

Monolingual and Bilingual Dictionaries in Gujarat

Research Paper by

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Gujarat's contribution in the field of lexicology is very ancient. Durgacharya, a well known author of a commentary on Yaska's Nirukta was a resident of Jambusar in Broach district before 10th Century A.D. Dr. Laxman Sarup, in the preface of his Nirukta edition places him in 14th century and consider him a resident of Jammu (Kashmir). Lexicons were prepared in Gujarat somewhat later by Acharya Hemachandra, the famous Jain monk of Gujarat and a court preceptor of Siddharaja Jayasimha and his successor Kumarapala, the rulers of Gujarat in the later part of the 11th century A. D. and the first half of the 12th century A. D. respectively. He gave us four lexicons :

1. Abhidhana Chintamani
2. Anekartha Samgraha
3. Nighantu-kosa and
4. Desi-namamala.

First three are Sanskrit lexicons, while the last is perhaps the first bilingual lexicon so far known. The lexicon is in verse. All the words included in the lexicon are local Prakrit words, used in Prakrit literature all over India, which he thought to be non-Sanskritic. The commentary and meanings are given in Sanskrit.

Gujarat is also fortunate to possess elementary Sanskrit grammars composed in local languages. Bala-Shiksa of Thakkur Sangramsimha composed in 1280 A. D. is the first work of that kind so far known. At the end, a list of some notable words of the then spoken language, call it pre-Gujarati or pre-Rajasthani, are also given. Auktikas are a kind of grammar usually prepared to enable the beginners to learn Sanskrit. At present several manuscripts of such Auktikas are available in manuscripts libraries of Gujarat and Rajasthan. Mugdhavabodha Auktika of Kulamandana Gani, composed in 1394 A. D., also possesses a list of some peculiar words with Sanskrit equivalents in the appendix. This was

discovered by Sri Hari Parshad Dhruv of Ahmedabad. Its discovery was reported in the London Congress of Orientalists in 1892 A. D. and was printed afterwards. Ukti Ratnakara of Sadhusundara Gani was another work of the same kind written at the time of Emperor Akbar. Other Pharasi-Sanskrit lexicons are also available.

East India Company of England brought several parts of India under their control in the second half of the 18th century A. D. and continued to annex other parts till 1857 A. D. Rulers needed to be familiar with local languages as well as with Mughal Rulers' language i.e., Persian. An English-Persian Vocabulary was prepared for the Calcutta College in 1800 A. D. It was translated in several Indian languages. A Gujarat translation under the title of 'Vocabulary, English & Gujarati' was published by the proprietors of the Bombay Samachar, a Bombay based daily in 1835 A. D. Within 10 to 15 years, four editions of the work were brought out, each time thoroughly revised and corrected.

But the real honour of publishing the first Gujarati-English Dictionary goes to Father Drummond earlier in 1808 A. D. who in the first part of the work gave a short grammar. This short grammar was the first grammar so far known of the Gujarati language, with equivalents in Marathi and English. The title of the work is GLOSSARY and it contains 463 Gujarati words with full explanations in English. At present he is considered as the first lexicographer of bilingual dictionaries of Gujarati.

Two other works are also noteworthy here. They are not regular vocabularies or glossaries. One is 'Idiomatic Exercises, Illustrative of the Phraseology and Structure of English and Goojerattee Language' by Sorabhshaw Dossabhoy, a Parsi gentleman, published in the year 1841 A. D. in Bombay, while the other one is a 'Collection of English Phrases' translated in Gujarati from the same work of H. Green of Bombay. It was published from Bombay in 1851 A. D.

The first work possessing the title 'Dictionary' is a 'Dictionary of Goojerattee and English' by Mirza Mahomed Cauzim of Cambay (a part in Gujarat). The work was corrected and revised by Nowrozjee Furdoonjee, a native general interpreter to the then Supreme Court, and published from Bombay in 1846 A. D. The compiler was cautious and included at several places Marathi, Hindustani, Zend, Turkish, Portugese, French, Greek, Hebrew, Arabic and Persian equivalent words and roots also along with Gujarati words. The

relation with Sanskrit words was noted by him particularly. It must be said that the compiler was the first scholar, so far known, who paved the road in the field of Etymology of Gujarati words. The spellings of Arabic and Persian roots were given in Persian script. The dictionary contains 420 pages of 11.5“+9” with nearly 15,000 words.

