



DLA

NEWS

INDEX OF PURANAANUURU
V.I. SUBRAMONIAM, 2026, HB,
Crown 1/4, pp. 647,
Rs.1800/- (US\$ 180/-)

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/-)

Vol. 50 No. 9

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September 2026

A MONTHLY OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON QUANTIFIERS AND QUALIFIERS

V.I.S Centenary Program No. 12

Organized by

The Dravidian Linguistic Association of India in collaboration with the Central Institute of Indian Languages,
Mysuru and the International School of Dravidian Linguistics

08th to 09th October, 2026

The registration for the 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" to be held during 08th and 09th of October 2026 is in full swing. Prof. (Dr.) Mohanan Kunnummal, Vice Chancellor, University of Kerala has consented to inaugurate the seminar. Distinguished linguists from different parts of India will attend the seminar and take part in the academic deliberations. Both online and offline sessions will be arranged. Please note that we have only limited accommodation facilities and so the priority for accommodation will be based on the date of registration. So also for finalizing the programme schedule the details of the participation and papers to be presented need to be urgently required. Hence we request each and every intended participant to register for the seminar without any further delay.



QR Code for
Registration

Seminar Registration Link (Google Form)
<https://forms.gle/k4syfhC7SnkuUKiR7>

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Patrons:

- (1) Prof. Basavaraja Kodagunti, Director, CIIL
- (2) Prof. Bhubinder Singh Khaira, President, DLA
- (3) Prof. M. J. Warsi, President, LSI
- (4) Prof. K. Karunakaran, Former VC, Tamil University, Thanjavur
- (5) Prof. A. Murigeppa, Former VC, Kannada University, Hampi
- (6) Prof. G. Balasubramanian, Former VC, Tamil University, Thanjavur
- (7) Prof. G. K. Panikkar, Dean, DLA

Organising Secretaries cum Coordinators:

- (1) Dr. L.R. Premkumar, Lecturer cum JRO, CIIL
- (2) Dr. S. Abdul Samed, Treasurer, DLA

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REGISTRATION FORM

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”

(08th -09th October, 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 ☐ 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 Remitted	:	

*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**]

SEMINAR CALENDAR

Full paper submission : **28/09/2026**
Last date of registration : **28/09/2026**
Inauguration : **08-10-2026**
(In special cases spot registration is allowed)

Those who would like to participate may please register at the earliest. Registration form can be downloaded from our website www.ijdl.org

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 NEP2020

REGISTRATION FEE

Participation only (No paper presentation)	₹. Nil
Paper Presentation (Off-line)	
(a) Students & Research Scholars without Fellowship	₹. 500/-
(b) Research Scholars with fellowship	₹.750/-
(c) Others	
1. Life members of DLA	₹. 1000/-
2. Non- Life members	₹ 1500/-
Persons who require Accommodation	
(a) Students and Research Scholars who need accommodation (For Life Members of DLA)	₹.750/-
(b) Students and Research Scholars who need accommodation (For Non-Life Members of DLA)	₹.1200/-
(c) All others including accompanying persons of delegates	
1. Life members	₹.1500/-
2. Non-Life members	₹.2000/-
Paper Presentation (Online)	
(a) All Categories	₹. 500/-

Date :

Signature:

* The **registration fee** can be paid online or as cheque in favour of Treasurer-DLA, V.I. Subramoniam Memorial Complex, St. Xavier's College P.O., Thiruvananthapuram - 695 586.

[Account Name : **All India Conference and Seminar**

Account No. : **336602010006321**, Bank : **Union Bank of India**;

Branch : **Menamkulam, Thiruvananthapuram**

IFSC Code : **UBIN0533661** SWIFT Code : **UBININBBKHU**]

The application forms for life-membership and institutional membership of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India can be downloaded from www.ijdl.org

The filled-up registration form should reach the Secretary, Dravidian Linguistic Association of India on or before 28th September, 2026.

