Verb Entries in the Dictionaries in Indian Languages

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Differences in the Order of Verb Entries in Dictionaries

Every Indian language has its own way of giving the verb entry in its dictionary. A look at the dictionaries reveals that they do not have any uniformity in giving a verb entry in the dictionaries available in the Indian subcontinent. Though there are some language-specific reasons for doing so, many languages do not provide any valid reasons/objectives for giving entries with variations in their dictionaries. These features have lots of implications for the learning of verbs both by first and second language learners. Some dictionaries give verb root as the entry, some give verbal noun as the entry and some others give the hortative or a kind of imperative form as the entry. The reason for giving these kinds of entries is not made clear. This article tries to find out these features in different Indian languages.

Need for Some Grammatical Knowledge to Use a Dictionary

This analysis begins from Tamil entries since I have learnt it as a second language, which has helped me to observe the changes in the entries in different languages including my mother tongue, Manipuri. The complementary nature of grammar and dictionary is a well established factor. However, an analysis of the entries in dictionaries of different Indian languages reveals that the dictionaries presuppose the need for the users to have some grammatical knowledge for using a dictionary. While some dictionaries give grammatical information for the use of lexical entries, some do not bother to give the usages but give only the meaning(s). If any dictionary expects pre-knowledge of grammar to use a dictionary, it is felt that those dictionaries are not good enough to guide the users with necessary information.
‘Verbs are usually marked verb, vb., v. or in any similar fashion. Here again, information can be incorporated into the parts of speech indications … Another case of incorporated sub-classification of verbs occurs in German dictionaries … as st.V. ‘strong verb’ and sw.V ‘weak verb’ or rather strong conjugation and weak conjugation respectively (Svensen, B., 2009).

**Tamil Dictionary – Indirect and Direct Insistence on Grammatical Knowledge**

The Tamil dictionary ‘kriyaavin tarkaalat tamizh akaraati’ (Tamil-Tamil-English) by Cre-A (1992) gives the verb root which is the imperative form of the verb as the entry, followed by /v/ for vinaiccol ‘verb’ in Tamil script, the infinitive and the verbal participle forms of the verb given in parentheses, Tamil and English meaning(s) and citations. The dictionary does not give the transitive or intransitive feature of the verb separately. However, it expects the users to know the feature from the usage of the verbs in the citations. The other possibility is to know this feature by the tense marker it takes which can be known from the infinitive or the verbal participle form of the verb given in parentheses. This means that the dictionary presupposes that the user knows the grammar of the language to a certain extent.

This knowledge of grammar is necessitated because Tamil has two kinds of verbs, viz., weak and strong verbs. This classification is done based on the conjugational behaviour of the verb. The verbs which take /-kka/ as the infinitive marker or which take /-kkir-/ as the present tense marker are considered as strong verbs and the others which take /-a/ as infinitive marker and /-kir-/ as the present tense marker are weak verbs (Nadaraja Pillai, 1986 and 1992). To use a verb in a sentence, the learners should know which they belong to, namely, strong or weak.

For example, the features of strong and weak of the verbs paTi ‘to study’ and ezhutu ‘to write’ can be drawn from the infinitive form as given below.

