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- a) English Translation.
- b) Tamil; Transliteration; Word-for-word Translation; and Colloquial Translation.
- c) Tamil.
- d) English Translation, with Movements.
- e) Genre.
- f) Analysis of Performative Components, and Verbal Content.
- g) Similar Activity Found Elsewhere.

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- 1) ஒரு கல்லு 188
o ru kal lu
one stone
One Stone.
- 2) ஒண்ணாம் பாத்தி 199
oN Naam paat thi
one garden
One Garden.
- 3) ஒரு குடம் 208
o ru ku Dam
one pot
One Pot.
- 4) சந்தணம் 231
chan tha Nam
sandalwood ash
Sandalwood Ash.

- 5) என்ன? 243
 en na
 what
 What Kind Of?
- 6) எந்திருக்கு? 282
 en thi ruk ku?
 what use?
 What Use?
- 7) தாக்கா! 289
 thaak kaa
 please give
 Please Give!
- 8) மந்தி சாடி 297
 man thi chaa-Di
 monkey jumping
 Monkey Jumping.
- 9) உருண்டோ 310
 u ruN Doo
 rolling
 Rolling.
- 10) முள்ளிக்க 317
 muL Lik ka
 a fruit with thorns on the plant
 A Fruit.
- 11) கொலையா 324
 ko lai yaa
 bunch
 A Bunch.
- 12) ஆடு புளி 332
 aa Tu pu Li
 goat tiger
 Goat and Tiger.

13) முத்தி, முத்தி mut thi, mut thi frog, frog Frog, Frog.	342
14) உண்ணி, உண்ணி uN Ni, uN Ni tick, tick Tick, Tick.	348

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Methods of Transliteration and Translation, and the Tamil Alphabet

Two special characteristics of the Tamil language are that the meaning of words depends on: 1) the length of time a vowel is sounded (short and long); and 2) the position of the tongue when consonants are sounded (dental, medial, or retroflex).¹

The variant of the International Phonetic System used in this dissertation for transliterations (into the Latin script) represents these Tamil letters in the following ways: 1) long vowels are represented by double letters (such as “aa”); 2) the medial consonant is underlined (there is only one: “n”); and 3) retroflex consonants are capitalized (such as, “N”).

This is an old-fashioned version of the International Phonetic System. A more recent version of the International Phonetic System for transliterations from the Tamil script uses lines and dots under and above the Latin script letters. The primary reason I am using the older system is that I find it easier to type this transliteration method on any keyboard, and in any word-processing and e-mail program. A disadvantage of this older system is that capitalizing first letters of

¹ “Dental” indicates that the tip of the tongue is touching the back of one’s upper front teeth. “Medial” indicates that the tip of the tongue is in a middle position. “Retroflex” indicates that the tip of the tongue is curled upward and backward, so as to touch the roof of the mouth.

words (of proper nouns, of first words of sentences, etc.) in the transliterated text can cause confusion. I have refrained from such capitalizing in this work.

