உ

சிவமயம்

மொரீசியசு தமிழ்க் கோவில்கள் கூட்டிணைப்பு

MAURITIUS TAMIL TEMPLES FEDERATION

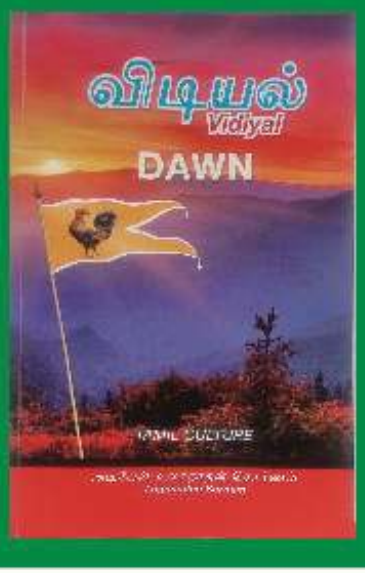
மின் செய்தி மடல் - E -News Letter

தமிழ் மாலை - TAMIZH MAALAI

ஒளி
OLI
Lumière
Vol 3
Apr 2023



Launching of Book



Tearful Tribute



Sittiraa/Chitraa Powrnami



LE KODI MARAM



Thamizh Putthaandu Celebration



THE VĒL



Sittiraip Powrnami



Recipe: Saambaar



கடவுள் வாழ்த்து

திருப்புகழ்



கடவுள் வாழ்த்து

வாக்குண்டாம் நல்ல மனமுண்டாம் மாமலராள்
நோக்குண்டாம் மேனி நுடங்காது – பூக்காண்டு
துப்பார் திருமனேித் தும்பிக்கை யான்பாதம்
தப்பாமற் சார்வாற் தமக்கு.

vâkkouNDâm nalla manam ouNDâm mâmalarâL
nôkkouNDâm méninouDangâdou poûkkoNDou
touppaar tirouméni toumbikkèi yân pâdam
tappâmal sârvâr tamakkou

Invocation

Ceux qui adorent avec des fleurs aux pieds Saints de
Celui avec un beau corps et un tronc d'éléphant (Vinâyagar)
aura le don de la langue, un esprit alerte,
la grâce de la Déesse de la richesse et une vie saine.



Photo Souvenir - Thamizh Puthaandu celebration 2023

Message from the President
Mauritius Tamil Temple Federation

இதனை இதனால் இவன் முடிக்கும்
அதனை அவன்கட் விடல் - திருக்குறள்
Entrust the work to a man after assuring yourself
that he will discharge the duty in this manner (Thirukkural – 517)

Vanakkam brothers and sisters!
It is again with immense pleasure and pride that I am writing this message on behalf of the Mauritius Tamil Temples Federation (MTTF) to you.

The third e-newsletter will be released again on the 28 of April 2023 with some improvements and more substance. As you are aware, our community lost a great personality in the name of Swami Balasupramania Nadaraja Iyer Sarma who left us a few days before Puttaandu, our Tamil New Year 2023-2024. Our e-newsletter rightly pays tribute to such an inspiring legend for his achievements and outstanding contributions in the religious field. We seize this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude, admiration and utmost respect to him and associate ourselves with his beloved family in this great loss.

The e-news speaks about the future and upcoming events as well as some recent activities. It covers a few of the activities related to the celebration of Tamizh Puttaandu from National Level to regional level. There were very interesting cultural activities from the North organised by Northern Tamil Federation to Chemin Grenier and Chamouny in the South without forgetting the outstanding success of the Quatre Bornes Tamil Federation in its cultural program where we were able to discover new talents in an absolutely amazing choregraphy.

Our third bulletin also goes through the general prediction of the Mangalam (Sobagiruthu) Aandu and gives an overview of our panjaangam for the coming year which augurs a favorable and promising year.

On the 26th of April 2023, the fasting for the Sittirai Powrnami Kaavadi started with the Kodi Ettram and we are having a nice and very informative explanation on the Kodimaram.

We are also having a preview of an interesting book on Tamil Culture untitled 'DAWN' by a welknown great contributor to our Tamil Language and Culture, Thiru Loganaden Sornum (Mamē Siven) . We seize this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude to him and wish him more success in all his endeavors.

Our first e-newsletter was released as promised on the 28th February 2023. I am very proud to say that despite our limited resources in terms of contribution from other sources, the newsletter was of a satisfactory standard and witnessed an outstanding appreciations be it locally and internationally. Encouraging messages continue to flow to us and we shall leave no stone unturned to further improve our presentation and provide quality articles and information to our readers.

In my speech on the day of Puttaandu, I insisted on various issues in front of our Hon. Prime Minister, starting from the land which the Government took from the MTCCT and to relocate same at La Vigie Wooton. Of course we are not satisfied with the new location and is still negotiating with the Authority and wish to see light soon. We also insisted on all our issues on the Education side and are pursuing our discussions further. We also insist to gain the respect that we deserve as a matter of right and to have our legitimate shares in all spheres of life.

I have no doubt that we are on the right track and do express our unflinching support to all contributors of this edition for their dedication and commitment towards the community. I renew my appeal to other brothers and sisters of the Tamil Community to voluntarily come forward and give a helping hand to the "Tamizh Maalai" in the next edition. This e-newsletter is yours and you should take pride of it and enjoy it to the maximum. You can submit your articles either in Tamil or English as well as French to the editorial team through the MTTF email address and we shall consider them for publication. I insist and repeat that this is our platform, hope we make good use of it in a constructive manner.

I also renew my best wishes for a happy and prosperous new year. INIYA TAMIZH PUTTAANDU NALVAZHTUKKAL, a very pious viradam and a successful and divine participation in the Sittirai Powrnami Kaavadi.
Long live our Tamil Community in Unity.
NanRi

The President
Coomarah Chengan (Ganessen)

கண்ணீர் அஞ்சலி - Tearful Tribute



It is with deep sorrow we have learnt of the sudden demise of Swami Balasupramania N. Iyer Sarma on the 02nd of April 2023 at the age of 75.

The MTTF presents its heartfelt condelences to his bereived family and pray Sivaperumaan for the smooth transmigration of his soul.

