

50th ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTS AND INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON CURRENT TRENDS IN LINGUISTICS

Report



(Inaugural address by Dr. Mohanan Kunnummal, Vice Chancellor, University of Kerala)

The Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala, in collaboration with the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India, International School of Dravidian Linguistics, and Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysuru, organized the 50th All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists and International Seminar on Current Trends in Linguistics from 21st to 23rd June 2023 in Thiruvananthapuram. The inaugural ceremony was held at the Senate Chamber, University of Kerala, Palayam Campus, on 21st June at 10 am with an invocation to the almighty. Eminent scholars from all over the country gathered for the inaugural ceremony. Prof. S. Kunjamma, Organising Secretary, 50th AICDL and Head, Dept. of Linguistics, University of Kerala, formally welcomed the dignitaries. She shared the pleasure of holding the 50th DLA conference on the occasion of the 60th founding year of the Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala. Eminent linguists like Prof. V. Thiruvalluvan (Vice Chancellor, Tamil University, Thanjavur), Prof. K. Karunakaran (Former Vice Chancellor, Tamil University, Thanjavur), Prof. A. Murigeppa (Former Vice Chancellor, Kannada University, Hampi), Prof. G. Uma Maheswar Rao (President, Linguistic Society of India), Prof. K. Srikumar (Lucknow University), Prof. Aejaaz Mohammed Sheikh (Kashmir University, Srinagar), Prof. V. Renuga Devi (Madurai), Prof. N. Bhaktavatsala Reddy (Tirupati), Prof. Mahidas Bhattacharya (Kolkata), Prof. Kakali Mukherjee (Kolkata), Prof. L. Ramamoorthy (Central University of Kerala), Prof. Bhupinder Singh Khaira (Patiala, Punjab), Mr. Aleendra Brahma (Coordinator, L-JRO, CIIL, Mysore) etc., were honoured with shawls. Prof. G.K Panikkar, Hon. Director, ISDL, and Dean, DLA, chaired the function. Prof. Panikkar who is also one of the organizers of the first AICDL, shared the pride and joyful memories of hosting the conference at the University of Kerala and the strong support the scholars and students gave throughout these years of journey. After the Chairman's address, the Honourable Vice Chancellor of the University of Kerala, Prof. Dr. Mohanan Kunnummal, formally inaugurated the conference. In his address, he recalled the rich tradition of Dravidian linguistics and the pride to see the unity of

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linguistic fraternity from Jammu and Kashmir to Kerala gathered for the conference. After that, the members of the faculty of Linguistics, University of Kerala honoured the former teachers Prof. G.K. Panikkar, Prof. M. Rama, Prof. N. Bhaktavatsala Reddy, and Dr. A. M. Mary Kutty for their valuable contributions throughout these years. The Dept. of Linguistics, University of Kerala also honoured Master Ranganath. K.S., a gifted child with exceptional numerical talents, and his mother, Mrs. Sandhya N, Librarian, Department of Linguistics, on the occasion. In spite of his absence Prof. K Nachimuthu, President DLA, conveyed his blessings and wishes to the conference. Mr. D. Mano, Senior Research Fellow at DLA, read the