- Only Off-line paper presenters are eligible for seminar kit.
- Online participants will be issued only the soft copy of the certificate.
- Online paper presentation is allowed only for non-local participants

For details contact :

Dr. S. Abdul Samed (Organisation Secretary - Local)

Ph. : 9495246269; email : dlavis1971@gmail.com

CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS OF PROF. V.I. SUBRAMONIAM & PROF. G.N. REDDY

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON LANGUAGE, CULTURE AND TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE

The Institute for Indian Folklore and FOSSILS, in collaboration with the Dravidian Linguistic Association (DLA), Thiruvananthapuram, the Department of Telugu, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati, and the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysuru (subject to confirmation), is organizing a National Multidisciplinary Seminar titled "**Kinship, Address and Reference: Language as a Repository of Culture and Traditional Knowledge.**" The three-day academic event will be held at the Department of Telugu, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati from **December 16th to 18th, 2026.**

The seminar is going to be organized to mark the Centenary Celebrations of **Prof. V.I. Subramoniam** and **Prof. G.N. Reddy**, the key figures in the development of South Indian linguistics and multidisciplinary studies. The concept note emphasizes kinship, terms of address, and reference practices as essential linguistic mechanisms through which communities retain and transmit cultural memory, social relationship, and traditional knowledge.

Call for Papers

The original research papers presenting theoretical, historical, comparative, empirical, ethnographic, literary, or interdisciplinary perspectives are invited from the intended participants.

Broad sub-themes include: Kinship systems and social organization, Address and reference practices, Kinship terminology and semantic change, Language as a repository of culture and traditional knowledge, Ritual vocabulary, Oral traditions and folklore, Tribal and indigenous knowledge systems, Language, identity, and social hierarchy, Impact of globalization, migration, and changing family structures on linguistic and cultural practices

Submission of Abstracts

Scholars and researchers are invited to submit an extended abstract of 500–750 words. The abstract should demonstrate how the proposed paper relates to the central themes of kinship, address, reference, language, culture and traditional knowledge.

Last Date for Submission of Abstracts is 15 October 2026

Authors whose abstracts are selected for presentation will subsequently be invited to submit their full papers within the stipulated time. A detailed Call for papers with submission guidelines and important dates will be circulated separately.

N. Bhakthavathsala Reddy
Hon. Director, Institute for Indian Folklore

TWO DAY WORKSHOP AT CUK

A two day workshop on "Validation of Hindi Competence Questionnaire" was conducted at the Central University of Kerala during 08th–09th September 2026 at the Seminar Hall, Sindhu Block, Central University of Kerala, Kasaragod. The workshop was organized by the Department of Linguistics, Central University of Kerala. Participants from different parts of India attended the workshop. The workshop was inaugurated by Prof. Taru S. Pawar, Dean, School of Language and Literature, Central University of Kerala. Dr. G. Palanirajan, Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics, Central University of Kerala delivered the welcome address and Dr. Dharmendra Pratap Singh, Assistant Professor, Department of Hindi, CUK proposed the vote of thanks.

G. Palanirajan

A SYSTEMATIC ENVIRONMENT LEXICON OF THE BAḌUGU LANGUAGE

A new linguistic resource titled "**A Systematic Environment Lexicon of the Baḍugu Language,**" authored by **Anandhan Raju**, has recently been published on **Zenodo**, an open-access research repository. The lexicon makes a significant contribution to the documentation and study of the **Baḍugu language**.

The Lexicon is accessible via the following DOI:
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.22274435>

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), in collaboration with the Central University of Karnataka, will host a National Conference and Regional Workshop on "Kannada, Classical Knowledge Systems, and Multilingual Pedagogy." during September 15–16, 2026. Venue: Central University of Karnataka, Kalaburagi.

PROF. V. I. SUBRAMONIAM CENTENARY CELEBRATION EVENT - No.7**ACADEMIC SEMINAR-CUM-LECTURES**

The Department of Linguistics, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, in collaboration with the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India (DLA), the International School of Dravidian Linguistics (ISDL), Thiruvananthapuram, and the Tamil Mozhiyiyal Sangam, Coimbatore, organized an Academic Seminar-Cum-Lectures as part of Prof. V.I. Subramoniam Centenary Celebration on 28 August 2026 at the Seminar Hall, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore. The programme commenced at 10.00 a.m.

