

Uma Maheshwari Chimirala

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CURRENT POSITION AND EXPERIENCE

From 2016-to Present	Assistant Professor at NALSAR
2014-15	Assistant Professor, KL University
2013-14	Research Associate, on Survey of ELT Research in India. The British Council India
2008-09	Mentor, Dept of English ,AP IIIT, Nuzivedu. India
2007-08	Assistant Professor, Dept of Science and Humanities, Abdul Kalam Institute of Science and Technology, Kothagudem. India
2006-07	Assistant Professor, Dept of Science and Humanities, Paul Raj Engineering College, Bhadrachalam- India

COURSES TAUGHT

Research Methodology
Cognition and writing
Reading and Writing for Academia
Research writing
Introduction to Researching
Language Conflict and Language Rights

Global Index of Academic Network- GIAN Course titled 'Language policy, language in human rights, Language imperialism, languages and linguistic Genocide in education, language ecology' during NOV 19- DEC 1 2018 with Invited faculty and subject experts Prof. Tove Skutnabb-Kangas and Prof. Robert Phillipson

EDUCATION

2009-2013	PhD., The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad
2007-2011	M. Phil (English), Acharya Nagarjuna University, Guntur
2000-2002	Master of Arts (English), Osmania University, Hyderabad
1993-1996	Bachelor of Arts, Osmania University, Hyderabad (1996).

AREAS OF INTEREST

Language Policy and Planning

Bilingualism

Writing and Cognition

Multilingual legal spaces

Access

AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS

2016 Awarded Full Travel Scholarship Grant by UNESCO to attend the 5th Multilingual Education and Development Conference held from October 19-21, 2016 at Bangkok, Thailand. The award includes Travel, registration, Accommodation and Per-diem.

2015 Full Grant awarded by the United States-India Educational Foundation (USIEF) through RELO, India to Present Paper and Conduct Workshop at the 20th International Conference of NELTA, 17-19 February 2015 at Kathmandu, Nepal.

Travel Grant of 1288 Euros awarded by Carlsberg Foundation, Denmark to Attend and Present a paper in 10th IAIMTE Conference 2015: Languages and Literacies; Odense, Denmark.

2014 Awarded Post-Doctoral Fellowship for Women by UGC, Govt. of India

Awarded E-Teacher Scholarship by U.S. Department of State, RELO, India to do online teacher training course “ESP, Best practices for courses and Materials language learning and teaching curriculum” from University of Oregon, USA

Awarded E-Teacher Scholarship by U.S. Department of State, RELO, India to do online teacher training course “Professional writing for teachers” from University of Maryland, Baltimore county, USA

Awarded E-Teacher Scholarship by U.S. Department of State, RELO, India to do online teacher training course “Methodology for TESOL” from University of Maryland, Baltimore county, USA

PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapters

2025 Chimirala, U. M. Dehari, P. Discourses Challenging Multilingualism-inclusive-of-Indigenous/ Tribal/ Minority (ITM) through Languages in the Linguistic Landscape of Dantewada, India. In Jasone Cenoz and Durk Gorter (eds). Handbook of Linguistic Landscapes and Multilingualism. Wiley, Online, (2025) (pp. 289-305). <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781394231805.ch19>

- 2017 Chimirala, U. M. (2017) 'Teacher's other language preference: A study of Monolingual mindset in the classroom space' published in Hywle Coleman (eds) *Multilingualisms and Development*, New Delhi: British Council.
- Chimirala, U. M. (2017). Living the Translanguaging space: An emic perspective. In Anand Mahanand and Mahindra Mishra (eds) *Multilingual Education in India – A Case for English*. Viva Publications: Delhi.
<https://www.vivabooksindia.com/book/multilingual-education-in-india-the-case-for-english>
- 2016 Chimirala, U. M. and Sathuvalli, M. (2016). An Emic Perspective of Living the Translanguaging Space. In Anand Mahanand and Mahendra Kumar Mishra (ed.) *Multilingual Education: A case for English*. New Delhi: Viva Books.
- Chimirala, U. M. (2016). Conceptualizing 'Learner Participation' in Feedback: Constructing the 'Learning Space'. In Sathuvalli Mohanraj (Eds) *The spectrum*. Hyderabad: English and Foreign Languages University Press. 978-93-80425-06-

