



உலகத்தமிழ் ஆராய்ச்சி மன்றம்
International Association of Tamil Research – IATR
(Registered in India as World Tamil Research Association- WTRA)
(CIN: U80300TN2016NPL110744)

September 15, 2022

CENTRAL COUNCIL

PRESIDENT

Sir Dr.M. Ponnaivaikko
Former Vice-Chancellor of
Bharathidasan University,
SRM University,
Bharath University and
Tamil Virtual University

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Dr.E.Sundaramoorthy, India
Dr.Francis S. Muthu, USA
Mr.Siva Pillai, UK

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Dr.A.Shanmugas, Sri Lanka

TREASURER

Mr.Paul Pandian, USA
Mr.Arthanareeswaran, India

CO-ORDINATOR

Dr.P.Marudanayagam (India)

Officials and Executive Committee of
The International Association of Tamil Research

The International Association of Tamil Research (IATR) was founded by the internationally known Tamil scholar, late Rev. Xavier S. Thani Nayagam, in 1964 in New Delhi, along with Dr. Jean Filiozat (France), Dr. Kamil V. Svelebil (Czechoslovakia), Dr. R. E. Asher (Scotland), Dr.T. Burrow and Dr. M. B. Emeneau (England), Dr. T. P. Meenakshisundaram and Dr. V.I. Subramaniam (India) including other Tamil scholars from Europe and India who participated in the World Congress of Orientalists. IATR is a non-political and not-for-profit organization. Its main goal is “to promote multi-disciplinary research on scientific lines in all aspects of Dravidian studies in general, and of Tamil studies in particular, and in allied fields with the active collaboration of international organizations and scholars interested in such studies.”

On June 3, 2016, to meet the legal requirements for registration and managing a bank account in India, the IATR organization was formally incorporated as “The World Tamil Research Association,” by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India with CIN U80300TN2016NPL110744.

Besides, the functioning of IATR is governed by a Constitution that was last amended at its General Body Meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on the 17th of November 1987. According to this Constitution, the Executive Committee of IATR will consist of IATR officials who are residents of India with responsibilities of managing the day-to-day affairs of IATR and which also states that this Executive Committee only can approve and sponsor Conferences of IATR. On this line, IATR has so far conducted 10 International Conference-Seminar on Tamil Studies (“Conference”) beginning with its first Conference in Kuala Lumpur in 1966 to its 10th Conference in Chicago in 2019.

During the 10th Conference, new officials for IATR were elected at its General Body Meeting.

That General Body Meeting, held in Chicago was chaired and conducted by the then President of IATR, *TanSri* Dr. Marimuthu. In that meeting, Dr. Marimuthu called for and presided over the election of new officials for IATR. The following officials were unanimously elected in that election; Dr. M. Ponnaivaikko as President, Dr. E. Sundaramoorthy as Vice-President, Dr. Ulaganayagi Palani as General Secretary, and Dr. P. Marudanayagam as Coordinator along with other officials for international representation. Dr. Marimuthu as chair and presiding officer, declared and congratulated the new officials of IATR.

This time the IATR International President, Dr. Ponnaivaikko, happens to be a resident of India and hence is also the President of the current Executive Committee.

This Executive committee under the rights given to it by the Constitution of IATR has approved sponsoring the next Conference, the 11th International Conference-Seminar on Tamil Studies to be held in Singapore in June 2023.

This Executive Committee also oversaw the compilation and release of volume one of the Proceedings of the 10th Conference held in Chicago at an event organized in Chennai in July 2022.

This Executive Committee sponsored the first IATR National Seminar on Antiquity of Tamils at Loyola College, Chennai in February 2020.

The above information is provided to clarify the facts about the election of Office Bearers and the Executive Committee of IATR.



'Pulavar', Dr. Francis S. Muthu

Vice-President, IATR,

President, IATR- USA Branch.

Chair, Academic Committee, 10th IATR Conference, Chicago 2019