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# "WHAT IS GOOD OR BAD ABOUT BILINGUAL DICTIONARY OF PUNJABI: A LEXICOGRAPHIC PERSPECTIVE INTO FUTURE OF BILINGUAL LEXICOGRAPHY IN THE PUNJABI LANGUAGE IN PAKISTAN"

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Bilingual dictionary coordinates with two languages and its prospective users are provided lexical information mainly in the form of equivalents. The compilation of a bilingual dictionary requires well- thought-of consideration on matters like prospective dictionary users, coverage of lexical items, and top of all deciding on which language to be taken as the source language or the target language. The study seeks to sketch out the overall lexicographic development with respect to bilingual dictionaries of Punjabi available in Pakistan. It analyses diverse issues such as design features, productive or receptive needs of dictionary users, and coverage of lexical items in bilingual dictionaries of Punjabi such as Vanguard Punjabi-English Dictionary and W.P. Hares English-Punjabi Dictionary, Punjabi-Urdu Dictionary by Sardar Muhammad Raza Khan and Tanveer-ul-lughaat by Syed Tanveer Bukhari. The study takes Hartmann (2001) as a conceptual framework and employs a documentary analysis method. To carry out the need analysis, checklist method of research was preferred and to seek answer regarding user's needs a sample of respondents (200 graduates pursuing a course in Punjabi as optional subject) were administered a questionnaire containing both open-ended and close-ended questions regarding user's needs with respect to dictionary use. The data provided that existing bilingual dictionaries of Punjabi lack in various areas such as i) less coverage of lexical items, ii) hyper structure, iii) access structures, iv) macro- structure, v) micro-structure. The inconsistencies shown by the dictionaries render them less useful for users at the graduate level, and the problem can be addressed well if dictionary compilers follow postulates of lexicography and a comprehensive language corpus is developed.

#### Introduction

A dictionary is a most formidable language learning resource; its design features determine the

effectiveness of a reference work as they govern the overall decisions regarding the presentation and organization of lexical items and thus make dictionaries as efficient reference works, defines a bilingual dictionary as consisting of a list of words and expressions in alphabetical order. It treats on language as source language (SL) and provides exact equivalents in another language as the target language (TL) with a specific purpose to help someone who understands one language but AI-Ajmi (2002)

Landau (2001:8) believes that the way of organizing information in a dictionary entry plays a very crucial role in lexicography and researchers should direct more attention towards macro as well as microstructures in bilingual dictionaries to enhance the usefulness of this kind of dictionaries. not the other language. The language known to dictionary use usually presumed to be the user's native language.

Landau (2001:8) defines a bilingual dictionary as consisting of a list of words and expressions in alphabetical order. It treats on language as source language (SL) and provides exact equivalents in another language as the target language (TL) with a specific purpose to help someone who understands one language but not the other language. The language known to dictionary use usually presumed to be the user's native language.

The role of a bilingual dictionary as a reliable resource in learning a second language has assumed enormous significance in the backdrop of shrinking borders across the globe and extensive communication through large scale traveling and trade. Pakistan is a multilingual country and Punjabi is spoken and understood from the length and breadth of the country.

A bi-lingual dictionary takes into account the learner's receptive as well as productive needs. It caters for the user's information about lexis, their pronunciation, syntax, and meaning but also the instances for usage, the informational gap between LI and L2 and cultural background As far as cultural differences are concerned a dictionary compiler needs to be in the know of the needs, productive as well as receptive, of the expected users. Design features of the bi-lingual dictionary need to be in consonance with the modern lexicographic principles and practice to meet second language learners' needs. So a bilingual dictionary represents two languages and it normally serves as a guide in translating from one into the other or producing texts in a language other than the user's mother tongue (Zgusta, 1971:213). So the task before the compiler of a bilingual dictionary is not so simple for he is always to keep in view the prospective users on one hand, and to provide the users with meanings, sense ordering of equivalents, derivatives, usage, multiword-expressions on the other hand. He is taken into consideration entry, typeface size, panels of illustrations,

and the layout of information. As the last two decades have witnessed a remarkable growth in lexicography by virtue of the induction of computer, a bilingual dictionary may rightly be seen as a great resource a learner can wield to learn a foreign language as learners encoding as well as decoding needs have witnessed enormous growth, translational activities are on the rise due to a host of tasks the international communities are involved in since the world has become a global village. Swanson (1975:6) believed, "a bilingual dictionary can be useful and desirable to several kinds of people: students, travelers, translators, and linguists." So the learners require reliable information regarding pronunciation, grammar, meaning, appropriateness of usage in a given situation involving communication in a second language. Zgusta (1971:294) believed that a bilingual dictionary

