

EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON TAMIL EPIGRAPHY

Tamil Nadu, India, 11 – 22 July 2011

We are pleased to announce our Eighth 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.

Please note that the workshop will be held in Pondicherry and in Tanjavur in Tamil Nadu, India. The workshop will lay more attention on field works and practical trainings: estampage making, preservation, reading in situ, and palaeography. Invited scholars and epigraphists will share their work in a series of afternoon lectures on topics related to Tamil and South Indian studies.

Course coordinators: Appasamy Murugaiyan (Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes-UMR 7528 Mondes Iranien et Indien) and K. RAJAN (Pondicherry University).

AGENDA:

Classes will be held from Monday 11 till Friday 22 July, morning 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. (Lunch break) and afternoon 2.00 to 4.00 p.m. The workshop is divided into two sessions: beginner (11 to 15 July) and intermediate/advanced (18 to 22 July). Participants may sign up for either one or both sessions. During the first week, introductory courses are planned for two days, 5th and 6th July. After the introductory courses, the participants will be engaged in practical training and fieldwork.

Course programme: This intensive workshop is designed in order to enable researchers to have direct access to the epigraphic sources. 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
- Religious, historical and social issues raised in various types of inscriptions
- Linguistic features of different types of inscriptions
- Philological study of personal names

REGISTRATION:

No registration fees are required, but each participant has to bear the cost of practical works and travelling to different sites. Interested scholars need to register before 15th June 2011. For registration and information, please contact: A. Murugaiyan at: a.murugaiyan@wanadoo.fr