

**Banaras Hindu University**  
**Faculty of Arts**  
**Department of Indian Languages**

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**Syllabus**

**Two Year P.G. Diploma in Tamil**

(There shall be Four written papers in Level – I and Four written papers in Level – II, carrying 70 marks each of 3 credit points along with 30 marks. Viva-voce for 100 marks of 3 credit points will be conducted by Internal & External examiners at the end of Level – I and there shall be a project/sessional work of 100 marks at the end of the Level - II. Admission eligibility criteria and time frame of the course will remain same as before)

**LEVEL – 1 SEMESTER – 1**

**PAPER – I: Practical Tamil Grammar**

**CREDITS – 3**  
**70 Marks**

**Unit 1**

- 1.1: Verb conjugation
- 1.2: Continuous forms
- 1.3: Future continuous
- 1.4: Case Marking

**Unit 2**

- 2.1: The marker of reported speech
- 2.2: Active and Passive sentences
- 2.3: Conditional sentences (Using ‘if’)
- 2.4: Colloquial future (Verb stem + laam)

**Internal Assessment**

**30 Marks**

**Reference Materials**

1. T.B. Siddalingaiah, 1968. *ABC of Tamil – Book One*, Chennai: Paari Nilayam.
2. Thomas Lehman, 1989. *A Grammar of Modern Tamil*, Pondicherry: Pondicherry Institute of Linguistics and Culture.
3. R.E. Asher & E. Annamalai, 2002. *Colloquial Tamil: A Complete Course for Beginners*, London: Routledge.
4. Pon. Subbiah, 2010. *Advanced Course Reader in Tamil*, Mysore: Central Institute of Indian Languages.
5. Pon. Subbiah, 2011. *Tests of Language Proficiency*, Mysore: Central Institute of Indian Languages.
6. Harold F. Schiffman, 1999. *A Reference Grammar of Spoken Tamil*, New York: Cambridge University Press.

**PAPER – II: Introduction to Contemporary Tamil Literature  
(Texts from Selected Works)**

**CREDITS – 3  
70 Marks**

**Unit 1**

- 1.1: Modern Tamil Literature
- 1.2: New Poetry & Drama
- 1.3: Beginnings of Tamil Novel
- 1.4: Tamil Short Story

**Unit 2**

- 2.1: Non-Fiction in Tamil
- 2.2: Autobiography
- 2.3: Travelogue
- 2.4: Essays on Tamil Cinema

**Internal Assessment**

**30 Marks**

**Reference Materials**

1. Prema Nandakumar (Tr), 1977. Poems of Subramaniya Bharathiyar, New Delhi: Sahitya Akademi.
2. K. Sivathambi, 1980. Tamil Cirukathaiyin Thotramum Valarchiyum, Chennai: Tamil Puthakalayam.
3. A.R. Venkatachalapathy (Ed.), 2000. Pudumaippithan Sirukathaikal, Nagarcoil: Kalachuvadu Pathippagam.
4. A.R. Venkatachalapathy (Ed.), 2004. Navalum Vasippum, Nagarcoil: Kalachuvadu Pathippagam.
5. A.N. Perumal, 1977. Tamil Nadakam – Oor Aayvu, Chennai: Tamil Pathippagam.

**LEVEL – 1 SEMESTER – 2**

**PAPER – III: Grammar and Writing Skills**

**CREDITS – 3  
70 Marks**

**Unit 1**

- 1.1: The Unconjugated Future form
- 1.2: Relative clauses in Present and Future tense
- 1.3: Describing nouns with use of verb stem + particle
- 1.4: Verb stem + Adjectival clause (The place I am going to visit is Chennai)

**Unit 2**

- 2.1: Letter writing (Official/Personal)
- 2.2: Preparing CV
- 2.3: Filling up an Application, Challan
- 2.4: Writing a small passage

**Internal Assessment**

**30 Marks**

## Reference Materials

1. Pon. Subbiah, 2010. *Advanced Course Reader in Tamil*, Mysore: Central Institute of Indian Languages.
2. Thomas Lehman, 1989. *A Grammar of Modern Tamil*, Pondicherry: Pondicherry Institute of Linguistics and Culture.
3. K. Paramasivam & James Lindholm, 1980. *A Basic Tamil Reader and Grammar – Vol 1 & 2*, Illinois: Tamil Language Study Association.
4. N.D. Krishnamurthy, U.P. Upadhyaya & M. Sadasivam, 1999. *Conversational Tamil – A Microwave Approach*, Mysore: Central Institute of Indian Languages.
5. Pon. Subbiah, 2011. *Tests of Language Proficiency*, Mysore: Central Institute of Indian Languages.

## LEVEL – 1 SEMESTER – 2

### PAPER – IV: Introduction to Ancient Tamil Literature

**CREDITS – 3**  
**70 Marks**

#### Unit 1

- 1.1: Ancient Tamil Literary Corpus
- 1.2: Akam and Puram Conventions
- 1.3: Kuruntokai (10 Poems)
- 1.4: Purananuru (Poems)

#### Unit 2

- 2.1: Didactic Literature in Tamil
- 2.2: Tirukkural
- 2.3: Naladiyar
- 2.4: Other Didactic works

### Internal Assessment

**30 Marks**

### Reference Materials

1. J.R. Marr, 1985. *The Eight Anthologies*, Chennai: Institute of Asian Studies.
2. M.L. Thangappa (Tr.), 2008. *Love Stands Alone*, New Delhi: Penguin.
3. Kamil Zvelebil, 1974. *Tamil Literature*, Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz.
4. M. Shanmugam Pillai & David Ludden (Tr.), 1995. *The Kuruntokai*, Chennai: International Institute of Tamil Studies.
5. George L. Hart & Hank Heifetz (Tr.), 1999. *The Purananuru: The Four Hundred Songs of War and Wisdom*, New York: Columbia University Press.