போற்றி ஓம் நமசிவாய !
Pôttri ôm namasivaayaa!



Courtesy:HMJS

Sivaachaariyar Balasupramania Nadaraja Iyer Sarma came to Mauritius under the recommendation of the Sri Lankan government in 1980 to serve at Arulmigou Sockalingum Meenatchee Ammen Tirukkovil, under the aegis of the Hindu Maha Jana Sangham. He officiated as Head Priest for 28 years, during which he stood as a strong pillar of support to the HMJS. During his tenure in office, he propagated the Thevaram and Thirupugazh and also established prayers like Shivaratree, Pownami, Kartigai, Sadhurthi and Sashthi on a regular basis at Kaylassam Kovil and guided other kovils likewise.

Among his precious contributions, we note his participation in a weekly radio programme to sensitize baktens about Saiva Samayam, his advocacy to stop animal sacrifice in kovils and the establishment of the very first Panchangam for Mauritius.

He has also represented the HMJS in several meetings of religious bodies and in official functions at the national level.

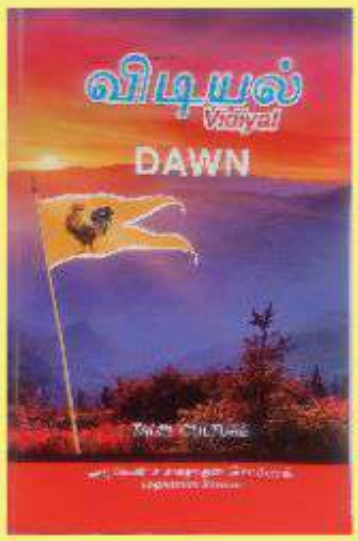
Upon requests from other kovils, he performed numerous Mahakumbhabhishegam prayers. In addition, he was much sought after to conduct prayers and gave his blessings to countless wedding, anniversary and baby naming ceremonies.

In 2001, he made the HMJS proud by fully supporting and implementing the beautiful and unique Rajagopuram Project at Kaylassam Kovil.

He retired from HMJS in 2008 at the age of 60 but remained a beacon of light guiding the Sangham administration thereon.

LAUNCHING OF BOOK

The members of Arivagam and Arulagam organised a launching book ceremony of the book entitled 'விடியல்' (DAWN) written by Guru Loganaden Sornum, on Saturday 8th of April 2023 at the seat of Tamil League.



The MTTF would like to congratulate the organisers and the author for this wonderful book which will be very useful for the Tamil community.

விடியல் - Dawn is a divine call which has always been there to demystify Tamil Culture and to foster a broader understanding of its rituals, customs and traditions.

Friends of Arivagam and Arulagam have been a constant source of overflowing inspiration for the Master. This has created the opportunity to feel the divine through the veil of the uncommon conversations.

It's an ongoing and exciting endless divine experience.

You are most welcome to join this endless conversation. Your participation in the next volume is most welcome.



