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2025

CHENNAI
INTERNATIONAL
BOOK FAIR



**TAKING TAMIL TO THE
WORLD**

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CR RAVINDRAN

CR Ravindran, born in 1945 in Perur, Coimbatore, emerged from an agrarian background that profoundly influenced his literary journey. Transitioning from a career in printing presses and publishing, he ventured into writing, initially exploring dramas like "**Pasu**" and "**Ilichhavaayan**," both enacted as plays. His unexpected success with the debut novel "**Pazhaya Vaanathin Keezhey**" fueled his passion for writing.

A versatile creator, Ravindran engaged with numerous magazines and founded "Aal," his own publication. With 18 novels, 8 short story collections, and a compilation of 100 poems, he crafted a literary legacy rooted in rural life. Some of his notable novels are, "**Senthoora Chaaral**" and "**Maniyapera**". As a translator, he brought the works of Orison Swett Marden and Walter Doyle Staples into Tamil.

Ravindran's writing reflects an unwavering commitment to his origins, capturing the essence and authenticity of his people's lifestyle. His narratives weave a rich tapestry of rural culture, presenting a compelling portrait of life in its purest form. Through his evocative prose, CR Ravindran remains a stalwart guardian of his roots, preserving the vibrant stories of his community.



AWARDS:

- Kolkata Baasha Parikshath Award
- Tamilnadu's Best Novel Award

MANIYAPERA



Key Theme:

Cultural Preservation and Resilience, Interplay Between Tradition and Modernity, Empowerment of Women and Wisdom of Elders.



Novel, 258p, Arivu Publications,
978-93-80130-00-2

Language: Tamil, Malayalam
Rights: World rights available
Copyright: Author

In this captivating novel, the author immerses readers in the rich lives of the Irula tribe, dedicating four years to meticulous research and storytelling. From Aanaikatti to Mannaarkkaadu, the narrative unfolds, faithfully preserving the essence of Irula life. The mysterious language, Karnaparambar stories, folk songs, beliefs in forest deities, and the profound cultural heritage are masterfully woven into the fabric of the tale.

Against the backdrop of a rapidly encroaching modern civilization, the Irulas emerge as resilient guardians of their traditions. The author deftly portrays the delicate balance between their deep connection to nature and the challenges posed by contemporary life. The novel delves into the profound cultural wisdom of the Irula elders, who, motivated by the fear of Maniabera's curse, caution against cultural violations masked as civilization.

Central to the narrative is the pivotal role of women in upholding tradition and fostering societal appreciation with unwavering devotion. The stories of Karnaparambar beautifully encapsulate timeless advice applicable to contemporary life. Translated into Malayalam, the novel's vivid scenes resonate with readers, creating a profound sense of familiarity and connection. Through the author's creative lens, the Irula tribe's struggle for cultural preservation becomes a universal tale of resilience and the enduring power of heritage.

THE DRENCHED LAND (*Eeram Kasindha Nilam*)



Key Theme:

Profound connection between individuals, their familial bonds, the land they cultivate and obligations tied to agrarian life



Novel, 275p, Gangai Bookhouse,
978-81-7720-299-1

Language: Tamil

Rights: World rights available

Copyright: Author

In this evocative novel, the agrarian heartbeat of Tamil Nadu comes to life through the lens of a resolute family deeply entrenched in the rhythm of the land. At its core, the narrative revolves around Ammani, Sengannan, and Kannuchaamy, the linchpins of a family ensconced in the embrace of agriculture.

Ammani, a spirited young woman, becomes the narrative focal point as she ardently resists the societal pressure to marry, steadfastly determined to safeguard her familial ties to the fertile soil. As she grapples with the complexities of love and familial obligation, the story unfurls a poignant tapestry, capturing the essence of agrarian life, its joys, and its profound impact on a family's destiny.

Amidst the backdrop of a traditional Tamil Nadu village, the novel explores the intricate dance between love, land, and the soul-stirring connection to farming. The narrative paints a vivid portrait of the trials and triumphs inherent in a family bound to the soil, encapsulating the sensitivity of rural life.

