

TAMIL TEACHER

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*with my novel scientific way of **making** 'your own' Tamil sentences.*
This book walks you holding your finger

SAMPLE PAGES

Complete in Tamil, *Transliteration* and Devanagari Scripts.
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PRIMARY to INTERMEDIATE

Prof. Ratnakar Narale

புரொ. ரத்னாகரன் நராலே

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Book Title :

Tamil Teacher : Teach or Learn to ‘Make Your Own Sentences’ and then Speak Tamil.

Primary-to-Intermediate, *With my novel scientific method.*

Tamil Teacher is a step-by-step progressive approach with cumulative learning from the basic alphabet to making your own Tamil sentences comfortably. It walks you carefully holding your finger. It is fully English transliterated for your help. It is also coupled with Devanagari script for those who know Hindi or Sanskrit. It has nice diagrams, colourful Chart of Alphabet, valuable Tables, Answers to all Exercises and Examples, Transliterated Students Dictionary of vocabulary, important Notes at the beginning of each chapter and at each step, and much more. Uniquely, in this book you will learn the interrelation between Tamil and Sanskrit.

Fonts used in the Book :

Ratnakar-T and Unicode for Tamil typing

Ratnakar-H for Hindī typing

Ratnakar-E for *Transliteration* Typing

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INDEX

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Four Test Papers | vii |
| Lesson 1 The Tamil Alphabet | 1 |
| Tamil Devnagari Side-by-Side Comparison | 2 |
| Lesson 2 Speaking Tamil Characters | 4 |
| Tamil Pronunciation Vocal Cord Syatem Diagram | 5 |
| Tamil Compound Letters | 6 |
| BEFORE YOU BEGIN, PLEASE KNOW THIS | 9 |
| Lesson 3 Reading and Writing Tamil Consonants | 10 |
| Consonant Pronunciation Chart | 26 |
| Reading and Writing the Tamil Granthaksharas | 27 |
| Lesson 4 Reading and Writing Tamil Vowels | 29 |
| Summary of Vowels and their Signs | 42 |
| Chart of Alphabet with vowel signs | 44 |
| BEFORE YOU BEGIN, PLEASE KNOW THIS | 45 |
| Tamil Priliminary Vocabulary | 46 |
| Lesson 5 The Basic Tamil Numerals | 47 |
| Lesson 6 How to Make Your Own Tamil Sentences | 48 |
| Tamil Nouns, Gender | 49 |
| Singular Plural | 51 |
| Tamil Pronouns | 52 |
| Tamil Interrogative | 54 |
| Yes/No Type Questions | 57 |
| Polite and Formal Speech | 57 |
| Making sentences with Action Words, Present | 58 |
| Common Tamil Verbs | 61 |
| Making sentences with Action Words, Past | 62 |
| Making sentences with Action Words, Future | 63, 66 |
| Advanced Consonant-Consonant Compounding | 65 |
| Lesson 7 Using Pre-Made Tamil Sentences, Part I | 69 |
| BE AWARE OF THIS, BEFORE YOU BEGIN | 69 |
| Lesson 8 Tamil Dictionary of Common Nouns | 72 |
| 8.1 ANIMALS, Domastic / Farm | 73 |
| 8.2 ANIMALS, Wiild | 73 |
| 8.3 INSECTS | 74 |
| 8.4 BIRDS | 75 |
| 8.5 THE BODYPARTS | 76 |

| | | |
|-----------|--|-----|
| 8.6 | AILMENTS and BODY CONDITIONS | 80 |
| 8.7 | CLOTHING, DRESS etc. | 82 |
| 8.8 | RELATIONS | 83 |
| 8.9 | HOUSEHOLD THINGS | 85 |
| 8.10 | TOOLS | 87 |
| 8.11 | FLOWERS | 88 |
| 8.12 | FRUITS | 88 |
| 8.13 | VEGETABLES | 89 |
| 8.14 | PLANTS | 90 |
| 8.15 | FOOD STUFF | 91 |
| 8.16 | SPICES | 93 |
| 8.17 | MINERALS, METALS and JEWELS | 94 |
| 8.18 | MUSIC | 95 |
| 8.19 | PROFESSIONS | 95 |
| 8.20 | BUSINESS | 98 |
| 8.21 | WARFARE | 102 |
| Lesson 9 | Tamil Imperative and Negative Sentences | 105 |
| | Tamil Verbs, part II | 107 |
| | Making infinitives and Nouns from Verbs | 108 |
| | Negative Expressions | 109 |
| | Prohibitive and Polite Expressions | 110 |
| Lesson 10 | Making Complex Tamil Sentences | 111 |
| | Tamil Case Declensions | 113 |
| | Group I | 114 |
| | Group II | 116 |
| | Group III | 117 |
| | Group IV | 119 |
| | Cases of Pronouns | 121 |
| Lesson 11 | Using Pre-Made Tamil Sentences, Part II | 128 |
| Lesson 12 | Adjectives, Adverbs and Participles | 131 |
| | Adjectives and Adverbs | 131 |
| | Particles of Emphasis | 133 |
| Lesson 13 | Compounding of letters and words | 138 |
| | PLEASE THINK THIS, BEFORE YOU BEGIN | 138 |
| | The Sandhi Rules | 138 |
| | Samasa | 145 |

INTRODUCTION

What you are about to discover in this book is a wholly novel way of learning and teaching Tamil, which you have never seen before, even if you already know or teach Tamil. Believe me, even if you JUST READ every word of this book, patiently and thoughtfully, you will understand how to make your own Tamil sentences and speak Tamil with confidence.

The significant factor in the approach and structure of this book is the input over number of years from the students regarding their needs and difficulties in learning Tamil. Thus, while putting this book together, first consideration is given to the fact that learners may not know the Tamil (Devanāgarī) script if they came from the countries outside India or from the provinces of India where Tamil not the first language. For such first time Tamil learners, the complete package includes a 20-step Programmed Text Book, 20-step Course Syllabus, 20-step Homework Book with 20-step Teachers guide and Four Quarterly Tests . With this lightly priced full package, the Teachers can monitor the progress of their students in a programmed manner; the Learners can feel their daily improvement; and the parents can witness the proof of the progress of their children. Many people living in Guyana, the West Indies, Suriname, Fiji, Canada, USA, UK, Africa and Europe; also children of Indian parents living outside India, so also many students in India, learning the English Medium Schools and in the non-Tamil speaking Indian provinces, want to learn Tamil through English Medium. For them, this is perfect level-I Tamil learning book.

What is unique of this book is my innovative but proven scientific method of teaching Tamil, even to absolutely new learners. Here, purposefully, the consonants are discussed first and then the vowels. Within the consonants, the characters are grouped into sets based on their shapes. With this new way, even absolutely new learners learn to read Tamil within a very short time of only few hours. Unique charts are key tools in this book. One of them you will find on the back cover of this book, in the form of the ‘Chart of Tamil Alphabet.’ In our Institute it is a large 3’ x 4’ size poster. Students love it.

Many excellent books are written to learn Tamil through Tamil medium or through English Medium, but in the usual way of providing you pre-made Tamil sentences. It means they must assume that the self-learners already know Tamil well enough to follow the book. Here the learner’s purpose has to be to ‘improve’ the skill, rather than ‘to learn’ the language from level zero. How suitable is a book written in the very language that a learner is trying to learn? For example, is it a good idea to learn Chinese through a book written in Chinese? The learning book must be written in a language the learner already knows, and it must teach how to MAKE your own sentences, and not through pre-made Tamil sentences. The teachers and learners who teach or self-learn Tamil, through a book written in Tamil must appreciate this basic difference, if they are serious in achieving full benefit for their efforts.

