COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN TODAY'S KOREAN AND TAMIL LANGUAGES, THEIR LEXICON AND GRAMMAR

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HISTORY
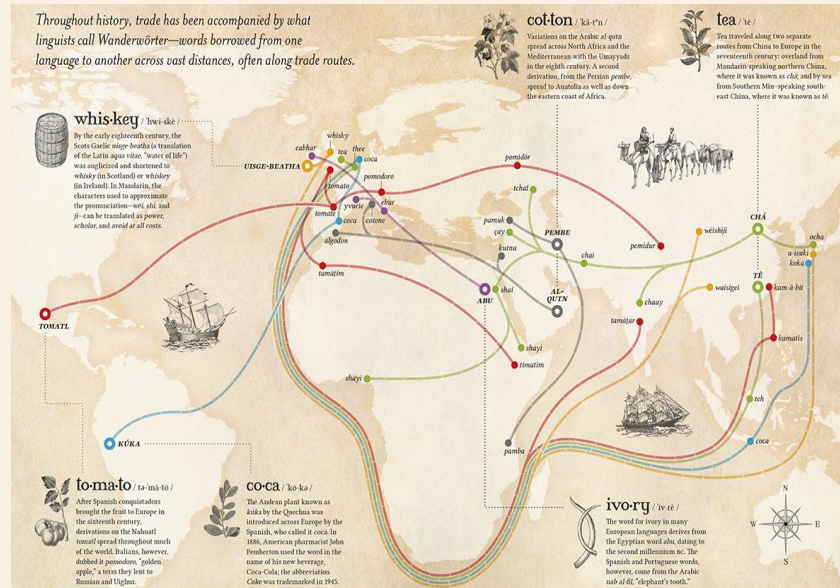

Heo Hwang Ok — Kalabit Woman — Woman with Pambadam — Goddes Parvathi

- Old Trade Routes
- Ayuta Princess (Ayuta vs Saketa)
- Pandyan Symbols (Two fishes - Ssangeomun)
- Similar maritime activities and connections
- Mythology

LITERATURE BACKGROUND

1. **NINETEENTH CENTURY FRENCH MISSIONARIES**

2. **HOMER HULBERT – 1905**
   - ON BASIS OF SYNTAX AND TYPOLOGY

3. **MORGAN E CLIPPINGER – 1984**
   - >400 COGNATES PAIRS

DEFINITION:
Cognates are words from different languages that have similar spellings, pronunciations, and meanings.

For example, the word "accident" in English is very similar to the word "accidente" in Spanish.

INITIAL HYPOTHESIS

Korean and Tamil have been hypothesized by linguists first since the 19th century to share a link through its language's grammar – in particular the shared lexicon.

My hypothesis claims that this link still persists in the 21st century and can be seen in the current spoken languages. When spoken languages of both (in today's world) are compared, this link is still bound to exist.

DATASET - KOREAN

CRITERIA FOR SELECTING:

1. Compare today's language spoken in both parts of the world (South Korea and mainland Tamil Nadu)

2. Current language

3. Up to date with today's culture and context

4. Audible

5. Captures daily conversation and dialogue

6. No fancy language (songs, poetry)

7. Observe pronunciation

8. Need proper English translation

DATASET: K-DRAMA

MY NAME

FLOWER OF EVIL

VINCENZO

DOCTOR JOHN

LITTLE WOMEN

MY SECRET ROMANCE

METHODOLOGY

1. Watch K-dramas.

2. Observe anything that sounds like Tamil in the same context

3. Get list of words and check their etymologies and see if they are similar.

4. Finding pattern

NOTICEABLE COGNATES

1. Kinship
- Mother
  Tamil: அம்மா - amma
  Korean: 엄마 – umma

- Father
  Tamil: அப்பா - appa
  Korean: 아빠 – appa

2. Personal Pronouns
- Me
  Tamil: என்னை - ennai
  Korean: 나 – na

- I
  Tamil: நா - na
  Korean: 나 – na

3. Body parts
- Stomach
  Tamil: வயிறு- Vairu
  Korean: 위- Vae

- Teeth
  Tamil: பல் - pal
  Korean: 이빨 - eepal

4. Cultural terms/ items
- Greeting
  Tamil: வணக்கம் - vanakkam
  Korean: 박까암따 - vakkaamtta
- Knife
  Tamil: கத்தி - katti
  Korean: 칼 - khal