### Viva-Voce

**CREDITS – 3**  
**100 Marks**

**LEVEL – 2 SEMESTER – 3**

**PAPER – V: Tamil Epics**

**CREDITS – 3**

**70 Marks**

**Unit 1**

- 1.1: Major Epics in Indian Literature
- 1.2: Five Major Epics in Tamil
- 1.3: Cilapatikaram
- 1.4: Manimekalai

**Unit 2**

- 2.1: Civakacintamani
- 2.2: Valaiyapati
- 2.3: Kundalakesi
- 2.4: Comparison with Major Epics in Indian Literature

**Internal Assessment**

**30 Marks**

**Reference Materials**

1. R. Parthasarathy (Tr.), 2004. *The Cilapatikaram: The Tale of an Anklet*, New Delhi: Penguin.
2. Lakshmi Holmstrom (Tr), 1996. *Silappadikaram and Manimekalai*, Hyderabad: Orient Blackswan. Kindle edition in 2011.
3. Alain Danielou (Tr.) 1989. *Manimekhalai: The Dancer with the Magic Bowl*, New York: New Directions.
4. James D. Ryan & G. Vijayavenugopal (Tr.), 2012. *Civakacintamani: Translation, Notes & Introduction*, California: Jain Publishing Company.
5. Maurice Winternitz, 1991. *History of Indian Literature: Introduction, Veda, National Epics, Puranas and Tantras*, New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers.

**LEVEL – 2 SEMESTER – 3**

**PAPER – VI: Introduction to Tamil Grammatical Traditions**

**CREDITS – 3**

**70 Marks**

**Unit 1**

- 1.1: Tamil Grammatical Tradition
- 1.2: The Beginnings
- 1.3: Tolkappiyam
- 1.4: Tolkappiyam and Ancient Tamil Literature

**Unit 2**

- 2.1: Later Grammatical works
- 2.2: Nannul

- 2.3: Veerachozhiyam
- 2.4: Other Grammatical works

**Internal Assessment**

**30 Marks**

**Reference Materials**

1. Hermurt Scharfe, 1977. *Grammatical Literature*, Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz.
2. Soma. Ilavarasu, 1963. *Ilakkana Varalaru*, Chidambaram: Meiyappan Pathippagam.
3. C.Vai. Thamoatham Pillai (Ed.) *Veerachozhiyam*, Chennai: International Institute of Tamil Studies.
4. Pavananthi Munivar, Nannul – Kandikai Urai.
5. S. Rajaram, 2000. *Ilakkanaviyal: Meekkotpadum Kotpadukalum*, Nagarcoil: Kalachuvadu Pathippagam.

**LEVEL – 2 SEMESTER – 4**

**PAPER – VII: Devotional Literature in Tamil**

**CREDITS – 3**

**70 Marks**

**Unit 1**

- 1.1: Tamil Bhakthi Movement
- 1.2: Nayanmars and Tamil Saivaite Tradition
- 1.3: Tevaram - Tirugnanasambandar
- 1.4: Tiruvacakam - Manikkavasakar

**Unit 2**

- 2.1: Vaishnavite Devotional Literature
- 2.2: Alvars and Tamil Vaishnavite Tradition
- 2.3: Tiruviruttam - Nammalvar
- 2.4: Tiruppavai - Andal

**Internal Assessment**

**30 Marks**

**Reference Materials**

1. Indira Viswanathan Peterson (Tr.), 1989. *Poems to Siva: The Hymns of the Tamil Saints*, Princeton: Princeton University Press.
2. A.K. Ramanujan (Tr.), 1993. *Hymns for the Drowning: Poems for Visnu by Nammalvar*, New Delhi: Penguin.
3. Karen Pachilis Prentiss, 1999. *The Embodiment of Bhakthi*, New York: Oxford University Press.
4. Peter J.J. de Bruijn (Tr), 2007. *Poems for Siva by Karaikkalammaiyar*, Rotterdam: Dhyani Publications.

**LEVEL – 2 SEMESTER – 4**

**PAPER – VIII: History of Ancient Tamil Nadu)  
(Ancient Times to 10<sup>th</sup> Century AD)**

**CREDITS – 3  
70 Marks**

**Unit 1**

- 1.1: Basic Sources of History of Tamil Nadu
- 1.2: Pre-historical Tamil Nadu
- 1.3: Indus Valley Excavations
- 1.4: Life of Ancient Tamils and Cankam Literature

**Unit 2**

- 2.1: The Pandya Kingdom
- 2.2: The Cholas
- 2.3: The Pallavas
- 2.4: Social Life of Ancient Tamils

**Internal Assessment**

**30 Marks**

**Reference Materials**

1. K.K. Pillai, 2008 (reprint). *Tamilaga Varalaru Makkalum Panpadum*, Chennai: International Institute of Tamil Studies.
2. K. Rajayyan, 2005. *Tamil Nadu: A Real History*, Madurai: Ratna Publications.
3. P.T. Srinivasa Iyengar, 2001 (reprint). *History of the Tamil: From the Earliest Times to 600 A.D.*, Chennai: Asian Educational Services
4. K.A. Nilakanta Sastri, 2000 (reprint). *A History of South India*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
5. A. Swaminathan, 1984. *Social and Cultural History of Tamil Nadu*, Chennai: Deepa Publications.

**Project/Sessional Work**

**CREDITS – 3  
100 Marks**

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