

## LNS Project Outline

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### 1)Topic

Comparative study between today's Korean and Tamil language, their grammar and lexicon.

### 2)Purpose

A genetic link between the Dravidian languages and Korean was first hypothesized by Homer B. Hulbert in 1905. Morgan E. Clippinger, a Korean studies scholar, gave a detailed comparison of Korean and Dravidian vocabulary in his article "Korean and Dravidian: Lexical Evidence for an Old Theory" (1984). He further proposed over 400 sets of similar words between the two languages.

For my project, I would like to verify this long-proposed link between the two languages by comparing the present-day spoken languages in Tamil Nadu (through native language speaker competence) and Korea (through Korean TV shows, popularly called K-drama).

There have been many reasons given for this ranging from trade to intermarriage between royalty of both cultures, and the subsequent migration. If a stable connection is found, it would show how both the languages have influenced each others culture, and society. It would further act as proof for these historical influences.

### 3)Hypothesis

Korean and Tamil have been hypothesized by linguists first since the 19<sup>th</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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.

### 4)Methodology

I shall be watching modern dramas in Korean (popularly called k-dramas) to get data for the korean language being spoken in present in South Korea. I shall be taking this since pop-culture, and our entertainment always tends to stay in par with our current progress, or as in this case, our spoken language.

While watching the K-dramas, I shall be using the english subtitles as well as the Korean. This would give me the chance to capture each word that is phonetically similar to Tamil words with the same or similar meaning.

After gathering a substantial data, my next step would be to compare the etymology of same meaning words. After that, I would find the etymology of similar meaning words and retrace till we find a point of divergence.

An idea that can be used to compare these orthographic words is by measuring their etymological origin through respective Wordnets. Using this, we can confirm the existence of these highly similar lexicon.

#### **5)Proposed Timeline**

I plan on having made a list of current K-dramas to collect data from, and to have researched any cultural, historical and social intermixing of the two languages in the past by the deadline given for the literature survey (20/10/22).

By the interim survey deadline (27/10/22), I plan on having a substantial amount of data for similar sounding words collected with the whole data collection being done by the first week of November in time for the progress report on (03/11/22).

By the mid of November, I plan on having compared all the etymological relationships between all the collected data.