The Tamil teachers and learners who use books written in Tamil medium and pre-made, will at first surely hesitate to try this new method, but they should rest assured that once they discover the astonishing effectiveness of this book, they will be glad to have given it a try.

For ‘teaching’ Tamil from level zero, in this book it is first assumed that the reader does not know Tamil at all. Thus, right from Lesson one till the end, you will notice the meticulous care assuring that the material discussed on every page deals ONLY with the information covered in previous pages, a common sense but very rarely practiced. In addition, after every step, the material covered up to that point is cumulatively reviewed under a novel entry called, ‘**what we have learned so far.**’ This **cumulative learning** is one of the beautiful aspects of this book.

While learning Tamil, you must understand **how to make your own sentences**, rather than memorize pre-made ‘pet-sentences.’ By remembering the pet-sentences you and people may think you have learned Tamil in a week, but then you will have to wait until you get an opportunity to use the pre-made sentences that you remember. However, by knowing the simple technique given in this book, **for making your own sentences to express your original thoughts**, all you have to remember is the technique, and then the sky is the limit.

In this book you will discover unique Tables, Charts and Notes that I have discovered, after long research and contemplation, to reveal the inner structure of the Tamil language, like no other book does. You will find them useful, interesting and educational.

Another uncommon but valuable feature in this book is “Answers and word meanings” (**in English transliteration as well as in Tamil**) for all Questions asked in the Exercises and Examples, this makes it a true self-tutor, ‘**without any help from anyone whatsoever.**’ Without this idea, the self learners would have been left in the dark and helpless, wondering at each question, ‘**Did I Get it Right?**’ and ‘**Did I Say it Correctly?**’ I have many Guyanese, West Indian, Canadian and South Indian students who want to learn to ‘speak’ in Tamil, without any particular preference to writing it, other than writing their name etc. Even for them, who want to learn Tamil **without a teacher** and **wholly through transliteration**, this book is right one.

If you like this book, please use my **Tamil level II** book for further learning. You will greatly benefit.

LESSON 1

THE TAMIL ALPHABET

Tamil Vowels :

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|----|-----|
| அ | ஆ | இ | ஈ | உ | ஊ | எ | ஏ | ஐ | ஓ | ஔ | ஔள | ஃ |
| அ | ஆ | இ | ஈ | உ | ஊ | எ | ஏ | ஐ | ஓ | ஔ | ஔ | அஃ |
| a | ā | i | ī | u | ū | e | ē | ai | o | ō | au | akh |

In this row of 12 vowels, vowel number 2, 4, 6, 8 and 11 are extended sounds of the short vowel number 1, 3, 5, 7 and 10.

Tamil Full Consonants :

| | | | | | |
|--------|-----|---------|-----|--------|----|
| க | ங | ச | ஞ | ட | ண |
| க, ग | ङ | च, स | ज | ट, ड | ण |
| ka, ga | ṅga | cha, sa | ñya | ṭa, ḍa | ṇa |

| | | | | | |
|--------|----|--------|----|----|----|
| த | ந | ப | ம | ய | ர |
| त, द | न | प, ब | म | य | र |
| ta, da | na | pa, ba | ma | ya | ra |

| | | | | | |
|----|--------|-----|----|----|----|
| ல | வ | ழ | ள | ற | ன |
| ल | व | ळ | ळ | र् | न |
| la | va. wa | la' | ḷa | ra | na |

| | | | | | |
|--------|----|----|------|----|------|
| ஷ | ஸ | ஹ | க்ஷ | ஜ | ஸ்ரீ |
| श, ष | स | ह | क्ष | ज | श्री |
| śa, ṣa | sa | ha | kṣha | ja | shrī |

Tamil and Devanagari Sanskrit Alphabet Charts

Side by Side Comparison

TABLE 1 : Tamil - Sanskrit inherent interrelationship

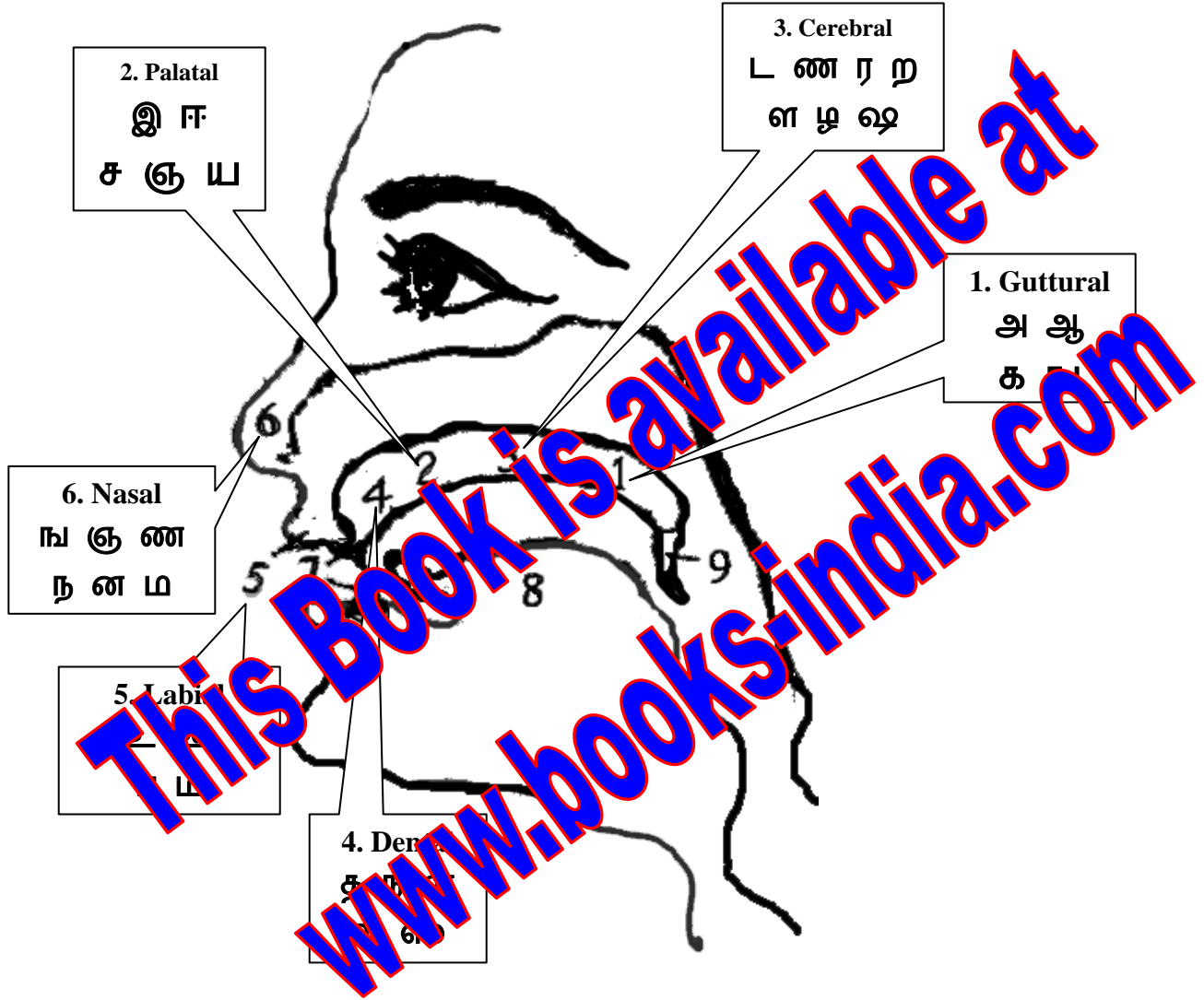
| Tamil Vs Devanagari Sanskrit VOWELS | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|---------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--|-------------|
| Tamil | अ अ a | आ आ ā | इ इ i | ई ई ī | उ उ u | ऊ ऊ ū | |
| <i>Devnagari</i> | अ | आ | इ | ई | उ | ऊ | |
| Tamil | ए ए e | ऐ ऐ ē | ऐ ऐ ai | ओ ओ o | ओऽ ओ ṛ | औ औ au | अख् ೀ akh * |
| <i>Devnagari</i> | ए | ऐ | ऐ | ओ | ओऽ | औ | अह् : * |
| Tamil Vs Devanagari Sanskrit CONSONANTS | | | | | | | |
| Tamil | क् क k | ङ् ङ ng | च् च ch | ञ् ञ ñy | ट् ट t | ण् ण ṇ | |
| <i>Devnagari</i> | क् ख् ग् घ् | ङ् | च् छ् ज् झ् | ञ् | ट् ढ् ड् ढ् | ण् | |
| Tamil | त् த t | ந் ந n | ப் ப p | ம் ம m | ய் ய y | ர் ர r | |
| <i>Devnagari</i> | त् थ् द् ध् | न् | प् फ् ब् भ् | म् | य् | र् | |
| Tamil | ல் ல l | வ் வ v | ழ் ழ ḷ | ழ் ழ ḷ | ர் ர r | ன் ன n | |
| <i>Devnagari</i> | ल् | व् | ळ् ** | | | | |
| Tamil | ஷ் ஷ sh | ஸ் ஸ s | ஹ் ஹ h | க்ஷ் க்ஷ kṣh | ஜ் ஜ j | These five are adopted Granthaksharam characters | |
| <i>Devnagari</i> | श्, ष् | स् | ह् | क्ष् | ज् | | |