The tale crescendos to a tragic denouement, echoing the deep-seated ties between individuals and the earth they cultivate. Ravindran's narrative weaves together the threads of love, familial bonds, and the indomitable spirit of those who find solace, purpose, and tragedy in the timeless cycle of sowing and reaping.

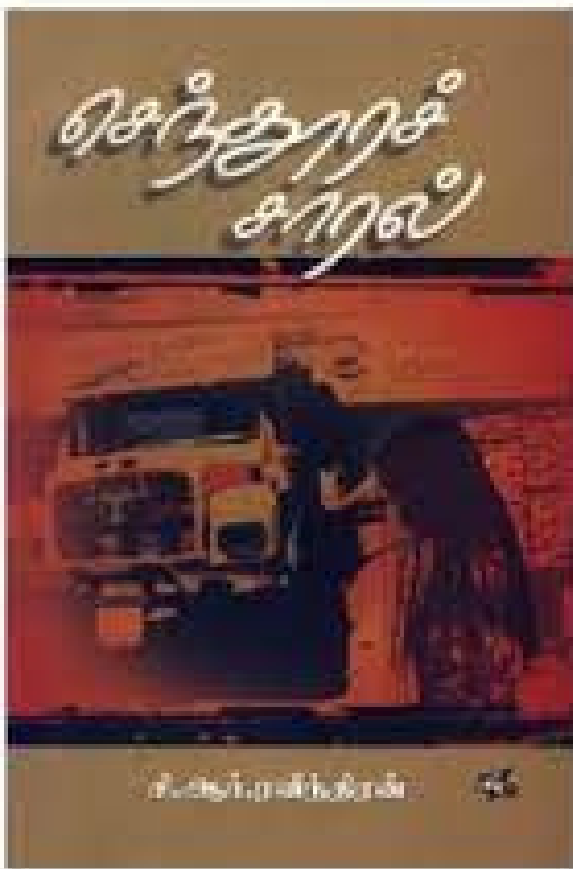
VERMILLION DRIZZLE

(Sendhoora Chaaral)



Key Theme:

Lives of workers, transitioning from rags to riches, familial rifts and status clashes.



Novel, 235 p, New Century Bookhouse, 2009
978-81-234-1599-8
Language : Tamil
Rights: World rights available
Copyright: Tamil

In the poignant narrative "Vermillion Drizzle," the central figure, Velusaami, emerges from the crucible of poverty and transforms his destiny in the kiln-fired crucibles of a brick kiln. Initiated into the world of brickmaking by his visionary friend Karuppan, Velu's journey is a symphony of highs and lows, echoing the kiln's relentless fires.

As the bricks multiply, so does Velu's fortune, transcending destitution to prosperity. The red sands that once clung to his bare feet now give way to the tires of his own car, marking the stark metamorphosis of his life. However, this newfound affluence becomes a double-edged sword, as emotional clashes ensue with his less fortunate elder brother's family.

The novel intricately weaves Velu's evolution – from agricultural despair to the pinnacle of success – against the backdrop of the brick kiln, capturing the struggles and triumphs of the workers toiling within its red-hued confines.

"Vermilion Drizzle" is a tale of contrasts, exploring the red sands of poverty and prosperity that shape the human spirit, leaving an indelible mark on both the landscape and the hearts of its characters.