coordinates with the lexical units of one language those lexical units of another language that are equivalent in their lexical meaning. The language whose lexical units the lexical units of the other language are coordinated is called the source language; the order of the entries in a bilingual dictionary is given by this language. The target language is the other language whose lexical units are coordinated to the source language. Stein (2000:24) believes that bilingual dictionaries generally provide translation equivalents by contrast monolingual dictionaries define or paraphrase each word'. Unlike a monolingual dictionary, a bilingual dictionary is smaller as it tends to omit less frequent, obsolete, and too technical senses (Zgusta, 1971:327). It is neither too short nor too lengthy and retains the richness of information. It touches upon the vocabulary of two languages, and compilers of such dictionaries take into consideration the needs of a particular user. The other question encountered by a lexicographer is whether the work is intended for speakers of the source language (SL) or target language (TL) (see Harrel, 1975:51).

#### Bilingual lexicography in Punjabi

Punjabi is a major language in Pakistan where many other languages of the Indo-Aryan group of

languages are spoken and understood. The state of lexicographic research and practice in this part of the world is satisfactory in the case of Urdu the national language but not so in case of regional languages like Punjabi, Saraiki, and Hindko, etc. A number of bilingual Punjabi dictionaries have been printed recently. The approach in the compilation of these dictionaries seems to be more traditional and less modern firstly because they are the result of an individual's efforts to preserve these languages through dictionary-making and secondly because the choice of lexis is mostly based on the compilers' reading of the classical writings. Lexicography as it stands today acknowledges that prospective users' perspective while dictionary making as one of the key factors of paramount import in modern lexicographic research and practice. The compilation and research in bilingual dictionaries, as they deal with two different languages, is highly difficult from their point of view of their functionality which Hartmann & James (1998) believe to be related to the user perspective of a dictionary according to the purpose of the look up operation.

The case with Punjabi is also different from English as it has an elaborate oral

tradition rich in folk tales and mystic poetry. The compilation of dictionaries in Punjabi is a phenomenon that dates back to the English rule; the purpose was to meet the linguistic requirements of officers posted in the Punjabi speaking areas as well as the needs of the missionaries to communicate with the prospective converts speaking the language. The compilers of dictionaries were the Englishmen and the initial compilations were mostly in the shape of glossaries of names, animals, birds, and the literary or difficult words, and the lexicographic tradition before the grammatical studies in Punjabi (Kapoor, Gupta & Gupta, 2005:124). The dominant oral tradition in Punjabi becomes a problem for the lexicographer as the number of lexical items cannot be determined easily, and with less frequent written usage the orthographic mistakes are very common. As a bi-lingual dictionary takes into account the learner's receptive as well as productive needs, it becomes very essential to see whether available dictionaries cater for the user's information about lexis, their pronunciation, syntax, and meaning but also the instances for usage, the informational gap between LI and L2 and cultural background As far as cultural differences are concerned, the dictionary compiler needs to be in the know of the needs, productive as well as receptive, of the prospective users. Design features of the bi-lingual dictionary need to be in consonance with the modern lexicographic principles and practice to meet second language learners' needs.

#### **Research Questions**

The study seeks answers to the following questions:

- i) What design features do bilingual dictionaries of Punjabi possess?
- ii) How do bilingual dictionaries of Punjabi determine and balance source language and target language?
- iii) How far existing bilingual dictionaries cater to users' needs?

#### **Objectives of the Research**

The study aimed at finding the gaps between the lexicographic practice followed by the

compilers of the bilingual dictionaries in Punjabi and modern practice. It seeks to analyze the design features of Bilingual Punjabi dictionaries, the treatment of source and target languages, the productive or receptive needs of the users.

#### **Significance of the Research**

The study is significant in diverse contexts namely the lexicographic work in this part of the

world, the state of existing dictionaries more specifically the bilingual ones and users'

perspective. It is equally enlightening to publishers and dictionary compilers.

