



13<sup>வது</sup> ஆண்டு நீறைவு வீழா



## New Jersey Tamil Arts and Cultural Society Tamil Cultural School 13th Anniversary

December 07, 2013

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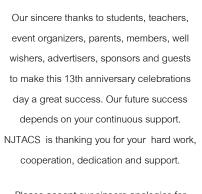


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Editor: S. Gnanarajah Assisted by: K. Ravishankar Photos by: N. Shivaparan & J. Janaththanan Advertisements: T. Rishindran & C. Balini Printing: Print Today (www.printtodaynj.com) Reviewers: N.Shivaparan & K.Sivananthan



Please accept our sincere apologies for missing out anyone or any misspellings.

Together, we make a great team!



யாமறிந்த மொழிகளிலே தமிழ்மொழிபோல் இனிதாவது எங்கும் காணோம்; பாமர ராய், விலங்குகளாய், உலகனைத்தும் இகழ்ச்சிசொலப் பான்மை கெட்டு, நாமமது தமிழரெனக் கொண்டுஇங்கு வாழ்ந்திடுதல் நன்றோ? சொல்லீர்! தேமதுரத் தமிழோசை உலகமெலாம் பரவும்வகை செய்தல் வேண்டும்.

யாமறிந்த புலவரிலே கம்பனைப் போல் வள்ளுவர்போல், இளங்கோ வைப்போல், பூமிதனில் யாங்கணுமே பிறந்ததிலை; உண்மை, வெறும் புகழ்ச்சி யில்லை; ஊமையராய்ச் செவிடர்களாய்க் குருடர்களாய் வாழ்கின்றோம்;ஒருசொற் கேளீர்! சேமமுற வேண்டுமெனில் தெருவெல்லாம் தமிழ்முழக்கம் செழிக்கச் செய்வீர்!

பிறநாட்டு நல்லறிஞர் சாத்திரங்கள் தமிழ்மொழியிற் பெயர்த்தல் வேண்டும்; இறவாத புகழுடைய புதுநூல்கள் தமிழ்மொழியில் இயற்றல் வேண்டும்; மறைவாக நமக்குள்ளே பழங்கதைகள் சொல்வதிலோர் மகிமை இல்லை; திறமான புலமையெனில் வெளிநாட்டோர்; அதைவணக்கஞ் செய்தல் வேண்டும்.

உள்ளத்தில் உண்மையொளி யுண்டாயின் வாக்கினிலே ஒளியுண்டாகும்; வெள்ளத்தின் பெருக்கைப்போல் கலைப்பெருக்கும் கவிப்பெருக்கும் மேவு மாயின், பள்ளத்தில் வீழ்ந்திருக்கும் குருடரெல்லாம் விழிபெற்றுப் பதவி கொள்வார்; தெள்ளுற்ற தமிழமுதின் சுவைகண்டார் இங்கமரர் சிறப்புக் கண்டார். - மகாகவி பாரதியார்



# NJTACS

## Our Vísíon...

A Tamíl community established with a unique identity that will inspire every future generation and flourish enduringly, by promoting the use of Tamíl Language and by preserving Tamíl Arts and Culture.

## Our Values...

We remain non-political. We take pride in our heritage. We never compromise our integrity. We prosper with care, compassion and friendship. We serve irrespective of one's social economic standing. We have no bias towards any nationality, race, religion or gender. We respect volunteerism, dedication and openness without egotism.

## ABOUT NJTACS.....

NJTACS seeks to make our vision a reality through many non-profit activities, such as:

## The Tamil Cultural School, USA

Created to promote the use of Tamil language and develop Tamil culture among our children. This also provides a regular meeting place for our children.

#### Amarican Tamil Cantar

An independent organization to serve Tamil community centers in the future, bring young adults and seniors under one roof in partnership with NJTACS.

#### **NJTACS** Youthers

A Youth organization created to establish contacts among high school seniors, university students and other youngsters from our Tamil community who represent our next generation.

#### Community Support Team

A group of volunteers focused on providing support to Tamil and American community. This team supports orphanages for tsunami victims in Sri Lanka as well as supports hurricane victims in Gulf States.

#### Annual Cultural Show

An annual event which provides performing opportunities to our students.

#### **General Events**

General Events such as Annual picnics, Tamil functions and Annual Dinner for the Tamil community.



NJTACS classes are conducted at the Ruth Adams Building in Douglass College, Rutgers University, New Brunswick.



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CHRIS CHRISTIE

December 7, 2013

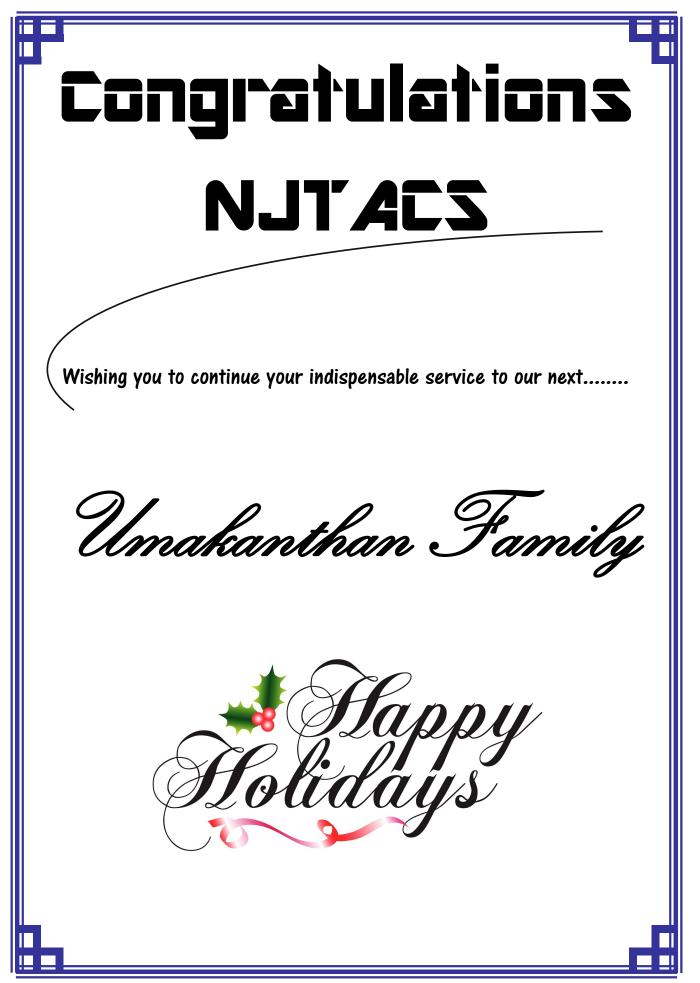
Dear Friends:

On behalf of the State of New Jersey, I am pleased to extend greetings to all those gathered for the New Jersey Tamil Arts and Cultural Society's 13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

I am proud to be the Governor of one of the most diverse states in the Nation. The New Jersey Tamil Arts and Cultural Society has educated and promoted the Indian and Tamil language and culture to young New Jersey residents through social and cultural activities related to this ethnic group. The leadership and service provided by organizations such as yours contribute greatly to New Jersey's rich diversity. I commend the Society's dedication to sharing their culture with our residents and applaud those who will carry this mission into the future.

Best wishes for an enjoyable and successful event.

Sincerely, Chris Christie Governor





#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

RUSH HOLT 12TH DISTRICT New Jersey

December 7, 2013

#### Dear Friends:

Congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of the Thirteenth Anniversary of the New Jersey Tamil Arts and Cultural Society. As a valued community resource whose mission is to teach children of immigrant Tamil parents from India and Sri Lanka to become literate in Tamil, your organization is contributing toward cultural richness and appreciation of ethnic heritage.

I am pleased to recognize those associated with the Tamil Arts and Cultural Society and thank them for their contribution to the community at large. Again, my congratulations on your Thirteenth Anniversary and my very best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,

RUSH HOLT Member of Congress

RH/sr

கற்பனையைக் கூட விற்பனையாக்கும் காலத்தில் நற்பணியாம் தமிழ் கல்வி பணிபுரியும் நியூ ஜேசி தமிழ் கலை கலாச்சார மன்றத் தமிழ் கல்வி நிலையத்தை வாழ்த்துகிறோம்!

> Congratulations and Best wishes for a successful 13th Anniversary Celebrations of the NJTACS and their Tamil Cultural School

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FRANK PALLONE, JR. 6<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

#### Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

November 21, 2013

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NJ Tamil Arts and Cultural Society 3 Port Mercer Road Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

Dear Friends:

It is with great pleasure that I write today to join you in celebrating the 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary of New Jersey Tamil Arts and Cultural Society (NJTACS). I would like to express my sincerest admiration for the cultural and educational efforts and accomplishments this organization continues to provide. The origins of the Tamil people date back thousands of years and it is essential to promote this culture in order to preserve the customs and traditions of this diverse ethnic group.

