

Editorial Notes

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Jurnal Valartamil Volume 6, Issue 2 (2025), offers a compelling collection of research articles that illustrates the dynamic intersection of business education, entrepreneurship, customer behaviour, accounting, marketing, management, and economics. Each contribution underscores the significance of both empirical and conceptual insights in shaping policy and institutional strategies in developing nations, with a particular focus on Southeast Asian and West African countries.

This second volume begins with its first research article, titled “The ‘Model Assure’ Model Approach To Improve Writing To Improve Writing Style of Form 2 Students” written by two authors namely Yugendiran, R, Munisvaran, K Sultan Idris Education University, Malaysia. The article analyses the application of the Model Assure approach in enhancing the formal letter-writing skills of second-form students in Malaysia. This research the research evaluates its effectiveness in improving student proficiency. This research provides a valuable finding on teaching methodologies and provides practical solutions for educators to foster better writing skills.

The second article, titled “Literature as a Bridge of Thought: The Victorianization of Kerala Society and Indulekha” by Kamaraj, S. Linguistic Data Consortium for Indian Languages Central Institute of Indian Languages Mysore, India. This article analyzes Indulekha as a bridge for Victorian ideas where the text argues that the novel instigated a socio-cultural revolution in Kerala. It also analyzed the texts as a social movement from the joint family structure in a Kerala village to a nuclear family in Madras, which was the seat of the British Presidency government.

The third article, titled “The current status of Tamil education in secondary schools, the challenges faced and the corresponding recommendations” written by two authors namely Sharan Sukhlam, A & Manonmani Devi, A Department of Modern Language, Faculty of Languages and Communication, Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris, 35900 Tanjong Malim, Perak, Malaysia. This article provides a timely and critical examination of the state of Tamil language education in Malaysian secondary schools. By highlighting systemic challenges—such as limited institutional support, declining student interest, and the shortage of qualified teachers—it draws attention to the urgent need for policy and pedagogical reforms. The recommendations offered are both pragmatic and forward-looking, emphasizing structural adjustments and sustained teacher development to ensure the Tamil language remains accessible and relevant in a rapidly evolving educational landscape. This study not only contributes to ongoing discussions about

multilingual education in Malaysia but also serves as a valuable resource for educators, policymakers, and advocates committed to preserving linguistic diversity.

Followed by the fourth article, titled “Humanism and Compassion for Living Beings in Ancient Tamil Literature” by two authors namely Navin, G & Manonmani Devi, A from Department of Modern Language, Faculty of Languages and Communication, Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris, 35900 Tanjong Malim, Perak, Malaysia. This article presents a nuanced exploration of humanism and bioethics within Sangam literature, offering fresh insight into the ethical dimensions embedded in classical Tamil poetry. Through a qualitative, library-based research approach, the study highlights how Sangam texts articulate compassion, moral responsibility, and love that extends beyond humanity to encompass other living beings. By situating these ancient expressions within contemporary ethical discourse, the research underscores the enduring relevance of Tamil literary heritage in shaping modern understandings of humanity, empathy, and bioethical values. This work contributes meaningfully to both literary scholarship and interdisciplinary studies, bridging cultural tradition with present-day ethical reflection.

The fifth article, titled “Use of Foreign Languages in KSSM Tamil Textbooks” jointly by Puvanesvary, M & Karthegees, P from Department of Modern Language, Faculty of Languages and Communication, Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris, 35900 Tanjong Malim, Perak, Malaysia. This article provides a focused analysis of the use of loanwords in Form 5 Tamil textbooks, revealing the extent to which English and Malay terms—primarily written in Roman script—have entered Tamil educational materials. The findings highlight the growing influence of foreign languages in Tamil pedagogy and raise important concerns about linguistic identity and preservation. The recommendation to reduce loanword usage and replace them with appropriate Tamil vocabulary is both timely and culturally significant, reinforcing efforts to strengthen Tamil language proficiency among students while safeguarding its heritage in Malaysia’s multilingual educational landscape.

The sixth article, titled “Students’ Reading Proficiency: Emerging Challenges and Classroom Strategies in the Smartphone Era” jointly by Kingston, P & Sasikumar, P. from Asian Languages and Cultures Academic, National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. The article examines the decline in reading proficiency among Tamil language students, situating the issue within the challenges posed by excessive smartphone use and limited home reading support. Using the Observation Method, the research identifies key difficulties in reading behavior—such as weak letter recognition, poor sound association, lack of pauses, and unclear pronunciation—while also noting the influence of external factors like parental supervision and digital distractions. The paper concludes with practical recommendations, emphasizing consistent teacher guidance, structured reading activities, and parental involvement as essential strategies to rebuild sustained reading habits in the digital age.

The seventh article, titled “Academic Anxiety and Its Effect on Academic Achievement among Secondary Students” jointly by Raviraja Rajamani, from Michael job Memorial College of Education for Women, Near Sulur Boat Lake, Ravathur Post, Sulur,

Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, INDIA 641103. This article provides a focus on Academic anxiety is a key aspect of negative motivation that negatively influences academic performance. It refers to an unpleasant emotional state experienced during evaluative situations (Dusek, 1980). While mild anxiety is common, this study focuses on academic anxiety as a stable trait. The study examined the impact of academic anxiety on academic achievement among secondary school students in the Nilgiris District. A total of 200 ninth-grade students from government and private schools were selected using simple random sampling. Academic anxiety was measured using a questionnaire, and academic achievement scores were obtained from school records. Descriptive statistics and the F-test were used for analysis. The findings revealed a significant difference in academic achievement based on levels of academic anxiety.

The eighth article, titled "Siddha literature says fertility" by Periyaswamy from the Department of Tamil Dr. MGR Chockalingam Arts College, India. This study examines the decline of Siddha medicine and its historical significance within Tamil culture. Through a descriptive analysis of Sangam literature, the article highlights the role of Siddhas, traditional medical practices, and early conceptions of human development. It underscores how ancient texts anticipated ideas related to chromosomes, maternal breath, and conception, while also embedding symbolic narratives such as the birth of Murugan. By situating Siddha medicine within both literary and scientific contexts, the research contributes to scholarly discussions on traditional knowledge systems and their relevance to contemporary health and cultural studies.

The ninth article, titled "Feminism and Spiritual Thoughts in Bharathiyar's Poetry" by Pravindraaj, A from the Faculty of Human Sciences, Sultan Idris Education University, Tanjong Malim, Perak, Malaysia. This study offers a qualitative literary analysis of Subramania Bharathi's poetry, focusing on the dual themes of spirituality and feminism. Through a textual approach, the research highlights how Bharathi's imaginative use of similes, metaphors, and vivid imagery intertwines with social philosophy and personal experience. The findings underscore the poet's enduring relevance, showing how his works serve as catalysts for social progress and human advancement. By situating Bharathi within the broader Tamil literary tradition, the study contributes to scholarly discussions on the intersection of literature, philosophy, and cultural transformation.

The tenth article, titled "The use of 'Udampadumei in the Natrinai" by Puvaneswari a/p Malayandy from the SMK Seri Ampang, Kinta Utara, Ipoh, Malaysia. This study Natrinai is one of the literary works from the Sangam period. Considered part of the Eṭṭuttokai (Eight Anthologies), the objective of this research is to identify and analyze the "udampadumei" found in this literary work. This study is written as a cultural analysis using a descriptive approach. Out of the 400 poems found in Natrinai, only poems 2, 3, 32, 45, 60, 291, 342, and 371 were selected. The "udampadumei" terms within them were identified and analyzed, revealing that the embodied truths are combined with the grammatical particles, ol, on, al, odu, and udaiya.

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