Courtesy: Arulagam

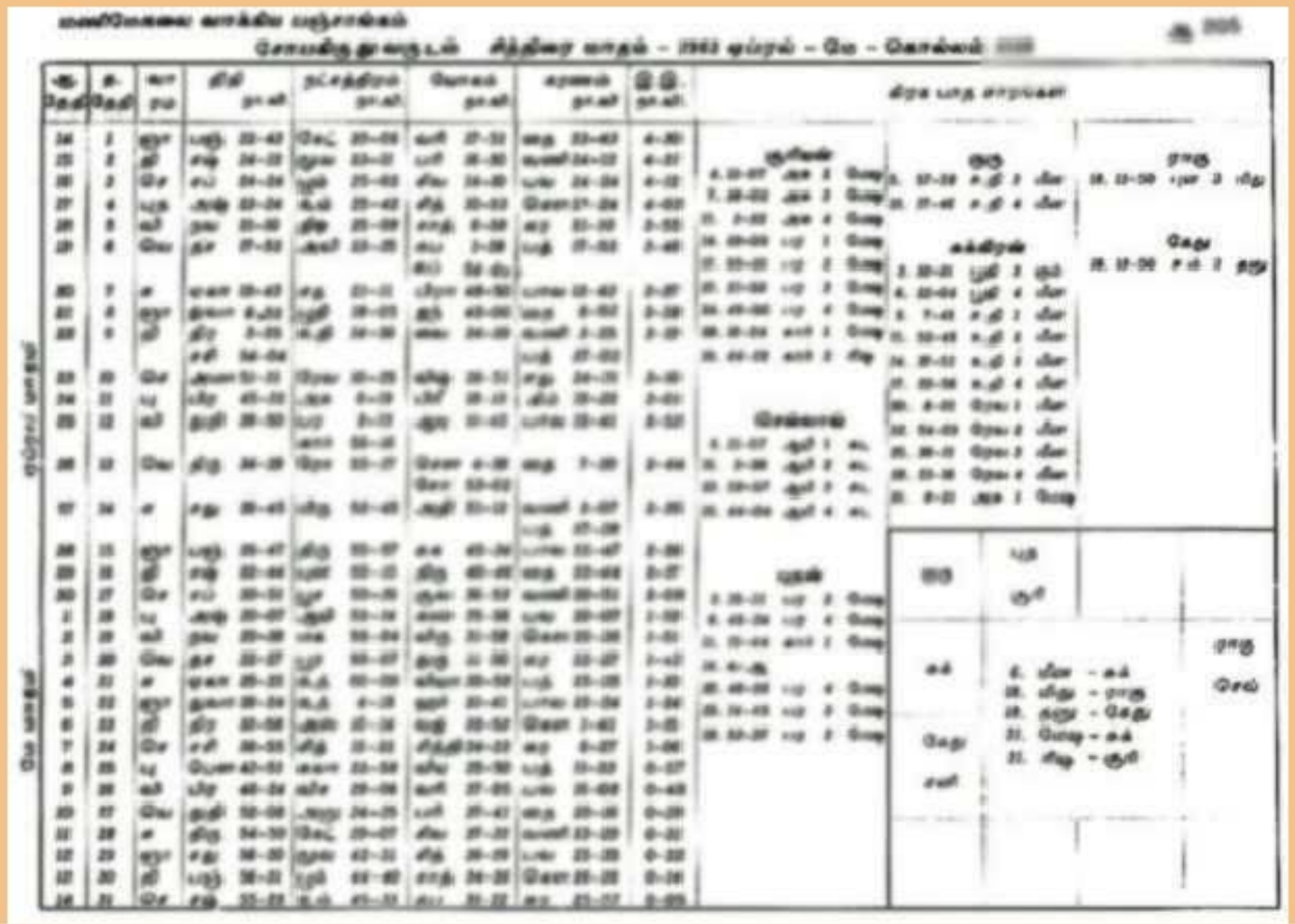
Tamijp Pouttaandou Sôbagiroudou

Nous les Tamijens, nous avons fêté notre PouttâNDou (Nouvel An) le vendredi , 14 avril 2023, le premier jour du mois Sittirèi. Le nom de cette année est Sôbagiroudou AaNDou. Sôba veut dire auspicieux et Giroudou bonne action. Selon notre Panjaangam cette année est le 37ème année du cycle de soixante ans.
En résumé nous allons voir la prédiction du Panjaangam de cette année.

சோபகிருது வருட பலன்

சோப கிருதுதன்னிற் றொல்லுலகெல் லாஞ்செழிக்குங்
கோப மகன்று குணம்பெருகுஞ் - சோபனங்கள்
உண்டாகு மாரி பொழியாமற் பெய்யுமெல்லாம்
உண்டாகு மென்றே யுரை
(இடைக்காடர்)

Dans cette année toutes les vieilles villes du monde seront distinguées et prospères. Il y aura bonne chance partout. Les mauvais traits, comme la colère, la jalousie, la rivalté, et la competion entre les gens seront supprimés. Tous les peuples du monde vivront en paix et en harmonie. Il n'y aura pas des conflits entre eux. Les bonnes qualités prevalent. Les évenements de bon augure auront lieu. La pluie ne cessera pas a pleuvoir. Les gens vont obtenir tous les avantages et vivront bien.



Thamizh Putthaandu Celebration

To mark the celebration of the Tamizh Puttaandu (Tamil New Year) Mangalam/ Sōbagiruthu Aandu the MTTF, THE MTCCT and the TSU organised a Cultural Show at the MGI auditorium, Moka on Friday 14 April 2023 at 4 pm. The Hon Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius was the Chief Guest, Ministers, M.L.As, eminent personalities representatives of affiliated Kovils, members of the Tamil Community were present.

The Cultural program started with Tamizh Taay Vaazhtthu and followed by welcome address by Thiru Pallany Narayanam, Secretary of the MTTF.

The lighting of kuttuvilakku was performed by Hon Mrs Leela Devi Dookun Luchoomun, Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology, Mrs Rubina Chengan and Mrs Lavishka Narrainen

Speeches were delivered by the President of the MTTF, Thiru Coomarah Chengan and the Hon Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius

Awarding ceremony

Shields were offered to laureates and to the best students for their outstanding performances in HSC examinations 2019,2021 and 2022.

There were two cultural performances by artists from the MTCCT.

Celebrating South Indian Music was title of the dance items performed by artists from the following regions:

1. Port Louis
2. Riviere du Rempart
3. Beau Bassin – Rose – Hill
4. Quatre Bornes
5. Flacq
6. Curepipe
7. Moka
8. Grand Port
9. Pamplemousses
10. Savanne









The program ended with a vote of appreciation by Thiru Darsen Gangadoo, PRO of the MTTF.

A dinner was offered to all the invitees by the MTTF.

Full album of the Puthaandu show can be viewed on the following link:

Thamizh Puttaandu 2023

THAMIZH PUTHAANDU CELEBRATION AROUND THE ISLAND

Comme à son habitude, la Quatre Bornes Tamil Fédération a fêté avec grande ferveur l'arrivée de l'An Mangalam (Sobakiruthu). La troupe comprenant d'à peu près 150 participants, tous élèves à l'école de musique de la QBTF, ont livré un merveilleux spectacle dans la soirée du samedi 15 avril 2023. En collaboration avec la municipalité de Quatre Bornes, ils se sont présentés devant un peu plus d'un millier de personnes. Nous vous invitons à vivre la soirée en image.













Courtesy: Quatre Bornes Tamil Federation

THAMIZH PUTHAANDU CELEBRATION AROUND THE ISLAND

Northern Tamil regrouping all kovils in the district of Riviere du Rempart and Pamplemousses organised their annual 8 aside interkovil football tournament in collaboration with the MTTF at Petit Raffray Football playground on 26 march 2023.
22 teams (different kovils) participated.

Winner: Beau Plan S.E Draupadee Ammen Siva Soopramanian Tamil Sangham
1st Runner up place: Belle Vue Harel Murugan Udaya Kovil
2nd Runner up : Belle Vue Maurel Bala Soopramanien Temple Society
4th place : Veeramali Ammen Kovil

On 14th April 2023 the Northern Tamil in collaboration with MTTF, Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage and Onex Entertainment organized a Cultural Show on the occasion of the Tamizh Puthandu at the Mont Choisy Public Beach. A rally from Goodlands which went through different localities in the converged to the Mont Choisy Public Beach. Another Rally organised by the Onex Fm Entertainment started from Port Louis which stopped at the Silambou and Tamil Eelam monuments at Plaza, Anjalay Coopen statue, Renganaden Seeneevassen Statue and Sir Veerasamy Ringadoo in Port Louis before arriving at the Mont Choisy Public Beach.

The Show started at 13.30 hrs with various local artists such as Velex Muzika, Yen Kanamma Crew, Yogenda. Sawmynaden, Astrinee Rungien and others. There were folk dance by children of the North.













Courtesy: Northern Tamil

THAMIZH PUTHAANDU CELEBRATION AROUND THE ISLAND







On the 15th April 2023 the Chemin Grenier Mariamen Kovil Tamize Kazagam celebrated Magalam Andou. On this special occasion students of the malai palli and members of the ladies' association performed a variety of poems, cultural songs and dance on stage. Prizes were offered to those who participated in the various activities organised by the association during the year.