As founder of the Congressional Caucus of Sri Lanka and Sri-Lankan Americans, I understand the significance of fostering development and progress within the Sri Lankan-American community. It is necessary that we encourage our youth to become involved in projects and activities in our area that positively reinforce the values we wish to instill in them. I am pleased to know that the NJTACS is spreading awareness and educating the children of Tamil heritage in New Jersey on their language, traditions and culture.

Once again, congratulations on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the New Jersey Tamil Arts and Cultural Society. I commend you for your efforts to enrich our society and promote the values of diversity.

Sincerely,

Frank Pallon. fr.

FRANK PALLONE, JR. Member of Congress





#### NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

UPENDRA J. CHIVUKULA Assemblyman, 17th District 888 Easton Avenue Somerset, NJ 08873; Phone: 732-247-3999; Fax: 732-247-4383



October 23, 2013

New Jersey Tamil Arts and Cultural Society 17 McPherson Drive Belle Meade, NJ 08502

Dear Friends:

Each year, it brings me great joy to extend my warmest greetings to the Tamil Arts and Cultural Society for their hard work and dedication throughout New Jersey. I send best wishes as you come together in celebration of your thirteenth anniversary on December 7, 2013 at Montgomery Upper Middle School.

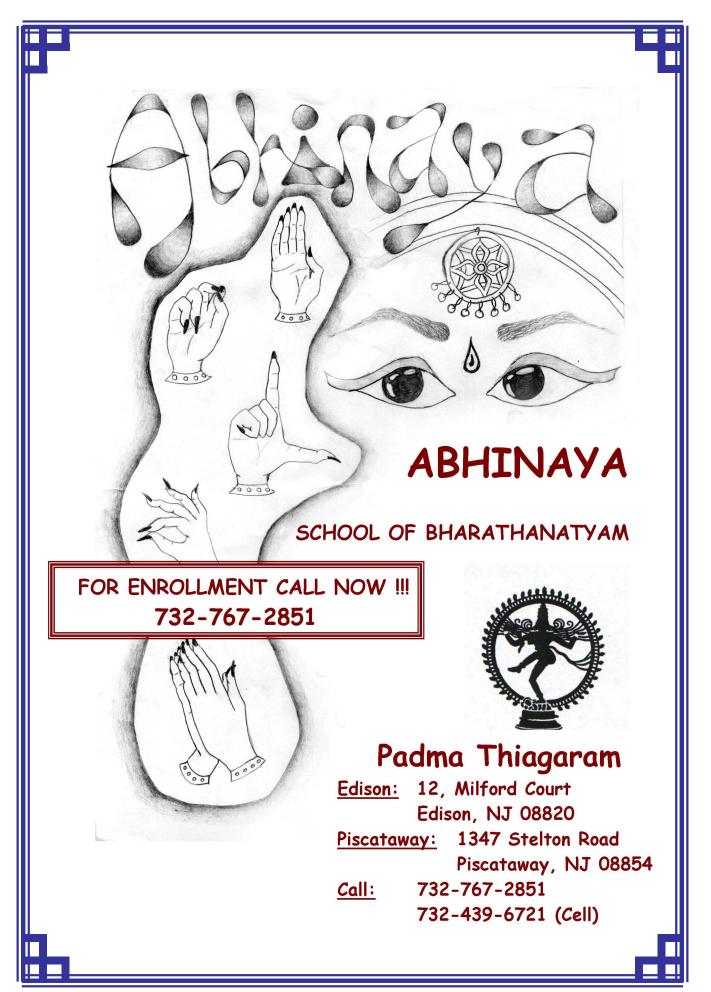
I would like to congratulate your membership on its continued commitment to educating the children of immigrant Tamil parents in the Tamil language, culture and community. It is imperative to educate our youth on the importance of traditions, community exchange and involvement. This gathering will be instrumental in achieving this goal.

Once again, congratulations on this very special occasion. I wish you all the best and many years of great success.

Sincerely,

apenion telimber

Assemblyman Upendra Chivukula District 17 Enclosure





#### **Operating Committee**

Ravishankar, K. (Principal, Tamil Cultural School) Rishindran, T. (Treasurer) Ranganathan, K. (Associate Treasurer) Shivaparan, N. (General Secretary) Janaththanan, J. (Associate General Secretary) Gnanarajah, S. Ravindran, S. Jayakumaran, S. Sivakumar, N. Vasanthan, N. Yogarajah, N.

#### Advisory Committee

Narthana, S. Sockanathan, N. S. Srimahilkanthan, S. Thiagaram, M. Vijayakumar, S.

#### About NJTACS

NJTACS is a NJ registered charitable organization with tax exemption under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to NJTACS are tax-exempt.

#### Our Vision

A Tamil community established with a unique identity that will inspire every future generation and flourish enduringly, by promoting the use of Tamil language and by preserving the Tamil arts and culture.

#### NJTACS NEW JERSEY TAMIL ARTS AND CULTURAL SOCIETY 14 Brittany Way, Kendall Park, NJ 08824, USA Phone: (908) 359-7360

Email: secretary@njtacsusa.org

Web: www.njtacsusa.org

#### THIRTEENTH ANNIVERSARY

It has been thirteen magnificent years since the New Jersey Tamil Arts and Cultural Society (NJTACS) was officially founded. The NJTACS Operating Committee is very proud to celebrate the completion of thirteen successful years of service to the Tamil Community in New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

As our mission statement implies, we have been functioning in various capacities to promote Tamil Language, Arts, Traditions and Culture among the younger generation who was born in the US. Ever since its inception, hundreds of Tamil children attended the Cultural School and graduated while others keep attending. As you can imagine it is a real challenge for all the members to volunteer their time while working full time and taking care of other commitments at home. However we have many individuals who sacrifice their Sunday morning time to come to the School to teach classes and to take part in school activities. This has been the biggest strength of our organization and we are very fortunate to have them as members.

As always we thrive to continue our mission towards our goals while looking to expand the activities. In that regard, we have started offering Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) Preparation classes to high school students. It has been a great success so far and we plan to include other subjects/tests as well. More importantly starting last year all the Tamil Classes are following standard text books to follow a structured curriculum. Students were given three tests to prove their Tamil proficiency in a calendar year. Every Tamil holiday is celebrated at the Tamil School and the children performvarious events marking those important days.

NJTACS is continuing to financially support the orphanage in Sri Lankan (Annai Saratha Illam) by collecting funds from well-wishers. We are very excited to host the Thirteenth Anniversary celebrations on a larger scale. On the occasion of the Thirteenth Anniversary, we would like to sincerely thank each and every individual who has supported our organization and still supporting us in all the activities. This has enabled us to promote our culture, to meet the social needs of our society, and to bring Tamil language and cultural education to our children.

Please continue to give us your unwavering support and encouragement so that we can teach our younger generation our culture, tradition, family values and language. We look forward to serving our community in more ways in the coming years.

NJTACS Operating Committee





### **நியூ ஜேசி தமிழ்க் கலை கலாச்சார மன்றம்** NEW JERSEY TAMIL ARTS AND CULTURAL SOCIETY NJTACS

14 Brittany Way, Kendall Park, NJ 08824, USA Phone: (908) 359-7360 Email: secretary@njtacsusa.org Web: www.njtacsusa.org

வணக்கம் 🗉

ஒரு இனத்தினது அடையாளமாக, அந்த இனத்தின் வளர்ச்சியையும் பண்பாட்டையும் தக்கவைக்கும் காரணியாக, அதன் இருப்பை நிர்ணயிக்கும் ஊன்றுகோலாக மொழியும் கலாச்சாரமும் அமைகின்றன. பல்வேறு சமூகத்தினர் தமது மொழியையும் கலாச்சாரத்தையும் பாதுகாப்பதர்க்காக பல்வேறு தியாகங்கள் புரிந்துள்ளமையை சரித்திரங்கள் பறை சாற்றுகின்றன. மிக பழமை வாய்ந்த மொழிகளில் ஒன்றான தமிழையும் தமிழ்சார் கலாச்சாரத்தையும் எம் வழித்தோன்றல்களுக்கு கற்பிப்பது குறிப்பாக புலம்பெயர் நாடுகளில் சிதறுண்டு வாழும் தமிழர்களிற்கு இன்றியமையாததொன்றாகும். எம் கலாச்சாரத்தை எம் பிள்ளைகளுக்கு கற்பிக்க நியூ ஜேசி தமிழ்க் கலை கலாச்சார மன்றமும் தனது பங்களிப்பை சிறப்புற செய்து வருகின்றது.

கடந்த வருடங்களில் எமது பாடசாலை சிறார்கள் எம் பாடசாலையில் நிகழும் கலை நிகழ்ச்சிகள் தவிர்த்து இலங்கை தமிழ் சங்கத்தால் ஒழுங்கமைக்கப்பட்ட கலை விழாவிலும் தமிழ்ப் புது வருட விழாவிலும், நாவலர் பாடசாலையின் ஆண்டு விழாவிலும், வட அமெரிக்க தமிழ்ச்சங்கப் பேரவை ஆண்டு விழாவிலும் நியூ ஜேசி நவராத்திரி விழாவிலும் கலை நிகழ்ச்சிகளை வழங்கி தமது தமிழறிவை வெளிக் கோணர்ந்ததுடன் எமது பாடசாலைக்கும் பெருமை சேர்த்துள்ளனர். அத்தகைய சந்தர்ப்பங்களை வழங்கிய சக தோழமை சங்கங்களுக்கு எமது நன்றிகள். இனி வரும் காலங்களிலும் இது போன்ற நிகழ்ச்சிகளில் தமது திறமைகளை நிரூபிக்க வாழ்த்துகிறேன்.

