

The Otherness of English
India's Auntie Tongue Syndrome

Probal Dasgupta

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From the inside jacket

This book offers a unique interpretation of the meaning of the English language in India, focusing on the mode of its presence in the post-modern phase. To do this, Professor Dasgupta presents an interdisciplinary account of the role English plays at various levels of modernization. Starting with the socio-linguistic notion of diglossia and the geo-linguistic notion of an Asian area of formalized code cleavage, the author shows that English occupies a constrained functional slot in India's discursive space. Professor Dasgupta's critique of earlier works on the linguistic and literary presence of English suggests that they were based on a code-oriented, naturalistic theory of language and thus could not cope with the discourse-bound properties of diglossic systems. Based on this critique, the author argues that the crucial contrast that needs to be explained - given the fact that both Sanskrit in ancient times and English today play an artificial 'high' role - is that between the poverty of modern India's English compared to the obvious creative success of Sanskrit in classical times. [...]

This is the first analysis of English (or any modern language) to situate the topic in the context shaped by recent work in a host of domains including modernization, post-modernity, cultural strategies, 'othering' as the cognitive content of colonial domination, and a theoretical convergence of sociology and linguistics. It will interest scholars in such fields as socio-linguistics, education, sociology, political science and English literature.

In computer programming, leaning toothpick syndrome (LTS) is the situation in which a quoted expression becomes unreadable because it contains a large number of escape characters, usually backslashes ("\"), to avoid delimiter collision. LTS appears in many programming languages and in many situations, including in patterns that match Uniform Resource Identifiers (URLs) and in programs that output quoted text. Many quines fall into the latter category. The otherness of English : India's auntie tongue syndrome. Probal Dasgupta. 1993. Corpus ID: 160017075. Foreword - Udaya Narayana Singh Introduction Diglossia Discourses Heteronomy Normativity India//Bharat Conclusion. Is this relevant? Highly Cited. "There was a market for it in India, amongst the British serving in India. One review recommended it as an ideal 'after-dinner reading in camp'," says Teltscher. "It does include a lot of administrative terms - things that the British needed to know. As regards Englishmen, compare hugger-mugger, hurdy-gurdy, tip-top, higgledy-piggledy, hocus-pocus, tit-for-tat, topsy-turvy harum-scarum, roly-poly, rump and stump, slip-slop!" "I love these rhyming words in Hobson-Jobson," says Nagra. "They're such a familiar feature of my mother tongue and I can see how it's inspired so many writers, most famously Salman Rushdie whose novel *Midnight's Children* is richly sprinkled with phrases such as writing-shiting, pudding-shudding." The word Hobson-Jobson itself is one of these. For Karin Humphreys, tip-of-the-tongue syndrome is very real, both as a personal experience and a topic of research. "I'd find I would get it on the same name or same word over and over again," she tells Mental Floss. Out of desperation, she'd look up the word online, or a friend would come to her rescue. "You feel you're never going to forget it again, because the relief is just so palpable. And then I'd find myself a week later in a tip-of-the-tongue state on the same word again, which is even more frustrating! It got me thinking, 'Why the heck is this

1993. *The otherness of English: India's auntie tongue syndrome*. Delhi & London: Sage. Dua, Hans. 1985. *Language planning in India*. New Delhi: Harnam. Kachru, Braj B. 1986. *The alchemy of English: the spread, functions and models of non-native Englishes*. Oxford: Pergamon. Khubchandani, Lachman M. 1983. *Plural languages, plural cultures: Communication, identity and sociopolitical change in contemporary India*. Honolulu: The University of Hawaii Press. Mohanty, Ajit K. 1994. *Bilingualism in a multilingual society*. Presenting an interdisciplinary account based on his critique of earlier research, the author explains the reasons for the poverty of modern India's English and the role it plays in the general process of modernization and demonstrates how it occupies a functional slot in India's linguistic space. (source: Nielsen Book Data). Subjects. Subject. Multilingualism > India. English language > Social aspects > India. Bibliographic information. Publication date.