

The Impact of Tamil Lexicon on the Sinhalese Language

H. M. S. M. Bandara¹, P. S. S. Pathmasiri², Y. G. H. S. De Silva³

Sinhalese and Tamil languages are used as official languages in Sri Lanka. It is apparent that both these languages have had a great amount of influence on each other. Linguistics borrowing into both languages can be identified as a phoneme for this constant influence. This research discusses the usage of Tamil loan words in Sinhalese language. Data were compiled by observing the speech of Sinhalese native speakers and written documents. According to the findings of this study, it was found out that some of these Tamil loan words have replaced their corresponding Sinhalese words. Further, it is pointed out that in addition to be borrowed, some Tamil words have come to Sinhalese as derived words. According to it is discovered that a great number of Tamil borrowings are used in the Sinhalese language and their origin may not be apparent.

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¹ Linguistics (Special) First Year

sriyanjalab@gmail.com

² Linguistics (Special) First Year

sewwandisasi94@gmail.com

³ Linguistics (Special) First Year

hashani6652344@gmail.com