மேலும் அமெரிக்க தமிழ்க் கல்விக்கழகம் வடிவமைத்த தமிழ் பாட புத்தகங்களை நம் மாணவர்கள் உபயோகிக்கின்றனர். அவர்களது பாடத் திட்டத்திற்க்கமைய தயாரிக்கப் பட்ட பரீட்சைகளிலும் சித்தியடைந்து வருகின்றனர். எம் மாணவர்களின் தமிழறிவை வளர்க்க எவ்வித எதிர்பார்ப்புமின்றி அயராது பாடுபடும் எமது தொண்டராசிரியர்களும் பாராட்டப்பட வேண்டியவர்களே! தமிழ்ப் பாடத்திட்டத்தை அமுல்படுத்த எப்போதும் என்னுடன் துணை நின்ற உப அதிபர் சி. ஞானராஜா அவர்கட்கும் நன்றி கூற கடமைப்பட்டுள்ளேன்.

நியூ ஜேசி தமிழ்க் கலை கலாச்சார மன்றமும் அதன் ஒரு பிரிவான தமிழ்க் கலாச்சார பாடசாலையும் அகவை பதின்மூன்றை நிறைவு செய்யும் வேளையில், அதன் வெற்றிக்கு உறுதுணையாக இருந்து இதன் பணியை மென்மேலும் வளரச் செய்ய உதவிய அங்கத்தவர்கள் அனைவருக்கும் எமது நன்றிகள் பல.

> அதிபர் க. ரவிசங்கர்



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November 8, 2013

திரு. நடராஜா சிவபரன் செயலாளர் நியூ ஜெர்சி தமிழ்க்கலை, கலச்சார மன்றம் (NJTACS) 131 ஜார்ஜ் தெரு நியூ புருன்ஸ்விக், நியூ ஜெர்சி 08901

அன்புள்ள சிவபரன் அவர்களுக்கு வணக்கம்.

தமிழர் நலம் ஒன்றையே முதன்மையாகக் கொண்டு இயங்கிவரும் வட அமெரிக்கத் தமிழ்ச்சங்கப் பேரவை உங்களது மன்றம் கொண்டாடவிருக்கும் 13 -வது ஆண்டு விழா அறிந்து மகிழ்ச்சியடைகின்றோம். தமிழிகை, தமிழிலக்கியம், தமிழ்ப்பண்பாடு, மரபு பேணுதல், புலம் பெயர்ந்த மண்ணில் தமிழ்க்கல்வி உள்ளிட்ட பல விழுமியங்களை உள்ளடக்கியதுதான் வட அமெரிக்க தமிழ்ச்சங்கப் பேரவை (FeTNA). பேரவையின் உறுப்பினரான நியூ ஜெர்சி தமிழ்க்கலை, கலச்சார மன்றம் (NJTACS) ஆற்றி வரும் தமிழ்ச்சேவைகள் சாலச்சிறந்தது. தமிழ்ப்பள்ளி, தமிழ் மையம், தமிழ் இளையோர் அமைப்பு, சமூக உதவிக்குழு வழியாக பணியாற்றி வருவது அறிந்து பெருமையடைகின்றோம்.

மன்றம் நடத்தவிருக்கும் பதிமூன்றாவது ஆண்டுவிழா சிறப்பாக அமைய, தமிழ்ச்சங்கப் பேரவையின் சார்பாக எங்களது வாழ்த்துகள்.

என்னனிய என்னனியாங்கு எய்துப என்னியார் தின்னியர் ஆகப் பெறின் –

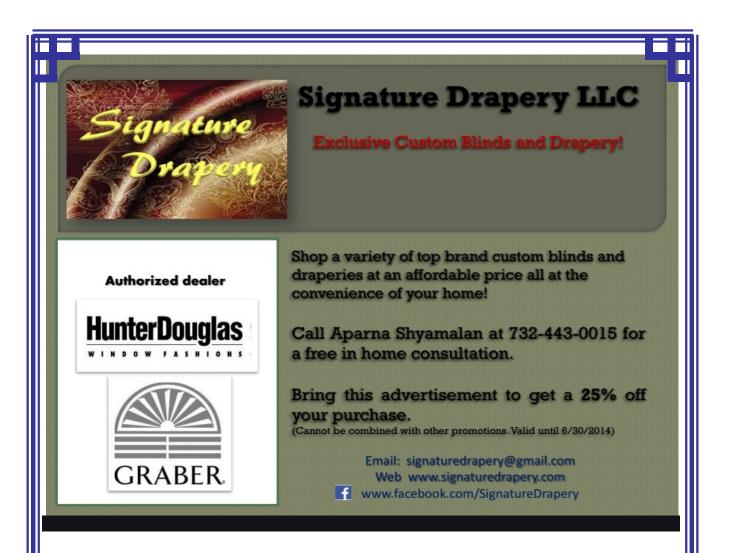
என்ற திருக்குறளின் கூற்றுப்படி, உங்கள் மன்றம் செய்துவரும் நற்பணிகள் சிறந்தோன்று வளர வாழ்த்துகின்றோம்.

Sincerely

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தண்டபாணி குப்புசாயி, தலைவர் வட அமெரிக்கத் தமிழ்ச்சங்கப் பேரவை

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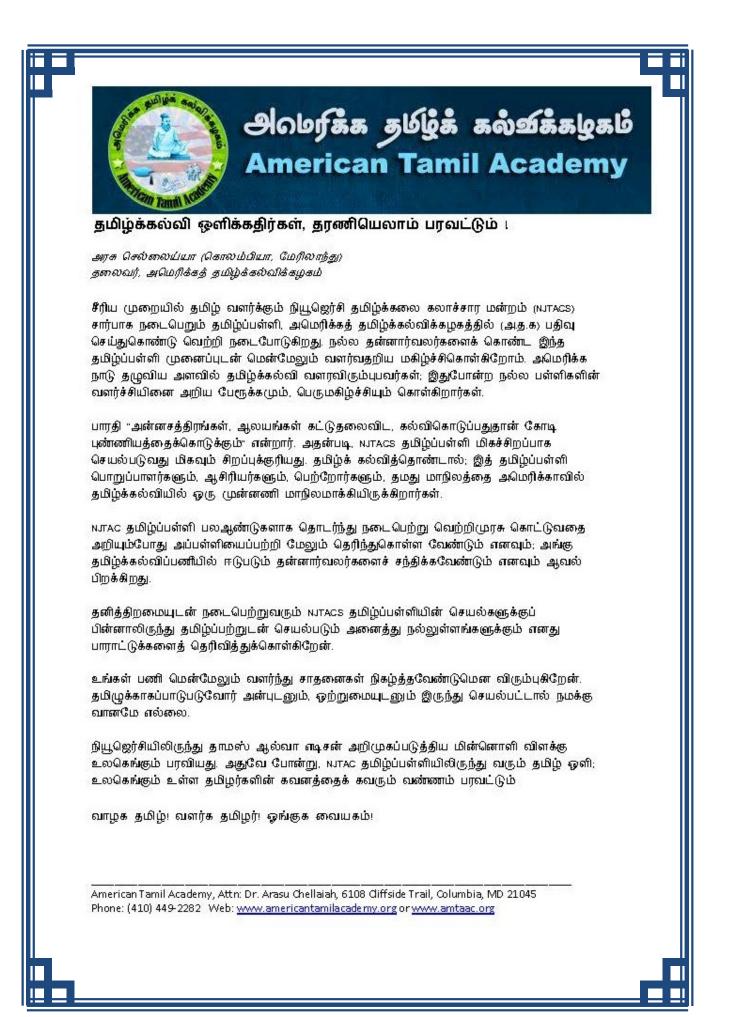
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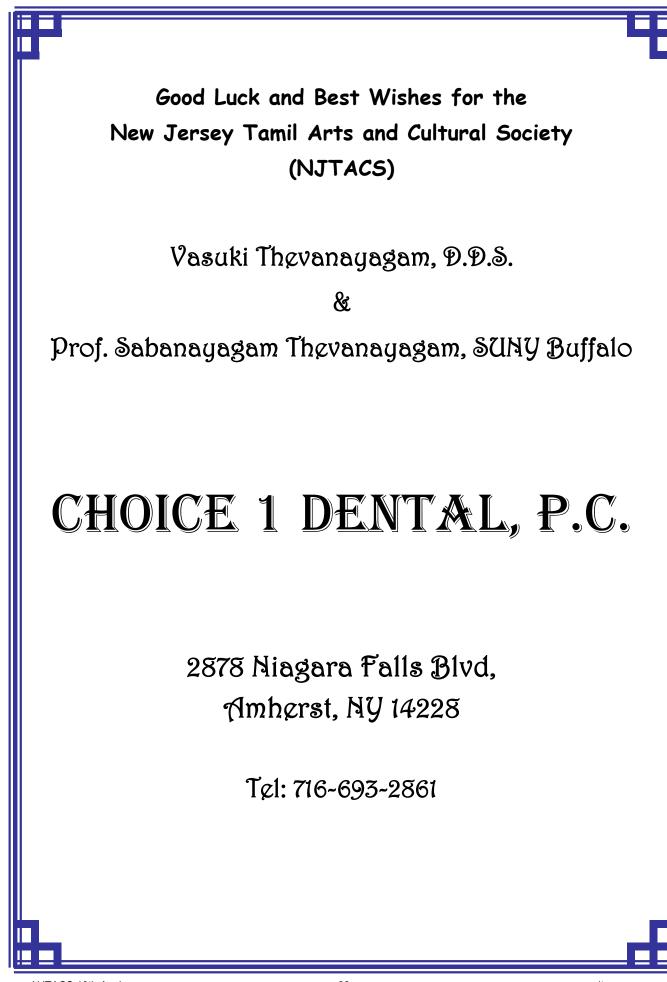
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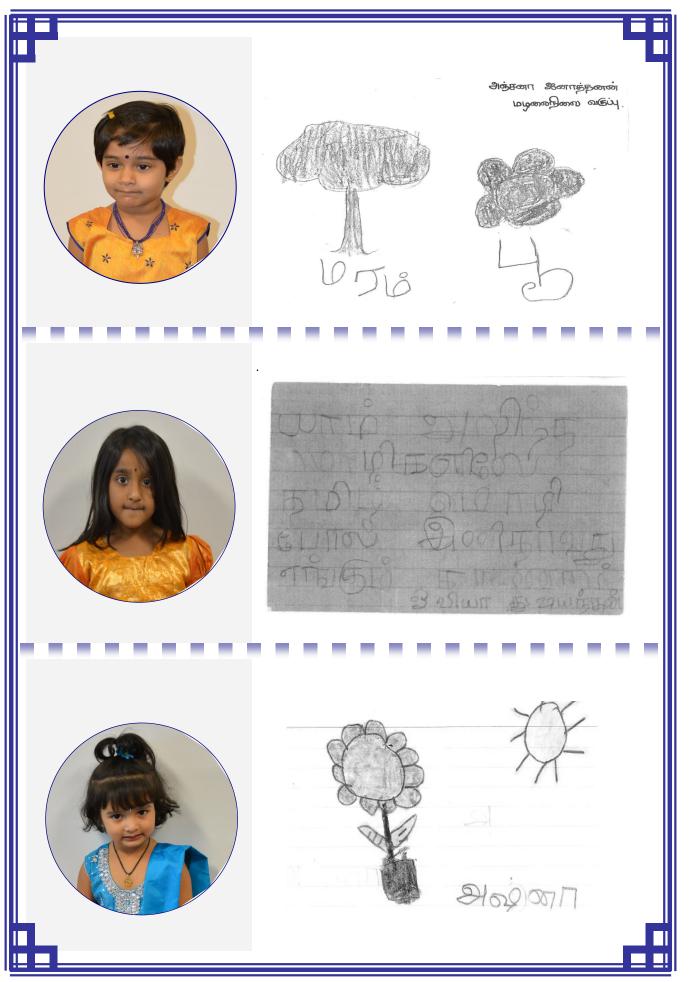












