organized the 40th Anniversary Celebration of the department with an International Conference on "Dynamics of Linguistic Studies" during 23rd - 24th March, 2026.

The programme commenced with the Tamil Thai Vazhthu sung by the students. The Head of the Department of Linguistics, Dr. S. Sundarabalu, delivered the welcome address and explained the objectives of the event.

The Registrar, Prof. Dr. R. Rajavel, Bharathiar University, delivered the presidential address, highlighting the achievements of the Department of Linguistics over its 40-year journey since its inception. In his address, he stated that language is a fundamental aspect of human identity and that human thoughts, emotions and knowledge are expressed through language. He emphasized that linguistics is not merely an academic discipline but a scientific field that explores the deeper structures of human society. He further noted that linguistics has expanded from core areas such as phonetics, morphology and syntax to modern fields like sociolinguistics, computational linguistics, artificial intelligence and natural language processing. He also pointed out that the role of linguistics has become increasingly significant in the digital age.

Recalling the department's 40-year journey, he appreciated its growth through UGC-SAP-DRS programmes, endangered language preservation projects, international collaborations, research initiatives and publications. He also stressed the importance of preserving the Tamil language and promoting it in the digital world and in encouraging the students to actively engage in research. He appreciated the department's focus on student-centered academic activities.

On this occasion, the Registrar released the Department Profile (1985- till date), Commemorative Volume, Volume of Conference Abstracts, Posters of two newly introduced Diploma Programmes in Forensic Linguistics and Clinical Linguistics, A monthly Students' Newsletter 'Voice of Linguistic Novice' (Edited by the PG Students of the Department) and three books authored and edited by the department Professors Dr.N.Vijayan and Dr.P.Sankarganesh. In addition to this the department library was reopened which has more than 3000 books.

Former Vice-Chancellor of Tamil University, Prof. Dr. K. Karunakaran, delivered the Inaugural address, sharing insights on the development of linguistics and the journey of the department of linguistics for the past 40 years and the research experiences in the field.

Prof. Umarani Pappusamy, Professor cum Deputy Director, Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysuru, delivered the keynote address. She emphasized the need to study language change and development with proper



references and highlighted the importance of analyzing the linguistic and cultural experiences of Indian languages as data using artificial intelligence technologies.

Former Professors and Heads of the Department of Linguistics, Prof. C. Shanmugom and Prof. T. Muthukrishnan, shared their experiences in the field of linguistics during their period in the department.

Felicitations were delivered by Prof. R. Saranya, Former Director CAS in Linguistics, Annamalai University, Prof. Sam Mohan Lal, Former Professor cum Deputy Director CILL, Mysuru, Dr. P. Selvakumar, Associate Professor, IITS, Chennai and Dr. V. Suresh, Deputy Director, CDOE, Bharathiar University. The vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. V. M. Subramanian, Associate Professor, Department of Linguistics, Bharathiar University.

During the two days seven academic sessions were conducted in which nearly 70 research papers were presented both offline and online in various fields of linguistics.

During the valedictory function, Dr. N. Vijayan, Assistant Professor, Welcomed the gathering, Dr. C. Gunasekaran, Member - Syndicate of Bharathiar University, presided over the function. The valedictory address was delivered by Dr. N. Rajasekharan Nair, Former Director, CAS in Linguistics, Annamalai University, where he appreciated the PG students of the department for presenting well-researched articles and lauded the faculty members for bringing up a number of volumes in such a short time. Special Address was delivered by Dr. S. Sundarabalu, Associate Professor and Head i/c.

Felicitations were also delivered by Dr. S. Thennarasu, Head, Department of Linguistics, Central University of Kerala, and P. Kumaresan, Associate Professor, CAS in Linguistics, Annamalai University. The vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. P. Sankarganesh, Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics. The programme concluded with the National Anthem.

Students, research scholars, and professors from various institutions—including Tamil University, Thanjavur; Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar; Madurai Kamaraj University; Patiala University, Punjab; and several colleges across Tamil Nadu—participated in large numbers and contributed to the success of the event.

*N. Vijayan, Bharathiar University*

## NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON 'BHARTIYA BHASHA PARIWAR: A NEW PERSPECTIVE IN LINGUISTICS



The Department of Linguistics, Aligarh Muslim University, inaugurated a two-day National Conference on "Bhartiya Bhasha Pariwar: A New Perspective in Linguistics" in collaboration with the Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti, Ministry of Education, Government of India, bringing together eminent scholars and academicians from across the country to deliberate on India's linguistic heritage and contemporary challenges. The conference began with a welcome address by Prof. M.J. Warsi, Chairman, Department of Linguistics, AMU.

Delivering the inaugural address, Dr. Pankaj K.P. Shreyaskar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Education, described linguistic diversity as a hallmark of India's civilisational strength. He called for embracing knowledge from diverse sources while advancing technological innovation and universal education. Referring to the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, he highlighted the incorporation of ancient Indian knowledge systems and environmental awareness into curricula, the development of multilingual learning pathways, and the introduction of Artificial Intelligence education from the school level to equip future generations for emerging challenges.

In his presidential remarks, Prof. Mohd Mohsin Khan, Pro Vice-Chancellor, AMU, highlighted the national significance of the Bharatiya Bhasha Parivaar initiative. He noted that the promotion of Indian languages and multilingualism is central to contemporary educational priorities and called for linguistics to address pressing issues such as digitisation, translation and systematic language documentation to ensure the vitality of Indian languages in the digital age.

Prof Shobha Satyanath delivered the keynote address, which was chaired by Prof. Mohd Rizwan Khan (Department of English). She called for a decolonial reorientation of Indian linguistics and advocating the reintegration of indigenous grammatical traditions into contemporary scholarship. Drawing on empirical evidence from Bengali and Assamese dialect regions, she argued that linguistic change in eastern India must be examined within the historical context of pre-colonial trade networks and regional interconnectedness rather than modern political boundaries. She urged scholars to view Indian linguistics within a broader Asian intellectual perspective.

Addressing the gathering, Prof. Aasim Zafar, Registrar AMU lauded the Department of Linguistics for organising a conference of national importance. Prof. T.N. Satheesan, Dean, Faculty of Arts, reflected on India's rich linguistic diversity and the deep structural and cultural interconnections among its languages. Stressing the importance of mother-tongue education under NEP 2020, he also underscored the need to revitalise and preserve tribal, scheduled and endangered languages, and to harness Artificial Intelligence for linguistic integration and growth.

The inaugural session of the conference also witnessed the release of the Book of Abstracts, a new volume of the Aligarh Journal of Linguistics, two edited volumes titled "Bhartiya Bhasha Pariwar: A New Framework in Linguistics" and "Bhartiya Bhasha Pariwar: Perspectives and Horizons," and the book "Translation Across Cultures in Multilingual India (w.r.t. NEP 2020)" edited by M.J. Warsi, Pallav Vishnu and Noman Tahir.

*M.J. Warsi*