

Prof Anvita Abbi
(PADMA SHRI)

Designation	Director Centre for Oral and Tribal Literature Sahitya Akademi (Academy of Letters) Rabindra Bhavan 35, Ferozeshah Road New Delhi 110 001
Contact Address	B2/2159 Vasant Kunj, Pocket 2/3 Park View Apartments New Delhi 110070, India
e-mail	anvitaabbi@gmail.com
Web page	www.andamanese.net http://elar.soas.ac.uk/deposit/0014
Languages known	English, French, Hindi, Punjabi, Bengali and Sanskrit
Teaching/ Research Experience	During 1970-75 in USA and since 1976 in India at post-graduate level. Visiting Professor in Germany (1998, 2012), Australia (2001 and 2010), and UK (2011).
Date and Place of Birth	January 9 th 1949. Agra.

RESEARCH AREAS OF INTEREST

1. Description and Documentation of Tribal and endangered languages of India.
2. Contact Linguistics, Language Obsolescence and Evolution of Grammar.
3. Multilingualism and Language Policy

RESEARCH GUIDANCE at JNU: I have supervised 25 Ph.D. and 34 M.Phil.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Linguistics, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, USA, January 1975.

- M.A. Linguistics, University of Delhi, 1970 with first division and first rank in the University (Awarded Gold Medal)
- B.A. Economics (Hons.) University of Delhi, 1968.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- 2015** **Kenneth Hale Award** by the Linguistic Society of America. *'For outstanding lifetime contributions to the documentation and description of languages of India, with particular note of her extraordinary contributions to the documentation of the Great Andamanese language, a moribund language that is a key isolate in understanding the peopling of Asia and Oceania.'*
- 2013** Conferred the fourth highest civilian award **Padma Shri 2013** by His Excellency the President of India for contribution to endangered and lesser-known languages of India.
- 2011** Awarded the prestigious **Leverhulme Professorship** at the University of London, UK for the year 2011. *'For pioneering work on the languages of the Andaman but especially for identifying the Sixth language family of India'.*
- 2005 Conferred Honorary Member of the *Linguistics Society of America* for life.
- 2003 Awarded the **Rashtriya Lok-Bhasha Sammaan 2003**, by Gandhi Hindustani Sahitya Sabha for contribution to tribal languages of India.
- 2001 Nominated as **Distinguished Visiting Fellow 2001, RCLT, La Trobe University**, Melbourne, Australia.
- 1990 **Fellow**, All India Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla.
- 1972 Awarded the **second prize in International Students' Writing Competition**, Cornell University, USA.
- 1970-73 Awarded the **Humanities and Social Sciences Fellowship**, Cornell University Ithaca, New York, USA.
- 1970 Awarded the **University Gold Medal**, for being adjudged the best candidate in M.A. in linguistics (University of Delhi).

VISITING NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PROFESSORSHIPS

1. **Guest Scientist, Max Planck Institute of Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany.** September 2014 – November 2014, July 2000 to December 2000, Summer 2003, July 2010-October 2010.
2. **Guest Professor, University of Wuerzburg, Germany.** November-December 2012.
3. **Leverhulme Professor, SOAS, University of London, UK.** March –December 2011.
4. **Visiting Professor, Essex University, UK** June 2011. Under ESRC-ICSSR exchange programme.
5. **Visiting professor, Cairns Institute, Cairns Australia** November 2010-January 2011.
6. **Special Invitee at UNESCO, Bilbao, the Basque Country, Spain** to advise on 'World Languages Report'. October 2000.
7. **Guest Professor, South Asia Institute, University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany.** Spring Semester (October- December 1998).
8. **Visiting Professor.** Advanced Centre of Linguistics. Osmania University. Hyderabad. December 1990-January 1991.
9. **Visiting Professor, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas, USA.** January 1986. Winter Semester.
10. Have delivered lectures at various **American and European universities** on special invitation. Some of them are *Cornell University, University of Syracuse, University of Illinois, University of Texas, University of California at Berkeley and Santa Barbara, the Ohio State University at Columbus, Rutgers University at New Jersey, Rice University at Texas, University of North Texas at Denton, in the USA; Stuttgart University, University of Wuerzburg, Max Planck Institute at Leipzig, University of Hamburg, University of Leipzig, and the University of Heidelberg in Germany; University of Toulouse, in France and University of Vitoria-Gasteiz, The Basque Country, Spain, Universitas Bung Hatta, Padang, Indonesia, University of Thessaloniki at Greece and at the Aichi, Nagoya, Kobe University, Japan, University of London, University of Manchester, York University, Essex*

University, and University of Cambridge, UK, Uppsala University in Sweden, Simon Fraser University at Vancouver in Canada and the University of Zurich, Switzerland.

