Chapter 2

Related Literature Review
2.1 Introduction

Contemporary researches in the field of CVs show that the latter have a significant position in literary Tamil. Linguists belonging to this as well as the previous century have confirmed the grammatical status of CVs. As far as Tamil is concerned, twenty-two articles and one monograph dealing with CVs, have been produced during the last 150 years, i.e., the period of modern Tamil prose. Except for a few which exhibit misconceptions about CVs, these studies in general have helped to assign a grammatical status to CVs.

Numerous researches on CVs confirm the vital role played by the latter in Tamil. These researches are categorised as those with clear information and without clear information. The second category has caused misconceptions. The misconceptions indirectly reveal the immaturity and inadequacy of researches in this field.

Based on research studies done, there are two types of scholars. Those who have produced reliable and significant information on CVs belong to the first group. The second are those who have failed to provide reliable and accurate information. Lack of proper research methodology has contributed to the failure in overcoming the misconception about CVs.

As stated earlier, there are a number of scholars from and outside India, who have ventured into this new field. A foreigner, G.U. Pope, is noted as the pioneer explorer of this field (G.U. Pope, 1855). After his venture, this field has been experimented by others at various levels. This continuous process could be witnessed even in the
latest work by P. Balasubramaniam (1995). All the studies have their respective targets, which narrow down their scope of research. Thus, this section analytically describes the characteristic features of CVs that have been put forth by these studies.

It is significant to note that almost all-available works are based on the respective authors' own interest. To avoid further confusion and misunderstanding, this study has chosen a stand not to make critical review of those works. It only aims at examining the significance of their findings. The brief review of the related literature have been presented chronologically under two main classifications as below:

2.1. Studies with significant contributions
2.2. Studies with scanty and unclear contributions

2.1 Studies with significant contributions

2.1.1 Author : G.U. Pope (1855 : 123 - 124)

G.U. Pope was a pioneer scholar in this field. He has provided some useful information about CVs. His clear and deep knowledge about the grammar of European languages has enabled him to effectively study the structural system of the Tamil language. His contribution has provided the Tamil language with some valuable findings. The existence of this kind of word formation technique in Tamil has been distinctly analysed and identified by him. Though many methods are
available for word formation, he has chosen to explain only six of them. He stresses those methods which are used to construct compound words from bases.

Out of the six methods employed by Pope, our concern is only on one, i.e. Noun + Verb > Noun Verb (combination) structure. He has explained this method to a certain extent without naming them as CV formations. It is the earliest research in this field. Though it was too early for CV ventures, he managed to distinguish one of the most important modes of the CV formations. Nevertheless, his explanations have been restricted to a certain number of verbs which function as verbalizers.

E.g. aakku - 'cause to be'
cey - 'do’
paNNu - 'make / perform’

He argues that such verbalizers occur more frequently with preceding nouns to produce new verbs. He proposes the following illustrations to be considered:

i. cuttam - 'purity'
cuttam paNNu - 'purify’
cuttamaakku - ‘cleanse’

ii. vicaaraNai - ‘investigation’
vicaaraNai cey - ‘investigate’

In addition, he has classified the compound verbs semantically into two main groups:

i. one which is an ellipsis of the second case
ii. one which combines with a noun to form a compound verb.
Pope adds that terms in the second group exhibit some semantic differences from their constituents. Furthermore, he notes the non-acceptance of the second case marker by the nouns which form the bases of CVs as the main characteristics of CVs. At present, this theory has become an important criterion to distinguish CV formations from others.