பிறநாட்டு நல்லறிஞர் சாத்திரங்கள் தமிழ்மொழியிற் பெயர்த்தல் வேண்டும்; இறவாத புகழுடைய புதுநூல்கள் தமிழ்மொழியில் இயற்றல் வேண்டும்; மறைவாக நமக்குள்ளே பழங்கதைகள் சொல்வதிலோர் மகிமை இல்லை; திறமான புலமையெனில் வெளிநாட்டோர் அதை வணக்கஞ் செய்தல் வேண்டும்.

We are very pleased to see your progress, NJTACS With best compliments from

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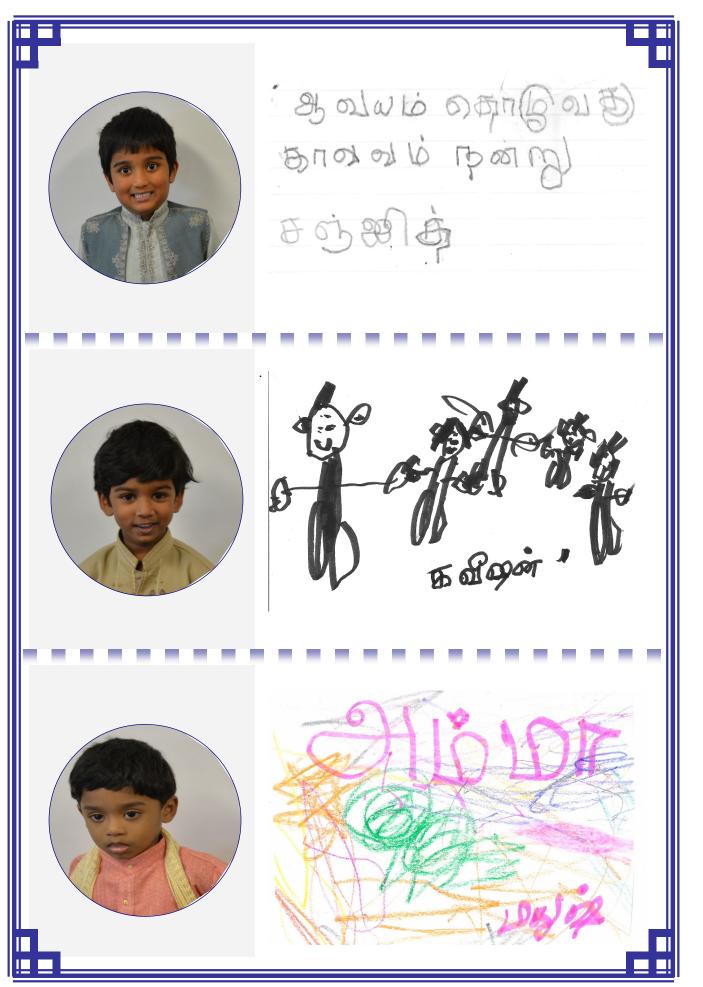


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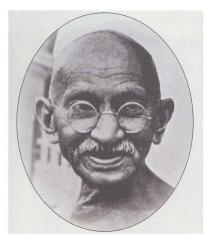
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Congratulations and best wishes to NJTACS on your 13th anniversary celebrations day. Continue your excellent service to our next generation.

நியூ ஜேசி தமிழ்க் கலை கலாச்சார மன்றத்தின் சேவை மேன் மேலும் வளர வாழ்த்துகின்றோம்.



வாழ்க வளமுடன்

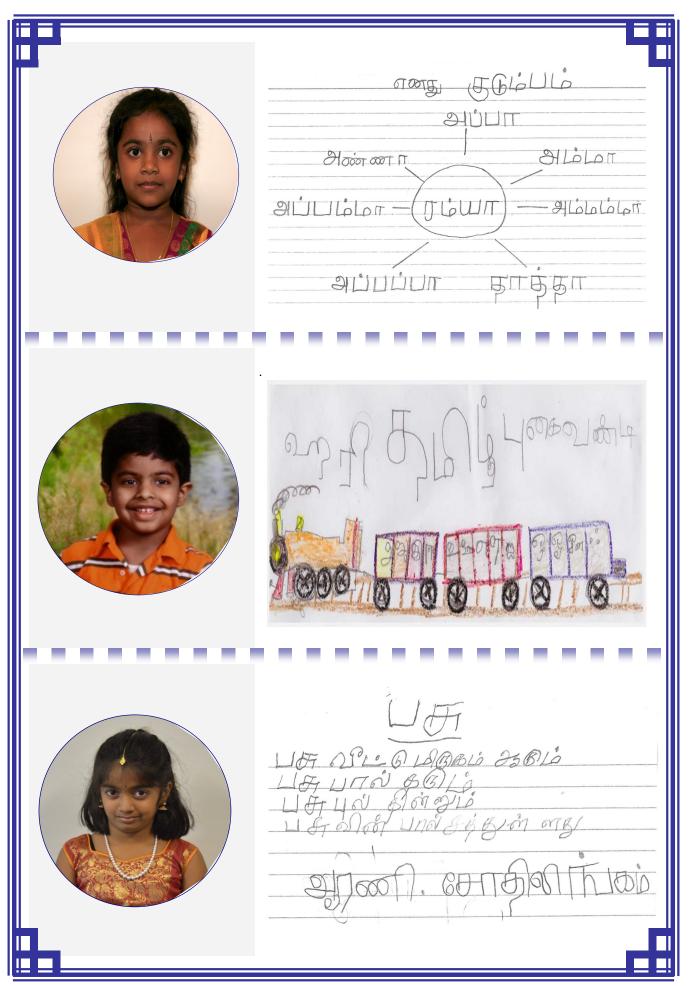
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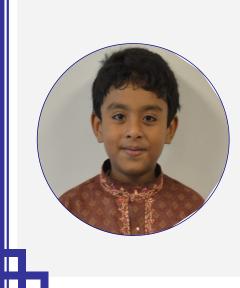