MEMBER OF THE EDITORIAL BOARD:

1. Member of the Advisory Board of *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Linguistics*. (2013-
2. *Brill's Studies in South and Southwest Asian Languages* (2009-
3. *Linguistics of the Tibeto-Burman Area (LTBA)* (2014-
4. Member of the Advisory Board of *World Atlas of Language Structures (WALS)*, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany. (2000-
5. *Journal of South Asian Languages and Linguistics*. De Gruyter. (2013-

MEMBERSHIP OF LEARNED BODIES

- **President of the Linguistic Society of India**, India 2012-2017.
- External member of the **Academic Council of the Central University of Himachal Pradesh**, Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh. 2013-
- Nominated by **His Excellency the President of India's nominee of the Executive Council of Indira Gandhi National Tribal University (IGNTU)**, Amarkantak, Madhya Pradesh. 2012-
- External member of the **Academic Council of the Central University of Hyderabad**, Andhra Pradesh. 2012-
- **External member of the Advisory Committee** to look into the issue of establishing *School of Cognitive Sciences* at the University of Hyderabad. 2013-
- Member of the **Board of Studies of School of Language Technology** at the International University of Hindi at Wardha 2012-

- **Advisory member** of the MHRD Committee on *Protection and preservation of indigenous traditional knowledge and endangered languages*. 2011.
- **Advisory member** of the UGC Expert Committee on Indigenous Languages. 2010-
- **Member of the Jury** of the International Linguapax Award, an apex body of the UNESCO.
- **Member** of the **Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi** for 'Awarding the status of Classical Language' 2008-
- **Member** of the **Advisory Board of Sahitya Akademi** for 'Awarding the *Bhasha Samman* to tribal languages.
- **Life member**: *Dravidian Linguistic Association*, and *Linguistic Society of India*
- **Advisory member** of the CIIL, MHRD Committee on *Language development in the XII plan*.
- **Advisor** to UNESCO, **Linguapax Institute** since 2000. To give advice on language policies.
- **Member** (elected) Board of Directors. **Terralingua**, A non-profit international organization devoted to maintain bio-diversity across the globe. Washington D.C. U.S.A. 1998-2001 and 2001-2004, 2004 - 2008.
- **Member** of the Advisory Board, *International University of Hindi*, Wardha. 1998-2000.
- **Member** of the Review Committee for the **Dravidian University, Kuppam**, Andhra Pradesh. 2006.
- **Advisor**, Konkani Survey 1991-1992, **Konkani Academy**, Goa.
- **Advisor**, Post-Graduate Hindi Linguistics Courses, 1991-1992. The University of Delhi, South Campus, New Delhi.
- Member of the **UGC Review Committee for the IX Plan** of the **Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages**, Hyderabad (1996).
- Nominated by the Ministry of HRD to serve as a **Member** of the **Advisory Committee** of the **Central Institute of Indian Languages**, Mysore. (Sept 1996-1999).
- **Member** of the Governing body of *Daulat Ram College*, Nominated by the University of Delhi, Delhi. 1995--2001.

- **Nominated** External Member of the *Faculty of Arts*, University of Delhi, Delhi. 1995–2000
- **Director:** South Asia Media Centre, Kansas State University, Kansas, 1975-76

DETAILS OF EMPLOYMENT

<i>Institution</i>	<i>Designation</i>	<i>Period</i>	
		<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>
Jawaharlal Nehru University	Professor of Linguistics	Dec 1996	July 2014
	Chairperson	Feb 1995-	Feb 1997
		Feb 2007-	Feb 2010
Jawaharlal Nehru University	Associate Professor	Sep 1984	Dec 1996
Jawaharlal Nehru University	Assistant Professor	Sep 1978	Sep 1984
Jawaharlal Nehru University	CSIR Pool Officer (equivalent to Asst. Prof)	May 1976	Aug 1978
Kansas State University, USA	Director: South Asia Media Centre	Fall 1975	May 1976

DETAILS OF SPONSORED/CONSULTANCY PROJECTS COMPLETED

	<i>Title of the Project</i>	<i>Duration</i>	<i>Sponsoring Agency</i>	<i>Staff</i>	<i>My Status</i>
1.	Reduplicative Structures in Indian Languages: A Phenomenon of Linguistics Area	Two years & six months (1983-85)	University Grants Commission	2 Junior Research Fellows (JRF)	Principal Investigator
2.	Explicator Compound Verbs in South Asian Languages	Three years (1988-91)	University Grants Commission	One Research Associate	Principal Investigator

3.	English Language Teaching (Development of Courses)	1989-1991	Kota Open University	University Staff Members	Coordinator/ Editor
4.	Konkani Survey	1991-1992	Konkani Academy, Goa	Staff Members of Konkani Academy	Advisor
5.	Computerized Data Bank of Indigenous Languages of India	1995-1999	Jawaharlal Nehru University	2 JRF (Part-Time)	Director
6.	Linguistics and Hindi Language (writing text for MA Linguistics course)	1997	Indira Gandhi National Open University		Advisor
7.	A Sociolinguistic Enquiry into the Acceptance level of Hindi as a Pan-Indian Language	1997-99	ICSSR	1 Research Associate	Director
8.	Urdu in Contact with Other Indian Languages in Independent India. A Linguistic and Socio-Cultural Study	1999 to 2001	National Council of Promotion of Urdu Language, Ministry of HRD	Four Project Assistants	Co-ordinator
9.	A Pilot Survey of Languages of Andaman	2001-2002	Max Planck Institute, Leipzig, Germany	Two Research Assistants	Director
10.	Hindi Sangrah: Linguistic Database and Mapping of Varieties of Hindi.	2002-2004	MGI Hindi University, Delhi branch	2 software engineers +14 Project Assistants	Director
11.	“Speech Corpora and Speech to Text Synthesis of Standard Hindi and Indian English”	July 2003- Dec-2003	HP Labs, Bangalore	1 Senior Research Assistant	Principal Investigator