2.1.2.  Author : Caldwell (1860: 629)

Caldwell (1860), a prominent linguistic scholar has produced a distinctive work on CVs. He undertook a comparative study on Dravidian languages during the second half of the 19th century. That a number of characteristic features and concepts of the language correspond to their European counterparts have been identified by him. He has pointed out that the word formation concepts in Tamil and Dravidian languages are identical. He has mentioned about compounding methods, which use verbs with nouns or particles as bases. He has given examples such as,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Particle</th>
<th>+</th>
<th>Vinai</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>keez</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>paTu &gt; keezpaTu ‘surrender’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>meel</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>kol &gt; meeRkol   ‘follow’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These forms are accepted as CVs. He further analyses their grammatical functions under three categories:

2.1.2.1. Definition of compounds
2.1.2.2. Structure of compounds
2.1.2.3. Relationship between the constituents

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It is surprising that he has ignored the combination of two verbs. (verb + verbalizer) in Tamil. Hence his study cannot be considered as complete. However, the explanation he has given for CVs is useful for other researchers. He states:

The first member of the compound (the noun or the particle) does not modify the significance of the second (the verb) but simply denotes the object to which the action of the verb applies. It is merely a crude noun which is used objectively without any sign of case and is intimately combined with a governing verb. 

(Caldwell, 1992 : 628)

Note that there is no mention about V + V type of CVs. His explanation concerns the N + V type of compound verbs, in particular. Although the formation of compound verbs involves various bases, the nature and quality of verbalizers have always been static. These verbalizers form verbal entities by combining with various kinds of bases. Like verbs, CVs also occur as predicates of sentences. Nouns that function as bases in CV combination do not take the accusative case maker -ai.

2.1.3 Author : A. H. Asher (1981)

Asher's scope of study in analysing CVs in Tamil differs from his colleagues. He has noted the formation of idioms in Tamil. He notes that these idioms are formed when a verb combines with a noun in sequence. These formations which convey new semantic notions are taken as part of new verbal system. Unfortunately, his explanation is focused on selected idioms. He has chosen the following verbalizers for his explanation:
Besides, he has given semantic interpretations and grammatical functions of this formation. According to him, the newly formed CVs operate in two ways:

a. as transitive verbs  (by taking verbalizer like paTuttu ‘cause(so) to experience (st)’)
b. as intransitive verbs  (by taking verbalizer like paTu ‘undergo some experience’)

From the above it can be seen that Asher has used the syntactic approach to identify the grammatical feature of the ‘CVs’. As his work is mainly on idioms, only a scanty explanation has been given about CVs. This shortcoming has been overcome to a certain extend in one of his later works entitled, A Progressive Grammar of Tamil (1976). He has suggested some important notes on CVs. He includes:

akappaTu  -  ‘be caught’
meempaTu  -  ‘be pre - eminent’
Among the Indian scholars, Nja. Devaney (1950) seems to be the first ever scholar who had initiated researches in this field. The author, being fully aware of the existence of this type of new words, has made some observations about their functions, both semantically and syntactically. This has enabled him to distinguish the grammatical functions of verbalizers from the corresponding auxiliaries. He observes that the following verbs have special functions in compound verb combinations:

- *aaTu* - 'dance'
- *iru* - 'be'
- *ITu* - 'lay'
- *koL* - 'possess'
- *paTu* - 'experience(s.t.)'
- *poo* - 'go'
- *pooTu* - 'put'
- *uRu* - 'have it / possess it'
- *vaa* - 'come'
- *viTu* - 'leave'

These verbs may combine with nouns and verbs to form new verbal structures. They may also function as single verbs. Upon combination the semantic notions of the new formation would slightly differ from the original forms. For instance, he has identified the following as the new type of formation:

- *ezundtu* - 'wake up'
- *kaNNuRu* - 'see'
- *koNTuva* - 'bring along'
- *uраiyaaTu* - 'discuss'
He has also classified them semantically into three groups:

2.1.4.1. absolute new meaning rendering forms
2.1.4.2. partial new meaning rendering forms
2.1.4.3. indivisible forms

Although the objective was to analyse some elements found in Traditional Grammar in modern context, he has failed to distinguish clearly the functions played by these formations. However, most of his statements seem to rely on the formations of CVs. A lack of awareness about this phenomenon at that time may have caused him to include these information under the auxiliaries’ label.