address of the President. For the convenience of the audience, printed copies of the presidential address were made available prior to its presentation. The guest of honour, Prof. V. Thiruvalluvan, Vice-Chancellor, Tamil University, Thanjavur, addressed the linguistic fraternity. He discussed about the recent interdisciplinary trends in linguistics like Neuro linguistics, Computational linguistics, Forensic linguistics, Translation studies, etc. He inspired young scholars to develop research interests in all these fields. After the felicitation, ISDL books '*Glossary of Grammatical Terms in Traditional Malayalam Grammars*' by C.S. Jayakumari Kunjamma, '*An Account of Bangla Discourse Particles*' by Rajat Ghosh, '*The Art and Edifice of Genderlect*' by B. Sreedevi, '*A Dictionary of Sanskrit, Prakrit and Pali Words in Tamil and Malayalam*' by N. Gopinathan Nair were released by Prof. K. Karunakaran (Former Vice Chancellor, Tamil University, Thanjavur) and received by Prof. V. Thiruvalluvan, Prof. Aejaz Mohammed Sheikh, Prof. Kakali Mukherjee, and Prof. G. Uma Maheswar Rao respectively. Prof. A. Murigeppa (Former Vice Chancellor of Kannada University, Hampi) gave away awards and prizes for substantial contributions to various branches of linguistics. Prof. K.M. Venkataramaiah Award was given to Prof. Bhupinder Singh Khaira for his work '*Semiotics of Folk Arts of India*', Dr. Hermann Gundert Endowment Award was given to Prof. N. Rajasekharan Nair, S. Raja and S. Sundarabalu for the work '*A Dictionary of Tamil Agricultural vocabulary - Regional Variations*'. Telugu Award was given to Prof. Vennelakanti Prakasam for the book '*Modern Telugu Grammar*'. Prof. Susheela P. Upadhyaya Award was given to Dr. Viswanatha Naidu for the book '*The Typological Features of Telugu: Defining the Parameters of post-Talmian Motion Event Typology*', Dr. K.N. Kuppuswami Award was given to Late Prof. N. Gopinathan Nair for the work '*The Dictionary of Sanskrit, Prakrit and Pali words in Tamil and Malayalam*', and Mrs. S.M. Katre Memorial Prize was given to Ms. Sruthi Sara Moses, University of Kerala. On the occasion, the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India honoured the outgoing faculty member of the Dept. of Linguistics, Prof. S. Kunjamma. The inaugural session ended with a Vote of Thanks by Dr. S. Abdul Samed, Secretary, DLA.

After the inaugural function 'Prof. V.I. Subramoniam Memorial Lecture' was delivered online by Padma Shri Prof. Anvita Abby on the topic '*Identification of the sixth language family of India : Relics of the early human language*' which was chaired by Prof. A.G. Menon. Prof. Anvita Abby gave a detailed lecture on the tribal languages of the Great Andaman Islands with special emphasis to Kuro. The Great Andamanese is a generic term representing ten languages among a family of languages once spoken by ten tribes living in the North, South, and Middle of the Great Andaman Islands. She enlightened the young scholars by sharing her first-hand language documentation experience with the Great Andamanese and the last Kuro speaker from 2012 onwards. Prof. Anvita Abby concluded the lecture by remembering the difficulties in collecting folk tales and songs which are part of their rich cultural heritage. She succeeded in bringing them to light in her latest book, '*Voices from the Lost Horizon*' published in 2021. 'Prof. Suniti Kumar Chatterji memorial lecture' was delivered by Prof. Kakali Mukherjee, which was chaired by Prof. K. Karunakaran. Prof. Mukherjee gave a complete sketch of the life and works of the great professor Suniti Kumar Chatterji. She shared the invaluable contribution



Latest Publications: AN ACCOUNT OF BANGLA DISCOURSE PARTICLES, Rajat Ghosh, 2023, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 142, Rs.300/- (US\$ 30/-) GLOSSARY OF GRAMMATICAL TERMS IN TRADITIONAL MALAYALAM GRAMMARS, C.S. Jayakumari Kunjamma, 2023, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 232, Rs.450/- (US\$ 45/-) THE ART AND EDIFICE OF GENDERLECT, B. Sreedevi, 2023, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 160, Rs.320/- (US\$ 32/-) A DICTIONARY OF SANSKRIT, PRAKRIT AND PALI WORDS IN TAMIL AND MALAYALAM, N. Gopinathan Nair, 2022, HB, Crown 1/4, pp. 988, Rs.2300/- (US\$ 230/-) 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/-).

Prof. Chatterji rendered to the Bengali language, literature, and linguistics as a whole and how it marked a new era in the literary history of Bengal. The session was adjourned for the lunch break at 1. pm.

The next session started at 1.45 pm was a panel discussion on *Current Trends in Linguistics*. Prof. A. Murigeppa, former Vice Chancellor of Kannada University, Hampi, chaired the session. Prof. Uma Maheswar Rao, Prof. Thiruvalluvan, Prof. Aejas Muhammed Sheikh, and Prof. Ramamoorthy shared their thoughts and interacted with the delegates.