12. A Major Documentation Project 'Vanishing Voices of the Great Andamanese (VOGA)'.	November 2004 – December 2009	The Hans Rausing Endangered Language Documentation Programme, SOAS, University of London, UK	1 Post Doc 2 Research Assistants	Principal Investigator
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PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

1. *A Grammar of the Great Andamanese Language. An Ethnolinguistic Study*. 2013. Brill's Studies in South and Southwest Asian Language. ISBN 978-90-04-23527-4.
2. *Jiro Mithe. Folk Tale of Great Andamanese*. 2013. National Book Trust. Delhi. ISBN 812376719-6
3. *An Ancient Tale from Andaman*. 2012. National Book Trust. India. ISBN 978-81-237-6351-4 (Translated in Hindi and Bangali)
4. *Great Andamanese Dictionary*. 2012. An interactive English-Great Andamanese-Hindi dictionary of the endangered language of the Andaman Islands with pictures and sounds. Ratna Sagar. Delhi. ISBN 978-93-5036-125-2
5. *Ethno-ornithology. Birds of Great Andamanese - Names, Classification and Culture*. 2011 (co-authored with Satish Pande). Oxford University Press, Oxford, Ela foundation with Bombay Natural History Society.
6. *Urvar Pradesh. 2010*. Edited. Anthology of Hindi poems of Bharat Bhushan Agrawal Award winners. Delhi. Rajkamal Prakashan.
7. *Endangered Languages of the Andaman Islands*. 2006. Lincom Europa GMBH, Muenchen, Germany.
8. *A Manual of Linguistic Fieldwork and Structures of Indian Languages*. 2001. Lincom Europa, Muenchen, Germany.
9. *Language Structure and Language Dynamics in South Asia (Select papers from the SALA XVIII)*. 2001. Motilal Benarsidass. New Delhi. (Co-edited)

10. *Languages of Tribal and Indigenous Peoples of India. The Ethnic Space.* 1997. (edited). Motilal Banarsidass, Delhi.
11. *Language and The State. Perspectives on the Eighth Schedule.* 1995 (co-edited). Creative Books. New Delhi.
12. *Semantic Universals in Indian Languages.* 1994. Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla.
13. *India as a Linguistic Area Revisited. (edited) 1991. A special volume of Language Sciences.* Vol.13, no.2, Pergamon Press, Tokyo.
14. *Reduplication in South Asian Languages. An Areal, Typological and Historical Study.* 1991. Allied. New Delhi.
15. *Studies in Bilingualism.* 1986. (Initially published as a special volume of IJOAL in 1985, Vol. XI, No.2). Bahri Publications. New Delhi.
16. *Semantic Theories and Language Teaching* (co-authored). 1986. Allied. New Delhi.
17. *Semantic Grammar of Hindi. A Study of Reduplication.* 1980. Bahri Publication. New Delhi.
18. *Mutthhi Bhar Pahcaan (A Handful of Recognition).* A collection of short stories 1969. Radhakrishan Prakashan, Delhi.

Others

- Launched the first **Book of Letters of Great Andamanese**, March 2008.
- Launched the first CD Rom of **Folk Songs of Great Andamanese** March 2008

In Press

- *An Island of Stories. Great Andamanese Folk Tales.* Lincom Europa, Muenchen, Germany.
- *Ten illustrated children books on individual folk tales of the Great Andamanese.* The National Book Trust, India.
- *Andamanese.* Chapter in the forthcoming volume on *South Asia*, edited by

Hans Hock, Elena Bashir and K.V. Subbarao. Mouton.

- ***Endangered Languages.*** Chapter in the forthcoming volume on *South Asia*, edited by Hans Hock, Elena Bashir and K.V. Subbarao. Mouton.
- **Violation of fundamental rights and weakening of tribal language speakers.** *Language and Power.* Edited by Rajeshwari Pandharipande and Girish N. Jha.

PUBLISHED RESEARCH PAPERS

1977a Reduplicated Adverbs of Manner and Cause of Hindi. *Indian Linguistics.* Vol. 38, No.2. 125-135.

1977b Audio Visual Materials. Chapter IV of *Learning About India : An Annotated Guide for Non Specialists.* Edited by Barbara J. Harrison. The University of State of New York ERC Publication.

1978 Sound System of Khasi. *Jan Jati Bhashayen evam Hindi Shikshan.* Central Institute of Hindi, Shillong. 221- 234.

1980 Co-ordination in Hindi. *Language Forum.* Vol. V, Nos. 3,4. Also included in *Topics in Hindi Linguistics.* Volume 1. Bahri Publications. 61-69.

1981 Aspects of Hindi - Review Article. *Language Forum.* Vol. VI, Nos. 3,4. 57-67.

1982a Rejoinder to the review of the book 'A Semantic Grammar of Hindi. A Study in Reduplication'. *International Journal of Dravidian Linguistics.* Vol. XI, No.2. 347-355.

1982b Reduplicative Structures: A Phenomenon of South Asian Linguistic Area. *Occasional Papers in English and Linguistics.* Vol.1, No.1. Jawaharlal Nehru University.

