

## Theories of Acquisition of Language: Towards a Ka:rmik Linguistic Approach

IBRAHIM ALI

*University of Baghdad, Baghdad, Iraq*

CHILUKURI BHUVANESWAR

*Osmania University, Hyderabad, India*

### ABSTRACT

*According to Wikipedia, "Language acquisition is the process by which humans acquire the capacity to perceive and comprehend language, as well as to produce and use words and sentences to communicate." In this view, there are many theories of language among which general approaches such as social interactionism, relational frame theory, and emergentism are well-known and in the empiricist models statistical learning, and chunking are well-known. However, these theories are atomistic in their approach and do not take all the facets of language acquisition in a holistic manner.*

*In this paper, an attempt has been made to critically examine two dominant theories of language acquisition, namely, Skinner's behaviourism and Chomsky's nativism (Innateness hypothesis) and point out a new theory of language acquisition through "ka:rmik language acquisition competence (KLAC)" of Bhuvaneshwar who proposed ka:rmik linguistic theory.*

*According to radical behaviourism of Skinner, language can be learnt by operant conditioning. This view was criticized by Chomsky and he proposed his generative grammar in which language is considered to be genetic and as such it can only be acquired and not learnt. Bhuvaneshwar proposed ka:rmik linguistic theory in which language is considered to be ka:rmik (via dispositional) action. In his view, there is genetic inheritance in certain instances and operant conditioning in*