#### **Review of the Literature**

The lexicographic research is a more prolific activity in today's world of rapid communication and especially with the advent of computer and the corpora. The bilingual lexicography despite great attention given to monolingual and learner's dictionaries has not lost its appeal as common people generally tend to grab a

bilingual dictionary. Research in lexicography with its enormous impetus on dictionary user's need analysis has taken long strides forward. Peng & Young (2007) viewed it as from a communicative perspective and considered making a bilingual dictionary as a dynamic process realized by sets of choices that characterize the overall nature of a dictionary. Baroni, Bernardini, Picci & Ferraresi (2010) worked out the possibility of using web-derived corpora of English and French and explored the possibility of seeking the help of collocation in translation. Hartmann (2012) summarizes various studies with reference to bilingual dictionary making as a subject of contrastive study. Patrick & Adamska-Salaciak (2014) critically illustrate the peculiarities attached with two distinct languages and explored the possibilities of whether bilingual dictionaries can legitimately be called translation dictionaries. Various studies have been carried out on bilingual dictionary use but mostly outside Pakistan. The volume of research on the Punjabi dictionary is very slim when it comes to the dictionaries of Punjabi. Sibtain (2012) is perhaps the first of lexicographic research carried out in the context of lexicographic practice both mono and bilingual with reference to Punjabi in the Pakistani part of Punjab. The study provides background to the lexicographic development, historical background to the language, analysis of all available dictionaries of Punjabi.

### Research Methodology Population & Sample

The study takes four bilingual dictionaries out of a total of seven available on the market. The dictionaries are as follows:

Dictionary with Abbreviation	Year of Publication	Unidirectional/Bid rectional	Source Language (SL)	Target Language (TL)
The Vanguard Punjabi-English Dictionary <b>VPED</b>	1184 1895 1912	Unidirectional	English	Punjabi
An English-Punjabi DictionaryW. Hares WPHEP	1929 2001	Unidirectional	English	Punjabi
Tanveer-ul-lughaat Tanveer TUL	2002	Unidirectional	Punjabi	Urdu
Punjabi-Urdu Dictionary by Muhammad Khan PUDSRK	2009	Unidirectional	Punjabi	Urdu

The Vanguard Punjabi-English Dictionary (TYPED) and W. P. Hares' English-Punjabi Dictionary (WPHEPD) represent English Punjabi whereas Tanveer-ul-Lughaat (TUL) and Punjabi-Urdu Dictionary by Sardar Reza Khan (PUDSRK) were chosen to represent Punjabi- English dictionaries to make the sample homogenous and representative. These dictionaries were chosen as they are readily available, being printed regularly and users' and teachers' preferences

for them.

#### **Tools of data collection**

#### Checklist

Two checklists on macrostructures as well as microstructures of bilingual dictionaries were

prepared to keep in view the features discussed by Hartmann (2001) practiced by Oxford English-Urdu Dictionary (OUED). The checklists focused mainly on the macro as well as the micro structures. The questionnaire is administered to seek users' perspectives on the usefulness of these reference works.

#### **Questionnaire**

#### Methods

A corpus of selected lexical items was prepared and dictionaries were looked up to see how they provide linguistic information on the selected lexical items. The checklist was prepared to see what dictionary structures are consistent with each dictionary. Each dictionary was studied and analyzed critically with respect to the dictionary structure.

The design features of these dictionaries were analyzed as under:

#### a) Macrostructure

The macrostructure includes the following:

- i) Front matter- title page, preface, User's guide, Introduction, labels, and abbreviations. ii) Middle matter- the panels and plates of illustrations.
- iii) Back matter- the component parts of a dictionary's macrostructure, they are located between the central word-list section and the end of the work, names of persons, places, weight and measurement, military ranks, chemical elements, alphabetical and numerical symbols and musical notation, quotations, and proverbs fall in the category of back-matter.

#### b) Microstructure

Microstructure in a dictionary is as follows:

i) Phonological Information ii) Grammatical Information iii) Semantic Information iv) Morphological Information

#### List of abbreviations

The following abbreviations have been used in the study:

Abb	=	Abbreviations
Ack	=	Acknowledgement
Chem	=	Chemical elements
Class	=	Classification of non-verb
Col	=	Collection
Cr	=	Cross reference
D	=	Declension
Der	=	Derivations
E <sub>f</sub>	_	Etymology
FT	=	Formality & technicality, Frequency
HW	=	Head word in canonical form
Idm	=	Idioms
Inf	=	Inflection
Intro	=	Introduction

