



DLA NEWS

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 Sanford B. Steever, 2017, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. xiv + 162, Rs. 240/- (US\$ 24/-)

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A MONTHLY OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

WORKSHOP ON FIELD LINGUISTICS

The International School of Dravidian Linguistics organizes a Workshop on Field Linguistics from 10th October to 15th October 2022. It is intended for young linguists engaged in field studies. The course is planned both as online and offline modes. About 50 registrants will be given training, 20 through offline mode and about 30 through online mode. Prof. Shailendra Mohan, Director, CIIL has inaugurated the Workshop on 10th of October 2022 and Prof. G.K. Panikkar, presided over the function. The Valedictory address will be delivered by Prof. M.J. Warsi, Chairman, Department of Linguistics, Aligarh Muslim University on 15th afternoon. The list of Resource Persons for the workshop is given below:



Prof. Shailendra Mohan
Director, CIIL



Prof. M.J. Warsi
Chairman,
Aligarh Muslim University



Prof. Panchanan Mohanthy
Director, CALTS (Retd.),
University of Hyderabad



Prof. Umamaheswara Rao
Director, CALTS (Retd.)
University of Hyderabad



Prof. L. Ramamoorthy
Professor
Central University of Kerala



Prof. Kavita Rastogi
Professor,
Lucknow University



Dr. C. Maheswaran
Former Director
Tribal Research Centre
Govt. of Tamil Nadu



Prof. K. Rangan
Formerly of Tamil University
Thanjavur



Prof. Gnanasundaram
Former Deputy Director
CIIL, Mysore



Prof. Renuga Devi
Retd. Prof. and Head
Madurai Kamaraj University



Prof. G.K. Panikkar
Director, ISDL



Prof. Shailendra Kumar Singh
Professor of Linguistics
NEHU



Prof. M. Sreenathan
Professor
Malayalam University, Tirur



Prof. S. Kunjamma
Professor and Head
Dept. of Linguistics
University of Kerala



Prof. S.A. Shanavas
Professor, Dept. of Linguistics
University of Kerala



Dr. Darwin L.
Dept. of Linguistics
University of Kerala



Dr. S. Prema
Dept. of Linguistics
University of Kerala

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WEST COAST DIALECT : MALAYALAM IN EARLY FOREIGN NOTES

West Coast of India had centuries back mercantile contacts with the Western World. Romans, Egyptians, Arabs and Venetians are the chief mercantile groups reached here to collect the spices and other valuable materials even before the dawn of Christian era. There are evidences for the arrival of ships of Emperor Solomon in Kerala coast for the exportation of spices grown at Sahya mountain regions. Ophir (ofir) was the main port where the Solomon's ships anchored. The Romans and Egyptians of early centuries were referred to as 'Yavanas' in ancient Sanskrit and Tamil works. Western geographers like Pliny (77 C.E.) anonymous author of Periplus of Maris Erythraei (80 CE), Ptolemy (130 CE) and Cosmos Indicopleustes (535 CE) wrote extensive reports on the mercantile contacts and their personal experience in voyages to Indian subcontinent. From their writings the linguists and geographers get valuable information regarding the linguistic features, geographical driftings, place names, names of spices, flora, fauna and the goods imported and exported. Such pieces of information are very important for a linguist interested in linguistic archaeology. The transliterated west coast words attested in Hellenic language are valuable,

particularly for the identification of phonemic features

Here an attempt is made to draw an outline of the phonology of west coast dialect of Tamil Malayalam covering a period from 77 CE to 535 CE i.e., from the period of the book Natural History (Pliny) to Christian Topography' (Cosmos Indicopleustes). Natural History and Periplus of Maris Erythraei are the main sources which give us list of imports and exports, ports and port towns. The major items exported from west coast were pepper, algam, ginger, cardamom, cloves, wild fauna, ivory, woods like teak, akil (eagle wood) and sandal, precious stones, tortoise shell etc. Graeco-Roman accounts mention Muziris, Tyndis, Nelkynda, Bakara etc as the ancient ports of Kerala. Hebrew texts of the Books of Kings and Chronicles also supply a clear picture of mercantile contacts of west coast with the western trade centres. These sources covered a period from the closing centuries of the first millennium BCE to almost the middle of CE first millennium (1000 BCE - 500 CE). The Hellenic forms and their corresponding Early Malayalam forms are given in the Table given below:

