

CULTURAL BLEND OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE USAGE IN THE SOCIAL DOMAIN OF JAFFNA PENINSULA: AN INVESTIGATION ON SOCIAL INVITATIONS

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This paper seeks to identify the distinctive and peculiar features in the use of English language in the social domain of Jaffna Peninsula due to cultural interference. “Jaffna Peninsula” in this study is defined as a discourse community which uses ‘Jaffna Tamil’ as its main spoken dialect. The use of English is remarkably domain specific and characterizes divergences within this research context. The documentation of varying features of cultural and linguistic influences on the second language (L2) in different discourse communities of Sri Lanka is a necessity at present as description of ‘Sri Lankan English’ gains significance in the L2 research context of Sri Lanka. In this study the bilingual invitation cards regarding weddings and puberty ceremonies in the research context were collected and analyzed qualitatively and the peculiar features which reflect the cultural blend in the use of English were listed. Thus this paper hopes to present a description of the English language used in the social domain of the north of Sri Lanka.