The Tamil Alphabet

	a	aa	i	ii	u	uu	e	ee	ai	o	oo	ow	
	அ	ஆ	இ	ஈ	உ	ஊ	எ	ஏ	ஐ	ஓ	ஔ	ஔள	
k (h, g)	க்	க	கா	கி	கீ	கு	கூ	கெ	கே	கை	கொ	கோ	கௌ
ng	ங்	ங	ஙா	ஙி	ஙீ	ஙு	ஙூ	ஙெ	ஙே	ஙை	ஙொ	ஙோ	ஙௌ
s (ch)	ச்	ச	சா	சி	சீ	சு	சூ	செ	சே	சை	சொ	சோ	சௌ
nj	ஞ்	ஞ	ஞா	ஞி	ஞீ	ஞு	ஞூ	ஞெ	ஞே	ஞை	ஞொ	ஞோ	ஞௌ
D	ட்	ட	டா	டி	டீ	டு	டூ	டெ	டே	டை	டொ	டோ	டௌ
N	ண்	ண	ணா	ணி	ணீ	ணு	ணூ	ணெ	ணே	ணை	ணொ	ணோ	ணௌ
th	த்	த	தா	தி	தீ	து	தூ	தெ	தே	தை	தொ	தோ	தௌ
n	ந்	ந	நா	நி	நீ	நு	நூ	நெ	நே	நை	நொ	நோ	நௌ
p (b)	ப்	ப	பா	பி	பீ	பு	பூ	பெ	பே	பை	பொ	போ	பௌ
m	ம்	ம	மா	மி	மீ	மு	மூ	மெ	மே	மை	மொ	மோ	மௌ
y	ய்	ய	யா	யி	யீ	யு	யூ	யெ	யே	யை	யொ	யோ	யௌ
r	ர்	ர	ரா	ரி	ரீ	ரு	ரூ	ரெ	ரே	ரை	ரொ	ரோ	ரௌ
l	ல்	ல	லா	லி	லீ	லு	லூ	லெ	லே	லை	லொ	லோ	லௌ
v	வ்	வ	வா	வி	வீ	வு	வூ	வெ	வே	வை	வொ	வோ	வௌ
lrzh	ழ்	ழ	ழா	ழி	ழீ	ழு	ழூ	ழெ	ழே	ழை	ழொ	ழோ	ழௌ
L	ள்	ள	ளா	ளி	ளீ	ளு	ளூ	ளெ	ளே	ளை	ளொ	ளோ	ளௌ
R	ற்	ற	றா	றி	றீ	று	றூ	றெ	றே	றை	றொ	றோ	றௌ
n	ன்	ன	னா	னி	னீ	னு	னூ	னெ	னே	னை	னொ	னோ	னௌ
j	ஜ்	ஜ	ஜா	ஜி	ஜீ	ஜு	ஜூ	ஜெ	ஜே	ஜை	ஜொ	ஜோ	ஜௌ
h	ஹ்	ஹ	ஹா	ஹி	ஹீ	ஹு	ஹூ	ஹெ	ஹே	ஹை	ஹொ	ஹோ	ஹௌ
st	ஸ்	ஸ	ஸா	ஸி	ஸீ	ஸு	ஸூ	ஸெ	ஸே	ஸை	ஸொ	ஸோ	ஸௌ
sh	ஷ்	ஷ	ஷா	ஷி	ஷீ	ஷு	ஷூ	ஷெ	ஷே	ஷை	ஷொ	ஷோ	ஷௌ

(Figure 1.)

Notes:

In the above chart, the vowels are shown on the top line, from left to right; and the consonants are shown from top to bottom. Each vowel can be applied to each consonant.

In the Tamil script, a dot above a Tamil consonant indicates that this consonant is the final sound of the syllable.

The chart's final four consonant sounds (j, h, st, sh) are derived from Sanskrit.

As shown in the chart:

1) க் can be pronounced as "ka," "ha," or "ga."

2) ச் can be pronounced as "sa" or "cha."

3) ப் can be pronounced as "pa" or "ba."

In all of these cases, the sound depends on: the context (in the word); and the local dialect.

As shown in the chart: the Tamil vowels as transliterated into the International Phonetic System (IPS) are

a aa i ii u uu e ee ai o oo ow

“a” (IPS) is pronounced as in “around”.

“i” (IPS) is pronounced as in “be.”

“u” (IPS) is pronounced as in “you.”

“e” (IPS) is pronounced as in “way.”

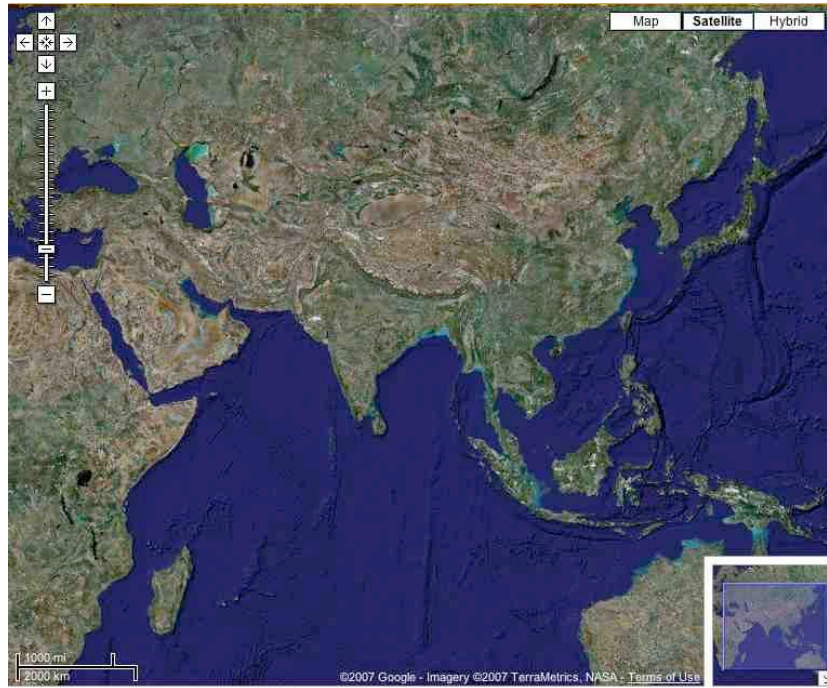
“ai” (IPS) is pronounced as in “why.”

