



ECOLE PRATIQUE DES HAUTES ETUDES

Section des Sciences Historiques et Philologiques
45-47, rue des Écoles – 75005 Paris

SIXTH INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON TAMIL EPIGRAPHY 29 June to 10 July 2009.

We are pleased to announce our 6th International Workshop on Tamil epigraphy. This workshop is intended for students and researchers who have little or no previous experience with the discipline. The workshop will focus on how to read and interpret inscriptions and the tools to achieve them. The lectures and discussions are planned to highlight two facts:

1) inscriptions constitute the historical source material and 2) a multidisciplinary approach is necessary for the extraction of information. Invited scholars will share their work in a series of afternoon lectures on topics relating to Tamil and South India.

Course coordinator: Appasamy MURUGAIYAN (Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes, Section des Sciences historiques et philologiques)

AGENDA:

Classes will be held from Monday 29 June till Friday 10 July, morning 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. (Lunch break) and afternoon 2.00 to 4.00 p.m. Note that Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th July are free.

The workshop is divided into two sessions: beginner (June 29 to July 3) and intermediate/advanced (July 6 to 10). Participants may sign up for either or both sessions.

The first session: (29 June to 3 July) is designed for those who have not studied Tamil inscriptions previously. The lectures will cover the following subjects:

- History of Tamil epigraphy, the Tamil epigraphic culture
- Evolution of Tamil scripts
- Estampage making, digital documentation and preservation of inscriptions
- Structure of epigraphic texts, methods of analysis and interpretation

Second session (July 6 to 10) will focus on reading and interpretation of selected inscriptions from Chola, Pallava, Pandya and Vijayanagara dynasties (7th to 16th centuries). Emphasis will be given to religious, historical and social issues that are raised in the various types of inscriptions. Light will be shed upon the linguistic features of different types of inscriptions illustrating the corresponding morphological and syntactical characteristics in comparison with the Modern Tamil. Due attention will be given to the philological study of personal names.

ADDRESS:

Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes,
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REGISTRATION:

The workshop is free, but interested scholars need to register. Please contact: A. Murugaiyan at (a.murugaiyan@wanadoo.fr)