Tamil Summer School 2017
(31 July - 9 September 2017)

Puducherry Institute of Linguistics and Culture
A Govt. of Puducherry Institution
(Affiliated to Tamil University, Thanjavur)
Tolkappiyar Main Road, Lawspet
Puducherry - 605 008, India.
Tamil Summer School

What is the TSS?

The Tamil Summer School is an intensive six-week course in spoken Tamil organised by the Puducherry Institute of Linguistics and Culture (PILC), a Govt. of Puducherry institution, known for its research activities, training programmes and workshops.

The course was initiated in 1998 by the Department of Social Sciences, French Institute, Puducherry to offer training to language researchers in Humanities and Social sciences. The Faculty of Linguistics, PILC has been organising this course since 2004. The TSS is conducted every year in July-August. The medium of teaching is English as well as Tamil.

The TSS focuses on Spoken Tamil rather than on the classical and written forms being taught in European Universities. The level of spoken Tamil courses is offered: BASIC and INTERMEDIATE.

Why Spoken Tamil?

Tamil is an international language spoken in different countries like India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Singapore. It shows significant social and regional variations and is known for its diglossic nature, in as much as it possesses distinct written and spoken forms, affecting syntax, lexicon and phonetics. The TSS primarily aims at filling these important gaps in Tamil studies by offering students and scholars a summer programme stressing the spoken variety.

The TSS provides an opportunity

- for scholars to acquire linguistic tools to do field studies in Tamil.
- for those who are trained in the written form of Tamil and others to be able to efficiently communicate in Tamilnadu and other Tamil-speaking areas.

The TSS programme will be conducted for six days per week during a period of six weeks (i.e. from 31 July 2017 to 09 September 2017).

The course is based on materials both in English and Tamil designed exclusively for TSS 2017.

Basic level

At the basic level spoken Tamil is introduced. Drills in pronunciation will be given by experienced professors. Basic vocabulary, grammar and conversational materials will be provided in the second phase. Tamil scripts and simple sentences are taught enabling the students to speak and read Tamil.

Intermediate level

Spoken Tamil is taught with conversational materials throughout the course. Lessons in Modern Tamil Grammar will be given stage by stage with structures of Tamil sentences. Students will be trained to read primary level lessons, short stories and songs. Vocabulary lists will be provided for practice.
**Fieldwork activities**

During the TSS, the participants will be taken out for field experience once in a week, so that they can interact with the local populace.

**Lecture series**

Lecture-cum-demonstration related to Tamil Fine Arts and Culture will be arranged once in a week.

**Eligibility- Basic level**

Eligible participants are students or researchers from foreign or Indian universities or institutions, who have not studied Tamil. Preference will be given to research scholars.

**Eligibility- Intermediate level**

Eligible participants are students or researchers from foreign or Indian universities or institutions, who have studied written Tamil for at least one year and have a **good** knowledge of basic grammar. Otherwise, they may be considered for Basic level.

N.B: *According to the number, background and standard of participants, the appropriate level of the course will be adopted.*

**Enrolment**

Enrolment is on and registration will be closed on the 15 July, 2017. Registration may be possible beyond 15 July under special circumstances.

For registration, particulars are required in the prescribed format and may preferably be sent by e-mail to pilc.py@gov.in.

Kindly send your filled in application well in advance to reserve your seat.

**Registration fees for TSS 2017 will be Rs. 20,000** (Rupees Twenty Thousand only). This includes the cost of the materials and field visits provided by us. Participants have to arrange for their accommodation. However, PILC will assist the scholars in finding the type of accommodation they prefer.

**Your stay in Puducherry**

Puducherry is a small Tamil speaking territory and city, situated 140 km away from Chennai International airport and well-connected by rail and road.

It has a very good tourist infrastructure with more than fifty hotels and lodges. Cost of living is extremely moderate by European and even Indian standards.

**For Information Contact:**

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