The Seminar began with the Welcome Address delivered by Dr. S. Sundarabalu, Associate Professor & Head i/c, Department of Linguistics. This was followed by the Introductory Address by Prof. K. Karunakaran, Mentor Professor, Bharathiar University.

The Presidential Address was delivered by Prof. G.K. Panikkar, Director, International School of Dravidian Linguistics, and Dean, Dravidian Linguistic Association of India, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. The Inaugural Address was delivered by Dr. R. Rajavel, Registrar, Bharathiar University.

The programme also featured Special Addresses by Dr. K. Nachimuthu, Dr. C. Shanmugom, Dr. V. Renugadevi, and Dr. P. Umarani. This was followed by Felicitation Addresses by distinguished scholars and academicians, including Dr. K. Rangan, Dr. N. Rajasekharan Nair, Dr. N. Deivasundaram, Dr. L. Ramamoorthy, Dr. M. Sreenathan, Dr. S. Kunjamma, Dr. T. Muthukrishnan, Dr. P. Chandramohan, Dr. P. Selvakumar, Dr. R. Kumarasamy, Dr. V.M. Subramanian and Dr. Abdul Samed. The programme concluded with the Vote of Thanks proposed by Dr. N. Vijayan.

The event provided an important academic platform to commemorate the centenary of Prof. V.I. Subramoniam and to bring together scholars, faculty members, research scholars, and students associated with linguistics and Dravidian studies. The programme was coordinated by Dr. V.M. Subramanian and Dr. S. Sundarabalu. Dr. N. Vijayan, and Dr. P. Sankarganesh functioned as Organizing Secretaries.

S. Sundarabalu

Prof. V.I. Subramoniam Centenary Celebrations - Program No. 8**LECTURE BY PROF. NILADRI SEKHAR DASH****“DEVELOPING SPEECH CORPORA IN INDIAN LANGUAGES:
CHALLENGES AND ADVANTAGES”****Report**

The 8th program of Prof. V.I. Subramoniam Centenary Celebrations was an online lecture delivered by Prof. Niladri Sekhar Dash of Linguistic Research Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata through Google Meet on 8th September 3 pm to 4.30 pm. Prof. Dash presented his lecture on the topic “Developing Speech Corpora in Indian Languages : Challenges and Advantages”. This presentation by Prof. Niladri Sekhar Dash addresses the pressing need to develop speech corpora for Indian languages including the spoken variety, highlighting both the challenges involved and the benefits such resources would bring to research and technology. Prof. Dash notes that several major world languages already possess large, well-developed speech corpora that underpin their speech technologies. At the same time Indian languages currently lack proper speech corpora. He identifies ten major categories of challenges in building such corpora, spanning attitudinal resistance from speakers, the inherent non-rigorous character of spoken language, sociolinguistic complexity, and technical difficulties in data collection, transcription, annotation, processing, and management. He outlined a detailed framework for designing a representative corpus, emphasizing sampling diversity across geographic, demographic, and contextual dimensions, and proposes a target corpus size of around 10 million words.

The presentation also lays out a step-by-step methodology for data elicitation, from sociolinguistic interviews and recording through transcription and validation. It surveys the wide-ranging applications of such corpora — in descriptive and cognitive linguistics, applied linguistics, clinical and neurolinguistics, forensic linguistics, lexicography, and speech technology (automatic speech recognition, text-to-speech conversion, speaker identification, and emotion recognition) — arguing that a robust speech corpus infrastructure is essential not only for linguistic research but also for preserving the identity and survival of India's many languages, including those without a written script.

D. Mano

53RD ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTS AND THE SYMPOSIUM ON NEP 2020: EQUIPPING REGIONAL LANGUAGES FOR HIGHER EDUCATION - A GRAND ACADEMIC EVENT

Report

(Continued from the previous issue)

The Sixth Academic Session resumed after the lunch break. In the four parallel sessions at different venues, there were presentations on such themes as phonology, psycholinguistics, Language pedagogy, AI in English language teaching, linguistics and ideology, and digitalisation of language and linguistics resources.