**paTi. (paTikka, paTittu)- strong verb; ezhutu (ezhuta, ezhuti)- weak verb**

The infinitive form of the verb given in the dictionary helps to have the knowledge of negative conjugations: paTikka+vellai ‘present and past negative’, paTikka+naTTeen ‘future negative’, paTikka+aatu ‘neuter future negative, paTikka+aamal ‘negative verbal participle’, paTikka+aata ‘negative relative participle, etc. In all the forms of conjugation the infinitive form of the verb is involved. The verbal participle form gives the information as to how to use that verb in past conjugation (There are nine past tense markers in Tamil) and other conjugations such as conditional, /vantaal/ ‘if somebody comes’; the concessive form, /vantaalam/ ‘even if somebody comes’, etc., which take past tense in their usage; it will be useful to help in conjugating the affirmative forms as well. Hence, giving these two grammatical forms along with other details such as verb transitive or verb intransitive, etc., solves the maximum number of the complexities involved in the use of the verbs. Some of the verb entries are given below.
Some other dictionaries like Winslow’s ‘A Comprehensive Tamil and English Dictionary’ (1862) differ from the modern dictionaries and give the verb root as the entry (if there is a variation in spelling and sometimes the spoken conjugated form, if any, are also given,) followed by its conjugation in present, past and future tenses and the infinitive form of the verb. The problem of learning the strong or weak verb feature is solved by this. However, these alone will not solve the complexities concerned with the use of Tamil verbs. Though the learner can derive the tense markers from the conjugations, it helps to use the verb even without knowing the tense markers. However, knowing the markers will help to conjugate the verbs belonging to particular groups. Some of the verb entries are given below.

Kannada

‘Kannada-Kannada-English Dictionary’ by Kittel, F. (2007) gives the root of the verb as the entry in Kannada script with Roman transliteration followed by an entry number, the marker ‘=’ (equals to) giving older form or variant form(s), then /v/ for verb, etc. and lots of information for the use of the verb with citations. Sometimes the roots in other major Dravidian languages are also given. Some of the verb entries are given below.
Verb Entries in the Dictionaries in Indian Languages

‘Subhas Niganthu: Kannada-Kannada-English Dictionary’ by Subhas, 2008) gives the verb root as the entry in Kannada script followed by /kri./ for kriya ‘verb’, synonyms in Kannada, /v/ for verb in parentheses, English equivalents and other meanings in Kannada as well as in English. But the information necessary for conjugation is not provided. Some of the verb entries are given below.

Telugu

The Telugu dictionary ‘Oxford Telugu-English Dictionary’ by Gwynn (2011) gives the verb root (imperative) as the entry in Telugu script followed by Roman transliteration of the verb, /v.t./ or /v.i./ for transitive and intransitive verbs respectively and the meaning(s) in English. There are citations where the verb form is used with different meanings. Some of the verb entries are given below.
‘Telugu-English Dictionary’ by Brown (2011) gives the verb root (imperative) as the entry in Telugu script followed by Roman transliteration of the verb, some information regarding the different forms of the verb in parentheses, /v.a/ or /v.n/ or /v.t./ for the features of the verb such as verb active, verbal noun, transitive, intransitive, causative, etc., and the meaning(s) in English. In addition to these, Brown gives the etymology of the verb which particularly distinguishes the Telugu verbs from the borrowed verbs and gives the language from which it is borrowed. It is observed that there are inconsistencies in giving the verb features. Some of the verb entries are given below.

Malayalam

Among the four Dravidian languages, Malayalam alone has a different form as verb entry. The conjugational behaviour of Malayalam verbs is similar to that of Tamil. But the problem one faces is not fully solved in the Malayalam dictionaries (Warrier, et al., 1999 and CDAC Online). The classification of verbs as weak and strong (or any name can be given for this dichotomy) is expressed by the entry itself. The hortative form of the verb (which is also used as a kind of imperative form) is given as entry. This form gives the user the information about the above dichotomy but they do not give other information, such as tense markers, necessary for the conjugation. There is no reason why this form is given as the entry. Incidentally, the Malayalam grammar ‘keralapaaNiniyam’ mentions this as a ‘vinaiyaccam’ which is considered as a non-finite verb form, which is a controversial definition. The entry in Malayalam script is followed by /a/ for /akarmak/ or /sa/ for /sakarmak/ in Malayalam script to denote the feature of intransitivity or transitivity followed by /kri/ for /kriya/ ‘verb’ and the synonyms in Malayalam. This is followed by /v.t./ or /v.i./ for verb transitive and verb intransitive and the English meaning(s).

