Curriculum vitae

**Dr. K. Srikumar**

Professor

Department of Linguistics

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## Professional Experience

Professor in Linguistics at the Department of Linguistics, University of Lucknow, since August 23, 2007. Teaching various courses such as General Linguistics, Generative Syntax, Phonology, Sociolinguistics, Dialectology and phonetics at Post Graduate and Undergraduate levels and guiding Research leading to Ph. D degree.

1. Reader in Linguistics at the K.M. Institute of Hindi and Linguistics, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University, Agra from June 25, 2003 to August 22, 2007. Taught courses such as Generative Syntax, Historical Linguistics, General Linguistics and Morphology at Post Graduate level.

2. Lecturer in the Department of Linguistics, Banaras Hindu University, from August 12, 2002 to June 24, 2003. Taught courses such as Generative Syntax, Historical Linguistics, Morphology and General Linguistics at both Post graduate and undergraduate levels.

1. Temporary Lecturer in the department of Linguistics at the M.S. University of Baroda for six years (1994-2000). Taught courses including advanced syntax, morphology, phonetics, semantics, historical linguistics, psycholinguistics, sociolinguistics and general linguistics at both undergraduate and post-graduate levels.
2. Guest Lecturer in Malayalam in Southern Regional Language Centre, CIIL, Mysore from March 2001 to July 2002.
3. Senior Project Scientist in the machine translation project at the department of computer science and engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur from May to July 1994.

**Administrative and Organizational experience**

* + - 1. Head, Department of Linguistics, University of Lucknow from September 23, 2017 to September 22, 2020.
      2. Head, Department of Linguistics, University of Lucknow from July 16, 2008 to

July 15, 2011.

* + - 1. Organized the Linguistic Society of India’s ‘32nd All India Coonference of Linguists’ at the Department of Linguistics, Lucknow University in December 2010.
      2. Incharge Head, Department of Linguistics, K.M.Institute of Hindi and

Linguistics, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University from June 25, 2003 to March, 2005.

##### **Areas of Interest**

Comparative syntax involving Malayalam in particular and other languages within the broader framework of Universal Grammar, especially Chomsky’s theory of Government and Binding and subsequent developments such as the Minimalist Program. My other interests include language typology, morphology, semantics, and phonetics.

## Awards and Honours

1. Member of the Meeting of Expert Group for evaluating the the proposals for ICSSR’s Senior and Post Doctoral Fellowships, , 2-12- 2016.
2. Subject Expert in the Committee for the Revision of Syllabus for NET examination in Linguistics, in the meeting held on May 21 and 22, 2018.
3. Member, Editorial Board of the **International Journal of Dravidian Linguistics** from 2016**.**
4. Member, Board of Studies in Linguistics, Aligarh Muslim University, from March 2022.
5. Member, Board of PG studies in Linguistics, University of Kashmir, from December 2018.
6. Member, Board of Studies, Dravidian University, from May, 2019.

1. Member, Board of Studies, Banaras Hindu University, from May, 2012 to April, 2015. And from May 2017.
2. Member (Linguistics), Faculty Board for Arts, Banaras Hindu University from 2012 to 2015.
3. Member (Linguistics), Board of Studies, Central Institute of Hindi, Agra, from September 20 07 to September 2010.
4. **JRF** (NET) in Linguistics, UGC, 1987.
5. Twice recipient of best paper award for Research Scholars at the Annual Conference of the Dravidian Linguists in 1989 and 1990 respectively.
6. **Dr. Cingaram Gold Medal** for coming first in M.A. Linguistics Examination, 1987 of the Osmania University.

**Invited Lectures:**

1. Delivered the Dr. Prabhakara Variar Memorial Endowment Lecture online at the

Department of Malayalam, University of Madras on January 11, 2021. Talk presented: peTuka as a verbalizer.

2. Delivered an invited talk on’ Phonetics and Phonology: the sciences of speech’ at

the 6 day online Course on Teaching, Testing and Evaluation for Malayalam language Teachers of NVS on January 12, 2021.

