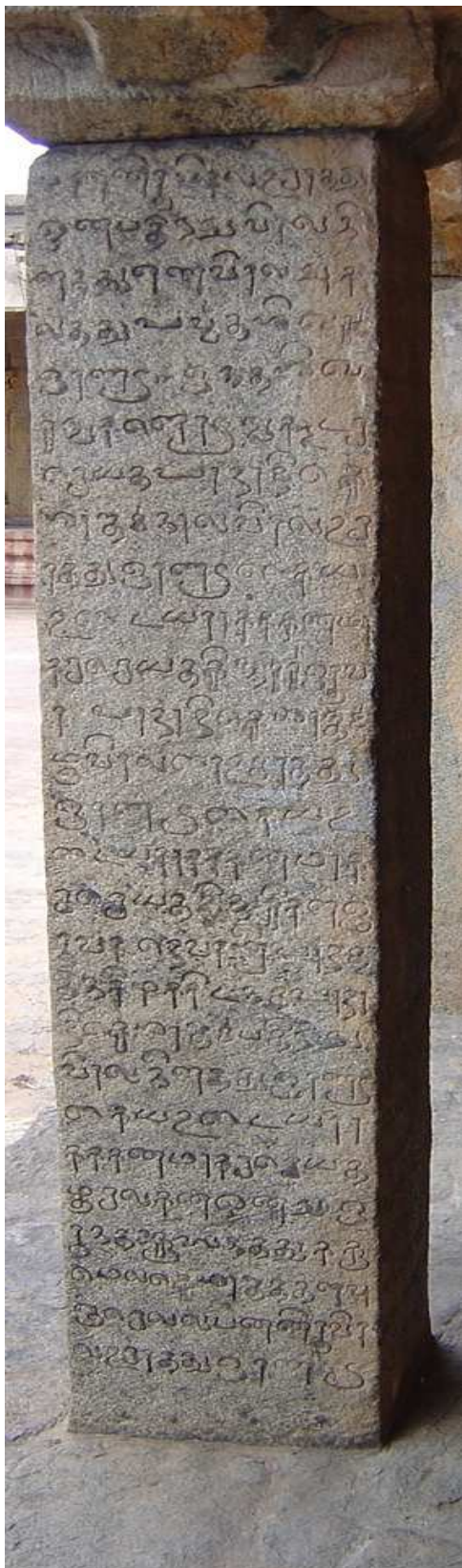


**ELEVENTH INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON TAMIL EPIGRAPHY**

*Tamil Epigraphy: Corpus Analysis, Database Construction and Information Retrieval*  
**Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu, India, 15-21 December 2014**



We are pleased to announce the **Eleventh International Workshop on Tamil Epigraphy, to be held from 15 to 21 December 2014 in Thanjavur India.** Between 2003 to 2013, we have organised ten international workshops on Tamil Epigraphy and based on constructive feedback received from the participants of the past ten workshops, we are planning to offer a new series of epigraphy trainings that will concentrate on computer-aided corpus analysis and information retrieval techniques in a variety of complimentary disciplines. This workshop is meant for doctoral students and advanced researchers who desire to gain advanced skills in Tamil epigraphy. The sessions will be presented in English.

Tamil inscriptions are one of the most direct evidences of the past world. They are a valuable and essential source for anybody interested in the South Indian history, archaeology, sociology, social anthropology, religion, history of art, linguistics etc. Understanding the intrinsic information embedded in inscriptions constitutes a major challenge.

The workshop will focus on how to interpret inscriptions along with providing exposure to available tools to analyse and synthesize them. The major aim of this workshop is to lay emphasis on the techniques of compiling and using Tamil epigraphic database as well as techniques to be used in corpus based text analysis and information retrieval in a variety of complimentary disciplines.

**Course coordinators :**

Appasamy MURUGAIYAN (Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes-UMR 7528 Mondes iraniens et indiens, Paris), K. RAJAN (Pondicherry University) and S. RAJAVELU (Tamil University, Thanjavur).

**Agenda:**

Workshop meetings will be held for seven days, from 15 to 21 December. The workshop is divided into two sessions: 1) three days field work and 2) four days lectures and practical training.

**Course programme:**

The workshop will include field works, practical trainings and special lectures. The workshop will focus on the following points:

- Practical training, visit to sites, estampage making
- Collection and reading of inscriptions
- Digital documentation and preservation of inscriptions
- Processing epigraphic data in computer
- Creating metadata
- Compilation of epigraphic database
- Text analysis and information retrieval

**Registration:**

No registration fee is required, but each participant has to bear the cost of practical works and travelling to different sites. Interested students and research scholars should register before 15<sup>th</sup> November 2014. For registration and information, please contact: A. Murugaiyan at: [a.murugaiyan@wanadoo.fr](mailto:a.murugaiyan@wanadoo.fr)