Take for example, the verb entry ‘kolluka’ /kollu+ka/ or /kol+uka/, /the verb root +the hortative marker/ ‘(you) kill’ shows that it is a weak verb (as in Tamil) or /paTi+kkuka/ or /pati+kk+uka/ ‘(you) read’ which shows that the verb is strong because of the presence of the marker /-kk-/. As in Tamil, Malayalam also has approximately nine past tense markers and this information is not provided in the dictionary. This means that the information necessary to conjugate the verbs is incomplete in Malayalam dictionaries. Some of the verb entries are given below.
The Malayalam Dictionary ‘C.V. Vyaakhanaa Koosam’ edited by Balakrishna, B.C. et al. (1997) gives the hortative form of the verb (which is also used as a kind of imperative form) is given as entry followed by /kri/ ‘verb’ in Malayalam script, the past, present and future conjugations, meaning(s) and usage(s). Some of the verb entries are given below.

Other Indian Languages

Among the other Indian languages, Assamese, Bodo, Sanskrit and Santhali dictionaries give verb root as the entry with different information given along with them. On the other hand, Manipuri and Oriya dictionaries give verb root as well as verbal noun as the verb entry.

Assamese

‘Hemkosha: The Assamese-English Dictionary’ by Barua, H. (2007) gives the verb root as the entry; the information as to whether the verb is transitive ‘sakarmak dhatu, abbreviated as /sa.dha./ or intransitive ‘akarmak dhatu, abbreviated as /a.dha./ followed by equivalents in Sanskrit, Hindi and Bengali written in Assamese script are given in parentheses. The synonyms in Assamese and the meanings in English are given. Some of the verb entries are given below.
‘Adhunik Asamiya Shabdakosh’ by Chaliha, S. (1991) gives the verb root as the entry followed by /dha./ for dhatu ‘verb’, Assamese meanings and the English meanings in infinitive form of the verb in parentheses. Some of the verb entries are given below.

Bodo

‘The Bodo- English-Hindi Dictionary’ by Brahma, P.C. (1996) gives the verb root as the entry in Devanagari script followed by Roman transliteration, /ni.bim./ for nimaavajaa bimaav ‘verb intransitive’ or /ma.bim./ for maavajaa bimaav ‘verb transitive’, meanings in Bodo, meanings in English (infinitive form of the verbs), meaning in Hindi. Some of the verb entries are given below.
Sanskrit

‘The Students’ Sanskrit-English Dictionary’ by Apte, V.S. (2008) gives the verb root as entry in Devanagari followed by /A/ for Atmanepada ‘passive word’ or /P/ for Parasmaipada ‘active word’, different conjugations in parenthesis, meanings in English mostly or the infinitive form or gerundial forms in some places. Some of the verb entries are given below.

The Sanskrit-Hindi-English Dictionary’ by Suryakanta (2008) gives the verb root followed by conjugations in parenthesis, meanings in Hindi and English (infinitive form of
the verb). No other grammatical or usage information is given. Some of the verb entries are given below.

**Santali**

‘A Santal Dictionary’ by Bodding, P.O. (2002) gives the verb root in Roman transcription followed by /v.m./ or /v.a.d./ or /v.a./ or /v.a.m./ or /v.f./, etc., to denote different features of the verb such as ‘verb medium/masculine/passive’, ‘verb constructed with indirect object in the active’, ‘verb active’, ‘verb constructed with indirect object in the passive, and ‘verb feminine’, etc.; the English meanings in infinitive form of the verb and different usages of Santali sentences in Roman script are also given. Some of the verb entries are given below.

On the other hand, ‘Santali-English Dictionary’ by Campbell (1988) gives the verb root in Roman transcription followed by English equivalents given in infinitive form of the verb and different usages of the verb in sentences with English meanings. Some of the verb entries are given below.
The dictionaries in languages like Bengali, Dogri, Gujarati, Hindi, Kashmiri, Konkani, Maithili, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Oriya, Punjabi, Sindhi and Urdu give the verbal noun, which is in fact, a gerundial noun form of the verb, as the entry.

