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51ST ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTS AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RECENT TRENDS IN LINGUISTICS, LITERATURE, COMPARATIVE LITERATURE STUDIES AND TRANSLATION

Followed by the inaugural session on June 27th morning, endowment lectures and paper presentations began in the afternoon. Sessions were arranged in the Halls of the Tamil University, Thanjavur named after the four stalwarts of linguistics viz., (1) Prof. V.I. Subramoniam, (2) Prof. B.H. Krishnamurthy, (3) Prof. R.C. Hiremath, and (4) Prof. S.V. Shanmugam. From 27th afternoon to 29th 3.30 PM Memorial lectures and one special lecture were delivered as detailed below :

(1) Prof. V.I. Subramoniam Memorial Lecture : Prof. K. Rangan (2) Prof. Nagamma Reddy Memorial Lecture : Prof. N. Nadaraja Pillai (3) Prof. Karunasindhu Das Memorial Lecture : Prof. K. Suryanarayana (4) Prof. S.K. Verma Memorial Lecture : Prof. E. James Daniel (5) Prof. A. Chandrasekhar Memorial Lecture : Prof. T.B. Venugopala Panikkar (6) Prof. Chekkuri Ramarao Memorial Lecture : Prof. M. Sampath Kumar (7) Prof. H.M. Maheswaraiyah Memorial Lecture : Prof. C. Ramaswamy (8) Prof. K. Mahadeva Sastri Memorial Lecture : Prof. P. Kusumakumari (9) Prof. Suniti Kumar Chatterji Memorial Lecture : Prof. K. Karunakaran (10) The special lecture on "Recent trends in Linguistics" organized by Tamil University was delivered by Prof. M.J. Warsi.

In addition, during these three days 132 research papers were presented in thirty parallel sessions and they were elaborately discussed. Some papers were presented in the online mode also. Scholars from more than 35 universities and 11 institutions in India and abroad attended the conference.

Apart from the academic activities, cultural programmes were also arranged by the organizers. The folk dances of Tamil Nadu organised by the South Zone Cultural Centre, Thanjavur, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India and performed at Karikalacholan Auditorium of Tamil University was a splendid function. In addition, the Official meetings such as the Governing Council of the ISDL, DLA Managing Committee Meeting, IJDL Managing Committee and Editorial Board Meeting were held on 27th evening and the General Body Meeting of the DLA was held on 28th evening. The Office-bearers of the ISDL, IJDL and DLA for the year 2024-25 were elected during these meetings.

Valedictory function

The Valedictory function started at 4.00 p.m. on 29/06/2024 in the Senate Hall of the Tamil University with a welcome address by Prof. S. Kavitha, Organising Secretary, 51st AICDL & Dean, Faculty of Tamil Language, Tamil University. The function was presided over by the Hon. Vice Chancellor of Tamil University Prof. V. Thiruvalluvan. The Valedictory Address was delivered by Prof. M. Krishnan, Hon. Vice Chancellor, Central University of Tamilnadu, Thiruvavur. In the function the following awards were distributed : 1. Award for the Best Paper in the conference by a young full-time Student or Research Scholar, 2. Prof. Colin P. Massica Award for the best paper in the field of " India as a Linguistic Area" or "Pedagogical Linguistics" from among the papers presented, 3. Prof. Vennilakanti Prakasam Award for the best paper on Systematic Functional Linguistics (Phonology/ Lexicogrammer / Semantics and Pragmatics) from among the papers presented at the AICDL.

Prof. C. Thiyagarajan, Registrar, Tamil University, Dr K Rangan, Former Registrar, Tamil University, Prof. C. Ramasamy, Former Professor & Head, Department of Kannada, University of Madras and Prof. G.K. Panikkar, Hon. Director, ISDL delivered Felicitation addresses. Prof. M.J. Warsi , president LSI, Prof. Aeja Mohammed Sheikh, Head, Department of Linguistics, University of Kashmir and Filippo Pedron, Researcher, Italy gave the feedback of the conference. After that Certificates were distributed to the paper presenters. The entire function came to an end with the vote of thanks by Prof. R. Kurinjivendan, Dean, Faculty of Developing Tamil, Tamil University.

