Department of Modern Indian Languages and Literary Studies
University of Delhi, Delhi

With the collaboration of the
Department of Tamil
Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvarur

is to conduct a 14 days International Online Workshop on
“Theories and Literature: Understanding in Tamil Milieu”
during
Apply and Register before 5th November, 2020.
Registration: https://forms.gle/6v2tnxYSHDUgKVsQ6

Objective:
The objective of the workshop is to train and reorient the students, scholars and teachers of Tamil Studies to the contemporary literary theories and their functions in global context. As Tamil is one of the ancient language and literary archive it has a corpus of literary theories and concepts to interpret, investigate and inquire the literary works in diachronic order from ancient to modern, and it has become a part of global system. Tamil has been a Heterogeneous language and culture from the time of textual advent to our time of Polysystem, it still maintains a continuous interaction with Sanskrit, Prakrit, and Pali to produce the literary and philosophical narratives, now it has a live relation with major languages of the world through translations.

We cannot find any other language of India except Sanskrit with a set of texts and treatises on the Orthodox-Heterodox, Theism-Atheism, Vedico-Non-Vedico, Conformist-counter culture in a synchronic domain. It is a fact that the first printed book in Indian Languages occurred in Tamil (1578), also a fact to remember is, the first book on Structuralism in Indian Languages has been written in Tamil by a professor, creative writer and theorist of Tamil. The discussions and debates on Poststructuralism, Postmodernism, Feminism, Postcolonialism, and Dalit Philosophy have been brimming in Tamil during the globalization and its aftermaths among the literary community in Tamil.

It is also a fact that the Tamil Academia unlike other languages has been maintaining a distance and silence on the contemporary issues of Literary Theories and epistemology. It is the time to fine tune the Tamil Academic milieu with these global critical thoughts and theoretical tools with an enthusiasm of progression and renewal of tradition along with an enlightenment of pandemic onslaught, which says that life on the earth is not an isolated and sectarian process. Now we have to interact with the contemporary writings and theories of the world of various languages, cultures and poity with a reliance on science, and science as the religion of our time. This workshop in a short span will give initial acquaintances to the participants with the major theories and theorist of our time, and update the global happening to the Tamil studies.

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