

FRESH LIGHT
ON
INDO-EUROPEAN
Classification
&
Chronology

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BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY
VARANASI



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Dedicated
with devotion

To

Professor Dr. Sukumar Sen

The Moving Encyclopaedia of Indian Linguistics

on

the eve of the eightieth year of his life

PREFACE

Fresh Light on Indo-European Classification and Chronology includes the result of my researches on Indo-European Classification and Chronology. Since several years I am busy with my studies on Indo-European Comparative Grammar. The other books published so far are actually biproducts of my purely grammatical linguistic researches. But in course of my studies I have always faced several problems related to classification and many problems concerned with chronology. In August 1977 I was invited by Prof. Grover, Director of Indian Council of Historical Researches to present a paper in The Indo-Soviet Seminar in Dushanbe, USSR in October 1977 on 'Bearing of the Indo-European Comparative Grammar on the Aryan Problem.' I decided to utilise this occasion to present my researches on Indo-European Classification and Chronology in a systematic and linked form. Accordingly I started with classification of Indo-European based on my grammatical linguistic researches, which is of considerable importance for the historian, for migration of the Aryan people. This half became so lengthy that there was no scope to write the second half i.e. Fresh Light on Indo-European Chronology and there was also no time left for me to write it out in its full form. Therefore this second part was included in that paper only in a summary form. This paper was highly appreciated in the seminar in USSR and the cyclo-styled copies were quite insufficient to meet the demand of the same by the scholars in the conference. Although the chronology was very briefly dealt with in the paper many scholars felt highly interested in it and I received letters from several scholars requesting for a fullfledged treatment of the same. Special mention may be made here of Dr. S. B. Roy, Director of

Institute of Chronology, New Delhi who requested me to allow him to quote my new approach to Indo-European chronology in his forth-coming work. Thus a ground was created for me to write a full-fledged book which should include my approaches to classification and chronology. This is the background for the presentation of the present volume.

Prof. A. H. Dani, the well-known archaeologist of Pakistan, Director, Centre for the Civilization of Central Asia, Quaid-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan and chief editor, *Journal of Central Asia*, has obliged me by publishing the paper in the journal, by which it could reach many scholars. Thus these factors encouraged me to bring out a volume with the second half i.e. Indo-European Chronology, fully worked out.

In the first part viz. Fresh Light on Indo-European Classification, the methodology of classification has also been critically examined. The roles of phonology and morphology in classification have been compared and the relative importance of phonology in classification of Indo-European language family has been reestablished. Finally the Satem-Centum classification is reestablished after a critical consideration of the classifications of predecessors like Sleicher, Benveniste, Gorgeiv, Sturtevant etc.

The second part Fresh Light on Indo-European Chronology presents a vivid picture of the language from Indo-European proto speech up to New Indo-Aryan stage by stage. In this connection the five substages of proto Indo-European have been shown, with details of the linguistic changes in each stage. Besides the linguistic changes in subsequent stages viz. the Satem stage, the Indo-Iranian stage, several substages of Old Indo-Aryan and Middle Indo-Aryan and finally New Indo-Aryan have been presented. Finally the chronology of different stages has been shown on the basis of linguistic evidence.

This volume however presents a revolutionary revision of the date of Middle Indo-Aryan and New Indo-Aryan which can be seen from the table of chronology in p. 98. In this connection the author humbly submits that though he deviates from the

famous chronology of Prof. S. K. Chatterji, he is none-the-less confident that Prof. Chatterji would have hailed the humble author's revised chronology would he be still with us. Chatterji himself has never considered his chronology to be final (vide p. 86-87 for details).

Although I prefer and normally use the spelling Satəm instead of Satem, I have used Satem throughout this book simply because while being cyclostyled the word was typed as Satem.

I must express my thanks to the other members of the Deligation from India to USSR viz. Prof. B. B. Lal, Prof. B. K. Thapper, Prof. N. R. Banerji, Prof. L. Gopal and Mrs. Naseem Bhatia and several foreign scholars including scholars from USSR and from other countries of the world for the interest they have shown in my paper. I am specially grateful to Prof. J. Harmatta, Director of Indo-European Institute, Budapest, Hungary who was so much impressed by the paper that he expressed his desire to invite me to Budapest to deliver some lectures on Indo-European. I am grateful to all these scholars because their interest in my paper encouraged me to publish the present volume in a book form.

I am grateful to Prof. Baladeva Upādhyāya, the famous authority on the history of Sanskrit Literature, for his valuable suggestion for some works regarding the date of Kālidāsa.

I also express my thanks to Sri Rajendra Tiwari, Proprietor, Ashutosh Prakashan Sansthan, for taking interest in publication of the present volume.

7th November, 1980
Dīpāvalī Amāvasyā
 Varanasi

Satya Swarup Misra

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Fresh Light on Indo-European Classification & Chronology

1. Introduction :

Classification of the Indo-European Languages and chronological details of the development of the different stages of Indo-European are two important aspects of Indo-European Linguistics. Although they are not directly connected with Indo-European comparative grammar, they have a considerable importance as the background of linguistic analysis. A grammarian often ignores or postpones these aspects but many grammatical problems remain unsolved or half-solved because of lack of a lucid picture of classification & chronology.

The problem of classification is related with the ancient migration of the proto-Indo-European speech community and therefore is of equal interest to a historian and a linguist. Because pre-history is greatly helped by linguistic evidence, this problem needs also an attack by a linguist. Classification of Indo-European languages has been done since centuries and is also freshly touched by several scholars of Indo-European linguistics of the present times. In the following pages classification has been critically examined with linguistic evidence—both the material for classification and the method of the classification have been examined and an attempt has been made to reach a conclusion.

