

CHAPTER FIVE

CONCLUSION

5.1 Sūtra 462

In all the preceding four chapters, we have been seeing that Nannūlar's concepts on Tamil grammar are still popular among Tamil scholars and users of modern Tamil.

Nannūlar's rules are still used as basic grammatical rules in many institutions of higher learning.

The Tamil speaking as well as written world lauds the hallmark of the sūtras from Nannūlar i.e. sūtra 462.

Sūtra 462 says that the old thoughts will vanish paving way for the new thoughts and beliefs. This change is due to the changing times and everyone should welcome this change with full spirit.

The peculiarity of sutra 462 is that its verdict applies to all disciplines in this world, like agriculture, medicine, philosophy, etc., practically in every discipline, new thoughts replace old ones and this gives room for improvements.

5.2 New Arrivals

The development taking place in Tamil Linguistics, in accordance with sūtra 462, is indeed great. It is said that Nannūl is the only book which attracted many commentators.

The development mentioned above is nothing but new arrivals.

Agesthalingom, Pon. Kotandaraman, S.V Shanmugam, T.P Meenakshisundaram, Arangkan, Soma Sundram, Israel and Su.

Innasi are among the few who contribute well to Tamil language through their articles and books. Many changes identified by these sholars above have been mentioned in chapter four.

Most of the articles mentioned above review some interpretations on Tolkāppiyar's sūtras and Nannūlar's sutras touching on graphemes, morphemes and syntax.

The most significant point is related to grammatical categories. The number of grammatical categories we have is four. But this is not so when we compare English Language and the current usage of Tamil Language today. Adjectives and adverbs have emerged and are widely used.

New insights into 'uricol' are given especially by T.P Meenakshisundaram. This is an area that many other scholars would venture into, to study the actual intentions of traditional grammarians about 'uricol'.

K. Thilagawati from University of Malaya, always suggests that compound verbs is indeed another area in which studies and researches should be

conducted. In fact, the word-class, verb has taken many forms, according to Agesthalingom. The verbs like valvinai, melvinai, iyakkuvinaï, are some interesting verbs that many must look into.

5.3 New Challenges And Expectations

In the midst of next millenium knocking at the door steps, the Tamil Language is facing a lot of challenges and expectations. Now, Tamil Language has become the computer language for many. This necessitates the updating of the terminology in Tamil Language.

Many words have come from many languages into Tamil Language. This trend has been in vogue since Christian era. But now, information technology has become the field of the day. Transfer of information happens fast and efficiently through computers.

The Tamil Language or modern Tamil, faces this challenge of building new terminology. Efforts are being made since the nineteenth

century, but the efforts have not given satisfactory results and we continue to go on searching for our technical terms.

Thus far, we have seen that there are a total of 462 sūtras in Naṅṅūl. Among those, a sum of 23 sūtras from eluttatikāram and a sum of 205 from collatikāram have been taken into consideration for this study. From chapter four, it is evident that almost 95% of the sūtras are found to be very relevant till today; it will be of interest to remind ourselves that these sūtras were composed almost 700 years ago.

The next point to emphasise here is that new sutras should be added to those of Naṅṅūl to cater for the new developments in the Tamil Language. Though one may argue that the interpretations given by the famous commentators are quite perfect yet each and every commentator expressed differently.

The virtues of the sutras have been felt by linguists, but when more and more scholars began to work many shortcomings have come to light and as a result we find that we have to add new rules besides modifying certain sutras in Nannul.