Verbal noun and gerund are not synonymous. Verbal noun denotes the noun derived from the verb, for example, the verb "educate" the verbal noun derived from it is ‘education’, whereas, the gerund is ‘educating’ an action noun derived from it. It should be mentioned that the verbal nouns take adjectives and the gerunds take adverbs as modifiers. However, they are being used as synonyms in many dictionaries and mark the entry as /v.n./, abbreviation of verbal noun, which are in fact gerundial forms. These forms may also be used as infinitive form of the verb in some languages like Hindi.

A question arises as to why this verbal noun form (in fact, it is a gerund) is preferred to the verb root, which will help the users. The entry in verbal noun would mean that the user must have a good knowledge of the morphology of the language.

Take for example, the Hindi verb /maarna/ ‘to kill’. The meaning should have been given as ‘killing’ and not ‘to kill’ in English; the former is the gerund and the later is an infinitive form of the verb. The user has to drop the marker /-naa/ of the verb and conjugate in tenses and other grammatical forms.

**Bengali**

*The Bengali-English Dictionary* by Rahman, L. and Tareque, J. (2010) gives the verbal noun form of the verb in Bengali script followed by vi or vt for verb intransitive or transitive respectively; meanings in English (verb root), usages in Bengali language, and other derivations. This dictionary gives a lot of grammatical information to help the learners. Some of the verb entries are given below.
‘The Bengali-Bengali Dictionary’ by Biswas, S. (1957) gives verbal noun form of the verb as entry followed by /kri.bi./ for kriya bisheshya ‘verbal noun’ or /kri./ for verb, and many meanings/usages, Bengali verb root or verb root in Sanskrit are given in the middle along with illustrations. Some of the verb entries are given below.

The verb entries in the Dictionaries in Indian Languages

Dogri

‘The Lauhka Dogri Shabda Kosh’ by J & K Academy of Arts, Culture and Languages (1992) gives verbal noun form of the verb as entry followed by /kri. a./ for kriya akarmak ‘verb intransitive’ or /kri. sa./ for verb transitive, and many meanings/usages in Devanagari script; Sanskrit and sometimes Prakrit etymology of some of the verbs are also given. Some of the verb entries are given below.

The verb entries in the Dictionaries in Indian Languages

‘The Dogri-Hindi Shabdakosh’ by J & K Academy of Arts, Culture and Languages (2000) also gives verbal noun form of the verb as entry followed by /a. kri./ for akarmak kriya ‘verb intransitive’ or /sa. kri./ for verb transitive, and meaning(s)/usage(s) in Devanagari script; this dictionary also gives Sanskrit and sometimes Prakrit etymology of some of the verbs. Some of the verb entries are given below.

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**Gujarati**

*The Gujarati-English Dictionary* by Deshpande, P.G. (2002) gives verbal noun form of the verb in Gujarati script as entry followed /v.i./ or /v.t./ for intransitive or transitive, meanings in English; usages in Gujarati and English meanings for some of the verbs are also given. Some of the verb entries are given below.

*An Etymological Gujarat-English Dictionary* by Belsare (1981) gives verbal noun form of the verb in Gujarati script as entry followed /v.i./ or /v.t./ for intransitive or transitive, sometimes Sanskrit roots for the entry in parenthesis, meanings in English; Some of the verb entries are given below.

**Hindi**

*The Oxford Hindi-English Dictionary* by McGregor, R.S. (2009) gives verbal noun form of the verb in Devanagari script as entry followed by Roman transliteration, Sanskrit and sometimes Prakrit etymology of some of the verbs in parenthesis, /v.i./ or /v.t./ for ‘verb intransitive’ or ‘verb transitive’ respectively, meanings in English and usages in Hindi with English meanings. Some of the verb entries are given below.
The Rajpal Hindi Sabdakosh’ by Bahri, H. (2008) gives verbal noun form of the verb in Devanagari script as entry followed by /a.kri./ or /sa.kri./ for akarmak kriya ‘verb intransitive’ or sakarmak kriya ‘verb transitive’ in parenthesis respectively, meanings in Hindi and usages in Hindi in parenthesis for each meaning given. Some of the verb entries are given below.