Chronological details of the development of Indo-European are also of primary importance to both a linguist and a historian. There have been many attempts. But the dates of stages of pre-history are always subject to further revision, on the basis of further evidence and further analysis. Therefore the chronology proposed in the following pages do not claim to be the final estimate but is merely a preferable estimate than the previous ones.

The work is being divided under two components: Part I and Part II. Part I deals with the problems of classification and Part II with chronology.

Part I : Classification

2. Subdivision of Indo—European

Some ten or fifteen branches of Indo-European, like Indo-Iranian, Balto- Slavic, Italo-Celtic, Greek, Germanic etc. have been clearly distinguished on the basis of comparative evidence. But this poses the question as to whether it is natural that the proto-speech was abruptly changed into ten or fifteen branches or languages which lost their mutual understandability. It is more natural to suppose that a language even rich with dialectal materials changed into two or three branches or languages first of all, from the point of view of loss of mutual understandability. It can be assumed that each of these two or three branches were rich with dialects, mutually understandable.

While thinking of dividing the proto-Indo-European speech under two or three subdivisions, first of all the Satem and Centum classification comes to our mind. Some recent attempts seem to contradict or ignore the Satem-Centum classification of IE. Therefore the various possibilities and methods of classification of the IE language family may be considered here. The distribution of IE language family is same as the branching off of the IE speech community in different directions.

Part II : Chronology

17. Indo-European Chronology

In the following pages an attempt has been made to shed some fresh light on the chronological details of the different stages of Indo-European, beginning from the Proto-Indo-European stage up to the New Indo-Aryan stage. For chronology archaeological evidence is considered to be the best. But for reconstruction of pre-historical stages of a language we often lack proper archaeological evidence. On such occasions linguistics comes to our assistance. On the basis of historical evidence we can proceed up to certain stages of a language. Then comparative evidence comes to our rescue and leads us a few steps further. Finally when all our archaeological evidences and historical resources as well as comparative evidences are over, a structural analysis of the comparative evidences gives us quite a fair idea of the chronological details of a further remote pre-historical stage of a language.

In the following pages a similar method has been adopted. First of all a revised chronology has been suggested for New Indo-Aryan on the basis of fresh archaeological evidence. Then chronological details of MIA and OIA have been refixed step by step. On the basis of comparative evidences dates of

ABBREVIATIONS

Abl	Ablative
acc	accusative
Alb	Albanian
aor	aurist
Arm	Armenian
asp	aspirate
AV	Atharva Veda
Av	Avestan
Burrow	T. Burrow : Sanskrit Language
CGIGL	Comparative Grammar of Indo-Germanic Languages
CGSGH	Comparative Grammar of Sanskrit, Greek and Hittite
cl	classical
cp	compare
Cypr	Cyprian (Greek)
dat	dative
dlect	dialectal
Dor	Doric (Greek)
EIE	Early Indo-European
fem	feminine
gAv	Gathic Avestan
gen	genitive
Gk	Greek
Goth	Gothic
Ht	Hittite
IE	Indo-European
IH	Indo-Hittite
Iir	Indo-Iranian
KVG	Kurze Vergleichende Grammatik
Lat	Latin

Lith	Lithuanian
MIA	Middle Indo-Aryan
NIA	New Indo-Aryan
OIA	Old Indo-Aryan
OIACHG	The Old Indo-Aryan, A Comparative and Historical Grammar
OCS	Old Church Slavic
ODBL	Origin and Development of the Bengali language
pl	plural
sg	singular
Skt	Sanskrit
Tr	Translation
yAv	Younger Avestan
>	becomes
<	comes from

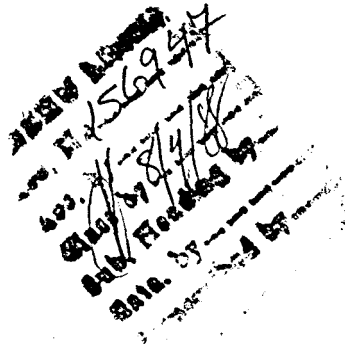
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- Kalidāsa : Kumārasambhava.
- Kālidāsa : Raghuvamśa.
- Kalidāsa : Mālavikāgnimitra.
- Kalidāsa : Vikramorvaśya.
- Kalidāsa : Śakuntalā.

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ERRATA

<i>Page</i>	<i>line</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Read</i>
13	8	<i>êgōn</i>	<i>êgōm</i>
16	21	<i>ki-</i>	<i>ki-</i>
28	19	IE ⁻	IE <i>ē</i>
44	22	Gk. <i>karkinos</i>	Gk <i>kárkinos</i>
44	24	Gñ <i>tessares</i>	Gk <i>téssares</i>
44	25	<i>kalis.</i>	<i>kalis</i>
44	26	<i>poine'</i>	<i>poiné</i>
46	11	<i>pasu</i>	<i>pa'su</i>
47	27	expcept	except
48	22	cannect	connect
49	26	<i>ekhō</i>	<i>ikhō</i>
67	3	remembeed	remembered
68	6	palalalization	palatalization
71	15	,	.
72	5	roat	root
72	7	snstrumental	instrumental
77	17	Stags	Stage
90	8	kihgs	kings
91	last	cited. above	cited above.
96	last	yea r	years