2.1.5. Author : A. Velupillai (1966 : 235 – 238)

A. Velupillai, a local scholar, has thrown some light on the earlier outlook of the CV, which was then recognised as a developing aspect of Modern Tamil Grammar. He has cited appropriate examples and explanations for these new formations, the so-called CVs. He has also noted that CVs prevail since the period of Sangkam Literature. Consider the following, taken from the list of CVs shown by him:

- **kaar Cey** - ‘rain (V)’
- **kaaNtara** - ‘show’
- **kai paTu** - ‘touch’
- **puRamtaRu** - ‘turn one’s back’
- **uraiyaaTu** - ‘discuss’

In addition, he has suggested some methods to identify these new forms. Accordingly, the combination of a verbalizer, which generally stands as the second constituent with any preceding verbal root or noun stems, would form CVs. In such a context, the
characteristic features of preceding bases would not be affected. While maintaining their own features, they form a cohesive relationship. He has classified those existing CVs into two main groups, viz.,:

2.1.5.1. CVs derived from noun stems  
2.1.5.2. CVs derived from verbal roots.

He also explains that there are a number of CVs, which become verbal nouns on adding some morphemes. Note the following examples:

### 2.1.5.3. Noun Morpheme Verbal Noun

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Noun</th>
<th>Morpheme</th>
<th>Verbal Noun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cuul</td>
<td>- nd / tatu</td>
<td>cuulndtatu - 'that surrounded'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>irul</td>
<td>- T / Tatu</td>
<td>iruNTatu - 'that which became dark'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kaay</td>
<td>- nd / tatu</td>
<td>kaayndtatu - 'that which became dried'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>puu</td>
<td>- t / tatu</td>
<td>puuttatu - 'that which flowered'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contrary to these forms, he stresses that there are nouns, which cannot become verbal nouns even when added to any such formative morphemes.; these nouns always depend on verbalizers to acquire such verbal notions, whenever it is applicable. The following are some examples quoted:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Noun</th>
<th>+</th>
<th>Verbalizer</th>
<th>&gt;</th>
<th>CVs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>allal</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>uRu</td>
<td>&gt;</td>
<td>allalRu 'suffer'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>meenmai</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>paTu</td>
<td>&gt;</td>
<td>meempaTu 'progress'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>puRam</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>paTu</td>
<td>&gt;</td>
<td>puRappaTu 'start a journey'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tunpam</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>uRu</td>
<td>&gt;</td>
<td>tunpamuRu 'suffer'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.1.6. **Author:** M.S. Andronov (1969 : 354)

Andronov is another western scholar who should be noted for his work on Contemporary Tamil Grammar. His observation is on morphological fundamentals. His concern for CV is vague but the inclusion of a number of CVs in the appendix proves his awareness about these features. However, the scholar has termed them as composite words. His study puts forth the dominant features and semantic functions of those formations. He expresses that the composite verb has:

2.1.6.1. a nominal base and a verbal stem: the former semantically depending on the latter  
E.g. *palappatutal* 'to become strengthened'

2.1.6.2. two semantically connected verbal stems  
E.g. *eerpatutal* 'to happen'  
*tollaatutal* 'to grow weak'  
*pooraatutal* 'to struggle'


We can boldly claim that among the linguists, Pon. Kothandaraman (1977) is the one who activated the researches on Compound Verb. The Scholar, who possesses expertise in the theoretical and practical development of foreign and local languages, has considered the CV formation as a special means of word formation used in Tamil. He has disclosed some valuable information along with examples in his two works. Accordingly, verbs in Tamil are divided into two main groups, viz., simple
verbs and complex verbs. The complex verbs have been classified into two sub-
categories:

2.1.7.1. the verb with two or more roots, and
2.1.7.2. the verb with aspeccial and modal auxiliaries

In addition, he has mentioned five sub-classes that belong to complex or compound
verbs in the following order:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-class</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1.7.1.1. Noun</td>
<td>+ verb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1.7.1.2. Verbal participle</td>
<td>+ verb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1.7.1.3. Verb root</td>
<td>+ verb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1.7.1.4. Verb (kurippuvina)+ verb&gt;</td>
<td>uNTaakku</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1.7.1.5. Particle</td>
<td>+ verb</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In his explanation, he reaffirms the claim made by A. Velupillai (1966). He has
illustrated a number of auxiliaries that were used to form CVs in old Tamil. He claims
that the auxiliaries like, taa 'give', vaa 'come', uRu 'be', and uN 'be' were used to
combine with preceding nouns and verbs to construct CVs.

