TAMIL LANGUAGE

PART II

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3. SYNTAX

Syntax, in its root sense means 'arranging together'. It is divided into four departments i. e., order, concord, government and cross reference. Prof A. H. Sayce is of opinion that where there is elaborate formal grammar there may not be a rich syntax 1 In the opinion of Prof. Earle syntax varies inversely in richness or poverty as accidence is poor or rich. But it is said that Greek language possesses a rich syntax in spite of its elaborate grammar. So the development of formal grammar will not stand in the way of having rich syntax.

Dr. A. C. Chettiyar says that of the four sub-division of syntax, government alone plays an importagt role in Tamil. that the range of concord is much less that it is customory to talk of a certain order in Tamil and that cross reference has no place 2. However Tamil language has developed a syntax in its own peculiar and simple way in its growth. Though there are instances to show that the single words themselves denote the thought of the people, (Vanthan-He came. Unden-I ate. Adiyen-I am thy servant), In a sentence we have to arrange words in such

^{1.} The Science of language vol 1 P42

^{2.} Syntax: What it means?

a way as to inform the ideas to others. When arranging words there are some simple rule to be observed.

- Order: 1. Subject begins the sentence and predicate ends. Object intervenes
- 2. Adjective precedes the noun which qualifies
- 3. Adverb precedes the verb it modifies.
- 4. Ralative participle must precede the nouns or verbs.
- 5. Demonstrative pronouns should not precede the proper names (இயற்பெயர்-Iyarper) (சொல். சூ 83.)
- 6. The surnames should precede the proper names.
- 7. When we have to say about person or things with colour or nature of their component parts the order is colour or. nature + component part of the dody + name (251. 326) i. e. Sengal Narai 2 Perunthalai Chaththan. In pomes the order is sometimes changed. Sevi Senjevel. [426]
- 8. If a person has several names besides his proper name one finite verb comes in the end: And the Guesti Aprin eristria aistria. When the number of the component parts of the body or the persons is a well known fact and it is followed by a flinite verb, the 'um' is to be added to the part or the persons.

- பன்னிரு கையும் பாற்பட இயற்றி முரசு முழங்கு தாளே மூவருங் கூடி
- 9. The particles which denote similarity are followed either by verbs or by nouns: புலிபோற் பாய்க்கான். புலிபோன்றமுருகன்
- 10.a. The sixth case always precedes the noun: என அமுடி
- b. The flifth case sign இன் which denotes boundary yreceeds noun: மதுரைபின்வடக்கு
- c. The fourth case and the seventh case precede either the verb or the noun: 1. முருக் தைக்குக் தக்தை. முருகனுக்குக் கொடுத்றான். வீட்டின் கண் பாப்பு. வீட்டின் கண் இரும்கான்.
- d. In all the other case relations the verbs come after the case signs: 1. சாத்தான் வக்தான். 2. குடத்தை வணக்தான். 3. வாளால் வெட்டினன். 4. கோயி வீங்கினைர், 5 சாத்தா கொள்.
- e. Sometimes in the nominative, accusative and vocative, the verbs precede them if the sentence contains no words other than them.

CONCORD

As regards concord the finite verbs must agree with the subject or nominative in gender, number and person.

Gender: The subjects should end in the verbs which must belong to the gender of the subjects.

அவன் வந்தான் அவள் வந்தாள் அவர் வந்தனர் அது வந்தது அவை வந்தன Masculine Feminine Piural Neuter Plural

- 1. The verb may belong to wui fallow
 - (1) யானும் என் எஃகமும் சாறும்
 - (2) ஆவும் ஆயனும் செல்க
 - (3) பொன்னனும் குதிரையும் வந்தார்கள்
 - (4) ஆவும்......பெரு திரும் (புறம்)

பார்ப்போர் அறவோர் பசுபத்தினிப் பெண்டிர் மூக்கோர் சூழவி பெனும் இவரைக் கைவிட்டு (சிலம்பு வஞ்சின)

2. Predicate may belong to அஃ றினே

கநஞ்சினத்த..... நான்குடன் (புறம் 55)

Numbers:- (1) The singular subjects will have singular predicates and the Plural subjects will have plural predicate.

- 1 ஆவோடல்லது யகர முதலாது
- 2 உயர் மெய்யலன மொழிமுக்லாகா.
- (2) The collective noun will have singular predicate.

கூட்டம் கலேர்த்து

(3) The honorific plural ends in plural predicate.

அவர் (He) வக்கார் காம் (I) செய்வோம்

(4) The Numeral Noun: Amai is common to both masculine and feminine and it will have plural verb

ஆண் மகன் கொல்லோ பெண்டாட்டி கொல்லோ அஃதோ தோன்றுவார்.

(5) The subject is in plural and the predicate is in singular.

