Documenting Sambalpuri-Kosli:
The Case of a Less-resourced Language

PITAMBAR BEHERA
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India

BISWANANDAN DASH
Institute of Odia Studies and Research, Odisha, India

ABSTRACT

Language is one of such components that everybody has a stake in; which encapsulates a consortium of elements such as culture of a community, indigenous knowledge paradigm, social and religious values, folklores and so on. One of the salient objectives of this research is to document and describe the Sambalpuri-Kosli language by way of preparing an online dictionary which could prove to be a stepping stone for the technological advancement and future research into it. The present dictionary is a multilingual, web-based and thematic dictionary of around 600 words collected from three domains- flora and fauna, kinship, and body parts. Documenting one's own language is to archive and disseminate it for the posterity; this can be done better none other than by making a web-based dictionary. The data in the form of lexicon has been encoded with the Toolbox, and LexiquePro has been used for its online launch. The data has been analyzed and processed in such a manner that it can be comprehended by researchers of other disciplines as well and does neither require any prior knowledge of the language in question nor linguistics.

The concerned paper explicates that the dictionaries are not only a repository of lexicons which are mere representatives of the linguistic knowledge but also a plethora of knowledge-database of a particular speech community embedded in the same language such as cultural, anthropological, ethnographic, social and so on. Furthermore,