3. Delivered an invited talk on ‘The syntax of a verbalizer in Dravidian’ at the

international webinar on August 18, 2021. Organized by Team Bhasha Chintan’.

4. Delivered invited lectures as resource person at the NLP workshop in March, 2013

at the University of Lucknow.

###### Education

**Ph.D.** in Linguistics, Osmania University, Hyderabad; 1992.

**M.Phil** (Part I) in Linguistics, Osmania University, Hyderabad; 1989; Distinction.

**JRF**(NET) in Linguistics, University Grant Commission; 1987.

**M.A.** in Linguistics, Osmania University, Hyderabad; 1987; I Div., Distinction and Gold Medal, 72 %,.

**(Papers:** Phonetics and Phonology, Syntax and Morphology, Sociolinguistics and Dialectology, Historical Linguistics, Advanced Syntax, Advanced Phonetics, Comparative Dravidian, and Field Linguistics.

**Dissertation:** *Relative Clauses in Igbo*. Phonetics Report: *Trills in Malayalam*)

**B.A.**,(English, Linguistics and Sociology), Osmania University, Hyderabad; 1985; I Div., 67%.

**Intermediate** (Biology, Physics and Chemistry), Board of Intermediate Education, Andhra Pradesh, 1982; I Div., 64.4 %.

**S.S.C.**, Board of Secondary Education, Andhra Pradesh, 1980; I Div., 71 %.

**Vidwan**, Hindi language and literature, Hyderabad Hindi Prachar Sabha, Hyderabad, 1979

###### Doctoral Research

###### Ph.D. Thesis

Question-Word movement in Malayalam, and GB Theory. 1992. Unpublished Osmania University dissertation.

###### Summary of the Thesis

This thesis examines Wh-questions in Malayalam from the perspective of Barriers framework (Chomsky, 1986). Besides proposing a focussed movement account for clefts, which forms the basic strategy for Wh-question formation in the language, questions pertaining to the need for Clausal pied-piping for long-distance dependencies are examined in detail.

Long Wh-extractions across finite sentential complements are shown to be sensitive to complement-non-complement asymmetry which is reminiscent of Huang’s (1982) adjunct island cases. Long Wh-extractions across non-finite clausal complement on the other hand are found free to apply irrespective of this distinction. The difference thus is argued to follow from the assumption that finite sentential complements in Malayalam are structurally held in adjunct position, as suggested by morphological evidence, whereby extractions across them result in subjacency violation and if non-complements, ECP too. The pied-piping strategy however provides rescue to such dependencies.

## M.A. Dissertation:

## ‘Relativization in Igbo’: This is a study of relativizing strategies in Igbo, a Niger-Congo Language spoken in Nigeria, based on a small scale field work, keeping in view the NP-Accessibility Hierarchy proposed by Keenan and Comrie(1977).

