Problems in learning suffixes of Genitive and Locative cases in Tamil for Sinhalese who learn Tamil as the second Language

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Sri Lanka is a Multi-ethnic, multi-Language, multi-religious and multi-cultural country. The people of these ethnic groups use three types of languages: Sinhala, Tamil and English for their day today communication in this country. Mostly, Sinhala is the first language of Sinhalese while Tamil is the first language of Tamils. The moors also use Tamil as their first language. According to the constitution, it is accepted that Sinhala and Tamil languages are national and official languages in Sri Lanka. English is used as a link language.

According to the language scholars, Sinhala and Tamil languages belong to two different language families. According to some linguists, the Sinhala language belongs to Indo-Aryan language family which is descended from Indo-European language family and Tamil belongs to Dravidian Language family. On the other hand, some point out that the Sinhala language has lots of similar features in inner structure and the outer structure of Dravidian languages. **(Rev. Pemananda,2004:p.11)** According to them, the Sinhala Language belongs to Dravidian language family.

Specially, the literary evidence shows that both the Tamil and Sinhalese scripts have been derived from a common writing scripts called Brahmi in the past. Apart from the culture, there are similar words similar grammatical structure and similar literature between Tamil and Sinhala languages.

Language helps to express feelings, desires and quarries to the world around us. In addition to one's mother tongue, it is important to learn other languages for different purposes. It may be a second language or a foreign language. Native speakers of Sinhala have to learn Sinhala. The study of a second language teaches and encourages us to respect other people. It fosters an understanding of the interrelation of language and human nature. Moreover, it expands one's world view and reduces the barriers among people. At present, in Sri Lanka, the interest of teaching and learning second language, the native speakers of both communities are involved. Many Sinhala native speakers in any age difference have got interest in learning Tamil Language.

Tamil is a diglossic language and some grammar of spoken form is different from those of written form. Moreover, some of the syntactic structure of Sinhala language. For the native speakers of Sinhala they are easy to learn. Understand and to keep memorize. But some of written Tamil structures vary from those of Sinhala language. In this situation, the second language learners of Tamil who struggle to make grammatically correct sentence patterns face difficulties. They make errors in this situation and write erroneous sentences. This research focuses on what type of syntactic errors are made by the native speakers of Sinhalese when they use genitive and locative case suffixes of Tamil language in their writings.

Genitive and Locative Cases of Sinhala and Tamil Languages.

In Tamil language, three case suffixes are used to denote the genitive case. They are "இன்"/in>/"அது"/atu/>"உடைய"/utaiya/. They give the some meaning. For example,

1. இந்தப் புத்தகத்தின் விலை என்ன?

இந்தப் புத்தகத்தினது விலை என்ன?

இந்தப் புத்தகத்தினுடைய விலை என்ன?

What is the price of this book?

2. புத்த பெருமானின் தர்மம் உலக வாழ் அனைவருக்கும் பொதுவானது.

புத்த பெருமானினது தர்மம் உலக வாழ் அனைவருக்கும் பொதுவானது.

புத்த பெருமானுடைய தர்மம் உலக வாழ் அனைவருக்கும் பொதுவானது.

The Dhamma of Buddha is (Common) for all in the world.

"இல்"/il>/"இலே"/ilē/ are used as the case suffixes of locative case. They give the some meaning. Any of these suffixes can be used in a sentence to identify the locative case. For example,

3. இந்த ஊரில் எத்தனை குடும்பங்கள் வசிக்கின்றன?

இந்த ஊரிலே எத்தனை குடும்பங்கள் வசிக்கின்றன?

How many families are living in this village?

4. தமிழ்ப்பாடசாலைகளில் ஜப்பான் மொழி கற்பிப்பதற்கான ஆசிரியர்கள் இல்லை.

தமிழ் பாடசாலைகளிலே ஜப்பான் மொழி கற்பிப்பதற்கான ஆசிரியர்கள் இல்லை.

There are no teachers in Tamil Schools to teach Japanese.

In Tamil language, different case suffixes are used to identify the genitive and locative cases and some case suffix is attached to inanimate nouns in singular as well as plural without any difference. For example,

Table 01

Genitive Case - Animate Singular Noun	**Genitive Case - Animate Plural Noun**
உங்கள் தமிழ் ஆசிரியரின் பெயர் என்ன? ඔබගේ දෙමළ ගුරුවරයාගේ නම කුමක්ද?	உங்கள் தமிழ் ஆசிரியர்களின் பெயர்கள் என்ன? ඔබගේ දෙමළ ගුරුවරුන්ගේ නම් මොනවාද?
உங்கள் தமிழ் ஆசிரியரினது பெயர் என்ன? ඔබගේ දෙමළ ගුරුවරයාගේ නම කුමක්ද?	உங்கள் தமிழ் ஆசிரியர்களினது பெயர்கள் என்ன? ඔබගේ දෙමළ ගුරුවරුන්ගේ නම් මොනවාද?

