NORIHIKO UČIDA

A SAURASHTRA-ENGLISH DICTIONARY

with appendices
by

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface	IX
Symbols and Abbreviations	XI
Introduction	XVII
Explanatory Notes	XXX
DICTIONARY	1
Suffixes and Enclitics	253
Appendices	
I. Glossary of the Saurashtra Language in Tirupati	263
II. Echo-formations of the Saurashtra Language	273
III. Corrigenda	277

PREFACE

It was in August, 1972 that I landed in India for my project of writing a historical grammmar of the Saurashtra language. First of all I wanted to collect the vocabulary of the language. Shri O. S. Subramanian, the Saurashtran who has been helping me all along, kindly gave me his hand-written Saurashtra glossary to copy. It was the starting point of this dictionary. Since then I have been adding new entries from written and colloquial materials. I have not completed my comparative grammar yet, as I wanted to do it after I have collected enough material on the language. I have so far published the material in the following books:

Oral Literature of the Saurashtrans (OS, see p. VII).

The Language of the Saurashtrans in Tirupati (TS, see p. VIII).

In this dictionary, there are entries with superior "?" marks. All the entries are doubtful and not approved by native speakers. However, I have not eliminated them, because they may be obsolete forms, which are recorded in materials unknown to me and at least as valuable as the current vocabulary for historical linguistics. Such entries come from two sources:

1. Shri O. S. Subramanian's vocabulary

Shri O. S. Subramanian does not approve a considerable number of words in his own glossary. Unfortunately, he has not noted down the source of his vocabulary. Therefore, it is not possible to find out whether such entries come from written materials or whether they have been included in the glossary due to some mistakes.

2. I. R. Dave's book (DS, see p. IV)

Many words in his glossary are not acceptable as Saurashtra words for Saurashtrans. All such words are included in this dictionary with the source reference "DS".

I have furnished each entry with its etymology as far as it can be determined. However, I have not done it for suffixes and enclitics, because their etymologies are in most cases controversial and it is better to discuss them thoroughly in my "Origin and Development of the Saurashtra Language", which is expected to be published within several years.

I have not denoted the pronunciation of the entries as I thought the pronunciation could be deduced from the phonemic notations, once the rules have been learned. However, I later realized that the pronunciation is not determined by the environment alone, but also by the history of each word. It would need intensive special studies of the pronunciation by many people to furnish each entry with its pronunciation. I am, therefore, compelled to print the material in the present form to avoid further delay in publication.

I am much obliged to Shri O. S. Subramanian, a linguistically trained native speaker with a good reading knowledge of the language, who has sacrificed much time for this dictionary. I have been kindly helped by Swami Advaitananda Bharati, Shri T. V. Kubendran, Shri R. A. Mohanram, Shri O. K. Ramanandan, Shri P. A. Rama swami Bhagavatar, Shri K. R. V. Hari, Shri Muddan Nagabhushana and many other Saurashtra people, for which I express my heartfelt thanks. For assistance in checking the accuracy of my English usage, I am grateful to Dr. G. R. Balakrishnan, Saurashtra College, Madurai, Prof. B. K. Hanumanthaiah, Bhagavan Buddha College, Bangalore, Prof. Gregory Peterson, Notre Dame Women's College, Kyoto, and Professor Jeffrey Price, Sonodagakuen Women's College Amagasaki.

I thank the Department of Linguistics, Annamalai University, Chidambaram, for giving me a Senior Fellowship for doing research on the Saurashtra language between August, 1972 and September, 1974. The Toyota Foundation has kindly provided me with a fund for editing and publishing this dictionary, for which I express my gratitude.

I am very grateful to Dr. Thomas Malten of the Südasien-Institut, who has made various proposals for etymologies which I have included in my results. I am thankful to the editors of "Neuindische Studien" for including this dictionary in their publications.