English-Gujarati Dictionary by E. P. Robertson was published in 1854 A. D. from Bombay . It contains 330 pages of 9“+6” size. Here it is worth nothing that ‘A Glossary of the Administrative Words’ in several Indian languages, compiled by H. Wilson, was published in 1855 A. D. from London, in which several Gujarati synonoyms were also noted.

Nanabhai Rustamji Ramina of Bombay compiled a Dictionary of English and Gujarati, which was corrected and enlarged by Ardesar Framji. The first part of this dictionary was published in 1857 A. D. This was the biggest dictionary so far published by that time containing nearly 50,000 words, in eight parts. Meanwhile an abridged edition of the same was prepared by Mors and Ramina with the help of the famous poet Kavi Narmadashankar Lalshankar of Surat, possessing 20,000 words, and was published in 1862 A. D.

In the same year i.e., in 1862 A. D. a Gujarati English Dictionary compiled by Karsondas Mulji was published containing nearly 10,000 words. Next year a small English and Gujarati Dictionary of only 67 pages was published from Bombay. In this work Gujarati pronunciations were also noted. In the same year, in December, a Dictionary “Gujarati and English”, with 27,000 words, giving English equivalents as well as explanation in Gujarati, was published which was compiled by a Parsi gentlemen named Shapurji Edalji. The noteworthy feature of the work was its introduction, where origin and character of the Gujarati language were treated.

Next year a booklet of only 32 page, of 5.5 “+4” by the Christian Education Society was published from Bombay with the title ‘English and Gujarati Vocabulary’. The arrangement was such that there were two pages with sentences and two/pages with vocabulary.

Kosavate, a collection of thirteen lists of words was compiled and published by Kavi Hirachand Kanji from Bombay Union Press in 1865 A. D. In 195 pages of 4.5 “+8”, the

compiler gave lists of words alphabetically to help poets in getting words matching for ending Anuprasas.

Here a mention should be made of two different kinds of attempts in 1865 A. D. in which Haridas Hirachand compiled a Dhatu Manarji and S. Taylor with the help of Vrajlal Kalidas Shastri of Ahmedabad, produced a Dhatu Kosa. In both cases, Sanskrit verbal roots are given with their Gujarati derivatives and equivalents.

Sayed Abdullah and Khimji Premji prepared an Etymological Dictionary under the title of 'Shabda-na Mula' of 2,500 Arabic phrases and Hindustani words selected from the Gujarati Reading Series-1st to 7th standards of Primary schools, prepared under the supervision of Mr. Hope, and published it in 1868 and 1870 A. D. separately.

Dolatram Maniram and Revashankar Ambaram Bhatt, both of Ahmedabad, compiled a 'Shabdārtha Kosa' each for the Hope Reading Series which were published in 1868 and 1870 A. D. separately.

Sanskrit and Gujarati Dictionary by Baji Rao Tatyā Rāoji Ranjī, duly corrected by Kavishwar Shankarlal Maheshwar was the second bilingual Sanskrit-Gujarati Dictionary, so far known upto 1871 A. D. It was a small one of the Royal Octavo 175 pages only and contained 12,000 words. Here it is worth noting that Ranchhod Udayam-a noteworthy author of several Gujarati dramas and the prosodical work Rana-Pingala, and a translator of repute, with the help of the then famous linguist Vrajlal Kalidas Shastri prepared a full vocabulary of notable words from famous Sanskrit work Hitopadesa, compiled it alphabetically with Gujarati meanings and published it in 1864 A. D.

Independently Kavi Narmadashankar Lalshankar of Surat began to collect and compile a masterly dictionary of the Gujarati language : Narma-Kosa. Its publication was started in 1861 A. D. and completed in 1873 A. D. It contains about 25,000 words in all. This was a scholastic effort and in this monumental work of repute, he, for the first time, provided an exhaustive history of the Gujarati literature in the Introduction. Meanwhile his Narma-Katha-Kosa-Dictionary of the proper names from Ramayan-Mahabharat-Bhagavat was published in 1870 A. D. Shah Ukardabhai Shivji Nenshi brought out a Gujarati-English Dictionary in 1874 A. D.

Two village school-teachers Patel Jeshang Trikamdass and Patel Tribhuvan Gangadas began to collect words which were not found in Narma-Kosa. Such items were approximately 1200 and were published from Ahmedabad under the title 'Gujarati Shabd-samgraha Pt-I' in 1876 A. D.

