# A B C Of TAMIL

# **BOOK ONE**

Ву

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Selling right:

PAARI NILAYAM

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# DEDICATED TO

My Grand-father SRI. T.M. RAMALINGAIAH, who was also my first Teacher Dr. M. Varadarajan, M.A., M.O.L., Ph.D., Professor and Head, Department of Tamil, University of Madras.

#### **FOREWORD**

Tamil is one of the most ancient languages of the world which are still spoken and used for all purposes of communication. It belongs to the Dravidian family of South India and has a hoary literary tradition 2000 years old. It is found to be a useful vehicle of modern thought as well. There are many writers even now enriching the language through their poetry and fiction as well as book of knowledge.

It is quite natural that many non-Tamils now desire to learn the language but good guide books written in a practical and useful method are not found. Thiru T.B. Siddalingaiah, a well-known and erudite scholar, has brought out this book 'ABC of Tamil' and fulfilled a long-felt need. While writing this he had in view the grammatical peculiarities of the language as well as the difficulties in pronunciation and syntax experienced by the non-Tamil students in learning it. His experience in teaching Tamil in Delhi, Calcutta, Varanasi and other centres has enabled him to understand their problems and to present every step in a clear and simple manner. Obviously he is not in favour of teaching the spoken dialects alone without any heed to the standard language

or the written language. I, too, have found that method less useful. Many non-Tamils who learned only the spoken form find themselves unable to read or write a few sentences in the language and when they cease to have any contact with the people of the language forget it altogether.

The object of this book is to assist non-Tamils in India and elsewhere at the beginning of their study of the Tamil language. Therefore, the system of the language has been explained here as far as it is essential for the beginners. The examples and illustrations given are quite apt and adequate, simple and direct.

It is my earnest hope that the two more books promised by the author will be brought our early. By completing this project he will be one of those men of learning who render valuable service to humanity by bringing minds together.

M. Varadarajan

#### PREFACE

The Indians, after the advent of Independence, are more conscious, than before, of their values and traditions. The interest among our people to know more about ourselves--our languages, literature, culture, customs and manners, habits and beliefs etc., -- is on the increase. This may lead to a perfect National integration, and finally help our country emerge as a great and integrated nation.

As a beginning one section of the Indians is trying to learn the language of another part of the country and through it the literature and the contribution of that language group to the Indian culture.

The Government also have taken steps to encourage this. The Uttar Pradesh Government have started classes for teaching South Indian Languages to the North Indians. This book is a humble, earnest attempt to participate in this great movement.

This is not a Text Book. This is a 'guide' to know the rudiments of the Tamil Language. This is not meant to be a 'self-taught'. One has to take the guidance and help, now and then, from somebody whose mother-tongue is Tamil.

There is a wide gulf between the written (standard) Tamil and the spoken language. It will be a futile attempt to teach the spoken language, through a book, to the people of different tongue. The spoken language varies from place to place, is

spoken differently by different castes, with varying intonations, and employs a different diction according to the region and the people who speak. So I have tried to give in this book only the standard, written Tamil.

I have been teaching Tamil to Non-Tamils since about a decade and a half. I had employed various methods in my attempt to teach this language. Finally, I found, this method, which has been adopted in this book, was more successful than the rest. Two more books, besides this, will be published to complete this series.

I take this opportunity to thank and pay my humble respects to my professor, Dr. M. Varadarajan, Professor and the Head of the Department of Tamil, Madras University, for having kindly gone through the manuscript, putting in valuable suggestions and writing an instructive foreword. I am indebted to my godfather, Mr. G.V. Pillai, whose suggestions have improved the text of the book.

I thank my esteemed friend, Prof. K.N. Srivastava, Principal, Queen's College, Varanasi, who was a source of strength and encouragement all along.

My hearty thanks are due to my friends Mr. S.P. Venkatapati, Mr. Tambi Srinivasan and Mr. C. Balasubramaniam, M.A., M.Litt., without whose help this book would not have seen the light of the day.

I thank Mr. P.K. Krishnan, the proprietor of M/S. Muthukumaran Press, Madras, for completing the work in record time.

Varanasi

Siddalingaiah

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## INTRODUCTION

Four main language are current in South India. They are Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam. Theses are called the Dravidian Languages. There are other languages, too, which belong to this family, but they are not so much developed as these four. Hence these are important.

Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam languages have borrowed from Sanskrit, the sounds and words. But Tamil has tried and has succeeded in its attempt to remain almost unaffected by the influence of that great language, Sanskrit. As such Tamil is considered to be the most difficult of the Dravidian Languages to learn. It cannot be denied that Tamil also has borrowed words from Sanskrit. But the percentage of words borrowed, compared to the other languages of the same family, is very much less. And many of the borrowed words also have assumed a new form (Tat bhava) according to the genius of Tamil.

# LESSON ONE: VOWELS

There are twelve vowels in Tamil.

# They are:

1.	அ- Pronunciation	ı is	like	the	vowel	sound	in	'but', cut	and
								'shut'.	

			'shut'.
2.	<b></b> -	-do	 'cot' and 'pot'.
3.	<b>@</b> -	-do	 <i>'tin'</i> and <i>'pin'</i> .
4.	FF –	-do	 'feet' and 'sheet'.
5.	೨	-do	 ' <i>put</i> ' and ' <i>foot'</i>
6.	<u> ഉണ</u> –	-do	 ' <i>moon'</i> and ' <i>moo</i> d'.
7.	െ −	-do	 ' <i>emit'</i> and ' <i>emble</i> m'.
8.	<b>ত্য</b> –	-do	 ' <i>ape'</i> and ' <i>man</i> e'.
9.	<b>8</b>	-do	 ' <i>idle'</i> and ' <i>ite</i> m'.
10.	ஒ−	-do	 ' <i>omit'</i> and ' <i>opinion'</i>
11.	<b>ତ</b> –	-do	 ' <i>show'</i> and ' <i>coal</i> '.
12.	ஒள-	-do	 'fowl' and 'now'.

There is another letter added to this list.

.. - pronounced almost like 'ach' in 'stomach'.

Notes: 'ar' and ' $_{\Theta}$ ' are the two sounds which are not found in Sanskrit. These sounds are common to all the Dravidian languages.

Exercise: Practise with pronunciation:

## LESSON TWO: CONSONANTS

Tamil has 18 consonants. They are **denoted with a dot above**. e.g., க், ட், ப், ம், (k, t, p, m). As it is difficult to pronounce a consonant by itself, the first vowel, அ, is added to and pronounced. e.g., க, ட, ப, ம (ka, ta, pa, ma)

```
pronounced as the 'k' in 'bake' and 'cake'.
           -do- -do-
                            nasal sound in 'sing'.
           -do- -do-
                            'ch' in 'chip' and 'birch'.
           -do- -do-
                            nasal sound in 'ginger'
ஞ
           -do- -do-
                            't' in 'cut' and 'put'.
           -do- -do-
                            the nasal sound in 'round'.
                            'th' in 'mirth' and. 'birth'
           -do- -do-
           -do- -do-
                            the nasal sound in 'tin' and 'skin'
Б
           -do- -do-
                            'p' in 'pun' and 'shop'.
           -do- -do-
                            the nasal sound in 'mum' and 'boom'.
           -do- -do-
                            the 'ya' in 'young'.
Ш
           -do- -do-
                            the 'r' in 'rust' and 'rum'.
           -do- -do-
                            the 'l' in 'lump' and 'lung'
                            the 'v' in 'vulture' and 'vulcanize'
           -do- -do-
           pronunciation of this letter is something like the first
ழ
           syllable in the French word 'Jean'. Now-a-days 'w' is
           indicated by 'zh' in transliteration or 'l'.
                      pronounced as the 'l' in 'pearl'
ள
           - do- -do-]
                           'rrh' in 'catarrh'
                           'n' in 'nun' (This is an alveolar sound).
           - do- -do-l
ன
```

There is no difference in modern usage, in pronouncing ' $\mathfrak{p}$ ' and ' $\mathfrak{m}$ ', So also there is no difference between ' $\mathfrak{p}$ ' and ' $\mathfrak{p}$ ', in pronunciation except, when ' $\mathfrak{p}$ ' is doubled. ' $\mathfrak{p}$ ' is never doubled.