The Seventh Academic Session, continued with three Memorial lectures. The first one Prof. A. Chandrasekhar Memorial Lecture was delivered by Prof. S. Kunjamma. Prof. Kunjamma spoke on the grammatical categories of subject and object in Malayalam, offering profound insights into its grammatical structures. Prof. K. Karunakaran delivered Prof. Chekkuri Ramarao Memorial Lecture. Prof. Karunakaran provided a comprehensive exposition on the formation and evolution of language, tracing its development from early, rudimentary stages to a complex and structured matrix. He further detailed contemporary transformations occurring within languages and emphasised the critical importance of deliberate and informed language planning for the future of Indian languages.

The third lecture, Prof H.M. Maheshwaraiah Memorial Lecture, was delivered by Prof. Bhakthavathsala Reddy. Prof Reddy highlighted how language functions not only as a medium of communication but also as a vital repository of culture., with particular emphasis on ritual language, illustrating its essential role in the preservation, transmission, and deeper understanding of cultural traditions and practices.

The second day ended with a colourful Cultural Evening convened by Dr. Bhim Inder Singh, with Dr. S.P.S. Oberoi as the Chief Guest. The students of Punjabi university entertained the audience with performances of Bhangra, Jhumar, Solo Tabla rendition, and classical dance.

The Third Day began with the Eighth Academic Session a continuation of paper presentations by the participants. The themes covered in three parallel sessions were natural language processing and

lexicography, relevance of metalanguage frameworks, forensic linguistics, the complex relationship between language and ritualistic practices, linguistic analysis of artefacts, art works and folklore.

The Ninth Academic Session, included one endowment lecture and a Memorial lecture. Prof. Imtiaz Hasnain, who delivered Prof. Anvita Abbi Endowment Lecture, spoke on the historical journeys of Indian society from semantic-cognitive mapping to civilisation ethos. Prof. Hasnain deliberated on what it means to reimagine India as a civilisation area, the challenges, possibilities and potential of thinking along these lines, emphasising in the process the significance of vernacular cosmopolitanism in the twenty-first century.

The second one Dr. Parso Gidwani and Lakshami Jessaram Memorial Lecture was delivered by Prof. Bhupinder Singh Khaira.

The 53rd All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists, which, by every measure, has been a conference of intellectual substance, scholarly inquiry and engaging dialogue. Over three days and across more than 19 sessions, it held together a remarkable range of themes: from the cognitive biology of language to the politics of linguistic identity, from endangered Himalayan tongues to the workings of large language models. What gave the conference its particular character was the seriousness with which every session was received. The memorial lectures did what the best such lectures do: they honoured their dedicatees by demonstrating that the work those scholars began is still very much alive. The symposium on NEP 2020 placed the conference in productive conversation with the most urgent educational questions of our time. And the paper presentations gave voice to the next generation of researchers who will carry this scholarship forward. Punjabi University, Patiala, helped the conference as a fitting and generous host. The conference closed with the quiet confidence that the questions it has raised, will continue to be asked and that the answers will be richer for having been sought in this company – the answers, along with the questions hidden within them.

Dharamjeet Singh

INVITATION

Prof. V.I. Subramoniam
Centenary Celebrations
(Program No.9)



Topic: Aryan Invasion Theory (AIT): A Linguistic Perspective

**LIVE**

26th September 2026
11 am (IST)

The International School of Dravidian Linguistics is arranging a Lecture on the topic: "Aryan Invasion Theory (AIT): A Linguistic Perspective" on 26th September 2026 (Saturday) from 11 am (IST) as part of V.I.S. Centenary Celebrations.

**Speaker :**

Prof. Abhinav Kumar Mishra

Professor & Head and
Commonwealth Academic Fellow
Department of Linguistics, Faculty of Arts, Banaras
Hindu University, Varanasi (UP), INDIA;
Secretary, Linguistic Society of India (LSI)
Google Scholar Profile
: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=cXnfPHcAAAAAJ&hl=en>
ORCID Id: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1383-4074>
Researcher Id: abhi@bhu.ac.in

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.10)



Topic: "Structure of Malayalam from a Diachronic Perspective"

**LIVE**

30th September 2026
11 am (IST)

The International School of Dravidian Linguistics is arranging a Lecture on the topic: "Structure of Malayalam from a Diachronic Perspective" on 30th September 2026 (Saturday) from 11 am (IST) as part of V.I.S. Centenary Celebrations.