* अख् ೀ akh (अह् :) is Semi Consonant, Semi Vowle.

NOTES : (i) Quite contrary to the common belief that Tamil language is totally independent and unrelated to Sanskrit, the above vowel consonant tables (as well as the following lessons and rules on Sandhi, Samasa etc. in Tamil grammar) clearly exhibit that the relationship between these two ancient languages is beyond just a coincidence. These two languages may have been developed separately, but their millenniums of common inheritance on the Indian subcontinent clearly reveals their common imprint. One language may or may not have come from or influenced the other, but there is a common thread for sure.

** (ii) Some Hindi speaking people may think that letter ऴ is not a Devanagri or Sanskrit character. Even though it did not reach Hindi, the Sanskrit has it. Letter ऴ appears in the very first verse of the Rigveda (अग्निमिळे पुरोहित). You can also hear their sounds in Tamil, Telugu, Kannad, Malyalam, Marathi and Gujrati languages. Same is true for the letters ऐ and औ. In Hindi, vowels ऐ and औ are used in their place. See the language charts in the Appendix.

LEARN TO PRONOUNCE TAMIL CHARACTERS



-
- | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| (1) Guttural | कण्ठ्य <i>kaṅṭhya</i> | = with throat |
| (2) Palatal | तालव्य <i>tālavya</i> | = with palate |
| (3) Cerebral | मूर्धन्य <i>mūrdhanya</i> | = with cerebrum |
| (4) Dental | दन्त्य <i>dantya</i> | = with teeth |
| (5) Labial | ओष्ठ्य <i>oṣṭhya</i> | = with lips |
| (6) Nasal | अनुनासिक <i>anunāsik</i> | = with nose |

7 = Teeth, # 8 = Tongue, # 9 = Uvula

(1) THE VOWELS :

LESSON 3

READING AND WRITING TAMIL CONSONANTS

3.1 The First Two Tamil Consonants :



ka

க (... ஊ, க, ச)



nga

ங

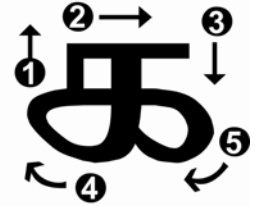
1. The First Tamil Consonant : க (ka க) :

i. Tamil க *ka* க is written in the strokes of 1, 2 and 3, 4, 5 as shown with the numbered arrows below.

ii. The Tamil consonant க stands for Devanagari consonant क, ख, ग, or घ, depending on the how the word is pronounced.

iii. **The sound of க is like English letter k** (as in *Kit*) or Hindi क (as in कमल), when :

- a Tamil word starts with letter க,
- when the க is in the (middle of the) word is mute (i.e. half க் க் *k*)
- when it is doubled (க்க் க் *kk*),
- க is at the end of a syllable,
- or when க comes after letter ட் ட் ;
- or when க comes after ன (n ன);
- when க comes after letter ற் ற் ;
- when க is between two vowels.



e.g. கடல் *kaḍal* कडल = Ocean; சக்கரம் *chakkaram* चक्करम् = Wheel (Sanskrit चक्रम् *chakram*; Hindi चक्र *chakra*); வைகாசி *vaikasi* वैकासि = April-May (Sanskrit वैशाख, Hindi बैसाख); கட்கம் *kaḍkam* कट्कम् = Sword (Sanskrit खड्गम् *khadgam*; Hindi खड्ग *khadga*); பற்கள் *parkal* पर्कळ्, पकळ् (teeth); வணக்கம் *vaṇakkam* वणक्कम् *vaṇakkam* = Hi (Sanskrit/Hindi नमस्ते).

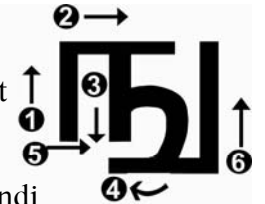
- iv. **The sound of க is like English letter g (as in gut) or Hindi letter ग (as in गरम), when क comes after the nasal consonants ன் (ng ड) , ண் (ṅ ण) or after letter ற் (r र) , e.g. சங்கம் சङ्गம் *saṅgam* = Group (Sanskrit सङ्गः Hindi संग, संघ); அவர்கள் अवर्गळ् *avargaḷ* (they).**
- v. When letter क ka comes in the middle of a word between two consonants, that letter क ka क may sound like letter ह h or घ gh. e.g. நகம் நஹ், ந஑ம் *naham, nagham* (Nail), மகன் ம஑ன் *magan (mahan, maghan* महन्, मघन्) (Son).
- viii. The क ka क at the end of a word, if follows vowel आ ā, it sounds like ह h. e.g. உனக்காக (For you) उनक्काक = उनक्काह *unakkāk = unakkāh*.
- ix. In a word of several syllables, the क ka क of the last syllable sounds like ह h. e.g. அவர்கள் अवर्गळ् *avargaḷ* (They).
- x. When a Sanskrit or Hindi word is written in Tamil, the sound of the letter क will be क, ख ग or घ, (*k, kh, g, gh*) depending on its sound in that language. e.g. नखम् = நகம், घड़ी = கடி, etc.

NOTE : In Hindī (in English too), if a word ends in a simple consonant, this ending consonant is said with less stress. eg. *kaba* (कब) is actually said as if it was *kab* कब् *baka* (बक) as 'bak कक्' and so on. But, In Tamil (as in Sanskrit) the last letter is pronounced full, unless it actually is a half letter, e.g. கட்கம் *kaḍkam* कट्गम् = Sword (Sanskrit खड्गम् *khadgam*)

2. The Second Tamil Consonant : ன் (nga ड)

i. Tamil ன் *nga* ड is written in the strokes of 1, 2 and 3, 4, 5, 6 as shown with numbered arrows below.

ii. The Tamil letter ன் is not in English language. In Hindi it is rarely used if at all, but in Sanskrit and Tamil it is used frequently. It is usually used as mute consonant ன் followed by its kindred letter க *k* क, and the pair ன்க gives the composite sound of *nga* ङ्ग or ङ्ग e.g. சங்கம் சङ्गம் *saṅgam* = Group (Sanskrit सङ्गः Hindi संग; English : Dung)



iii. Also, like Sanskrit, no Tamil word begins with consonant ன் or ன். That is, this letter never comes as an initial letter of a Tamil or Sanskrit word.

iv. When a word ending in letter ம் *m* म् is followed by a word beginning with letter க *k* क, the letter ம் *m* म् is changed to letter ன் *ng* ङ् (like the *parasvarna sandhi* of Sanskrit grammar). e.g. பழம்

paḷam पळम् Fruit + **கள்** *kal* कळ् a suffix of pluralization = **பழங்கள்** *paḷāṅgaḷ* पळंगळ Fruits.