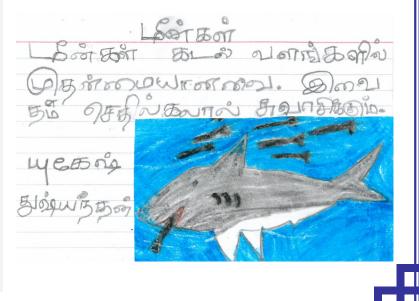


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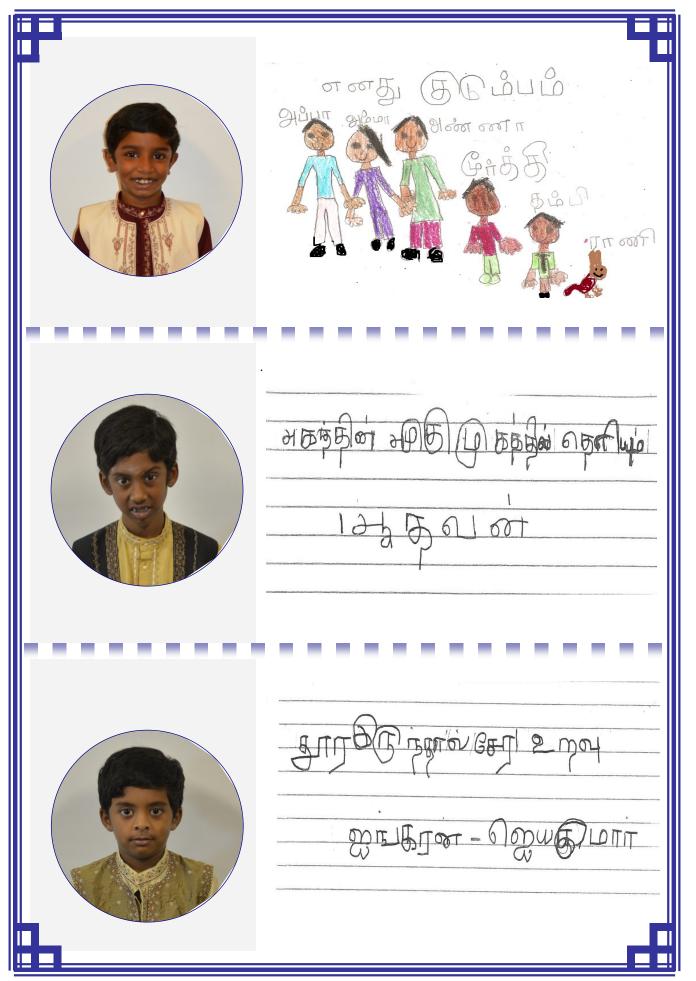


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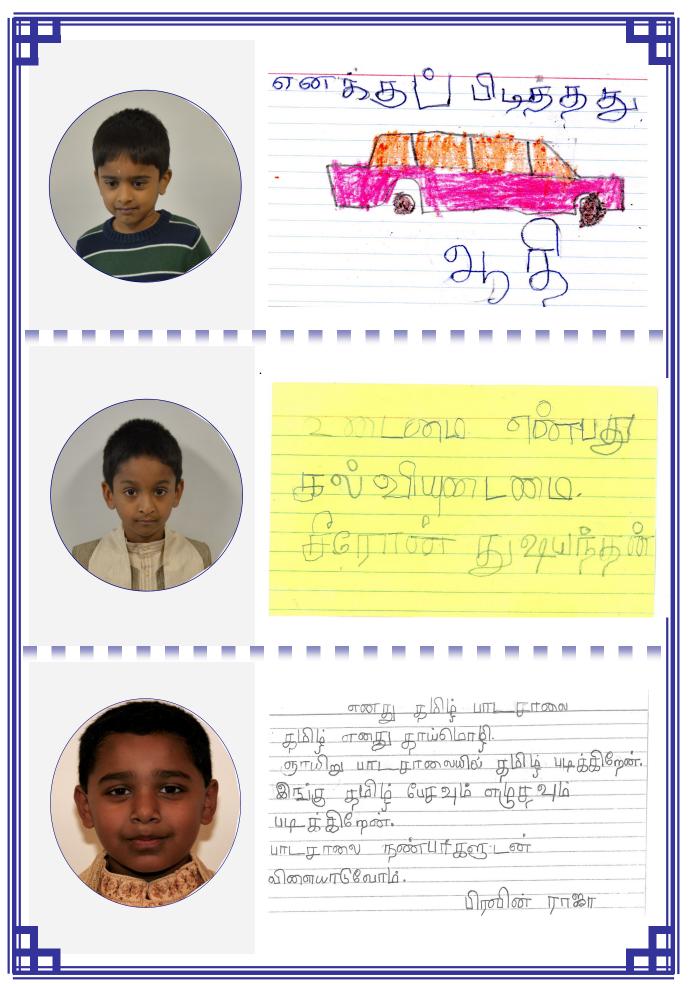






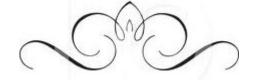






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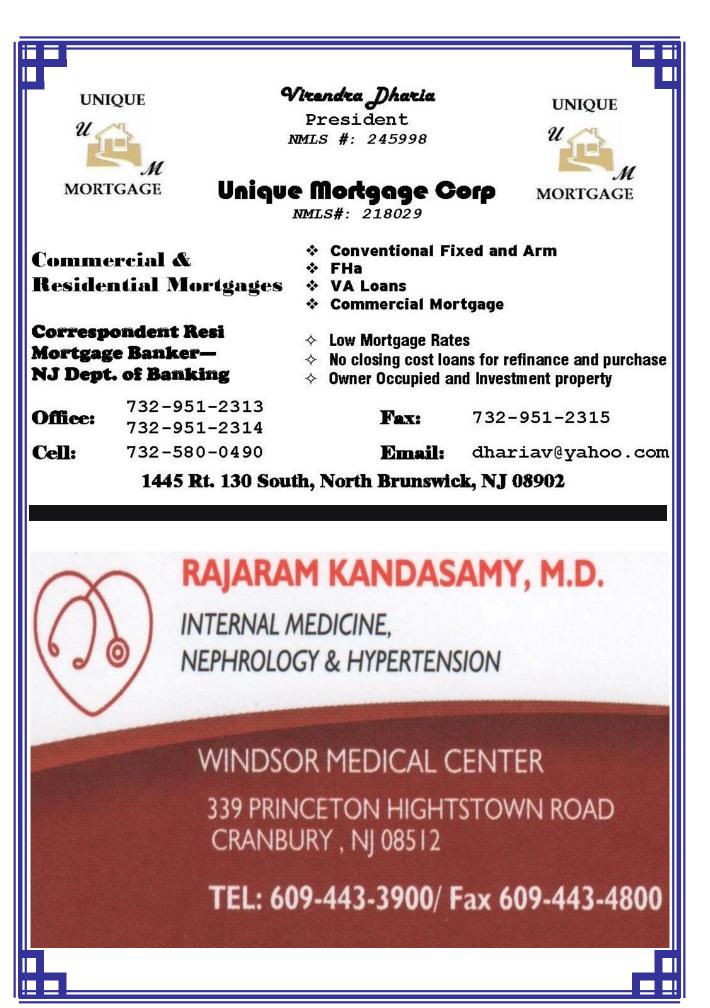
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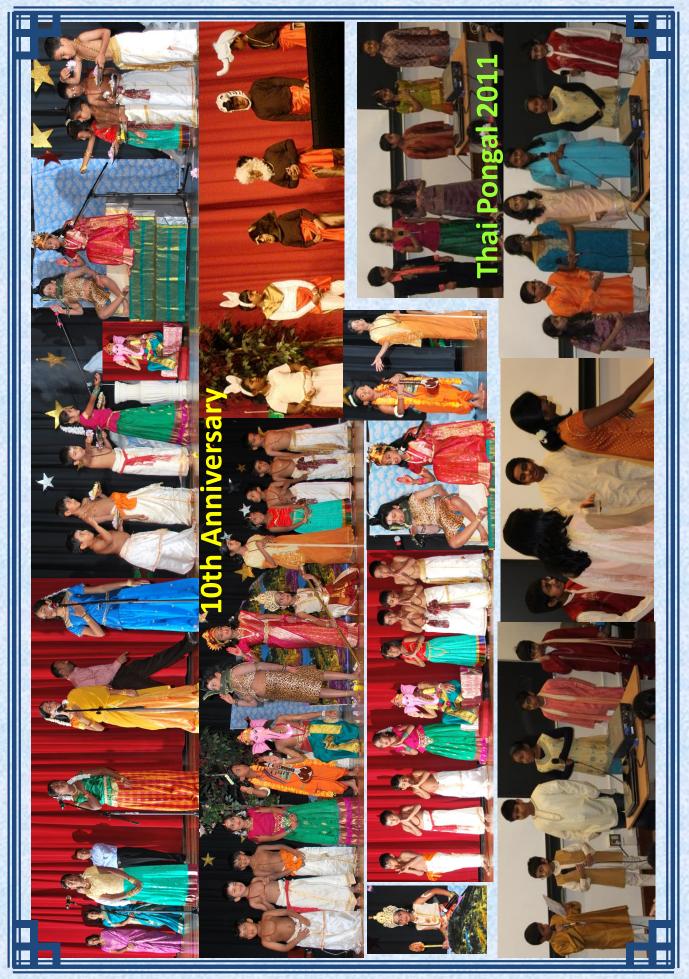
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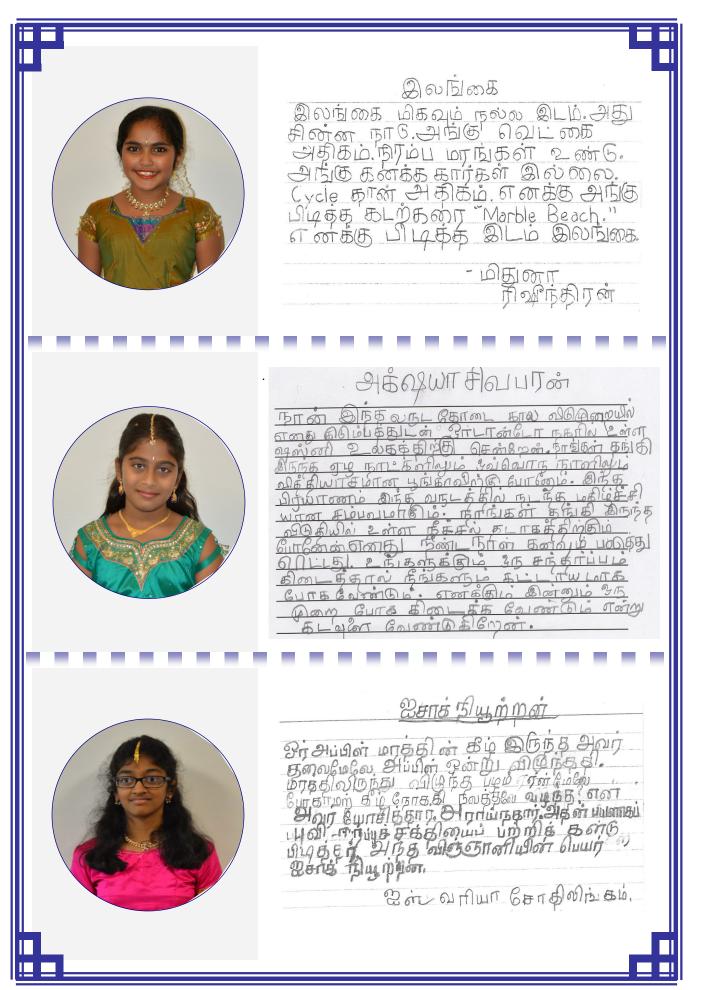