Kavitha S.
Organising Secretary, 51st AICDL

NEW RESEARCH FELLOWS AT ISDL**Senior Fellows**

1. **Prof. L. Ramamoorthy**, Former Professor and Head, Department of Linguistics, Central University of Kerala, Kasaragod, Kerala



2. **Prof. M. Sreenathan**, Former Professor & Head, Dept. of Linguistics, Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayalam University, Vakkad P.O., Tirur, Malappuram, Kerala.

**Senior Research Fellow**

Dr. Remya L.B.

**Junior Research Fellow**

Dr. Annie Tisha Jerald

**MANIKKAM & P.N. KAMALA AWARD :
A NEW DLA AWARD FOR TAMIL**

Dr. P.N. Kamala has entrusted Rs. 1 lakh for instituting an award named "Manikkam & P.N. Kamala Award" for the best paper on Tamil presented at the All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists. This award is to be given every year.

DLA LIFE MEMBERSHIP

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

PROF. DR. K.S. KAMALESWARAN HONOURED

To honour Prof. K.S. Kamaleswaran, (Retd. Professor, PSG College of Arts and Science) Tamil Mozhiyiyal Sangam, Coimbatore organized a felicitation function and special volume release program on 29th July 2024 at PSG College of Arts and Science Campus. Prof. V. Thiruvalluvan, Vice Chancellor, Tamil University, Thanjavur was the Chief Guest. Prof. F.X. Lovelina Little Flower, Member, Vice-Chancellor Committee, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore released the special volume. Faculties from different universities attended the program.

Annie Tisha Jerald

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CLASSICAL LANGUAGES OF INDIA

The Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysuru has organized a National Conference on classical languages of India from 10 to 12 June 2024. The objective of the conference was to encourage the development of languages, linguistics and literature by researching and promoting the rich heritage of classical languages in view of NEP – 2020.



Prof Udaya Narayana Singh, Former Director, CIIL inaugurated the conference. In his inaugural address he highlighted the fact that each Indian language has experienced a classical phase varying only in its historical period. According to him other languages approved by the Government of India should be developed to get the classical language status. He stressed the need to include Pali and Prakrit as classical languages under this scheme.

Prof. Shrinivasa Varakhedi, Vice-chancellor, Central Sanskrit University, New Delhi appreciated and congratulated CIIL for organizing such an important conference. He told that classical languages should serve as object languages, not merely metalanguages.

Prof. Basanta Kumar Panda, Project Director (Odiya) highlighted the importance of classical languages in the back drop of NEP - 2020. He advocated the inclusion of the study of classical languages in school curriculum.

Prof. Shailendra Mohan, Director, CIIL in his presidential address said that India is a treasure trove of linguistic and cultural richness. He also emphasized the NEP - 2020 recommendation on providing 'prominence to language and culture that has been lost in recent years'.

Prior to the inaugural function Dr. L.R. Prem Kumar, Lecturer cum Junior Research officer, CIIL welcomed the delegates. Dr. Pankaj Dwivedi, Assistant Director (Admin), CIIL, proposed vote of thanks.

N. Rajasekharan Nair

SUNITI KUMAR CHATTERJI MEMORIAL LECTURE 2024-2025

The Kolkata Society for Asian Studies in collaboration with the School of Languages and Linguistics, Jadavpur University is organizing the XII Suniti Kumar Chatterji Memorial Lecture on 30th August, 2024. Dr. Samir Karmakar, Director, School of Languages and Linguistics will inaugurate the seminar. Prof. Aditi Ghosh will share the memory of Professor Suniti Kumar Chatterji. Prof. Supriya Chaudhuri will deliver the memorial lecture on "Translation, Empire, and Colonial Knowledge-Production". Presidential Address will be delivered by Dr. Sanjukta Dasgupta.

Remya L.B.

