

Research Title (tentative)	Eine kontrastive Untersuchung von Verben im Deutschen und im Hindi
Name of the scholar	Vipul Goswami
Research Field	Contrastive Linguistics, Syntax
Duration of stay	July 2013- June 2014
Department	Lehrstuhl der Deutschen Sprachwissenschaft, Universität Regensburg

In this final report to be submitted to the Federation of Indo-German Societies in India and Hanns Seidel Foundation, New Delhi, I would like to report on my academic stay at the Department of German Linguistics, University of Regensburg, Germany, being a PhD scholar at the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. The duration of the research stay at the University of Regensburg was from July 2013 to June 2014.

It took me a couple to days to settle down in the new environment. My professor at the University of Regensburg Dr. Christiane Thim-Mabrey was extremely hospitable. She along with her husband Mr. Craig Mabrey was a great host to have in a new foreign city. She brought up some vital contacts like her student Miss Stoilovska, MA to show me this and that at the university library and registration formalities and Mrs. Ahrens, my landlady for the year, who were very helpful for my year long stay in Regensburg. At the university an office room with a separate key was provided to me.

In the next few weeks after settling down I worked on the structure of my proposed work. I got myself well informed about the books and articles in the related libraries. In this way I got

accustomed to the new work environment before the commencement of the winter semester 2013-14 at the University of Regensburg.

For the duration of winter semester 2013-14 I had put my core priorities as following: 1. to develop further the skeleton of my work and to analyse the source of corpus for the examples, 2. to inform myself intensively on the subjects syntax and word formation in German, and 3. to search for the relevant materials in the library Philosophicum I (German Studies and Linguistics)

In this duration I have had meetings with my professor as per rule once a week and I discussed my problems with her. I worked on Hindi verbs extracted from a course book *Einstieg Hindi*. and analysed and classified. In the next weeks I have met my professor and focused on a limited number of verbs for my proposed study. Furthermore, I have searched and analysed on those focused verbs i.e. perception verbs, namely and books on valency of verbs.

During the winter semester 2013-14 I visited three lectures at the department of German Linguistics, University of Regensburg after the suggestion of my professor. The courses were as following:

1. *Einführungsvorlesung Gegenwartssprache und Sprachgeschichte* (Introductory seminar in Modern German and History of Language)
2. *Deutsche Wortbildung* (German Word Formation)
3. *Deutsche Gegenwartssprache* (Modern German)

I participated in these lectures actively and my knowledge of relevant topics was enhanced through that. It is also mentioned, that my presence in those lectures was without any obligation to appear in the examination or to register formally.

A couple of weeks before Christmas we were invited to the annual celebrations by the Hanns Seidel Foundation, Munich at the picturesque snowy town of Wildbad Kreuth in southern Bayern. It was a great learning experience and also to meet various research scholars across the globe.

In the semester off I went regularly to the libraries and I spent on an average fifty working hours a week on the search for the materials. During this time I have analysed the German examples for three perception verbs (*to see, to hear, and to feel*) from VALBU valence dictionary and sorted them according to their semantic categories. Each verb had many variants in German and I have checked them in appropriate semantic categories. After this step I translated these examples in Hindi and carried the syntactical analysis of the results.

Just before the beginning of the summer semester 2014 I paid a visit to my old supervisor at the LMU, Munich. I got there a valuable chance to discuss my uncertainties with him and to learn small yet significant crafts of the trade. I learned how to carry syntactic analysis in-depth, linguistic glossing and formal marking and various types of transliteration (Harward-Kyoto, IAST, Hunterian, ITRANS, SLP1) of Devanagari.

During the semester break I utilized my saved scholarship money on a couple of titles which would be beneficial for my PhD dissertation. A few books to be named would be *Valenztheorie* by Agel, *Einführung in die Syntax* by Pafel, *Einführung in die Satzanalyse* by Welke und *Satzgliedanalyse* by Musan. I worked on these books in the framework of my PhD dissertation. Besides, I bought a few books in linguistics to deepen my knowledge on linguistics. These were *Germanistik* by Drügh et al, *Einführung in die germanistische Linguistik* by Meibauer, *Studienbuch Linguistik* by Linke and *Arbeitsbuch Linguistik* by Müller.

During the semester I met with my professor on a regular basis. Her critical suggestions and comments were decisive to shape up my corpus and a methodological base. After the discussions I had to change a few aspects in order to incorporate new perspectives in my work in this developmental phase.

Evenings I went regularly in the Library Section Philosophicum II of the Philosophy Theology Department of the Regensburg University during the summer semester. During this time I searched the electronic data bases of the library systems. Due to the nature of my dissertation I

searched and worked upon the core linguistics texts. Furthermore, I visited a couple of lectures during the summer semester 2014, which were relevant to my studies. I visited the seminars by Dr. Pretzl *Syntax* (55414) and by Dr. König *Entwicklung der Gegenwartssprache* (35417). Besides that I volunteered for a couple of classes for the lectures by a fellow student and friend Ivana Stoilovska *Grammatische Grundbegriffe* (Stoilovska, 35403). On Saturdays I spent my time in copy rooms and I scanned and saved selected articles and pages from relevant books from the library.

In the remaining time I was actively engaged with other PhD students at the university. I followed the International Office of the University of Regensburg regular activities where one would get to know other PhD scholars from various backgrounds. They organized get-togethers, trips and other activities on regular basis. It was a learning experience also, although in a friendly relaxed manner. It was a great opportunity to meet and learn from other scholars' experiences about the stay in Regensburg. It was also a great opportunity to speak German without any boundaries. I expressed myself always in German and undoubtedly it improved my language skills a lot. In the leisure time I visited another two picturesque Bavarian towns, Augsburg and Nürnberg namely and on some occasions I worked as a voluntary interpreter at my hostel to serve the scholar who didn't speak German. Often on Sundays I spent some hours on my bicycle to the countryside.

This research stay was immensely valuable for the development of my PhD dissertation and my own personality. I would like to thank Federation of Indo-German Societies in India and Hanns-Seidel Foundation and the co-workers in New Delhi and Munich for the opportunity they gave me to spend a year at the University of Regensburg. This stay expanded my academic and personal horizons.