

விடியல் வரவேற்பு
Vidiyal Varaveatru



WELCOMING DAWN
CONVERSATIONS WITH THE MASTER

தமிழ்ப் பண்பாடு - *TAMIZHP PANPAADU*

TAMIL CULTURE

அடியார்க்கு அடியேன் உலகநாதன் சொர்ணம்

LOGANADEN SORNUM



வணக்கம்

OFFERINGS படையல் PADAIYAL

Affectionately dedicated to the memory of our late dear mother



இலட்சுமி சொர்ணம் Lutchmee SORNUM (பாக்கியம் Pakion)

Born கண்ணுசாமி பிள்ளை Cannousamy Poullay.

Our visible Goddess till June 2015 Friday

11

Lost her mother at the age of

11

Left for Dheavalogam on Egaadassi, lunar day

11

On her 88th birthday, 8 mandalams - cycles of

11

Joyfully leaving behind children:

11

Among them one born with fingers:

11

தாயின் சிறந்ததொரு கோயிலும் இல்லை

Thaayin sirandhadhoru Koyilum illai

There is no grand Kovil holier than one's own mother

Konrai Veahndhan, 38.

ஈன்ற பொழுதிற் பெரிதுவக்கும் தன்மகனைச்

சான்றோன் எனக்கேட்ட தாய்

linra pozhudhitr peridhuvakkum tanmaganaitch

Saanron enakkeatta thaai

Mother's joy when her son is hailed as worthy man

Is greater than when his birth began. -

Thirukkural, chap. 7, verse 9

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

நன்றி உரை – NANRI URAI

This publication is a token of நன்றி *Nandri* –gratitude to the divine தமிழ்த் தாய் *Tamizht Taai* – Mother Tamil for giving me the courage to accomplish this noble task,

தன் கடன் அடியேனும் தாங்குதல்.
என் கடன் பணி செய்து கிடப்பதே.

Tan kadan adiyeanum taangudal
En kadan pani seidhu kidappadea

His (Siva-Satti, ida-pingalam, yin-yang) duty is to support me
Mine is to serve Him (panginan) humbly and rest content -

Saint Appar

My duty is part of an effort to foster a broader understanding of the very old Tamil Culture, a most profound, multidimensional phenomenon. It is a very humble attempt to capture the spirit of the vast Tamil literature, history, rituals and philosophy, and expose them in a most simple and friendly way to the non-Tamil knowing - lovers of Tamil Culture. The call has always been there and is getting more profound. The aim contained is not new. I hope that the readers of this book will be able to see the beauty of the original verses from the Tamil Holy Scriptures and get inspired by its interpretation. I also pray that the reader does not miss the opportunity to feel the divine through the veil of the uncommon conversation between the Master and the Seeker/Devotee. My wish is that the readers themselves get motivated to learn and study Tamil language in order to experience the very original beauty of the culture.

My prayer is that this publication sets the path, triggers the intellect and removes many of the misconceptions and blind beliefs about Tamil Culture from the minds of the younger generation. It will remind the reader that we are all connected to the universe atomically and to each other biologically. This endeavour will definitely strengthen unity in diversity, spiritual love and universal brotherhood, and ultimately pave the way towards a society capable of thinking globally and acting locally.

ஒவ்வொருவருக்கும் அனைவருமே அனைவருக்கும்
ஒவ்வொருவருமே

ovvoruvarukkum anaivarumeaanaivarukkum
ovvoruvarumea

‘All for each and each for all’, is at the very core of Tamil Culture. Nobody should be left behind or ignored and every individual should have the opportunity to contribute to the making of a good and thriving society.

Everything discussed in this somewhat uncommon conversation between the seeker and the Master aims at enabling the readers to experience universal truth through Tamil scriptures. There’s a lot that deserves to be explained, but I chose to focus on the most salient concepts. I repeatedly make reference to some of these concepts with a distinct and powerful purpose - that of helping the Seeker to absorb the crux of these concepts. This book is only a beginning, not an end in itself. It is meant to fuel interest in the reader to keep seeking for fulfillment.

Therefore, first and foremost I bow before the Supreme Being, Sages, Saints and our dear ones as தேவர் *Dheavars* - Celestials who have touched our lives and spirits in

meaningful ways through all the scriptures. They take us along a path that makes us feel free, pure, wise and fulfilled.

I am unspeakably very grateful to my teachers and my spiritual Master for their priceless teachings and people who have kindly shared their wisdom and their valuable experiences with me.

