

TAMIL SUMMER SCHOOL
(11 July - 20 August 2005)

2005

PONDICHERRY INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTICS AND CULTURE

A Govt. of Pondicherry Institution

(Affiliated to Tamil University, Thanjavur for Ph.D programme)

112 Kamatchiamman Koil Street

Pondicherry - 605 001, India.

Tamil Summer School

What is the TSS?

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

The course was initiated in 1998 by the Department of Social Sciences, French Institute, Pondicherry to offer training to language researchers in Humanities and Social sciences. 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. Two levels of spoken Tamil courses are offered: Basic and Intermediate.

Why Spoken Tamil?

Tamil is an international language spoken in different countries like India, Sri Lanka and Malaysia. 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 this important gap 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 and others to be able to 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 11 July 2005 to 20 August 2005).

The courses are based on written materials both in English and Tamil designed specially for the TSS 2005.

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

In the above-mentioned courses, the TSS will also include practical training and drilling in spoken Tamil in the context of fieldwork with very experienced research assistants.

Lecture series

During the Tamil Summer School reputed scholars will give special lectures on Tamil language, literature, culture and society.

NB: According to the number and background and standard of participants the organisation team will adapt the level of the course.

Participants

Basic level

Eligible participants are students or researchers from foreign or Indian universities or institutions, who have not studied Tamil.

Intermediate or advanced 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.

Students will be divided into two or three classes according to their proficiency in Tamil and according to the number of students registered (about 6 students per class).

Enrolment

Enrolment starts on 1 March, 2005 and registration will be closed on the 30 April, 2005.

For registration, particulars are required in the prescribed format.

Kindly send it in advance to reserve your seat. Preference will be given to research scientists.

Registration fees for 2005 will be Rs. **12,000** (around **250 Euros**).

This includes the materials and field visits provided by us. The Institute will help the scholars get the type of accommodation and food they prefer.

Your stay in Pondicherry

Pondicherry is a small Tamil speaking territory and city, 120 km from Chennai International airport and well-connected by road.

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

For Information Contact:

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PONDICHERRY INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTICS AND CULTURE

APPLICATION FOR THE TSS

2005

1. Name :
2. Age, Date of Birth :
3. Sex : Male / Female
4. Nationality :
5. Mother Tongue :
6. Languages known :
7. Occupation : Teacher/ Researcher/
Student/ any other category
8. Academic qualifications
9. Name of the Institution :
10. Knowledge of Tamil
 - a. Do you know Tamil? : Yes / No
 - b. If yes, specify your skills in Tamil : Understand/Speak/
Read and Write
11. If you have studied Tamil in any institution
give details
 - a. Name of the institution :
 - b. Name of the course :
 - c. Duration of the course :
 - d. The year of study :
12. Purpose of joining TSS :
13. Have you ever visited India in the past?
14. Address for communication with
Telephone Number and e.mail :
15. Any other information

Signature of applicant