



CONTENTS

PREFACE	vii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	ix
INTRODUCTION	xi
THE INDO-EUROPEAN FAMILY OF LANGUAGES	xv
COGNATE RELATIONS : COMMON TYPE	xvii
COGNATE RELATIONS : SPECIAL TYPE	xix
ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS	xxi
<b>PART I</b>	
RATIONALE OF COGNATE RELATIONS	1
<b>PART II</b>	
EXPOSITION OF COGNATE WORDS	25
INDEX OF ENGLISH WORDS	195
REFERENCES	209

## INTRODUCTION

The common origin of the words belonging to the Indo-European family of languages, including English and Sanskrit, is a well-known and long established fact. An attempt is made here firstly, to make such references intelligible to the general reader and secondly, to identify a larger number of cognate relations by exploring the basic facts. A study of nearly twelve hundred English words, which in one way or the other correspond to the Sanskrit words, is being undertaken below.

The Aryan languages of India, that is, Sanskrit and its descendants as well as most of the European languages (such as Germanic, Italic, Hellenic, Balto-Slavic and their descendants) are, inter alia, members of the Indo-European family which also goes by the name of Aryan family of languages.

The Old Indo-Aryan, namely Sanskrit has since long ceased to exist as a popular language. In the course of its evolution it assumed the Mid Indo-Aryan form, called Pali and the different Prakrits, and presently survives in the guise of New Indo-Aryan languages, such as Punjabi, Hindi, Gujarati, Marathi and Bengali, which according to the Webster's Dictionary are rightly described as 'Neo-Sanskritic languages'.

English, which immediately belongs to the Germanic sub-family, has borrowed extensively from Latin as well as from French which is a developed form of Latin. Further, the English vocabulary has been enriched by borrowings from the Greek language. In this way the English vocabulary has acquired a great stock of mutually related words which is significant from the point of view of etymology. In this respect we may take the example of the English *wit* (of the Germanic origin) which rubs shoulders with *video* or *vision* (coming from Latin) on the one hand, and with *idea* (a word of the Greek origin) on the other hand. Again, the Anglo-French *view* (French *vue*) adds to the list of cognate words (incidentally *Veda* a word of the Indo-Aryan origin, which has found its way into the English vocabulary, also belongs here).

Sometimes the cognate relations between the allied languages are quite perceptible, as shown by the English *name* and the Sanskrit *nāma*. But sometimes instead of obvious similarities the cognate relations are,

so to say, of the microscopic nature. This is the case with the English *conversation* (talk, familiar discourse) which comes from the same source as the Sanskrit *vārttā* (news, report, story; whence also the Punjabi *bāt*, in the same sense). This relation is justified on the ground that, in the former case, the Latin *vert-*, to turn (of which *vers-* is the participial form; with *con-* and *-ation* as formative elements) conforms to the Sanskrit *vart-* (to turn) underlying the corresponding Sanskrit word. This brings us to the fact that the cognate words are determined by the kindred nature of their radical elements irrespective of any consideration as to their prefixes or suffixes. It would be pertinent to quote here the relation between the English *perverted* ('turned aside') and the Sanskrit *parivartita* ('turned round', changed) which is not only based on the mutually related radicals (same as above) but is also indicative of the mutually related prefixes and suffixes.

Thus, we come across various categories of words designated as cognates, right from the obvious similarities to the various shades of divergences, occasionally stretching the credulity of the reader too far. As a matter of fact the determination of the cognate words, especially those belonging to the distantly related languages is mostly an esoteric affair, subject to the observation of certain phonetic, morphological and semantic rules and rituals.

As compared to any of its descendants the Sanskrit language is most suitable for the kind of study presently undertaken. It is distinguished by a great wealth of literature extending over a number of centuries. Having its semantic repository singularly full and fertile it is very much relevant to the etymological study of any member of the Indo-European family. That is why it looms large in the standard etymological dictionaries of the English language. Even the Webster's Dictionary, which briefly deals with the etymology of the English words, gives due consideration to the Sanskrit cognates.

To be able to appreciate the phenomenon of the cognate words in respect of English and Sanskrit the reader is not supposed to be well versed in the Sanskrit language. All that matters is familiarity with the Sanskrit vocabulary which an observant reader of any New Indo-Aryan languages is likely to possess. This also applies to the references from the Latin and Greek sources which are treated here subservient to the English vocabulary.

The inclusion of the Punjabi words, wherever feasible, in the course of the study, serves a dual purpose. In some cases this helps the speakers of the New Indo-Aryan languages to strike up an acquaintance

with the words of the Sanskrit languages, while in other cases the French words (forming a part of the English vocabulary) are almost at the same level of phonetic development as the Punjabi words.

