CONFERENCE ON BHARATIYA LANGUAGES AND INDIA AS ONE LINGUISTIC AREA

28-29 May 2024

Bharat has been a multilingual country for ages, with many languages spoken in different regions of the country. Using multiple languages in our verbal repertoire is a common characteristic of the country. Bharatiya languages bind us together and keep us united. Bharat is a linguistic area. A linguistic area is a geographical landscape with multiple languages. This is a necessary condition to facilitate constant contact between languages. Geographical proximity invokes the borrowing of features and structures from the neighbouring languages when speakers come in contact. This, over a period, leads to the formation of a linguistic area. The study of linguistic areas is thus concerned with linguistic phenomena that straddle linguistic boundaries. Emeneau (1956) defined a linguistic area as "an area which includes languages belonging to more than one family but showing traits in common which are found not to belong to the other members of (at least) one of the families." Many scholars such as Masica (1976), Abbi (1991), Pandit (1972), Annamalai (2006), Mishra (2023) among many others, have shown the areal similarities that the languages of India have developed due to geographical contiguity and contact. These include features at all levels of linguistic analysis: phonological (retroflex plosives), morphological (causatives), syntactic (experiencer-subject constructions), discourse (use of negative particle as tag in confirmation questions) etc.

Hence to fill the gap in the comparative work across languages within the various branches of Bharatiya languages & Linguistics, this conference invites original research papers on the phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, sociolinguistics, areal linguistics, pragmatics, languages and scripts, vocabulary, word-formation and any other relevant area of linguistics, dealing with the languages of India. In addition, this conference aims at building both a sense of the Diversity in Unity of Bharatiya languages, and get a sense of the nature and structure of Bharatiya languages.

Abstract submission guidelines
Abstract between 300-500 words (excluding references and data) has to be sent in PDF format to ciilconference@gmail.com by 5 May 2024. An author can submit a maximum of one single-authored and one co-authored abstract.

Travel and accommodation
Travel assistance will be available only for out-station participants and those located within the city of Mysuru may kindly arrange travel on their own. TA (restricted to Rail 3AC) to eligible out-station participants will be considered and is subject to the availability of funds. Modest accommodation will be arranged in the CIIL premises for out-station participants only.