Kashmiri

‘Kashmiri-English Dictionary for Second Language Learners’ by Koul, O.N., et al gives the verbal noun form as the entry followed by the verb feature, namely, /v/ for verb, /vi./ for intransitive verb, /vt./ for transitive verb is given. It is not clear why the dictionary gives sometimes the conjugation of the verb and not always. Since the dictionary is for second language learners it should have given additional grammatical features necessary for conjugation and usages as well. Some of the verb entries are given below.

‘A Dictionary of the Kashmir Language’ (Vol. III) by George A. Grierson, et al., (First Published, 1916-1932 and reprinted, 1985) gives the verbal noun form as the entry in Roman script followed by transliteration in Devanagari, grammatical category, past participle
form of the verb in parentheses, its meanings, other necessary grammatical forms to understand the usage better. Some of the verb entries are given below.

Konkani

‘The Rajhauns Konkani-English Illustrated Dictionary’ by Borkar, S.K.J., Thali, M.P. & Ghenekar (1999) gives verbal noun form of the verb in Devanagari script as entry followed by /v.t./ or /v.i./ for ‘verb transitive’ or ‘verb transitive’ respectively and meanings in English. Some of the verb entries are given below.

Konkani-English Dictionary’ by Vallerian Fernand (2004), gives the verb root as entry and the abbreviation /kri./ for kriyaa ‘verb’ both in Kannada script followed by English meaning in imperative forms only. The objective of the dictionary is, perhaps, to introduce the words only. Some of the verb entries are given below.

Maithili

‘The Maithili dictionary’ by Jha, G.P., (1999) gives verbal noun form of the verb as entry in Devanagari script followed by Roman transliteration, sometimes Sanskrit root in parentheses, information for intransitivity or transitivity of the verbs given as /vi/ or /vt/, equivalents in Maithili, English meaning(s). Some of the verb entries are given below.

Manipuri
Manipuri has two scripts, viz., Meitei Mayek and Bengali scripts used till today. This can be seen in the dictionaries analyzed here. There is a distinction between the traditional lexicographers and the Linguistics-trained ones which are reflected in their products.

‘The Learners’ Manipuri-English Dictionary’ by Suramangol Sharma, H. (2006) gives the verb root as the entry followed by the transliterations of the verb root in Meitei Mayek script and Roman, /v./ for verb, English meanings, morph: ‘morphology’ of other possible inflections. Some of the verb entries are given below.

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{Manipuri to English Dictionary} \\
\text{by Imoba, S. (2004)}
\end{array}
\]

Some of the verb entries are given below.

On the other hand, the ‘Manipuri to Manipuri & English Dictionary’ by Khelchandra Singh, N. (1964) gives the verbal noun form of the verb as the entry followed by phonetic transcription in Roman in parenthesis, /v./ for ‘verb’, meanings/synonyms in Manipuri, English meaning(s) in infinitive form of the verb, sometimes other usages as nouns with illustrations in Bengali script and Roman transliteration, /n./ for ‘noun’ and English meanings. Some of the verb entries are given below.
Marathi

‘The Marathi-English Dictionary’ by Molesworth (2001) gives verbal noun form of the verb as entry in Devanagari script followed by /v i/ or /v t/ or /v c/ for verb intransitive, verb transitive and verb common respectively, Sanskrit root in parenthesis in Devanagari script, meanings in English with the usages in Marathi. Some of the verb entries are given below.

The Marathi-English Dictionary’ by Deshpande, M.K. (2005) gives verbal noun form of the verb in Devanagari script as entry followed by /v i/ or /v t/ for verb intransitive or verb transitive respectively, meanings in English in the infinitive form of the verb. Some of the verb entries are given below.

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Nepali

‘A Comparative & Etymological Dictionary of the Nepali Language’ by Turner R.L. (2001) gives verbal noun form of the verb as entry in Devanagari script with Roman transliteration followed by abbreviations /vb.intr./ or /vb.tr./ or /vb.tr. & intr./ for intransitivity or transitivity or both transitivity and intransitivity of the verb respectively and equivalents in English; the usages in Nepali with English meanings and etymological details of the verbs from Sanskrit, Pali and Prakrit are also given. Some of the verb entries are given below.