Consonants are shown with a dot above.

Consonantal vowels are the consonants added with a vowel. e.g., Consonantal vowel.

Consonants are with dots above them. Consonantal vowels (with அ) are without the dots.

Now we shall see a few words.

# Two-lettered words:

Three-lettered words:

```
கடல் - (kadal) - the sea
                               படம் - (padam) - a picture
பகல் - (pagal) - daytime
                               மணல்- (maṇal) - the sand
மகன் - (magan) - son
                               மகள் - (magal) - daughter
பழம் - (palam) - a fruit
                               ஆழம் - (alam) - depth
மரம் - (maram) - a tree
                               அவன் - (avan) - he
அவள் - (aval) - she
                               ஏன் - (<u>e</u>n)
                                              - why
                               இந்த - (inda) - this:
அந்த - (anda) - that;
                                எந்த - (enda)

    which

aன்ன- (e<u>n</u>na)
               - what:
                               நல்ல - (nalla) - good (adjective)
```

Notes: க, ட, த, ப (ka, ta, ta, pa) - These four letters are pronounced as ga, da, da and ba, when they follow another letter or a nasal sound.

e.g., கல் - kal - a stone. பகல் (pagal) - daytime. In this 'க' is preceded by 'ப' and so the pronunciation is changed into 'g'. In 'அந்த' 'த' is pronounced as 'da' as it follows the nasal sound 'ந்',

Doubling of letters, (eg., க்க, ல்ல), is a common feature in Tamil. In doubling, the letters retain their original pronunciation.

Practise with pronunciation:

எந்த, மகன், படம், பணம் (money), மகள், மரம், கல், கண், கள் (toddy), நல்ல மரம், நல்ல பழம், என் கண், உன் மகள், என்ன பழம்? அந்த மரம், எந்த மணல்?

## LESSON THREE: CONSONATAL VOWELS (contd.)

In this lesson we shall see the combination of the second vowel. 'ஆ', with the consonants.

The symbol to denote the lengthened 'அ' (ஆ) is 'г'

+ ஆ = ஙா (n**ā)** 

ந் + ஆ = நா 
$$(n\bar{a})$$

ப் + ஆ = பா 
$$(p\bar{a})$$

# ம் + ஆ = மா $(m\bar{a})$

$$\dot{\mathbf{u}} + \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{u} \mathbf{r} \quad (y\bar{\mathbf{a}})$$

$$\dot{\mathfrak{f}}$$
 +  $\mathfrak{A}$  =  $\mathfrak{f}$  (r $\bar{\mathfrak{a}}$ )

வ் + ஆ = வா 
$$(\sqrt{a})$$

ழ் + ஆ = ழா 
$$(\underline{\bar{a}})$$

$$\dot{p} + \Delta p = pr \qquad (\underline{r}\overline{a})$$

words:

தாத்தா - tāttā - grandfather மாதம் - mādam - a month நல்ல பாடம் - a good lesson என் கால் - my leg உன் அம்மா - your mother நான் யார் - who (am) l? நல்ல நாள் - a good day உன் அப்பா யார்? who *(is)* your father?

Notes: The following consonantal-vowels can never be the first letter of any Tamil word:  $\mathbf{E}$ ,  $\mathbf{E$ 

Practise with pronunciation:

என் தாத்தா; இந்த மரம்; எந்த நாள்? நல்ல பால்; உன் வாய்; வா.

## LESSON FOUR: CONSONANTAL VOWELS (Contd.)

In this lesson we shall try to learn how the vowel '@' is added to the consonants. The symbol for this is "9", which is added to the right of the consonants.

க் + இ = கி	(ki)	ம் + இ = மி	(mi)
ச் + இ = சி	(chi)	ய் + இ = யி	(yi)
ஞ් + இ = <del>ஞ</del> ி	$(\widetilde{\mathbf{n}} \mathbf{i})$	ர் + இ = ரி	(ri)
ட் + இ = டி	( <b>ţ</b> i)	හ් + <u>මූ</u> = හි	(lj)
ண் + இ = ணி	( <b>n</b> i)	ഖ് + இ = ഖി	(Vİ)
த் + இ = தி	(ţi)	<b>ဖွဲ့</b> + இ = ဖ <u>ြ</u> ာ	( <u> </u> i)
ந் + இ = நி	(ni)	ണ് + இ = ണി	( <b>ļ</b> i)
ப் + இ = பி	(pi)	ற் + இ = றி	( <u>r</u> i)
		ன் + இ = னி	(ni)

#### words:

```
அணில் - aṇil - a squirrel பயிர் - payir - crop
மயில் - mayil - a peacock தயிர் - tayir - curd
தம்பி - tambi - younger brother வண்டி- vaṇdi - a cart,
a vehicle.
```

#### Notes:

' $\pi$ ' is the symbol for the vowel ' $\mathfrak{A}$ ,' when it combines with consonants. ' $\pi$ ' is a consonantal vowel. Its consonant is ' $\mathfrak{F}$ '. This is written with a dot above ( $\mathfrak{F}$ ). These two should not be confused. The difference is in the downward oblique stroke from right to left. However when writing the consonantal vowel forms of ' $\mathfrak{F}$ ' other than ' $\mathfrak{F}$ ' and ' $\mathfrak{F}$  $\mathfrak{F}$ ', the downward oblique stroke may be omitted as there is no likelihood of such consonantal vowel form like ' $\mathfrak{F}$ l' being confused with the vowel symbol for ' $\mathfrak{A}$ '.

# Practise with pronunciation:

எலி, உன் கிளி, நல்ல வழி, இந்த மயில், எந்த அணில், என் தம்பி, அந்த ஏரி, பாடம் படி, (you) read (a) lesson.

# LESSON FIVE: CONSONANTAL VOWELS (contd.)

Combination of the vowel ' $\pi$ ' with the consonants. The symbol is '  $^{\rm e}$  '.

க் + ஈ = கீ

(ki)

ப் + ஈ = பீ

 $(y\overline{i})$ 

**ਰਂ** + ਜ = €

(chi)

ர் + ஈ = ரீ

(ri)

ஞ் + ஈ = ஞீ

 $(\tilde{n}i)$ 

ல் + ஈ = ഒ്

(<u>li)</u>

<u>.</u> + m = <u>@</u>

 $(t\overline{i})$ 

ഖ് + ஈ = ഖ്

 $(\Lambda\underline{1})$ 

ண் + ஈ = ணீ

(ni)

ழ் + ஈ = ழீ

(<u>[i)</u> (<u>[i)</u>

த் + ஈ = தீ

(ti)

ள் + ஈ = எீ

(<del>ri</del>)

ந் + ஈ = நீ ப் + ஈ = பீ (ni) (pi) ற் + ஈ = றீ ன் + ஈ = னீ

(ni)

ம் + ஈ = மீ

(mi)

words:

தீ

(ti)

fire

ſБ

(ni)

you (singular)

கீரி

(kiri)

a mongoose

நீங்கள்

(ningal)

you (honorific and plural

as well)

நீர்

(nir)

water

நீ வா

- you come

தண்ணீர் (தண் + நீர்)

y da dam

min

cold water

மீன்

ta**ņņ**ir

a fish

கீழ்

kil

below.

'நீ' stands for 'you' (singular), 'நீங்கள்' stands for plural 'you'. It is also used as a respectful form of address in the singular.

ട്ട് - nominative case, you; உன் - genitive case, your (singular).

நீங்கள் - you (plural and honorific) - nominative case.

உங்கள் - your (-do-) - genitive case.

## Rule:

It can be generalized that நான், நாம் and நாங்கள் (I person) change into என், எம், எங்கள், respectively. So also நீ and நீங்கள் (II person) change into உன் and உங்கள், respectively.

## Practise with pronunciation:

உன் கீரி; 'என் மகள்'; இந்த மீன் நல்ல மீன் - This fish (is) a good fish.

# LESSON SIX: CONSONANTAL VOWELS (contd.)

The symbol for ' $\underline{\circ}$ ' is ' $\underline{\circ}$ '. This varies according to the form of the consonant.

