

## ABSTRACT

This present study is a research exercise. It is a modest attempt to study Indian words in English. The process of Indianization of English had started long before Independence. One of the major processes in this phenomenon was the borrowing of Indian <sup>words</sup> into English language. Attempts have been made to identify the various words and specify the circumstances in which this has happened. To mention some of the important works: Yule and Burnell (1886), Rao (1954), Hawkins (1984).

This study tries to overcome some of the limitations of the earlier works. There is <sup>no</sup> gainsaying that there is a need for a comprehensive study of Indian words in the variety of English used in India i.e. Indian English and also to identify which of them have acquired currency in the native variety. The object of this study is to accomplish this to the extent possible.

The present study is based on a million word computer corpus of Indian English. We have got 1924 Indian words and expressions in the corpus. An attempt has been made to find out which of the Indian words in the corpus have acquired currency in the native variety. For this purpose, all the Indian words in the corpus were checked against the entries in Webster's Third New International Dictionary of the English Language. (Web hereafter) An attempt has also been made to find out the Indian words which do not occur in the corpus but which occur in Web. As a result we find that there are 546 Indian words in Web which do not occur in the corpus. We have 602 Indian words that occur both in the corpus and in Web. Thus in all we have got 2470 Indian words.

The dissertation is divided into four chapters followed by a bibliography and an appendix of Indian words and expressions.

Chapter I summarizes the contribution of the most influential works concerning borrowing of Indian words in English. It also points out the limitations of such works.

Chapter II describes methods and materials used in the present study of Indian words in current Indian English. The Chapter also discusses the importance of corpus for linguistic study.

Chapter III classifies <sup>the</sup> 2470 Indian words and expressions into 27 semantic fields largely following Kachru, and discusses the significance of the occurrence of these words in Indian English. The frequency of occurrence of the Indian words are presented and their significance also discussed.

Chapter IV takes stock of some sense variations in some of the Indian words in English as they occur in the corpus.

No attempt has been made to draw any conclusions as such, as the study is mainly quantitative. Only some comments have been made at the relevant places regarding the significance of the occurrence of Indian items in English.