Speaker 1, Prof. Uma Maheswar Rao : His talk covered the importance of utilizing the advancement in technology in documenting and preserving all the languages of the world. Speaker 2, Prof. Thiruvalluvan : The deliberation emphasized the first speaker's words and incorporated the technological developments in the field of linguistics. He emphasized the development of new fields like cognitive linguistics, machine translation and its possibilities. Speaker 3, Prof. Aejas Muhammed Sheikh : Began the talk with his memories about Prof. V.I. Subramoniam and his long association with DLA. His discussion centered on the trending areas of linguistics and the need to enrich the research on computational linguistics, biolinguistics, ecolinguistics, media linguistics, etc. He shared his experience in areas like documentary linguistics with documenting 33 languages in Jammu & Kashmir. Speaker 4, Prof. L. Ramamoorthy : Opened the talk with the question of how current trends are decided. Is it Society? Technology? Funding? He came up with the answer that the societal changes decide the trend. Technologies funded by the government follow these societal changes. The discussion covered various aspects like the fundamental role of linguists in the changing era, the concept of big data and the need to give interdisciplinary training to students in accordance with NEP-20. Prof. S.A. Shanavas, Dr. Niranjana, Mr. D. Mano, and many other scholars participated in the discussions. The chairperson Prof. A. Murigeppa concluded the session by emphasizing the need for IT experts and linguists to collaborate in the modern era. The core of the panel discussion was in utilizing technological advancement for linguistic research and how to train our students through interdisciplinary approach.

This was followed by 'Prof. Nagamma Reddy Memorial Lecture' by Prof. A.G Menon on '*The Genesis of Colonial Linguistics*', chaired by Prof. Bhaktavatsala Reddy. Prof. Reddy recalled the contributions of Prof. Nagamma Reddy. The lecture reflected the serious and hard colonial negotiation between the Dutch Governor Rijiklof Van Goens and the Nayak Prince Ekoji of Tanjavur. It reflected one confrontation between an Indo- European Language (Dutch) and a Dravidian Language (Tamil). Prof. A.G. Menon gave a complete narrative of this historical incident incorporating the data from Dutch official reports and instructions written by the outgoing governor to the successor, Hortus and Mallabaarse Woordenboek.

The last academic session for the day was an online talk by Dr. Aida Talic, University of Illinois @ Urbana Champaign, USA, on '*Telugu Modifiers and Structure of the Nominal Phrase*'. It was chaired by Prof. M.C. Kesava Murty. The talk offered a deep insight into the Telugu Modifiers and structure of the nominal phrase. The native Telugu Scholars highly appreciated her interaction on the topic.

(to be continued--)

S. Prema

OFFICE BEARERS OF THE DLA FOR 2023-2024

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| (ix) Professor & Head, Department of Tamil, University of Kerala (Special Invitee) | |

GRAMMAR OF RĀMACARITAM, Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan, 2022, HB, Demy 1/8, pp. 395, Rs.500/- (US\$ 50/-). TAGORE'S GITANJALI, K. Jayakumar, 2022, PB, Demy 1/8, pp.95, Rs. 130/- (US\$ 13/-). ENDANGERED SPEECHES OF IDUKKI IN KERALA, V.R. Prabodhachandran Nayar & K. Velappan, 2021, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 12+500, Rs. 660/- (US\$ 66/-). INDEX OF BHARATAMALA, R. Saraswathy Kutty Amma, 2021, HB, Demy 1/8, pp.892, Rs.1100/- (US\$ 110/-). COLLECTED PAPERS OF LV RAMASWAMI IYER, G.K. Panikkar, K. Rangan & Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan (Eds.) 2021, HB, Demy 1/8, pp.826, Rs. 990/- (US\$ 99/-). INDEX OF EARLY MANIPRAVALA WORKS, N. Gopinathan Nair, 2021, PB, Crown 1/4, pp. 1086, Rs. 2240/- (US\$ 224/-). INDEX OF RĀMAKATHAPPĀṬṬU, G. Sulekha, 2021, HB, Demy 1/8, pp. 1742, Rs. 1960/- (US\$ 196/-). BANGLA AND OTHER INDIAN LANGUAGES: LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL RELATIONS, Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan & Dhruvajyoti Das (Eds.), 2021, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. viii + 483, Rs. 600/- (US\$ 60/-).