The Online Nepali dictionary ‘A Practical Dictionary of Modern Nepali’ by Schmidt, R.L. (1993-1994) gives the verbal non form of the verb as entry in Devanagari script followed by page number as in the hard copy in parentheses, transliteration in square brackets, the abbreviations /VB INT./ or /VB TR./ for verb intransitive and transitive respectively, English meanings and citations of Nepali sentences in Roman script and English equivalents. Some of the verb entries are given below.
The Oriya dictionary ‘Abhinaba Utkala Abhidhana: Oriya-Oriya-English Dictionary’ by Kar, Ramala (2003) gives verbal noun form of the verb as entry in Oriya script followed by the abbreviation /kri/ for kriya ‘verb’, sometimes preceded by /de/ for deshaja ‘native’ for some of the verbs; the meanings in Oriya with English meaning(s) in infinitive form are given along with usages. Some of the verb entries are given below.

The Oriya-Oriya-English Dictionary named ‘Bruhata Oriya Padhi’ by Padhi, B.B. (2006) gives verb root as the entry with /bi/ for bisheshya ‘verb root’ followed by meanings in English, other derivations like bisheshan ‘adjective’ marked by /bing./ and verbal noun forms. Some of the verb entries are given below.
Punjabi

*The Punjabi-English Dictionary* by Punjabi University (1994) follows the traditional way of giving the verbal noun as the entry like many other dictionaries. The entry is given in Punjabi script followed by Roman transliteration in parenthesis, /v.t/ or /v.i/ for the quality of the verbs as transitivty or intransitivity and meanings only in English in infinitive form. Some of the verb entries are given below.

Sindhi

*A Dictionary: Sindhi and English* by Stack, C.G. (2004) gives the verbal noun form of the verb as the entry in Devanagari script followed by /v.n./ ‘verbal noun’ or /v.a./ ‘verb active’, the English meanings represented by the infinitive form of the verbs; sometimes the past participle forms are also given in parenthesis. Some of the verb entries are given below.
Since Sindhi uses both Devanagari and Arabic scripts for writing, dictionaries in Arabic script are also available. ‘Sindhi-English Dictionary’ by Mewaram, P. (1977) in Arabic script gives the verbal noun form of the verb as the entry followed by /v.t./ or /v.i/ for transitive and intransitive verb and English meanings in infinitive form of the verb. Some of the verb entries are given below.

**Urdu**

*The Standard 21st Century Dictionary: Urdu to English*’ by Qureshi, B.A. (2009) gives verbal noun of the verb as entry in Urdu script with Roman transliteration followed by /V.I./ or /V.T./ for intransitivity or transitivity of the verb, irregular form of the verb in past tense, if any, it is also given in parenthesis; the English meanings and Urdu equivalents are given. Some of the verb entries are given below.

**Conclusion**

There are three ways for the presentation of a verb entry in the above dictionaries, namely, verb root which is a non-honorific imperative form, the verbal noun or infinitive
form of the verb and hortative or a kind of imperative form of the verb. A very simple question arises as to why the gerund or hortative form is preferred over the verb root.

The following shows the list of languages which give the above three forms of the verb as entries

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<th>Entries</th>
<th>Verb Root</th>
<th>Hortative</th>
<th>Verbal Noun</th>
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<td>Assamese</td>
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<td>Manipuri</td>
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</table>

If one looks into the grammatical conjugation of the verbs in almost all languages, the verb root is used for all these conjugations and derivations. If that is so, why the gerundial form is preferred which will complicate the learning of their usages. No answer is given to this complexity by any of the dictionaries which give the gerund as the entry.