க் + உ = கு	(ku)	ய் + உ = யு	(yu)
ச் + உ = க	(chu)	ர் + உ = ரு	(ru)
ஞ் + உ = ஞ	$(\mathbf{\tilde{n}}U)$	လံ + உ = லျှ	(lu)
ட் + உ = ၆	( <b>ţ</b> u)	ഖ് + ഉ = ഖു	(VU)
ഞ് + ഉ = ഞ്ഞ	( <b>ņ</b> u)	က်ုံ + စ = ကြ	( <u>l</u> u)
த் + உ = து	(tu)	ണ് + ഉ = ണ്ട	(ļu)
ந் + உ = நு	(nu)	က္ + உ = ဤ	( <u>r</u> u)
ப் + உ = பு	(pu)	ன் + ഉ = തൃ	( <u>n</u> u)
ம் + உ = மு	(mu)		

#### words:

```
நாடு - nadu
                                                         - a country
           pul - grass
புல்
                                        காது - kadu
           mul -
                   a thorn
                                                         - an ear
முள்
                                             - <del>o</del>du
           pu<u>l</u>u - a worm
                                                         - to run
ЦЩ
                                        ္တေပြ
           pudu - new (adj)
                                        பாடு - padu
                                                         - to sing
புது
           adu - a goat
                                                         - to drink
ஆடு -
                                        குடி
                                             - kūdi
           āru - a river
                                        துணி - tuni
                                                         - a cloth
ஆற -
           vidu - a house
න් (ල
                                        ஏமு - <u>el</u>u
                                                         - seven
     - idu - This (demonstrative pronoun); ஒரு - oru - (numerical
இது
                                                             adjective)
     - adu - that
                      ( - do - ) ;
                                              எருது - erudu - an ox
                                              இன்று- i<u>nr</u>u - today
     - edu - which ( - do - _ ;
                            kadavu
                                              a door
கதவு
                            padagu
                                              a boat
படகு
                            pambu
                                              a snake
பாம்பு
                            kadavuĮ
                                              God
கடவுள்
                            pattu
பாட்டு
                                              a song
                            nakku
                                              a tongue
நாக்கு
                            marundu
                                              medicine
மருந்து
                                              a monkey
                            kurangu
குரங்கு
                                              a book
புத்தகம்
                            puttagam
                                              One
ஒன் று
                            o<u>n</u>ru
                                              Two
இரண்டு
                            iraņdu
                            nangu
                                              Four
நான்கு
                             aindu
                                              Five
ஐந்து
                                              Six
                            āru
ஆறு
```

ஏழு - etu - Seven எட்டு - ettu - Eight ஒன்பது - onbadu - Nine பத்து - pattu - Ten

## Notes :

இது - This (a demonstrative pronoun). e.g. இது என் வீடு (This (is) my house. Wherese 'இந்த' is an article. e.g., இந்த வீடு உன் வீடு (This house (is) your house). This applies to அந்த. அது and எந்த and எது, also.

All the numerals end with 'உ':

## Practise with pronunciation:

என் வீடு புது வீடு. உன் கீரி எது? (which) (is) your mongoose? மருந்து குடி (you) drink medicine). இது ஒரு நல்ல பாட்டு (This (is) a good song). நீ பாடு (you sing).

# LESSON SEVEN: CONSONANTAL VOWELS (contd.)

When the vowel 'em' is added to the consonant, generally, the 'e' symbol is extended. Again this symbol varies according to the shape of the consonant.

க் + ஊ = கூ 
$$(k\bar{\mathbf{u}})$$
  $\dot{\mathbf{u}}$  + ஊ = யூ  $(y\bar{\mathbf{u}})$ 

$$\dot{\textbf{f}}$$
 + ஊ = சூ (Ch $\bar{\textbf{U}}$ )  $\dot{\textbf{f}}$  + ஊ = ரூ (r $\bar{\textbf{U}}$ )

ஞ் + ஊ = ஞூ 
$$(\tilde{n}\bar{u})$$

 $(|\bar{\mathbf{u}}|)$ 

ண் + ஊ = ணூ 
$$(n\bar{\mathbf{u}})$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{p}}$$
 + ஊ = மு  $(|\bar{\mathbf{u}})$ 

$$\dot{p} + \underline{san} = \underline{m} \qquad (\underline{r}\overline{\mathbf{u}})$$

ப் + ஊ = பூ 
$$(p\bar{\mathbf{u}})$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{b}}$$
 + ஊ = மு  $(m\bar{\mathbf{u}})$ 

## words:

# Notes :

மூன்று (Three) is the only word which has a long 'u' (ஊ). Other numerals have only short 'u' (உ).

'ஒரு' is the adjectival form of ஒன்று.

# Practise with pronunciation :

## LESSON EIGHT: NUMBER

In English, generally, 's' or 'es' is added to a singular noun to make it a plural one. In certain cases the nouns take different suffixes.

In Tamil 'கள்' is the plural suffix. This does not vary.

```
கண் (an eye) + கள் = கண்கள் (kaṇgaļ) = eyes
ஊர் (a village or a town) + கள் = ஊர்கள் (urgaļ) = villages or
towns.
வீடு (house) + கள் = வீடுகள் = (vidugaļ) = houses.
கால் (a leg) + கள் = கால்கள் (kalgaļ) = legs.
வழி (path) + கள் = வழிகள் (valigaļ) = paths.
கதவு (a door) + கள் = கதவுகள் (kadavugaļ)= doors.
```

The last letter of the first word (to which the plural suffix 'கள்' is added) changes according to the sound of 'கள்', in certain cases.

```
பழம் + கள் > பழம்(ங்)கள் = பழங்கள் - palańgal - fruits மரம் + கள் > மரம்(ங்)கள் = மரங்கள் - marańgal - trees. படம் + கள் > படம்(ங்)கள் = படங்கள் - padańgal - pictures. கல் + கள் > கல்(ற்)கள் = கற்கள் - karkal - stones.
```

In certain cases the 'க' in 'கள்' is doubled.

Notes: The consonants are arranged in such a way that a nasal sound forms a relative letter of the previous letter. e.g., 'க' is followed by 'ங'. So 'ங' is the relative sound of 'க'. So are ச-ஞ; ட-ண; த-ந; ப-ம; ற-ன; Therefore, when "ம்" precedes 'க', 'ம்' changes into 'ங்' to make it easy to pronounce. e.g., பழம் + கள் + பழங்கள்.

# Practise with pronunciation :

- (1) Give the plural forms of : வண்டி, கீரி, கிளி, துணி, மலர் (flower), குரங்கு, அணில், ஏரி, தம்பி, புத்தகம், ஆறு, தூண்.
- (2) Translate into Tamil: A good river; Five goats; Two snakes: Seven countries.

# LESSON NINE: CONSONANTAL VOWELS (contd.)

When the vowel ' $\sigma$ ' (short) is added to the consonants the symbol 'G' is put before the consonants. This symbol is nothing but a modification of the letter ' $\sigma$ '. ' $\sigma$ ' > ' $\sigma$ ' < 'G'.

$$\dot{s}$$
 +  $\sigma$  =  $Os$  (ke)
  $\dot{u}$  +  $\sigma$  =  $Ou$  (ye)

  $\dot{s}$  +  $\sigma$  =  $Os$  (che)
  $\dot{r}$  +  $\sigma$  =  $Os$  (re)

  $\dot{g}$  +  $\sigma$  =  $Os$  ( $\dot{n}$ e)
  $\dot{u}$  +  $\sigma$  =  $Os$  (le)

  $\dot{u}$  +  $\sigma$  =  $Os$  (te)
  $\dot{u}$  +  $\sigma$  =  $Os$  (ve)

$$\vec{m}$$
 +  $\vec{n}$  =  $\vec{l}$ 
 $(\vec{l}, e)$ 
 $(\vec$ 

## words:

*Notes*: As it is in English, in Tamil also adjectives do not change according to the number and gender of the noun that follows. e.g.,

# Practise with pronunciation : Translate into English.

- 1. ஒரு பெரிய ஆறு
- 2. ஆறு சிறிய வீடுகள்
- 3. நான்கு கெட்ட எலிகள்
- 4. நல்ல பெண்

- 5. உன் பெயர் என்ன?
- 6. என் பெயர் முருகன்.
- 7. அது ஒரு நல்ல அணில்.