NA PICHAMOORTHY



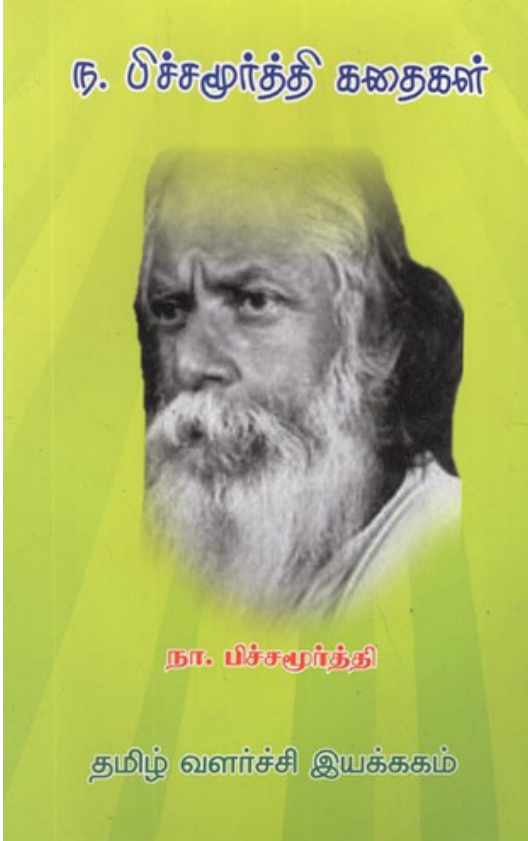
Venkata Mahalingam, born in 1900 and writing under the pseudonym N. Pichamoorthy, stands as a trailblazing figure in Tamil literature, earning the title of the father of free verse (Puthu Kavidai). His prolific career encompassed over 127 short stories, 11 plays, and a couple of novels and poems. Initially called as "Pichai" by his religious parents, it transformed into Pichamoorthy over time. Inspired by Western literary traditions, especially the free verse style, he became a pioneer in Tamil literature.



Inspired by Subramania Bharati and Western free verse traditions, Pichamoorthi's works delved into profound philosophical themes grounded in simple, socially relevant narratives. His debut, 'Sacrifice to Science' (1932), marked the beginning of a celebrated literary journey. He gained widespread acclaim with his award-winning short story 'Mullum Roja,' honored in Kalaimagal's 1933 competition. Prior to this triumph, in 1922, he authored two English stories, 'Ilajanan' and 'Nasthikan Korthiya,' later translated into Tamil as 'Mohini' and 'Aaraichi' in 1933. His first shortstory collection was 'Pathinettam Peruku' in 1944.

Few of his renowned poignant short stories are "Vijayadasami", 'Gnanapaal,' 'Vaanambaadi,' and 'Neruppukkozhi,' His notable work, 'Kudumba Ragasiyam,' classified as a novel by Ashokamitra, reflects the quintessence of Pichamurthy's storytelling prowess.

SHORT STORIES



Short Story Collection
Language Availability: Tamil,
(some stories are translated into
English).

Na. Pichamoorthy's short stories form a diverse tapestry of human experiences, ranging from defiance against oppressive landlords to the poignant confessions of an ethnic ballad. These narratives delve into family dynamics, individual emotions, saintly characters, childhood temperaments, and the impact of scientific advancements on life. Pichamurthy's stories stand out, offering unexpected endings that intrigue and captivate readers.

His short story 'Mother' unfolds a touching tale of maternal kindness. The short story 'Vanambadi' features an artist who rebels against authority, symbolized by discarding his begging bowl in defiance. 'Mullum Rojavum' explores the transformative power of fleeting physical attraction in a woman's life. 'Mohini' narrates the tragic delusions of Kailasam, ultimately leading to his demise.