**Speaker :**

Prof. S. Kunjamma

Former Professor & Head,
Department of Linguistics,
University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala,
INDIA;
Vice-President, Dravidian Linguistic Association
of India, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, INDIA;

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.11)



**Topic: “Multidisciplinary Perspective
in Higher Education: Towards a
Multilingual Knowledge Society”**



LIVE
5th October 2026
10:30 am (IST)

The International School of Dravidian Linguistics is arranging a Lecture on the topic: “Multidisciplinary Perspective in Higher Education: Towards a Multilingual Knowledge Society” on 5th October 2026 (Monday) from 10:30 am (IST) as part of V.I.S. Centenary Celebrations.



Speaker :

Prof. M. J. Warsi

Chairman, Department of Linguistics
Aligarh Muslim University
Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, INDIA;

President, Linguistic Society of India;
Editor-in-Chief: Aligarh Journal of Linguistics (AJL);
Local Coordinator: Global Initiative of Academic
Networks (GIAN);

Nodal Officer: Bhartiya Bhasha Anubhag;
Liaison Officer: AMU Kishanganj Centre;

Former Faculty Member:
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (2001-2003), USA
University of California, Berkeley (2003-2005), USA
Washington University in St. Louis (2006-2016), USA

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.13)



**Topic: “Reconstructing the Historical
Syntax of Tamil and Proto-Dravidian:
Further Evidence from Early Tamil
Inscriptions”**



LIVE
14th October 2026
2:00 pm (IST)

The International School of Dravidian Linguistics is arranging a Lecture on the topic: “Reconstructing the Historical Syntax of Tamil and Proto-Dravidian: Further Evidence from Early Tamil Inscriptions” on 14th October 2026 (Wednesday) from 2:00 pm (IST) as part of V.I.S. Centenary Celebrations.



Speaker :

Prof. Appasamy Murugaiyan

École Pratique des Hautes Études (Groupe de
recherches en études indiennes), Paris, France;

Retired Ingénieur de recherche (Research Officer),
Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes;

Has also taught at the University of Paris-8, School of
Oriental Languages and CREOPS-Sorbonne
University. His current areas of research include
Tamil Epigraphy, Historical Linguistics and
Francophone Tamil Indentured Diaspora.

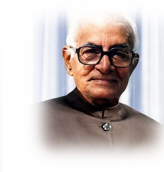
All are cordially invited

Mode of Lecture: Virtual (Google meet)

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

INVITATION

Prof. V.I. Subramoniam
Centenary Celebrations
(Program No.14)

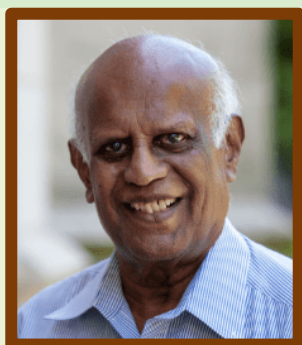


Topic: “Pronouns of Politeness in Dravidian and Classical Literature of Tamil”



LIVE
14th October 2026
4:00 pm (IST)

The International School of Dravidian Linguistics is arranging a Lecture on the topic: “Pronouns of Politeness in Dravidian and Classical Literature of Tamil” on 14th October 2026 (Saturday) from 4:00 pm (IST) as part of V.I.S. Centenary Celebrations.



Speaker:

Prof. E. Annamalai

Former Director,

Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysuru;
Currently working as a Visiting Professor of Tamil,
University of Chicago;

Former visiting professor at Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Tokyo; International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden; Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen; Max Planck Institute of Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig; University of Melbourne and Yale University, New Haven.

