

Workshop on “Ancient Tamil Melodic Harmonies in the Hymns of Devaram’

Date: 27th, 28th, 29th August, 2019

Venue: Bharathiyar Palkalaikoodam, Govt. of Puducherry, Puducherry

Concept note

Devaram, a 1300 year old ancient Tamil melodic Hymnology, is one of the fore most Anthology of Devotional Hymns on “Lord Siva” and Goddess “Sivai”, sung by the pre- eminent Saivaite saint poets namely “Thirunavukkarasar, Thirugnanasambandar and Sundaramurthy Nayanar has been acclaimed as one of the most sung the Divine panegyrics on the graces and feats of the Lord Siva and Goddess Sivai.

Devaram denotes the first seven volumes of the Tirumurai, a twelve-volume collection of Śaiva devotional poetry. All seven volumes are sung by the most pious prominent Saivite Tamil saint poets of the 6th and 7th century. The traditional singing of Devaram continues even today very devotedly in almost all the time glorified temples of lord Siva.

However, it seems nowadays that very practice of singing traditional hymns of Devaram seems to be getting dispelled into the oblivion of past history. Hence it is deemed to be very much essential and indefatigable to revive the time honored and time glorified singing of the divine Hymns of Devaram which will be certainly give an enamored touch to the divine sources of spirituality.

This workshop focuses on the packed with “Panns” which are the very ancient forms of Tamil musicology. By this workshop it is intended to invite the doyen of Traditional Music, Shri Shanmugam Thiruvarangayayathi and the popular Traditional Musician Shri Thanigachalam. Shri Shanmugam Thiruvangayayathi is recipient of several Accolades and title Awards from both the Govt. and Private Academies music of his Musical performative caliber; had to his account released many Audio CDs of songs from the hymns of devotional Devaram and Panniru Thirumurai Hymnology. Shri Thanigachalam is a Research Scholar who performs Devaram for more than 3 generations and he is very much specialized in Violin play as well as well- versed in singing Devaram songs. By our regional centre conducting this 3 days workshop, it is hoped that it will enhance the allurements as well as enrich the specialty of the workshop and it will be ever a beading beacon for the academic scholars. This specific selection would enrich the Standard of the workshop and the Academic arena as well.

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