

ALLITERATION AND ASSONANCE

The meaning of the word *taṭṭu* is not predominant in the meaning of the whole sentence.

This list of words of alliteration and assonance is not exhaustive. The speakers of the language may combine them and there such words which are similar in form and meaning. The following words are commonly used.

(1) Alliteration

The form of the two words combined together is identical.

Sequences of alliteration and assonance are different from the echo words for both the parts in the former will occur in isolation. Two free words are combined together on the basis of formal and semantic similarity. So the two words which come in a sequence are similar in phonemic shape and meaning.

Some times such combinations of free words develop a new meaning and the original meaning of each of the words is related in one way or other to the new meaning.

e.g. *aṭipiṭi* 'Quarrel'. Here *aṭi* means 'beat' and *piṭi* means 'catch' and the combination of 'beating' and 'catching' comes to mean quarrel.

iṭakkumaṭakku 'Specious objection'

Here *iṭakku* means 'Rudeness, incivility' etc. and *maṭakku* means 'to bend' or made him no more to continue his argument' and both these meanings are related to the meaning of the combination 'specious objection'.

In some other sequences both the words retain their meanings and the meanings of both the words are given one after another in the combination.

e.g. *pancampaṭi* 'Scarcity and hunger'
mōconācam 'Cheating and damaging'

In some other words meaning of any one of the free words is almost the same as the meaning of the combination of both the free words, the other free word comes to emphasise that meaning.

e.g. taṭṭuttatai

'Impediment'

Here tatai means 'Impediment' and taṭṭu means 'to pat' or 'to knock'.

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(1) Alliteration

The form of the two words combined together is identical as in reduplicatives though they are similar. If the first syllable is repeated in the other word, it is called alliteration. Even when there is a change in the quantity of the vowel, it is taken to be the same syllable and therefore comes under alliteration. For example in cāyvu, carivu 'kindness, partiality' the vowel in the second word is short whereas it is long in the first word.

cāyvucarivu	'Kindness, partiality'
cūṟṟunculaṟṟumāy	'In a zig zag or indirect manner'
coṭṭaicollai	'Flaw defect'
taṅkutatai	'Impediment'
taṭṭaltataval	'Lack, stumbling in gait'
taṭṭuttatai	'Impediment, hesitation'
taṭṭuttatakkū	—do—
tullattutittal	'To suffer from extreme anguish'
pancāmpaci	'Scarcity and hunger'
pancaipanāti	'Useless person, vagabond'
paṭaipañtāram	'Army and its appendages'
paṭṭupparutti	'Red silk, cotton'
paṅṅapattarttam	'Goods, provisions'
paṅṅampāṭi	'Goods and chattles'
paṅṅuparikācam	'Coarse or rough joking'
pattumpattkā	'Wholly, fully'
māvaṭaimaravaṭai	'An expression used in conveying to denote trees on the land conveyed'

(2) Assonance.

If the second or non-initial syllable is repeated in the other word, it is called assonance. In some cases particularly when the first word ends in m, the final nasal is lost and it becomes an attribute to the following word. Here also most of the second words begin with bilabials. In one case only the consonant of the second syllable is repeated and the vowel of that syllable is different.

e.g. iṭakkumuṭakku 'Difficult circumstances'

This seems to be a combination of two words belonging to two different combinations. For there are two other expressions:

iṭakkumaṭakk	'Specious objection'
and iṭukkumuṭukku	'Narrow corner'
where the whole second syllable is repeated.	
aṭipiṭi	'Quarrel'
aṟaikurai	'Incompleteness'
āṭaikkunṅōṭai-	'Through out the year at all seasons'
kkum	
iṭakkumaṭakku	'Specious objection'
iṭakkumuṭukku	'Difficult circumstances'
iṭukkumuṭukku	'Narrow corner'
illātatumpollāta-	'False hood'
tum	
iḷuvalmaḷuval	'Uncertainty'
iṭukkanerukkam	'Interval'
iṅaṅaṅam	'Kith and kin'
iṅattāraṅattār	—do—
ēṭṭikkuppōṭṭi	'Logmatic retort or tit for tat'
karamnaram	'Threat and persuasion'
kēṭupaṭu	'Loss, damage'
caṅṅalpinṅal	'Entanglement, confusion'
caṅṅupontu	'Nook and corner'
cūṟṟummuṟṟum	'All around'
cūṭuvāṭu	'Cunning, artfulness'
taṅṅapiṭṭam	'Food wasted on useless persons'

tiṭṭumuttu	'Mutual abuse'
tiṭṭununtu	'Contradiction'
timilakumilam	'Noise'
naṭputtiṭpu	'Nature of the soil as good or bad'
navvucuvvu	'Good and evil'
niṅkuppōkku	'Adaptability, give and take'
neṅivucuṅivu	'Ins and outs—real nature'
pōkkunīkku	'Amiability, kind heartedness'
mūcuppōccu	'Talk sign of life'
mūṭṭuccāṭṭu	'Scandal, joint'
mōcanācam	'Cheating and damaging'
vakaitokai	'Details'
vaṭṭacaṭṭam	'Regularity, orderliness, shapely'
vaṭṭatiṭṭam	'Proper course'
vaṭṭicaṅṅi	'Clever person'
vamputumpu	'Scandal and gossip; mischief'
vaṭaitolai	'A term indicating inquisitiveness'
vāyccānpilāiccan	'Precarious affair'