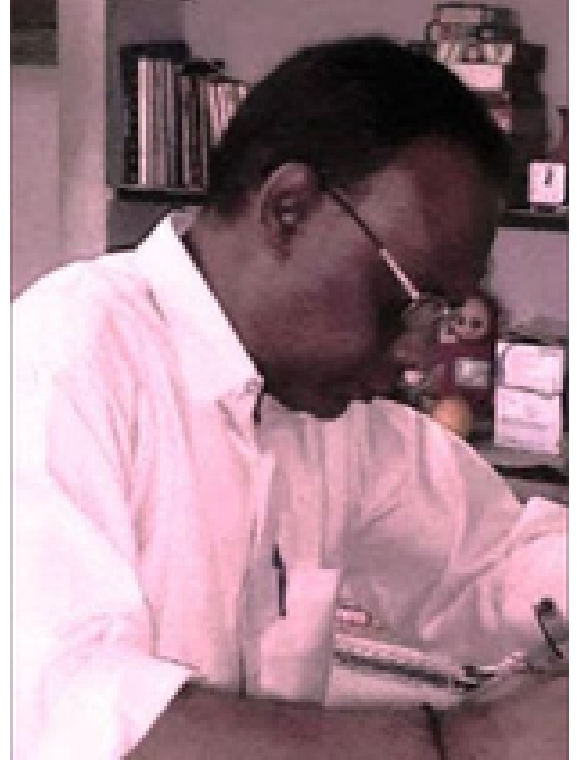
'Sacrifice to Science' examines the human cost of scientific progress, portraying the repercussions of inventing 'Alpha,' a human-like robot. The story, marked by a dreamlike quality, challenges perceptions. 'Vijayadasami' centers on the impact of class conflict on a child, while the story 'Badinakal' paints a vivid picture of poverty-stricken lives, highlighting the beggar woman's poignant lament, whereas Vendavaram is about a housemaid and how she hides her family story in order to not lose her job.

The stories reflect the craftsmanship of an artist from a bygone era, offering a historical perspective on Tamil short stories. This collection not only allows readers to traverse diverse narratives but also serves as a poignant reflection on the journey of the past century.

DURAI ARIVAZHAGAN



Born in Dickoya, Srilanka in 1967 and currently residing in Karaikudi, Durai Arivazhagan is an active writer in various platforms such as stories, poems, essays, novels and book reviews. He has published five books for children and adults and has been involved in literary activity for more than thirty years. His children's fiction novel "Snow Papa and the Miraculous Ocean" was appreciated by the Sahitya Akademi and Best Children's Writer award-winning veteran art personality Mr. A Pavannan.



The story '**Vellari Odai**' written by him won a special prize from Nanjil Nadan in 'Chiruvani Literary Story Competition'. The English translation of this story has been published in 'Femasia' magazine published in London. He has collected the stories of seventeen juvenile writers and has released it as a book "**Oru Urla Oru Nari**".

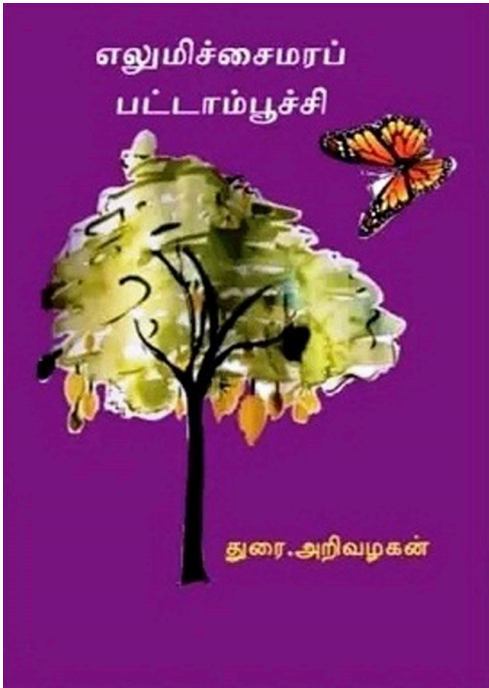
He has worked as an editor in the nine volumes of K. Rajanarayanan published in 2022. In the year 2023, his children's stories 'The first story written by Magi' and 'A Leader is being made' (Thalaivar Uruvagirar) have been published under the Youth Literature Program of the School Education Department. 'Pannavayal' is his first novel. His current location is Karaikudi, Sivagangai District, Tamil Nadu, India.

