



M

mængus

மஂௌடீ

mangosteen

மங்குஸ்தான்

mangustān

SINHALA		M	TAMIL	
pissu	පිස්සු	mad, crazy	பைத்தியம், விசர்	paittiyam, visar
nōna, <i>madam</i>	නෝනා	madam	அம்மா	amma, <i>madam</i>
hadannā > sv	හදනේන	make	செய்ய	<i>seyya</i> > TV
umbalākāḷa	උම්බලකඩ	Maldive fish > DEF	மாசி	māsi
pirimi	පිරිමි	male	ஆண், ஆம்பிளை	ān, āmbiLei
mællum (mællung)	මැල්ලුම් (මැල්ලුං)	mallung > DEF	சுண்டல், வறை	SUNDal, vareI
udælla	උදැල්ල	mammoty > PIC	மண்வெட்டி	manVETTI
miniha (minissu)	මිනිහා (මිනිස්සු)	man (men) > P1	ஆண்(கள்), ஆம்பிளை(கள்)	ān(gaL), āmbiLei(haL)
amba	අඹ	mango	மாம்பழம், மாங்காய்	māmpaLaṃ, māngāy
amba gaha	අඹ ගහ	mango tree	மாமரம்	māmaram
mængus	මැංගුස්	mangosteen > PIC	மங்குஸ்தான்	mangustān
mannyokka	මකුදුකොක්කා	manioc, cassava	மரவள்ளி	maravaLLi
hungak, godak	හුගක්, ගොඩක්	many, much, a lot	மிச்சம், நிறைய	michcham, nireiya
mārtu	මාර්තු	March > J1	மார்ச்	māch

Maldive fish

DEF

a type of dry fish commonly used for flavouring dishes

mællung

DEF

a dish made with shredded green leaves and grated coconut (Sinhala)



udælla
mammoty
manVETTI



mængus
mangosteen
mangustān

SINHALA		M	TAMIL	
polā	පොල	market	சந்தை	sandei
bændala	බැඳලා	married	கல்யாணம் கட்டி, திருமணம் முடித்து	kalyāṇam katti, tirumaṇam mudittu
bandinna > sv	බඳින්න	marry, get married	கல்யாணம் கட்ட, திருமணம் முடிக்க	kalyāṇam katta, tirumaṇam mudikka
pædura (pæduru)	පැදුර (පැදුරු)	mat(s)	பாய்(கள்)	pāy(haL)
ginipettiya	ගිනිපෙට්ටිය	matchbox	தீப்பெட்டி, நெருப்பெட்டி	tīppetṭi, neruppetṭi
mette	මෙට්ටේ	mattress	மெத்தை	mettei
mæy	මැයි	May > J1	மே	mē
samaḥaravita	සමහරවිට	maybe, perhaps, sometimes	சில நேரம், சிலவேளை	silā nēraṁ, silavēlai
kæma	කෑම	meal, food	சாப்பாடு	sāppāḍu
lōbay	ලෝබයි	mean, stingy	நப்பி	nappi
tēruma	තේරුම	meaning (n)	அர்த்தம், கருத்து	artṭam, karuttu
ē kiyanne...	ඒ කියන්නේ...	(that) means...	அப்படியென்றால், அப்படியானால்...	appāḍiyēnṛāl, appāḍiyānāl...
maninna > sv	මනින්න	measure (v)	அளக்க	aLakka > TV
mas	මස්	meat	இறைச்சி	ireichchi
behet	බෙහෙත්	medicine, drugs	மருந்து	marundu
hambā venna	හමිඬ වෙන්න	meet	சந்திக்க	sandikka > TV
aulak	අවුලක්	(a) mess	குழப்பம், பிரச்சினை	kulappam, pirachchinei
daval	දවල්	midday, lunchtime	மத்தியாணம், பகல்	mattiyāṇam, pahal
mæda	මැද	(in the) middle > N1	நடு(வில்)	nāḍu(vilā)
hætækma	හැතෑක්ම	mile(s)	மைல், கட்டை	mile, kattei