However, in some cases the **ம்** *m* changes to **க்** *k* e.g. **நகம்** *naham* नहम् Nail + **கண்** *kan* कण् Eye = **நகக்கண்** *nahakkān* नहक्कण् Nail and Eye (संस्कृत द्वंद्व समास)

v. When a word ending in letter **ம்** *m* is followed by the honorary suffix **ங்க** *ngg* इग, the **ம்** *m* is dropped, like the Sanskrit *parasvarna sandhi*..e.g. **வணக்கம்** *vanakkam* वणक्कम् (Hi नमस्ते) + **ங்க** (Sir जी) = **வணக்கங்க** *vaṅakkāṅg* वणक्कङ्ग (Hello Sir, नमस्ते जी)

vi. When an adjective ending in letter **ம்** *m* is followed by its noun, the end letter **ம்** *m* of the adjective is dropped

3.2 The Third and Fourth Tamil Consonants :

cha

च (... छ, ज, झ)

ñya

ज

3. The Third Tamil Consonant : **ச** (*ch* च) :

i. Tamil **ச** *cha* च is written in the strokes of 1, 2 and 3, 4, 5 as shown with the numbered arrows.

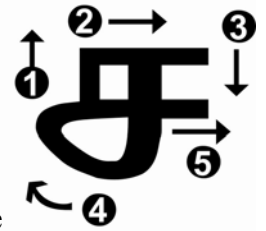
ii. The Tamil consonant **ச** stands for Devanagari consonant च, छ, ज, or झ, depending up on the how the word is pronounced.

iii. When a Tamil word starts with letter **ச**, or when the **ச** in the word is mute

(i.e. half **ச** *ch*) or when it is doubled (**ச்ச** *chcha*), the sound of **ச** is like

the Hindi letter च (as in चम्मच), and Sanskrit letter च *ch*, as in the Sanskrit verb चर्च *charch*

(to violate, to rebuke). English language does not have letter *ch*, but only the sound of *ch* is there as in English word *Church*.



iv. In the Tamil words adopted from Sanskrit, the sound of **ச** may be like ज *j*. e.g. **சனம்** = ஜனம்

जनम् *janam* (People), Sanskrit and Hindi जन *jana* (People).

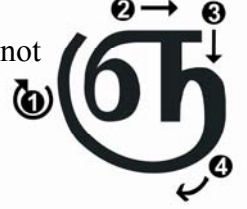
- v. Like the Sanskrit rule of Third Consonant, when letter **ச** *cha* च comes after letter **ஞ** (ञ *ny*), the letter **ச** takes sound of Hindi letter ज English j. e.g. **பஞ்சு** पञ्जु *pañju* (Cotton).
- vi. When **ச** *cha* च is mute or doubled, it sounds like छ *chh*. e.g. **இச்சை** इच्छै *icchai* (Desire), Sanskrit and Hindi इच्छा *ichhā*.
- vii. When **ச** *cha* च comes after letter **ட** *t* or **ற** *r*, it maintains its *ch* sound. e.g. **திராட்சை** दिराट्चै *diratchai* (Grapes); Sanskrit, Hindi द्राक्ष *drāksha*.
- viii. When **ச** *cha* च comes after letter **ப** *p*, it sounds like स *s*. e.g. **பசு** पशु *pasu* (Cow), Sanskrit पशु *pashu* (Animal).
- ix. When letter **ச** *cha* च comes after letter **ஞ**, the letter **ச** *cha* च is pronounced as ज *j* and letter **ஞ** is pronounced somewhat like न *n*. e.g. **பஞ்சாபி** (written पञ्चापि) spoken पंजाबी *pañjābī*.
- x. When **ச** comes as initial letter, or if it comes in the word as a full simple consonant, it sounds like स *s*. e.g. **சரம்** सरम् *saram* (Movement) Sanskrit सर *sar* (move); **ரசம்** रसम् *rasam* (Juice) Sanskrit रसम् *rasam* (juice).
- xi. When a word ending in **ம்** *m* is followed by a word starting with letter **ச** *ch*, the **ம்** *m* is usually changed to **ஞ** *ny*; in some cases it is changed to **ச்** *ch*. e.g. **பழம் + செய்யப்பட்ட** = **பழஞ்செய்யப்பட்ட** पळञ्चैप्पट्ट *paññaippaṭṭa* (an Old Sandal); **மரம் + சட்டம்** = **மரச்சட்டம்** मरच्चट्टम् *marachchattam* (a Wood-frame).
- xii. In Sanskrit words, the **ச** *cha* च can sound like letter स *s* or श *sh*. e.g. **சந்நியாசி** संन्यासी *sanyasi* (Hermit). **தேசம்** देसम्, देशम् *desam, deshām* (Country)

PLEASE DO NOT JUMP TO NEXT LESSON WITHOUT DOING THIS ONE PROPERLY.

4. The Fourth Tamil Consonant : ஞ (ny ज) :

i. Tamil ஞ ny च is written in the strokes of 1, 2 and 3, 4, 5 as shown with the numbered arrows.

ii. The Tamil letter ஞ (ny ज) is not in English language and its pronunciation can not be correctly expressed in English, but it approximately sounds like *ny*. In Hindi it is rarely used. In Sanskrit and Tamil it is used frequently. It is usually used as a mute consonant ஞ ny ज्



iii. For joining with vowels, letter ஞ ny ज takes only vowels அ, ஆ, எ, ஏ and ஓ அ, ஆ, எ, ஏ, ஓ and ஔ (a, ā, e, ē and o).

iv. When letter ஞ cha च comes after letter ஞ, the letter ஞ cha च is pronounced as ज j and letter ஞ is pronounced somewhat like न n. e.g. பஞ்சாபி (पञ्चापि) ப்ஜாபி *pañjābī*

v. When a word ending in ழ ம் m is followed by a word starting with letter ஞ ch, the ழ ம் m is usually changed to ஞ ஞ ny; in some cases it is changed to ஞ ஞ ch. e.g. பழம் + செய்யப்பட்ட = பழஞ்செய்யப்பட்ட பழஞ்சைப்படி *paññaippaṭṭa* (an Old Sandal); மரம் + சட்டம் = மரச்சட்டம் மரச்சட்டம் *marachchaṭṭam* (a Wood-frame).

3.3 The Fifth and Sixth Tamil Consonants :

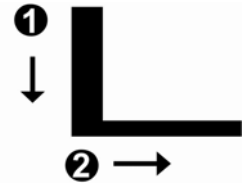
ழ
ta
ட (...ட, ட, ட)

ண
na
ण

5. The Fifth Tamil Consonant : ழ (t ट) :

i. Tamil ழ t ट is written in a stroke of 1, 2 as shown.

ii. The Tamil consonant ழ stands for Devanagari consonant ट, ठ, ड, or ढ, depending up on how the word is pronounced.



iii. Tamil ழ has a very hard metallic cerebral sound which is not in English. It comes in Sanskrit word टिट्ठिभी *tittibhee* (a Sandpiper) and Hindi word टमटम *tamtam* (a One horse carriage, Tonga).

iv. The Tamil ழ t ट (ट, ठ, ढ) gives the preceding vowel a wider sound than it's normal sound. e.g.