THE BUTTERFLY ON THE LEMON TREE (Elumichchaimara Pattaampoochi)



Key Theme:

Nature, Self confidence,
children



Children's Short Novel, 56p,
Parithi Publications,
978-93-93187-10-8
Language: Tamil
Rights: World rights available
Copyright: Author

This story is about Kayalvizhi, an eight-year-old with an indomitable spirit, disability was but a fleeting challenge for her. Kayalvizhi, a vibrant soul, found solace in conversing with nature, rain, and the kaleidoscope of birds. Despite her physical limitations, she was a pluviophile and a budding artist, sketching the vivid hues of rainbows and winged wonders.

Panjapulla, the benevolent friend and mentor, illuminated her world, wheeling her through the village's tapestry of wonders. With each journey, he wove tales of the land's pride, its scenic beauty, and ancient legends, instilling in her a profound love for her surroundings.

During this journey, Kayalvizhi witnesses the magical metamorphosis of a caterpillar into a vibrant butterfly. Stirred by this profound transformation, she embraces the symbolism, weaving dreams of her own transformation. Her days, painted with the hues of hope, find expression through her artistic endeavors – vibrant rainbows and delicate birds that mirror her inner strength. Kayalvizhi's world transforms into a canvas of self-confidence and resilience, anchored by the beauty she discovers in the simplest of life's wonders.

The yellow butterfly on the lemon tree becomes the harbinger of change, symbolizing the transformation awaiting her. Through this poignant tale, Kayalvizhi teaches us that within the cocoon of challenges, the wings of hope can unfold, bringing forth a breathtaking flight towards a beautiful destiny.

DR.T BEGUM



Dr.T.Begum, born in 1981 in, Dharmapuri, has been working as a Lecturer at the Government Arts College for Men, Krishnagiri since 2009. She is known for her expertise in Sangam Literature and modern Literature Her literary career has resulted in the publication of 3 fiction works, a short story, over 25 research articles on Tamil literature and has delivered insightful speeches on religious and literary topics, and 7 research books.

Her first short story "**Jaadipookkal**" based on the lives of transgenders, was published in 2021. Her novels "**Santhana Kooppu**", "**Muri**", and "**Eera mann**" delve into the life and customs of the Hill People. She has also released a research book on Va.Ve.Su Aiyyer, in 2021. Apart from her fictional creations, she is a regular contributor to magazines. She received numerous awards for her contributions to teaching and literary creation, including Ilam Arignar, Sathanai Penmani, Sevaratna Award, and Kavithamizharuvi Award.

Influenced by Kabilar and his description of landscape of the mountain terrain, She has produced her about real hill people life, novel "Santhana Kooppu," which offers a detailed portrayal of the customs and practices of the Hills People in Saloor village, located in Dharmapuri, her birthplace. The novel captures a detailed account of the innocence and poverty of the mountain people who make their living through farming and herding, portraying the songs, beliefs, and customs of this community. T. Begum remains dedicated to preserving the traditions and customs of her roots.

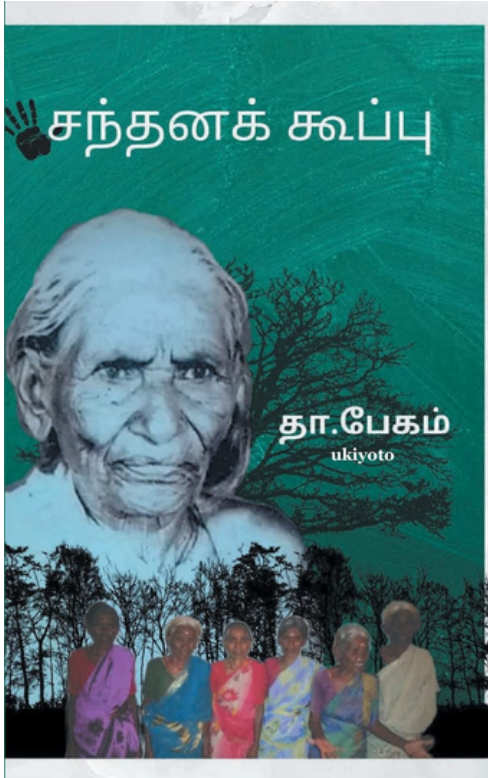


THE SANDALWOOD GROVE (Sandhanakooppu)



Key Theme:

Tribal people lives, self reliant women, resilience and poverty



Santhanak Kooppu is based on real people and unfurls the lives of those nestled within the hills, spotlighting the indomitable spirit of Tirumachi. Born into poverty in the hill village of Saloor, Dharmapuri district, Tirumachi's narrative transcends her humble origins. Despite the shackles of illiteracy, she embodies enlightenment through life's crucible, steadfastly adhering to a moral code.