## LESSON TEN: CONSONANTAL VOWELS (contd.)

The symbol for the vowel ' $\sigma$ ' (long) is only an extenstion of the symbol of ' $\sigma$ ': Q > C (for ' $\sigma$ ')

ஞ் + ஏ = ஞே 
$$(\overline{n}\overline{e})$$

ச் + ஏ = சே

$$\overrightarrow{m} + \overrightarrow{q} = \mathbb{G}\overrightarrow{m} \quad (\overrightarrow{n} = 0)$$

ம் + ஏ = மே 
$$(m\overline{e})$$

$$\dot{\mathfrak{f}}$$
 +  $\mathfrak{g}$  =  $\mathfrak{G}\mathfrak{g}$   $(r\overline{e})$ 

$$\dot{a}$$
 +  $\sigma$  =  $\dot{a}$  ( $ve^{-}$ )

ழ் + ஏ = ழே 
$$(\overline{le})$$

ற் + ஏ = றே 
$$(\underline{r}\overline{e})$$

ன் + 
$$\sigma$$
 = G $\sigma$  ( $\underline{n}\overline{e}$ )

words:

மேல் mēl upon, above Gin Ca mēlē சேவல் cheval a cock. keĮvi கேள் வி a question. தேன் t<del>e</del>n honey. பேன் a louse. pen தேர் ter a chariot. வேல் vēl a spear kil கீழ் beneath, below under. k<u>ile</u> கீழே there. அங்கே ang**ē** இங்கே inge here எங்கே eṅg**ē** where

**Notes**: Prepositions get that name because they are placed before the nouns. But in Tamil (as in other Indian languages) they appear after the nouns (postpositions). At times they serve as adverbs also.

e.g. கீழே பார் - see below. மேலே பார் - see above.

## Practise with Pronunciation:

- l) Translate into English: (1) நீ இங்கே வா. (2) அங்கே பார் (3) கீழே வா (4) நல்ல தேன் (5) பெரிய தேர்:
- II) Translate into Tamil: (1) See there (2) Come here. (3) Eight spears. (4) Four scorpions. (5) Seven lice.

## LESSON ELEVEN: CONSONANTAL VOWELS (Contd.)

Symbol " $\omega$ " is put before a consonant to denote the combination of that consonant with the vowel ' $\omega$ '. This symbol is nothing but the upper portion of that letter ' $\omega$ ' > ' $\omega$ '

## Words:

கை - kai - a hand

தை - tai - to sew

பை - pai - a bag

மை - mai - ink

பூனை- punai - a cat

யானை - yānai - an elephant

ഥாலை - malai - evening

குடை - kudai - an umbrella

aേതെ - velai - work

தலை - talai - a head

ഖതെ - valai - a net

ഥതെ - malai - a mountain

இலை - ilai - a leaf

வாழை - valai - banana

பாறை - pārai - a rock

காலை - kālai - morning

குழந்தை - kulandai - a child

தென்னை - tennai - cocoanut

ฏญ่๛ง - illai - no

குதிரை - kudirai - a horse

நாளை - nalai - tomorrow

'ஐ' is a combination of two sounds. ie., அ and இ, and is pronounced as 'அய்'. As such many people employ 'அய்' in place of ''ஐ''. eg., ஐயர் = தலைவர் = Master - அய்யர்.

## Practise with pronunciation: :

- l) Translate into English. (1() என் வேலை (2) ஒரு பூனை (3) உன் தலை, (4) நாளை மாலை.
- II) Translate into Tamil: (1) Two horses. (2) An elephant (3) Five children (4) A big rock (5) This mountain. (6) Which net? (7) A banana leaf.

## LESSON TWELVE: CONJUNCTION

Conjunction combines two words or sentences. Now we shall take up the conjunction 'and', The Tamil equivalent of this is "உம்". This "உம்" is added to the words at the end.

In English 'and' is placed in between two words which are to be combined. e.g., Rama and Krishna. In Tamil 'உம்' is added to both the words.

If there are more than two nouns (words) to be put together 'and' is placed before the last word. In Tamil 'உம்' is to be added to every word.

அவன், அவள் > அவன் (உம்) அவள் (உம்) = அவனும் அவளும்
(he and she)
மரம், பழம் > மரம் (உம்) பழம் (உம்) = மரமும் பழமும்
(tree and fruit)
மீன், குளம் > மீன் (உம்) குளம் (உம்) = மீனும் குளமும்
(fish and tank)
நாய், பையன் > நாய் (உம்) பையன் (உம்) = நாயும் பையனும்
(dog and boy)

I. In certain cases the last consonant (of the word) before taking 'உம்' gets doubled.

Rule: If the existing word is a two-lettered word and the first letter is with a short vowel and the second (last) letter is a consonant, when 'உம்' is added to that word, the consonant is doubled.

e.g., கண் - 'க' is a short consonantal vowel. 'ண்' is a consonant. 'உம்' is added to this. கண் + ண் + உம் = கண்ணும். So are the words of this type.