With the knowledge of the grammar only, one can use the verb in sentences. Take for example, the Hindi verb entry khaanaa (in Devanagari script) and the transliteration in Roman followed by (v) and then the meaning(s). But the entry does not help the users while using them. The conjugations /khaataa huum/, ‘I eat’ /khaauungaa/, ‘I shall eat’ /khaayeega/, ‘He will eat’, /khaakar- khaakee/, ‘after eating or having eaten’, etc. are some of the conjugations for which the user has to delete the marker /-nnaa/. But, on the other hand, this entry may help the users to conjugate the negative forms of the verb, /nahim khaana thaa/ ‘(I) should not have eaten’, /is tarah khaanaa acchaa nahim hai/ ‘Eating like this is not good’, and other constructions such as /khaanaa caahiyee/ ‘have to eat’, the verb entry will be of help. This problem in these languages is to be solved.

Yet another problem is the information given about the verb qualities. Take for example: dictionaries in some languages do not give the information as to whether they are transitive or intransitive verbs. If at all given, they may give the English abbreviations such as /v./, /v.t./, /v.i./, etc. denoting verb, verb transitive, verb intransitive, etc., respectively. Should this be given in the language concerned or in English is another question to be discussed.

Not only the user must know the abbreviations in English such as /v./, /v.t./, /v.i./ or /v.int./, etc., which give the quality of the verb, but also know English grammar. If it is given Language in India www.languageinindia.com

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in the language concerned, it presupposes that the user not only knows English grammar, but also the target language grammar in the concerned script. A question arises as to whether and how this information must be presented in the dictionaries. This expectation is to be discussed.

If the dictionary gives all such information in the script of its own, it is of no value for the native speakers and there is no need of saying whether they are transitive or intransitive verbs, weak or strong verbs, etc. But, for the second language learners, this information is very much essential for conjugation. This is another important point to be discussed in the dictionaries of Indian languages.

The dictionaries analyzed in this paper have given some of the information mentioned below. Why there is this kind of disparity is another question to be answered by the concerned.

1. Verb transitive/ verb intransitive in the script of regional language or in Roman
2. Transliteration/transcription
3. Variant forms
4. Etymology
5. Forms for its usage
6. Meaning with citations
7. Cognates
8. Strong/Weak
9. Kri/v. in the script of regional language or in Roman
10. Tense marker (past/present/future)
11. Infinitive form/Gerund
12. Synonyms in regional Languages
13. Causative forms of the verb
14. Native/borrowed
15. Equivalents in other languages
16. Most of the dictionaries gives the meaning in English with ‘to’ whereas the entries are either imperative or gerund forms. Sometimes, gerundial forms are also given.
17. Script: Some of the languages use two or more scripts for obvious reasons and hence dictionaries are available in them.
   a. Kashmiri and Sindhi use both the Devanagari and Perso-Arabic scripts
   b. Konkani uses Devanagari and Kannada scripts.
   c. Manipuri uses Meitei Mayek and Bengali scripts.
   d. In Santhali, the entries are given in Roman because a decision regarding the script was not been taken at the time of the preparation. Now the Devanagari script is adopted.
18. Morphological Information: derivations, inflections

Conclusion

The paper tried to focus on the variety of forms as entries in the dictionaries of 22 Indian languages and variations in giving the verb features also. If India is called as a linguistic area, a question arises as to why we shouldn’t have a uniform pattern. It is true that different objectives may be there, but still there can be uniformity. An amicable solution has to be thought of for these problems. If at all there is a claim that the dictionaries are for the users, Language in India www.languageinindia.com
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Soibam Rebika Devi, M.Sc. (Biology), M.A. (Linguistics), M.A. (Translation), Dip. in Tamil Verb Entries in the Dictionaries in Indian Languages
in practice they mislead them. The dictionary may presuppose that the user must know better grammar of the language in question before using it. Who are the users of the dictionaries, mother tongue speakers or second language learners? Are the dictionaries for consumption for all? Will it be possible to solve these important problems in the lexicographical studies of Indian languages?

References

Dictionaries
Assamese

Bengali

Bodo

Dogri

Gujarati

Hindi

Kannada

Kashmiri

Konkani

Maithili

Malayalam

Manipuri

Marathi

Nepali

Oriya

Punjabi

Sanskrit

Santali

Sindhi

Tamil

Telugu
Urdu

Colophon:
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