



Sanskrit

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Is Sanskrit A Dead Language : A Study

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Abstract : *Sanskrit is a historical Indo-Aryan language. The affinity of Sanskrit is with Greek, Italic, Celtic, German, Balto-Slavonic and Iranian languages constituting the Indo-European family of languages.. There is a wealth of knowledge available in Sanskrit which scientists and technologists are discovering today. Sanskrit has survived so far because of its flexibility and versatility. But, a number of sociolinguistic studies of spoken Sanskrit strongly suggest that oral use of Sanskrit is limited so it is a dead language. Some think it's a useless language. The fact is quite different. Modern works continue to be produced in Sanskrit. The*

objective of this research work is to make a comparison between the living language and the dead language. Sanskrit is quite obviously not dead. It is spoken, written and read all over the world. Our purpose is to open a new dimension of knowledge about Sanskrit language. This study will help us to show that Sanskrit is still very much alive.

Key words : *Sanskrit, Dead language, Living language, Present status, Computational analysis.*

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Introduction:

भाषासु मुख्या मधुरा दिव्या गीर्वाण भारती।
तस्माद्धि काव्यं मधुरं तस्मादपि सुभाषितम् ॥

(The speech of India (Sanskrit), is the foremost, the sweetest and the divine among all languages. The poetry becomes sweet because of it and even the sayings become eloquent.)

Sanskrit, which literally means "**cultured or refined**", is the classical language of India and is the oldest and the most systematic language in the world. **Forbes Magazine**, (July, 1987) wrote: "Sanskrit is the mother of all the European languages and is the most suitable language for the computer software." It is older than Hebrew or Latin. Sanskrit is a historical Indo-Aryan language.