TAMIL UNIVERSITY TO HOST THE 51ST AICDL

The General Body of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India at its meeting held on 22-06-2023, unanimously decided to accept the invitation from Tamil University, Thanjavur to host the 51st All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists. It may be noted that Dr. Mangayar Karasi, the Professor & Head, Dept. of Linguistics, Tamil University had sent a written request to the Dean, DLA to this effect. In addition, the Vice-Chancellor of Tamil University who was a special invitee to the 50th All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists had also extended the university's invitation in person.

PROF. N.P. UNNI - DLA PRESIDENT FOR 2023-2024

Prof. N.P. Unni, Former Vice-Chancellor, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, was unanimously elected as the President of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India. He will hold Office until June 2024. Prof. Unni is closely associated with DLA and ISDL from the very beginning. He served the ISDL as one of the members of the Governing Council and also as a member of the Council of Direction for a considerable period of time.

TO DLA MEMBERS - A HUMBLE REQUEST

The updating of the details of the Life Members is to be done urgently. Hence, I request each and every Member of the DLA to fill up the following proforma and mail it back to us. It is not applicable to those who have already sent. **Please note that only soft copies of the IJDL and DLA News will be sent to members if not specifically marked in the given proforma for hard copy.** It will take effect from January 2024 onwards.

G.K. Panikkar
Dean, DLA

PROFORMA FOR DLA LIFE MEMBERSHIP REGISTER

Name	:	
Sex	:	
Age	:	
Nationality	:	
Life Membership No. :		
Designation and Institution where you are employed presently / at the time of retirement	:	
Phone	Mobile :	Landline:
Email ID		
Would you like to get IJDL & DLA News through Soft copy <input type="checkbox"/> Hard copy <input type="checkbox"/> (Only softcopies will be sent to those who do not specify)		
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Name

INDIAN STYLISTICS, Desamangalam Ramakrishnan, 2020, PB, Crown 1/4, pp. 8 + 73, Rs. 170/- (US\$ 17/-). MALAYALAM AS A CLASSICAL LANGUAGE, Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan (Ed.), 2020, PB, Crown 1/4, pp. xx+616, Rs. 1250/- (US\$ 125/-). COLLECTED PAPERS OF V.I. SUBRAMONIAM, Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan (Ed.), 2020, HB, Crown 1/4, pp. 6+187, Rs. 450/- (US\$ 45/-). EVOLUTION OF MALAYALAM, Anantaramayyar Chandrasekhar, 2020, PB, Crown 1/4, pp. 8+216, Rs. 450/- (US\$ 45/-). THE DRAVIDIAN CULTURE AND ITS DIFFUSION, T.K. Krishna Menon, 2020, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 58, Rs. 75/- (US\$ 7.50/-). THE MOTHER GODDESS IN BENGAL AND IN KERALA, T. Madhava Menon, 2020, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. vi + 463, Rs. 600 (US\$ 60/-). INDEX OF KAṆṆAŚA RĀMĀYAṆAM, Puthuserry Ramachandran, 2020, HB, Demy 1/8, pp. 1122, Rs. 1930/- (US\$ 193/-).

NEW OFFICE BEARERS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTICS FOR 2023 JUNE TO 2024 JUNE

Ex-Office Members

Prof. K. Karunakaran (Chairman, ISDL), **Prof. G.K. Panikkar** (Director, ISDL)

Prof. N. P. Unni (President (DLA)), **Prof. S. Kunjamma** (Vice-President-Correspondent)

Dr. S. Abdul Samed (Secretary, DLA), **Dr. N. Muraleedharan Nair** (Treasurer)

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- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Vice Chancellor, University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala b. Vice Chancellor, Tamil University, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Vice Chancellor, Dravidian University, Kuppam, Andhra Pradesh d. Vice Chancellor, Kannada University, Hampi e. Vice Chancellor, JNU, New Delhi |
|---|---|

B. Experts

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Prof. G. Uma Maheswar Rao, Hyderabad | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Director, CIIL, Mysuru |
|---|---|