## Publications

1. An articulatory and acoustic study of trills in Malayalam (Co-authored with Dr. K. Nagamma Reddy). *Opil*, 1988, 42-54.
2. Control in Malayalam. *IJDL*, 1991, Vol.XX.1, 104-116.
3. Unbounded question-word movement, Clausal pied-piping and Case-Filter Parameter.*IJDL*, 1993, Vol. XXII.1, 28-41.
4. Clefts in Malayalam: A focussed movement perspective. In *Papers from the XV SALA Round Table Conference 1993*, (eds.) Davison, Alice and F.M. Smith1994, University of Iowa, Iowa, p. 322-330.
5. A NP-internal word order variation in Malayalam: A note. In *Word-Order in Indian Languages*, (eds.) Swarajyalakshmi, V. and Aditi Mukherji, 1996, Book Links, Hyderabad.
6. Clefts in Malayalam: A focussed movement approach. *Opil*, 1998, 85-102.
7. Verbal deixis in Malayalam. In *Linguisticoliterary*, (A festchrift for Prof. D. S. Dwivedi), (eds.) Asher, R. E. and Roy Harris, 2000, Pilgrim books, New Delhi
8. Wh-scope extraction in Malayalam. In *Linguistic Structure and Language Dynamics in South Asia* (Papers from the Proceedings of SALA XVIII Roundtable), (eds.) Abbi, Anvita, R.S. Gupta and Ayesha Kidwai, 2001, Motilal Banarasidass, Delhi.
9. Dative Subjects and Modality. *Indian Linguistics*2006, Vol. 67:191-200. (Dr. B. P. Pattanayak Felicitation Volume).
10. The P & P approach and Bilingual language acquisition. *Bhaashaa Chintan*2006, Vol 1: 71-74, Dept. of Linguistics, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.
11. Subjacency and clausal pied-piping, In *Linguistic Theory and South Asian Languages (Essays in honour of K. A. Jayaseelan)*, (eds.) Bayer, J., Tanmoy Bhattacharya and M.T. Hany Babu, 2007, John Benjamins, Amsterdam.
12. The morphosyntax of a *peTuka* compound in Malayalam. *Prajna* 2003-2006**,** Vol. 49-51:259-268, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.
13. Complex predicates with *peTuka* in Malayalam. In *Language Vitality in South Asia*, (Ed.), Ali R. Fatihi, 2009, 516-527, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.
14. Samaasam. 2010. In *Samakaaliina Malayalam*, Malayalam Department, Madras University and CIIL, Mysore.
15. Verb Morphology and Clause Structure in Malayalam. 2010. *In Papers for presentation at the 32nd All All Conference of Linguists*, Linguistics Society of India, Pune.
16. Compounds in Malayalam: Some observations. 2010. *Opil* 36, A festschrift for Prof. Nagamma Reddy. Osmania University, Hyderabad.
17. Modality and clause structure in Malayalam. 2015. In *Paper in Dravidian Studies , . V.I.Subrahmonium Memorial Volume I*,(Eds.) G.K.Panikkar, B. Ramakrishna Reddy, K. Rangan and B. Rajapurohit. International School of Dravidian Linguistics: Trivandrum.
18. Verb Morphology and Clause Structure in Malayalam. 2017. In  *Fabric of Indian Linguistics(A festschrift in honour of Udaya Narayana Singh)*, (Eds.) Singh, Shailendra Kumar, Abhishek Kumar Kashyap, Badaplin War, Saralin A, Lyngdoh, Barika Khyriem. Laksha Publishers and Distributors, New Delhi.
19. On a putative phonological rule in Malayalam: an argument for Syllable Coda. 2017. *Indian Linguistics* 78(3-4), 17-23.
20. Decomposing the verbalizer *peTuka* in Malayalam. 2019. An *International Journal of Language Studies* 1.1: 50-85. EFLU, Hyderabad.
21. Heritage Language speakers and pedagogy: a UG perspective. Forthcoming in a

Volume on Heritage Languages to be brought out by Aligarh Muslim University.

1. Locating the Locative in Malayalam : A brief note. 2020. Appeared in ‘A

festschrift for Prof. M. Maheshwariah’.

1. Transitivity alternations with the verbalizer peTuka in Malayalam. To appear in

the Volume from ICOSAL 13.

24. Psych nominals in Malayalam. Ms.

25. Encoding Grammatical Relations in Darma: a case of Syntactic convergence.

Ms..

*26. Chomsky kaa vyaakaraN sidhaanth*. A text book on generative grammar in Hindi, under preparation.

**Projects**:

Completed a project on the ‘**Documentation of Darma language in Uttarakhand’ under the Scheme for the Protection and Preservation of Endangered Languages**’ of Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore in 2016.