The celebration was especially marked by an award ceremony. Elders who have contributed to the advancement of the Tamil community at the level of the association were given trophies and a special word of thanks for their devotion to the Chemin Grenier Mariamen Kovil Tamize Kazagam. These elders are:
Thirumadi Deenamunee Varathen
Thirumadi Vimala Marudamuthu
Thirumadi Lutchmee Goinden Goundan
Thiru Tevassen Curpanen (Naden)
Thiru Goorooswami Pillay Ramasamy (Ane Naden)
Thiru Chocalingum Ersapah (Ané Choco)

The celebration ended with some musical items and a dinner offered to all people present.

When Tamil League Meets the Tamil Diaspora

TamizhAndu Pirappu is an auspicious occasion for Tamilians living in Tamil Diasporic countries around the world to celebrate and to connect with their parents, families. Relatives and friends. It is a time for sharing, and for rejoicing. Therefore, on the occasion of Tamij PutthaanDu, Tamil League organised a gathering with our fellow brothers and sisters of Tamil origin working in Mauritius. The event took place on Saturday, 15 April 2023 and the objective was to foster the relationship between Tamil League and the Tamil diaspora and at the same time creating a network to reinforce the Tamil Identity, Tamil Language and Tamil Culture.

For this first initiative, some 30 Tamil families coming from Tamil Nadu, Malaysia and South Africa attended the gathering. In his speech the President of Tamil League, Thiru Barlen Soobramanien, encouraged the Tamil diaspora to make use of the facilities available at the Tamil League and to participate in the activities organised by Tamil League through out the year. A WhatsApp's group will be created to ensure regular communication between Tamil League and the Tamil diaspora. He also promised to make the event an annual one.

All the invitees were given the floor to introduce and express themselves in a very brotherhood atmosphere. We have been graced by a great performance of Ms Devipriya, the daughter of one of the invitees, who performed two Bharatanaatyam dances on that day. The event went on in a good vibe and ended with a karaoke.

The feedback received from the families present on that day were very encouraging, we are reproducing two messages as a testimony of the success of the gathering.

"..this message is written by my hand because it is not possible for my heart to hold a pen. I am greatly pleased from my heart for taking part in Tamil League gathering. Thank you so much for arranging such a great meet up. So lucky to have a such great friends." Nithyanand.

"..thank you for inviting us to the Tamil League function, it was well organised. We would definitely like to join and support the Tamil League.." Jayasankar.

Tamil League would like to thank all those who were present and also the MTTF for giving us the opportunity to publish an article on its newsletter.







Courtesy: Tamil League

Sittiraa/Chitraa Powrnami



Sittiraap Powrnami or Sittraap Paruvam is the period in which the moon stands with Sittirai Natchattiram (Star). At that time the earth is in the sign of Aries. The moon is associated with Sittirai Natchattiram and stands in the pictorial sign of Libra. Since Libra is the seventh house from Aries on that day, the moon standing in the seventh house to the earth gains full strength and combines the entire ray of both the moon and with the ray of light of the Sittirai star gives light to the earth. Then Sittraap Powrnami is considered as a special day.

Both, Powrnami fast and Amaavasai fast are fasting for our ancestors. Mathurukaaragan and Bidurkaaragan refer to the moon and the sun respectively. Powrnami Viratham is a fast observed for mother.

Sittirai and Aippasi Powrnami are very special. It is the belief of our ancestors that if fast is observed and thirthamaathi rites are performed during Sittiraap Powrnami, they will achieve happiness.

This day is also associated with Chitraguptan (also known as Chitraputra Naayanaar), an accountant of Yeman, the God of death. Chitraguptan is a collector of secret images This Chitraguptan is the one who records our sins and virtues. 'Guptam ' means secret, Chitraguptan is the collector of secret

images . What are the secret pictures that this Chitragupta collects? It is believed that our words, actions and thoughts are recorded as images in the Univers. It seems that this space account is called Sindratiguptan's account.

In the story written by the poet Pugazhenthi, it is mentioned that Chitragupta Naayanaar had been born in the womb of Kaamathenu on the day of Chitraap Paruvam. This story is still read in temples and alms are also given to poor people. As a reminder of this connection, Kanchipuram also has a separate Temple dedicated to Chitraguptan. In one hand of the Principal Deity and the Festival Deity (urtchava moortthi) there is a stylus and in the other hands there is a leaf. These two forms show that the the account will be recorded when it would be ready. It can be said that this story has been set up according to his name.

In another story about the the birth of Chitraguptan it is said that Umadevi drew an image on the earth and from it Chitraguptan emerged. It can be accepted that this story is an appropriate one . It is also said that Chitraguptan appeared on the full moon day from the body of Brahman, who was undergoing penance, hence he got the name Chitraguptan.

It is written in the Chitraguptan Temple at Kaanchipuram that Chitraguptan is the deity of Kehtu, one of the nine planets, and those suffering from some specific illnesses should worship Chitraguptan.

It is said that it was the day when God measured the world with His holy Feet. Devotees prepared pongal in their houses during the day and Chitraputra Naayanaar is worshiped at night. It is customary to worship Chitraputra Naayanaar at night with each one of the available crops and the card on which Chitraputra Naayanaar wrote the story.

Thus, on the fast day of the month of Sittirai in the full moon day those who observe a fast towards honest people they will have a long an excellent life like Indiran They will get the blessings of Sivaperumaan and no harm will occur. There will be good richnesses daily (The story of Chitraputra Naayanaar.)(Those who observe this fast can get the opportunity to live a good and wealthy life. They will be lucky in their endeavours and they can

get a heavenly life with the blessings of Sivaperumaan).

It is said that the Indira festival which was held initially to satisfy Indiran was later celebrated as Chitraap Powrnami. After the period of Silappathigaaram, the famous Indira vizhaa disappeared and it seems that the place has been taken by the Chitraap Powrnami.

Due to the anger of the Master of the Devas, Lord Jupiter (Pragaspati), Devendiran commits many sins due to lack of proper advice from his Guru. When Devendiran was visiting all the holy places in the world in search of a remedy for the sins committed, he saw a Sivalingam at one place. As soon as he reached there, he felt as if all his sins flew away and he became a Saint. He built a beautiful Temple in that place. He worshiped the God with the beautiful golden lotus flowers that had blossomed in the nearby pond. That place later became Madurai and it was on a Chitraap Powrnami day. It is believed that every year on the full moon night in the month of Sittirai, Indiran comes and worships God.