Besides, he has highlighted some functions of commonly and frequently recognised
verbalizers in contemporary Tamil. The functions of the verbalizers like aaku
'become', aakku 'make', kol 'possess', cey 'do', tiir 'finish', pàTu 'experience', pàTuttu
'cause to experience', pàNNu 'do', pooTû 'put', etc. are elaborated. Their
explanations reaffirm that CV formation is not an alien process to Tamil.
Schiffman concludes that besides selective auxiliaries, there are a number of simple verbs which associate themselves with preceding words to produce a new term (CVs).

In fact, his explanations mainly distinguish the verbalizer paNNu do' from the others. He stresses that this verbalizer would combine with any preceding nouns to form new verbal nuances. Notably, the verbalizer paNNu 'do' is significantly useful to translate an English meaning into Tamil. Functions of some other auxiliaries like aTi 'hit', paTu 'experience', col 'say' and eTu 'take' are also included in the study. Although some semantic functions have been uniquely distinguished, his explanations too are scanty and do not provide support for the claims he has made. The following examples are among them:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{KaappiyaTi} & \quad \text{‘copy (the answer (illegally))’} \\
\text{ndliccalaTi} & \quad \text{‘swim’}
\end{align*}
\]

Even though both CVs have the same verbalizer - aTi ‘beat’ combined with preceding nouns, their semantic notions are not identical. aTi, literally meaning ‘beat’, loses its original meaning in both the constructions and forms respective new meanings (as given in example). Moreover, the grammatical nature of both constructions are also slightly altered as:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{kaappiyaTi} & \quad \text{‘transitive verb’} \\
\text{ndliccalaTi} & \quad \text{‘intransitive verb’}
\end{align*}
\]
He stresses that there are some underlying rules in their construction which permit the alterations to take place.


N. Nadaraja Pillai, has given some reliable notes on CVs in his work. To be more specific, he has dealt with the components and some characteristic features of CVs. He stresses that their identity should be based upon the new meanings contributed by them.

The author has forwarded a list of guidelines to distinguish the CVs from others, which are structurally identical. He adds that the combination of two constituents establishes cohesive relationship either, endo or exo – centric, determining some of the specific qualities of CVs. His explanation, however, is based on N + V type of CVs only.

2.1.10. Author : S. Agesthialingom (1980: 26 – 63)

Prof. Agesthialingom, one of the prominent linguists of Tamilnadu, displays foremost and valuable information about CVs in his recent work. The CV formation is treated as a new verbal formation tool found in Tamil. His explanations are based on some eighty auxiliaries that are recognised for their significant roles in this formation. The
explanation is followed subsequently with examples without much analytical observations. In addition, the author has also thrown some light to classify the type of CVs prevalent in contemporary Tamil:

2.1.10.1. Noun + Verb > CV
E.g. *accaTi* ‘print’, *aacaippaTu* ‘desire’

2.1.10.2. Verbal noun + Verb > CV
E.g. *atrirciyaTai* ‘be shocked’, *veRRiyaTai* ‘succeed’

2.1.10.3. Verb + Verb > CV
E.g. *cuTTikkaaTTu* ‘pin point’, *kaNTupiTti* ‘discover’

2.1.10.4. Temporal verb + Verb > CV
E.g. *ezundiru* ‘wake up’, *vizittiru* ‘stay alert’

2.1.10.5. Infinitive verbs (*KuRaiyeccam*) + Verb > CV
E.g. *aaRappooTu* ‘postpone (s.t.) to be considered later’
     *ndiingkacccey* ‘get rid (s.t.)’

2.1.10.6. Particle + Verb > CV
E.g. *munneeRu* ‘advance’, *caricey* ‘redo/ repair’

2.1.10.7. idio - centric CV
E.g. *kaippiTi* ‘get married’

Although the author has divided CV formations into seven sub-classes, he has not given sufficient grammatical explanations, neither semantically nor syntactically.