A third Sanskrit-Gujarati dictionary under the title of 'Gujarati Shabda, Mula-darsak Kosa' was compiled by Chhotalal Sevakram of Kutch and was published in 1879 A. D. with 1721 original Sanskrit words with their derived Gujarati words.

Next year, i.e. in 1880 A. D. Prabhakar Ramchandra Pandit of Vernacular Science College of Baroda published from Bombay, an Etymological Dictionary namely 'Apabhrastra-Shabda-prakash'. It is worth noting that Mahipatram Rupram Nilkanth, a renowned scholar of that time, took sufficient advantage from all the etymological dictionaries, then published, in preparing his 'Vyutprakasa', in 1881 A. D.

Here an English-Gujarati Dictionary prepared by Montgomery with the assistance of Ambalal Sakarlal Desai and Manidhrprasad, published in 1877 A. D. is worth noting. It was an authentic and well conceived effort and gave appropriate Gujarati synonyms. The work underwent four editions, the fourth being in 1910 A. D.

In 1885 A. D. 'A Dictionary : Gujarati and Gujarati-English' compiled by Cassidass Brij-bhukandas and his brother Balkrisnadas Vakil of Rajkot, was brought out with 1132 pages-Royal octavo size. Authors noted that they had taken full advantage of the previous works of repute by Narmadashankar, Montgomery, Cauzim and Sapurji Edalji. The dictionary included some Saurashtrian words also. Motilal Mansukram Shah of Visalpur near Sanand (Dist. Ahmedabad) brought out a Gujarati Shabdārtha Kosa in 1886 A. D. as the supplement of Narma-Kosa with new 1400 words not found in the same.

Vithaldas Govardhandas Vyas and Sha. Kerbhai Govardhandas Vyas and Sha. Kerbhai Galabhai Patel published their standard English-Gujarati Dictionary in two parts in 1894 A. D. with illustrations where found necessary. It was a standard dictionary of Super Royal Octavo 1688 pages in small piece types.

Gujarati Shabdārtha Samgraha under the main title of 'Shabdārtha Sindhu' by Vitthal Rajaram Dalal came out in 1895 A. D. In the same year Malhar Bhikaji Belsare's Etymological Gujarati-English Dictionary was published by H. K. Pathak from Ahmedabad.

A Sanskrit Gujarati Laghu Kosa Shabdārtha-Sindhu was brought out by one Hargovind G. Merchant from Bombay in that very year.

A ‘Rudhi-prayoga Kosa’ (Gujarati Idioms) was prepared by Bhogilal Bhikhabhai Gandhi and was published by Gujarat Vernacular Society (now called Gujarat Vidya Sabha) of Ahmedabad in 1898. In that very year i. e. in 1898 A. D. Bhagu F. Karbhari of Ahmedabad brought out ‘Students’ Gujarati English Dictionary’ and ‘Students’ English Gujarati Dictionary’ in two volumes : first one of Demy Octavo 644 pages and other one of 800 pages. The author was particular in giving idiomatic usages. It is notable that the foreward was written by Sir Ramanbhai Nilkanth, a scholar of repute.

The Gujarat Vernacular Society, established in 1848 (at present known as Gujarat Vidya Sabha) at Ahmedabad launched a scheme to prepare an authentic Gujarati dictionary. A list of Gujarati words prepared by Mr. Hope for his Gujarati reading Series in earlier days was in society’s possession. Accordingly the Society made the list exhaustive and published the same in four parts in 1898 A. D.

The next year is noteworthy for the publication of an etymological dictionary of sorts with the title ‘Shuddh-Shabda-pradarsana’ meaning the correctness of words used in Gujarati with vocalic changes from Sanskrit, Persian, Arabic, English, Portuguese etc. Undertaken by one Jayakrishnadas Gangadas Bhakta of Surat Mission High School and sponsored by his two publisher friends Bhakta and Kinkhabwala from Ahmedabad. The scientific approach was worth noting.

In the field of Sanskrit-Gujarati Dictionaries, a monumental work undertaken by one Savailal Chhotalal Vora of Bhavnagar under the title of ‘Shabdārtha Chintamani’ was published by one Dolatram Maganlal Shah from Baroda in the last year of the 19th century A. D. It has 1408 pages of Super Royal Octavo size. Notable thing about this dictionary are the quotations from old classical Sanskrit words. It is also to be noted that no such other attempt has been made in the last seven decades. The number of Sanskrit words treated was 17,000.