C. Heads of Departments / Research Institutions

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Head, Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala b. Chairman, Andhra Pradesh Official Language Commission | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Director, Department of Kannada and Culture, Government of Karnataka d. Director, ICCR |
|--|--|

Government Secretaries / Nominees

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Secretary, Ministry of Education, Government of India b. Secretary for General Education, Government of Kerala c. Secretary for Higher Education, Government of Tamil Nadu d. Secretary for Higher Education, Government of Karnataka | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> e. Secretary for Higher Education, Government of Andhra Pradesh f. Secretary for Higher Education, Government of Telangana g. Secretary for Higher Education, Government of West Bengal |
|---|---|

ISDL Faculty Members

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Prof. M. Rama | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Prof. Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan |
|--|--|

DLA LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEE FOR FOREIGNERS

The foreign Life Membership fee of Dravidian Linguistic Association of India is fixed equivalent to Indian Membership fee of ₹ 5000/- from 2023 January onwards.

CONTRIBUTIONS

DLA NEWS ENDOWMENT FUND

22-06-2023	Prof. Mahidas Bhattacharya	Rs. 1500/-
" "	Prof. Bhaktavatsala Reddy	Rs. 2667/-
Current Total		Rs. 2,24,149/-

PROF. VIS ENDOWMENT FUND

22-06-2023	Prof. Mahidas Bhattacharya	Rs. 2000/-
" "	Prof. A.G. Menon	Rs. 3000/-
Current Total		Rs. 5,13,646/-

IJDL DEVELOPMENT FUND

22-06-2023	Prof. Mahidas Bhattacharya	Rs. 1500/-
" "	Prof. A. Murigeppa	Rs. 3000/-
Current Total		Rs. 56,000/-

COLLECTED PAPERS ON TAMIL, Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan (Ed.), 2019, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. x + 374. Rs. 400/- (US\$ 40/-). **TRIBUTES OF LOVE AND AFFECTION: REMINISCENCES OF PROF. V.I. SUBRAMONIAM**, Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan, T.P. Sankarankutty Nair & C.S. Hariharan (Eds.), 2019, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. vi + 212, Rs. 300/- (US\$ 30/-). **THE RIDDLE THAT IS TAMIL**, R. Kothandaraman (Ed.), 2019, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. xxiii + 480, Rs. 750/- (US\$ 75/-). **STUDIES ON BANGLA LINGUISTICS**, Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan (Ed.), 2019, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. viii + 385, Rs. 450/- (US\$ 45/-). **EVOLUTION OF A COMPOSITE CULTURE IN KERALA**, B. Padmakumari Amma, 2019, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. xiv + 341, Rs. 350/- (US\$ 35/-).

**SPECIAL LECTURE ON
"TRACING AND DECODING THE OLDEST
GRAMMATICAL TRADITION OF
HINDI-HINDUSTANI"**



The International School of Dravidian Linguistics is arranging a Special Lecture on "Tracing and Decoding the Oldest Grammatical Tradition of Hindi-Hindustani" on **23rd August, 2023** from **10:30am to 12:30pm** in **online mode** (on Google meet platform).



Lecture will be delivered by:

Dr. Tej K. Bhatia

Professor of Linguistics & Forensic Sciences and
Director, South Asian Languages,
Syracuse University, New York, USA

It is an open invitation to the DLA Members all over the world to attend the Special Lecture on Google meet platform. Those who wish to attend may register at the earliest through **GoogleForm (Click Here)**. Registration is Free of cost.

New Life Members of DLA - June 2023

Name & Address	Membership Number
Dr. Jerlina I. Plot No. 150A, B Block, III Cross Street, Vignarajapuram, Vengaiwasal, Chennai - 73	1619/2023
Mr. Dibya Prakash Panda Lal Bazar, Baripada, Dist - Mayurbhanj, Odisha	1620/2023

**ISDL RESEARCH FORUM
June 2023**

07-06-2023	: 'Problems in Malayalam Lexicography' (Part I) Prof. G.K. Panikkar
14-06-2023	: 'Problems in Malayalam Lexicography' (Part II) Prof. G.K. Panikkar

**INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTICS
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