யாகவா யாம் காண்டு [கலி]

[It seems that the 'w' might have been dropped by the careless copyists]

(6) The nouns connected by the copulative 'um' (216) must end in plural predicate

மா தவர் கோன்பும் மடவார் கற்பும் காவலன் காவல் இன்றெனின் இல

In manimekalai இன்ற is used insted of இல. Then இன்ற is considered common to both the singular and the plural.

வேற, இல், உண்டு. These three are appellative verbs which denote neuter gender in old Tamil. But in the Middle Tamil they are used in plural and in உயர்தின

in at bug lie

So Pavananti says

வேறு இல்லே உண்டு ஐம்பால் மூகிடத்தன

It shows the change of langeage

Persons:— We have already stated the presonal pronouns and their verbal terminatons. It is enough to say that all the personal sronouns end in the verb which bave the terminations to corrspond with the nominatives.

The first and second personal pronouns govern as plural verb of the first person which ends in spin, spin.

யானும் கியும் உண்பம்: உண்டாம்

The first and third personal pronouns govern the plural verb which ends in sie, sie, sie.

யானும் அவனும் உண்டனேம் உண்டேம். உண்டோம்

The first, second and third personal pronouns end ih the verbs which have கும் தம். மம், அம்: யானும் கீயும் அவனும், உண்கும், உண்டும், வருதாம்.

The second person and the third persons end in the verbs which have the terminations of second personal pronouns,

கீயும் அவனும் போனீர்.

In modern Tamil the first and the second, the first and teird and the first second and third all end in si

- 1. யானும் கியும் போனேம்.
- 2. யானம் அவகும் போனேம்.
- 3. யானம் சியும் அவனம் போனேம்.

Government:—In the above illustartions 'cited for the order and concord, we have seen, the nominatives govern the predicates in a perfect manner. So Government seems to be the predominating part of Tamil Syntax.

Cross Refence:— Though there is no cross reference in Tamil as found in Latin. Tamil possesses the resemblance of it. In Latin the expression 'cantat' may mean either 'she sings' or 'he sings' or it sings' So we have to add (Puella) to mean she sings.

In Tamil, the word 'Grinib' may mean (அது அனை, அவன், அவன்) either he or she or it or they (things) does or do or will do. We must add either of them to give the definite meaning.

As the word 'செப்யும்' may mean either future or present tense, we have to add இனி or இப்பொழுது to mean present or future

இனி அவன் செய்யும் வேலே இப்பொழுது அவன் செய்யு**ம்** வேலே

In colloquial Tamil the verb and may mean either spins or spins or spins or any dear relative or any neuter thing comes. So we have to add either of them to give the definite meaning.

அப்பா வருகிறது (father comes) அம்மா வருகிறது (mother comes)

There are some nouns styled by the grammaians as பன்மை சுட்டிய பெயர் or விரவுப்பெயர் * (Common to beth உயர் கிணை and அஃறினே) the gender and the number of which are determined by the verbs.

யானே வந்தது An elephant came யானே வக்கன Many elephants came யானே வந்தான் A man who is like an

Elephant came

There are some nouns, styled as ஒரு சுட்டிய பெயர். 1 The gender and number of which are determined by the verbs.

செவியிலி வந்தது (The animals which has no ears came)

TANKE DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PERSON OF THE PER செவியிலி வர்தான் (The name who has no ears agricultural estimates all services de came)

செவியிலி வர்தாள் (The woman who has no ears came)

When we say Amr aisss. we mean either a he horse or a she horse came. To know sex in the old Tamil the word Grain to denote male or the word Guim to denote female is added to denote the sex.

COS TO TO THE TO TAIN THE TAIN DESTREE

These illustrations go to show that a kind of cross reference is found in Tamil Language.

Irreguarities in the Syntax:

Innumerable and recondite are the causes which are at work in creating and destroying syntactic formation and it will scarcely ever be possible to bring Syntax under strict laws (English Syntax page 14) 1 The poets in their flight of imagination cannot bring themselves under the control of the grammatical rules. The masses being ignorant of grammaiical tules violated the principles of the syntax. The business people being always active do not stop to thing of grammer and use words in their own hurried way. The grammarians being realistic in their out-look make allowances for such deviations do not mar the beauty of the language and do not go against the fundamental principles of the language. So the grammarians style such wrong usage which cannot be prevented by them in the growth of a language as augamus.

The erroas in Alm, gender, persons, tense. in question, answer and usage are in the following manner strictly forbidden

1. அவன் வந்தது	error in		<i>ब्रिट</i> ला
2. அவன் வக்கான்	The state of the s	, 5	gender

3. யா வக்வான் ____ 3. யா வகவான நவர்கள்

4. நாளே வக்வான் tense

1. Historical outlines of English Syntaz P 14

^{*} Tholkappiyam col. Sutrrm 182. have and a string of them to give the definite

¹ Tholkappiyam col. Sutram 183,

5, கானே எவ்வளவு பால் கறக்கும்---

question

6. மதுரைக்கு வழியாது என்றுல் தந்தை ஊரிவில்லே என்பது. (Answer)

7. யானே மேப்ப்பான—இடையன் ஆடுமேப்பான—பாகன் (usage)

If the nouns of enighter and and and and are clubbed together in poerty, the substantives of both some end in one predicate which is given considering the superiority, numeratical majority of the things.