Table I

	Hellenic form		Tamil - Malayalam	Remarks	
10.	kēprobotros kērobothros kērabatros	} (land of Kerala)	kēraḷaputra kētalaputa	Periplus Ptolemy Pliny	
11.	mouziris musiris		} (name of the port)	muciri muyiri	Periplus Ptolemy
12.	karoura koṛoura			} (place name)	karūr karūrpaṭanna
13.	coṭṭonora kollonarika	} (place name)	kuṭṭam kuṭṭanāṭu		Pliny Periplus
14.	coṭṭora koṭṭiara koṭṭiara		} (place name)	kōṭṭāru kōṭṭāru	Pliny Periplus Ptolemy
15.	aioi (name of a region)	āy		āy	Ptolemy
16.	paralia	paruḷi [@]	puraḷi	Periplus Ptolemy	
17.	komar komarei komaria	} (place name)	kumāri kumāri*	Periplus Ptolemy	
18.	tyndis (name of a port)		Toṇṭi	kaṭaluṇṭi* koyilāṇṭi* tiṇṭilam*	Ptolemy Periplus

@ name of river mentioned in 'Cilappatikāram' (an epic)

* denote difference of opinion

Latest Publications: A SOCIO-CULTURAL, HISTORICAL AND LINGUISTIC STUDY OF THE PATHANS OF KERALA, S. Abdul Samed, 2022, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 104, Rs.130/- (US\$ 13/-) MAPPILA MIGRANTS IN ANDAMANS - A SOCIO-LINGUISTIC STUDY, N.Muraleedharan Nair, 2022, PB, Demy 1/8, pp.225, Rs.260/- (US\$ 26/-). GRAMMAR OF RĀMACARITAM, Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan, 2022, HB, Demy 1/8, pp. 395, Rs.500/- (US\$ 50/-). TAGORE'S GITANJALI, K. Jayakumar, 2022, PB, Demy 1/8, pp.95, Rs. 130/- (US\$ 13/-).

10.	nelkynda mēlkynda kynda	} (place name)	nīrkkunnam*	Ptolemy
			nīlakaṇṭa*	
			kannēri*	
11.	ophir (name of a port) ofir		pūvār*	Hebrew text of the books of kings and Chronicles
			purakkātu*	
			bēppūr	
12.	balita (port city)		viziññam*	Periplus
			viliñña	
13.	nyṭriyā (place name)		nittūr*	Pliny
			nāṭṭika*	
14.	barace (place name)		vaykkom*	Periplus

Table 2
Flora and Fauna

Hellenic form	Tamil	Malayalam	Language identified
1. aḷgam (eaglewood)	akil	akil	Hebrew text
2. tuki	tōkai	tōka	Greek
tūki			
3. oṟuza (rice)	arisi	ari	Greek
4. carpion	kaṟuppu	kaṟuvappaṭṭa	Greek
karpion			
5. zingiberos		iñci vēr	Greek
zingiber			
6. kef		kapi (an ape)	Latin
7. pippali		pippali	Latin
veppari			

Table 3
Phonemic parallelism

Hellenic form	Tamil-Malayalam	Phonemic Parallelism Malayalam - Greek/Latin		Hellenic form	Tamil-Malayalam	Phonemic Parallelism Malayalam - Greek/Latin	
1. kēprobotros kerobothros kērabatos	kēraḷaputra	k	k	4. coṭṭonoṟa koṭṭonarik	kuṭṭam/ (kuṭṭanāṭu)	k	-c
		r	r			ṭṭ	-ṭṭ
		p	p			ṇ	-ṇ
		p	b			o	u
		tr	tr	5. coṭṭora koṭṭiara koṭṭiora	kōṭṭāru	a	o
						k-	k / -c
2. mouziris	muciri/ muyiri	m	m			ō	o
		i	i			ā	-o
		u	u	6. aioi	āy	i	o
		u	ou			āy	ai
		c	z	7. paralia	paruḷi puraḷi	p	p
		y	s			a	a
3. karoura koṟoura	karūr/ (karūrpaṭanna)	k	k			ṛ	ṛ
		a	a/o			ḷ	ḷ
		r	r/ -ṛi			!	!
		ū	-ou				

8.	komar komarei komaria	kumāri	k u ā r i	k o a r ei
9.	tyṅḍis	tiṅṅilam/ kaṭaluṅṅi/ koyilāṅṅi	t i ṅṅ	t y nd
10	nelkynda mēlkynda kynd	nīlakaṅṅa/ nīrkkunnam	n rk ṅṅ	n lk nd
11	ophir ofir	pūvār/ bēpūr	u p r	o ph r
12	balita	viliñña/ viziñña	v z l l	b l l
13	poudopaṅṅa putupaṅṅanam	putupaṅṅanam	p t ṅṅ ṅṅ	p d t ṅṅ
14	kaulam male	kōlam/ mala	ō a	au e
15	nytriā	nittūr/ nāṅṅika	n ṅṅ	n tr
16	baracc	vaykkam	v	b
17	algam	akil	k l	g l
18	tuki tūki	tōka	t ō k	t ū k
19	oruza	ari ariśi	a r i ś	o r u z
20	carpion karpion	kaṅṅuppu/ kaṅṅuvappaṅṅa	k a r p	c a r p
21	zingiberos zingiber	‘long pepper’, iñci	ñc	ng
22	kef (ape)			