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### ะ அடுலாஷ் சிவ் 1500

<u>எனக்கி</u> விள்யாடுவதற்கு நல்ல விருப்பம். 3வ்வொர நாளும் மாலேயில், என்து அயல் விருப்பம். 3வ்வொர விட்டிற்கு முன்றைல் பலவித மான விசுயாட்டுகளா வியாடுவோம். எனக்கு மிகவும் படித்தமான விருயாடுவோம். எனக்கு மிகவும் படித்தமான விருயாட்டு கவையத்தாட்டம். எனது மாமா/மாடி பிறுக்த நான் பரிசாக வாங்கி தர்த ஊடையை யாவித்து நான் பரிசாக வாங்கி தர்த் உன்பில் நான் விருக்கா விருயாகு வந்டம் கால் பர்தாட்ட அணியில் கினாத்து கனி தாயிறை நால்களில் போட்டிக்கரில் பங்கி வித்தினைன் எடிது அணியின் பயிற்சியானா நைக்கு தேள்து விரைந்து கைறியிகள் எடிது கொன் இடமாகவும், 2ட்களை நீலம் நாகுக்கு வடித்து கொன்னலாம் திடமாகவும், 2ட்களை நீலை விருக்கு நான் விரை





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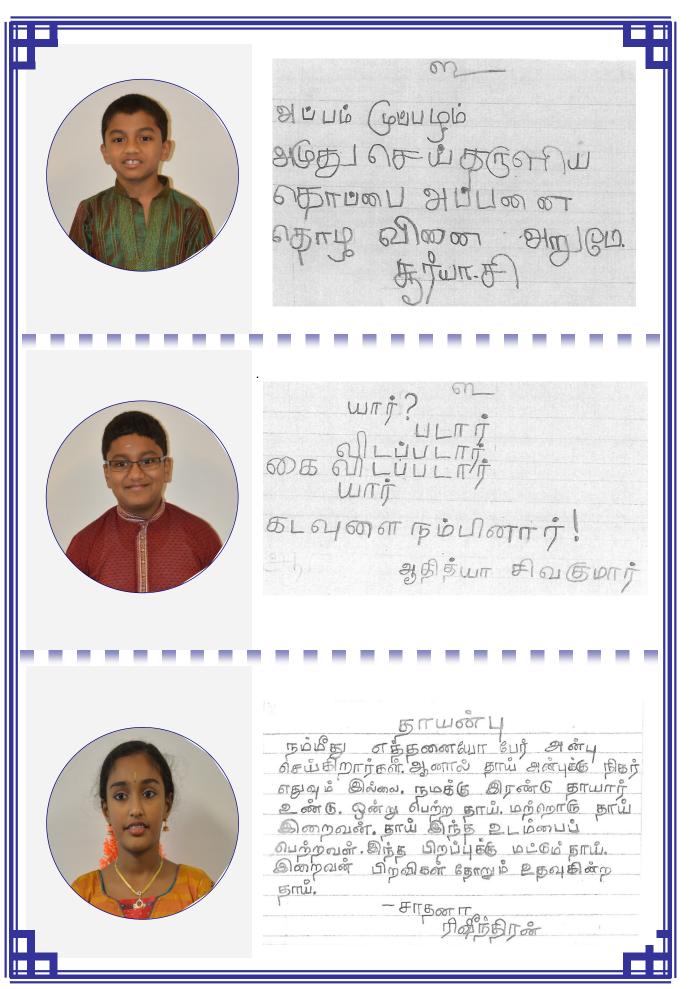
### New Jerrey Tamil Arts and Cultural Society

on 13th anniversary!



Best Wishes From

# RAJESWARAN GOWRI JEGAN & KUMUDHA



### Tamil language

Tamil is a Dravidian language spoken predominantly by Tamil people of South India and North-east Sri Lanka. It has official status in the Indian states of Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. It was once given nominal official status in the state of Haryana, purportedly as a rebuff to Punjab, though there was no attested Tamil-speaking population in the state, and was later replaced by Punjabi. Tamil is also a national language of Sri Lanka and an official language of Singapore. It is legalized as one of the languages of medium of education in Malaysia along with English, Malay and Mandarin. It is also chiefly spoken in the states of Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Andaman and Nicobar Islands as one of the secondary languages. It is one of the 22 scheduled languages of India and was the first Indian language to be declared a classical language by the Government of India in 2004. Tamil is also spoken by significant minorities in Malaysia, England, Mauritius, Canada, South Africa, Fiji, Germany, Philippines, United States, Netherlands, Mauritius, Indonesia, and Réunion as well as emigrant communities around the world.

Tamil is one of the longest surviving classical languages in the world. It has been described as "the only language of contemporary India which is recognizably continuous with a classical past and having one of the richest literatures in the world. Tamil literature has existed for over 2000 years. The earliest epigraphic records found on rock edicts and hero stones date from around the 5th century BC. The earliest period of Tamil literature, Sangam literature, is dated from 300 BC – AD 300. Tamil language inscriptions written in 1st century BC and 2nd century AD have been discovered in Egypt, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The two earliest manuscripts from India, to be acknowledged and registered by UNESCO Memory of the World register in 1997 and 2005 were in Tamil. More than 55% of the epigraphical inscriptions (about 55,000) found by the Archaeological Survey of India are in the Tamil language. According to a 2001 survey, there were 1,863 newspapers published in Tamil, of which 353 were dailies. It has the oldest extant literature amongst other Dravidian languages. The variety and quality of classical Tamil literature has led to its being described as "one of the great classical traditions and literatures of the world".