நன்றி மறவேல் – *Nandri maraveal* - Forget not good done.:
Aatthich chuudi, 21.

I am also very much indebted to my dear blessed parents who have been my first visible God and for the genetic inheritance (bio genetics and soul genetics).

**Mother and Father are the visible Gods –
Konrai Veandhan - 1.**

அன்னையும் பிதாவும் முன்னறி தெய்வம்
Annaiyum pidhaavum munnari dheivam.

My humble long due thanks to my family as well as to my dearest students whose paths I have crossed during my 48 years in the teaching profession.

Last but not the least, I thank my dear friends of அறிவகம் *Arivagam* at Centre d’Excellence, Tamil League, Seekers of spiritual truth and lovers of Tamil language and culture, who have been a constant source of overflowing inspiration. Our conversations always provide a safe space to raise delicate questions and marvelous answers. I would also fail in my duty if I do not convey my நன்றி – *nanri* - gratitude to all those who have, in their own ways, contributed to enable this publication to come to light. May all of them be blessed by the Supreme Consciousness.

“எந்நன்றி கொன்றார்க்கும் உய்வுண்டாம் உய்வில்லை
செய்ந்நன்றி கொன்ற மகற்கு”

*Ennandri Konnraarrkkhum ouivunndaam ouivillai
Seiynnandri kondra magatrku*

Expiation (deliverance) there is for every wrong done.
But for ingratitude there is none. (There is no escape for
him who has killed a benefit) -

Thirukkural chapter 11, verse10

**அடியார்க்கு அடியேன் உலகநாதன் சொர்ணம்.
*Loganaden Sornum***

MUNNURAI - முன்னுரை

INTRODUCTION

Many centuries ago, cultural invaders imposed their foreign languages and interpreted certain aspects of Tamil culture as irrational and uncivilized. Those invaders reduced Tamil culture to a mere set of blind beliefs and I find that it is an unacceptable practice that is still very much ongoing today. We can stop it. If we delve deeper into Tamil culture's beauty and its complete compatibility with modern times, we have the possibility to keep the culture alive. This is the main objective of this publication.

தமிழ்ப் பண்பாடு - *Tamizhp Panpaadu* Tamil culture

Every culture stands for some noble principles, especially its spiritual system enshrined in them in their pristine purity. Tamil culture cultivated and moulded over many millennia, is still very much as relevant as it has always been, and an apt mode of life for our modern times.

Finding one's true path of self- discovery is at the very core of Tamil culture. It is a way of living that encompasses disciplining oneself as a member of the family, as a member of the society, as a citizen and finally as a humble seeker of the spiritual truth, in harmony with the entire cosmos.

யாதும் ஊரே யாவரும் கேளிர் - *Yaadhumuurea* *yaavarum kealir* - புறநானூறு - *Puranaanuuru*.

Our home the whole world; All men are kith and kin
(connected to each other biologically)

ஒன்றே குலமும் ஒருவனே தேவன்
'Onrea kulam oruvanea dheavan' - திருமந்திரம் -
Thirumandhiram

'The whole mankind is one family; And God is One'
(The unique One is the All).

Tamil culture is essentially a way of life based on social spiritualism, both individual and community values. Not to be confused with religion, ancient Tamil culture is secular and humanistic.

More often than not, we miss the very essence and spirit of Tamil culture, in particular, because of blind beliefs and ignorance of the philosophies embedded in the cultivation of the mind.

Extending our knowledge of Tamil contribution to culture has huge potential to enhance cultural unity, economic progress and to trigger positive social changes for the upliftment of humankind at large. Saint Thiruvalluvar says, this social spiritualism is a battery of the two forces.

One is பொருள் – *Porul* - material wealth, and the other one is அருள் - *Arul* – spiritual life.

அருளில்லார்க்கு அவ்வுலகம் இல்லை
பொருள்ளில்லார்க்கு இவ்வுலகம் இல்லாகி யாங்கு

Arullillaarkku avvulagam illai porullillaarkku.
ivvulagam illaagi yaangu - திருக்குறள் -
Thirukkural, (chap. 25, verse 247.)

As this world is not for those who are without
Porul - wealth, so, that world is not for those who are without
Arul - (grace, kindness, mercy, compassion)

மொரிசியசுப் பண்பாடு - Maurisiyassup Panpaadu
Mauritian culture

When delving into the study of Mauritian culture, we find that a good many of us fall behind in rational interpretation and scientific investigation of Tamil culture. While going through the Classic and Modern Tamil scriptures, even through வடமொழி *vadamozhi* -sanskrit, we can find in Tamil culture, the foundation for individual, social upliftment - the bed rock for universalism.