1984 Conjunctive Participles in Hindi-Urdu. *International Journal of Dravidian Linguistics.* Vol. XIII, No.2. 252-263.

1985a Forms of Address and Terms of Reference in Hindi. *Occasional Papers in English and Linguistics.* Vol. 1, No.2.

- 1985b Consonant Clusters and Syllabic Structures of Meitei. (with A.K.Mishra)
Linguistics of the Tibeto Burman Area. Vol. 8, No.2. UCLA, USA. 81-92.
- 1985c Reduplicative Structures: A Phenomenon of the South Asian Linguistic Area. For Gordan H. Fairbanks. Edited by Vaneeta Z. Acson and Richard L. Leed. *Oceanic Linguistics Special Publication*. No. 20. University of Hawaii Press.
- 1985d Exaphoric Referencing and Code Switching in Indian Context. (with C. Bhuvaneshwari).
- 1986 *Indian Journal of Applied Linguistics*. Vol. XI, No. 2. Also included in *Studies in Bilingualism*. Bahri Publications.
- 1987a On Teaching-Learning Strategies: Contrastive Analysis Error Analysis or Interlanguage ? *Indian Journal of Applied Linguistics*. Vol. XIII, No.1. 25-36.
- 1987b Semantic Correlates of the Indian Linguistic Area: A Study in Reduplicative Structures. *Select Papers form South Asian Language Analysis* 7. Edited by E. Bashir, M.M. Deshpande, P.E. Hook. Indiana University Linguistics Club. USA. 1-12.
- 1987c Concept of Simultaneity and Iteration in Indian Languages. An Exercise in Linguistic Area. (with M.K.Mishra). *Studies in the Linguistic Sciences*. Vol. XVII, No.1. 1-14.
- 1987d Palatals or Lamino-Dentals in Khasi ? A Probe into Feature Theory. *International Journal of Dravidian Linguistics*. Vol. XVI, No.1. 99-107.
- 1988a Lexical Modernization and its Socio-linguistic Effects. A Case from Indian Urdu. *Indian Journal of Applied Linguistics*. Vol. XIV, No. 1. Also included in *ERIC Documentation Reproduction Service*, Washington D.C. ED 286375.
- 1988b Some Aspects of Meitei Phonology. (with A.K. Mishra). *ERIC Documentation Reproduction Service*, ED 286374
- 1990a Reduplication in Tibeto Burman languages of South Asia. *South East Asian Studies*. Tokyo. 171-181.

- 1990b Experiencer Constructions and the 'Subjecthood' of the Experiencer NPs in Indian languages. *Experiencer Subjects in Indian Languages*. Edited by M.K.Verma and K.P.Mohan. 253-267. CSLI, Stanford University Press. Stanford, USA.
- 1991a Identity Crisis of Dative Subjects and Experiencer Nominals in Indian Languages. *International Journal of Dravidian Linguistics*. Vol. XX, No. 1. 1-50.
- 1991b Language of Women. *International Journal of Dravidian Linguistics*. Vol. XX, No. 2. 35-47.
- 1991c Semantics of Explicator Compound Verbs in South Asian Languages. (with D. Gopalakrishnan). *Language Sciences Tokyo*. Vol. XIII, No.2. 161-180.
- 1992a Pan Indian Universals. *Seminar*. March issue. 20-25.
- 1992b Semantic and Pragmatic Analysis of Conjunctive Participle in Hindi. *Saidhantik and Anuprayukta Bhasha Vigyan*. Edited by R.N. Srivastava, Mahendra and M. Priyadarshini. Sahitya Sahkar. Delhi. 258-277.
- 1992c Language Death and Language Conflation. A Paradoxical Oscillation. *South Asian Language Review*. Vol. II, No.2. 39-49.
- 1992d Contact, Conflict and Compromise: The Genesis of Reduplicated Structures in South Asian Languages. *Dimensions of South Asia as a Sociolinguistic Area*. Edited by E.Dimock, B.B.Kachru and Bh. Krishnamurti. Oxford & IBH. New Delhi. 131-148.
- 1992e The Explicator Compound Verbs: Some Definitional Issues and Criteria for Identification. *Indian Linguistics*. Vol. 51. No.1.
- 1992f Osmose Culturelle et Universaux Pan Indiens. *Recontre avec l'Inde 1992*. Tome 21, Numero 4.
- 1993a Language Contraction, Language Shrink, and Language Conflation: A Case Study of Kharia. *Continuity and Change in Tribal Society*. Edited by Mrinal Miri. 1993 Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla.