West Coast dialect: Phonemic inventory

Vowels		Consonants			
i	high front vowel	p	voiceless	bilabial stop	
e	mid front vowel	t	”	dental stop	
a	low central vowel	ṅṅ	”	cerebral stop	
u	high back vowel	k	”	glottal stop	
o	mid back vowel	m	voiced	bilabial nasal	
		n	”	dental nasal stop	

Diphthongs : ai, au

Consonant clusters

C ₁ C ₁ type	pp, ṅṅ, kk, ññ
C ₁ C ₂ type	ṅṅ, tr, ñc

It is to be noted that Malayalam phonemes having distinctive features in respect of position of articulation and manner of articulation viz alveolar voiceless stop - *rr*, alveolar nasal stop *n*, retroflex palatal lateral approximant *z* (l), retroflex lateral *!* have no corresponding phonemes in Graeco - Roman languages. This should be in mind when we evaluate the west coast dialectal features based on their Hellenic versions reflected in Graeco - Roman notes. Early foreign writers reproduced the names of places, spices, flora and fauna they heard through mutual discourses or by relying the early mercantile records. Though Hellenised specimens from west coast dialect Tamil-Malayalam are very meagre, the phonetic features attested in them, of course, underline the fact that there was a spoken language in the west coast of India which traces the influence of Sanskrit viz. komari (kumāri), kef (kapi (an ape) batros (putra (son)) which are definitely Sanskrit.

I conclude this paper by quoting Robert Caldwell .

“Though the Greek geographers have not given us any information respecting the language of India, beyond what little is furnished by the names of places contained in their works, the information derived from those lists are exceedingly interesting. The earliest extant traces of the Dravidian languages which possess reliable authority are those with which we have been furnished by the ancient Greeks; and from an examination of the words which they have recorded, we seem to be justified in drawing the conclusion, not only that the Dravidian languages have remained almost unaltered for the last two thousand years, but probably also that the principal dialects that now prevail had a separate existence at the commencement of the Christian era, and prevailed at that period in the very same districts of country in which we now find them”. (A Comparative Grammar page. 105)

Appendix I**Early foreign notes consulted**

(1) Pliny - Natural History (77. C.E) (2) Periplus of Maris Erythraei (80 CE) (3) Ptolemy - ‘Geography’ (130 CE) (4) Cosmas Indicopleustes (535 CE)

Appendix II**Identification of Place names**

Hellenic form	Malayalam form	Name of the Scholar who identified
1 mouziris	myyirikkōtu (in kodungalloor)	Hermann Gundert
2 kynda	kannēri (near karunagappally)	Burnell

Hellenic form	Malayalam form	Name of the Scholar who identified	Hellenic form	Malayalam form	Name of the Scholar who identified
3. cottonora	katattanāṭu kōlattunāṭu kottāṛakkara	Buchanan Burnell William Logan	8 ophir	bēppūr pūvār sopāra	William Logan T.K. Velu Pillai D.D. Kosambi
4. coṭṭora	kōṭṭār	Robert Caldwell	9 limurika	tamiḷakam	Robert Caldwell
5. pralia	puraḷi	Burnell	10 tyndis	toṅṭi (near Quilandy)	Kanakasabha Pillai
6. kaulammale	kōlattunāṭu	M.G.S. Narayanan	11 patale	pantalāyini pantalāyini kollam	William Logan
7. nitriyā	nāṭṭika (north of kodungalloor) niṭṭūr	Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan Editor Malabar Manuel	12 barace	varkkala	”

Selected Bibliography

1. A Comparative Grammar of the Dravidian or South Indian Family of Languages (1976 edition) Robert Caldwell
2. Malabar Manual, Vol. I, (1971 edition) William Logan
3. Travancore State Manual, Vol. II (1996 edition) T.K. Velu Pillai
4. Malayālam Clāssicbhāṣa paḷakkavum vyaktivavum (Malayalam 2012) Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan

Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan
Former Director, ISDL

Prof. C.L. ANTONY MEMORIAL LINGUISTICS AWARD TO Prof. NADUVATTOM GOPALAKRISHNAN

Prof. (Dr.) Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan, Hon. Professor, International School of Dravidian Linguistics got the prestigious award for Malayalam Linguistics in the name of Prof. C.L. Antony instituted by Sahridaya Vedi, Trissur. Dr. Gopalakrishnan authored more than thirty valuable books in Malayalam and five in English which deal with linguistic aspects of Dravidian family of languages. He served ISDL as Hon. Director (2018-2022) and continues his service there as Hon. Professor.