#### Classification

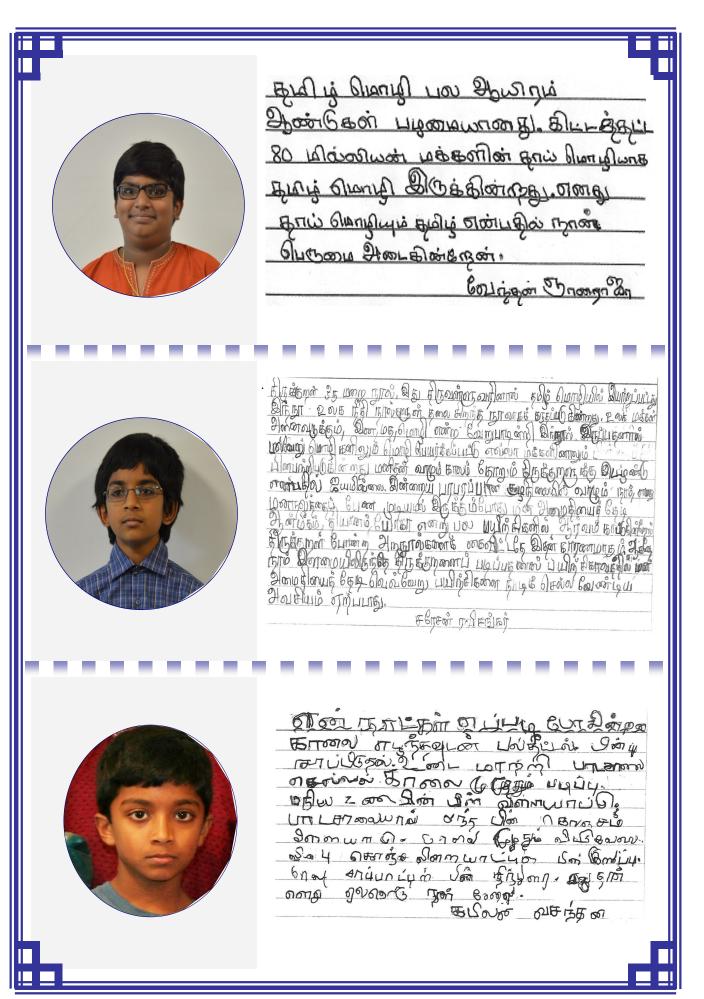
Tamil belongs to the southern branch of the Dravidian languages, a family of around 26 languages native to the Indian subcontinent. It is also classified as being part of a Tamil language family, which alongside Tamil proper, also includes the languages of about 35 ethno-linguistic groups such as the Irula and Yerukula languages (see SIL Ethnologue).

The closest major relative of Tamil is Malayalam. Until about the 19th century, Malayalam was a dialect of Tamil. Although many of the differences between Tamil and Malayalam demonstrate a pre-historic split of the western dialect, the process of separation into a distinct language, Malayalam, was not completed until sometime in the 13th or 14th century.

#### History

As a Dravidian language, Tamil descends from Proto-Dravidian. Linguistic reconstruction suggests that Proto-Dravidian was spoken around the third millennium BC, possibly in the region around the lower Godavari river basin in peninsular India. The material evidence suggests that the speakers of Proto-Dravidian were the culture associated with the Neolithic complexes of South India. The next phase in the reconstructed proto-history of Tamil is Proto-South Dravidian. The linguistic evidence suggests that Proto-South Dravidian was spoken around the middle of the second millennium BC, and that proto-Tamil emerged around the 3rd century BC. The earliest epigraphic attestations of Tamil are generally taken to have been written shortly thereafter. Among Indian languages, Tamil has the most ancient non-Sanskritised Indian literature. Scholars categorise the attested history of the language into three periods, Old Tamil (300 BC – AD 700), Middle Tamil (700–1600) and Modern Tamil (1600–present).

- From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



### **Old Tamil**

The earliest records in Old Tamil are short inscriptions from around the 2nd century BC in caves and on pottery. These inscriptions are written in a variant of the Brahmi script called Tamil Brahmi. The earliest long text in Old Tamil is the Tolkāppiyam, an early work on Tamil grammar and poetics, whose oldest layers could be as old as the 1st century BC. A large number of literary works in Old Tamil have also survived. These include a corpus of 2,381 poems collectively known as Sangam literature. These poems are usually dated to between the 1st and 5th centuries AD, which makes them the oldest extant body of secular literature in India. Other literary works in Old Tamil include Thirukural, Silappatikaram and Maṇimēkalai, and a number of ethical and didactic texts, written between the 5th and 8th centuries.

Old Tamil preserved many features of Proto-Dravidian, including the inventory of consonants, the syllable structure, and various grammatical features. Amongst these was the absence of a distinct present tense – like Proto-Dravidian, Old Tamil only had two tenses, the past and the "non-past". Old Tamil verbs also had a distinct negative conjugation (e.g. kāņēņ (காணேன்) "I do not see", kāņōm (காணோம்) "we do not see"). Nouns could take pronominal suffixes like verbs to express ideas: e.g. peņțirēm (பெண்டிரேம்) "we are women" formed from peņțir (பெண்டிர்) "women" and the first person plural marker -ēm (ஏம்).

Despite the significant amount of grammatical and syntactical change between Old, Middle and Modern Tamil, Tamil demonstrates grammatical continuity across these stages: many characteristics of the later stages of the language have their roots in features of Old Tamil.

#### **Middle Tamil**

The evolution of Old Tamil into Middle Tamil, which is generally taken to have been completed by the 8th century, was characterised by a number of phonological and grammatical changes. In phonological terms, the most important shifts were the virtual disappearance of the aytam (::), an old phoneme, the coalescence of the alveolar and dental nasals, and the transformation of the alveolar plosive into a rhotic. In grammar, the most important change was the emergence of the present tense. The present tense evolved out of the verb kil (கில்), meaning "to be possible" or "to befall". In Old Tamil, this verb was used as an aspect marker to indicate that an action was micro-durative, non-sustained or non-lasting, usually in combination with a time marker such as n ( $\dot{\sigma}$ ). In Middle Tamil, this usage evolved into a present tense marker – kinra (கின்ற) – which combined the old aspect and time markers.

Middle Tamil also saw a significant increase in the Sanskritisation of Tamil. From the period of the Pallava dynasty onwards, a number of Sanskrit loan-words entered Tamil, particularly in relation to political, religious and philosophical concepts. Sanskrit also influenced Tamil grammar, in the increased use of cases and in declined nouns becoming adjuncts of verbs, and phonology. The forms of writing in Tamil have developed through years. The Tamil script also changed in the period of Middle Tamil. Tamil Brahmi and Vațteluttu, into which it evolved, were the main scripts used in Old Tamil inscriptions. From the 8th century onwards, however, the Pallavas began using a new script, derived from the Pallava Grantha script which was used to write Sanskrit, which eventually replaced Vațteluttu.

Middle Tamil is attested in a large number of inscriptions, and in a significant body of secular and religious literature. These include the religious poems and songs of the Bhakthi poets, such as the Tēvāram verses on Shaivism and Nālāyira Tivya Pirapantam on Vaishnavism, and adaptations of religious legends such as the 12th century Tamil Ramayana composed by Kamban and the story of 63 shaivite devotees known as Periyapurāṇam. Iraiyaṇār Akapporuļ, an early treatise on love poetics, and Naṇnūl, a 12th-century grammar that became the standard grammar of literary Tamil, are also from the Middle Tamil period.

- From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

### NJTACS CHARITY PROJECTS

NJTACS sponsored many charitable projects and coordinated many fund raising events since its inception in 2000. To name a few, NJTACS has been financially sponsoring the operations



of Annai Saratha Illam in Trincomalee, Sri Lanka. Subsequent to 2004 Tsunami disaster in Sri Lanka, NJACS held several fund raising events in New Jersey by conducting Dance Programs organized by Abhinaya School of Dance. The funds were used to build water wells and houses in Batticaloa District. Several well-wishers collected clothes and sent them to Tsunami affected areas. These funds were systematically used to manage multiple relief projects. One of such ongoing project is highlighted here.

### Annai Saratha Children Home

In 2005, NJTCAS sponsored the construction of a completely new orphanage home in Trincomalee, Sri Lanka. This orphanage became the home for about 30 children who lost their parents and became orphans after the Tsunami. The entire building was constructed by using the funds collected by NJTACS. Upon completion of this building, NJTACS with the support of its generous members agreed to financially support the operations. The annual cost of the operations is around US\$6000. Since then several members have been supporting this effort. NJTACS would like to financially support of this orphanage in the coming years and we are requesting your cooperation. If you are interested in supporting this noble cause then please contact the NJTACS Secretary at *secretary@njtacsusa.org*.





### New Jersey Tamíl Arts and Cultural Society

## Tamíl Cultural School

Every Sunday from 10:30 AM to 12:00 Noon at Ruth Adams Building in Douglass College, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ



Classes are based on syllabus from American Tamil Academy Managed by experienced volunteers. Enrollment is based on first come first served basis.