From the last mentioned consideration, for instance, the Latin *regis*, a king (as in English *regicide* or *regal*) stands at par with the Sanskrit *rāja-* (in the same sense), whereas the French *roi*, a king (as in English *viceroys* or *royal*) coincides with the Punjabi *rāe* a king or chieftain.

The kind of study contemplated will help the speakers of the Indo-Aryan languages to become familiar with the English words of unwieldy nature, especially the technical terms which are often derived from the Latin and the Greek sources. As for instance, the observation of the English entomological term *Dysdercus*, a genus of cotton bugs making the lint look ugly (Greek *dys*, bad, ugly; and *derk-*, to see) in the light of the Sanskrit *durdaršana*, bad looking (*dur* or *duš*, bad; and *darš-*, to see) will surely give our readers a feeling of *deja vu*.

And above all, the study of cognate words is expected to go a long way in extending the semantic horizon of the readers.

Punjabi University,  
Patiala

G. S. RAYALL  
Fellow

COGNATE RELATIONS

COMMON TYPE

<i>English</i>	<i>Sanskrit</i>		<i>Punjabi</i>	
anonym	anāma	अनाम	anām	ਅਨਾਮ
be	bhū-	भू-	ho-	ਹੋ-
brother	bhrātr̥	भ्रातृ	bhrā	ਭਰਾ
deity	devatā	देवता	deotā	ਦਿਉਤਾ
domination	damana	दमन	daman	ਦਮਨ
gravity	gurutā	गुरुता	gurutā	ਗੁਰੂਤਾ
immortal	amṛta	अमृत	amrit	ਅਮ੍ਰਿਤ
mouse	mūsha	मूष	mūsā	ਮੂਸਾ
nose	nāsā	नासा	nās	ਨਾਸ
prime	parama	परम	param	ਪਰਮ
sweet	svādu	स्वादु	suādī	ਸੁਆਦੀ
two	dva	द्व	do	ਦੋ
upper	upari	उपरि	uppar	ਉੱਪਰ
virile	vīra	वीर	vīr	ਵੀਰ
yoked	yukta	युक्त	jutt	ਜੁੱਟ

COGNATE RELATIONS

SPECIAL TYPE

<i>English</i>	<i>Sanskrit</i>		<i>Punjabi</i>	
candle	čandra	चन्द्र	čand	ਚੰਦ
work	ūrjā	ऊर्जा	ūrjā	ਊਰਜਾ
foreboding	prabodhana	प्रबोधन	parbodh	ਪਰਬੋਧ
friend	priya	प्रिय	piārā	ਪਿਆਰਾ
love	lobha	लोभ	lobh	ਲੋਭ
margin	maryādā	मर्यादा	marjādā	ਮਰਜ਼ਾਦਾ
memory	smṛti	स्मृति	simritī	ਸਿਮ੍ਰਿਤੀ
natural	sahaja	सहज	sahaj	ਸਹਜ
ointment	añjana	अञ्जन	añjan	ਅੰਜਨ
plenty	pūrṇatā	पूर्णता	pūrṇtā	ਪੂਰਣਤਾ
sedate	prasanna	प्रसन्न	parsann	ਪਰਸੰਨ
smile	vismaya	विस्मय	vismād	ਵਿਸਮਾਦ
thirst	ṛshā	तृषा	treh	ਤ੍ਰੇਹ
upmost	upama	उपम	upamā	ਉਪਮਾ
wit	vidyā	विद्या	vidyā	ਵਿੱਦਿਆ

## REFERENCES

### ENGLISH

- Concise Oxford Dictionary, eighth ed.
- The Shorter Oxford English Dictionary
- Chamber's Twentieth Century Dictionary, 1972
- Webster's New World Dictionary, Edit. D.B. Guralnic
- Webster's Third New World Dictionary
- An Etymological Dictionary of the English Language, W.W.Skeat, Oxford
- a Comprehensive Etymological Dictionary of the English Language, Ernest Klein

### LATIN

- A Latin Dictionary, Lewis and Short

### GREEK

- A Greek - English Lexicon, H.G.Liddell and R.Scott, Oxford

### SANSKRIT

- A Practical Sanskrit Dictionary, A.A.Macdonell
- A Sanskrit-English Dictionary, Sir Monier Monier Williams, Oxford

### PUNJABI

- Punjabi Koś, Language Depart., Punjab
- Mahan Koś, Bh. Kahn Singh Nabha

### INDO-ARYAN

- A Comparative Dictionary of the Indo-Aryan Languages, Sir R.L.Turner, Oxford

### HINDI

- A Dictionary of Urdu, Classical Hindi and English, John T. Platts