- 1993b Towards Natural Functional Grammar. (Co-authored with V. Prakasam.) *New Horizons in Functional Linguistics* Edited by S.K.Verma. 1993. Booklinks Corporation, Hyderabad.
- 1993c Some Aspects of Meitei Phonology.(Co-authored with A.K.Mishra). *International Journal of Dravidian Linguistics*. Vol 22. No2. January. Pp 51-66.
- 1994 Why Explicators are not Auxiliaries? An Area between Morphology and Syntax. *Compound Verbs in Indian Languages* edited by Alice Davison. Iowa Univ. Press. Pp 1-10
- 1995a Morphological Change in Tribal Languages of Central India. *PILC Journal of Dravidic Studies*. Vol. 5:1. 1-9
- 1995b Language Contact and Language Restructuring. A Case Study of Tribal languages of Central India. *International Journal of Sociology of Language*. vol.116. 175-185
- 1995c We Shall Overcome One Day. *South Asian Language Review* Vol. 5, No.2. 64-70
- 1996 Don't Kill My Mother (tongue). Against Excessive Modernization of Hindi. *Perspectives on Language and Society (Papers in Memory of Prof Srivastava)*. Edited by S.K. Verma and Dilip Singh. Pp 115-167. Kalinga Publications, Delhi.
- 1997a Languages in Contact in Jharkhand. A Case of Language Conflation, Language Change and Language Convergence. *Languages of Tribal and Indigenous Peoples of India. The Ethnic Space*. Edited by Anvita Abbi Motilal Benarsidass Delhi.
- 1997b Expressive Morphology as Manner Adverbs in Khasi, Tangkhul Naga and Kuki Chin Languages. (co-authored with Ahum Victor). *Languages of Tribal and Indigenous Peoples of India. The Ethnic Space*. edited by Anvita Abbi Motilal Benarsidass Delhi.
- 1997/1998 Le redoublement dans les langues d'Asie du sud. *Faites de Langues. Les langues d'Asie du Sud. Revue de Linguistique*. N. 10. Ophrys, Paris.

- 1998a 'Typological Homogeneity or Language Attrition? A Case of Tribal Languages in Central India'. *From Tribe to Caste*. (edited by Dev Nathan) Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla.
- 1998b 'Morphological Change in Austro-Asiatic and Dravidian Tribal languages of Central India'. *Studies in Indian Sociolinguistics*. Edited by R.S. Gupta and K. Aggarwal. Creative Books, Delhi.
- 1998c 'Debate on Archaism of some select Bangani words'. *Indian Linguistics*. Volume 58. No. 1-4, 1997. Pages 1-14.
- 1998d The Dynamics of Languages-in-Contact. Competing Languages, Structural Conflicts and Grammatical Compromises'. *Institute of Asian and African Studies, Moscow State University*. Moscow. 1998. Pp 24 – 39.
- 1999 'What is 'Indian' in Indian Languages? A Case for Grammaticalization of Explicator Verb GO '. *PILC Journal of Dravidic studies*. 9:2/July 1999. Also in R.E. Asher and Roy Harris edited *Linguisticoliterary*. 2000. Pilgrims Books Pvt. Ltd. New Delhi
- 2000a 'Redundancies and Restructuring in Bangani Syntax: A Case of Language Contact in Western Himalaya'. *International Journal of Dravidian Linguistics* Vol. 25:1 Pp 47-56
- 2000b 'Competing Languages, Structural Conflicts and Grammatical Compromises. The Dynamics of languages-in-Contact' . *Sociolinguistic Perspectives*. IAS, Simla.
- 2001 "Mere dil men Laddu Phuut Rahe Hain": The Concept of Happiness in Indian languages. *Case for Language Studies*. Edited by V. Swarajya Lakshmi. Festschrift volume of Prof. Lakshmi Bai. Booklinks Corporation, Hyderabad.
- 2003a Restructuring Grammars in Contact Situations: A Case of Causative Constructions in Endangered Languages. *International Journal of Dravidian Linguistics* Vol 32:2 Pp 69-80.
- 2003b Tribal Languages of India: Our Neglected Heritage. *Sannidhi*, Delhi Pp 11-19.

- 2004a Whose Language is Urdu? Anvita Abbi, Imtiaz Hasnain and Ayesha Kidwai. *Heidelberg Papers in South Asian and Comparative Politics*, Working Paper No. 24. Heidelberg. Germany.
- 2004b Typology of 'Manner' in Verb Sequences in South Asian Languages. *Indian Linguistics*. Volume 65. Nos. 1-4 Pp 1-29
- 2005a Bharat ki Janjatiya Bhashayen: Hamaari Upekshit Virasat. In *Aam Aadmi*. Vol. 75. Pp 135-139.
- 2005b Areal Typology, Convergence Models and Gene Linguistics. *Indian Linguistics*. Vol. 66 No.1-4, Pp 1-13.
- 2006a Vanishing Voices: A Typological Sketch of Great Andamanese. *Lesser-Known Languages in South Asia Status and Policies, Case Studies and Applications of Information Technology*. Edited by Anju Saxena and Lars Borin. Mouton. Walter de Gruyter.
- 2006b Abhishek Avtans and Anvita Abbi 'Language Documentation in Andamans: Highs and Lows'. *The Proceedings of the Tenth Foundation of Endangered Languages Conference, Vital Voices: Endangered languages and Multilingualism*, Ed- R Elangaiyan, R.Mckenna Brown, Nicholas D.M. Ostler and Mahendra K Verma. 73-76. CIIL, Mysore.
- 2006c Vanishing diversities and Submerging Identities. *Indian Linguistics*. Vol. 67. No. 1-4; PP 1-10.
- 2007a Where Have All The Speakers Gone? A Sociolinguistic Study of The Great Andamanese. (co authors Bidisha Som and Alok Das). *Indian Linguistics*. Vol. 68. No. 3-4 (July-Dec) Pp 325-343.
- 2007b Co authored with Narayan Choudhary and Girish Nath Jha March 2007. 'Morphological Analyzer for Great Andamanese Verbs: Implementing a Concatenative Template'. *Vishwabharat* (April 2007 - January 2008 Journal) 113-118. TDIL, New Delhi,
- 2008a Tribal Languages. *Languages in South Asia*. Edited by Braj B. Kachru, Yamuna Kachru, and S.N. Sridhar. New York. Cambridge University Press. March 2008.
- 2008b Vanishing Diversities and Submerging Identities. In *Language and Politics*. Ed. by Asha Sarangi. Oxford University Press. ISBN 13:978-0-19-569786-5