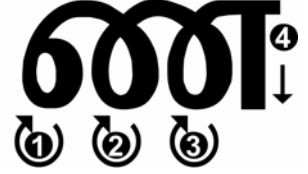
ஈடு *eedu* (Suffer); ஏடு *ēdu* (a Leaf); ஓடு *ōdu* (Run, hasten)

v. The original Tamil words do not begin with letter ட, but the adopted words begin with double டட (*tt*). e.g. டடடாணா டானா *tthānā* (Police station) Hindi थाना *thana*. Sanskrit स्थान *sthana*.

6. The Sixth Tamil Consonant : ண (*ṇ*) :

i. Tamil ண *ṇ* is written in the strokes of 1, 2, 3 and 4 as shown with the numbered arrows below.

ii. To pronounce this retroflex letter ண *ṇ*, curl the tongue back towards the throat and touch it at middle part of the cerebrum plate and then suddenly drop it to say the sharp ண *ṇ*.



iii. The Tamil ண has a hard metallic cerebral sound which is not in English. It is in Sanskrit and Hindi word बाण *bāṇa* (an Arrow).

iv. When a word ending in ண *ṇ* is followed by a word beginning with க், ச், or ப் *kk, ch or p*, the final ண *ṇ* becomes ட் *tt*. e.g. மண + மூர்த்தம் = மட்டமூர்த்தம்
मण् + मूर्त्तम् = मट्मूर्त्तम् *maṇ* (Earthen) + *moortham* (Idole, मूर्ति) = *maṭ-mūrtam* (Clay-idole)

v. In Tamil, Sanskrit and Hindi ண *ṇ* never comes as initial letter of a word.

EXERCISE : Read the following Tamil letters and words

க ங ச ஞ ட ண

கண் (Eye), சட (Haa!), டக்டக (Tapping sounds), டங்க (Twang sound)

3.4 The Seventh and Eighth Tamil Consonants :

த

ta

த (...த, த, த)

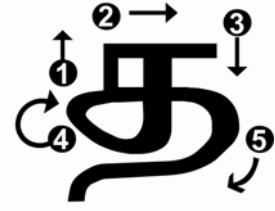
ந

na

ந

7. The Seventh Tamil Consonant : த (*t*) :

i. Tamil dental த t த is written in the strokes of 1, 2 and 3, 4, 5 as shown.



ii. This pure dental consonant த stands for Devanagari dental consonants त, थ, द, ध, depending on how the word is pronounced.

The most common Tamil sound of த is more close to थ th than त t or द d.

Specially between two vowels the த sound mote like th थ than त t. e.g. சீதா சீதா seetha; Sanskrit, Hindi सीता Seethā கதை कथै kathai (Story) = Sanskrit कथा kathā.

English th has two sounds as in thunder and then, but both of these th sounds are different than the Tamil த th. This sound is not in English.

iii. The letter த is stand alone, initial letter, mute or doubled, it has a sound of त, थ t, th; but when it is in the middle or at the end of a word, it sounds like द, ध d, dh. In Sanskrit originated words, it is pronounced accordingly. e.g. தானம் दानम् dānam (Charity); தேவி देवि devī (Goddess देवी).

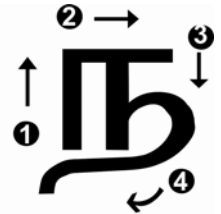
iv. The Tamil ட t ट (ट, ड, ढ) gives the preceding vowel a wider sound than it's normal sound. e.g. ஈடு ईदु eedu (Equal); ஏடு ऐடு ědu (a Leaf); ஓடு ஆடு odu (Run, hasten)

v. When letter த t த comes after letter ந n ன், it sounds like द d. e.g. இந்த இந்ந் ind (this), வந்தனம் वन्दनम् vandanam (Salute संस्कृत वन्दनम्).

8. The Eighth Tamil Consonant : ற (n ன) :

i. Tamil ற n ன is written in the strokes of 1, 2 and 3, 4 as shown with the numbered arrows.

ii. To pronounce this ன n sound, touch the tip of your tongue to the tip of upper teeth and say it softly.



iii. There are two ன n letters in Tamil (The other ன n, is the consonant number 18, given ahead). This ற ன n NEVER comes at the end of a word.

This ற ன n comes only as INITIAL letter or in the middle of the word.

If the ன n comes before letter த த, द d, then this ற is used. e.g. பதினைந்து पदिनैन्दु padinaindu (Fifteen); பந்து पन्दु pandu (Ball, Sanskrit कन्दुक), பஞ்சதஷம் पाँचदशम् pañchadasham (Sanskrit पंचदश pañchadasha, Hindi पन्द्रह pandraha).

NOTE that there is not much essential difference between this **த** and the other Tamil **ண** *n*, other than that for the first **த** the tongue touch is heavier with the teeth than **ண** *n*. In written Tamil, these two letters are often interchanged.

EXERCISE : Read and Write the following Tamil letters

க ங ச ஞ ட ண த ந

3.5 The Ninth and Tenth Tamil Consonants :

ப

pa

प (...फ, ब, भ)

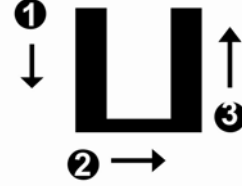
ம

ma

म

9. The Ninth Tamil Consonant : **ப** (*p* **प**) :

i. Tamil **ப** *p* **प** is written in a stroke of 1, 2, 3 as shown .



ii. The consonant **ப** stands for Devanagari consonant **प**, **फ**, **ब**, or **भ**, depending on how the word is pronounced.

iii. When letter **ப** comes as stand-alone, initial, mute or doubled, it sounds like

ப *p* as in **பணம்** *பணம் paṇam* (Coin); Sanskrit **पण्** *paṇ* (to buy), English word *pan* (Pot).

iv. When letter **ப** comes as after letter **ட** *t* or **ற** *r*, it sounds like **ப** *p* as in **பாடம்** *பாடம் pātham* (Lesson); Sanskrit, Hindi **पाठ** *pāth* (Lesson),

v. When letter **ப** is doubled, it also sounds like **ப** *p* as in **கப்பல்** *கப்பல் kappal* (Ship).

vi. Other than above three situations, when letter **ப** comes in the middle or at the end of a word, it sounds **த** like **ब** or **भ** *b* or *bh*. e.g. **கம்பர்** *கம்பர் kambar* (A Tamil Poet);

vii. In adopted words it sounds like **ब** *b*. e.g. **புத்தி** बुद्धि *buddhi* (Intelligence); **பந்து** बन्धु *bandhu*; **பஞ்சாபி** पंजाबी *pañjābī*

viii. Between two vowels Tamil **ப** *p* **ப** has *ph* **फ** like sound. e.g. **தபம்** तपम् *tapham* (Austerity) Sanskrit तपम् *tapam* (Austerity)

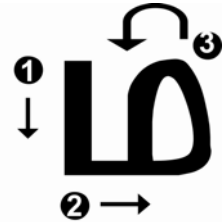
ix. In Sanskrit words written in Tamil, the letter **प** *p* **प** may sound as **प**, **फ**, **ब**, **भ** *p*, *ph*, *b*, *bh*. e.g. **भयम्** bhayam (Fear), **बन्धु** bandhu **அண்ணன்**, **தம்பி** (Relative, Brother).

