South Asian Languages Analysis Roundtable (SALA)
A Brief Write Up

... this new year... one of the world's biggest gatherings of linguists at Mysore, a city of rich culture, magnificent palaces and quaint charm ... Interested in language and language related issues? ... Be there ... ensure you don't miss any of the actions!!

THE EVENT

The 29th Meeting of the South Asian Languages Analysis Roundtable (SALA) will be hosted by the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, a Government of India body committed to the cause of Indian languages, during 6-8 January 2011.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

The foundation for SALA, the South Asian Languages Analysis Roundtable, was laid during the 1978 Linguistic Institute of the Linguistic Society of America, held at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. It consisted in a "Conference on South Asian Languages and Linguistics", organized by Hans Henrich Hock and Braj B. Kachru, with support from Yamuna Kachru and Rajeshwari Pandharipande. The Conference attracted many of the top South Asian linguists from both North America and South Asia, and the response was so positive that it was decided to offer similar meetings in the future. There was to be a series of "International Conferences on South Asia" and a series of meetings with more limited, North American scope — SALA.

The tradition of international conferences was short-lived and ended after the third Conference, held 1982 in Mysore. As a consequence, a tendency developed to broaden the scope of SALA beyond North America, and SALA meetings were organized in India (1997, 2006), in the United Kingdom (1998), and in Germany (2001).

From the beginning, SALA Roundtables were organized on an ad-hoc basis, without a formal organization behind them. The advantage has been that, even though the University of Illinois hosted the first three Roundtables, this was not interpreted as establishing a monopoly; and soon other institutions followed suit in hosting the Roundtables. The disadvantage is that there are no formal membership lists that can be drawn on for calls for papers, and there is no mechanism by which future host institutions can be easily identified. Nevertheless, through informal exchange of mailing lists and through a sufficiently large number of institutions volunteering to host SALA meetings (sometimes with some coaxing), there has been an amazing and truly impressive succession of yearly meetings — only four years (1996, 2000, 2007, 2010) were without SALAs.

AIMS

The South Asian Languages Analysis Roundtable 29 aims at spreading a deepened analytical awareness of language in general and of South Asian languages in particular, at a spurt of activity and work on South Asian languages, reflecting the fact that the study of languages is one of the great intellectual success stories of our times.
THRUST AREAS

The conference will cover all areas of general linguistic interest which focus on most recent advances in different areas of South Asian language and linguistics. Encouraged are papers (written in English) on substantial, original and unpublished research, or panel proposals from diverse frameworks and especially those with interdisciplinary focus, including but not limited to (sorted alphabetically):

- Developments in different theoretical models
- Discourse analysis
- Endangered language documentation
- English in South Asia
- Indian Grammatical Tradition
- Language and Literature
- Language Ideology and Language Policy
- Language Pedagogy
- Language Planning
- Language Teaching And Testing
- Language Technology
- Lexicography and Lexicology
- Linguistic Typology
- Literacy Studies
- Machine Translation
- Multilingualism and Language Maintenance
- Natural Language Processing
- Theoretical and Applied Linguistics
- Translation Studies

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Prof. Peri Bhaskararao
Title: From Speech Signal to Morphemes: Approach from Speech Corpora of South Asian Languages

PLENARY SESSIONS AND SPEAKERS

- Grammatical Structures/Analyses of under-analyzed languages of South Asia – Prof. K. V. Subbarao
- Ancient Dravidian languages and indigenous grammatical traditions – Prof. Bh Krishnamurthy
- Sanskrit grammatical tradition – Prof. P. S. Subramanyam
- Nilgiri languages – Prof. Peri Bhaskararao
- Language contact in South Asia – Prof. Hans Henrich Hock
- Multilingualism and multilingual education – Prof. Rajesh Sachdeva

VENUE

Conference Hall,
Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL),
Manasagangotri,
Hunsur Road,
Mysore - 570006
Karnataka, India
CONFERENCE ORGANISERS

The Conference is organized by a Local Committee consisting of Rajesh Sachdeva, Director-in-Charge, CIIL, P. P. Giridhar, Head, NTM and Y. Sridhar Reddy, Academic Secretary, CIIL and an International Committee consisting of Peri Bhaskararao, Shobhana Chelliah, Alice Davison, P. P. Giridhar, Hans Henrich Hock, Bhadriraju Krishnamurti, Sadaf Munshi, Pramod Pandey, John Peterson, Rajesh Sachdeva, Karumuri V. Subbarao and Yogendra Yadav.

CONTACT

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