Malayatthuvasa Pandian's daughter was born and brought up as Umaiyammai . After Her father, She was crowned. Then She became the ruler of the Pandian country. Once She set out to conquer the eight directions of the country. At that very time the kings and the eight Paalagargas from the eight directions bowed down and prayed Her.

Only when She finally reached Kylaayam, She failed; She felt bashful and bowed before Kylaasapathi. It was on the day of Chitraap Powrnami that She got married to God Kylaasapathi known as Sockanaathar . This marriage ceremony is still held in Madurai as Chittirai festival.

In Peroor Puraanam it is written that on the day of Chitraap Powrnami, the one who anoints Sivaperumaan with oil and other anointing objects, adores Him with ornaments and serves many kinds of annadaanam to peaple will receive the blessings of Sivaperumaan and will get rid of all the evils.

It is also said that seven of the 66 crores of Theerthas (water sources in sacred places) in Tiruppati Tirumalai are very special. In a Puraanam it is clearly mentioned that on Chitraap Powrnami day all the seven Theerthas converge in the Aagaasa Gangai, one of the seven Theerthas which is very special.

SITTIRAIP POWRNAMI KAAVADI

Sittiraip Powrnami Kaavadi is one among the Kaavadi festivals celebrated annually in Sittirai, the first Tamil month (April-May) when Sittirai Natchattiram coincides with Powrnami Tithi. On that day carrying Kaavadi to God Murugan has been a tradition in Ettukkudi in Tamil Nadu. In Mauritius the first Sittiraap Paruvamk Kaavadi was organised in 1941 by the members of Quatre Bornes Arulmigu Siva Soopramanian Thirukkovil, known as Malai Kovil followed by Clemencia Arulmigu Dandaayuthabaani Thirukkovil and other Kovils.

This year Sittiraip pownami Kaavadi Festival will be celebrated on the 5th of May in the following Kovils :

Beau Bassin/Rose-Hill

1. Tamil Samudaya Vriddhi Sangham
   11, Gladstone Street, Rose Hill.
2. Maha Vishnu Ootroomaye Tamil Sangham
   39, Royal Road, Beau Bassin.
3. Mont Roches Murugan Malaye Kovil Sangham
   Swami M.Chedumbrum St, Mont Roches.

Quatre Bornes

4. Hindoo Tamulall Siva Soopramanien Benevolent Society
   R.Seeneevassen Avenue, La Source, Quatre Bornes.

Vacoas/Phoenix

5. Cinq Arpents Mariamen Veelayam Tamil Sangham
   Cinq Arpents, Phoenix.
6. Mauritius Hindu Tamizurgal Siva Soopramaniar Temple Benevolent Society
   Avenue John Kennedy, Vacoas.

Moka

7. Reduit Mariamen Ottrumaye Sangham
   Avenue Soobiah, Reduit.
8. Siva Mourougen Kovil
   Vuillemin.

Port Louis

9. Arulmigu Sockalingum Meenatchee Ammen Tirukkovil
   Sockalingum Meenatchee Ammen Kovil
   Street, Port Louis.
10. Valley Pitot Tamil Cultural Circle Chateau D'Eau Street, Colline Moneron,Tranquebar, Port Louis.
11. Pailles Kaliammen Kovil

Pamplemousses

12. Solitude Mariamen Temple Society
    Royal Road, Solitude, Triolet.
13. Siva Soopramaniar Darooma Sangham
    Ruisseau Rose, Long Mountain.
14. Belle Vue Harel Murugan Udaya Kovil
    Belle Vue Harel Sugar Estate

Rivière du Rempart

15. Arul Migou Murugen Kovil.
    Saint Antoine S. E, Goodlands
16. Belle Vue Maurel Bala Soopramanien Temple Society
    Temple Road, Amaury, Belle Vue Maurel.
17. Draupadee Ammen Kovil
    Pavillon, Cap Malheureux.
18. Poudre D'Or Village Tamil Circle
    Royal road, Poudre D'Or Village.
19. Cottage Sagordagul Sungum,
    Cottage

Flacq

20. Seeva Soopramaniar Tamil Dharma Sangham
    Royal Road, St Julien D'Hotman.
21. Riche Mare Tamil Dharma Sangham
    Riche Mare, Central Flacq.
22. Siva Soopramaniar Temple Society
    Choisy Road, Plaine des Roches, Poste de Flacq.
23. Arulmigu Dandayoudathabani Swami Kovil
    Clemencia.

Grand Port

24. Nouvelle France Tayenaye Kovil Koortam
    Grand Port Road, Nouvelle France.
25. L'Escalier Mariamen Kovil Megnana Sangam
    Royal Road, L'Escalier
26. Ferney Mariamen Tamizal Kovil Sangam
27. New Grove Tamil Dharma Sangham

Savanne

28. Souillac Tamil Association
    Telfair Street, Souillac



கொடி மரம் - LE KODI MARAM (Dhwajastambham)

கோவிலுக்கு அழகு தருவது கொடிமரம். தீய சக்திகளை அகற்றுவதன் பொருட்டும், இறை ஆற்றலை அதிகரித்தல் பொருட்டும், கோயிலையும் பக்தர்களையும் பாதுகாத்தற் பொருட்டும் ஆலயங்களுக்கு முன்பாக கொடிமரம் நிறுவப்படுகிறது.

La beauté du temple est le Kodi maram Des mâts sont installés devant les temples pour éloigner les mauvais esprits, augmenter le pouvoir divin et protéger le temple et ses fidèles.

Le terme Kodi maram est composé de deux mots . 'Kodi ' qui signifie drapeau ou bannière et 'maram' qui se traduit par un poteau, un pilier ou un bâton. Ainsi, le 'Kodi maram ' est un mât de drapeau ou un mât placé juste devant un temple traditionnel du sud de l'Inde et devant des temples Tamouls partout dans le monde .