One Lallubhai Gokaldas Patel of Nadiad, who already published a pocket Gujarati-English Dictionary and Star English Gujarati Dictionary, undertook the preparation of a Gujarati-Gujarati Dictionary and published it in 1909 A. D. in Royal Octavo 1054 pages in

small piece types, supplying quotations from classical Gujarati works for the first time.

After two years, one Dharmachandra Kevalchand brought out a translation of Sanskrit Amara-kosa, supplying proper Gujarati equivalents. In the year 1912 A. D. Sayed Nizamuddin Nuruddin Huseyni of Baroda brought out Urdu misra Gujarati Kosa-Vowels only. It contained etymological information like usages, pronunciations, root-words, meanings and derivational hints.

Gujarat Vernacular Society of Ahmedabad entrusted the work of preparing an authentic exhaustive Gujarati Dictionary to Manilal Chhabaram Bhatt of Ahmedabad which was to give usages, derivations, proper meanings and idioms. The publication started from 1912 A. D. and was completed in 1923 A. D.

Here a special mention should be made of Munishri Ratnachandraji a Jain Monk who prepared an Ardhamagadhi-Gujarati Shabda-Kosa in four volumes. They were brought out from 1919 A. D. to 1930 A. D.

It is also worth mentioning that a Gujarati Hindi Dictionary by Ganeshdatt Sharma Gaud was published in 1924 A. D. by Messrs. Jaydev Brothers from Baroda. It contained 27,000 words in Demy Octavo 1052 pages.

Next year Shalopayogi Gujarati-Gujarati Shabdakosa was brought out by Lallubhai G. Patel in Royal Octavo 863 pages. In the same year Gujarati English Dictionary by Bhanusukhram Nirgunram Mehta and his son Bharatram came out in two big volumes containing nearly 51,000 words. The same year is also notable for the publication of Gujarati-Gujarati Dictionary under the title of 'Shabdarthachintamani', mostly based upon the Gujarati Kosa of Gujarat Vernacular Society, from Ahmedabad.

In 1926 A. D., the 'Students' English and Gujarati Dictionary' (pronouncing and etymological), translated from Marathi by one Janmashankar Tulsidas Mankodi, was brought out by the Chitrashala Steam Press of Poona. In the same year 'Gujarati Farsi Arabi Shabda Kosa' by Amironia Hamduma Faruki was published by Gujarat Vernacular Society of Ahmedabad.

Years 1929 and 1930 A. D. saw the publication of a Sanskrit Gujarati Sabadarsa, a dictionary in two volumes by Girijashankar Mayaram Mehta of Ahmedabad. It is a noteworthy attempt by a Sanskritist.

It is well known that even in the third decade of 20th century A. D. the spelling system of Gujarati words was not standardized. From the time of publication of Hope Gujarati Reading series, the attempts were afoot to frame rules, but with no success. After the establishment of Gujarat Vidyapith in Ahmedabad in the beginning of the third decade, it was decided that rules regarding consistency in spellings should be framed. Thus Gujarat Vidyapith for the first time published a list of words, under the title 'Jodani-Kosa', spelt according to the rules framed in 1929 A. D. Within two years, it re-published the same Kosa supplying meanings of each word in Gujarati. The 4th edition of the book came out in 1949 with addition of derivations. We have received its 5th edition just two years back. Now the Gujarati spelling system is fully standardized.

In 1932 A. D. a Sanskrit Gujarati Laghu Kosa by Ganesh Sadashiv Talvalkar was published by Dakshinamurti Prakasana Mandir of Bhavnagar (Saurashtra) and in the year 1939 A. D. a Hindi-Gujarati Kosa by Maganbhai P. Desai was brought out by Gujarat Vidyapith of Ahmedabad.

Harikrishna Vyas of Lathi (Saurashtra), inventor of Gujarati Shorthand-system, brought out two works : complete Basic Shabda Kosa English-Gujarati and 2,000 English words commonly spoken in Gujarati language, both in 1939 A. D.

Most noteworthy was the grand attempt of the Late Maharaja Bhagavatsinghji of Gondal (Saurashtra), who patronized the preparation of the biggest and most exhaustive Gujarati-Gujarati Dictionary. The work started in the year 1928. The first volume was published in 1944, while the last one in 1955, containing in all 9270 pages of double royal octavo, having nearly 2,81,377 words, 5,40,455 meanings, and 28,156 idioms. Quotations of the usages from classical Gujarati works were given at their proper places, and no attempt was spared to give all sorts of derivations. It must be admitted that this big work lacks scientific approach. Still it should frankly be accepted that it has supplied raw material for a future dictionary of higher merit.