10. The Tenth Tamil Consonant : **ம** (*m* **ம**) :

i. Tamil letter **ம** *m* **ம** is written in a stroke of 1, 2, 3 as shown with the numbered arrows below.

ii. The mute consonant **ம்** is used as a nasal component of the preceding consonant, vowel or syllable. e.g. **பணம்** पणम् *paṇam* (Coin)

பணம் पणम् *paṇam* = **ப** + **ணம்** *pa + ṇam*; NOT **ப** + **ண** + **ம்** *pa + ṇa + m*



iii. While saying **ம்** *m*, the lips are kept closed, but while saying **ம** *ma*, the lips are opened.

iv. When a word ending in **ம்** *m* is followed by a word beginning with letter **க** *k*, the **ம்** *m* changes to **ங்** *ng*. e.g. **பக்கம்** + **கள்** = **பக்கங்கள்** - **பக்கம்** *pakkam* पक्कम् (Side) + **கள்** *kaḷ* (plural) = **பக்கங்கள்** *pakkaṅkaḷ* पक्कङ्कळ (Sides)

v. When a word ending in **ம்** *m* is followed by a word beginning with letter **ச** *ch*, the **ம்** *m* changes to **ஞ்** *ny*. like Sanskrit sandhi. e.g. **மரம்** *maram* मरम् (tree) + **சாலை** (chāgai, sāgai सागै = संस्कृत शाख) = **மரஞ்சாலை** *mañchāgai* मरंसागै or **marankīlai** **மரக்கிளை** मरंक्किळै).

vi. When a word ending in **ம்** *m* is followed by a word beginning with letter **த** *t*, **த** *t*, **த** *d* the **ம்** *m* changes to **ந்** *n*. e.g. (i) **மனம்** *manam* मनम् (mind) + **திறந்து** *thirandu* तिरंदु (open) = **மனந்திறந்து** *mananthirandu* मनन्तिरंदु (open mind); (ii) **மரம்** *maram* मरम् (tree) + **தழை** (daḷai दळै; संकृत दल, मराठी दळ) = **மரந்தழை** *mañḍaḷai* मरंदळै).

vii. When a word ending in **ம்** *m* is followed by a word beginning with letter **ம்** *m*, the **ம்** *m* is dropped. e.g. **வணக்கம்** *vanakkam* वणक्कम् (Hi नमस्ते) + **முருகன்** (Murugan मुरुगन्) = **வணக்கம்முருகன்** *vaṇakkammurugan* वणक्कम्मुरुगन् (Hello Mr. Murugan नमस्ते मुरुगन् जी)

READING AND WRITING TAMIL GRANTHAKSHARs

ஜ ஸ ஷ ஹ க்ஷ

ja

ज

sa

स

sha

श, ष

ha

ह

ksha

क्ष

1. The First Tamil Granthakshar : ஜ (*ja* ज)

i. Tamil ஜ *j*ज is written in a single stroke of 1, 2, 3, 4 as shown :



ii. The Tamil letter used in place of ஜ is ஶ and pronounced as ஜ *j* or ச *s*.

e.g. சனம் ஜனம் *janama* (People) Sanskrit जन *jana* (People);

பசு பசு *pasu* (Cow), Sanskrit पशु *pashu* (Animal, Cow).

2. The Second Tamil Granthakshar : ஸ (*sa* स)

i. Tamil ஸ *sa*स is written in a single stroke of 1, 2, 3 as shown :



ii. Tamil ஸ *sa*स is always used as a mute character and joins

another consonant or a vowel. e.g. புத்தகம் (புஸ்தகம்) புத்தம் *puttaha*m (Book),

Sanskrit पुस्तकम् *pustakam*, Hindi पुस्तक *pustak* (Book).

NOTE : The த *t* that joins with ச *s* has a sound of थ *th*. e.g. ஸ்திரீ ஸ்திரீ *stree* (Woman).

3. The Third Tamil Granthakshar : ஷ (*sha* श, ष)

i. The Tamil ஷ *sha*श, ष is written in the strokes of 1, 2, 3 and 4



ii. Tamil letter used in place of ஷ is ள and pronounced as ள *t*.

e.g. கஷ்டம் கஷ்டம் *kashṭam* = கட்டம் கட்டம் *kattam* (Trouble)

4.5 The Ninth Tamil Vowel :

ஐ

ai

ஏ

THE VOWEL SIGN :

ஐ

ai

ஏ

9. The Ninth Tamil Vowel : ஐ (*e* ஏ) :

- Tamil ஐ *ai* ஏ is written in a single stroke of 1, 2, 3, 4 as shown with the numbered arrows below.
- The vowel ஐ *ai* ஏ does not have a sound in English language, but sounds approximately like *i* as in Rite. It sounds like Hindi *ai* ए as in *ai Malik* ऐ मालिक!

- The Vowel Sign for letter ஐ *ai* ஏ is ஐ attached on the left side of the consonant. e.g. சித்திரை *chittirai* (April);
அம்மை *ammai* (Goddess, Amma, Amba);
Sanskrit-Hindi अम्बा *ambā* (Devi, Ambā).



Note that, in above example (அம்மை *ammai*) the vowel sign ஐ *ai* ஏ is placed between ழ and ழ ம் and ழ ம் (*m* and *ma*), therefore, it is more like அம்மை than அம்மை.or அம்மை. This hint holds good for the other vowel signs as well.

EXERCISE : Read and Write the following Tamil letters and words

கை கைங் கைசு கைஞ் கைட கைணை கைத கைந்
கைப கைம கைய கைர
கைல கைவ கைழ் கைள கைற கைன கைஜ்
கைஸ கைஷ் கைஹ் கைக்ஷ

சட்டை (Coat, Jacket), தவளை (Frog), அறை (Room), வாழை
(Banana), பூனை (Cat), கோழி (Hen)

4.6 The Tenth and Eleventh Tamil Vowels :

o
ஓ

ō
ஔ

VOWEL SIGNS :

o
ஓ

ō
ஔ

SUMMARY OF VOWELS & THEIR SIGNS

TABLE 7 : Vowels and their Signs

| VOWEL | VOWEL SIGN(s) | EXAMPLE(s) |
|-------|---------------|---|
| அ | | மரம் (Plant, tree) |
| ஆ | ா | மாதா (Mother माता), அண்ணா (Father, Elder brother) |
| இ | ி | மிக்க (Great) |
| ஈ, ஐ | ீ | மீதி (<i>nux vomica</i> मेथी) |
| உ | ு ற று ு | முகம் (Face मुखम्), புவனம் (पवनम् Wind, Sky), துக்கம் (Pain दुःखम्), சூடு (Hot) |
| ஊ | ூ ஶூ ு | மூச்சு (Breath) பூமி (Earth) தூக்கம் (Sleep) கூரை (Roof) |
| எ | ெ | மெய் (Truth) |
| ஏ | ே | மேகம் (Cloud, Sanskrit मेघ) |
| ஐ | ை ஶை | மை (Ink), பூனை (Cat) |
| ஓ | ொ | மொக்கு, மொட்கு (Flower bud) |
| ஔ | ோ | மோகம் (Delusion, Sanskrit मोघम्) |
| ஔ | ௌ | மௌனம் (Silence, Sanskrit मौनम्) |

This Table is developed by Sanskrit Hindi Research Institute for "Learn Tamil Through English/Hindi" by Ratnakar Narale.