Journal Articles

- 2025 Chimirala, U. M., Anuchuri, P. D., & Parulekar, S. J.(2025) Discourses and counter discourses on learning poverty through NEP-2020 and Indian judiciary for the Indigenous/Tribal/Minority child. *Journal of Education Policy*, 40(1), 152–173.
- Chimirala, U.M. (2025) How else do we create learning opportunities for the Indigenous/Tribal/Minority Girl-Child? A study of teacher reliefs and concerns with translanguaging pedagogies. *Journal of Education, Language, and Ideology*, 2(2), 316–348.
- 2024 Chimirala, U. M., & John, S. (2024) Achievement gap or opportunity gap (0-Gap)? A socio-legal study of access to equal educational opportunities (EEO), accessibility to equal learning opportunities (ELO) and learning poverty (LP) in the educational spaces of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya schools for tribal girls of Gadchiroli, Warangal, Adilabad, Srikakulam, Bastar and Kondegaon Districts". National Human Rights Commission, India. <https://nhrc.nic.in/training-&-research/research-studies-&projects/completed-projectss>
- Chimirala, U. M. (2024) When teachers take notice of the schoolscape: A Q method study of teacher perception of schoolscape of Indigenous Tribal Minority (ITM) schools of Chhattisgarh, India. *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*, 45(10), 4051–4071. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01434632.2022.2137fiftyone5>
- 2022 Haq, A & Chimirala, U. M. (2022) Language Rights of Indigenous Tribal Minorities (ITM) and Their Protection under the Ambit of Human Rights Law. *Brazilian Journal of International Law*, 19(2).
<https://www.publicacoesacademicas.uniceub.br/rdi/article/view/8407>

- Chimirala, U. M. (2022) Constraints in realizing linguistically sensitive practices: A study of teacher perceptions. *Aligarh Journal of Linguistics*, 11, 13–32.
https://api.amu.ac.in/storage//file/10353/file_management/1659594895.pdf
- 2021 Chimirala, U. M. (2021) Is narrative macrostructure by Gondi-Hindi bilinguals on Multilingual Assessment Instrument of Narratives (MAIN) different between Gondi and Hindi and Mode of Narration?
- 2020 Chimirala, U. M. (2020) Towards a convivial tool for narrative assessment: Adapting MAIN to Gondi (Dantewada, India), Halbi and Hindi for Gondi- and Halbi-Hindi speaking bilinguals. *ZAS Paper in Linguistics*, 64, 77-99.
<https://zaspil.leibniz-zas.de/article/view/543/534>
- Gagarina, N., Klop, D., Kunnari, S., Tantele, K., Välimaa, T., Bohnacker, U. & Walters, J. (2020) MAIN: Multilingual Assessment Instrument for Narratives – Revised. Materials for use. *ZAS Papers in Linguistics*, 63. Hindi version for use with Gondi-Hindi and Halbi-Hindi bilinguals. Translated and adapted by Chimirala, U. M., Rao, S.
https://www.leibniz-zas.de/fileadmin/media/Dokumente/ZASPiL/ZASPiL_63/MAIN_Hindi_for_use_with_Gondi-Hindi_and_Halbi-Hindi_bilinguals_2020_New.pdf
- Gagarina, N., Klop, D., Kunnari, S., Tantele, K., Välimaa, T., Bohnacker, U. & Walters, J. (2020) MAIN: Multilingual Assessment Instrument for Narratives – Revised. Materials for use. *ZAS Papers in Linguistics*, 63. Gondi version. Translated and adapted by Chimirala, U. M. https://www.leibniz-zas.de/fileadmin/media/Dokumente/ZASPiL/ZASPiL_63/MAIN_Gondi_2020_new.pdf
- Gagarina, N., Klop, D., Kunnari, S., Tantele, K., Välimaa, T., Bohnacker, U. & Walters, J. (2020) MAIN: Multilingual Assessment Instrument for Narratives – Revised. Materials for use. *ZAS Papers in Linguistics*, 63. Gondi version. Translated and adapted by Chimirala, U. M. https://www.leibniz-zas.de/fileadmin/media/Dokumente/ZASPiL/ZASPiL_63/MAIN_Gondi_2020_new.pdf
- 2019 Chimirala, U. M., Kabir, N, Md; Nainala, S.; Anaand, K.; Kumari, M (2019) In Conversation with Tove Skutnabb-Kangas and Robert Phillipson. *BELTA journal*, 3(1), 91-127.
- 2018 Chimirala, U. M. (2018) Understanding the Linguistic Landscaping in North East India with reference to three Case studies: Aizwal, Shillong and Thahekhu Village. Special Issue on The Linguistic Landscapes of India Guest Edited by Shailendra Kumar Singh and Uma Maheshwari Chimirala in *Indian Journal of Applied Linguistics*, 44 (1-2), 153-169

Chimirala, U. M. (2018). English as an Affirmative Action but Affirming What? A study of interactions in the affirmative space. *BELTA Journal*, 2 (1), 29-45.

Chimirala, U. M. (2018). Appropriating to the schoolscape: A study of reference of Linguistic Landscape in dyad text construction. Special Issue on The Linguistic Landscapes of India Guest Edited by Shailendra Kumar Singh and Uma Maheshwari Chimirala. *Indian Journal of Applied Linguistics*, 44 (1-2), 38-65.