“o” (IPS) is pronounced as in “slow.”

“ow” (IPS) is pronounced as in “cow.”

Maps

A) The Africa-to-Asia Region.

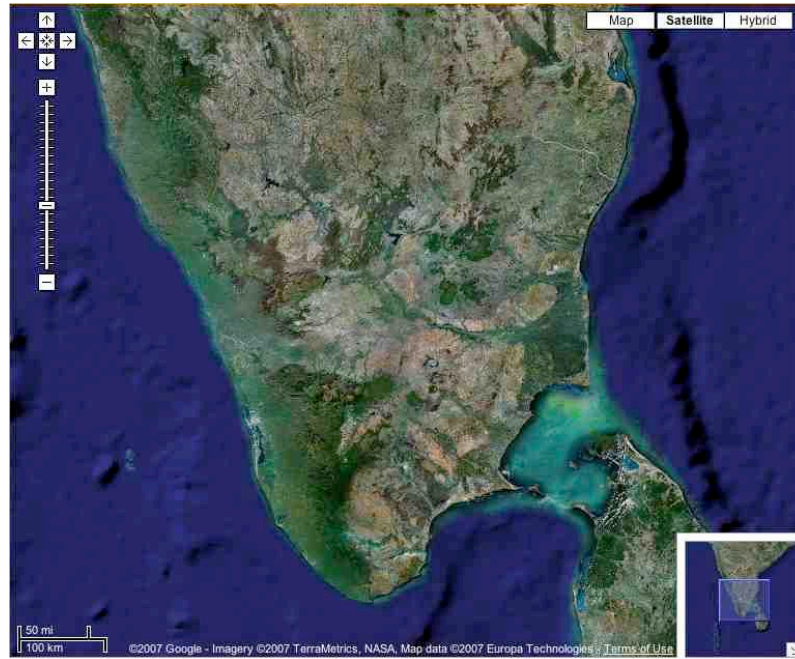


(Figure 2.)



With place names and boundaries. (Figure 3.)

B) A Section of Southern India.

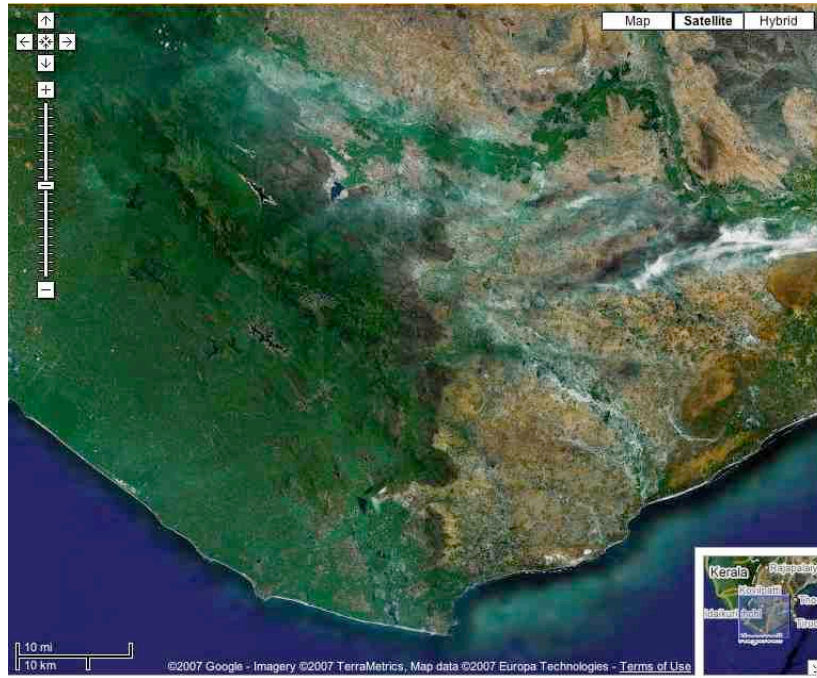


(Figure 4.)



With place names, boundaries, and roads. (Figure 5.)

C) Far Southern India.



(Figure 6.)



With place names, boundaries, and roads. (Figure 7.)