- 2008c Linguistic Area. Chapter contributed to *Encyclopaedia of the Linguistic Sciences. Issues and Theories*. Edited by V. Prakasam. Allied Publishers. Delhi. ISBN: 10:81-8424-270-4
- 2008d Generative Semantics (Chafe). Chapter contributed to *Encyclopaedia of the Linguistic Sciences. Issues and Theories*. Edited by V. Prakasam. Allied Publishers. Delhi. ISBN: 10:81-8424-270-4
- 2008e Reduplication. Chapter contributed to *Encyclopaedia of the Linguistic Sciences. Issues and Theories*. Edited by V. Prakasam. Allied Publishers. Delhi. ISBN: 10:81-8424-270-4
- 2009a The Last Word. A Multilingual Interactive Dictionary of the Great Andamanese language. *Hindi*. January-March 2009. Vardha. 228-235.
- 2009b Is Great Andamanese genealogically and typologically distinct from Onge and Jarawa? *Language Sciences* 31:6. 791-812.
(doi:10.1016/j.langsci.2008.02.002)
- 2010a Where have all the Speakers gone? A case of Depleting Populations, Depleting languages and loss of Biocultural diversity in the Andaman Islands. In *Endangered languages in India*. Edited by Kamalini Sengupta. New Delhi, INTACH.
- 2010b Vanishing Languages. *G&Y Geography and You*. Vol. 10. Issue 59 April 2010.
- 2011a Unique Structure of the Present Great Andamanese: An overview of the grammar. *Indian Linguistics*. 72:27-46.
- 2011b Body divisions in Great Andamanese: Possessive classification, the semantics of inherency and grammaticalization. *Studies in Language*. 35:4 (2011), 739–792. doi 10.1075/sl.35.4.01abb
- 2011c Universal Grammar, Language Evolution, and Documenting an Ancient Language. *Language Documentation and Linguistic Theory*. Vol 3. SOAS, London.
- 2011d Documenting a Dying Language: Challenges and Solutions. *Selected Papers from the International Conference on Language Documentation and*

- Tradition with a special interest in the Kalasha of the Hindu Kush Valleys, Himalayas.* Thessaloniki, Greece.
- 2012 Declining Adivasi knowledge-systems and killing of linguistic diversity. *Social Exclusion and Adverse Inclusion: Development and Deprivation of Adivasis in India.* Edited by Dev Nathan and Verinius Xaxa. Oxford University Press.
- 2013a Language Conservation and Cognitive Abilities of Human Species. In *Language Endangerment in South Asia. Vol 1.* 3-25. Chief Editor: M Ganesan. Annamalai University Publication. Annamalai Nagar. Tamil Nadu.
- 2013b Traces of prehistoric human language structure in the Great Andamanese language. In *Grammatica et Verba, Glamor and Verve: Studies in South Asian, Historical, and Indo-European Linguistics in Honor of Hans Henrich Hock on the Occasion of His Seventy-Fifth Birthday*, ed. Benjamin Slade and Shu-Fen Chen. Ann Arbor: Beech Stave Press, 2013.
- 2013c 'Leave us alone'. *Geography and You.* Mar – Apr 2013. (Pp 50 -53).
- 2013d In search of language contact between Jarawa and Aka-Bea: The languages of South Andaman. Anvita Abbi and Pramod Kumar. *Acta Orientalia.* November 2013.
- 2014 'Hindi as a contact language of India'. (co-authored with Maansi Sharma). In *Defining the Indefinable: Delimiting Hindi.* Edited by Agnieszka Kuczkiewicz-Fraś. Peter Lang Academic Research. Frankfurt, Germany. Pp 107-124.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. I have been a short story writer in Hindi. Some of my stories have been translated in English, German, French, Gujarati and Bangla.
2. I have an **extensive fieldwork experience** in various Indian languages most of them tribal and lesser-known including those of very remote areas such as Churachandpur (Manipur), Cherapunji (Meghalaya), Netarhaat,

Chotanagpur (Bihar), Hanumangarh (Rajasthan), Bargarh (Orissa), Bangan (Western Garhwal Himalayas), Shiroda, Choraon (Goa), Solan, Nahan, Sungal (Himachal Pradesh), Srinagar (Kashmir) and Andaman Islands, specifically the tribal areas of Onge, Jarawa and Great Andamanese.

RESEARCH GUIDANCE

Number of students guided so far: 25 (Ph.D.), 34 (M.Phil.)
Number of students continuing: 05 (Ph.D.)

Research Topics of M. Phil. guidance can be provided on request.

Research Topics of Ph.D. dissertations that I guided are given below.