Karthigeyan has produced two sources of information on CVs. One of them is a research work (submitted to fulfil the requirement for Ph.D. at Annamalai University). Another article was designed to give some account of CVs. Word
combination is treated as a word generating approach in Tamil. However, his
analysis is involved with the NV type of CVs to a great extend. Besides, he has
studied in detail the usage of CVs in Tamil prose. He distinguishes two main types of
CVs found in Tamil, viz.,

\[
\begin{align*}
2.1.11.1. & \quad \text{verb + verb} > \text{CV} \\
2.1.11.2. & \quad \text{noun + verb} > \text{CV}
\end{align*}
\]

In his work he further classifies the noun + verb type of CVs into two sub-classes,
viz:

\[
\begin{align*}
2.1.11.3. & \quad \text{marapuk kuuTTuvinakal} \\
2.1.11.3. & \quad \text{marapallaak kuuTTuvinakal}
\end{align*}
\]

2.1.11.3. Marapuk KuuTTuvinaiKAL

The CVs which produce a new idiomatic meaning are named as marapuk
kuuTTuvinakal 'idi-o-centric CVs'. Consider the examples:

E.g. \[
\begin{align*}
\text{kampi ndiTTu} & \quad \text{‘run away’} \\
\text{maNTai pooTu} & \quad \text{‘die’} \\
\text{taaNNir KaaTTu} & \quad \text{‘cheat’}
\end{align*}
\]

2.1.11.4. Marapallaak KuuTTuvinaiKAL

CVs which produce a new meaning that is not idiomatic in nature, are named as
marapallaak kuTTuvinaiKAL 'non-idi-o centic' CVs. For instance:

His scope of study is obviously similar to those done by N. Nadaraja Pillai and A. Karthigeyan. He has treated CVs as an important means of word formation. Some twenty-six verbalizers with examples have been taken into account for his claim. CVs have been classified into three main groups.

2.1.12.1. Noun + verb > CV
   E.g. *citaivuRu* 'be destroyed', *ndiRaivuRu* 'be completed'

2.1.12.2. Verb + verb > CV
   E.g. *viTTukkoTu* 'give in (to s.o.)', *kaNTupiTi* 'discover'

2.1.12.3. Particle + verb > CV
   E.g. *piRpaTu* 'be in a posterior position', *munvai* 'put forth'


The author has given a detailed information about some auxiliaries that occur after the verbal participle forms. The study is mainly focused on some fourteen selective auxiliaries. He notes that these features are related to the main verbs lexically, syntactically or semantically. Their ability to play their role as inflection as well as
auxiliation terms has been described comprehensively. The entire work includes a number of complex verbal forms of which twenty happen to be CVs.


Among the foreign contemporary Modern Tamil linguists, Thomas Lehmann is given credit for his useful work on compound phrase (verb) constructions. His findings shed some light on areas, which have been totally abandoned for quite some time. Based on his observation, he stresses that:

... a compound verb construction has a verb in verbal participle forms or in a few cases also in a nominalized verbal forms as first element and a verb inflected according to the syntactic context of the compound verb for the various finite and non-finite verbal categories.

(Thomas Lehmann, 1993: 193 –245)

He also adds that these formations express various grammatical functions, such as,

- Aspect
- Attitude
- Causation
- Mood
- Negative polarity
- Passive mood
Their functions have been determined, basing on some theoretical syntactic context. His observation has been based on Transformational Grammar rules. For instance:

\[ Kumaar \ vandtu \ irukkiR \quad -\quad aan. \]
Kumar comes - vbp be - pr - 3sm.
Kumar has come.

In this sentence the auxiliary, *iru* 'be', expresses the function of perfective aspect, - have.

Lehmann points that the sequence of the main and auxiliary verbs would form a new verbal constituent on the surface structure [VV]. Lehmann’s view and his scope of the study differ from others. As a pioneer scholar in this field, his valuable findings are noted as the best reference for phrasal type of CVs. His insight may assist future researchers to add a new dimension to modern Tamil grammar. Since his explanation on phrasal type of CV is clear, his notes will be referred to wherever possible.

