

**A GRAMMAR OF
THE TULU
LANGUAGE**

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BY

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MANGALORE
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1872



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PREFATORY NOTE.

In offering to the public this first attempt at treating the Tulu Language grammatically, the Author and Publisher trust that it will be welcome to all who take an interest in the South Indian Languages, although they are well aware that a first work of this kind, written as this is, under a pressure of professional duties, cannot claim perfection.

Tulu is one of the Dravidian Languages, spoken only in the Collectorate of South Canara by about 500,000 people, and is nearly exactly confined between 12·30 and 13·30 degrees N. latitude, extending eastward to the foot of the Ghats. It cannot boast of any literature in the proper sense of the word, nor has it a character of its own. In writing, a modification of the Malayalam alphabet was used, till the Basel Mission Press employed Canarese characters in printing. This precedent has now been almost generally followed.

The first book ever printed in Tulu, is the Gospel of St. Matthew lithographed and published in 1842. Within 1847 the whole of the New Testament was finished, and a new typographical edition of it was issued in 1859. Besides this, the following was published at Mangalore: The Psalms, Liturgy, Hymn-Book, First and Second

Catechisms, Old and New Testament Bible Stories, Short Bible Stories, Prayer-Book, Flattich's Household-Rules, Congregation-Rules, Selection of Scripture Passages.

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Mangalore, 14th September 1872.

A

GRAMMAR OF THE TULU LANGUAGE

I. PART: PHONOLOGY.

1. Chapter: Of the Alphabet.

1. The Tulu language has no alphabet of its own. Those who formerly wrote in Tulu used to employ Malayalam characters; but more recently the Canarese alphabet has been adopted both in writing and printing; so the latter may now be considered as the modern Tulu alphabet.

2. In this alphabet there are 15 Vowels, two Medials and 34 Consonants.

A. Of Vowels.

3. Vowels are either short or long, or diphthongal or indefinite.

Short: ಅ a, ಇ i, ಉ u, ಋ ṛ, ಎ e, ಒ o.

Long: ಆ ā, ಈ ē, ಊ ū, ಋ ṛī, ಏ ē, ಓ ō.

Diphthongal: ಐ ei(ai), ಔ ou.

Indefinite: * (as in ತ'), sounded nearly as the French e in je. Dr. Lepsius in his Standard Alphabet represents it by ꞥ.

B. Of Medials.

4. There are two Medials, viz: o, which is sounded m, n, or ñ according to position, and ʒ ah.

C. Of Consonants.

5. There are 25 classified and 9 unclassified Consonants, viz:—

7. B. Consonants.

Consonants with the inherent vowel @ a.	Corresponding English Characters.	Sound of the Consonants with the inherent vowel @ a.	Form and position when combined with other consonants	EXAMPLES.
क	ka	like ka in kalendar	क	ముక్కు musku
ख	kha	*	ख	పాషా పాషా paskha
ग	ga	" ga " gander	ग	సద్గుణ సద్గుణ sadguṇa
घ	gha	*	घ	మెల్గఱ్ఱా మెల్గఱ్ఱా melghaṭṭa
ङ	ṅa	*	ङ	నానా nāṇe
च	ca	" cha " chapter	च	నిశ్చయ నిశ్చయ niścaya
छ	cha	*	छ	ఱ్ఱెఱ్ఱె icche
ज	ja	" ja " jam	ज	సజ్జి సజ్జి saji
झ	jha	*	झ	
ञ	ña	" nya " bunyan	ञ	జ్ఞానా jñāna
ट	ṭa	" rta " martaban	ट	కాషా kaṣṭa
ठ	ṭha	*	ठ	శాస్థి śaśṭhi
ड	ḍa	" rḍa " cardamom	ड	బద్ది baḍḍi
ढ	ḍha	*	ढ	ధర్షా dhṛṣha
त	ta	" ta " tank	त	పాతనా paṭṭa
थ	tha	*	थ	దస్తా dusta
द	da	" tha " that	द	స్థాలా sthāla
ध	dha	*	ध	మాల్తయ్దు maḷṭoydu
न	na	" na " natural	न	సిద్ధా siddha
प	pa	" pa " parrot	प	ప్రాయనా prayatna
फ	pha	*	फ	ఇని inpi
ब	ba	" ba " barrow	ब	స్ఫటికా sphatika
भ	bha	*	भ	బొబ్బె bobbe
म	ma	" ma " matter	म	సద్భక్తి sadbhakti
य	ya	" ya " yam	य	ఆత్మా ātma
र	ra	" ra " rag	र	అన్యాయా anyāya
ल	la	" la " lack	ल	ప్రాణా prāṇa
व	va	" va " van	व	మాతర్లా māterlā
श	śa	" sha " sham	श	సత్వా satva
स	śa	" sha " marshal	स	వర్షా varṣa
स	sa	" sa " sat	स	మాతర మతర matsara
ह	ha	" ha " ham	ह	మధ్యంహ మధ్యంహ madhyāṇha
ल	la		ल	కాట్లె kaṭṭe

* The preceding sound aspirated.