The latest production is an English-Gujarati Dictionary compiled by Pandurang Ganesh Deshpande, published by the Sardar Patel University, Vallabhvidyanagar (Dist. Khera, Gujarat). Here I must mention some minor attempts also. They are : Shabdarthmala of Harishankar D. Trivedi (Sadra-1937) a dictionary in verse following the style of Sanskrit

Amara-Kosa; Gajave Ghumato Shabda-Kosa by Mulvantrai Tripathi and Nitirai Vora (Junagadh, 1940), Ajoda Antyaksari Sartha Kosa by Ramanlal Amritlal Desai (Baroda, 1945); and Nano Kosa by Upendra Bhatt and Ratilal Nayak (Ahmedabad, 1956). Shantilal Oza's English-Gujarati and Gujarati-English Pocket Dictionaries are very popular among the students.

I have also produced

1. Laghu Kosa (in 1950). Guajrati Bhasano Anuprasa Kosa Pt. I (one and two syllabic words only, in 1951) and
2. Basic Gujarati Kosa (in 1956).

Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad's contribution is also noteworthy. A Vinit Jodani Kosa for students, Pocket Jodani Kosa, Gujarati-Hindi Kosa, Sanskrit-Gujarati Vinita Kosa and Desya Sabda Kosa brought out by the Vidyapith are to be noted.

Stray attempts are also found to collect words from some peculiar dialects and their meanings, such as Katchi Shabdavali by Prabhudas Ranchhodji Pandya in 1886 A. D. and Prantika Shabdasangraha of Kadi Taluka of North Gujarat by Govindbhai Hathibhai Desai in 1900 A. D.

Recent such attempts are from Dr. Shantibhai Acharya of Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad, who contributed in last three years,

1. Bhili—Gujarati Shabdavali
2. Kutchhi Shabdavali, and
3. Chodharione Charotari Shabdavali.

Guj-Bengali Teacher and Bengali-Guj. Vocabulary was published by Thakkar Devji Gordhandas in 1924 A. D. from Bombay .

Here I may mention two elaborate works :

1. Jnana—Chakra in 8 volumes by Ratanji Faramji Shethna—Encyclopedia in Gujarati, of which vol. I was published before 1901 A. D.
2. Gujarati Jnana-Kosa Vols I-II only up to the beginning of letter 'A' by Dr. Shridhar Vyankatesh Ketkar from Poona in 1929 and 1925 A. D.

No further volumes came out. Gujarat Vidyapith of Ahmedabad has a scheme to publish an encyclopedia and is collecting material in that direction.

Paurenika Katha-Kosa and Bhaugolika Kosa by D. P. Derasari were published separately by Gujarat Vernacular Society-Ahmedabad in the fourth decade of this century. Paribhasika Shabda Kosa i. e. Eng. Guj. Vocabulary of Gujarati-literary terminology was published by the said Society through Vishvanath Maganlal Bhatt in 1930-32 A. D. which was thoroughly revised by Raghuvir Choudhari and brought out by the same institution. Vocabulary of the Philosophical Sanskrit terms was also published by the same Society in 1937 A. D. through Chhotalal Narabheram Bhatt, a veteran Sanskritist of Baroda.

Purano-ma Gujarat (Geographical names of places of Gujarat found in Puranas) by Umashankar Joshi and Jaina Agama-Sahitya ma Gujarat (proper names of people and places of Gujarat found in Jain religious old literature) by Bhogilal J. Sandesara were both published by the Society in the years 1946 and 1952 A. D. respectively. Brahavidya-no Paribhasika Kosa a small epitome of philosophical terms was prepared by Bhupatrai Mehta and published from Ahmedabad in 1938 A. D.

A Glossary of the Parts and Organs of the Human Body-Eng-Guj. And Guj- Eng. was published by Dinsha Dadabhai Dordi of Navsari in 1941 A. D.