Kodi maram est traditionnellement fait de pierre ou de bois . Lorsequ'il est en bois, il est souvent recouvert d'un revêtement métallique décoratif, soit en cuivre, en panchalôkam (alliage de cinq métaux) ou en or. Deux autres objets sont généralement regroupés avec le Kodi Maram (Dhwajastambham , à savoir le Vaaganam (véhicule du 'Moûlavar', la divinité qui préside dans le temple) et le 'Bali PîDam' (autel sacrificiel pour les offrandes).

Le Kodi maram dans un temple consacré sert à plusieurs fins, qui peuvent être combinées sous deux thèmes principaux.

1. Il sert à signaler aux dévots et à toute la région qu'un festival de bon augure se tient au temple. Cela sert aussi à sensibiliser tous les fidèles au festival et également à faciliter les engagements de jeûne (chaque fois que le jeûne est lié à des festivals). Au moment du hissage du drapeau 'Kodi éttram', toutes les divinités sont invitées à venir assister au festival et à bénir les fidèles.

2. Mystiquement, le Kodi maram est semblable à une antenne qui sert à canaliser et à diffuser une énergie spirituelle très puissante et chargée qui émane de la divinité principale à l'intérieur du sanctuaire du temple. Le Kodi maram attire l'énergie du 'Vimâna Kalasam' (la pointe de la tour du temple) et la diffuse autour, pour s'étendre loin de la zone du temple. Cela crée un champ de force puissant qui protège, purifie et rajeunit tous les êtres dans le champ.

திருப்புகழ்



பக்தியால் யான் உனைப்
பற்றியே மாதிருப்
முத்தனா மாறனெப்
முத்தியே சேர்வதற்
உத்தமா தானசற்
ஒப்பில்லா மாமணிக்
வித்தகா ஞானசத்
வற்றி வலோயுதப்
பலகாலும்
புகழ்பாடி
பெருவாழ்வின்
கருள்வாயே
குணர்நயோ
கிரிவாசா
திநிபாதா
பெருமாளனே

bakthiyâl yân unnèip
pattriyé mâtiroup
mouttanâ mâRenèip
mouuttthiyé sérvadark
outtamâ dânasar
oppilâ mâmaNi
vittagâ nyâna sat
vettri vélayoudap
palakâloum
pougajpâDi
perouvâjvin
karouLvâyé
gouNarnéyâ
girivâsâ
tinipâdâ
peroumâné

Oh Vélavâ, tenant la lance victorieuse comme Ton arme !
je Te tiens fermement avec la plus grande dévotion dans mon esprit pendant une longue période. Je continue à chanter Ta grande louange afin que Tu me guides pour devenir une âme libérée et m'accorde Ta grâce pour me permettre d'atteindre le salut.
Oh Ami des dévots vertueux ! Oh Joyau incomparable! Oh Dieu, résidant sur la colline de Ratnagiri ! Oh Savant, accordes nous la connaissance spirituelle et Ta grâce divine !



சித்திரைப் பௌர்ணமி காவடித் திருவிழா

திருமுருகன் திருவடி போற்றி!

சித்திரைப் பௌர்ணமிக் காவடித் திருவிழா ஆண்டுதோறும் சித்திரை மாதம், பௌர்ணமி நாளன்று நடைபெறும். முற்காலத்தில் மொரீசியசு தமிழர்கள் வெறும் இரண்டு காவடித் திருவிழாக்களை மட்டும் கொண்டாடினர். அவை தைப் பூசக் காவடியும், சித்திரைக் காவடியும் ஆகும்.

மொரீசியசில் முதன் முறையில் சித்திரைக் காவடித் திருவிழாQuatre Bornes அருள்மிகு சிவ சுப்பிரமண்ணியர் திருக்கோவிலில் கொண்டாடப்பட்டது.. நாளடைவில் நம் நாட்டில் பக்தர்கள் பல்வேறு கோவில்களிலும் சித்திரைப் பௌர்ணமிக் காவடித் திருவிழாவைக் கொண்டாடத் தொடங்கினர்.

இந்த ஆண்டு சித்திரைப் பௌர்ணமிக் காவடி விரதம் எப்ரில் மாதம் 26ஆம் தேதி, புதன்கிழமை அன்று கொடி ஏற்றத்தோடு தொடங்கியது. மே மாதம் 5 ஆம் நாளில் காவடித் திருவிழா கொண்டாடப்படும். முருகபக்தர்கள் பத்து நாட்களாக விரதம் இருந்து, நாள்தோறும் காலையிலும் மாலையிலும் கோவில்களுக்குச் சென்று, பூசைகளில் கலந்துகொண்டு, திருமுருகனை வழி படுவர்..

சித்திரைப் பௌர்ணமிக் காவடி நாளன்று முருகபக்தர்கள் காவாடிகளையும், பால் குடங்களையும் எடுத்து,, கோவில்களுக்குச் செல்வார்கள்.. இவர்கள் கொண்டு வரும் பால், தேன், ,இளநீர் முதலியவற்றையும் முருகனுக்குக் காணிக்கையாகச் செலுத்துவார்கள். இவர்கள்தம் நேர்த்திக் கடன் நிறைவேற்றுவர். அன்று இவர்களும், பக்தர்களும் திருமுருகனின் திருவருளைப் பெறருய்ய வழிபாடு செய்வார்கள்.

வெற்றிவேல் முருகனுக்கு அரோகரா !

THE VĒL



We find the Vēl (spear) in most of the kovils of Murugan. Vēl worship is a predominant form of worship. Rather than God Murugan, it is the Vēl , the symbol of Murugan, which is venerated and worshipped. Vel worship constitutes one of the unique features of temples in Sri Lanka, especially in Eastern and Northern regions where Tamils live in large number. The root word 'Vēl' comes from 'Velluthal' which means victory and Vēl symbolizes victory over evil forces. The Vēl held by Murugan is also known as Kathir Vēl as it radiates the brilliant rays of knowledge (Jnana). Arunagirinathar's Vēl Vakuppu describes the power of Murugan's Vēl thus: "I worship the Vēl which broke the strong chain by which Soorapadman bound Indiran, the Vēl that rescued sage Nakkeerar from the evil spirit, Karkimukhi and the Vēl which helped the Saints to ward off the ill-effects arising out of Karma. (Surarkku Muni ..Vēl Vakuppu 5).

