

# A Two-Day International Conference On The Śaivāgamas: The Basis for the Śiva Temple

On the 05<sup>th</sup> & 06<sup>th</sup> of December, 2023

Jointly organized by

The Department of Indology, French Institute of Pondicherry &  
Śaivaśāstrapracārasabhā, Tiruvannamalai



## **French Institute of Pondicherry (IFP):**

Established under the terms of the Treaty of Cession of French Territories in India, the French Institute of Pondicherry was inaugurated in 1955. It was initially engaged, in the study of Indian civilization and culture, and more particularly in the history and the religions of South India.

The manuscript collection of the French Institute of Pondicherry was started in 1956 under the auspices of its founder-director, the polymath Jean Filliozat, by collecting all materials relating to Śaivāgama-s. The collection contains approximately 8500 palm-leaf codices, most of which are in Sanskrit language and written in Grantha script, while others are in Tamil, Malayalam, Telugu, Nandinagari and Tigalari scripts. The collection is today included in the UNESCO “Memory of the World” Register.

## **Śaivaśāstrapracārasabhā:**

The Śaivaśāstrapracārasabhā was started in 2019 in Thiruvannamali, Tamilnadu. The intention of the Sabhā is to make everyone aware of various aspects of Śaiva tradition. The main objective of the Sabhā is to propagate the significance of the Vedas, Śaivāgama-s, Thirumurai, Śaivasiddhānta and other allied subjects.

## **Conference:**

A two-day academic conference on the Śaivāgama-s is scheduled to take place at the French Institute of Pondicherry, known for its 65-year history of producing standard critical editions of the Śaivāgama-s from original manuscripts. The conference is being organized in collaboration with the prestigious Śaivaśāstrapracārasabha of Thiruvannamalai. Everyone is welcomed to attend the conference.

## **Major themes of the conference:**

- The right place to build a temple, choosing the correct procedure for laying the foundation known as 'Ādyeṣṭakāsthāpanam', the main shrine, designing the vimāna, stūpi, etc., according to the Śaivāgama-s:
- References found in Śaivāgama-s related to: the daily pūjās, the procedure of daily worship, initiation (dīkṣā), installing (pratiṣṭhā) the idol in the garbhagrha, etc.,
- Explanation of the following important rituals according to Śaivāgama-s: Flag-hosting and the flag-post (dhvajastambha), festivals (utsava), car-festival (rathotsava), musical instruments (vādyā), dance (nṛtya), etc.,
- Worshipping other deities apart from the Liṅga according to Śaivāgama-s.
- Śivayoga in the Śaivāgama.
- Philosophical discussions found in the Śaivāgama-s.
- The relation between the yoga, philosophical doctrines and the temple according to Śaivāgama-s
- The significance of Śaivāgama-s and Śaiva-temples for the development of spirituality and social cohesion among the people.

## **Coordinators:**

**Dr. Deviprasad Mishra,**  
Deputy Head of Indology, French Institute of Pondicherry.

## **Sponsored by:**

**Śaivaśāstrapracārasabhā**  
run by SIVAAGAMA TRUST  
Tiruvannamalai.

**Sivasri. K. Thirukkumaran Sivam,**  
Associate Researcher, IFP & Research Asst., CSS, Pondicherry  
Spl. Advisor - Śaivaśāstrapracārasabhā, Thiruvannamalai &  
Śaiva Marapunūl Pādukāppukkaḷagam, Thirukkanchi.

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**PROGRAMME SCHEDULE - DAY 01**

Date: 05<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Venue: Jawaharlal Nehru Conference Hall, IFP

**Inaugural Session**

08.55 - 10.15am

Lighting the Lamp	: <b>Srimathi Lalitha Ganesan</b>
Welcome Address	: <b>Dr. Borayin Larios,</b> HoD, Department of Indology, IFP
Inaugural Address	: <b>Dr. Blandine Ripert,</b> Director, IFP
Keynote Address	: <b>Dr. T. Ganesan,</b> Research Associate, French Institute & Director, Center for Shaiva Studies, Pondicherry.
Honour & Blessing	: <b>Dr. Bala. Sarveswara Gurukkal,</b> Founder & Principal, Srimath Srikanta Sivacharya Vedasivagama Vidyapeetam. Karaikal.
Vote of thanks	: <b>Dr. Deviprasad Mishra,</b> Deputy Head of Indology, IFP

**I - Dr. N.R. Bhatt Session 10.30 - 11.45 am**

Chairperson	: <b>Dr. Dominic Goodall,</b> Researcher, Head of EFEO, Pondicherry
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**Speakers:**

<b>Dr. Borayin Larios,</b> HoD, Department of Indology, IFP	: "vedasāram idam tantram: Tracing Vedic Influences in Early Śaiva Tantric Traditions"
<b>Dr. S.A.S. Sarma,</b> Researcher, EFEO, Pondicherry	: Śaivāgamas and Kerala Tantra Paddhatis: A Comparison with Special Reference to Mahotsavas as Described in Ajitāgama
<b>Dr. R. Satyanarayanan,</b> Researcher, EFEO, Pondicherry	: Significance of Śaivāgamas in temple rituals focusing on the <i>Vīratāntra</i>