M

SINHALA		M	TAMIL	
kiri	කිරි	milk	பால்	pāl
kiri piti	කිරි පිටි	milk powder	பால் மா	pāl mā
kiribat	කිරිබත්	milk rice > PIC	பால் சோறு	pāl chōru
minchi	මින්චි	mint	புதினா, மிஞ்சி	pudinā, minji
minittuwā (minittu), vinābiyā (vinābi) > M1	මිනිත්තුව (මිනිත්තු), විනාඞ්ඞිය (විනාඞ්ඞි)	minute(s)	நிமிஷம்	nimisham
kannābi	කණ්ණාඞ්ඞි	mirror, glasses	கண்ணாடி	kannābi
sandudā	සඳුදා	Monday > S7	திங்கள்	tingal
salli	සල්ලි	money	காசு, பணம்	kāsu, panam
mugātiya	මුගටියා	mongoose	கீரி	kīri
talagoya	තලගොයා	monitor lizard (land monitor) > PIC	உடும்பு	udumbu
kabaragoya	කබරගොයා	monitor lizard (water monitor) > PIC	கபரகொயா	kabaragoya
hāmuduruwo	හාමුදුරුවෝ	monk (Buddhist)	(பொத்த) பிக்கு	(bautta) pikku
vandura	වඳුරා	monkey	குரங்கு	kurangu
māse (māsā) > M1	මාසය (මාස)	month(s)	மாசம்	māsam > M2
handā	හඳ	moon	சந்திரன், நிலா	sandiran, nilā
vābdiya, vabā	වැඩිය, වඩා	more (comp.) > M3	கூட	kūḁa
tavā	තව	more (of the same) > O5	இன்னும்	inum
udē	උදේ	morning	காலை, காலம்பிறை	kālei, kālambirei
vangediya	වංගෙඩිය	mortar > PIC	உரல்	ural
muslim palliya	මුස්ලිම් පල්ලිය	mosque	பள்ளிவாசல்	paLlivāsal
maduruwa (maduruwo)	මදුරුවා (මදුරුවෝ)	mosquito(es)	நுளம்பு	nuLambu
amma	අම්මා	mother	அம்மா	amma

M1: PLURALS: SINHALA INANIMATE NOUNS (2)

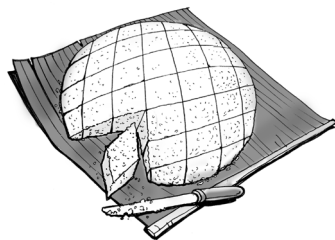
Many inanimate nouns in Sinhala form the plural by dropping the final syllable *-wə* or *-yə*:

minittuwə (minittu)	minute(s)
vīduruwə (vīduru)	glass(es)
putuwə (putu)	chair(s)
pihiyə (pihi)	knife (knives)

The same pattern applies to words ending in *-əyə*, which is normally pronounced *-e* in colloquial speech, so that there is only a small difference between the pronunciation of the singular (*kōppe*) and the plural (*kōppə*):

kōppəyə (kōppə)	cup(s)
bittərəyə (bittərə)	egg(s)
sumānəyə (sumānə)	week(s)
māsəyə (māsə)	month(s)

- > For other ways of forming the plural of inanimate nouns, see notes **B3**, **P3**, **R3**, **Y1**
- > For plurals of animate nouns, see notes **D3**, **E1**, **F1**, **S6**
- > For plurals of Tamil nouns, see note **C3**



kiribat
milk rice
pāl chōru



kabəragoya
water monitor
kabəragoya



taləgoya
land monitor
ubumbu



mōlgaha
pestle
uləkkei

vangebiyə
mortar
urəl

M2: TAMIL NOUNS ENDING IN -əṁ

In Tamil nouns ending with the syllable *-əṁ* (eg *māsəṁ*), the letter *-m* changes to *-tt-* when the noun has a case ending or other suffix:

	for a month	oru māsəttukku
	in this book	ində puttəhəttilə
	in 2 years	renḍu varuṣəhəttilə
	with the family	kubumbəttōḍə

