

## Analecta et Additamenta

**Elements of Kuṛux Historical Phonology.** — M. PFEIFFER's book "Elements of Kuṛux Historical Phonology"<sup>1</sup> is a revised and somewhat enlarged translation of his doctoral dissertation, written at the Freie Universität Berlin. It forms the third volume in the series of Indian Studies Publications of this university. The polygraphic form of the book is excellent (as much as that is possible in a rotaprint edition). It consists of three parts (pp. 1–166), five supplements (pp. 167–197), indices (pp. 198–216), a short introduction (p. v), a detailed table of contents (pp. vii–x), bibliographic information (pp. xi–xiv), a list of abbreviations (pp. xv–xvi), and a geographic map (p. xvii).

The first part of the book (pp. 1–12) has an introductory character. It contains a brief presentation of general information on the Kuṛux language, its place among other Dravidian languages, the history of its study, and similar things, mostly known to specialists. The material examined in the book was also taken from published sources: "A Dravidian Etymological Dictionary" by T. BURROW and M. B. EMENEAU, the Kuṛux-English dictionaries by A. GRIGNARD and F. HAHN, as well as the Kuṛux-Hindi dictionary by K. M. THIGA. The author excluded from them only loanwords (words of non-Dravidian origin and Dravidian words borrowed from other languages), words which have parallels only in Malto and/or Brahui, words of doubtful etymology, and onomatopoetic words — all of these are given in the supplements.

M. PFEIFFER's Kuṛux phoneme system differs from the one earlier suggested by H.-J. PINNOW (1964) by the presence of a long phoneme /ā/, which can be found in at least eight words. The system of Proto-Dravidian phonemes M. PFEIFFER took from the etymological dictionary by T. BURROW and M. B. EMENEAU, substituting the \*ɹ and \*ɻ by \*ɻ̄ and \*ɻ̄ respectively. One can agree with the first substitution (\*ɹ by \*ɻ̄), first suggested by BH. KRISHNAMURTI. The second one, however, must be considered extremely unfortunate: ɻ (or its equivalents ɻ̄, ɻ̄, ɻ̄) designates a liquid retroflex sonant, characteristic only of the classic Dravidian languages (description cf. M. ANDRONOV 1969a: 24), whereas ɹ denotes a retroflex flap noise sound (cf. *ibid.*: 20), frequently met with in Dravidian as well as in Indo-Aryan languages. As a result, in M. PFEIFFER's transcription, ɹ, as e. g. in the Tamil word *muṛam* 'elbow' and in the Gondi word *moṛi* 'elbow', signifies different sounds and phonemes. Therefore, the reader of this book must constantly keep in mind that here ɹ in the Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada, and Telugu examples as well as in the Proto-Dravidian reconstructions always means ɻ̄ and in all other cases — ɹ. Other inaccuracies in transcription are caused by the fact that the author, while rendering examples, uses traditional transcription systems for each of the languages. These systems, being perfectly consistent in relation to their respective languages, cause confusion when mechanically combined (e. g. in etymological families). Here is just one example. The alveolo-

<sup>1</sup> MARTIN PFEIFFER, *Elements of Kuṛux Historical Phonology*. (Indologia Berolinensis, 3.) xviii+216 pp. in 4°. With 1 map. Leiden 1972. E. J. BRILL. Price: 48 Gld.