Lab Labels Lexical relations Lex =Meaning equivalents Me = Military ranks MR =Musical notation MN =NPI Names of places =NPr Name of persons = Numerical symbols and alphabets **NSA** OEUD =Oxford English Urdu Dictionary Ori Origin of words = Pil Pictorial illustrations =Pr = Preface Pro = Pronunciation-phonological information in canonical Ps Parts of speech **PUDSRK** Punjabi-Urdu Dictionary by Sardar Muhammad Qaumi [National] English Urdu Dictionary OEUD =Quotations and proverbs Q&P SL = Source Language Target Language TL= Title page Tp The Vanguard Punjabi English Dictionary TVPED =Tanveer-ul-Lughaat TUL Ug = User's guide Use = Usage Vil VerbaI illustrations =Weights and measurements W&M W. P. Hares' English Punjabi dictionary WPHEPD

#### **Findings & Discussions:**

This part contains two major sections. Section one discusses the findings from the analysis of the checklist whereas the second section discusses the major insights provided by the respondents about the good and bad features

	of the available bilingual dictionaries of Punjabi in Pakistan.										
Dictionary	Charles I PT	J∪g	ACK	miro	Lan	ADD	ı				
TVPED	Table 1 (a) Descri	ption of fi	ont matter	ı	ı	ı					

WPHEPD				
TUL				
PUDSRK				

Table 1 (a) is shows that all four dictionaries are not of exceptional quality in reference to the

front matter. PUDSRK seems better than the rest for it has the maximum

features of the front matter. Its relative superiority to other dictionaries may rightly be ascribed to its being recent most in publication. However, the fact remains that it too fails to show all the desired features.

Table 1 (b) Description of middle matter

Dictionary	Panels and plates of illustrations
TVPED	X
WPHEPD	X
TUL	X
PUDSRK	X

Table 1 (b) is self-explanatory in its reflection that all four dictionaries do not

conta	in any mi	<u>ddle.</u>								
Dictionary	Whether	rend	ers th	e Palction	nWarkes f	MRemov	Chemon	NSA mo	MA	Q&P
lexic	ographic	pract	tices a	dopted b	y the Er	glish or	America	n lexicog	graphers	
today	b/W				M					
	word-		Tab	le 1 (C)	Descrip	tion of l	oack ma	tter		
	woru-									
	list									
	section									
	or not?									
THE PER		_								
TVPED										
WPHEPD										
WIREID										
TUL		+								
PUDSRK		1								

Table 1 (c) once again points to the poor quality of all these dictionaries as none of these contain any back-matter. We can summarize our discussion of the macrostructure in the following way.

- a) TVPED has no usage guide, acknowledge introduction, labels, and abbreviation, and with only title page and preface, the user is at a loss regarding different types of information about SL as well as TG. [See Table l(a)]
- b) WPHEPD retains title page, introduction, and an incomplete list of abbreviations as in case of the entry Glorification gives the equivalent 'Sitaish' [praise] denoted by 'c/' with no information about the symbol. [See Table 1(a)]
- c) Both TVPED and WPHEPD are without any panels and plates of illustrations, and therefore without a very important feature of a bilingual dictionary, they are of little help to learn a certain article in a second language which is alien to his language and culture. [See table 1 (b)]
- d) All the dictionaries show a complete absence of back-matter. In compiling a bilingual dictionary, cultural data poses a great deal of problems for foreign language learners. This encyclopedic data should be given in dictionary to facilitate the learners. [See table 1 (c)]

#### **Analysis of the microstructure**

For the analysis of the microstructure or the way an entry provides information about a lexical

item, a corpus comprising of twenty-two words chosen randomly from each dictionary was developed and a checklist method of analysis was applied on all four corpora. For the sake of better understanding, a corpus developed for TVPED has been provided here.

#### **TVPED** corpus

Twenty-two words have been taken randomly from TVPED as the corpus for analysis since the

dictionary is written in the Roman script 'sh' and 's' sound is represented by V, and similar words beginning with 'q' are represented by 'k'. 'w' represents both 'w' and V.

Arth[definition], Badlaun [exchange], Chaki [flour mill], Dada (father of father], Etibar [trust], Faida [profit], Gabara [ballon], Hukum [order], Ilam [knowledge], Jat[caste], Kanak [wheat], Lalach [avarice], Mafi[redemption], Nath [jewellery related with nose], Ohur pou r[endeavours], Palangh [bed], Rada [brick], Sabar[patience], Takka r[confrontation], uggamn [to grow], Wahm [caprice], Yakin [conviction].