And the letter *-m* changes to *-ng* in the plural:

	tree(s)	marəṁ (marəngəḷ)
	book(s)	puttəhəṁ (puttəhəngəḷ)
	year(s)	varuṣəhəṁ (varuṣəhəngəḷ)

- > For case endings, see note **C2**
- > For plurals of Tamil nouns, see note **C3**
- > For the endings *-ukku/-ilə* on time expressions, see note **W2**

M

SINHALA		M	TAMIL	
nændamma	නැන්දම්මා	mother-in-law > NOTE AT COUSIN	மாமி	māmi
pus (kāla)	පුස් (කාලා)	mould(y)	பூஞ்சணம்	pūñṇam
kandə	කන්ද	mountain, hill	மலை	malei
mīya	මීයා	mouse, rat	எலி	eli
udu rævula	උඩ රැවුල	moustache	மீசை	mīsei
katə	කට	mouth	வாய்	vāy
aing karanna/venna	අයිත් කරන්න/වෙන්න	move (vt/vi)	தள்ள	taLLə > TV
hungak, godak	හුඟක්, ගොඩක්	much, many, a lot	மிச்சம், நிறைய	michcham, nireiya
mung ætə	මුං ඇට	mung beans (green gram)	(பாசி) பயறு	(pāsi) payaru
hatu	හතු	mushrooms	காளான்	kālān
sangīte, music	සංගීතය	music	சங்கீதம்	sangīdam, music
muslim	මුස්ලිම්	Muslim	முஸ்லிம்	muslim
(matə) ōne	(මට) ඕනෙ	(I) must, need, want > M4	(எனக்கு) வேணும்	(enakku) vēnum
abə	අඔ	mustard	கடுகு	kaduhu
elumas	එළුමස්	mutton (goat's meat)	ஆட்டிறைச்சி	āṭṭireichchi
mage	මගේ	my, mine	என்ட	endə

ENGLISH WORDS > C4 machine, madam, magazine, manager, map, margarine, match, mason, mechanic, meeting, menu, message, metre, microwave, minister, miss (v), mix (v), mobile, monitor, Montessori (= pre-school), mop (n/v), motor, motorbike, mouse (computer), museum, music

M3: COMPARATIVES AND SUPERLATIVES

In Sinhala, superlatives are formed by adding the ending **-mā** to the adjective. There is no exact equivalent in colloquial Tamil, where the idea is expressed simply as *the good book* (of all the books) or *the big house* (in the street), etc.:

hondamā potā	the best book	nællā puttāhām
lokumā gē	the biggest house	periyā vīdu
kæmātimā tæna	favourite place	viruppamāna idam

Comparatives are formed with the word **vabā** or **væbiyā** (Sinhala) and **vibā** (Tamil):

... vabā/væbiyā honday	better (than ...)	... vibā nællām
... vabā/væbiyā lassanay	more beautiful (than ...)	... vibā alāhu

Examples:

matā vabā honday	better than me	enna vibā nællām
oyātā vabā usay	taller than you	ungalā vibā uyērām
lankāvātā vabā lokuy	bigger than Sri Lanka	ilāngeiyā vibā perisu

M4: MUST/HAVE TO

The Sinhala word **ōne** and the Tamil word **vēnum** are very flexible: they can both mean *want/need*, *should/ought to* or *must/have to*, depending on the context. One way of emphasising the urgency of the need is to add the ending **-mā** (Sinhala) or **-vē** (Tamil) to the preceding verb:

vaturā bonnā ōne	I want to drink water	tanni kudikkā vēnum
vaturā bonnāmā ōne	I <u>need</u> to drink water	tanni kudikkāvē vēnum
yannā ōnedā?	do you have to go?	pōhā vēnumā?
(matā) yannāmā ōne	I <u>must</u> go	(nān) pōhāvē vēnum

The Sinhala verbs **tiyenava** and **venava** are also used with the infinitive form of the verb to mean *must/have to*:

dæn yannā tiyenava	I have to go now	ippā pōhā vēnum
(matā) innā venava	I have to stay	(nān) irukkā vēnum

> For more on **ōne/vēnum**, see note **C1**

M