



Department of
Linguistics and Modern Languages
語言學及現代語言系

The Indo-Portuguese Creoles: Efforts of Documentation and Description

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Date: March 8, 2022 (Tuesday)

Time: 4:30pm - 6:15pm (Hong Kong Time, UTC +8)

***Seminar will be conducted via ZOOM**



Prior registration is required

The Zoom Meeting details will be provided on 7 March 2022



Abstract

The diffusion of the Portuguese around the globe which resulted from the expansionist dynamics inaugurated in the 15th century brought about multiple instances of language contact in many parts of Africa, the Americas, Asia, and the Pacific. In some locations, the outcome was the development of creole languages. Those that formed in South Asia became collectively known as “Indo-Portuguese”, reflecting the notion that they constitute a well-defined cluster within the universe of Portuguese-lexified creoles in Asia (which extend all the way to the Pearl River Delta, in southern China) and elsewhere. Much more numerous and widespread in the past, these languages are currently spoken in only a few locations of India and Sri Lanka. In this talk, we will explore the history of the linguistic documentation and description of the Indo-Portuguese creoles in general, but focusing on recent documentation projects dedicated to those of Diu, the Malabar coast (Cochin, Cannanore, Calicut), and (Eastern) Sri Lanka.

Speaker

Hugo C. Cardoso holds degrees from the universities of Coimbra and Amsterdam and is currently Assistant Professor at the University of Lisbon, having earlier worked in Macau, Hong Kong, and Coimbra. Since 2016, he has also been associated with the Joaquim Heliodoro da Cunha Rivara Chair in Indo-Portuguese Studies at Goa University (India). He is a researcher of language contact, particularly that involving Portuguese, with particular emphasis on the creole languages of South Asia (India and Sri Lanka), combining a synchronic (descriptive) perspective with an interest in the history of these languages and in comparative approaches. Earlier, he has also done research on the Saramaccan creole of Suriname. Among his books are *The Indo-Portuguese language of Diu* (2009), published by LOT; the co-edited volumes *Gradual Creolization* (2009) and *Ibero-Asian Creoles: Comparative perspectives* (2012), published by John Benjamins; and *Lives in Contact: A tribute to nine fellow creolinguists*, published by Colibri (2019). Guest-edited journal issues include special volumes on “Accounting for similarities among the Asian-Portuguese varieties” (*Journal of Portuguese Linguistics*, 2009; co-edited with Umberto Ansaldo), “Language endangerment and preservation in South Asia” (*Language Documentation and Conservation*, 2014), and “Documentation and Maintenance of Contact Languages from South Asia to East Asia” (*Language Documentation and Conservation*, 2019, co-edited with Mário Pinharanda Nunes). He has also published several journal articles and book chapters on various aspects of his research.

All are Welcome

Enquiries

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