

# **GRAMMAR OF THE IMPERATIVE SENTENCES IN SINHALESE**

Daya Wickramasingha

A sentence in any language is a string of words which is constructed by a set of basic structural patterns. For example, consider the following sentences that exemplify different sentence patterns:

1. daruva añðnəva  
‘The child cries’
  2. piñgamə biñðenəva  
‘The plate breaks’
  3. laməya potə kiyavənəva  
‘The child reads the book’
  4. amma daruvatə bat denəva  
‘Mother feeds the child rice’
  5. eya: guruvarayck  
‘He is a teacher’
  6. kaməla lassonayi  
‘Kamala is beautiful’

S. 1 above contains a [+ animate] noun + verb and S. 2 a [- animate] noun + verb, and both belong to the intransitive