5. Food
- Filled dumpling
  Tamil: கொழுக்கட்டை - kozhukattai (coconut, jaggery filled)

6. Flora, Fauna and Nature
- Grasshopper
  Tamil: வெட்டுக்கிளி - vettukilli
  Korean: 메뚜기 - maettugi

- Snake
  Tamil: பாம்பு - pambu
  Korean: 뱀 - bambu – baem

7. Expressions
- Oh!
  Tamil: ஐயோ - aiyo
  Korean: 아이고 - aigo

- Little – little
  Tamil: கொஞ்சம் கொஞ்சம் - konjam konjam
  Korean: 조금 조금 - Jogeum Jogeum

8. Verb
- Draw/ scribble
  Tamil: கிறுக்கு - kirukutal
  Korean: 그리다 - kirida

- Fight
  Tamil: சண்டை - sandai
  Korean: 싸움 – ssaw

OBSERVATIONS

PHONOLOGY

1)PERSISTENT FIRST ROOT

- **Manure**
  Tamil: உரம் - oram
  Korean: 비료 - uraam

- **Mountain / hill**
  Tamil: மலை - malai
  Korean: 언덕 - malrangi

- **Shore**
  Tamil: கரை - karai
  Korean: 물가 - uka

- **Day**
  Tamil: நாள் - naal
  Korean: 낮 - naal

- **Tommorrow**
  Tamil: நாளை - naalai
  Korean: 내일 - Naeil

- **This**
  Tamil: இது - idhu
  Korean: 이것 - igo

PHONOLOGY

2) LAW OF CONVERTIBILITY OF SURDS AND SONANT

▪ Law of convertibility of Surds and Sonant:
stops are always pronounced as surds in initial position and when doubled, and as sonants in medial (intervocalic and postnasal) positions.

Eg) *'ka'* in **அக்கம்**. *'ga'* in **அகம்**.
Eg) Korean words an and pang become ambang in compound.

3) GRANTHA LETTER OR VADA MOZHI EZHUTTUGAL   ஜ (ja), ஷ(ṣa), ஸ(sa), ஹ(ha)

- Pure Tamil rejects the sharp Sanscrit sibillants s and sh, a soft sh with as little aspiration takes their place.

- ᅩ

- In Korean, similarly, s is not pronounced on the tip of the tongue as in English, but is made with a sort of lisp as if sh were being pronounced without protruding the lips
- Korean /s/ pronounced like /sh/ when it meet with an English glide /y/ or /w/ because the glide move the articulation position a little backward from the original position of /s/.

PHONOLOGY

3) SENTENCE ENDING - 요 (YO SOUND)

special suffix 요 is called 'sentence-closing ending'.

저는 예뻐요 저는 미쳤어요
I'm pretty. I'm crazy

**அவங் ஸ்னை கச
ﾟகிறாஸ**ﾟﾟ
'Avan enna ceykiran'

PHONOLOGY

4) EUPHONIC PERMUTATION OF CONSONANTS

Tamil: பலா (pala) and பழம் (pazham) gives பலாப்பழம் pala-(ip)pazham

Korean: ha (sun) and pit (light) gives ha-(p)pit

PHONOLOGY

5) NO CLEAR DEMARCATION IN WRITING 'GA','KA' AND 'PA' ,'BHA'

Korean: Pusan or Busan

Tamil: Boomi (பூமி)

PHONOLOGY

5) NO LETTER 'F' IN BOTH LANGUAGES

English: Coffee

Korean: keopi - 커피

Tamil: kappi - **சகர்ப**

VOWEL

البرتقالي كبير   الأب في السيارة
بُحَيرة جميلة   هو في بَيْت

Short Vowels

Fatha __َ فتحة	Damma __ُ ضمة	Kasra __ِ كسرة	Sukun __ْ سكون	Shadda __ّ شداً
We put the fatha on the top of the letter. It is a short vowel sound for "a", as in "بَ" pronounced (ba).	We put the damma on the top of the consonant letter. It is a short vowel sound for "u". It is represented like a wāw (و) in Arabic letters, as in "بُ" pronounced (bu) or (bo).	We put Kasra under the consonant letter. It is a short vowel sound for "i", as in "بِ" pronounced (bi).	We put the Sukun on the top of the consonant letter. It is represented like a circle " ْ". When the consonant is not followed by any vowel, it is called a "still letter" حَرْفٌ سَاكِن, as in "بْ" pronounced (b). The symbol of "stillness" is called Sukūn.	We put the Shadda on the top of the consonant letter. The consonant is written only once, but it is pronounced twice. The Shadda is represented like a small "w" shape. As in "بّ" pronounced (bb).

