



## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE on

# VALLALAR - 200

10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Jointly Organized by

**ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY  
ANNAMALAI NAGAR – 608 002  
CHIDAMBARAM, TAMIL NADU, INDIA**

&

**VALLALAR EDUCATION TRAINING AND  
RESEARCH INSTITUTE (VETRI)  
VADALUR**

Conference Director

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### About the University

The Annamalai University owes its existence to the wisdom, benefaction and philanthropy of a far-sighted visionary - Dr. Rajah Sir Annamalai Chettiar of Chettinad. As early as 1920, he founded Sri Minakshi College in Chidambaram, a great pilgrimage centre and also a centre for South Indian traditional culture and learning. In 1928, the Annamalai University Act was passed and Sri Minakshi College paved the way for the establishment of Annamalai University.

The Annamalai University is a unitary, teaching and residential university. It was founded by the munificence of the farsighted and noble-hearted philanthropist and patron of letters the late **Hon'ble Dr. Rajah Sir Annamalai Chettiar** of Chettinad, Kt, LL.D., D.Litt. Since its inception, it has progressively tried to realize the aims of the noble Founder Pro-Chancellor.

After him, his illustrious son, Padma Bhushan **Dr. Rajah Sir Muthiah Chettiar** of Chettinad, was the Pro-Chancellor from 1948 to 1984 and he sedulously nurtured the growth and development of the University.

The University has had the unique good fortune of having a succession of eminent Vice-Chancellors to guide its destinies. During the last Ninety Four years the University has grown rapidly and has consolidated its position as a unitary and residential University with forty-nine Departments. Annamalainagar is already a busy and full-fledged University town, east of Chidambaram, the abode of Lord Nataraja.

The University campus, including the colleges, hostels, and playgrounds, occupies an area of about thousand acres. Now, the Annamalai University Act 1928 has been repealed and replaced by the Annamalai University Act 2013 (Tamilnadu Act 20 of 2013).

The University is Accredited with 'A+' Grade by NAAC in 2022. This University is located in the East Coast in the East West strip of Tamil Nadu Chidambaram. The University is situated 2 kms. to the east of Chidambaram, 72 kms. from Pondicherry and 270 kms. from Chennai.

### About the Department

Since its inception in 1929, the Department of Philosophy has made long strides in both teaching and research. It caters to the academic needs of students and researchers. The Department offers Two Post Graduate Programmes in addition to M.Phil., Ph.D. and D.litt research programmes. The fact that 62 researchers have earned Ph.D.s and 62 their M.Phil.s stands testimony to the academic verve of the Department.

The Department has organized 22 National and 03 International seminars and conferences. The Faculty members have published 87 Research papers in referred / reputed national and international journals. Further, 22 Buddhist Monks from Myanmar and one M.Phil. scholar from Thailand carried out doctoral research in the department. Further, Scholars from Canada, Srilanka and Australia are doing doctoral research. Three Ph.D. Research scholars have got JRF/SRF from ICPR, New Delhi and UGC. One Ph.D. Research scholar is working as Research Assistant under Minor Research Project funded by ICSSR, New Delhi. The Department has successfully completed Two Minor projects and One Major Project funded by ICPR & ICSSR, New Delhi.

### About VETRI

Vallalar Education Training and Research Institute (VETRI) was established in 2013 at Vadalur. It is a NGO without any profit motive. The objectives of the institute are

- To educate people on reading Thiruvartuppa and its texts in the right way to understand the meaning behind them
- To train and guide people in Sanmarga ideals of Vallalar
- To propagate the thoughts, ideals and notions of Vallalar and their relevance

In collaboration with Annamalai University, VETRI has successfully organized an Asian Vallalar Conference in December 2015 and an International Conference on Vallalar in February 2017 in the Annamalai University campus.



## About the Conference Theme

Vallalar was born on 5<sup>th</sup> October 1823 at Marudhur near Chidambaram, Cuddalore District, Tamilnadu. His birthname was Ramalingam. He was commonly known as Thiruvartuprakasa Vallalar, Chidambaram Ramalingam, Ramalinga Swamigal and Ramalinga Adigal in India and across the globe. He was one of the most famous Tamil Saints and the greatest Tamil poets of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Besides, Vallalar fits to a line of Tamil saints known as "Gnana siddhars" (Gnana signifies higher wisdom). The Samarasa Suddha Sanmarga Sathiya Sangam was spread and passed on by him not only in theory but mainly in practice by his own way of living. This is an inspiration for his followers. Through the notion of Suddha Sanmarga Sangam, the saint endeavored to eliminate the caste system. According to Suddha Sanmarga, the prime aspects of human life should be love connected with charity and divine practice leading to achievement of pure knowledge. Ramalinga advocated the concept of worshipping the flame of a lighted lamp as a symbol of the eternal power. Vallalar attained Siddhi on 30<sup>th</sup> January 1874.

In view of Saint Ramalinga Vallalar's 200<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary, the conference aims to make critical deliberations on the following Vallalar's sub-themes in order to visualize a better and more harmonious world for humanity.

## Papers are invited from participants on the following topics:

1. Vallalar and Spirituality
2. Samarasa Suddha Sanmargam
3. Deathless Life
4. Anmaneya Orumaipadu
5. Jeevakarunya Ozukam
6. Sathya Gnana Sabhai
7. Vallalar and Siddha Medicine
8. Vallalar in Tamil Literature
9. Vallalar and Society
10. Views on God, World and Self
11. Vallalar and Agriculture
12. Tiruvarutpa
13. Vallalar and Yoga
14. Vedanta, Saiva Siddhanta in Tiruvarutpa

15. Vallalar and Ethics / Morality
16. Vallalar and Epistemology (Knowledge)
17. Vallalar and Values
18. Vallalar and Environment
19. Vallalar and Women
20. Vallalar and Education
21. Vallalar and Peace
22. Vallalar and Food
23. Vallalar's Works
24. Impact of Vallalar
25. Relevance of Vallalar's Ideas / Thoughts

Delegates are requested to send soft copy of their Abstract, Keywords & Full Length Papers (Tamil – Unicode using NHM Writer, English – Times New Roman, Font size - 12, 1 inch margin) on the above topics with double space not exceeding 9 pages to the E-mail : [auphilovallalar200@gmail.com](mailto:auphilovallalar200@gmail.com) on or before 21.05.2023 and also send hard copy of the same to **Dr. J. Thirumal, Conference Director, Department of Philosophy, Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar - 608 002, Chidambaram, Tamilnadu, India.** An expert committee will screen the scholarly papers for acceptance and presentation in the conference. The selected papers will be published as a book entitled "Vallalar - 200" with ISBN. This is going to be released in the Inaugural function to be held on 10-06-2023 at Annamalai University and will be distributed to participants on payment.

**No Registration Fee for all participants. Food will be provided on the conference days only. Accommodation is available on payment.**

## Contact Details:

### For Registration & Article Submission

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