In the face of unsupportive circumstances, Tirumachi, a single mother of five, forges a path of resilience, crafting a life for her children. Her tale resonates with the echoes of expectations, desires, disappointments, and the silent battles within familial and societal realms. As she confronts mortality, Tirumachi leaves behind a legacy, even securing post-death provisions with her meager savings.

The novel paints an authentic tableau of three generations, navigating the intricate dance between tradition and rebellion. Against the backdrop of Saloor, it unveils the intricacies of hill life – from rituals and medical practices to beliefs in goddesses, witchcraft, Karna lineage sagas, and the unique 'Paadi Vettai' hunt, all articulated in the melodious cadence of the hill people's language. "Santhanak Kooppu" emerges as a vivid exploration of human tenacity, cultural intricacies, and the timeless dance between tradition and progress.

Novel, 306p, Ukiyoto Publications,
978-93-5490-94-5

Language: Tamil

Rights: World rights available

Copyright: Author

GEO DAMIN



Geo Damin M born in 1983 in Kanniyakumari is an accomplished environmental activist and writer, holding a master's degree in Structural Engineering from Annamalai University. With over 15 years of experience as a Structural Consultant, he has played a pivotal role in the design of significant buildings in the state, including the renowned Anna Centenary Library. Currently serving as the General Manager at SF Engineering Structural Systems Pvt Ltd, he leads a dynamic design team.



Dedicated to environmental causes, Geo has been an active volunteer with an environmental organization for the past 8 years. His commitment extends to fostering environmental awareness among students at schools and colleges. Notably, he has contributed to the development of a climate curriculum for an NGO focused on children.

As a prolific writer, Geo has penned numerous articles on environmental issues for various newspapers and magazines. His literary contributions include an impressive collection of 17 books, with a unique focus on environmental topics out of which three books are tailored for children. Among these, 16 are nonfiction works, demonstrating his expertise and passion for educating readers about critical environmental issues. In addition to his professional achievements, Geo Damin M stands out as a dedicated advocate for a sustainable and eco-conscious world.

BOOK SERIES- LIVE, DON'T SURVIVE (Pizhaithal alla Vaazhdhal)

Key Theme:

Consumerism, climate change, capitalism, degrowth

This book series that consists of ten short books navigates the intertwined politics of production and consumption, aiming to reshape our environmental perspective. Its dual goals are to inspire a fresh understanding of Earth's ecosystem and to raise awareness about adverse developments. By challenging humanistic thinking and advocating against blind technological solutions, the book serves as the foundation for environmental education.



While rooted in unbiased historical analysis, it explores the 'evolution of species' to prompt questioning of religious beliefs hindering collective action. Linking environmental disturbances, including climate change, to human history, it emphasizes the importance of socio-economic understanding for planning a dignified global life. The narrative critiques aid disparities, introducing a Marxist lens to economic inequalities. Addressing climate change's threat, it outlines global warming's science and potential impacts on specific regions. Identifying environmental culprits, the book scrutinizes market forces and advocates regulating capitalism for environmental sustainability.

Non fiction, Poovulagin Nanbargal
2022

Language: Tamil

Rights: World rights available

Copyright: Author

Rejecting 'sustainable development' rhetoric, it scrutinizes degrowth concepts. The book condemns the dehumanizing impact of the market economy, urging a re evaluation of mechanized jobs. It explores overconsumption's global consequences and introduces 'degrowth' as a pathway to environmental welfare and justice, challenging the market economy's dominance.