MAHOPADHYAYA AWARD

This year's Mahopadhyaya Award in honour of renowned Tulu scholar and linguist Late Prof. U.P. Upadhyaya is awarded to Dr. N. Varija, Former Senior Research Fellow of ISDL

AN APPEAL FROM DLA

At present the life membership fee of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India is only ₹. 3000/-. The members of the DLA are eligible to get a free copy of its publications "International Journal of Dravidian Linguistics" (bi-annual) and the "DLA News" (monthly). In addition, they are entitled to get 50% discount for all DLA and ISDL publications. So also, concessions in registration fee are given for seminars, workshops, conferences etc. organised by the DLA and ISDL.

Please note that from 1-1-2023 the DLA Life Membership fee is enhanced from ₹. 3000 to 5000/- Hence in order to save ₹. 2000/-. I appeal to all linguists who have not yet taken membership in DLA may please join urgently by remitting ₹. 3000/- lumpsum payment or else in 5 equal instalments of ₹.620/month. Application form for Membership can be downloaded from our website www.ijdl.org

PROF. M. ISRAEL PASSED AWAY



Dr. M. Israel (90) passed away on 19-09-2022. He was an active member of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India even from its very beginning. A renowned scholar of Dravidian Linguistics, Dr. M. Israel retired as Professor and Head, Department of

Linguistics, Madurai Kamaraj University. He had served as Chairman of the Board of Governors, Institute of Asian Studies, Chennai. He was also actively associated with the Classical Tamil research projects.

Dr. Israel was born on December 24, 1932, at a village near Colachel in Kanyakumari district. He qualified himself as Tamil Vidwan with first rank and served as Tamil teacher in high schools. Later, he got second rank with first class in M.A. (Tamil) from the University of Madras, and obtained Ph.D. in 1965 under the supervision of Dr. Mu. Varadarajan (Mu.Va.) for the thesis titled "Treatment of Morphology in Tolkappiyam". He served in a few colleges as Lecturer and then joined the Department of Tamil in Madurai Kamaraj University in 1968. He later became the Professor and was founder Head of the Department of Linguistics in Madurai Kamaraj University.

He had undergone training in the United Kingdom, the USA, Russia, Germany, and France. He was also a Post-Doctoral Fellow at Oxford University for one year under the supervision of Professor T. Burrow. He had been a Visiting Professor in several Indian and foreign universities. He is well versed in eight languages.

As many as 31 scholars have got Ph.D. under his supervision. He has published six books and 175 research papers. One of his significant contributions was the Grammar and Dictionary of Kuvi, a Dravidian language spoken in the hills of Odisha.

He continued to be active in his academic pursuits after his retirement. He had made a mark as a renowned scholar of Dravidian Linguistics. He had served in UGC committees, headed boards of studies, and held high offices in professional forums such as the Dravidian Linguistics Association and International School of Dravidian Linguistics. His works on Dravidian Linguistics have been extensively cited including in Encyclopedia Britannica.

On Behalf of the DLA, ISDL and IJDL we offer our Praṇāms to Late Prof. M. Israel.

DLA News Desk

75th BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF PROF. KARUNASINDHU DAS



The 75th Birth Anniversary of the reputed scholar of Sanskrit, Linguistics and Indological studies Late Prof. Karunasindhu Das (former Vice-Chancellor, Rabindra Bharati University), was celebrated during September 2022. Prof. Samiran Chandra Chakrabarti, Indian Indologist and scholar of Onomastics delivered the memorial lecture organized by Kolkata Society for Asian Studies.

Another memorial symposium was held near Prof. Das's birth place in Suri, Birbhum district at the Birbhum Sahitya Parishad where the main speakers were Prof. Parthasarathi Mukhopadhyay, Dr. Aditya Mukhopadhyay and Dr. Mrinalkanti Das.

Prof. Karunasindhu Das Memorial Prize for Graduate level students has been awarded to Miss. Rimi Ghosh, the topper in Sanskrit in Birbhum Mahavidyalay at Suri, Birbhum.

Dhrubajyoti Das
Bengali unit, ISDL

ISDL RESEARCH FORUM

List of Papers Presented in September 2022

28-09-2022 : *Child Language Acquisition of Migrant Labourers in Trivandrum District*
Dr. Jeena S. Nair

28-09-2022 : Subtitling as an Educational Tool :
A Pedagogical Approach **Mrs. Soumya S.R.**

New Life Members of DLA - September 2022

- | | |
|--|-----------|
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