All are cordially invited

Mode of Lecture: Virtual (Google meet)

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

NEW MULTILINGUAL ONLINE DICTIONARY ANNOUNCED FOR SOUTH INDIAN LANGUAGES

A comprehensive online multilingual lexical information system covering English, Malayalam, Tamil, Telugu, and Kannada has been developed to enable cross-language accessibility and digital language preservation. The digital initiative was led by Prof. Saratchandran Nair Velappan, former Professor-cum-Deputy Director at the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysuru. The online system converts eight printed dictionary volumes originally compiled at the Southern Regional Language Centre (SRLC), CIIL, into a searchable, interactive digital database. Users can search entries bidirectionally across multiple language combinations, including English–Malayalam, Malayalam–English, and Malayalam–English–Kannada. Each dictionary entry provides headwords in their native scripts, Roman transliteration, grammatical information, and corresponding lexical equivalents across the 4 major South Indian languages. Designed initially for language learners, the platform serves as a resource for translators, researchers, educators, and students working with literary and non-literary texts. The digital platform aims to provide continuous updates and expansions to preserve and disseminate the rich lexical heritage of major South Indian languages.

Annie Tisha Jerald

NOTIFICATION

The Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL) announces openings for **Research Assistant** and **Field Investigator** positions in the ICSSR-funded major research project titled “An Analysis of Literacy Acquisition in the Emerging (Bi)literates: The Case of Hindi as L1 and English as L2.”

Further information is available at:

https://www.ciil.org/announcements/ICSSR_Eng_Advertisement.pdf

Shagi G.U.

PROF. G.K. PANIKKAR - NOMINATED AS LSI HONORARY FELLOW

Prof. G.K. Panikkar, Director of the International School of Dravidian Linguistics (ISDL) and the Dean, Dravidian Linguistic Association of India (DLA), has been nominated as one of the LSI-Honorary Fellows for the year 2026–27 by the Linguistic Society of India (LSI) in recognition of his service to the development of Indian Linguistics.

Prof. G.K. Panikkar will be formally conferred the LSI-Honorary Fellowship during the 48th International Conference of the Linguistic Society of India (ICOLSI-48), scheduled to be held from November 18th to 20th, 2026, at Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

Greeshma C.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The 12th International Conference on Languages, Linguistics, Translation and Literature is scheduled to be held on 1-2 February 2027 in Ahvaz. The areas including theoretical and applied linguistics, Language and dialects, any linguistic issue related to English, Arabic and other languages and dialects such as: Morphology and Syntax, Phonetics and Phonology, Corpus linguistics, Historical linguistics, Sociolinguistics, Contact linguistics, Psycholinguistics, Contrastive linguistics, Comparative linguistics, Neuro linguistics, Interlinguistics, Computational linguistics, Linguistic statistics, Orthography, Pragmatics, Rhetoric, Stylistics, Semantics, Linguistic typology, Bilingualism, Social Networks, Education (Issues such as teaching, program evaluation, curriculum development). Researchers are invited to present their studies in English, Arabic or Persian. The conference also offers both in-person and virtual presentation options.

Conference Themes

♦ Linguistics (Any issue related to either theoretical or applied linguistics) ♦ Literature (Any literary issue related to English, Arabic and others) ♦ Translation (Any translation and interpreting issue related to English, Arabic and other languages and dialects) ♦ Religious linguistics (Any linguistic study related to religious texts and speeches)

For more information please visit the conference website: WWW.TLLL.IR

Anju B.

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF TIBETO-BURMAN LANGUAGES AND LINGUISTICS

The International Journal of Tibeto-Burman Languages and Linguistics (IJTBLL), Volume 1, Issue 1, 2026 (January–June), has been officially released on the journal page of the TiBLANEI website. The journal is an open-access publication dedicated to research in Tibeto-Burman languages and linguistics. The release of its inaugural issue marks an important milestone in promoting scholarly research and academic discussions related to Tibeto-Burman languages and their linguistic, cultural and related dimensions.

RECRUITMENT DRIVE TO BOOST REGIONAL LANGUAGES IN GOVERNANCE

In a major effort to enhance linguistic diversity and advance inclusive governance, the Department of Official Language has announced a new recruitment drive aimed at filling 44 dedicated positions. The initiative focuses on strengthening the effective use of Indian languages across public administration, scaling up translation capabilities, and expanding official communication networks. Detailed recruitment guidelines, eligibility criteria, and application processes are available on the official portal at rajbhasha.gov.in.