Seminars and Conferences attended

1. National Seminar on Common Syntactic Features of Indian Languages; Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, India; 8-12 Feb 1988; paper presented: ‘Certain Aspects of Indian Interrogatives’ (Co- authored with Dr. B. Ramakrishna Reddy)
2. National Seminar on Deixis in Indian languages; Osmania University, Hyderabad; 10-12 Mar 1988; paper presented: ‘Deictic Interpretation of certain verbs in Malayalam’
3. 17th All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists, Udipi; Dravidian Linguistics Association; 11-13 May 1989; paper presented: ‘On Control in Malayalam’
4. 18th All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists, Kanyakumari; Dravidian Linguistics Association; 19-21 Apr 1990; paper presented: ‘Certain aspects of Free Relatives’
5. 20th All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists, Thiruvananthapuram; Dravidian Linguistics Association; 20-22 Aug 1992; paper presented: ‘Unbounded Question- word movement, clausal pied-piping Case-filter parameter’
6. National Seminar on word order in Indian languages; Osmania University, Hyderabad; 26-27 Feb 1993; paper presented: ‘An NP-internal word- order variation in Malayalam’
7. SALA XV; University of Iowa, Iowa city; 21-23 May 1993; paper presented (in absentia): ‘Clefts in Malayalam: a focussed movement perspective’
8. 21st All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists, Kuppam; Dravidian Linguistics Association; 20-22 Aug 1993; paper presented: ‘An NP-internal word order variation in Malayalam’
9. National Seminar cum workshop on Lexical Typology, Hyderabad; Telugu University, Hyderabad and Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore; 26-27 Feb 1994; paper presented: ‘The morpho-syntax of a *peTuka*- compound in Malayalam’
10. National Seminar on Co-articulation in Indian languages; Osmania University, Hyderabad; 24-25 Feb 1995; paper presented: ‘Co-articulatory effects of trills in Malayalam’
11. XVIII SALA Conference; Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; 6-8 Jan 1997; paper presented: ‘Wh-scope extraction in Malayalam’
12. National Seminar on Second language acquisition, University of Kerala; Southern Regional Language Centre, Mysore and University of Kerala; 6-8 Dec 2003; paper present: ‘P & P approach and Bilingual language acquisition’
13. 6th International Conference on South Asian Languages; Osmania University; 6-8 Jan 2005; paper presented: ‘Dative subject and Modality’
14. 33rd All India Conference of the Dravidian Linguists,Thiruvananthapuram; Dravidian Linguistics Association; June 16-18, 2005; paper presented: ‘Modality in Malayalam’
15. 28th All India Conference of the Linguistic Society of India, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, November 6-8, 2006; paper presented: ‘Complex predicates with *peTuka* in Malayalam’.
16. International Conference on South Asian Languages 8, Aligarh Muslim University,

Aligarh, January 6-8, 2008; paper presented: ‘Complex predicates with *peTuka* in

Malayalam’.

17. 37th All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists, ISDL, Thiruvananthapuram, June

18-20, 2009; paper presented: ‘On a putative phonological rule in Malayalam’.

18. 32nd All India Conference of Linguists, University of Lucknow, December 21-23,

2010. Paper presented: ‘Verb Morphology and Clause Structure in Malayalam’

.

19. Invited Speaker in ‘A Ten day Natural Language Processing Training cum

Orientation Programme’ conducted by the LDCIL and CIIL, Mysore from February

21 to March 3, 2012. Lectures on Syntactic Theory and 2. Semantic Theory

20. Invited speaker in ‘A Five day Programme in Natural Language Processing,

conducted by LDCIL and CIIL, Mysore, in Lucknow University on October 25 to

29, 2013, Lecture delivered on ‘Syntactic Theory’.

21. Workshop on Language Documentation, conducted by Lucknow University in

collaboration with CIIL, Mysore. Invited Lecture on ‘Argument Structures of

Verbs’ from February 21st to 27th , 2014.

19. 29th South Asian Language Analysis Roundtable, Central Institute of Indian

Languages, January 2th-8th, 2011. Paper Presented: ‘Psych Predicates with PeTuka

in Malayalam’.