CHART OF ALPHABET WITH VOWEL SIGNS

| <i>a</i> | <i>ā</i> | <i>i</i> | <i>ī</i> | <i>u</i> | <i>ū</i> | <i>e</i> | <i>ē</i> | <i>ai</i> | <i>o</i> | <i>ō</i> | <i>au</i> |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| அ | ஆ | இ | ஈ | உ | ஊ | ஏ | ஈ | ஐ | ஓ | ஔ | ஔ |
| க | கா | கி | கீ | கு | கூ | கெ | கே | கை | கொ | கோ | கௌ |
| ங | ஙா | ஙி | ஙீ | ஙு | ஙூ | ஙெ | ஙே | ஙை | ஙொ | ஙோ | ஙௌ |
| ச | சா | சி | சீ | சு | சூ | செ | சே | சை | சொ | சோ | சௌ |
| ஞ | ஞா | ஞி | ஞீ | ஞு | ஞூ | ஞெ | ஞே | ஞை | ஞொ | ஞோ | ஞௌ |
| ட | டா | டி | டீ | டு | டூ | டெ | டே | டை | டொ | டோ | டௌ |
| ண | ணா | ணி | ணீ | ணு | ணூ | ணெ | ணே | ணை | ணொ | ணோ | ணௌ |
| த | தா | தி | தீ | து | தூ | தெ | தே | தை | தொ | தோ | தௌ |
| ப | பா | பி | பீ | பு | பூ | பெ | பே | பை | பொ | போ | பௌ |
| ம | மா | மி | மீ | மு | மூ | மெ | மே | மை | மொ | மோ | மௌ |
| ய | யா | யி | யீ | யு | யூ | யெ | யே | யை | யொ | யோ | யௌ |
| ர | ரா | ரி | ரீ | ரு | ரூ | ரெ | ரே | ரை | ரொ | ரோ | ரௌ |
| ல | லா | லி | லீ | லு | லூ | லெ | லே | லை | லொ | லோ | லௌ |
| வ | வா | வி | வீ | வு | வூ | வெ | வே | வை | வொ | வோ | வௌ |
| ள | ளா | ளி | ளீ | ளு | ளூ | ளெ | ளே | ளை | ளொ | ளோ | ளௌ |
| ற | றா | றி | றீ | று | றூ | றெ | றே | றை | றொ | றோ | றௌ |
| ன | னா | னி | னீ | னு | னூ | னெ | னே | னை | னொ | னோ | னௌ |
























































BEFORE YOU PROCEED FURTHER, PLEASE KNOW THIS

1. Like Sanskrit and Hindi, the **அ, இ, உ** அ, ங, ஊ are Basic or Simple Vowels. The rest nine vowels **ஆ, ஈ, ஊ, எ, ஏ, ஐ, ஒ, ஓ, ஔ** आ, ई, ऊ, ए, ऐ, ऐ, ओ, औ are Compound Vowels, composed of the Basic three vowels. e.g. **ஆ = அ + அ; ஈ = இ + இ; ஊ = உ + உ;**
எ = அ + இ; ஏ = அ + ஈ; ஐ = அ + அ + இ; ஒ = அ + உ; ஓ = அ + ஊ;
ஔ = அ + அ + உ. आ = अ + अ; ई = इ + इ; ऊ = उ + उ; ए = अ + इ; ऐ = अ + ई; ऐ = अ + अ + इ; ओ = अ + उ; औ = अ + ऊ; औ = अ + अ + उ.
2. Like Sanskrit, and unlike Hindi and English, the last consonant (with vowel அ a), is pronounced with full stress (long). e.g. Tamil : **பக** (பக, பக depart); Sanskrit : **बक** (*baka* Stork); Hindi : **बक** (*bak* pronounced as **बक्** Stork); English : **Buck** (**बक्** *buk* Dollar).
3. While learning the 18 consonants by heart, the first 10 consonants are repeated in five pairs of two consonants each, then the rest eight consonants are said singly or in pairs of two.
4. When there are short and long vowels within a word, the long ones are pronounced more distinctly.
5. Within the above mentioned five pairs, each initial consonant is followed by its corresponding (devanagri) nasal consonant e.g. **கங், சஞ், டண், தந், பம** कङ्, चञ्, टण्, तन्, पम्;
6. Next four consonants form two pairs like the Devanagari Alphabet. **ய ர, ல வ** य र, ल व; *y r, l v*
7. No Tamil word begins with the last four consonants **ழ், ள், ற், ன்**.
8. A Tamil mute or half consonant (with the dot over it) is named by prefixing **இ** *i* ங் sound to that consonant. e.g. **க ங் ச ... ம ர** = क ङ् च ... म र *ka, nga, cha ... ma, ra* etc.;
க் ங் ச ... ம் ர் etc. = इक् इङ् इच् ... इम् इर् *ik, ing, ich ... im, ir* etc.;
9. Like Sanskrit and Hindi, when Tamil consonants are doubled they are pronounced more distinctly and strongly than they are done in English. e.g. Tamil : **பட்டணம்** (பட்டணம் *paṭṭanam* City). Sanskrit : **पट्टनम्** (*paṭṭanam* City); Hindi : **पट्टन** (*paṭṭan* City); English : **butter** (बटर).
10. When a word begins with vowel **எ** (e) or **ஏ** (ē), these vowels are sounded like **யே** (ye), as in Hindi, vowel ए (e) is sounded like ये (ye). e.g. Tamil : **எண்ண** (*yenna*, யென் What?) **ஏன்** (*yen* யென் Why?); Hindi गए, गये (*gae, gaye* Gone); Sanskrit : **येन** (*yena* By whom).

NOW YOU ARE READY TO LEARN READING, WRITING and SPEAKING TAMIL.

LESSON 5

THE BASIC TAMIL NUMERALS

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---------|---------|---------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|---------------------------------|--|
| 0 | புஜியம் | सून्यम् | <i>sūnyam</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | ஒன்று | ओन्ऱु | <i>onru</i> |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | One book. ஒரு புத்தகம் | |
| 2 | இரண்டு | इरण्दु | <i>irandu</i> |  |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Two books. இரண்டு புத்தகங்கள் | |
| 3 | மூன்று | मून्ऱु | <i>mūnru</i> |  |  |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Three books. மூன்று புத்தகங்கள் | |
| 4 | நான்கு | नान्गु | <i>nāngu</i> |  |  |  |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | ஐந்து | ऐन्दु | <i>aindu</i> |  |  |  |  |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | ஆறு | आरु | <i>āru</i> |  |  |  |  |  |  | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | ஏழு | एळु | <i>elū</i> |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | எட்டு | एट्टु | <i>ettu</i> |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | ஒன்பது | ओन्बदु | <i>onbadu</i> |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | பத்து | पत्तु | <i>pattu</i> |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | | | | | | | |

EXERCISE : Numerals

(1) Read the numbers in Tamil :

1 7 9 4 0 3 2 8 5 6

(2) Read the following Tamil numerals :

மூன்று எட்டு ஏழு பத்து ஒன்று ஆறு ஒன்பது நான்கு புஜியம்
இரண்டு ஐந்து

(3) Read and Write the following Tamil numerals :

நான்கு ஒன்பது சூன்யம் இரண்டு ஐந்து எட்டு ஒன்று பத்து ஏழு
மூன்று ஆறு

LESSON 6

HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN TAMIL SENTENCES

This is the Most Important Chapter in Learning Tamil Properly

PLEASE BE REMINDED OF THE FOLLOWING BEFORE YOU BEGIN

- i. When we speak or write, we use words. We use them in meaningful groups to form sentences. Sometimes we form a compound sentence made up of two or more clauses. The order in which we arrange the words in the clauses and sentences is the Syntax.
- ii. The sentences are of four kinds :
 - (a) An Assertive sentence, that makes an Assertion, Declaration or a Statement.
 - (b) An Interrogative sentence, that asks a Question.
 - (c) An Imperative statement, that expresses a Request, an Order (request is a polite order).
 - (d) An Exclamatory sentence, that expresses a strong feeling.
- iii. When we make a sentence, we :
 - (a) Mention a Person or a Thing and say something about him/her/it.
 - (b) The person or thing about which we say something, is the subject.
 - (c) What we say about him/her/it is the predicate.
- iv. In Tamil, English, Hindi and Sanskrit sentences the Subject comes before the predicate. However, in the imperative sentences we leave the subject out and understood.
- v. Each sentence has some action. The action word is Verb. In Tamil, Hindi and Sanskrit sentences we place the verb at the end of the sentence. Whereas, in English the verb comes right after the subject.