CHARLES S. THOMSON'S SPECIAL LECTURE ON MULTILINGUALISM ACROSS MEDIA

The Department of Linguistics, Faculty of Arts, Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), organised a special lecture on “Multilingualism Across Media, Film and Streaming Platforms: Opportunities, Challenges and New Horizons” on 02 September, 2026. The lecture was delivered by Charles S. Thomson, an independent scholar from Sydney, Australia.



Speaking on the occasion, Charles S. Thomson highlighted the benefits of multilingualism and its importance in communication. He said that “multilingualism is a strength, not a weakness”. He stressed the importance of learning one's mother tongue and regional languages and encouraged people to speak their mother tongue at home.

Prof. M.J. Warsi, Chairman, Department of Linguistics, welcomed the speaker and introduced Charles S. Thomson and highlighted the importance of multilingualism in India and referred to the National Education Policy (NEP)-2020.

Prof. Md. Rizwan Khan, Dean, Faculty of Arts, who presided over the programme, opined that NEP-2020 emphasises learning at least one additional Indian language beyond one's mother tongue, thereby promoting linguistic inclusivity, cultural understanding and national integration.

Chairpersons, faculty members and students from the various departments of AMU attended the lecture. Dr. Shamim Fatma conducted the programme, while Dr. Noman Tahir proposed the vote of thanks.

M.J. Warsi

ONE-DAY TRAINING PROGRAMME ON LITERACY AND JUVENILE JUSTICE

The Department of Language, Culture and Society, Dr. T. R. Paarivendhar Multidisciplinary Research Centre, SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur, in collaboration with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), is organizing a one-day training programme on “Literacy and Juvenile Justice” on September 10, 2026, at the Seminar Hall, Room No. 1116. The programme focuses on the interrelationship between literacy, human rights, psychology, forensic psycholinguistics and juvenile justice, with special emphasis on the rights, psychological well-being, communication needs and rehabilitation of children under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. The training programme aims to bring together perspectives from language studies, psychology, law and human rights to promote a more inclusive and child-centered justice system, and contributes to SDGs 3, 4, 5 and 16. Registration is free and limited to 100 participants. Certificates will be provided to participants.

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Remya L.B

V.I.S. CENTENARY SEMINAR AT ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY

The CAS in Linguistics and the Department of Tamil, Annamalai University, in collaboration with the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India (DLA), is organising a One Day Seminar to commemorate the birth centenary of Prof. V. I. Subramaniam (V.I.S.) on 5 November 2026. The seminar aims to highlight the significant contributions of Prof. V.I.S. to Tamil Studies, Linguistics, higher education, and scholarly research.

P. Chandramohan

FROM VADASERY TO THE WORLD: THE ENDURING LEGACY OF PROFESSOR V. I. SUBRAMONIAM

A SAHITYA AKADEMI SEMINAR ON THE DOYEN OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTICS

Professor V. I. Subramoniam, the doyen of Dravidian linguistics, was an illustrious alumnus of Scott Christian College (Autonomous), and in recognition of his contribution and academic scholarship at the global level, the Sahitya Akademi of the Government of India, organized a one-day seminar at Scott Christian College (his own *Alma mater*), Nagercoil, on August 31, 2026.

The seminar was introduced by Dr. R. Thamocharan, Convener, Tamil Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi, who spoke in detail about the greatness of V.I. Subramoniam as a man, as a professional, and as a scholar. He also introduced the theme and objectives of the seminar, besides focusing on some of the invisible and noble qualities of Professor Subramoniam as a scholar and as a visionary.

Dr. Shanmukhananda, Regional Secretary of the Sahitya Akademi, welcomed the gathering, and put into perspective the purpose of the one-day seminar on Professor Subramoniam. The Sahitya Akademi General Council Member, and Professor of Tamil, Dravidian University, Kuppam, Dr.T. Vishnukumaran, himself an alumnus of Scott Christian College, offered the introductory address.