20. South Asian Language Analysis Roundtable 30, held at Hyderabad Central

University, February 6-8, 2014. Paper presented: ‘Nominal Psych Predicates’

1. All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists, at HCU, June 2016. Paper presented: ‘A putative phonological rule in Malayalam’.
2. All India conference of Dravidian Linguists, at Delhi University, June 2017. Paper presented: ‘Syntax of the verbalizer peTuka in Malayalam’.
3. ICOSAL at Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, January 2018. Paper presented: ‘Transitivity alternations in Malayalam’
4. Himalayalan Language Symposium, Lucknow University, June 8-10, 2018. Paper presented: ‘Encoding Grammatical Relations in Darma’.

## Summer schools and other courses attended

1. 11-day Intensive Course on Natural Language Processing; Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur; 2-12 Jul 1990
2. 5-week Intensive Course on Natural Language Processing; Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur; 1 Jul-2 Aug 1991
3. International Summer School in Functional Linguistics; Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages, Hyderabad; 29 Jul-24 Aug 1991
4. International Summer School in Phonetics and Phonology; Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages, Hyderabad; 6-24 Jul 1992
5. Tutorial and Workshop on Speech Technology; Indian Institute of Technology, Madras; 6-11 Dec 1992
6. National Workshop on Common Vocabulary in Indian languages; Telugu University; 24 Feb-25 Mar 1993
7. International Summer School in Syntax; Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages, Hyderabad; 29 Jul-24 Aug 1994

**SYNOPSIS OF THE DOCTORAL THESIS**

**Thesis Title**: *QUESTION-WORD MOVEMENT IN MALAYALAM AND GB THEORY.* **University and year**:Osmania University, Hyderabad, 1992

**Supervisor**: Prof. B. Ramakrishna Reddy

The present thesis concerns itself with the phenomenon of question-word movement in Malayalam, particularly when viewed from the ‘Barriers’ (Chomsky, 1986) perspective of the theory of Government and Binding. Making a significant departure from its immediate predecessor, the Lectures on Government and Binding (Chomsky, 1981), in Barriers, Chomsky attempts to unify the localities relevant for the theories of Government and bounding in terms of the uniform notion of ‘barriers’. In other words, the notion of ‘barriers’ plays a crucial role in restricting both government and movement across categories. As this work deals with movement involving question-words in Malayalam, we shall be examining how ‘barriers’ constrain the strategies adopted for the formation of question-word questions in Malayalam.

A widely-held view, prevailing among scholars working on Indian languages, is that they do not display any overt movement in Syntax in question-word questions. Hence, in GB parlance, Indian languages were supposed as exercising the in-situ option of forming question questions. At the same time, however, scholars have also observed, not infrequently, that question-words within simplex clauses normally tend to occur in the immediate preverbal position in these languages. Thus, in Jayaseelan (1989), Malayalam has been argued as resorting to movement to the preverbal position to obtain question-word questions. Therefore, in Chapter 1, keeping in view the Barriers theory, we shall discuss the plausible analysis for the question-word questions employing the preverbal strategy in Malayalam.

In spite of the plausibility of the preverbal moved question-word questions in simple clauses, the predominant strategy to obtain question-word questions in Malayalam is, however, through clefting (cf. Madhavan, 1987). Herein, the question-words themselves undergo clefting in order to effect a question on them. Thus, in Chapter II, we develop a focused movement account of clefting in Malayalam, which essentially builds on the idea in Hoh and Chiang (1990) for the analysis of clefts in Chinese. Furthermore, the focused movement approach is argued to yield an empirically more satisfactory account than the previous account of clefting in Malayalam.