## II - P. Nilakantha Sharma Session 11.45 - 01.00 pm

Chairperson

: **Dr. S.A.S. Sarma,**  
Researcher, EFEO, Pondicherry

### Speakers:

**Dr. C. Geethasankar,**  
Astrologer, Sri Lalithambigai Jothidalayam,  
Pondicherry : சைவாகமங்களில் வாஸ்துசாஸ்த்ரம்

**Dr. C. Karthikeya Sivachariar,**  
Saivagama Professor,  
Sri Venkateswara Vedic University, Tirupati : ஆலயங்களில் நடைபெறும் மாதபூஜா முறைகள்

**D. Jagadeesan,**  
Research Scholar,  
SASTRA Deemed University, Tanjore : திருக்கோயில்களும் திருவிழாக்களும்

## III - T. Ramanujam Aiyengar Session 02.00 - 03.00 pm

Chairperson

: **Dr. Borayin Larios,**  
HoD, Department of Indology, IFP

### Speakers:

**Dr. Dominic Goodall,**  
Researcher, Head of EFEO, Pondicherry : What does the Sarvajñānottaratantra tell us about temples in the seventh century?

**Dr. Deepa Duraiswamy,**  
Independent Researcher, Chennai : The significance of Śaivāgama-s and Śaiva-temples for the development of spirituality and social cohesion among the people.

**Dr. Deviprasad Mishra**  
Deputy Head of Indology, IFP, Pondicherry : Bhasmadhāraṇa as describes in the Agamas

## IV - V.M. Subramanya Sharma Session 03.00 - 04.15 pm

Chairperson

: **Dr. C. Karthikeya Sivachariar**  
Saivagama Professor, S.V.Vedic University, Tirupati

### Speakers:

**Dr. S. Sivaguhan,**  
Asst. Librarian, G.O.M.L & R.C, Chennai : சைவாகமங்களில் குறிப்பிடப்பட்டுள்ள நைவேத்ய வகைகள்

**S. Sundara Skanda Poorvjan,**  
Research Scholar,  
SASTRA Deemed University, Tanjore : சைவாகமங்களில் குறிப்பிடப்பட்டுள்ள ஆசார்ய லக்ஷணம்

**S. Sathish,**  
Research Scholar,  
The Madras Sanskrit Collage : சைவகால விமர்சனம்

**Dr. G. Babu &**  
Department of Indology, IFP, Pondicherry : ஆவணச்சுவடிகளில் ஆலயம் தொடர்பான செய்திகள்

**K. Thirukumaran,** IFP & CSS, Pondicherry

**V - Bruno Dagens Session 04.30 - 05.30 pm**

Chairpersons

: **Dr. Deviprasad Mishra**, Deputy Head of Indology, IFP  
**Dr. G. Karthikeyan**, Professor, Sri Skandaguru Vidyalayam

**Speakers:**

**S. Karthikeyan**,  
Research Scholar,  
Karnataka Samskrit University, Bengaluru

: ஸிவாகமங்களில் காணப்படும் ஹோமத்ரவ்யங்களும் அதன் பயன்களும்.

**S. Jenbagaraman**,  
Research Scholar,  
Karnataka Samskrit University, Bengaluru

: கிரணாகமத்தில் கூறப்பட்டுள்ள சமயாசார விதி முறைகள்

**S. Premapuri**,  
Research Scholar,  
Karnataka Samskrit University, Bengaluru

: ப்ரதிஷ்டா - அஷ்டாதச க்ரியைகளில் பசுக்கள் மற்றும் பஞ்சகவ்யத்தின் மஹிமைகள்

**S. Arulnandhi Sivam**,  
Research Scholar,  
Karnataka Samskrit University, Bengaluru

: ஸிவாகமங்களில் கூறப்பட்டுள்ள உத்ஸவ ப்ராயச்சித்த விதி

**R. Aravindhhan**,  
Research Scholar,  
Karnataka Samskrit University, Bengaluru

: Importance of Taṭāka and Udyāna in Āgama-s

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## PROGRAMME SCHEDULE - DAY 02

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Venue: Jawaharlal Nehru Conference Hall, IFP

### VI - T.V. Gopal Iyer Session 09.00 - 10.15 am

Chairperson

: **Dr. T. Ganesan**, Research Associate, French Institute &  
Director, Center for Shaiva Studies, Pondicherry.