The same procedure was adopted with reference to WPHEPD, TUL & PUDSRK.

Table 2 (a) Checklist for drawing results of the micro structure and mediostructure of TVPED

			but detaile of i	
Head Word	Phonological information	Grammatical Information	Morphological Information	TVPED

	Pro	P	D	С	U	Н	I	D	Е	M	L	F	С	Id	V	Pi	С
	110	S		/		W	n	er	t	e	e	T	ol	m	il	1	r
		S		/ TT	S	VV		CI	ι	6		1	OI	111	11	1	1
				U	e		f				X						
				n													
Arth[Definition]																	
Badlaun				_													
[Exchange) Chaki [Flour																	
Mill]																	
Dad[Farther																	
of																	
Etibar [trust]																	
Faida [Benefit]																	
Gabara																	
Hukam [Order]																	
Ilam [Knowledge]																	
Jat [Caste]																	
Kanak [Kanak]																	
Lalch [ Avarice]																	
Mafi																	
[Redemption]																	
Nath [Jewelry]																	
Ohur Pour																	
Palanagh [ Bed]																	
Rada [ Brick]																	
Sabar [Patience]																	
Takkarr																	
[Confront]																	
Uggamn																	
[To																	
Wahm [Caprice]																	
Yakin																	
[Conviction]																	

#### **Findings and Discussion**

A bilingual dictionary exposes a learner to TL which is invariably different from SL. Each

language has certain phonological peculiarities of its own, and phonological information for a dictionary user to develop their linguistic knowledge. Table 3 (a) shows that all dictionaries show a complete disregard for this need, which may further be seen as the result of haphazard lexicographic practice with respect to Punjabi. The English-Punjabi dictionaries were compiled by the Anglo Indians who kept in view the need of the Britishers and missionaries to understand the Punjabi language whereas the later dictionaries were compiled after the making of Pakistan where it seems effort of some individuals to document and preserve the language and help the learners of Punjabi who are usually having Urdu or other languages as their mother tongue. The dictionaries due to this handicap fail to help their users in pronouncing the words accurately. The percentage of phonological information was calculated and is as follows:

Table 3 (a) Overall Percentage of Phonological Information

Dictionary	Pro
TVPED	0%
WPHEPD	0%
TUL	0%
PUDSRK	0%

Grammatical information includes morphological as well as syntactic realities about the

language being, the learner needs to be in the know of the lemma, its inflected forms, its derivatives on one hand, and on the other hand he requires information i.e. part of speech, declension, singular and plural and usage regarding the lexical item being looked up. Zgusta (1971:340) believes that grammatical information is correlated with the intention of the dictionary if a dictionary is compiled for the comprehension of the source language, it can afford to concentrate upon those grammatical indications by means of which the multiple meaning of the entry-word is disambiguated; the intention to describe the source languages brings with it the necessary condition of indicating all such grammatical properties of the lemma, irrespective of the fact whether or not they disambiguate its meaning; the dictionary which intends to help to generate texts in the target language must give rich instruction on how to use the equivalent. So it is significant before initiating a dictionary project to decide whether the dictionary is productive or receptive in respect of user's needs.

TYPED rarely gives information about parts of speech and the instances of usage and examples are few and far between as shown in table 3(b); whereas WPHEPD is deficient in information about the countable-uncountable distinction of nouns, and the examples of lexical items as to how they can be used correctly. Similar is the case with PUDSK which also fails to provide examples of usage.

Table 3 (b) Overall percentage of grammatical information

Dictionary	Ps	D	C/Un	Use
TVPED	4.45%	81.81%	66.66%	36.36%
WPHEPD	100%	57.14	0%	3.8%
TUL	100%	0%	0%	0%
PUDSRK	100%	66.66%	81.81%	66.66%

Headword or lemma, the entry marked in bold, and in canonical form and abbreviations in the

form of clipping, contractions, acronyms, blend, and alphabetism are desirable features of dictionary in the present-day practice. Headwords in all dictionaries are on the whole organized alphabetically, yet there are some errors due probably to the inability of lexicographers to decide on derivatives and inflections. Irregular forms

Dictionaryords									iage	leasaers,	and	the
<b>TVPE</b> fulness	of the	este4d5i96tio	narie	es de	estesissis (	due	to this some	ase.	3	36.36%		