Table 02

Genitive Case - Inanimate Singular Noun	**Genitive Case - Inanimate Plural Noun**
இந்தப் புத்தகத்தின் விலை என்ன? මේ පොතේ මිල කීයද? මේ පොතෙහි මිල කීයද?	இந்தப் புத்தகங்களின் விலை என்ன? මේ පොත්වල මිල කීයද?
இந்தப் புத்தகத்தினது விலை என்ன? මේ පොතේ මිල කීයද? මේ පොතෙහි මිල කීයද?	இந்தப் புத்தகங்களினது விலை என்ன? මේ පොත්වල මිල කීයද?

In the examples in table 1-2, the some case suffixes i.e. "இன்"/in>/"அது"/atu/,"உடைய"/utaiya/   are attached with the animate and inanimate nouns to form the genitive case in Tamil. But in Sinhala languag,e it is different. In Sinhala language .ගේ,/gē/ is attached to animate singular and plural nouns to indicate the genitive case. .ඒ,/ee/ or the case suffix .එහි,/ehi/ is attached to inanimate singular nouns to identify the genitive case. The suffix .වල,/vala/ attached to inanimate nouns to form the plural form of the genitive case. For example,

Table 03

Genitive Case - Animate Singular Noun	Genitive Case - Animate Plural Noun
ඔබගේ දෙමළ යහළුවාගේ නම කියන්න. உங்கள் தமிழ் நண்பரின் பெயரைச் சொல்லுங்கள்.	ඔබගේ දෙමළ යහළුවන්ගේ නම් කියන්න. உங்கள் தமிழ் நண்பர்களின் பெயர்களைச் சொல்லுங்கள்.
මේ මිනිසාගේ ගුණ ප්‍රශංසනීයයි. இந்த மனிதனின் குணம் போற்றத்தக்கது.	මේ මිනිසුන්ගේ ගුණ ප්‍රශංසනීයයි. இந்த மனிதர்களின் குணம் போற்றத்தக்கது.
ඒ බල්ලාගේ කන් දෙක හරිම දිගයි. அந்த நாய்ன் இரண்டு காதுகளும் மிகவும் நீளமானவை.	ඒ බල්ලන්ගේ කන් දෙක හරිම දිගයි. அந்த நாய்களின் இரு காதுகளும் மிகவும் நீளமானவை.
අර කුරුල්ලාගේ පියාපත් හරිම ලස්සනයි. அந்தக் குருவியின் சிறகுகள் மிகவும் அழகானவை.	අර කුරුල්ලන්ගේ පියාපත් හරිම ලස්සනයි. அந்தக் குருவிகளின் சிறகுகள் மிகவும் அழகானவை.

ee/ or .එහි,/ehi/ are used for both genitive and locative cases for inanimate nouns. The suffix .වල,/vala/ is attached to form the plural form the locative case. For example,

Table 06

Genitive Case - Inanimate Singular Noun	Genitive Case - Inanimate Plural Noun
මේ ගසේ නම මොකක්ද? මේ ගසෙහි නම මොකක්ද? இந்த மரத்தின் பெயர் என்ன? நூயவ ளை வாந யெஅந ழக வாளை வசநந?	මේ ගසේ කුරුළු කූඩුවක් ඇත. මේ ගසෙහි කුරුළු කූඩුවක් ඇත. இந்த மரத்தில் ஒரு குருவிக்கூடு உள்ளது. வூநசந ளை ய நௌவ நை வாந வசநந.
ඔබගේ නිවසේ ලිපිනය කියන්න. ඔබගේ නිවසෙහි ලිපිනය කියන්න. cq;fs; tPl;bd; Kftupaf; $Uq;fs;. Tell the address of your house.	ඔබගේ නිවසේ සාමාජිකයන් කී දෙනෙක් සිටිනවාද? ඔබගේ නිවසෙහි සාමාජිකයන් කී දෙනෙක් සිටිනවාද? cq;fs; tPl;by; vj;jid mq;fj;jtu;fs; ,Uf;fpwhu;fs;? How many members are there in your family?

Syntactic errors of second language learners

When Sinhala native speakers learn Tamil language, they use wrong suffixes to indicate genitive and locative cases. Here are some of the errors they produce in the classroom when they form structures with genitive and locative cases. For example,

Table 07

The Sentences of Second Language Learners	The Correct Sentence Patterns
உலகத்தில் ஸ்திரத்தன்மைக்கு அன்பு அவசியம்.	உலகத்தின் ஸ்திரத்தன்மைக்கு அன்பு அவசியம்.

இவர்களின் வாழ்கையின் சமாதானம், மகிழ்ச்சி ஆகியவற்றை நிர்ணயிக்கும் ஒரே ஒரு விடயம் அன்பாகும்.	இவர்களின் வாழ்கையில் சமாதானம், மகிழ்ச்சி ஆகியவற்றை நிர்ணயிக்கும் ஒரே ஒரு விடயம் அன்பாகும்.
ஒரு பென்சிலின் ஐந்து குணாம்சங்கள் இருக்கின்றன.	ஒரு பென்சிலின் ஐந்து குணாம்சங்கள் இருக்கின்றன.
அந்தக் காட்சியில் மகினம என் மனத்தைக் கவர்ந்தது.	அந்தக் காட்சியின் மகினம என் மனத்தைக் கவர்ந்தது.
5 ஆம் மிஹிந்து மன்னன் அனுராதபுர யுகத்தில் கனடசி அரசன் ஆவார்.	5 ஆம் மிஹிந்து மன்னன் அனுராதபுர யுகத்தின் கனடசி அரசன் ஆவார்.
11 ஆம் நூற்றாண்டில் மத்தியில் அரசியல் அமைப்பில் மாற்றம் ஏற்பட்டது.	11 ஆம் நூற்றாண்டின் மத்தியின் அரசியல் அமைப்பில் மாற்றம் ஏற்பட்டது.