Dr. J.G. Duresh, the Principal of Scott Christian College, delivered the presidential address.

Dr. K. Karunakaran, the former Vice-Chancellor of Tamil University, Thanjavur, delivered the Special Address. He recalled how Professor V. I. Subramoniam took Dravidian studies to a higher level through his contributions and incisive interpretations of Dravidian linguistics.

Followed by the inaugural session, Dr. K. Naachimuthu, former President of the Dravidian Linguistic Association and former Professor in the Department of Tamil, University of Kerala, Dr. P. Jeyakrishnan, Professor of Tamil, Kerala University, Dr. E. James R. Daniel, Former Professor and Principal, Scott. Christian College, Nagercoil, Dr. P. Nazeemudeen, Former Professor of Tamil, University of Kerala, Dr. A. Hepsy Rosemary, Head of the Department of Tamil, Kerala University, Dr. A.K. Perumal, The Folklore scholar and former Professor and Head of the Department of Tamil, Anna College, Dr. J.R.V. Edward, former Principal Scott Christian College presented papers on the contributions of Prof. V.I. Subramoniam to Dravidian Linguistics, Tamil Studies and Academic Research. Dr. Sidney Shirly, the Dean of Arts, Scott Christian College, proposed the Vote of Thanks.

E. James R. Daniel

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,
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NEW LIFE MEMBERS OF DLA

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	Ms. Dipanwita Das Ph.D Research Scholar Delhi University, North Campus, Chatra Marg, Delhi	1742/2026
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	Mr. Shabu A.S. Ph.D Research Scholar Central University of Karnataka, Kalaburagi	1744/2026

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/-).

APROPOS OF THE ORIGIN OF THE WORD 'INCH'

The Tamil origin proposal of the Sanskrit word *āṅgula* (Krishnamurthy, The word *ainkoolam* and Tamil antiquity; DLA News 2006 June & July; <https://www.ijdl.org/html/News.htm>) was earlier refuted (Apropos of the origin of word *āṅgula*; DLA News 2006 August; <https://www.ijdl.org/html/News.htm>). The present paper attempts to refute the claim made in the same that the word 'inch' originated from *ainkoolam* and the British 'appropriated' it, making it part of the FPS measurement system. He contends that the English who came to India transcribed *ainkoolam* as *ainchoolam*, substituting ch for k, later dropped the initial a and the final *oolam* and appropriated the resultant 'inch' into English as a unit of measurement. This claim has many logical constraints needing detailed examination.

According to the Online Etymology Dictionary, the word inch, twelfth part of a foot, is from the Latin *uncia* (which means twelfth part), evolving through late Old English *ynce* and Middle English *unche* and *inche*, to the present spelling *inch* as early as 1300 CE. In contrast, the English reached India only around 1700 CE. This makes it clear that ***the spelling of inch came into existence 300 years earlier*** and it is meaningless to claim that it is from 'ainkoolam'. Moreover, Dravidian nouns with /k/ sound is usually transcribed using hard c, examples being coir (*kayar*), Comorin (*Kumāri* of *Kanyā Kumāri*), Cochin (*Kochi*), congee (*kaññi*), etc.

The South-west coast of India is known to have had trade relationship with Ancient Europe and Dravidian language has influenced Latin and thence English (Narayanan Bhattathiri, Comparative r->t transformation in Latin and Malayalam: Implications for Historical Linguistics, DLA News, March 2015; <https://www.academia.edu/75873055>). It centered on spices, ginger being one of them. The word ginger, which came into existence around 1100 CE (much before the word inch) is from the Sanskrit *śṛṅgavera* from Tamil-Malayalam *in̄ci-vēru* (ginger-root). The knobby projections on the *in̄ci* rhizome look like thumbs (Fig. 1) and are termed so, establishing an



Fig. 1

association between thumb and *in̄ci*. In the past, the basis of definition of inch was the width of the thumb (the definition of the unit digit relates to the index finger). It is possible that because of this association between thumb and *in̄ci* (ginger→thumb→*in̄ci*) the unit of measurement derived from the thumb got the name *in̄ci*, which later evolved to inch.

Narayanan Bhattathiri