2.1.15. **Author** : **C. Saktivel**  \((1994: 75 - 80)\)

This author has dealt with word formation theories in Tamil. Compounding methods are given a scanty description. His observation falls into the following classification:

2.1.15.1. \[ \text{Noun + verb > CV} \]
\[ \text{E.g. } ndaacamaTai \quad - \quad 'wreck down' \]
\[ \text{paricaLi} \quad - \quad 'present(v)' \]
\[ viiNaakku \quad - \quad 'waste' \]
2.1.15.2. Verb + Verb > CV
   E.g.  \textit{kaNTup/Ti} - 'discover'
         \textit{oppukkoL} - 'admit'

2.1.15.3. Particle + verb > CV
   e. g. \textit{munneeRu} - 'progress'
         \textit{veliyeeRu} - 'get away'

In addition, he has given a semantic classification of these forms. Examine the given divisions and their examples:

a. exo - centric compound verbs
   E.g. \textit{muyaRci cey} 'try'
        \textit{ooyveTu} 'rest'

b. endo - centric compound verbs
   E.g. \textit{moTTaiyaTi} 'swindle'
        \textit{talaIyTu} 'get involved'


The author has done a preliminary attempt to introduce profound CV formation and its distinctive features in Tamil to trainee teachers. Thus, his scope of study is narrow. It is based on selective verbalizers and functions. This enables him to reveal their distinctive features in a limited scope. He cites the following examples:

\begin{align*}
\textit{uRcaakam} & + \quad \text{aTai} \quad > \quad \textit{uRcaakamaTai} \quad \text{'become energetic'} \\
\textit{tirupti} & + \quad \text{aTai} \quad > \quad \textit{tiruptiyaTai} \quad \text{'become contented'} \\
\textit{tunpam} & + \quad \text{aTai} \quad > \quad \textit{tunpamaTai} \quad \text{'suffer'}
\end{align*}
K. Thilagawathi explains the importance of CVs. Her analysis shows that she is fully aware about the existence of a few types of CVs. Hence, she has classified them as follow:

2.1.17.1. Noun + verb > CV  
E.g. pangkukoL 'participate'  
tunpappatu 'suffer'

2.1.17.2. Particle + verb > CV  
E.g. muneeRu 'advance'  
pintangku 'regress'

2.1.17.3. Verb + verb > CV  
2.1.17.3.1. ceytu 'done' type of verbal participle + verb  
E.g. pooyirukkiRaaN '(he) has gone there'  
vandtiirukkiRaaN '(he) has come'

2.1.17.3.2. ceyya 'to do' type of verbal participle + verb  
E.g. ceyyappadTUtu 'it was done'  
valarkkappadTUtaL '(she) was grown'

Beside these classifications, she also has mentioned about the significant functions played by these features in the contemporary Tamil. She urges that possessing a clear knowledge about these elements would help us to use Tamil more effectively.
2.2. Researches with less clear information

2.2.1. Author : John Lazarous (1895: 44)

This author discloses that CVs found in Tamil prose are usually formed by the addition of verbal forms (so-called verbalizers) with preceding words. The preceding words may be a verbal form or any other parts of speech. In Tamil he calls this category as to\(\text{Tar vinaI}\) which literally means phrasal verb in English; surprisingly he has introduced the term CV as the English equivalent for to\(\text{Tar vinaI}\). The imbalance between the Tamil and English terms used by him indicates that he is not very clear about the category he is talking about. He gives the following examples:

2.2.1.1. with other verbs

E.g. \(\text{kaNTeTuttaan}\) 'discovered (he)'
\(\text{pookkaTittaan}\) 'wasted(he)'
\(\text{teeTiyeTuttaan}\) 'founded (after a long search) (he)'

2.2.1.2. with themselves

E.g. \(\text{karukaruttaan}\) 'showed anger (he)'
\(\text{muNumuNuttaan}\) 'murmured(he)'
\(\text{peruperuttaan}\) 'put on weight'