The examples in table 07 show that the second language learners of Tamil who are the native speakers of Sinhala, have difficulty and get confused in using the genitive and locative case suffixes use in Proper Places in Tamil sentences. The main reasons for that is firstly they think the structure and the grammatical order in their mother tongue and secondly they try to translate it into Tamil. Sometimes, it works due to syntactic similarities in both languages. But there are syntactic differences also in both languages. Genitive and locative case suffixes in Sinhala, Tamil are examples for that. Taking into consideration for formal similarity of genitive and locative case suffix in Sinhala, Tamil second language learners use wrong case suffix in producing Tamil sentences.

Learning or teaching a second language or a foreign language is not an easy task. When we teach or learn a second language or a foreign language, we can find some similarities and differences between mother tongue and the second language. The similarities are easy to memorize and learn; but differences are hard to memorize and they create confusions. When we learn a new language, we have to pay more attention and focus on grammar points which are different from the mother tongue. Moreover, we have to do more exercises and we have to remember and repeat those grammatical structures. It may take time; but, after doing more exercises and practices, the learner will grasp the relevant structures. Another point is, the second language teacher must be skillful to teach difficult and complicated grammatical structures clearly. specially in Sri Lanka, the second language teacher of Tamil must have a good knowledge not only in Tamil but also in Sinhala.

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ඉසුරුමුණිය තදාශ්‍රිතව පිහිටි රන්මසු උයන අනුරාධපුර පාලකයන්ගේ රාජකීය මංගල උද්‍යානය ද? ඓතිහාසික මූලාශ්‍රය නැවත කියවීමක්

එම්. කේ. ළසඳා අයිරාංගනී

හැඳින්වීම

පුරාණ අනුරාධපුර නගරයේ බටහිර පාර්ශ්වයෙහි උතුරු දකුණු දිවෙන ගල් රැන්ද පාදක කරගනිමින් අභයගිරිය, මිරිසවැටිය, රන්මසු උයන, ඉසුරුමුණිය සහ වර්තමානයේ වෙස්සගිරිය නමින් හඳුන්වන විහාර සංකීර්ණයත් නිර්මාණය වී පවතින අතර බසවක්කුලම වැවෙහි කුඩා දූපත් කිහිපයක් ද නිර්මාණය වී ඇත. වගාවන් පිණිස භාවිත කළ නොහැකි ගල් සහිත නිසරු භූමියක් වන මෙහි ඇති ලෙන් ප්‍රාග් මානවයාගේ ජනාවාසයන් බව[1] සනාථ කරගෙන ඇති අතර මහින්දාගමනයෙන් අනතුරු ව එම ලෙන් හික්ෂු ආවාසයන් බවට පත් විය. ගල් රැන්දේ දකුණු පස කෙළවර භාවිත කරමින් නිර්මාණය වී ඇති ආරාම සංකීර්ණය වර්තමානයේ දී වෙස්සගිරිය සහ ඉසුරුමුණිය යනුවෙන් හඳුන්වයි. ඊට අයත් වූ පොකුණු පද්ධතිය ඇතුළත් භූමිය සෙනරත් පරණවිතානයන් විසින් රාජකීයන්ගේ මංගලෝද්‍යානය[2] වශයෙන් හඳුනාගෙන ඇත. හුදෙක් වෙස්සගිරිය සහ ඉසුරුමුණිය නමින් වර්තමානයේ දී ආරාම ද්විත්වයක් වශයෙන් සලකනු ලබන ආරාමය ඒකීය වූ විහාර සංකීර්ණයක් ය යන මතය තහවුරු කිරීමත් සමඟ ඒ ආසන්නයේ ම පිහිටන රන්මසු උයන රාජකීයන්ගේ විනෝද උද්‍යානයක් ය යන්න ගැටලුකාරී මතයකි.

ඒ අනුව මෙම පර්යේෂණයෙන් භූගෝලීය වශයෙන් එක් කලාපයක පිහිටා ඇති වෙස්සගිරිය, ඉසුරුමුණිය සහ රන්මසු උයන යන පුරාවිද්‍යා පරිශ්‍රයන් ත්‍රිත්වයෙහි ඇති ඒකීයභාවය අධ්‍යයනය කරමින් එය එක් විහාර සංකීර්ණයක් වශයෙන් හඳුනාගැනීමට හැකි ලක්ෂණ විමර්ශනය කරනු ලබයි. ඓතිහාසික මූලාශ්‍රය මත සහ පුරාවිද්‍යාත්මක