Tamil culture should not be taken as a religion because it is not founded in a single historic event or prophet; it actually precedes recorded history for millennia.

As a matter of fact, the true spirit of Tamil culture, called the cradle of spirituality, is to enable each human to lead a fulfilled life, while embracing all those values that come naturally to mankind, though often sacrificed at the altar of modern living- love, forgiveness empathy.

It is a culture rooted in nature; its philosophies and metaphysics teach us to live and let live well in harmony with Mother Nature as we are connected chemically to planet earth. The metaphysics cover both the spiritual and physical aspects of Man where survival is one of its most fundamental concepts.

Tamil culture is often seen as full of mysticism and the lay man and the uninitiated people towards Tamil Culture very often find themselves in total darkness, with questions unanswered. This ignorance paves the way for exploitation, conversion and cultural invasion. That is why, my effort through this book, is to demystify Tamil culture.

NOTE TO READERS:

I have found it imperative to refer to ancient scriptures and holy books, amongst which,

1. தொல்காப்பியம் - *Tolkaappiam*
(the most ancient Tamil grammar)
2. சங்க இலக்கியம் - *Sangam* – literature
(Consists 36 works)
3. திருக்குறள் – *Thirukkural*
4. திருவாசகம் - *Thiruvaasagam*
5. தேவாரம் - *Theavaaram*
6. திருமந்திரம் - *Thirumandhiram*
7. திருப்புகழ் - *Thiruppugazh*
8. திருவருட்பா - *Thiruvartupaa*

(Where the author refers to the four systems comprising Naadhandham, Bohdhandham, Kalandham and Yohgandham) as Naan Marai the original Dravidian philosophical systems which existed anterior to the Sanscrit Vedas.

9. நீதிநூல்கள் – *Niidhi Nuulgal* - Ten tamil ethics

Contents - உள்ளே - ULLEA

1. SEEKER OF SPIRITUAL TRUTH தேடுவன் - Theaduvan	1
2. MASTER OF SPIRITUAL TRUTH ஐயா- குரு - Ayyaa - Guru	3
3. SEEKER IS IDENTIFIED BY THE MASTER கண்டுகொண்டேன்	7
4. PONGAL - பொங்கல் OVER SPILLING	17
5. BLIND BELIEF மூடநம்பிக்கை MUUDANAMBIKKAI	23
6. THE COSMIC SOUND AUM - நாதம் NAADHAM	33
7. TAMIL LANGUAGE – THE STOREHOUSE OF TAMIL CULTURE தமிழ் மொழி தமிழ்ப் பண்பாட்டின் களஞ்சியம்	43
8. FEARLESSNESS - அச்சம் இன்மை	55
9. UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD உலக சகோதரத்துவம் ULAGA SAGOHDHARATTHUVAM	63
10. RITES AND RITUALS - சடங்கு - SADANGU	73
11. MYTH AND MYTHOLOGY புராணம் -PURAANAM	83
12. BATH - ABLUTION குளித்தல் – நீராடுதல் KULITTHAL - NIIRAADUDHAL	91

13. YOGIC POSTURE யோகாசனம் - YOGAASANAM	103	25. MUSIC - இசை - ISSAI	239
14. BREATH-CONTROL மூச்சுப்பயிற்சி - Mutchuppayitrchi	113	26. THIRUKKURAL - திருக்குறள் - HOLY KURAL	243
15. அகரமுமாகி - AGARAMUMAAGI THE CONCEPT OF BEGINNING	121	27. THIRUVAASAGAM - திருவாசக - Holy Scripture	255
16. WORSHIP-PRAYER வழிபாடு - கடவுள் வாழ்த்து VAZHIPAADU - KADAVUL VAAZHTTHU	127	28. THIRUMANDHIRAM - திருமந்திரம் CLASSIC OF YOHGAM AND TANDHIRAM	269
17. HOLY SYMBOLS புனிதச்சின்னமும் கருவியும்	149	29. THOLKAAPPIYAM தொல்காப்பியம் - ANCIENT CLASSIC	281
18. HOLY WATER புனித நீர் - PUNIDHA NIIR	157	30. MAUWNAM - மௌனம் - VOW OF SILENCE	287
19. FLOWER - மலர் - பூ - MALAR - POO	177	31. MEDITATION - தியானம் - DHYAANAM	301
20. OFFERINGS OF FRUIT பழம் படையல் - PAZHAM PADAIYAL	187	32. HOLY ASH - திருநீறு - THIRUNIIRU	315
21. HOLY BELL - திருமணி - THIRUMANI	197	33. TAMIL CULTURAL EXODUS தமிழ்ப்பண்பாட்டு மறைவு TAMIZHP PANPAATTU MARAIVU	337
22. ADORATION WITH LIGHT ஒளி - பேரொளி வழிபாடு - தீபாராதனை OLI - PEAROLI VAZHIPAADU - DHIIBAARAADHANAI	201	34. DAWN - விடியல் - VIDIYAL	345
23. CHANTING OF HOLY HYMNS திருப்பாடல்களைப் பாடுதல் THIRUPPAADALGALAIP PAADUDHAL	219		
24. RECITATION - ஒதுதல் - OHDHUDHAL	233		