Table 3 (c) Overall percentage of morphological information

WPHEPD	100	57.14	0%	3.8%
TUL	0	0%	0%	3.8%

PUDSRK	81.81%	36.36%	81.81%	66.66%

Definition and equivalents, etymology, lexical relations: synonyms antonyms, collocation,

Idiomatic expressions pertain to the domain of semantics. About semantic information, Apresjan (2000:7) seems to be suggesting that lexical correspondence between the lexical units of two different languages is rare except for technical terms and similar words, and each equivalent describes only one aspect of the word. There is a definite need for a hierarchical arrangement of different senses in the microstructures. TYPED and WPHEPD give meaning equivalents but are lacking in information regarding lexical- relations among different equivalents, their habitual co- occurrence, stylistic information, written and spoken distinction, and information regarding slang and colloquial speech and register. Elaboration both verbal and pictorial is a great tool that a bilingual lexicographer wields in order to sensitize the user of a dictionary with concepts and things alien to his language and cultural background. Table 3 (d) shows both TYPED and WPHEPD are not good resources are far as semantic information is concerned, meaning equivalents are not a perfect match for translation of a word in SL or vice versa. So by giving meaning equivalents without explaining different senses involved, these dictionaries are of little use in translational as well as speech production. In-text cross-reference to related notions is a desired feature in modern lexicographic practice in order to avoid repetition; Hartmann (2001) identified it as mediostructure or the various means of achieving cross-reference. Cross- references are rarely given in both the dictionaries. PUDSK is a large dictionary which has another usual feature that its compiler has packed even Punjabi sayings wherever he wished. A plus point associated with this dictionary is that it covers a large amount of lexical data which through observing modern lexicographic principles be employed to compile better dictionary in the future.

Table 3 (d) Overall percentage of semantic information

Dictionary	Me	Lex	Ft	Col	Idm	Vil	Pil	Cr
TVPED	100%	4.45%	9.09%	27.27%	31.81%	45.45%	0%	13.63%
WPHEPD	100%	23.07	0%	0%	11.53%	3.8%	0%	0%
TUL	100%	4.45%	9.09%	9.09%	0%	0%	0%	0%
PUDSRK	100%	45.45%	31.81%	9.09%	13.63%	23.07%	0%	4.45%

The paramount function that a dictionary serves is reliable aid on disambiguating meaning. The study of meaning and semantic studies fully endorse that meaning is fluid and abstract. Meaning, variant lexical forms, illustration, and examples help a language learner in learning the appropriate meaning. All such information in a reference work can make the dictionary very large in size but with cross-referencing this difficulty can be overcome. The dictionaries are deficient in this respect too. The importance of developing a comprehensive corpus of Punjabi can be a better solution to this issue as existing dictionaries are the product of individuals who manually documented the language in the present form.

#### Section-II

This section summarizes the results of the survey administered on two hundred dictionary users

pursuing the subject of Punjabi at the graduate level as an optional subject. It contained two parts. Part one was demographic in nature. The second part had both open-ended and close- ended questions about their choice of the dictionary, their training whatsoever in a dictionary using skills, the information they usually look up, the problem they face in looking up a lexical

item, dictionary size, coverage of lexical items and need of having an online or mobile dictionary of Punjabi. A higher majority 85% of the respondent provided that available dictionaries do not provide them with meaning in a hassle-free manner as they also confirmed that they are not encouraged to possess printed dictionary and learn reference skills. Only 7% of the respondents knew about the user's guide and list of symbols or abbreviations. 23% of dictionary users believed that the dictionary plays a significant role in learning a language. The lower percentages regarding macrostructure and microstructure endorsed the view that existing bilingual dictionaries of Punjabi are less user's friendly due to certain potential shortcomings. The results of the survey validated the results obtained through the checklist.

#### Conclusion

The study established that existing bilingual dictionaries are far from satisfactory. They

are both good and bad in various respects. The good aspect associated with them is these dictionaries are a step toward documentation of the Punjabi lexicon which was scattered in folklore and literature. They are good due to the fact they have been compiled without any institutional support. The gap between the practice of bilingual lexicography, at present, and the one seen in these Punjabi dictionaries is very wide and it can be bridged if lexicographic bodies in the form of dictionary research centers are established. The culture of lexicographic research should be promoted as without it user's friendly dictionaries are hard to compile. Due consideration of lexicographic principles adopted by English and Russian dictionaries in the twentieth century.

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