ll. In certain other cases 'உ' of the 'உம்' is dropped.

```
காது (ear) + உம் = காது (உ)ம் = காதும்

கதவு (door) + உம் = கதவு (உ)ம் = கதவும்

இரவு (night) + உம் = இரவு (உ)ம் = இரவும்
ஒன்று (one) + உம் = ஒன்று (உ)ம் = ஒன்றும்

இரண்டு (two) + உம் = இரண்டு (உ)ம் = இரண்டும்
மூன்று (three) + உம் = மூன்று (உ)ம் = மூன்றும் etc.,
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In this type of words the rule is quite simple. Words ending with the vowel 'உ' will drop the 'உ' of the 'உம்'.

III. There is another set of words which take in a medial letter (a conjnuctive-Sandhi akshara) before the conjunction 'உம்'.

It can be noted here that words ending with 'இ', 'ஈ' and 'ஐ' takd 'ய்' as the medial letter and the rest of the vowels 'வ்', 'ஏ' is an exception. It takes both 'ய்' and 'வ்'. It occurs mostly in old literature.

Rule: If the existing word ends with a vowel sound and the oncoming word has a vowel as its first letter, a medial letter is required to combine them. 'ய்' and 'வ்' are the two medial letters (conjunctives).

## Practise with pronunciation:

- I. Translate into Tamil: 1. God and child 2. River and water.

  3. A dog and a cat 4. A rat and an elephant 5 Five and eight.
- II. Translate into English: 1. நீயும் நானும் 2. வீடும் கதவும் 3. கையும் காலும் 4. பூவும் பழமும் 5. இரவும் பகலும்.

## LESSON THIRTEEN: CONSONANTAL VOWELS (contd.)

The vowel 'ஓ' (short 'o') has no seperate symbol. When it is added to a consonant the symbols of 'எ' (short 'e') and 'ஆ' (long 'a') are placed before and after, respectively.

# Practise with pronunciation:

- I. Give the plural forms of:
- (1) கொடி (2) கொம்பு (3) பொய் (4) தொழில் (5) மொழி
- II. Translate into Tamil: 1. Five languages. 2. My gold
- 3. You give 4. A stick and an umbrella. 5. You say.

## LESSON FOURTEEN: CONSONANTAL VOWEL (contd.)

As it is for ஓ (short 'o') the symbol for 'ஓ' (long 'o') is also a combination of the symbols of 'ஏ' (long 'e') and 'ஆ' (long 'a'). They are placed before and after the consonants, respectively.

$$\dot{s} + \wp = \operatorname{Gar}(k\bar{o}) \qquad \dot{u} + \wp = \operatorname{Gur}(y\bar{o})$$

$$\dot{r} + \wp = \operatorname{Gar}(ch\bar{o}) \qquad \dot{r} + \wp = \operatorname{Grr}(r\bar{o})$$

$$\dot{\mathfrak{G}} + \wp = \operatorname{Ggr}(\tilde{\mathfrak{ho}}) \qquad \dot{\mathfrak{G}} + \wp = \operatorname{Gar}(l\bar{o})$$

$$\dot{\mathfrak{G}} + \wp = \operatorname{Gur}(l\bar{o}) \qquad \dot{\mathfrak{G}} + \wp = \operatorname{Gur}(l\bar{o})$$

$$\dot{\mathfrak{G}} + \wp = \operatorname{Gur}(l\bar{o}) \qquad \dot{\mathfrak{G}} + \wp = \operatorname{Gur}(l\bar{o})$$

$$\dot{\mathfrak{G}} + \wp = \operatorname{Gur}(l\bar{o}) \qquad \dot{\mathfrak{G}} + \wp = \operatorname{Gur}(l\bar{o})$$

$$\dot{\mathfrak{G}} + \wp = \operatorname{Gur}(l\bar{o}) \qquad \dot{\mathfrak{G}} + \wp = \operatorname{Gur}(l\bar{o})$$

ந் + ஓ = நோ (
$$n\bar{o}$$
)  $\dot{p}$  + ஓ = நோ ( $\underline{r}\bar{o}$ )  $\dot{u}$  + ஓ = போ ( $p\bar{o}$ )  $\dot{u}$  + ஓ = மோ ( $m\bar{o}$ )

# Practise with pronunciation:

I. Translate into Tamil: (1) You dig up. (2) My shoulder (3) This temple (4) That garden (5) You go.

II. Translate into English: (1) இந்த நோய் (2) வாழை மரம் (3) கோழி எங்கே? (4) முருகன் (a proper noun) கோவில். (5) தேளும் வாளும்.

# LESSON FIFTEEN: CONSONANTAL VOWELS (contd.)

When ஓள (ow) is added to a consonant, the symbol of 'எ' (short 'e') and the small letter used beside 'ஓ' to denote 'ஓள' ('ள') are employed before and after the consonant, respectively.

வௌவால் - vōwvāl - a bat ஒளவை - owvai - a poetess (Proper noun) கௌவு - kowvu - to sieze by mouth. மௌனம் - mownam - silence கௌதமர் - Gowtamar - Gautama, the Buddha words. யௌவனம் - yowvanam - youth

Notes: There are hardly half-a-dozen words with 'ஓள' sound in Tamil. So there is no necessity to study all the consonants with 'ஓள' combination. The 'ள' in this should be smaller in size than the consonant. e.g. 'கௌ'.

'ஓள' is a combination of two sounds, 'அ' and 'உ' and pronounced as 'அவ்.' As such many people employ 'அவ்' in place of 'ஓள'. e.g., ஓளவை - அவ்வை.

## LESSON SIXTEEN: MORE LETTERS

It was mentioned earlier that certain words and sounds were borrowed from Sanskrit. There was a necessity to have seperate letters to denote those sounds. So a script called Grantha script was evolved. At present only five letters from that script are employed in Tamil. They are ' $\mathfrak{B}$ ' (ja),  $\mathfrak{A}$  (sha),  $\mathfrak{A}$  (sa),  $\mathfrak{A}$  (ha) and  $\mathfrak{A}$  (ksha).

There is another consonant in Sanskrit, sa ( ), the pronunciation of which was borrowed in Tamil. Though a letter was introduced in the beginning to denote that sound ( ), later on it was dropped and Tamil # (cha) is used to denote that palatal sound (sa- ). The Tamil symbol for sa ( ) is used in Malayalam language, with a very slight change ( ).

These letters are known as வடமொழி எழுத்துக்கள்- vadamo<u>l</u>i e<u>l</u>uttukkal - characters of the Sanskrit language.

These take the same symbols, which the Tamil characters do, when combined with the vowels.

$$\dot{g} + 34 = g; (ja) \dot{g} + 34 = gr; \dot{g} + g = gl; \dot{g} + rr = gl; 
 \dot{g} + 24 = gr; \dot{g} + 24 = gr; \dot{g} + gr = gl; \dot{g} +$$

Other letters also follow the same pattern.

ஷ் - ஷ, (sha) ஷா, ஷி, ஷீ, ஷு, ஷூ, ஷெ, ஷே, ஷை, ஷொ, ஷோ, ஷோ, ஷௌ,

ஸ் - ஸ, (sa) ஸா, ஸி, ஸீ, ஸு, ஸூ, ஸெ, ஸே, ஸை, ஸொ, ஸோ, ஸௌ, ஹ் - ஹ, (ha) ஹா, ஹி, ஹீ, ஹு, ஹூ, ஹெ, ஹே, ஹை, ஹொ, ஹோ, ஹௌ,

கூட் – கூடி, (ksha) கூடிா, கூடிி, கூடீ, கூடிு, கூடிூ, கெடி, கேடி, கைடி, கெடிா, கேடிா, கெடிள,

ரோஜா - rōjā - a rose
ரோஜாப்பூ - rōjāppū - a rose flower
பக்ஷி - pakshi - a bird
ஸர்ப்பம் - sarppam - a snake
புஷ்பம் - pushpam - a flower
விஷம் - visham - poison
ஹாரம் - hāram - a garland

Notes: It is to be noted that these letters are formed out of the Tamil characters and only their pronuncitaion is Sanskritic. ' $\mathfrak{B}$ ' is formed after ' $\mathfrak{B}$ ', ' $\mathfrak{A}$ ' is ' $\mathfrak{L}$ ' with a hook above. ' $\mathfrak{m}$ ' is only ' $\mathfrak{m}$ ' with a line just after the first upward curve ( $\mathfrak{D}-\mathfrak{D}>\mathfrak{m}$ ). ' $\mathfrak{D}$ " is a combination of ' $\mathfrak{L}$ ' and ' $\mathfrak{D}$ ', ' $\mathfrak{A}$ ' is ' $\mathfrak{K}$ " (K $\overline{\mathfrak{u}}$ ) with a hook.

These letters are employed only when a word of non-Tamil origin is to be written.

This is an improvisation to accomadate a new phone (sound), with the help of the characters available. This type of attempt to improvise continues even now. In Tamil there is no "f" sound, nor a symbol to represent it, for there was no need for it. The present age has brought in many terms with this phone "f". So the Tamil scholars have formed a new character to indicate that sound. That is 'ஃப்'. This was done with the Tamil characters only. That is "ஃப்". This is an improvisation and not a deliberate introduction of a foreign language. This has come to stay in spite of the traditional grammar, which bars the occurrence of ஃ either

in the beginning or at the end of a word. So 'ஃப்', an improvisation that serves the purpose.

'#' stands for both 'cha' (#) and sa () in Sanskrit. So, initially and medially, ie, in the beginning and in the middle of a word it is pronounced as sa (Palatal).

e.g., Śankaran - சங்கரன் - one of the names of Lord Śiva.

Desam - தேசம் - a country.

As a result of this practice even Tamil words with ச (cha) are pronounced as ச (sa - ) eg. செய் - sey - to do; சொல் - solto say. When 'ச' is doubled it retains its original sound.

e.g., அச்சம் - achcham - fear. பச்சை - pachchai - green.

There are no aspirated sounds or characters in Tamil. So the non-Tamil sounds and words are indicated with the existing letters and pronounced softly.

e.g., Sanskrit Bhakti will be written as பக்தி - pakti (Devotion) and pronounced as பக்தி (Bakti).

# Practise with pronunciation:

- I. Write in Tamil (Transliteration): (i) Hēmanta. (ii) Sivam (ii) Sākshi (iv) Sahōdaran (v) Jivātma (vi) Pushpam
- II. Write in English (Transliteration). (i) சங்கரன் (ii) கீதா (iii) மஹாத்மா (iv) புருஷன் (v) கிருஷ்ணன் (vi) ஸரோஜா.

## LESSON SEVENTEEN: TENSES - PRESENT

The function of a verb is to denote action and time. By time we mean tense i.e., past, present and future.

In English, generally. 'ed' is added to the root of the verb to denote the past tense. e.g. Walk-walked, talk-talked etc., Certain verbs change the vowels and stand for the past.

e.g., Come - came; swim - swam; give - gave, spit - spat etc., Another set of verbs take different words to indicate the past.

e.g., go - went etc.

In the present tense these roots take a suffix, either 's' or 'es', to indicate the third person singular subject.

walk - walks; go - goes etc.,

Subjects in plural number don't take this suffix. As such it is difficult to know from the verb the person and number of the subject.

e.g., I go; we go; you go (both singular and plural)

They go.

In Tamil the verbal root takes two suffixes in conjugation.

The first suffix denotes the tense: This we can call the "tense symbol" (Tense marker).

The second one stands for the person and number of the subject. This can be named the "personal suffix" (person-marker).

As such a finite verb has three parts, *viz.*, (1) the root, which denotes the action, (2) the 'tense symbol', which stands for the tense, and (3) the "personal suffix". which indicates the subject.

In this lesson we shall discuss the Present Tense symbols.

The present tense symbols are 'கிறு' and 'கின்று'.

There is no difference between these two. Either of them can be used.

"ஏன்" is the personal suffix for the First person singular, "நான்". நான் = I; போ = to go

I go = நான் போ+கிறு+ஏன்>போகிறு+ஏன்=போகிறேன்-நான் போகிறேன்.

[று=ற்+உ; "உ" is a short vowel and it gives room for the long vowel 'ஏ'. So it becomes கிறேன்> கிற்+உ+ஏன்=கிற்+உ+ஏன்=கிறேன்.]

செய் = to do; நான் செய்+ கிறு+ ஏன்= நான் செய்கிறேன்= l do. எழுது = to write; நான் எழுது+ கிறு+ஏன் = நான் எழுதுகிறேன் l write.

ஓடு = to run; நான் ஓடு+கிறு+ஏன்= நான் ஓடுகிறேன்= I run. பாடு = to sing; நான் பாடு+ கிறு+ஏன்= நான் பாடுகிறேன்= I sing.

ஆடு விளையாடு = to play; நான் ஆடு+கிறு+ஏன்= நான்+ ஆடு கிறேன் = I play. நான் விளையாடு+கிறு+ஏன் =நான் விளையாடுகிறேன்=

I play.

Now we shall see all the personal suffixes.

### Suffixes:

```
நான் - ஏன் (I person, singular)
நாம் - ஓம் (I per. Plural, inclusive) - (This includes the
                                             Il person.)
நாங்கள் - ஓம் ((I per. Plural, exclusive) - (This excludes the
                                                  Il person.)
நீ - ஆய் (Il person, singular)
நீங்கள் – ஈர்கள் (Il person, plural and honorific)
அவன் - ஆன் (III person, singular, masculine)
அவள் - ஆள் (III person, singular, feminine)
அவர் - ஆர் (III person, singular, honorific - masculine
                                            and feminine)
அவர்கள் - ஆர்கள் [(III person, plural (for human beings only)]
அது - அது (III person, singular, neuter gender)
அவை,
           - அன (III person, plural, neuter gender)
அவைகள்
e.g., I Person
     நான் செய்கிறேன் – I do (singular)
     நாம் செய்கிறோம் - We do (inclusive)
     நாங்கள் செய்கிறோம் - We do (exclusive)
     Il Person
     நீ செய்கிறாய் - You do (singular)
     நீங்கள் செய்கிறீர்கள் - You do (plural and as well
                                             honorific singular)
```

#### III Person

அவன் செய்கிறான் - He does (singular- masculine) அவள் செய்கிறாள் - She does (singular- feminine) அவர் செய்கிறார் - He (she) does (singular-honorific, both masculine and feminine) அவர்கள் செய்கிறார்கள் - They do (plural-human beingsboth masculine and feminine.)

அது செய்கிறது - It does (singular-neuter gender)

அவை or செய்கின்றன- They do (plural-neuter gender) அவைகள்

[With Neuter gender plural the tense symbol 'கின்று' is used always, to sound rythmically with the 'personal suffix' "அன".]

## Practise with pronunciation:

I. Translate into Tamil: (1) I go (2) We (inclusive) do. (3) He writes (4) She plays (5) Two girls sing (6) Five dogs run (7) you (singular) say.

II. Translate into English: (1) நான் தொடுகிறேன் (2) அவன் சொல்கிறான் (3) ஒன்பது பூனைகள் ஓடுகின்றன (4) அவர் போகிறார் (5) அவர்கள் பாடுகிறார்கள் (6) நீங்கள் என்ன செய்கிறீர்கள்? (7) என் தங்கை (younger sister) எழுதுகிறாள்.

### LESSON EIGHTEEN: PRESENT TENSE (contd.)

'கிறு' and 'கின்று' are the two symbols which indicate the present tense. One of these is added to the root of the verb and then the 'personal suffixes' are joined to make a finite verb.

In the last lesson we saw a few verbs which took the 'tense symbols' and the 'personal suffixes' quite naturally. That is to say there was no change or alteration when the words were combined.

There are certain verbs which undergo a change, ie., appearance of an additional letter, doubling of the consonant, change of the last consonant etc.,

In this we find 'க' being doubled. ('க' of the கிறு<க்+கி+று).

So are the following:

One will come across many more verbs of this type which get the '&' doubled, when one goes through the texts.

Another type of verbs change their last consonant in accordance with the 'tense symbol' 'கிறு'.

['ல்' becomes 'ற்' a hard sound, because of the presence of 'க' (கிறு = க் + இ + று). a hard sound.]

There is another set, which contains only two verbs, wherein the root undergoes a change before taking the 'tense symbol'.

வா - to come. வா+ கிறு + ஏன் = வ+கிறு+ஏன்= வ
$$(\dot{\mathfrak{p}})$$
 + கிறு + ஏன் = வ $(\dot{\mathfrak{p}})$  +  $(\mathfrak{p})$  கிறு+ ஏன்= வருகிறேன்=  $1$  come.

Here we find the root 'வா' becoming 'வ' before taking in the symbol. Then to connect the root and the symbol 'ர்' comes in. To ease the pronunciation vowel 'உ' is added to 'ர்'.]

தா- to give, தா+ கிறு+ கின் = த+ கிறு + ஏன் = த்(ர்) + கிறு + ஏன் = தருகிறேன் = 
$$I$$
 give.

## Practise with pronunciation:

- I. Translate into Tamil. (1) I read. (2) you (singular) stand (3) He gives (4) She writes (5) They (human beings) sell. (6) Seven dogs run. (7) Mary learns.
- II. Translate into English: (1) அவன் பார்க்கிறான் (2) வள்ளி (proper noun) படிக்கிறாள். (3) நான் அடிக்கிறேன், (4) கந்தன் (proper noun) வருகிறான். (5) நீ கொடுக்கிறாய். (6) அப்பா தருகிறார் (7) நீங்கள் இங்கே இருக்கிறீர்கள்.

### LESSON NINETEEN: CASES

Cases determine the function of a noun in a syntax. In English juxtaposition of a noun decides the case of that noun. e.g. Rama killed Ravana.

In this sentence we find 'Rama' is the subject of the verb 'killed' and 'Ravana' the object.

Had 'Ravana' been put before the verb it would have been the subject of the verb 'killed'. So we can say, in English, generally, the position or the placing of a noun determines whether it is in the nominative or accusative case.

Indian Languages have seperate symbols (suffixes or markers) for each case. As such the position of a noun does not decide the case.

These symbols can be called case-endings (case-markers or case symbols).

There are eight cases in Tamil as in Sanskrit and English.

The first case is 'nominative' in these languages. This case has no case-marker (symbol). Being the subject of a verb denotes that the noun is in nominative case.

In these sentences the nouns and pronouns are in the nominative case as they are the subjects of the verbs that follow them.

In English the prepositions play a vital role as they determine the cases also. So we can safely say that the English language has no seperate case symbols (case-makers) and prepositions function also as the case symbols.

In Tamil. as in other Indian Languages, except the nominative and vocative cases, all the cases, have seperate markers. One has to study them carefully.

Now we shall take up the accusative case. Its symbol is 'g'. When this letter is added to a noun that noun is in the, accusative case.