இங்களும் சான்றேரும் ஒப்பர் Here the word இங்கள் must end in அஃறினோஓக்கும். As சான்றேர் is considered as superior to the moon, the predicate of சான்றேர் is given.

மூர்க்கனும் முதலேயும் கொண்டது கிடா. மூர்க்கன் (villain) is a masculine gender. His inferiority in character pulled him down to the அஃறினே The neuter verb is given.

இன்பார் பசு பெண்டிர் இவர்கட்கு. Here பசு (the cow) is usuter gender and it must be given 'இது' But here it is clubbed to the உரர்கினே of seven nouns; the numerical majority ignored it and இவர் is given. கடும் சினத்த சொல்களிலும்; பாவும் தேரும் மறவரும் என கான்குடன். Here the neture nouns are many, one epicence noun of உயர்கினை ignored. கான்கு neuter noun is given instead of கால்வர்.

2. If the masculine and feminine gender are combined, the masculine is prefered as they

thought the male is superior to the female. Here the psychic side is in force.

தானும் தன் தைபலும் தாழ்சடைபேனே ஆண்டிலனேல்* 'ஆண்டிலன்' is the predicate of masculine gender'

3. It is to be said கறி கின்றுன்; சோறு உண்டான்; when both are combined சோறும் கறியும் we must give the predinate உண்டான் the verb of சோறு.

In modern Tamil this distinction is ignored offen. We say Garan Amigai. The poets and the folk, change the Am and gender, out of love, great regard and anger.

தம்பொருள் என்னபதம் மக்கள். Here the children are considered as things; out of love they are pulled down from உயர்தினே.

ஏவவும் செய்கலான் தான்றோரண் அவ்வுயிர் போமளவு ஓர் கோய். Here out of anger the உயர்திணே is changed into அஃஅணே.

காம் அரனுடைமை when we are compared with God we are nothing. Out of Inferiority உயர்கினோ is considered as அஃறினே [உடமை]

செக்கார்ப் பசுங்கினியர் Here the parrots are elevated to உயர் திணே out of love

The masculine gender is changed into feminine out of high regard: தாதாய் [male] முவேழுலகுக்கும் காயே [female]

[.] Thiruvacakam.

and out of disregard இவன் பெண்.

The singular is used instead of plural and vice versa: எனேத்துணேயராயினும் என்னும் தேரான் பிறனில் புகல். Here out of anger the plural is changed into singular: வெயிலெல்லாம் மறைத்தது மேகம். வெயில் is singular and எல்லாம் plural. It is used in the sense of completences.

Plural is changed into singular.

இரண்டு கண்டனும் சுவக்கது. Insted of Jenter plural சிவக்கன, singular சிவக்கது is given as the eyes are in pairs;

ஏவலிளேயர் தாய் வயிறு: [the mother of heroes].
Instead of தாயார் [mother] தாய் is used for it
governs individually.

"முன்னிலே சுட்டிய ஒருமைக் கௌவி" சூக் 462

Persons

- 1. The third person is used instead of first person சாத்தன் தாய் இவை செய்வாரோ meaning I the mother of Sathan.
- 2. and instead of second person எம்பியை இங்குப் பெற்றேன்; you my brother
- 3. First person is used idstead of second person கம்மை (உம்மை) ஒருகால் காட்டி வக்கால், கெரு கல் கடக்கவரோ காம் [கீர்]

CASES.

The case signs are often confused in the poems. யாதனாருபில் கூறிற் முயினும், பொருள் செல்மருங் செல் வேற்றுமை சாரும் [தொல் வேற். 2 சூ]

- 1 Nominative case sense is given by 4th and 6th case.
- 2. The second case sense is given by the nominative, 4 and 6th cases.
- 3. Instrummental of 3rd case is given by the nominative, 4th and 6th class
- 4. The receiving of dative case is given by all the others cases.
- 5. The ablative of separation is given by the 2nd case and boundary by 5th case
- 6. The location of 6th case is given by 4th 5th and 7th case signs.
- 7. The location of seventh case is given by the nominative. 2nd and 4th cases.

CHANGE IN THE USE OF VERBS

Celave, Varavu. Tharavu and Kodai The verbs radiated from the roots so and our are to be used in the first and second persons only according to Tholkappiyar. This is not observed even in Sangam literature.

பெருவிறல் அடிரர்க்கு வென்றிவக்க 3rd person செலவு and கொடை are to be used in the third persons only. Such distinctions are not row observed

The changes in the syntax go to show that Tamil language is changing and growing.