2.2.1.3. with nouns

E.g. \(\text{kuuliyeTukkiRaan}\) '(he) works for '
\(\text{puuppuuttatu}\) '(a flower) bloomed'
\(\text{puRappaTu}\) 'start (your) journey'

2.2.1.4. with particles

E.g. \(\text{kilzpaTi}\) 'obey to s.o.'
\(\text{muncenRaan}\) '(he) went ahead'
\(\text{pincenRaan}\) '(he) went backward'
\(\text{uTkoL}\) 'consume'
The illustrations also indicate that he does not have a clear understanding of CV. His expression seems to throw light on compounded elements rather than compound verbs.

2.2.2. Author : P.S. Cupramaniya Shastiri (1934: 203-215)

A prominent scholar around 1920's, Cupramaniya Shastri also seems to be confused in naming these new formations. He tries to determine whether the form-ndilangkaTantaan is a compound structure or a phrasal structure. He provides an excellent explanation to include them under phrasal structure. Unfortunately, he deals with them under compound verb formation. But the contemporary linguists accept those forms as mere combination of some sequence of words without any new meaning. Nevertheless, it must be admitted that his study does not lead to any confusion.

2.2.3. Author : R. Cinivasan (1969: 99)

The author has provided some information about CVs even though the study seems very scanty. His discussion is based on various contexts, such as derivation of verbal stems from verbal roots, verbal participles and, formation of CVs. Our concern is only about the last aspect. His discussions are based on a number of verbalizers. viz, ul 'is', vaa 'come', kol 'possess' etc. However, instead of providing transparent evidence for the said formation, the author has listed out a number of verbal phrases, formed
with the help of those auxiliaries. The following examples clearly illustrate his point of view on CVs.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{ceyiTTaan} & \quad \text{"he has done"} \\
\text{ceytukoNTiruppaan} & \quad \text{"he will be doing"} \\
\text{vandtirundtaan} & \quad \text{"he had come"}
\end{align*}
\]

Amongst the verbalizers given by him, \textit{kol} seems to be the most useful one in contemporary time.

2.2.4. Author : S.Rajendran (1977: 372 – 376)

According to Rajendran, sequence of verbs forms compound verbs while conjunct verbs are formed by combination of a sequence of noun / post position and verb. In this combination the non-finite form (first constituent – either verbal participle or infinitive) carries the primary meaning of the compound while the second constituent provides various modes, tenses and aspects function. Nevertheless, his argument is acceptable for certain cases only. Consider the following examples.

\textbf{Compound verb}

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{paarkka muTiyum} & \quad \text{"can be seen"} \\
\text{paarkka muTiyaatu} & \quad \text{"cannot be seen"}
\end{align*}
\]
Conjunct verb

*yaatirai cey*  
‘travel to auspicious spots’

The examples given for CVs do not have any relevance to the forms that have been accepted as CVs in the present study. It is the latter which accepted as compound verb in the present study.

2.2.5.  Author :  K. Meenaakshi (1977: 372 – 376)

Meenakshi in her comparative study on CVs in Tamil and Bengali tries to form a genuine theory to figure out the governing rule that underlies this formation. She expresses that CV is a term used to name the sequence of verb plus verb (theoretically V1 + V2) constructed cohesively. In this sequence, the V1 forms are considered as main while V2 forms are claimed to be auxiliaries. She claims that these constructions are keen to exhibit the functions of aspectual and modality, especially in a syntactic context. Her study produces some examples on the basis of their aspectual functions such as:

E.g.  
*ceytu paarttaan*  
‘he tried to do (st)’  
*konRu pooTTaan*  
‘he killed (so) brutally’  
*ooTa muTiyum*  
‘can run’  
*vaangkik koTuttaan*  
‘he bought (for him)’