2015 Book review on *Multilingual Education: Between language learning and Translanguaging*. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge". *The Journal of English Language Teaching*, 57 (3) 108-111. ISSN 0973-5208

2014 Lina Mukhopadhyay., & Chimirala Uma Maheshwari. (2014). Is Variability In ESL Writing Assessment Based On Raters' Educational Background? A study. *LANGUAGING -A Journal of Language Teaching and Language Studies*, 5, 39-56. ISSN 2229-323X.

Chimirala Uma Maheshwari (2014). Diverging Perceptions of Learning in a Critical Episode in a Translanguaging Space. *Folklore Foundation, Lokaratna*, VII, 62-77. ISSN 2347-6427.

Sathuvalli Mohanraj & Chimirala Uma Maheshwari. (2014). Learner Perspective of L1 Use in L2 Collaborative Writing: An Emic View. *ELT Worldwide*, 2014, 1(1), 1-16. ISSN 2303-3037.

2013 Sathuvalli Mohanraj & Chimirala Uma Maheshwari (2013). Exploring L1 mediated Lexical searches: Emerging Evidence from Beginner level Collaborative Writing. *The Journal for ESL Teachers and Learners*, vol II, 40-50. ISSN 2320-7140

Chimirala Uma Maheshwari, (2012). A Case for Feedback on Content: Exploring its Impact on Writing Ability". *The Journal of English Language Teaching*, 8, 84-93. ISSN 0973-5208.

Research Paper

2022 When teachers take notice of the schoolscape: a Q method study of teacher perception of schoolscape of Indigenous Tribal Minority (ITM) schools of Chhattisgarh, India *Journal: Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development* Year: 2022 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/01434632.2022.2137515>

Chimirala, U.M. Constraints in Realizing Linguistically Sensitive Practices: A Study of Teacher Perceptions. *Aligarh Journal of Linguistics* 11, 13-32
it is listed in UGC ISSN No-2249-1511, Available at
<https://www.amu.ac.in/departments/linguistics/journals>

Others (Book Review/Blog/Op-ed)

- 2019 Contributed one session on “Recognising Oral Learning Cultures” for the SWAYAM (ARPIT / AICTE) “Online Refresher Course in Law,” Module 5: Processes of Inclusion and Exclusion, NALSAR University of Law. 3rd October, 2019. <https://youtu.be/XcLJNmxEek8>
- 2018 Organised GIAN course sponsored by MHRD-GIAN from November 19-30, 2018 at NALSAR. The course was attended by 65 participants. Resource Persons - Prof. Tove Skutnabb-Kangas and Prof. Robert Philipson.

Research Projects

- 2022 Research Project titled “Achievement Gap or Opportunity Gap (0-Gap)? A socio-legal study of Access to Equal Educational Opportunities (EEO), Accessibility to Equal Learning Opportunities (ELO) and Learning Poverty (LP) in the Educational spaces of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Schools for Tribal Girls of Gadchiroli, Warangal, Adilabad, Srikakulam, Bastar and Kondegaon Districts” from National Human Rights Commission for an amount of Rs.14,94,724/- for a period of one year. Status – In progress; Role : Principle Investigator
- 2019 Literacy engagement and task performance as a function of Task Complexity and Multilingual Proficiency: A study with young multilingual tribal learners of Pota-Cabin Schools (Chhattisgarh). Funded by Indian Council of Social Sciences Research (ICSSR). Grant value of 8,60,000 INR.

Conferences/Seminars/Invited Lectures

International Conferences

- 2022 Participated in the FGD: 11th Online Faculty Induction Programme conducted by JNTU, Hyderabad, Telangana.
- 2020 Chimirala, U. M. (2020). Towards a Convivial Tool of Assessment of Narratives: The case of Gondi (Dantewada). Paper presented at International Conference on Indigenous Languages- 2 conducted at Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, on February 13-14, 2020.
- Chimirala, U. M. (2020). Prerequisites for Linguistically Inclusive and Sensitive Pedagogy: Some theoretical Musings (and some findings from an ongoing project). Keynote address at a national seminar entitled "Inclusive Education for an Inclusive Society: The Way Ahead" organized by Ananda Chandra Educational Training College, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal, 27 September, 2020.
- Visited Bangkok, Thailand to present a paper at 5th International Conference on Language and Education – Sustainable Development through Multilingual Education.