INTERNATIONAL MULTIDISCIPLINARY WEBINAR AT DEPT. OF LINGUISTICS, OSMANIA UNIVERSITY



Department of Linguistics, UCASS, Osmania University, in Collaboration with Dept. of History and Dept. of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, organized an International Multidisciplinary Webinar on **Migrations, Archaeology, Genomics and Indo-European Prehistory**, on 26 July 24.

Prof. Hans Henrich Hock, Dept. of Linguistics, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL, USA, was the invited speaker, who delivered the key note address. The Principal and Dean, Faculty of Arts, Prof. Syeda Talath Sultana was the Chief Guest of the program. She appreciated and encouraged such multidisciplinary programmes. Free Participation E-Certificates were given to more than 140 participants and was also live telecasted in the YouTube channel of the Department of Linguistics. The Conveners of the program were Dr. C.S. Swathi, Head, Dept. of Linguistics and Prof. B. Lavanya, Head, Dept. of History and Archaeology and the Coordinators were Prof. Indira, Dr. K. Susheel Kumar, Dr. K. Balu Naik, Dr. P. Ramesh, Dr. D. Jayasree, Dr. E. Nagamani and Dr. Y. Shivanand representing the three collaborating departments.

*C.S. Swathy
Osmania University*

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON AI AND LARGE LANGUAGE MODELS FOR DRAVIDIAN LANGUAGES

The Department of Linguistics, Central University of Kerala in collaboration with Natyarathnam Kannan Pattali Smaraka Kadhakali Trust, Aravath, Kasaragod and Linguistic Diversity Study Centre, Kannur University is organizing a two day International Seminar on “AI and Large Language Models for Dravidian Languages” on 21st and 22nd August 2024.

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INDUCTION PROGRAMME

The Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala conducted “*Induction Programme*” for the First Semester students of M.A. course (2024-26) from 05th to 09th August 2024 at the Multi Media Hall, Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala, Kariavattom. The Head of the Department Dr. L. Darwin inaugurated the Programme and addressed students and Parents.

Dr. M. Sreenathan, Senior Professor (Rtd), TEMU, Tirur, Dr. L. Ramamoorthy, Professor (Rtd), Central University of Kerala, Dr. Rajeev R.R., Associate professor, ICFOSS and Sri. Diljith, Tech Mahindra introduced the scope of the subject and Industrial Orientation.

Adv. Jyothi Radhika Vijayakumar handled the classes for M.A. Linguistics students in the anti-ragging awareness programme conducted on 07.08.2024 at Multimedia hall, Department of Linguistics.

All Faculty members of the Department have introduced the subject and its scope and have given detailed lectures on CSS Programme, mark scoring, course details like common courses and elective courses (departmental elective course and interdepartmental elective course) and the relationship of the credits and courses with Power point presentation.

All sessions of the Induction Programme have been concluded on 09.08.2024 at 12.30 p.m.

Darwin L.
Head of the Department

INDO JAPANESE RELATION - TRADITIONAL & PRESENT SCENARIO

The Kolkatta Society for Asian Studies is organizing a one day Seminar on Indo Japanese Relation - Traditional & Present Scenario on 26th October 2024 from 6.00 PM onwards.

Representative from the Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata (P) / Representative from the Embassy of Japan (P) will inaugurate the function. Dr. Sarmistha De Basu, Secretary, KSAS will welcome the delegates. Dr. Purabi Ganguly, Member KSAS and the Resource Person of the Japanese Language course of KSAS will deliver the keynote address.

The name of the panelists are as follows:

1. Mr. Suchhando Chatterjee, Financial Service Consulting Capgemini Japan KK.
 2. Lopamudra Malek, Associate Professor, Department of Japanese Studies, University of Dhaka.
 3. MD. Aliul Azim, Assistant Professor, Department of Japanese Bhasha Bhavana, Visva Bharati
- Vote of Thanks : Dr. Soumitra Kr. Bose, Academic Committee Member, KSAS.