ARE YOU THAT SNAZZY PERSON? (Romba gethana aala neenga?)



Key Theme:

Environmental degradation and its consequences, Exploitation of natural resources, effective waste management dimensions of consumerism.



This compelling book conducts a profound exploration into the core of global challenges, pinpointing the free modern economic system as the chief culprit. It meticulously dissects the productive forces and their governmental allies, attributing environmental predicaments to their profit-centric exploitation of natural resources and emissions. The book asserts that the very survival of our planet hinges on curtailing the expansive influence of this coalition.

In its pursuit of environmental justice, the narrative contends that redistributing the amassed wealth controlled by a privileged few is imperative. This not only addresses economic inequality but also serves as a crucial step in fortifying societies against the impending disasters exacerbated by unchecked environmental degradation.

Moreover, the book delves into the intricate psychological and cultural repercussions of 'consumerism,' framing it as a manifestation of forces fixated on production. It passionately advocates for dismantling these influences to foster a society emancipated from their grip. In essence, the narrative emerges as a poignant examination of the economic and cultural dynamics shaping our world. It provides profound insights into the root causes of environmental crises and proposes transformative solutions, emphasizing the necessity for economic reform, wealth redistribution, and a fundamental shift away from the unsustainable patterns of consumerism that threaten the well-being of our planet.

Essay collection, Poovulagin
Nanbargal, 2022, 288p
978-967-11182-0-7
Language: Tamil
Rights: World rights available
Copyright: Author

NO ONE HAS TO CRY HERE ANYMORE!! (Iniyaarum ingu azhavendaam)



Key Theme:

Time travel, nature, peace



Children's short novel, 48p,
Poovulagin Nanbargal, 2021,
978-967-11182-0-7

Language: Tamil

Rights: World rights available

Copyright: Author

"In the enchanting tale of 'Iniyaarum ingu azhavendam,' a small boy unexpectedly discovers the ability to time travel through a dream where he witnesses Stephen Hawking. Embarking on a journey beyond the confines of his own era, he witnesses the grand tapestry of human evolution and the parallel growth of diverse species. From the dawn of civilization to modern times, the extinction of dinosaurs to other evolution, he observes the rise and fall of empires, the unfolding of wars in distant lands, and pivotal events that shaped the course of history. Through the boy's innocent eyes, readers gain unique perspectives on the profound impacts of conflicts and the disruption they bring to the delicate fabric of peace.

As the narrative unfolds, 'Iniyaarum ingu azhavendam' becomes a poignant exploration of why wars must be averted at all costs. The boy's personal experiences highlight the interconnectedness of humanity and the preciousness of peace. This captivating journey through time serves as a compelling reminder of the collective responsibility to safeguard harmony, encouraging readers to reflect on the consequences of discord and the enduring pursuit of a world free from the ravages of war."

Expand your horizons. Secure our grant.

The Tamil Nadu Translation Grant Program, launched by the Government of Tamil Nadu, aims to promote Tamil literature worldwide and facilitate its broader reach. Through this program, non-Tamil publishers in India as well as foreign countries will be able to translate and publish Tamil titles into their languages, thus making these works accessible to readers everywhere. More details: <https://chennaiinternationalbookfair.com/tamilnadu-translation-grant/>

Global Literary Agent Training Program

The Tamil Nadu government's Global Literary Agent Training Program is a comprehensive initiative designed to equip literary agents with essential skills. Led by accomplished resource persons, the program covers diverse subjects crucial to the profession. Classes incorporate various activities, fostering practical insights and hands-on experience. Participants engage in interactive sessions, workshops, and case studies, gaining a nuanced understanding of global literary dynamics. Beyond traditional aspects like negotiation and rights management, the program addresses emerging trends and technologies. With a dynamic learning approach, it empowers literary agents to navigate the evolving landscape, ensuring they are adept at meeting the demands of the global literary market. A literary agent plays a pivotal role in securing translation grants, as they also oversee both inward and outward rights.

Certified Global Literary Agent



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