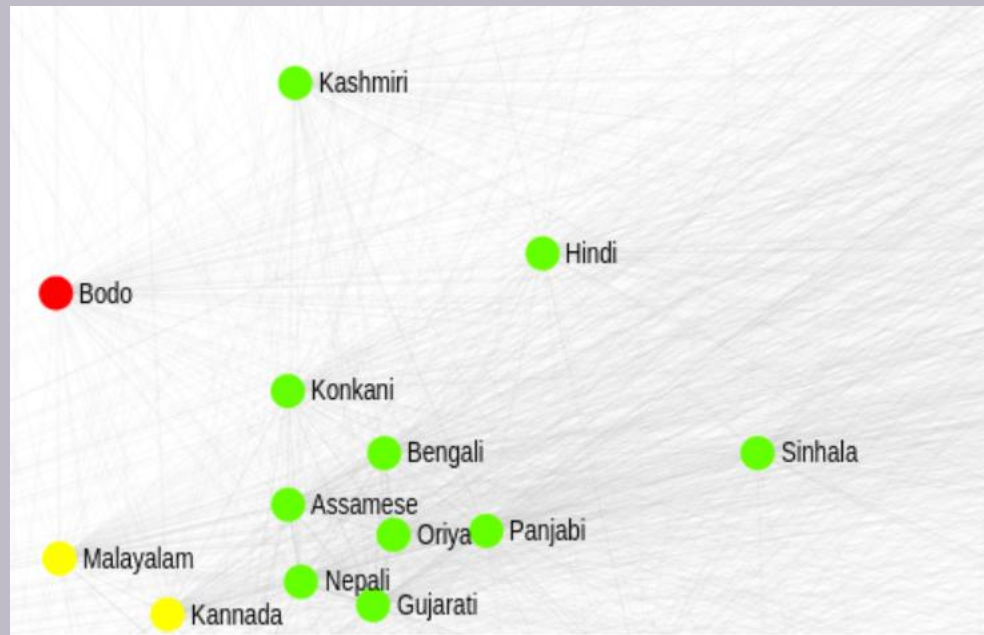| Vowel / Consonant		├ அ	┤ வொ	│ இ	┬ உ	┴ ஒ
ㄱ	க்					
ㄴ	ந்					
ㄷ	த்					
ㄹ	ல், ற்					
ㅂ	ப்					

[k]   [a]   [ka]
ㄱ + ├ = 가

ㄱ + ┤ = 거
[k]   [eo]   [keo]

Korean

Vowel / Consonant		├ ┤ வொ	│	┬ உ	┴ ஒ
ㄱ					
ㄴ	ந்				
ㄷ	த்				
ㄹ	ல், ற்				
ㅂ	ப்				

[k]   [a]   [ka]
க் + அ = க

க் + இ = கி
[k]   [i]   [ki]

Tamil

COMPUTATIONAL SIMILARITY

- cognates which have equivalent counterparts

- cognate-content-based similarity between the lexicons of languages A and B

- number and similarity of cognate words shared by every language pair, normalized by lexicon size

kor Korean   tam Tamil   0.173 High

PROBLEMS

- Data collection: Listening to hours of data

- Automated speech recognition

CONCLUSION

We can conclude that the link that was proposed centuries ago still exists.

However, it is not easy to say if it very stable. Only further research and study can prove that.

For that, we require a more stable dataset.

FUTURE SCOPE

How we'll scale in the future

PHASE 1: INKO CENTRE

PHASE 2: SIMILARITY DATABASE

-Automated audio recognition

-Building similarity database with more dataset

THANK YOU