

Editorial Statement

At the close of the year, we are happy to be able to bring out the second issue of the *Journal of South Asian Linguistics*. This issue includes a total of four articles, three of which are on Dravidian languages (Malto, Tamil and Telugu) and one of which is on Persian. Strictly speaking, Persian is of course not a South Asian language. However, given that Persian is an Indo-Iranian language and given that Persian has been in close language contact with South Asian languages for millenia and that therefore South Asian languages and Persian share many linguistic characteristics, we have decided that Persian clearly also lies within the remit of our journal. Indeed, the paper on Persian by Marina Pantcheva is on Persian complex predicates, which show many structural similarities to South Asian complex predicates. The other three papers deal with verbal structure in Malto (by Chaithra Puttaswamy), and control constructions in Tamil (by Sandhya Sundaresan and Thomas McFadden) and Telugu (by Youssef Haddad), respectively.

Surprisingly, at least to us, this issue thus contains no papers on Indo-Aryan languages. This fact is surprising because the literature on South Asian languages tends to be dominated by papers written about Indo-Aryan languages. We therefore see the composition of this issue as a welcome development and as a sign that this Journal, JSAL, really is providing a much needed forum.

In the initial announcement of the journal, we had indicated that we hoped to include theoretically oriented descriptions of underdocumented languages. In this volume, we are excited to present the first of these theoretically oriented descriptions: a detailed description of verbal morphology in Malto, a severely underdocumented North Dravidian language by Chaithra Puttaswamy.

Work on the next issue is already well underway. So far, the balance is 50-50 between Indo-Aryan and Dravidian in the papers that we have already accepted. However, we note that we have no papers so far on Tibeto-Burman, Dardic or Munda languages. Of course, how the journal will develop further and what mix of South Asian (and adjacent) languages we are able to publish papers on is up to you: our readers.

Please do send us your papers and if you see a paper that will be relevant, please tell us about it and the author about the journal. JSAL is intended to provide a venue for dissemination of theoretical proposals inspired by data from the South Asian languages as well as theoretically informed descriptive work on the South Asian languages. Many a paper on South Asian languages lies lost in the author's filing cabinet or does not make it beyond the talk/handout stage for want of a proper venue. So please help us get the word out! However, do note that we are only able to accept papers that meet the standards of high international quality. So before sending us papers, do also make sure that you are aware of the international state-of-the-art and that your paper indeed makes a significant contribution to the state-of-the-art on an international level.

In closing, we would like to thank a number of people. As always, Dikran Karaguezian of CSLI Publications for taking on board on-line journal publication as part of the activities of CSLI and for working with us on making this journal a reality. We would also like to thank the University of Konstanz for supporting the close editorial connection between CSLI Publications and Konstanz by financing a research assistant to help with the editing and publishing of books and journals which take shape as part of the CSLI-Konstanz cooperation. In terms of this second issue of JSAL, we would also like to thank our reviewers for taking on the additional work involved in reviewing papers for us, Fatemeh Nemati for help with editing, Jaouad Mousser for help with type-setting and Sebastian Sulger for help with editing, type-setting and the continued maintenance of the Journal website and server. Indeed, we migrated JSAL to a new server this year in order to allow faster and better access to the papers published in the journal and hope you will have already appreciated this improvement!

Rajesh Bhatt, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Miriam Butt, University of Konstanz