- 2019 Chimirala, U. M. (2019). 'Language' in Educational Rights of an ITM Child and the Schoolscape: An ethnography of the material environment of the Pota-Cabin Schools, Dantewada (Chhattisgarh). Paper presented at the 11Th International Conference on Linguistic Landscape: East meets West- Social Reflection and Integration held at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand, from June 3 –6, 2019.
- Chimirala, U. M. (2019). Effect of reasoning demand on Specific measures of Language across Narrative performance in Hindi and Gondi/Halbi. Paper presented at International Conference on Indigenous Languages- 1 conducted at Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Amarkantak, Nov 23- 25, 2019.
- 2017 Chimirala, U.M. (2017). Constraints in realizing linguistically sensitive practices. Paper presented at NCERT, Delhi, ELT in rural areas and English as Medium of Instruction, March 20-23, 2017
- 2016 Presented a paper 'Dodging the Monolingual mindset: A study of learner languaging practices in L2 text construction' at the 5th International Conference on Multilingual Education - Sustainable Development through Multilingual Education at The Land Mark, Bangkok, organized by UNICEF, UNESCO, Save the Children and University of Mahidol held from October 19 – 21, 2016.
- 2015 Chimirala, U. M. (2015). Does anticipatory listening impact oral task performance? A study. Paper presented at Invited Symposium at the 10th International conference organized by International Association for Improvement of Mother Tongue Education and University of Southern Denmark, Odense, 3 June, 2015 to 5 June 2015.
- Chimirala, U. M. (2015). Impact of 'anticipation' and peer assessment on oral task performance. Paper presented at The 20th International NELTA Conference held in Kathmandu, Nepal from Feb 17th to 19th 2015.
- Chimirala, U. M. and Hayat, S. (2015). Designing, teaching and assessing task-specific listening skills: A workshop. Workshop conducted at The 20th International NELTA Conference held in Kathmandu, Nepal from Feb 17th to 19th 2015.
- L1 Use in L2 Collaborative Writing: An Emic View. Paper presented at 2nd International AINET Conference on Jan 9th, 2015 at Nagpur, India,.
- Chimirala, U. M. (2015). Conceptualising participatory feedback interactions: Constructing and nurturing the 'Learning Space'. Paper presented at the 5th International Conference – Confluence 5, on Jan 23 and 24th, 2015 at Nagpur, India.
- 2014 Chimirala, U. M. (2014). Diverging perceptions of learning in a critical episode in a translanguaging space. Paper presented at the 36th Annual and 2nd International Conference of the Linguists Society of India, Dec 1st - 4th, 2014, University of Kerala, Trivandrum, India.

Chimirala, U. M. (2014). Agency and Investment through Translanguaging: A Case of Conflicting Intentions and Realizations. Paper presented in the 1st International Conference: When East Meets West: The teaching and learning of reading and writing in the multilingual and multicultural context. University of Hong Kong: Hong Kong. 12th – 14th June, 2014.

2013

Sathuvalli, M. & Chimirala, U. M. Exploring L1 mediated Lexical Searches: Emerging Evidence from Beginner Level Writers. Paper Presented at the 3rd International Conference on Teaching and Learning of English as Second Language, Confluence 2013, and Nagpur, India.

Chimirala, U. M. (2013). Understanding Agency and Investment in Language Learning: The Educational Programmes of A.P. vs. Collaborative Writing. Paper presented at the 35th Annual and 1st International Conference of the Linguists Society of India, Nov 27-29, 2013, CIIL Mysore, India.

2012

Sathuvalli, M. & Chimirala, U. M. Exploring L1 as a Multi-Dimensional Tool in Collaborative writing. Paper Presented at the 10th Asia TEFL International Conference by TEFSOL INDIA at Gurgaon, Delhi.

Augmenting Writing Ability through Feedback on Idea Units. Paper Presented at the 17th International Conference at Kathmandu, Nepal. 2012.

Assessing Writing: Effect of Rater Educational Background. Paper Presented at the 2nd International Conference on Assessing and Evaluating Teacher Educators at Hyderabad, India.

Appropriating Experience in Feedback on Content: Traversing the path of Literacy. Paper Presented at the 10th Asia TEFL International Conference by TEFSOL INDIA at Gurgaon, Delhi.

National Conferences

2012

Chimirala, U.M. (2012). Conceptualizing participatory Feedback: Constructing and Nurturing the 'learning space'. Paper presented at the 1st Colloquium, English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad.(November 2012).

Chimirala, U. M. (2012). In Defence of feedback on Content: Nurturing Language Development. Paper Presented at the 1st National seminar on English Language Teaching In India: Issues, Debates and Strategies, KL University, Vijayawada. (December 2012)

Chimirala, U. M. (2011). Exploring Learning Opportunities for L2 Writing through collaborative Dialogue. Paper Presented At 4th National & 8th Vidharbha ELTAI Conference on Teaching English (organized by ELTAI), Nagpur, India.

Chimirala, U. M. (2011). Exploring L1 as a Resource in an L2 Classroom: Theoretical Arguments. Paper Presented at One-Day National seminar on Problems of Teaching English Language in Rural and Urban Areas and Its Remedies, Rajura, India.