ISLAMIC CULTURAL VALUES OF ARWI DIALECT

Dr.K.M.A.Ahamed Zubair1 & Dr.PM.Hamthoon2

Introduction

The Arab Traders and the native Tamil Converts of Islam in Tamil nadu state of India and Sri Lanka were bound by a common religion, but separated by two different languages came into closer contact as a result of their commercial activities.

They also felt the necessity for a link-language. This necessity made an interaction between Arabic and Tamil Languages. They started to write Tamil in an adapted Arabic script called Arwi. The Arwi script represents the Tamil language using an Arabic style of scripts. From eighth century to nineteenth century, this language enjoyed its popularity among Tamil speaking Muslims of Tamil Nadu and Sri Lanka. The valuable and useful ideas of Tamil Muslim minds are conveyed in Arabic zed Tamil called Await rendered a most useful service for the advancement and progress of Arab culture and Tamil culture. It transformed the Tamil Muslims society in the educational, cultural and religious grounds. It led to cultural and linguistic synthesis between the Arabs and Tamils. This paper aims to analyze the Islamic cultural values of Arwi dialect and its traditions.