

**SCHOOL OF LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT**  
**POTTI SREERAMULU TELUGU UNIVERSITY**

**HYDERABAD – 500 004**

**THREE DAYS NATIONAL SEMINAR ON**

***“ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE GRAMMATICAL  
WORKS OF DRAVIDIAN LANGUAGES”***

**FEBRUARY 2012**

**AIM OF THE SEMINAR**

The growth and the fame of languages depend on their literature and their grammars. The scholars write grammar to that structure of language which is internalized at the age of 5 or 6 years of children. Each language grammarians give clear picture of their own language grammar. In the same way, the grammarians of Dravidian languages wrote grammars to their languages. It is believed that the Sanskrit grammatical tradition, both Paaninian and non-Paaninian, constituted the basis for Indian grammatical tradition as a whole. But recent studies have shown that Tolkaappiyam grammatical tradition in Tamil is quite different from the Sanskrit grammatical tradition both theoretically and methodologically in spite of surface influences. But the influence of Sanskrit is greater on other literary languages like Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam affecting theoretically and methodologically. Yet there is doubt about the number of features which could be termed as ‘Dravidian’ in those grammatical works. That means that there is substratum over and above the Sanskrit super stratum in those grammatical works.

*“So we can form a hypothesis that there is common grammatical tradition with a Dravidian theory of grammar which is retained in the grammatical treatises among the literary languages like Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kannada. This can be reconstructed by a comparative study of those treaties.”*

Moreover each language has some background or reasons to write either literature or grammar. Those reasons/backgrounds may be social, political and religious etc. In addition to the above mentioned factors there are scholars who worked on non-literary language grammars. We can refer

to some of the senior scholars like Dr. Bh. Krishnamurthy, Dr Israel, Dr. B. Ramakrishna Reddy who studied the languages like KonDa, Kuvi and Munda languages and wrote their grammars. There are many scholars from different Universities working on tribal languages.

The School of Language Development of PoTTi Sriramulu Telugu University cordially invites you to participate and present a paper in the National seminar on “Origin and Development of Grammatical Works on Dravidian languages”.

The following are some of the suggested topics for the scholar to prepare the paper. In addition, Scholars have freedom to select other topics also in relation to the seminar topics.

1. Treatment of rhetoric, Poetics and prosody as part of ‘grammar’ along with phonology, morphology, syntax and semantics.
2. The concept of standard or ‘pure’ language expressed by the terms ‘centamil’, ‘accatelugu’, ‘acca kannada’ and ‘pacca malayalam’
3. Some correlation between ‘natural’ gender and grammatical gender as found in the concept uyartiNai and ahRiNai of Tamil and mahat and amaht of Telugu
4. Importance given to case form rather than to case relation as seen from the treatment of case and case overlapping in Tolkaappiyam. Baalavyaakaranam of Telugu and Sabdamanidarpana of Kannada.
5. The concept of caariyai of Tamil and aupavibhaktikaalu of Telugu to refer to ‘inflectional increment’ as different from the Sanskrit aagama in the treatment of morphology of case.
6. Extensive use of archiphoneme or archisegment like morpho-phonemic units in phonology, like kuRRiyalukaram, kuRRiyalikaram, aaytam of Tamil, bindu of Telugu and Kannada and druta of Telugu.
7. Similarities in the classification of phonological units as hard consonants, soft consonants and medial consonants in Tamil; parsa saralaalu and sthira in Telugu

8. Naming of phonological units on the basis of graphic form of Tamil puLLi 'Consonant', Telugu, Kannada.
9. Description of phonological units.
10. Similar use of technical terms. Ex. Tamil 'uyir' 'vowel', 'mey' 'consonant', praNa 'vowel', pranin 'consonant' in Telugu.
11. Review of the grammatical works.
12. Changes occur in the grammar through ages.
13. Tribal language Grammatical works.
14. Themes in the first grammatical works of the four literary Languages.
15. The reason/background to write grammars for the four major literary languages namely Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada and Telugu
16. Compare and contrast the grammar of Tamil with other major languages.
17. Special and unique features in Telugu grammar
18. Special and unique features in Malayalam grammar
19. Special and unique features in Kannada grammar
20. Age of writing the grammatical works
21. Foreign Scholars contribution to the study of grammars of Dravidian Language Grammars
22. Works on common linguistic feature in Dravidian languages

### **ABOUT THE VENUE OF THE SEMINAR**

P.S. Telugu University is situated in Public Gardens, Nampally, Hyderabad – 500 004. It has many Schools, Departments, and Centers. School of Language Development is one among them. Language Development has two Departments, namely, Department of Linguistics and the Department of Lexicography.

## **ABOUT THE FINANCING AUTHORITY**

Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT): CICT is situated in Chennai. Its purpose is to enrich the study and research Culture, Literature and other related areas of Dravidian languages. It provides financial assistance to organize seminars and workshops on such areas like Sangam and Post-Sangam literary Classics, theories of classical and post-classical Tamil and other related areas covering the period up to 6<sup>th</sup> C. A.D.

Scholars are requested to prepare papers on the above-mentioned topics and send their abstracts to the Coordinator, School of Language Development, P.S. Telugu University, Public Gardens, Hyderabad - 500 004 on or before 15<sup>th</sup> December 2011. The full papers must reach the Coordinator on 20. 1. 2012, so that the organizer can make arrangement for the distribution of papers. Paper should be in English (some may be in other languages).

***The exact dates of the commencement of the seminar will be announced later.***

### **T. A. & D. A. BOARDING AND LODGING**

The paper presenters are provided with boarding and lodging either in the University Guest House or near by Hotel. The exact place of boarding and lodging will be announced later.

T.A. and D.A are provided to the paper presenters according to the rules and regulation of the CICT. For further details, the Scholars are informed to contact the following person.

Seminar Coordinator

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