Vēl or Spear is the weapon associated with God Murugan. The Vēl was given to Murugan by His mother Goddess Parvati and He annihilated the demon Soorapadman with it. One of the most popular chants associated with Murugan is 'Vēl Vēl Shakti Vēl' - devotees chant this while offering prayers at Murugan Kovils.

It is believed that the peerless Vēl is Shakti Incarnate - It contains all the powers of Mother Goddess Shakti.

Muruga's spear is treated with reverence, and in many kovils the spear is worshipped with as much fervor as the Murti of Subramanyar. The popular belief is that daily worship of the spear will help in redemption of sins. It will also help in conquering the fear of death. Worship of it will help in killing away unwanted desires.

Some scholars suggest that symbolically the Vēl represents knowledge or learning. The long shaft of the Vēl represents many years of learning. The broad portion of the Vēl represents the broadening of the mind with the knowledge gathered . The pointed tip represents one pointed devotion. It also represents one pointed attention. It also represents one pointed ambition. All our efforts should merge into a single point – attainment of self realization which will destroy all sorrows and fears.

NATIONAL SKETCH COMPETITION FINAL 2023 -
TAMIL LANGUAGE

This year five groups have made it to the final of the Tamil National Sketch Competition which was held on Saturday, 1st April 2023 at the auditorium of the Indira Gandhi Centre for Indian Culture in Phoenix organised by the Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage.
The five groups were:

1. Siva Soopramaniar covil Society, Maness, Centre de Flacq
2. Taattaa Rengaya Nursigadu Souillac Tamil Palli
3. Siva Soopramaniar Maalei Palli, Goodlands
4. Piton Marai Malai Adigal Group
5. Beau Sejour Tamil Darma Sangham, Rose-Hill

List of Awards for the Tamil Sketch Competition 2023:

1st Best Jury Award: Sambasivam Appasamy for the play Vaazhiyave Vaazhiyave Morisou
Group; Sockalingam Meenatchi Ammen Academi

2nd Best Jury Award: L'Escalier Mariammen Meinyaana Sangam School
Play: Puthumai Penn

Best Actress : Veerapen Poomagal in Akkaraikku Ikkaraithaan Patchai
Group : Siva Soopramaniar Covil Society, Maness Central Flacq,
Best Acror : Murugan Thiraiyan in Vettri Peruvom Oru Naal
Group: Souillac Taattaa Rengaya Nursigadoo Tamil School

5th Best Play: Desiya vidoudalai munthiya Naal
Group: Piton Marai Malai Adigal Group
4th Best Play: Taayum Tandaiyum, Taay Naadum
Group: Siva Soopramaniar Maalei Palli, Goodlands
3rd Best Play : Vettri Peruvōm Oru Naal
Group:Taattaa Rengaya Nursigadu Souillac Tamil Palli
2nd Best Play: Veera Pandya Bomman
Group: Beau Sejour Tamil Darma Sangham, Rose-Hill
Best Play- Akkaraikku Ikkaraithaan Patchai
Group : Siva Soopramaniar Covil Society, Maness Central Flacq,
Best Director: Yovina Ramsamy for Akkaraikku Ikkaraithaan Patchai
Group : Siva Soopramaniar Covil Society, Maness Central Flacq

The MTTF extends its heartfelt congatulations to all the groups participated in the Tamil National Sketch Competition 2023

NATIONAL SKETCH COMPETITION FINAL 2023 -
TAMIL LANGUAGE



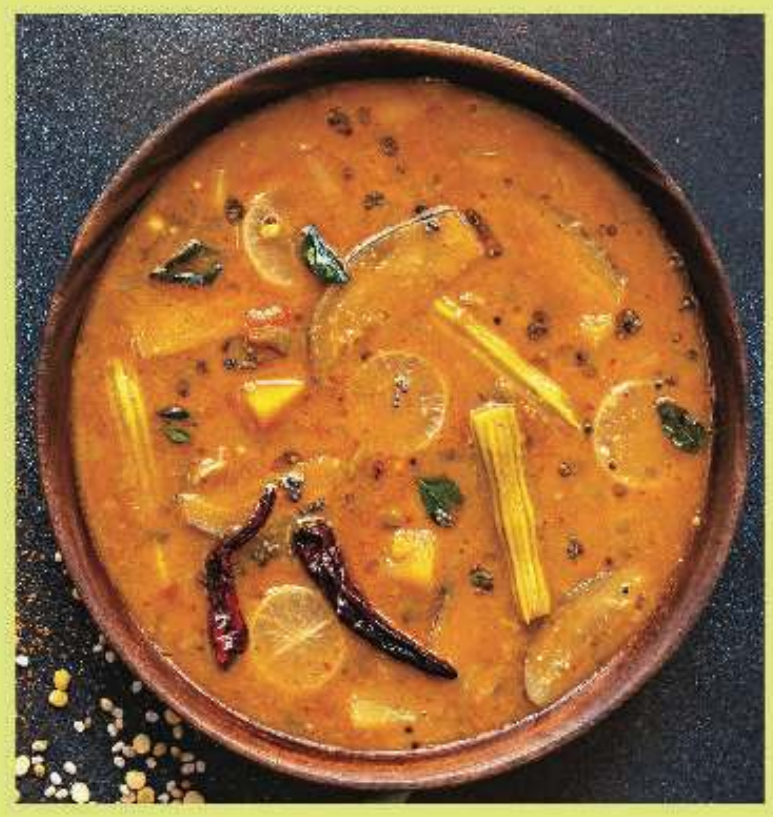








Recipe



Saambaar

Saambaar is a South Indian lentil and vegetable stew made with pigeon pea lentils, tamarind and a unique spice blend called saambaar powder. It is a staple dish in South Indian homes and is also equally popular and loved by many.

How is it made?

A basic South Indian saambaar recipe is made by cooking vegetables and lentils separately. The lentils are cooked till it is mushy and then mashed. Cooked vegetables, mashed dholl, tamarind pulp and saambaar powder are mixed together and then simmered for some minutes. Later a tempering is done of oil (or ghee) with mustard seeds, curry leaves, asafoetida (perungaayam) and dry red chilies.

How to make Saambaar Recipe?

This recipe includes a series of preparations, that are all assembled later together. So you need to make the tamarind pulp, cook vegetables and lentils.

