

CONCLUDING REMARKS

As already stated the object of this work was simply to produce a description of one aspect of Marathi, that is, the deep cases of Marathi in terms of Fillmore's grammar. In the course of such description several problems were confronted. For example, it was difficult to apply such labels as Agentive and Dative to NP's associated with V's dominated by P in the case of verbs I have considered under verbs of perception. Particularly the Marathi equivalents for the English verb like hear/listen to. (शुणणे) This verb in Marathi, it was noticed, could associate with NP's whose role could be either Agentive or Dative. But an appeal had to be made to the context outside the sentence to decide which particular case frame the verb may be assigned. This seems to be a problem not merely of the 'fringes and overlappings' referred to by Dillon. Even if that is so it only lends further support to Dillon's criticism, and his pessimism about the future of case grammars.

The inadequacy of the different case labels offered by Fillmore even after including his 1971 modifications, was felt in dealing with certain verbs particularly those of perception and incomplete predication.

For example, verbs like to please, to like, to know have been analysed by Fillmore as taking Agentive. But somehow it was not possible to appreciate the concept Agentive to be associated with such verbs. It was felt that Halliday's description of the participant roles in such clauses ( mental process clauses ) appeared more attractive. Fillmore has of course used the label 'Experiencer' in his 1971 model which comes nearest to Halliday's PROCESSOR. But it will be noticed that this new category is included in D in his earlier model.

All this means that Fillmore's own reservation 'more case categories would be needed' to explain all the sentence types is quite a serious one. As Dillon says, how many more categories would be required remains an open question. It would appear then that case grammar will gain strength only when a comprehensive set of case categories with minimum (ideally no) overlappings and fringes between them is arrived at. Only then can one speak of the universality of case categories. Meanwhile we can only hope that explorations like the one we have undertaken into the case categories of many more diverse languages might help to add to and clarify the case concepts.