1. SEEKER OF SPIRITUAL TRUTH

தேடுவன் - Theaduvan

When seeking arises, the possibility of knowing the unknown inevitably exists

தேடுவன் தேடுவன் செம்மலர்ப் பாதங்கள் நாடொறும்
நாடுவன் நாடுவன் நாபிக்கு மேலேயோர் நால்விரல்
மாடுவன் மாடுவன் வன்கை பிடித்து மகிழ்ந்துளே
ஆடுவன் ஆடுவன் ஆமாந் தூரரெம் அடிகட்கே - சுந்தரர்

*Theaduvan Theaduvan semmalarp paadhanggal naadorum
Naaduvan naaduvan naabikku mealeayor naalviral
Maaduvan maaduvan vankai piditthu makizndhulea
Aaduvan aaduvan aamaath thoorarem adigatkea –
Saint Sundarar.*

I shall go on seeking every day the perfect flower- like feet
(of the benign saviour/the Lord)

I shall reach the heart four fingers/ one middle finger
above the navel (cosmic energy leaving the மூலதாரம்
- *muuladhaaram* -root chakra to the அனாகதம்
-*anaagadham*- heart chakra – focal point in the subtle
body), I will take hold of the powerful hand (of the cosmic
dancer) I will enter in and dance with bliss in the world as
God's instrument

Saint Sundarar.

கற்றதனால் ஆய பயனென்கொல் வாலறிவன்
நற்றாள் தொழார் எனின்

*Kattradhanaal Aaya payanenkol vaalarivan
Nattraal Thojaaar Enin
Thirukkural, chap. 1, verse 2*

What use is learning which leads not to worship at the
good feet of Him
Who is possessed of pure Knowledge / Wisdom

கற்றில னாயினும் கேட்க அஃதொருவற்கு
ஒற்கத்தின் ஊற்றாம் துணை

Kattrila naayinum keatka akdhoruvatrku
Otrkatthin uutraan thunai
Thirukkural chap. 42, verse 4.

Although one who has not learned much from the master, let
him listen (to the teaching of the learned) - For in weakness,
this will prove to be a support / staff unto him.

The spiritual seekers of TODAY are
the spiritual Masters of TOMORROW.

2. MASTER OF SPIRITUAL TRUTH

ஐயா-குரு - Ayyaa-Guru

INVOCATION - வேண்டுதல் - VEANDUDHAL

உருவாய் அருவாய் உளதாய் இலதாய்
மருவாய் மலராய் மணியாய் ஒளியாய்க்
கருவாய் உயிராய்க் கதியாய் விதியாய்க்
குருவாய் வருவாய் அருள்வாய் குகனே -
அருணகிரிநாதர் கந்தரநுபுதி

Uruvaai Aruvaai Uladhaai Iladhaai
Maruvaai Malaraai Maniyaai Oliyaaik
Karuvaai Uyiraa Gadhiyaa Vidhiyaa
Guruvaai Varuvaai Arulvaai Kuganea
- Saint Arunagirinaadhar's divine experience -
Kandharanupuudhi Verse 51

You are hidden in form (as being), in existence and
You are formless in nonexistence (beyond existence)
You are the sweet and mild fragrance and as well
as the flower

You are the Jewel (gem/ruby) and as well as its radiance
(shinning quality)

You are the embryo and its life
You are the (predestined) path leading to truth and the law
of vinai guiding to the path (destined)

You are the Master (benign Saviour), spiritual initiator
Please do come and bless us (with wisdom)
Oh KUGAAA! The hidden MASTER in the cave- heart, the
sanctum sanctorum.

போற்றி வழிபாடு - Pohrttri vazhipaadu
Salutation to குகன் - Kugan - The Divine hidden Master