```
அவன் + ஐ = அவனை = him. அவைகள்+ஐ=அவைகளை + them (neuter gender) அவள் + ஐ = அவளை = her. ராமன்+ஐ=ராமனை (Rama-accusative case) அவர்கள் + ஐ = அவர்களை = them (Human beings.) ராவணன் + ஐ = ராவணனை (Ravana-accusative case)
```

Personal pronouns (I and II persons) undergo a change before taking any case-ending.

Singular Plural
I Person நான் becomes என்; நாம் becomes நம்; நாங்கள்
becomes எங்கள்

ll Person நீ becomes உன் நீங்கள் becomes உங்கள்.

So, நான்+ஐ>என்+ஐ=என்னை (என்+(ன்)+ஐ-(see the Rule, page 17)
நாம்+ஐ>நம்+ஐ=நம்மை (நம்+(ம்)+ஐ= நம்மை
நாங்கள்+ஐ>எங்கள்+ஐ=எங்களை
நீ+ஐ>உன்+ஐ=உன்னை (உன்+(ன்)+ஐ)= உன்னை
நீங்கள்+ஐ>உங்கள்+ஐ=உங்களை.

There are certain nouns which take a suffix before taking any case-ending.

Rule: The nouns ending with 'ம்' take "அத்து" before being added to any case-marker. And the 'உ' of அத்து gets dropped to accommodate the vowel 'ஐ' (the case marker.)

குளம்= a tank. குளம்+ஐ=குளம்+(அத்து)+ஐ=குளம்+அத்து+ஐ=குளத்தை.

There is another type of nouns which change within themselves before taking on a case symbol.

In this type of nouns the consonant of the second letter gets doubled.

டு= ட்+உ, 'ட்' is a consonant and it gets doubled. So it becomes வீ+(ட்)+ட்+உ+ஐ= வீட்டை.

```
காடு= a forest. காடு+ ஐ= கா+(ட்)+ட்+உ+ஐ= காட்டை
நாடு= a country. நாடு+ ஐ= நா+(ட்)+ட்+உ+ஐ= நாட்டை
ஓடு= a tile. ஓடு+ ஐ= ஓ+(ட்)+ட்+உ+ஐ= ஓட்டை.
ஆறு = a river. ஆறு + ஐ= ஆ+(ற்)+ற்+உ+ஐ= ஆற்றை.
```

Words ending with இ, ஈ and ஐ take a conjunctive, 'ய்' before the case marker is added. (See page 30)

```
கிளி = a parrot. கிளி+ஐ = கிளி + (ய்) + ஐ = கிளியை.

மணி = a bell. மணி+ஐ = மணி + (ய்) + ஐ = மணியை.

ஈ = a fly. ஈ +ஐ = ஈ + (ய்) + ஐ = ஈயை.

மலை = a mountain. மலை+ஐ = மலை + (ய்) + ஐ = மலையை.

யானை = an elephant. யானை+ஐ= யானை + (ய்) + ஐ = யானையை.
```

There are other vowel-ending nouns which take 'ഖ' as the conjunctive.

```
கொசு= a mosquito. கொசு+ஐ = கொசு+(வ்) + ஐ= கொசுவை.
உமா= a proper noun. உமா+ஐ = உமா+(வ்) + ஐ= உமாவை.
அம்மா= a mother. அம்மா+ஐ = அம்மா+(வ்) + ஐ= அம்மாவை.
அப்பா= a father. அப்பா+ஐ = அப்பா+(வ்) + ஐ= அப்பாவை.
```

Another set of nouns, we have, which get thier consonants doubled while taking the accusative case. (See page 29)

```
கண் = an eye கண் + ஐ = கண் + (ண்)ஐ = கண்ணை மண் = earth மண் + ஐ = மண் + (ண்)ஐ = மண்ணை பெண் = a girl பெண் + ஐ = பெண் + (ண்)ஐ = பெண்ணை கல் = a stone கல் + ஐ = கல் + (ண்)ஐ = கல்லை பல் = a tooth பல் + ஐ = பல் + (ண்)ஐ = பல்லை
```

In certain other cases the last consonantal vowel loses its vowel and takes up 'a.'

காது = an ear காது + ஐ = கா 
$$(\dot{\mathfrak{s}}+\mathfrak{p})$$
 + ஐ = காதை,   
கதவு = a door கதவு + ஐ = கத  $(\dot{\mathfrak{a}}+\mathfrak{p})$  + ஐ = கதவை,   
இரவு = night இரவு + ஐ = இர  $(\dot{\mathfrak{a}}+\mathfrak{p})$  + ஐ = இரண்டு.   
இரண்டு = two இரண்டு + ஐ = இரண்  $(\dot{\mathfrak{c}}+\mathfrak{p})$  + ஐ = இரண்டை.

In case of plural nouns the case-endings are added after the plural suffix.

கதவு =door; கதவுகள்= doors; கதவுகள் + ஐ= கதவுகளை.

We shall take up a few sentences:

- (1) அவன் வீட்டைக் கட்டுகிறான் = He builds the house. கட்டு = to build.
- (2) அவர் ஒரு கதையைச் சொல்கிறார் = He (honorific) tells a story. கதை = a story.
- (3) நான் கதவைத் திறக்கிறேன் = I open the door. திற = to open.
- (4) நீ அந்த மலையைப் பார் = (you) see that mountain.

It can be noted in these sentences that the verbs occur at the end, *after* the accusative. In English the verb occurs before the accusative. If the verb (word) following the accusative, begins with any one of the four consonants, க், ச், த், ப், they get doubled.

கதவை + திற = கதவைத் திற. This takes place only to make a clear and easy pronunciation.

## Practise with pronunciation:

I Give the accusative forms of the following:-

(1) பசு (cow) (2) பூனை (3) நெல் (paddy) (4) பல் (5) நான்கு (6) கதவு (7) பாடம் ( a lesson) (8) காடு (9) தாய் (mother) (10) குழந்தை (a child).

II. Translate into Tamil: (1) Shut the door. (2) He writes a lesson. (3) She sings a song. (4) I give a book. (5) They (human beings) close the door. (6) (You) read five lessons. (7) We (inclusive) take the boxes. (8) He (honorific) spoils the boy. (9) She touches me. (10) The cow gives milk.

#### LESSON TWENTY: CASES (Dative)

This is called the Fourth case also. Its symbol is "寅" meaning 'to'.

அவன் +கு = அவன் +(2)+கு = அவன்  $+2(\dot{a})$ +கு = அவனுக்கு =  $to\ him$ .

To enable an easy combination of the noun and 'கு' one vowel, 'உ' is introduced. For the sake of clear, easy pronunciation 'க்' of 'கு' is doubled.

கால் +கு = கால் +(உ)+கு= கால் +உ(க்)

+கு= காலுக்கு= to the leg.
ஊர் +கு = ஊர் +(உ)+கு= ஊர் +உ(க்)

+கு= ஊருக்கு= to the village (town).
யார் +கு = யார் +(உ)+கு= யார் உ(க்)

+கு= யாருக்கு= to whom

அவள்+கு = அவள் +(உ)+கு= அவள் +உ(க்) +கு= அவளுக்கு= to her.

அவர்+கு = அவர் +(உ)+கு= அவர் +உ(க்) +கு= அவருக்கு= to him (honorific)

அவர்கள் +கு = அவர்கள் +(உ)+கு= அவர்கள் +உ(க்) +கு= அவர்களுக்கு= to them (human beings)

அவைகள் +கு = அவைகள் +(உ)+கு= அவைகள் +உ(க்) +கு= அவைகளுக்கு= to them (neuter gender)

நாங்கள் +கு = நாங்கள் becomes எங்கள் before a caseending is added to it.

So நாங்கள்+கு> எங்கள் +கு= எங்கள்+ (உ) +கு = எங்கள் + உ+ (க்) கு= எங்களுக்கு= to us (exclusive)

நீங்கள் + (கு); நீங்கள் becomes உங்கள் first and then takes the case-marker.

So நீங்கள் + கு> உங்கள் + கு= உங்கள்+ (உ) + கு= உங்கள் + உ+ (க்) கு= உங்களுக்கு = to you (plural and honorific)

In certain cases instead of 'உ' 'அ' is introduced as a suffix. நான் + கு: நான் becomes என் before taking a case-ending.

So நான் + கு> என்+ கு= என் + (அ) +கு=என்+அ+(க்) +கு =எனக்கு= to me.

நாம் + கு: நாம் becomes நம் and then takes a case symbol.

So நாம் + கு> நம்+ கு= நம் +(அ) +கு= நம்+அ+(க்)+கு

In case of III Person, singular, neuter gender there is a slight difference.

அது + கு: Instead 'அ' 'அன்' is added before the case-ending.

''ன்'' of 'அன்' a nasal sound, becomes 'ற்', a hard sound, to go easily with 'கு', another hard sound.

இது and எது also fall in this category.

இது+க> இது + (அன்) +கு = இ(து)+ அன்+ கு= இ(த்
+உ) + அன் + கு = இதன் + கு= இதன்(ற்) + கு = இதற்கு = to this.
எது+கு> எது + (அன்) +கு = எ(து)+ அன்+ கு= எ(த்
+உ) + அன் + கு = எதன் + கு= எதன்(ற்) + கு = எதற்கு = to which. At times this word is used in the sense 'why' also.

Certain words don't take the extra suffix 'அ' or 'உ'.

Now let us see a few examples which we discussed in the previous lesson.

மரம் + கு : (See 47 Rule: Words ending with 'ம்' will take 'அத்து' before the case-ending.)

Another type, as we saw previously, gets the consonant doubled and then takes the case-marker.

A type which does not take any suffix before the case symbol:

காற்று + கு 
$$>$$
 காற்று +  $(\dot{\mathbf{s}})$  + கு  $=$  காற்றுக்கு  $=$  to the wind. கதவு + கு  $>$  கதவு +  $(\dot{\mathbf{s}})$  + கு  $=$  கதவுக்கு  $=$  to the door.

காது + கு 
$$>$$
 காது +  $(\dot{\mathbf{s}})$  + கு  $=$  காதுக்கு  $=$  to the ear. இரவு + கு  $>$  இரவு +  $(\dot{\mathbf{s}})$  + கு  $=$  இரவுக்கு  $=$  to the night.

A third type:

[கண் is a two-letter word. The first letter is a short one and the second (the last) is a consonant. The suffix is 'உ', a vowel. So the consonant in the first word gets doubled.]

There is a different type which takes a conjunctive.

[அம்மா ends with 'ஆ', a vowel, and the suffix 'உ' is a vowel. Just to cement these two vowels a conjunctive 'வ்' is introduced in between. See page 48]

+ கு = கொசுவுக்கு = to the mosquito.

In case of the plural nouns, the case-endings are added after the plural suffix.

Now we shall see a few sentences:

```
நான் உனக்குக் கொடுக்கிறேன் = I give you.
நீ எனக்குச் சொல்கிறாய் = You say to me.
அவன் வீட்டுக்குப் போகிறான் = He goes to (the) house.
```

[Words beginning with  $\mathfrak{s}$ ,  $\mathfrak{s}$ ,  $\mathfrak{g}$  and  $\mathfrak{u}$  get doubled after the dative case symbol ' $\mathfrak{g}$ '. This is for an easy and continous pronunciation.]

# Practise with pronunciation:

I Give the dative forms of the following:-

### II. Translate into Tamil:

(1) You (singular) give the book to him (2) I go to the river (3) He goes to that house (4) He (honorific) tells a story to me (5) That boy gives milk to this cat (6) This girl goes to that village (7) You (plural) give the grass to them (neuter gender).

### LESSON TWENTYONE: CASES (Genitive)

Genitive case (the Sixth case in Tamil) has two symbols, 'அது' and 'உடைய'. 'உடைய' is used more frequently than 'அது'.

```
அவன் + உடைய = அவனுடைய = his;
அவள் + உடைய = அவளுடைய = her;
அவர் + உடைய = அவருடைய = his (honorific);
அவர்கள் + உடைய = அவர்களுடைய = Their (Human beings)
அவைகள் + உடைய = அவைகளுடைய = Their (neuter gender)
```

III Person, singular, neuter gender, 'அது' takes 'அன்' before the case symbols.

So are others.

So are the rest:

```
நாம் + உடைய> நம் + உடைய = நம்+(ம்)+உடைய = நம்முடைய =

our (inclusive)

நாங்கள் + உடைய > எங்கள் + உடைய = எங்களுடைய = our

(exclusive).

நீ + உடைய> உன் + உடைய = உன்+(ன்)+உடைய = உன்னுடைய

=your (singular).

நீங்கள் + உடைய > உங்கள் + உடைய = உங்களுடைய = your

(plural and honorific).
```

These genitive forms of the personal pronouns are lengthy. So to save time and effort the short form, *ie,* the first part of the pronouns are employed in the genitive case.

We shall take up one more set of nouns.

Words ending with 'ம்' take 'அத்து' before the case symbols. (See page 47)
மரம் + உடைய> மரம் + (அத்து) + உடைய, just to ease the pronunciation another suffix 'இன்' is added before the case marker.

```
மரம் + அத்து + (இன்) + உடைய = மரத்து + இன் + உடைய = மரத்தினுடைய = of the tree.

So are others.
```

குளம் + உடைய> = குளம் + (அத்து) + உடைய = குளம் + அத்து +
(இன்) + உடைய = குளத்து + இன் + உடைய = குளத்தினுடைய =

of the tank.
மனம் + உடைய> மனம் + (அத்து) + உடைய = மனம் + அத்து +
(இன்) + உடைய = மனத்து + இன் + உடைய = மனத்தினுடைய =

As these forms are lengthly, to shorten them, the case symbol is dropped. And yet they stand for the genitive case.

of the mind.

### Another set:

வீடு + உடைய > வீட்டு + உடைய = வீட்டு + (இன்) + உடைய = வீட்டின் + உடைய = வீட்டினுடைய = of the house. (வீட்டின் = of the house). காடு + உடைய > காட்டு + உடைய = காட்டு + (இன்) + உடைய = காட்டின் + உடைய = காட்டினுடைய = of the forest. (காட்டின் = of the forest). ஆறு + உடைய > ஆற்று + உடைய = ஆற்று + (இன்) + உடைய = ஆற்றின் + உடைய = ஆற்றினுடைய = of the river. (ஆற்றின் =

of the river).

[e.g.] வீட்டின் கதவு = door of the house. ஆற்றின் கரை = bank of the river.

கிளி + உடைய = கிளி + (இன்) + உடைய, (a conjunctive is added as கிளி ends with இ, a vowel, and இன் begins with a vowel இ.) கிளி+இன்+உடைய= கிளி + (ய்) + இன்+ உடைய

கிளியினுடைய = கிளியின் = of the parrot

நரி+இன்+உடைய= நரி + (ய்) + இன்+ உடைய = நரியினுடைய நரியின் = of the jackal

[கிளியின் கால் = leg of the parrot; நரியின் வால் = tail of the jackal] அம்மா+ உடைய = அம்மா = (வ்) +இன்+ உடைய = அம்மாவினுடைய = அம்மாவின் = mother's.

அப்பா + உடைய = அப்பா = (வ்) +இன்+ உடைய = அப்பாவினுடைய = அப்பாவின் = father's.

தாத்தா + உடைய = தாத்தா = (வ்) +இன்+ உடைய = தாத்தாவினுடைய = தாத்தாவின் = grand-father's.

An easy combination.

நாய் + உடைய = நாய் + இன் + உடைய = நாயினுடைய = நாயின் = of the dog.

வாய் + உடைய = வாய் + இன் + உடைய = வாயினுடைய = வாயின் = of the mouth.

தாய் + உடைய = தாய் + இன் + உடைய = தாயினுடைய = தாயின் = mother's.

Another type: doubling of consonant.

கண் + உடைய = கண் + இன் + உடைய = கண்(ண்) + இன்

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+ உடைய = கண்ணினுடைய= கண்ணின் = of the eye.
பெண் + உடைய = பெண் + இன் + உடைய = பெண்(ண்) + இன்
    + உடைய = பெண்ணினுடைய= பெண்ணின் = of the girl's.
கல் + உடைய = கல் + இன் + உடைய = கல்(ல்) + இன்
         + உடைய = கல்லினுடைய= கல்லின் = of the stone.
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Plural nouns take the case-ending after their plural suffix. பெண் = a girl. பெண் + கள் = பெண்கள் = girls. பெண்கள் உடைய= பெண்கள்+ இன்+ உடைய= பெண்களினுடைய = பெண்களின் = girls'.

# Practise with pronunciation:

I Give the genitive forms of the following:-

(1) யானை (2) புத்தகம் (3) நாடு (4) குழந்தை (5) ஊர் (6) நெல் (7) தீ (fire).

#### II. Translate into Tamil:

(1) My book is there (2) His mother comes here. [The adverbs will be placed before the verbs (3) a leg of the parrot. (4) Mother's eye sees. (5) Give me her book. (6) The door of this house is a big door. (7) Where is his (honorific) house? (8) The bank of that river. (9) Which is your (plural) school? (10) She gives me the fruit of that tree.

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