#### Speakers:

**V. Vedaranyeswaran**,  
Sanskrit Teacher, Sri Karpakavinayakar  
Vedaagama Vidhyalayam, Pillaiyarpatti.

: திருமுறைகள் காட்டும் ஆகமத் திருக்கோயில்  
க்ரியைகள் மற்றும் விழாக்கள்

**Dr. S. Sridhar Swaminathan**,  
Head and Assistant professor of Sanskrit,  
Vivekananda College Tiruvedakam

: Saivagamas The Basis for Siva Temple Worship

**Dr. G. Karthikeyan**,  
Sivagama Professor, Sri Skandaguru  
Vidyalayam, Thiruparankundarm  
Special Advisor, Śaivaśāstrapracārasabhā

: சைவாகமம் காட்டும் யோகநெறி

### VII - R.Subramanya Iyer Session 10.30 - 11.45 am

Chairperson

: **Dr. C. Venkatesan**,  
Assistant Professor, Rajah's College, Thiruvaiyaru.

#### Speakers:

**Dr. J. Krishnamoorthy**  
Priest, Kanchipuram  
Chief Advisor, Śaivaśāstrapracārasabhā

: ஆகம கட்டிடக்கலைக்கும் சிற்ப கட்டிடக்கலைக்கும்  
உள்ள ஒற்றுமைகளும் வேற்றுமைகளும்

**R. Vignesh**,  
Principal,  
Arulgnanalayam, Sivanmalai

: ஆகமம், ஆலயம், ஆன்மா

**S. Gowrishankaran**,  
Research Assistant,  
Centre for Shaiva Studies, Pondicherry

: சைவாகமங்கள் கூறும் கரணலக்ஷணமுறைகள்

**VIII - M. S. Narasimhacharya Session 11.45 - 01.00 pm**

Chairperson

: **Dr. J. Krishnamoorthy,**  
Chief Advisor, Śaivaśāstrapracārasabhā

**Speakers:**

**P. Karthikeyan,**  
Director, Srimad Aghora Sivacharyar  
Vidyapeetham, Ganapathy Agraharam

: ஆகம - வைதிக தந்த்ரசாஸ்த்ரங்களில் பவித்ரவிதி

**V. Narendran Alias Nisari &**  
Research Assistant, CSS, Pondicherry

: சிவாகமங்கள் கூறும் சக்தி

**M. Arulnandhi,**  
Research Assistant, IFP, Pondicherry

**B. Aravind Kumar,**  
Research Assistant,  
Centre for Shaiva Studies, Pondicherry

: ஆகமங்களும் நித்யபூஜையும்

**IX - Helene Brunner-Lachaux Session 02.00 - 03.00 pm**

Chairperson

: **Dr. R. Satyanarayanan,**  
Researcher, EFEO, Pondicherry

**Speakers:**

**Dr. G. Suresh,**  
Asst. Prof. in Sanskrit Sahitya,  
The Madras Sanskrit College, Chennai

: Pati-Pashu-Paasha vishaya vivechanam

**K. Subramaniyan,**  
Research Scholar,  
Kamarajar University, Madurai

: ஆலயகட்டிட அமைப்பிற்கு அடிப்படை மூலம்  
சிவாகமங்ளே

**Sri Sambandha Sivacharyar Memorial Session  
03.00 - 04.15 pm**

Chairperson

: **Dr.V.Abhiramasundaram,**  
Director, Sri Sri Veda Agama Research Institute, Bengaluru

In the presence of

: **S. Anandavardhan**  
Associated Researcher, IFP, Pondicherry  
(Son of Sri Sambhandha Sivacharyar)

**Special Lecturers:**

**Dr. Sarveswara Iyer Padmanaban**  
Dean, Faculty of Hindu Studies,  
University of Jaffna

: இலங்கை (யாழ்ப்பாணம்) சிவாலயங்களில் நடைபெறும்  
முக்கிய உற்சவங்களும் சிறப்பு வழிபாடுகளும்

**M.N. Kalyanasundaram,**  
Director, Vedaagama Academy, London

: ஆலயங்களில் ஆன்மாக்களை செம்மையாக்கும்  
அற்புத மந்திரங்கள்

**Valedictory Session**

04.30 - 05.30 pm

- Welcome Address : **Sivasri K. Thirukkumaran Sivam**,  
Associate Researcher, IFP & Research Asst., CSS, Pondicherry.
- In the presence of : **Dr. Sarveswara Iyer Padmanaban**  
Dean, Faculty of Hindu Studies, University of Jaffna
- Summarizing the Conference : **Dr. G. Karthikeya Sivam**,  
Sivagama Professor,  
Sri Skandaguru Vidyalayam, Thirupparankundram  
Special Advisor, Śaivaśāstrapracārasabhā
- Guest of Honour : The 27<sup>th</sup> Gurumaha Sannidhanam  
**Sri-la-Sri Kayilai Masilamanidesiga Gnanasambanda  
Paramachariya Swamigal**,  
Dharmapuram Adheenam, Dharmapuram, Mayiladuturai.
- Vote of Thanks : **Sivasri K. Sivananda Sivam**,  
Founder, Saivasastrapracarasabha, Thiruvannamalai

\* Tea Break: 10.15-10.30am & 04.15-04.30pm Lunch:01.00-02.00pm