### To register or more information

tamílschool@njtacs.org or secretary@njtacsusa.org www.njtacsusa.org

131 George Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1414

### NJTACS: Teachers

Kirupaharan Nadarajah Vasanthan Nadarajah Srimahilkanthan Selvaratnam Shivaparan Nagarajah Ranchani Srimahilkanthan Shaayini Indran Anusouya Gnanarajah Varatha Sivakumar

Ravishankar Kanagarajah (Principal) Gnanarajah Siva (Vice Principal) Nalini Ravindran Sothilingam Arumugam Amuthiniy Janaththanan Vijayakumar Sangaran

### **NJTACS: Current Students**

Anjana Janaththanan Kaveeshan Gnanarajah Ovia Dushyanthan Ramya Rajah Shanjith Sribavan Aathaavan Jayacumar Aathithan Sukumar Aiyankaran Jayacumar Anamitra Kugapalan Arani Ravindran Araniee Sothilingam Ceiron Dushyanthan Moorthy Gnanarajah Pravin Rajah Sruti Thayaparan Yasvinth Arulthasan Yugaesh Thusyanthan Abbilash Shivaparan Aiswaria Sothilingam Aditya Sivakumar Akshaya Shivaparan Kabillan Vasanthan Miduna Rishindran Saahari Kugapalan Shanjai Sribavan Sivapriya Jayacumar Surya Sivakumar Arthieethan Jayacumar Arun Ravindran Jeevan Vasanthan Karikalan Manivannan Sadena Rishindran Shareysan Ravishankar Vaenthan Gnanarajah Vasikaran Mahilkanthan

### NJTACS – Old Students: What are they up to now?

Arthie Jeyakumar – 2nd Year Medical Student, Albert Einstein Medical School, Bronx, NY Graduated 2011, Cornell University.

Aroon Jeyakumar – Client Services Associate, Morgan Stanley Wealth Management, NY Graduated 2013, University of Virginia.

Narmadan Kumarasamy, MD - Resident Radiology at Albert Einstein Hospital, NY. Undergraduate at Tufts University, Masters at Columbia University, Medical Degree at Stanford University.

Mitelan Kumarasamy - Project Manager in San Francisco in Healthcare Management field. Undergraduate at Rice University.

Mathumithan Kumarasamy – Undergraduate at Emory University and working as a Healthcare Management Assistant at Emory Healthcare.

### NJTACS – Old Students: What are they up to now?

Gobie Kumarasamy – Undergraduate (Senior) at Emory University Business School.

Arun K. Sangar – Undergrad in Computer Science, California State University, Fullerton (CSUF) arun.sangar@yahoo.com

Ramya Pushparajah - Double Degree: Communication and Political Science, Rutgers University. Graduated in 2013.

Anuja Selvakumar, Analyst, New York based Hedge Fund from October 2013. Graduated from NYU.

Nishan Kugan MD – University of Pennsylvania & Dartmouth Medical School Year completed: 2010, Working in Philadelphia, PA.

Praveen Collins, Marketing Manager, BlueCat Screenplay Competition, CA Graduated NYU (Film and Television), Dec 2011.

Prashawn Collins, Rutgers University, NJ, Class of 2016 Ingharan Siddarthan - University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia Class of 2017

Jenani Jayakumaran - Drexel University College of Medicine, Class of 2016. B.S.— Monmouth University - Chemistry-2011, MHS - Johns Hopkins University-2012.

Jeyanthan Jayakumaran - New Jersey Institute of Technology Major: Chemistry, Minor: Biology, Class of 2014.

Sooriya Jhanagan - Pennsylvania State University- University Park, Class of 2016. Leon Santhakumar - Johns Hopkins University, Degree Pursuing: Math Year of completion: 2016

Sharlini Sockanathan - School of Dental Medicine, Tufts University, Boston Doctor of Dental Medicine, May 2014.

Shivani Sockanathan - Chicago Medical School, Rosalind Franklin University, North Chicago Doctor of Medicine, May 2017.

Sophia Sugumar, RHIA, Master of Science in Health Care Management, Rutgers University Manager, Health Information Department at Saint Clare's Health System.

Sonia Sugumar – Medical School, University of Medicine and Health Science. Julia Sugumar- Master of Science, Rutgers University.

Santhiya Mahilkanthan - University: University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Under Graduate Degree: Biomedical Engineering, Year: 2013.

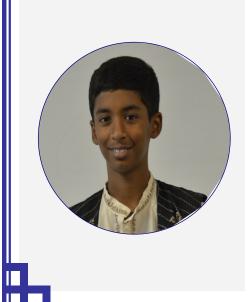
Cinthia Naveendra - Rutgers University, Enviornmental Science, Year: 2013.



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படு குன் குல்குக்கு கில் கிலைக்கு பாக்காம். யாழ்ப்பானாம், கொடும்பு, கிண்டியில் இட திக்கா பிர்ர்த்தோம். கோயில்கள் எல்லாம் கும் பிட்டூடாம். அப்பா, அம்மா படித்த பாடகாலை கின், பலக்ஸ்ல்க்டிக்கங்கள் மாகனால் கண்டியில் யானை கு விக்கும் இடம் போல் யானைக்கு பால் கொடுக்கு நாம். யானைக்கு மேல் எறி தாற்ற கோபும், எல்லா கொடுக்கு நாம். யானைக்கு மேல் எறி தாற்ற கோபும், எல்லா கொடுக்கு தாம். யானைக்கு மேல் எறி தாற்ற கோபும், எல்லா கொடுக்கு தாம். யானைக்கு மேல் எறி தாற்ற கோபும், எல்லா கொடுக்கு தில் கோப்பாகு கில் து து . நிறைய வாகனை து விக்கு விடல் தி து . நிறைய பாகனை து விக்கு நிறைய குல தல்ல தே பால் தாப்பாக வந்துக்கும் து து . நிறைய கு வின் வசு ந்தன்



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### **Modern Tamil**

The Nannul remains the standard normative grammar for modern literary Tamil, which therefore continues to be based on Middle Tamil of the 13th century rather than on Modern Tamil. Colloquial spoken Tamil, in contrast, shows a number of changes. The negative conjugation of verbs, for example, has fallen out of use in Modern Tamil – negation is, instead, expressed either morphologically or syntactically. Modern spoken Tamil also shows a number of sound changes, in particular, a tendency to lower high vowels in initial and medial positions, and the disappearance of vowels between plosives and between a plosive and rhotic.

Contact with European languages also affected both written and spoken Tamil. Changes in written Tamil include the use of European-style punctuation and the use of consonant clusters that were not permitted in Middle Tamil. The syntax of written Tamil has also changed, with the introduction of new aspectual auxiliaries and more complex sentence structures, and with the emergence of a more rigid word order that resembles the syntactic argument structure of English. Simultaneously, a strong strain of linguistic purism emerged in the early 20th century, culminating in the Pure Tamil Movement which called for removal of all Sanskritic and other foreign elements from Tamil. It received some support from Dravidian parties. This led to the replacement of a significant number of Sanskrit loanwords by Tamil equivalents, though many others remain.

### **Geographic distribution**

Tamil is the first language of the majority of the people residing in Tamil Nadu in India and Northern Province, Eastern Province, Sri Lanka. The language is also spoken among small minority groups in other states of India which include Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra and in certain regions of Sri Lanka such as Colombo and the hill country. Previously Tamil had a wider distribution in India than its current state. Tamil or dialects of it were used widely in the state of Kerala as the major language of administration, literature and common usage until the 12th century AD. Tamil was also used widely in inscriptions found in southern Andhra Pradesh districts of Chittoor and Nellore until the 12th century AD. Tamil was also used for inscriptions from the 10th through 14th centuries in southern Karnataka districts such as Kolar, Mysore, Mandya and Bangalore.

There are currently sizeable Tamil-speaking populations descended from colonial-era migrants in Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines, Mauritius, South Africa, Indonesia, Thailand, Burma, and Vietnam. A large community of Tamil speakers exists in Karachi, Pakistan, which includes Tamil-speaking Hindus as well as Christians and Muslims – including some Tamil-speaking Muslim refugees from Sri Lanka. Many in Réunion, Guyana, Fiji, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago have Tamil origins, but only a small number speak the language. In Reunion where Tamil language was forbidden to be learnt and used in public space by France is now being relearnt by students and adults. It is also used by groups of migrants from Sri Lanka and India, Canada (especially Toronto), United States (especially New Jersey and New York City), Australia, many Middle Eastern countries, and some Western European countries.

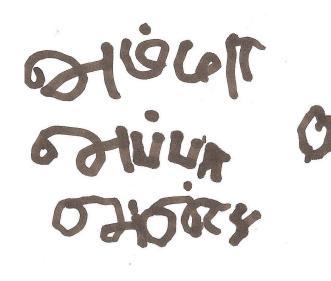
#### Legal status

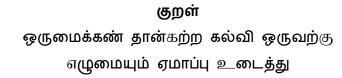
Tamil is the official language of the Indian state of Tamil Nadu and one of the 22 languages under schedule 8 of the constitution of India. It is also one of the official languages of the union territory of Puducherry. Tamil is also one of the official languages of SriLanka and Singapore. In Malaysia, 543 primary education government schools are available fully in Tamil medium.

In addition, with the creation in October 2004 of a legal status for classical languages by the Government of India and following a political campaign supported by several Tamil associations, Tamil became the first legally recognised Classical language of India. The recognition was announced by the then President of India, Abdul Kalam, in a joint sitting of both houses of the Indian Parliament on 6 June 2004.

- From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

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### விளக்கம்

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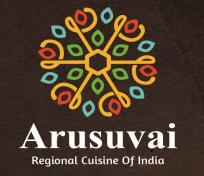
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