In the field of administrative terminology J. P. Joshipura and B. N. Mehta prepared a tentative vocabulary under the title Shri Sayaji Vaijnanika Shabda-Samgraha and published it in 1920 A. D. Equivalents in Gujarati were mostly new, but easy to be understood. Old current Gujarati terms were also preserved where they were suitable. The then state of Baroda prepared an exhaustive vocabulary under the title Shri Sayaji Shasana Kalpataru and published it in 1931 A. D. In 92 pages of Foolscap 4 size. Equivalents in Marathi, Sanskrit, Urdu, Persian, Hindi, Bengali, and current Gujarati were given and in the last column proposed new Gujarati terms were also mentioned as suggested words. Both of these were able attempts to replace English terminology by Gujarati to facilitate the administrative set up of the state.

Gujarat Vernacular Society of Ahmedabad published Aushadhi Kosa Pt. I in 1899 A.D. prepared by Chamanarai Shivshankar Vaishnav. In this vocabulary names of 636 herbs were included giving Gujarati, Marathi, Hindi, Bengali, Tamil, Kannada, Telugu, Persian,

Arabic, English and Latin synonyms. Their merits, uses, common class, natural class etc, were also mentioned. 'Vanaspatishastra' of Jaykrishna Indrajī is virtually a descriptive vocabulary, best in the field, was published in 1910 A.D. Nighantu-Adarsa in 2 volumes is another monumental work by Vaidya Bapalal Garbaddas which was published in 1927-28 A.D.

It may also be mentioned that terms used in muscular and other bodily exercises were collected and published with illustrations by Dattatreya Chintaman Karandikar (Majumdar) of Baroda in 1948 A.D.

Popatlal G. Shah (one of the founders of Gujarat Research Society-Bombay) and Bhogilal K. Patva of Ahmedabad prepared a Glossary of Scientific Terms-English Gujarati in 1938 A.D. and published it in a Gujarati quarterly magazine published by the Forbes Gujarati Sabha of Bombay. Shri Shah, after retirement from Bombay Government Service, devoted much of his time on it and prepared most modern 'English-Gujarati Glossary of Scientific Terms in Nagari Script', and it was published by Gujarat Research Society-Bombay in 1949 A.D. Thus Gujarati terms in Accounts, Anatomy, Anthropology, Archeology, Astronomy, Biology, Botany, Chemistry, Commerce, Economics, Geology, Geography, History, Mathematics, Medicine, Meteorology, Music, Navigation, Philosophy, Psychology, Physics, Physiology, Politics, Shipping and Zoology became easily available.

Gujarat Vidyapith of Ahmedabad has made some contribution in this field and has published small booklets pertaining to herbs, arithmetic, science and literature. But more noteworthy is the attempt of Gujarat University of Ahmedabad, through which a series of publications were brought out from 1958 to 1964 A.D. giving English Gujarati synonyms for items in about 15 different fields. Thus Gujarati has a huge store of terminology to meet the requirements of most of the technical subjects in Gujarati for preparing translations of English works and also for writing original works.

Thus a survey of more than 160 years is completed. I have tried my best to get first hand acquaintance of the works referred above, preserved in the library of B.J. Institute of Learning and Research, Ahmedabad, excepting a very few, for which I had to refer the Regional Library of Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad.

This is our wealth, so far preserved. But this is not all. An exhaustive and descriptive

dictionary on the lines adopted in the preparation of Oxford Dictionary is a bare necessity of the day, in which the historical development of the structure as well as the meanings and quotational usages from standard works ranging from the beginning of the Old Gujarati stage to the current Gujarati use should be shown. To make it up to date old as well as newly coined terminology is also to be noted therein separately.

For the comparative study of the related languages and dialects of Neo-Indo-Aryan a dictionary on the lines of Nepali Dictionary of Prof. R.L. Turner is also need of the time. I am glad to inform here that under my guidance Prof. Dr. L.D. Joshi of Modern College in Sabarkantha, a vocabulary of words with common roots from Gujarati, Vagdi, Marwari, Mewati, Malvi, Nimadi, Marathi and Hindi/with Hindi equivalents is being prepared. Preparation of purely etymological dictionary has been undertaken by me. My friend Dr. H.C. Bhayani is collecting old Gujarati words with full references for preparing his Old Gujarati Dictionary.

In conclusion, I have to say that the earnest need in of bilingual dictionaries involving all the languages of India as source and target languages. A language may be of the Aryan branch or of Dravidian Family, our cultural heritage being common it is not difficult to translate one language into another. If we have elementary bilingual grammars and basic bilingual dictionaries, our integration will be far more easy.