1. *The Structure of Kharia: A Study of Linguistic Typology and Language Change.* Ph.D. 1982. Veena Malhotra.
2. *Bilingual Behaviour of the Naikan Community in Kerala.* Ph.D. 1984. C.V.Bhuwaneshwari.
3. *Some Syntactic Aspects of Meitei.* Ph.D. 1985. C.Yashwanta Singh.
4. *Verb Sequences in Malayalam.* Ph.D. 1986. Devi Gopalakrishanan.
5. *Elements of Spatial and Temporal Relations: A Semantic Study of Malayalam.* Ph.D. 1986. Franson D. Manjali.
6. *Standardization and Modernization of Languages: A Case Study of Modernization of North Indian Urdu.* Ph.D. 1987. Imtiaz Hasnain.
7. *Word Formation in Mangolian.* Ph.D. 1992. M. Khurelbat.
8. *Word Formation Processes in Kurux. A Study of Linguistic Typology and Language Change.* Ph.D. 1992. Awdhesh K. Mishra.
9. *Word Order and Binding Phenomena in Hindi and Urdu.* Ph.D. 1995. Ayesha Kidwai.
10. *Word Formation in Tangkhul Naga.* Ph.D. 1997. Ahum Victor.
11. *Descriptive Grammar of Bagri.* Ph.D. 1999. Lakhan Gosain
12. *Grammatical Sketch of Laria. A Case of Language Death and Obsolescence* Ph.D. 1999. Ajit K. Naik
13. *Tribal Identity and Acceptance of Hindi: A Sociolinguistic Study of Tribals in Jharkhand.* Ph.D.2004. Shailendra Mohan

14. *Typological Study of Causative Constructions in Thai and Pali*. Ph.D. 2004. Phramaha Ranavi Papol.
15. *Grammatical Agreement in Hindi-Urdu and its Major Varieties*. Ph.D. 2004. Pradeep Kumar Das
16. *Grammar of Kiranti-Koints*. Ph.D. 2005. Lal Rapcha.
17. *On the Mental Representation of Inflectional Morphology: A Neurolinguistic Study of Hindi Speaking Aphasics*. Ph.D. 2005. Nishant Kumar Ranjan.
18. *A Lexico-Semantic Study of Great Andamanese: A Thematic Approach*. Ph. D. 2006. Bidisha Som.
19. *A Descriptive Grammar of Tai Ahom*. Ph.D. 2010 Ms. Dipima Buragohain
20. *A Lexico-Semantic Study of Tiwa and Deori: Two Endangered Languages of the Tibeto-Burman Family*. Arup Nath 2010.
21. *Grammar of Jarawa: A Typological study*. Pramod Kumar 2012 (co-guide: Bernard Comrie).
22. *Hindi as a link language in Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya*. 2013. Maansi Sharma.
23. *Grammar of Thadou-Kuki: A Descriptive study*. 2014. D. Marykim Haopkip.
24. *Typological Study of Cases in Eastern Indo-Aryan Languages* 2014. Bornini Lahiri.
25. *A Descriptive grammar of Tai-Khamti*. 2014. Bishakha Das.

Most of the research guidance at M.Phil level had been in the area of language endangerment and structures of lesser-known languages.

LECTURES DELIVERED AND SESSIONS CHAIRED OUTSIDE INDIA (2011-2014)

1. **Semantics of Inalienability and Grammaticalization of Body Part Terms in Great Andamanese**. January 11, 2010. The Cairns Institute, James Cook University, Cairns, Australia.
2. **Hindi as the Contact language of India**. March 13, 2011. Nehru Centre, London, UK.
3. **The Endangered languages of the Andaman Islands**. May 17, 2011, Endangered language Week, SOAS, University of London, London UK.

4. **Pervasive Body Part Semantics in Present Great Andamanese.** May 31, 2011. Essex University, Colchester, Essex, UK.
5. **Possession in Present Great Andamanese.** June 13, 2011. Essex University, Colchester, Essex, UK.
6. **Looking through the glass of inalienability and inherency.** October 4, 2011. SOAS, University of London. The Leverhulme Seminar.
7. **Challenges for a fieldworker.** October 18, 2011. . SOAS, University of London. UK.
8. **Domains of Inalienability and Inherency.** October 26, 2011. University of York, UK.
9. **Understanding the possible variability of human language.** November 1, 2011. University of Manchester. UK.
10. **Understanding the possible variability of human language.** November 3, 2011. University of Edinburgh. Scotland.
11. **Breathing life into a dying language: Documenting Great Andamanese. Leverhulme Public talk.** November 17, 2011. University of London, UK.
12. **Universal Grammar, Language Evolution, and Documenting an ancient language.** LDLT3 Conference, University of London, UK.
13. **The Last Words: Documenting the Endangered languages of the Andaman Islands.** December 1, 2011. University of Cambridge, UK.
14. **Keynote address on: Endangered languages of India and linguistic diversity.** December 8, 2011. Sorosoro, Paris, France.
15. **Hindi as a contact language.** November 30, 2012. University of Wuerzburg, Germany.
16. **India as a Linguistic Area.** December 6, 2012. University of Wuerzburg, Germany.
17. **Language policy and language planning.** December 7, 2012. University of Wuerzburg, Germany.
18. **Introduction into Linguistic Fieldwork.** December 13, 2012. University of Wuerzburg, Germany.
19. **Endangered Languages: Documenting Great Andamanese as a Contact Language.** December 19, 2012. University of Wuerzburg, Germany.
20. Keynote address on **Contact, Conflict and Convergence: Emergence of New Varieties of Hindi.** International Workshop on *Studying Hindi*:

- Teaching, Translating and Research.* December 14-15, 2012. University of Wuerzburg, Germany.
21. **The Last Words: Documenting the First Languages of the Andaman Islands.** Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada. 16th June 2014
 22. **Tracing the “Possible Human Language” in the speech of the early colonizers of South Asia and Identification of a New Language Family in the Andamans.** The 20th Himalayan Languages symposium. Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. July 17th 2014.
 23. **Pervading body division class markers in Present Great Andamanese language.** Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig. October 9, 2014.
 24. **Pervading body division class markers in Present Great Andamanese language.** University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland. October 2, 2014.
 25. **Breathing life into a dying language. Documenting languages of the Andaman Islands.** University of Hamburg. 22, October 2014.
 26. **Breathing life into a dying language. Documenting languages of the Andaman Islands.** University of Leipzig, 28, October 2014.

LECTURES DELIVERED AND SESSIONS CHAIRED IN INDIA (2012-2014)

2012

1. **The last words: Documenting endangered languages of the Andaman Islands. Extramural Lecture.** February 17, 2012. Inter University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics. Pune.
2. **Script and language: Relationship and Contentions. A Case for Konkani.** March 10, 2012. Jagotik Konknni Songhotton, Mangalore.
3. **Special lecture on Traces of prehistoric human language structure found in the Great Andamanese language.** 18th Himalayan Language conference, 10-12 September 2012. Benaras.
4. **Keynote address ‘How serious is language endangerment and how vital is language documentation?’** Conference on ‘Endangered and Lesser

known Languages: Challenges and Responses' Department of Linguistics, University of Lucknow 11-13, October 2012.

5. **Presidential Address** at the 34th AICOL, Shillong, Meghalaya. November 1, 2012.
6. Special talk on **Identification of the Sixth Language Family of India and Documentation of the Great Andamanese language** on November 4, 2012 at the 34th AICL, Shillong, Meghalaya.

2013

7. The Last Words: Documenting Endangered Languages of the Andaman Islands. Lecture delivered at the JNU Staff College. 29-01-2013.
8. Language Policy and Language Planning: Preventing Communities from Committing Linguistic Genocide. Lecture delivered at the JNU Staff College. 29-01-2013.
9. Plenary talk on Contact-induced grammatical changes in typologically distinct languages. International conference on 'Language Contact in India. Historical, Typological and Sociolinguistic Perspectives'. February 6th, 2013. Pune.
10. Keynote address on Language Conservation and Cognitive Abilities of Human Species. International seminar on 'Language Endangerment in South Asia'. March 13th 2013. Annamalai University, Annamalai.
11. Violation of fundamental rights and weakening of tribal language speakers. International seminar on 'Language and Power: Perspectives, Issues and Impact. April 6, 2013. JNU and the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.
12. Survival of languages. A plenary discussion under 'Art Matters', Reza Foundation. IIC. 22nd August 2013.
13. Grammar and the Self. ICPR lecture at IIC 30th August 2013.

14. Conducted Workshop on Language Survey of *Bhuiyan, Panika and Halbi*. At the Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Amarkantak, M.P. 14-09-2013 to 18-09-2013
15. The Art of Narration: A Session with school children organized by the National Book Trust, New Delhi. 20-09-2013.
16. Identification of a New Language Family in the Andamans: Challenges in Documentation. IIT Delhi. 15-10-2013.
17. Conducted workshop on Language Mapping. Cluster Innovation Centre, University of Delhi, Delhi. 18-10-2013.
18. Chaired the Roundtable on Folklore at the Conference held at the Centre for Russian Studies, JNU, New Delhi. 24-10-2013.
19. Conducted Workshop on Language and Education at Digantar, Jaipur. 26-27th October 2013.
20. Andrews Kutty Memorial Lecture on *Adding to the linguistic diversity of India: Identification of a new language family*. University of Kerala. Trivendrum. Kerala. November 1, 2013.
21. *Save our souls: Multilingual Education in Phases*. Invited paper read at the National Conference on 'Whither MLE? Rethinking Multilingual Education in the 21st Century' (21 -23 November 2013). Zakir Hussain Centre for Education, JNU.

2014

22. *Vanishing Voices of the Great Andamanese*. Special session on endangered languages. 18th January 2014. Jaipur Literature Festival.
23. *Tracing the "Possible Human Language" in the speech of the early colonizers of South Asia*. 23rd January, 2014. Indo-Australian Relations: Retrospects and Prospects. Tiruvanthapuram. Kerala.

24. Prof. Andrewskutty Memorial Lecture. University of Kerala, Tiruvanthapuram. Kerala.
25. *Language Documentation of Endangered Languages*. Deccan College of Pune. April 28, 2014.
26. *Issues of Languages Endangerment in South Asia: The Case of Andamanese Languages*. Special lecture. South Asian University, New Delhi. April 30, 2014.
27. *Languages of South Asia and South Asia as a Linguistic Area*. South Asian University, New Delhi. January 16, January 23, 2015.