For Registration

Click or Scan the QR code



The registered participants will get e-certificates

HARD / SOFT COPY OF IJDL

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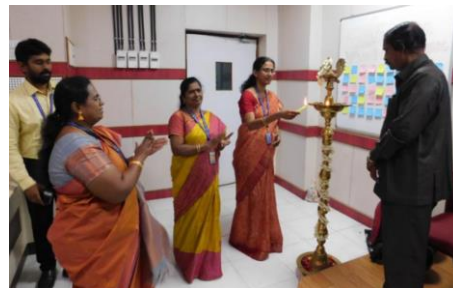
Editor, IJDL

New Life Members of DLA

<i>Name & Address</i>	<i>Membership Number</i>
<i>Mr. Abhinav Kadambi 9/5, KVK, Tp Koil Street, Triplicane, Chennai 600005</i>	1668/2024
<i>Mr. Ravindra Reddy M. Department of Linguistics, UCASS, Osmania University, Hyderabad - 500007, Telangana</i>	1669/2024
<i>Mr. Satish Babu 38 MSP Nagar, Thirumala P.O. Trivandrum - 695006</i>	1670/2024
<i>Dr. M. Nakkiran DIGP (Medical), CH-CRPF, Pallippuram Thiruvananthapuram - 695316</i>	1671/2024

NATIONAL TAMIL COMPUTING CONCLAVE (KANITAMIL) : REPORT

The department of Computing Technologies, School of Computing, SRM IST & Tamil Perayam, SRM Institute of Science & Technology has jointly organized a National Conclave on Tamil Computing (Kanitamil) on 5th & 6th of August 2024. The inaugural ceremony started at 9.30 at Tech Park, SRM IST, Kattankulathur. The dignitaries spoke about the importance of Tamil Computing and how to take this forward. Sixty participants including faculties from computing Technologies and various Engineering Colleges attended the conclave. This was followed by various sessions.



Session-1: This session was led by Mr. Selvakumar M, Research Lead Engineer at Saama Technologies, who provided an insightful overview of building Large Language Models (LLMs) specifically for the Tamil language. The discussion began with an exploration of dataset curation, emphasizing the importance of quality and diversity in training data.

Session-2: The second session was led by Dr. Bharathi B, Associate Professor at SSN College of Engineering, Chennai. The focus was on the fundamentals and challenges of Tamil speech recognition. Dr. Bharathi began by outlining the goals of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the context of speech recognition, emphasizing the need for models that can accurately interpret and process Tamil speech. She provided an in-depth explanation of Byte Pair Encoding (BPE), a method crucial for tokenizing and compressing text, which plays a significant role in improving the efficiency and accuracy of speech recognition systems.

Session-3: Dr. Subalalitha C.N., Associate Professor at the Department of Computer Technology, SRM IST, led this session on the use cases of Large Language Models (LLMs) for Tamil. Dr. Subalalitha began by discussing the Transformer model, originally invented by Google, which serves as the backbone for many modern LLMs.

Session-4: The panel discussion, moderated by Dr. B. Jai Ganesh of Tamil Perayam, featured insights from Mr. M. Balasubramani of Tamil Perayam, Dr. Subalalitha C.N. of the Department of Computer Technology, and Dr. R. Rajkumar of the Department of Data Science and Business Systems, SRM IST. The discussion revolved around the latest trends and emerging opportunities in Tamil computing, with a particular focus on the development and application of Large Language Models (LLMs).

Session-5: In this session, Dr. V. Dhanalakshmi, Professor at Subramani Bharathi School of Tamil Language and Literature, Pondicherry University, explored the crucial role of linguistically annotated data in developing language models. She began by discussing the challenges and strategies for engineering websites in Tamil, emphasizing the importance of linguistic precision.

Valedictory: The valedictory session marked the conclusion of an insightful and enriching series of discussions on Tamil computing and language models. The entire function came to an end with the vote of thanks to the SRM Management, Chairperson, Head of the Department, Conveners, Co-conveners, Coordinators, participants, students, faculty, and non-faculty members for their unwavering support and active participation, which made this event a grand success.

*Subalalitha C.N.
SRM IST*