Preparation

Before begining to make saambaar, it always helps to soak tamarind in water earlier. So soak 1 tablespoon tamarind in ⅓ cup of hot water for 20 to 30 minutes. Once the tamarind gets soft, then squeeze the tamarind in the water itself. Discard the strained tamarind and keep the tamarind pulp aside. Rinse ½ cup tuvaram dholl (100 grams) a couple of times in fresh and clean water. Drain all the water and add the dholl in a 2 litres stovetop pressure cooker. Also add ¼ teaspoon turmeric powder. Add 1.5 to 1.75 cups of water and mix to combine. Cover and pressure cook dholl for 7 to 8 whistles or 9 to 10 minutes on medium heat. When the pressure settles down on its own, open the lid and check the dholl . It should be completely cooked and mushy. Mash the dholl with a spoon or wired whisk. Cover it and keep it aside.

Cook Vegetables

When the dholl is pressure cooking – rinse, peel and chop the vegetables which get cooked faster in large sizes like pumpkin, brinjals (small aubergines), drumsticks etc. Take 1 to 1.5 cups chopped vegetables in a pan or pot. Also add 6 to 7 pearl onions or 1 small to medium onion (thickly sliced) and 1 small to medium tomato (quartered). Sprinkle ¼ teaspoon turmeric powder, ¼ teaspoon red chilli powder and salt as per taste. Add 1.5 to 2 cups water and stir. Add enough water so that they cover the vegetables. Keep the pan on a stove top and begin to cook vegetables on a medium-low to medium heat. In between do check when the vegetables are cooking. Cook till the vegetables are almost done. Ensure that you don't overcook the vegetables.

Make Saambaar

Add the prepared tamarind pulp to the cooked vegetables. If you don't have dried tamarind then use packaged tamarind paste. You can add about ½ to 1 tablespoon of the tamarind paste or add

as according to your taste. Next add 1 to 1.5 tablespoons Saambaar Powder. You can use homemade saambaar powder . Stir and mix well again. Add the mashed dholl, stir and mix very well. If the consistency looks very thick, you can add some water. You can easily adjust the quantity of water and make medium to thin consistency of saambaar. Simmer on a medium-low heat till it comes to a boil. Stir at intervals. You will see a frothy layer on top when the saambaar begins boiling. At this step switch off the heat. Cover and keep aside. Check the taste and add salt if needed.

Temper Saambaar

Heat 2 tablespoons gingelly oil in a small pan. You can even use sunflower oil, ghee or coconut oil instead. Add ½ teaspoon mustard seeds. Let the mustard seeds crackle on low heat. Immediately add 10 to 12 curry leaves, 5 to 6 fenugreek seeds (methi seeds) and 2 pinches of asafoetida. Fry them till the red chilies change color and curry leaves become crisp on low heat. Immediately add this tempering mixture in the hot sambar. Cover the pan with its lid for 4 to 5 minutes, so that the aroma and flavors from the tempering mixture get infused with the saambaar. Serve sambar hot or warm. Garnish it with some coriander leaves Usually, it is is cooked a two-three hours earlier as its taste becomes better with time.

However, we prefer saambaar to be served as soon as it is made. It can also be served with steamed rice, idli, dosai, medu vadai or uttappam.

Serving Suggestion

A slightly thin sambhar is served with idli, dosa and medu vada. Medium to thick consistency sambar is served with steamed rice.

Storage and Leftovers

Store sambar in the refrigerator for a day only. The consistency will thicken after refrigeration. Add some water and mix to get your desired consistency and reheat in a pan.

It is healthy as well as nutritious being rich in protein and also other nutrients like vitamins, minerals etc as its made from both lentils and vegetables. Sambar served with rice or idli makes up for a complete meal.









" Being the President of the Savanne Tamil Federation (STF), I make a humble appeal to all kovils in the South to fully adhere and participate in all the activities that are being organised by the STF which will be ending with a big Cultural Show on the 18th of June 2023 to mark our Puttandu." - *Ganessen Chengan*

Comments received

உங்கள் எல்லோருக்கும் வணக்கம்!
இனிய சோபகிருது புத்தாண்டு நல்வாழ்த்துக்கள்!

Oungal Ellôroukkoum Vanakkam!
Iniya Sôbagiroudou pouttândou nalvâjttoukkal!

Cher(e)s membres de la communauté Tamoule de Maurice, cher(e)s Bhaktan, Chères Mauriciennes et Chers Mauriciens

Le vendredi 14 avril 2023, plus de 85 millions de Tamouls de par le monde ont célébré la nouvelle année SOBAGIROUDOU (Mangalam) qui dans un contexte mondial quelque peu perturbé nous annonce une bien lumineuse vie.
Cadre temporel où l'humain se situe dans sa quête spirituelle et dans la recherche de son bien-être, de son bonheur !

Je tiens à vous adresser nos sincères vœux de bonheur, d'épanouissement spirituel, de prospérité, de réussite. Que cette année soit pour nous toutes et tous à la hauteur de nos ambitions ; riche en découverte, en solidarité et en partage.

A votre nouveau projet, longue vie ! Que cette E- newsletter de la MTTF nous fait voyager non seulement à Maurice mais également à la Réunion et bien au-delà !

Il est essentiel pour nos îles, pour notre communauté Tamoule de conforter nos liens de solidarité, d'échanges et de coopération. Ensemble, nous serons plus forts et à même de surmonter les défis auxquels nous devons faire face et répondre ainsi aux aspirations de la jeunesse.

La force de notre communauté réside dans notre capacité à nous unir, à partager nos compétences, nos connaissances, nos ressources et nos investissements.
Que cette année soit placée sous le signe de la coopération régionale, de l'amitié et de la réussite pour chacun d'entre nous.

Nous émettons le vœu d'œuvrer ensemble à l'éducation de notre jeunesse, à leur épanouissement dans cet archipel des Mascareignes et à porter conjointement des projets structurants en termes de coopération régionale entre l'Inde, Maurice et la Réunion.

Vâjga Tamij ! Vâjga Mauritius ! Vâjga Réunion !

Le VP de la Fédération Tamoule de la Réunion
en charge des relations internationales
Daniel Minienpoullé

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