It is crystal clear here that her explanation does not have any relevance for compound verbs as well as to the present study.
The scholar states that in Tamil CVs are able to exhibit meaning. Having a clear knowledge of their functions would give us a better understanding of Tamil prose, both orally and literally. Although this reveals the stand of the scholar on the prospect of CVs, in actual analysis he has not provided any explanation for his stand. On the contrary, his examples create more confusion. This is due to the type of examples quoted by him which are simple verbal phrases. It is rather odd to accept all of them as CVs. He furthers his discussion by dividing CVs under two groups, viz.,

2.2.6.1. CV derived from ceytu ‘having done’ type of verbal participle
2.2.6.2. CV derived from ceyya ‘to do’ type of verbal participle

According to him, these types of CVs also tend to indicate modality. This could be seen from the following examples:

2.2.6.1. CV derived from ceytu ‘having done’ type of verbal participles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aspectual</th>
<th>CVs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>toTarkaala vina ‘progressive’</td>
<td>ndikazndtukkonaTirukkiRatu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>uRuta ‘determination’</td>
<td>‘(it ) is happening’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>muTivu ‘completion’</td>
<td>ceytu vTivu ‘finish it’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tanvayam ‘ego directional’</td>
<td>aayviTu ‘become’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>aTittukkoNTaarkal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>‘they beat themselves’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.2.6.2. CVs derived from ceyya ‘to do’ type of verbal participle
Modality

caal "agree"

viruppu "wish"

viruppinnai "not -wish"

CVs

pookalaam "may go"

veeNTum "(I) want"

veeNTaam "(I) do not want"

Most of his examples may be compound forms indicating aspect, mood etc., they are not CVs in the strict sense. Some of them seem to be main verbs. However, there is ground to consider some of his selections as compounded forms of morphemes that produce compounded verbs. Consider the following:

\[ \text{pookal} + \text{aakum} \rightarrow \text{pookalam} \text{ 'may go'} \]

It is therefore possible to accept his explanations for morphologically compounded verbs. Regrettfully, the interpretation given by him seems biased and contrary to the fundamental concept of CVs. It arouses confusion whether the author is fully aware about the concept of CVs or not.

2.3. Summary of the study

Theoretically, most of the scholars seem to have accepted a common view that CVs are not a product of Modern Tamil Prose. The existence and the growth of CVs are evident since the period of Sangkam Literature, though scanty. When Tamil prose began to grow intensively around late 19th century, the growth of CVs also increased. The new syntactic patterns in other languages acted as catalyst for the
growth of CVs in Tamil; especially when messages had to be translated into Tamil from those languages.

Nevertheless, researches in this field began to take place only around the second half of 20th century which witnessed a significant development of Tamil prose. Since then many studies have been carried out to identify the feature of Tamil prose.

The interest of researchers has resulted in new findings as noted earlier. This enabled both foreign and local scholars to understand some characteristic features of CVs in Tamil. In short, the available information may be classified as follows:

2.3.1. structural order of CVs.
2.3.2. special characteristic features of the constituent of CVs.
2.3.3. adoption of CV formation to verbalise selective nouns.
2.3.4. special semantic characteristic features of CVs.
2.3.5. specially established inter-relationship and interdependency among the constituents.
2.3.6. CV as an idiomatic metaphor.

2.4. Conclusion

As stated earlier, there are two types of scholars involved in the studies of CVs. The awareness of such formations in their mother tongue has enabled the foreigners to propose some identical methods to acknowledge and identify this phenomenon in Tamil. Although a number of Indian scholars have explored this field broadly, due to some reasons they have been divided in their own academic stand. While most of them had shown an interest to study the syntactic interdependency of CV with their co-occurring elements in a construction, others have considered them as a means of
word formation in Tamil. Apart from these two groups, there is another group, which acknowledges this phenomenon as a product of extended dynamism of verbs in Tamil.

Nevertheless, none of them has answered accurately the purpose or the need for their existence. Since the aim of the articles was not to demonstrate the gradual existence of CVs comprehensively, their observations are too scanty. Moreover, a number of scholars are prone to equate CVs with compound verbal formations which indicate aspect, mood, etc. However, their explanation and observation have revealed some useful information about CVs. Therefore, this study is designed to make a study of CVs in order to propose a clear, proper path to overcome the growing mist in CV researches.