In Chapter III, facts concerning unbounded question-word dependencies in Malayalam are examined. It is noted that certain asymmetries obtain depending on the finite/non-finite distinction of the embedded clausal complements when question-words contained within them have to undergo unbounded extraction. However, if the embedded clauses themselves are extracted instead, the above asymmetry disappears. This is argued to follow from the assumption that finite sentential complements are base-generated as structural islands in Malayalam. Then, basing on the extractions permissible from within finite complements across languages, the possible nature of argument generation at the D-structure is discussed. The differential generation of finite complements among languages is suggested as a possible corollary of the fact that the principles relevant for the Case may be parameterizable across various levels of syntactic derivation.

In the final Chapter, we look at the apparent violation of CNPC effects alleged to be permissible in Malayalam. These are generally treated as plausible because, according to Chomsky (1981), subjacency is exempted from applying at LF. However, recent works like Pesetsky (1987), Fukui (1988), Choe (1987), and Nishigauchi (1990) have provided convincing evidence to demonstrate the relevance of subjacency at LF. Hence, according to Nishigauchi, what appears as apparent violations of subjacency and CNPC in Japanese and Korean are in fact instances wherein at LF there is pied-piping of the Complex NPs. Under the focused movement account, Malayalam facts are shown to provide overt evidence for the LF pied-piping operation assumed in Japanese and Korean.

**References**:

Chomsky, N. 1981. *Lectures on Government and Binding*. Dordrecht: Foris

Chomsky, N. 1986. *Barriers*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Hoh, P.-S. And We-Yu Chiang. 1990. A Focus account of moved Wh-phrases in S-Structure in Chinese. *Lingua* 81.47-80.

Jayaseelan, K. A. 1989. Question-Word movement in Malayalam. CIEFL Ms.

Madhavan, P. 1987. *Clefts and Pseudo-clefts in English and Malayalam*. Hyderabad: CIEFL dissertation.

Nishigauchi, T. 1990. *Quantification in the theory of Grammar*. Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic Publishers.

Pesetsky, D. 1987. Wh-in-situ: movement and unselective binding. In E. Reuland and A.G.B. ter Meulen (eds.), *The Representation of (In)definiteness*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

**SYNOPSIS OF MASTER’S DISSERTATION**

**Dissertation Title**: *RELATIVIZATION IN IGBO, 1987***.**

This is a dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of the paper V (Field Linguistics) for the degree of Master of Arts in Linguistics. The study is based on a small-scale field investigation with the language informant Mr. Paul Davis, a native speaker of Igbo which is a Niger-Congo language spoken in Nigeria. This dissertation aims at studying the strategies adopted for forming relative clauses in Igbo assuming the Noun Phrase Accessibility Hierarchy (NP-A.H.), given below, proposed by Keenan and Comrie (1977).

*NP- A. H.*

*Subject ≥ Object ≥ Indirect Object ≥ Object of Pre or Postposition ≥ Possessor*

The NP-A.H. predicts that the relativizing possibility of an NP with a given Grammatical Function (GF) in a language implies the possibility of relativization of all NPs with GFs higher than it on the hierarchy. For instance, the possibility of relativizing the NP with Indirect Object in language X would automatically imply the possibility of relativization of the GFs Object and Subject which are higher than it on the NP-A.H given above. Against this theoretical backdrop, it is shown that the dominant relativization strategy in the language involves gapping whereby the GF corresponding to the relativized NP within the relative clause is left as a gap. The relativizability of NPs extends till the lowest GF Possessor on the A.H, although this requires a resumptive pronoun for the possessor within the relative clause illustrating the relative difficulty it involves. This implies that NPs bearing all GFs are relativizable in Igbo. Blocking of relativization by gapping is found only with passive sentences in Igbo. Passives give rise to Correlatives. Voice transfers are generally adopted in languages to promote inaccessible GF bearing NPs to accessible GFs on the A.H. Since all the GFs in an active sentence are relativizable by the normal strategy of gapping, Igbo appears to prohibit the strategy in passive structures. In other words, availability of more direct means for the process in question appears to block the indirect means for obtaining the same.

**Reference**

Keenan Edward L., and Bernard Comrie.  1977.  Noun phrase accessibility and universal grammar. Linguistic Inquiry 8.63–99.