The doer of the action is the Subject, which is normally the first word of the sentence. Therefore, Tamil, Hindi and Sanskrit are SOV (Subject-Object-Verb) languages and English is SVO language.
- vi. The thing(s) or person(s) on which the verb (action) is performed is(are) the Object(s) in the sentence.
- vii. It is often said that “*Tamil is totally independent original language and has no connection with Sanskrit language in its origin and development.*” The above study and the following research on the common fibers in these two languages, however, suggests that one language must have come from other, or, if not, influenced the other greatly, for sure. These large scale similarities and interrelationships can not just be a coincidence, or could it?
- viii. Again, please DO NOT begin this lesson without finishing previous lessons properly. Review this lesson at least twice. Here we go ...

LESSON 7

USING PRE-MADE TAMIL SENTENCES, Part I

PLEASE BE AWARE OF THIS, BEFORE YOU BEGIN

- i. When you are able make your own sentences, your power is infinite. And, you know why each sentence is made this way. Only pre-made sentences is not the right way to learn Tamil.
- ii. If you learn Tamil (or any language) through the common practice of learning through pre-made sentences, you are learning blindly, without knowing why the sentence is made this way. It's a lame job. HOWEVER, if you first learn how to make your own sentences and then look at pre-made phrases and sentences, you polish your learning.
- iii. Therefore, please finish Lesson 6 properly, with confidence, before taking up this lesson.
- iv. So far we have learned how to make our own sentences in Simple Present, Past and Future tenses of the VERBS. Thus in this lesson we will limit our scope to what we have learned so far.
- v. In the next lesson we will learn how to use such English prepositions of the NOUNS such as : to, with, by, for, from, in, on, at ...etc. in Tamil sentences and make a better speech. In the following lesson we will first use these affixes again to make OWR OWN sentences, and then study more pre-made sentences.
- vi. In this lesson we will increase our VOCABLARY with the use of a Picture Dictionary of Nouns. We will use this knowledge in the next lesson.
- vii. Those who know Hindi, please remember that Hindi uses ने *ne* suffix for Transitive actions of any Perfect tense. But THERE IS NO ने *ne* suffix (or equivalent) IN TAMIL. e.g. Hindi मैंने खाया will be in Tamil simply मैं खाया (नान् उण्डेन्).
- viii. Make sure you have mastered TABLES 13 and 15. Mastering these is the key to make your own sentences in three tenses.
- ix. With this book, even though you can learn Tamil without learning the Tamil script, **I highly recommend that you learn Tamil through Tamil Script only. Please use the English and Hindi script for help and verification purpose only.**

PRE-MADE ENGLISH-TAMIL SENTENCES

Part I

NOTE : At this stage you may not understand every part of all sentences given below, but as we make more of our own sentences in the following chapters, you will see them clearly if you revise this again.

1. Hi! Hello! नमस्ते = **வணக்கம்** वणक्कम् *vaṇakkam*.
2. How are you? आप कैसे हैं? = **எப்படி இருக்கிறீர்கள்** एप्पडि इरुक्किरीர்గळ् *eppadi irukkirīrgaḷ*.
3. How are you? क्या हाल है? = **நலமா** नलमा? *nalmā*.
4. Good morning! Goodnight! नमस्ते = **வணக்கம்** वणक्कम् *vaṇakkam*.
5. I am ok! मैं ठीक हूँ! = **நான் நல்லா யிருக்கேன்** नान् नल्ला यिरुक्केन् *nallā yirukken*
6. Thanks! धन्यवाद, शुक्रिया = **நன்றி** ननरि *nanri*.
7. Would you like to have tea? चाय पीएँगे? = **தேநீர் குடிக்கிறீங்களா** तेनीर कुडिक्किरींगळा? *thenir kuḍikkirīngalā* (**தேநீர்** तेनीर *thenīr* = Tea)
8. Certainly! For sure! अवश्य, बेशक = **நிச்சயமாய்** निच्चयमाय् *nichchamāy* (सं. निश्चयमाय्, निश्चयम्)
9. That's all बस ठीक है = **போதும்** पोटुम् *podum*.
10. No नहीं = **இல்லை** इल्लै *illai*.
11. Yes हाँ = **ஆம், ஆமாம், ஒம்** आम्, आमाम्, ओम् *ām, āmām, om*. (सं. आम्)
12. Truly सच = **உண்மையாய், உள்ளபடி** उण्मैयाय्, उळ्ळपडि *uṇṁaiyāy, uḷḷapaḍi*.
13. What is the news क्या खबर है? = **என்ன சமாசாரம்** एन्न समाचारम् *enna samāchāram*
14. Don't worry कोई बात नहीं = **பரவா-யில்லை** परवा इल्लै *parvā illai*
15. Please! कृपया = **பிரீதியா** पिरिथिया *pirīthiyā*. (सं. प्रीत्या), **தயவுசெய்து** दयवुसेयदु *dayavuseedu*
16. Please listen जरा सुनिये = **அதைக் கேளுங்கள்** इदैक् केळुंगळ् *idaik keḷuṅgaḷ*. (**கேள்** = Listen)
17. Excuse me! क्षमा कीजिये = **மன்னியுங்கள்** मन्नि-युंगळ् *manni-yuṅgaḷ*.
18. What is this यह क्या है = **இது என்ன** इदु एन्न *idu enna*.
19. What happened? क्या हुआ = **என்ன ஆயிற்று** एन्न आयिट्टு *enna āyitru*. NOTE : When two **ற்ற** *rr* **र** come in a row, they are pronounced as **ட்ற** *tr* **ट्र** (see Table 16).
20. Nothing! कुछ नहीं = **ஒன்றுமில்லை** ओन्नुमिल्लै *onrumillai*.
21. Definitely जरूर, अवश्य = **சரி** सरि *sari*.
22. A little bit थोड़ा थोड़ा = **கொஞ்சம்** कोंजम् *konjam*.
23. When did it happen? यह कब हुआ = **இது எப்போது நடந்தது** इदु एप्पोदु नडन्दु *idu eppodu naḍandadu*.
24. Yesterday monring. कल सवेरे = **நேற்று காலை** नेट्टु कालै *netru kālai*.
25. Since when? कब से? = **எப்போதிலிருந்து** एप्पोदिलिरुन्दु *eppodilirundu*.

LESSON 8

TAMIL DICTIONARY OF

COMMON NOUNS

பொதுவான பெயர்ச்சொற்கள்
Potuvāṇa peyarccoṛkaḷ

TABLE 19 :

INDEX சுட்டு Cuttu

8.1 ANIMALS, Domestic / Farm வீட்டு விலங்குகள் Viṭṭu Vilaṅkukaḷ

8.2 ANIMALS, Wild காட்டு விலங்குகள் Kāṭṭu Vilaṅkukaḷ

8.3 INSECTS பூச்சிகள் Pūccikaḷ

8.4 BIRDS பறவைகள் Paṛavaikaḷ

8.5 THE BODYPARTS உடல் பாகங்கள் Uṭal pākaṅkaḷ

8.6 AILMENTS and BODY CONDITIONS வியாதிகளுக்கு மற்றும் உடல் நிலை
Viyātikaḷukku Maṛṛum Uṭal nilai

8.7 CLOTHING, DRESS etc. ஆடை, உடை Āṭai, Uṭai

8.8 RELATIONS உறவுகள் Uṛavukaḷ

8.9 HOUSEHOLD THINGS வீட்டு உபயோகப் பொருட்களுக்கு Viṭṭu upayōka pporuṭkaḷukku

8.10 TOOLS உபகரணங்கள் Upakaraṇaṅkaḷ

8.11 FLOWERS பூக்கள் Pūkkaḷ

8.12 FRUITS பழங்கள் Paḷaṅkaḷ

8.23 VEGETABLES காய்கறிகள் Kāykarikaḷ

8.14 PLANTS தாவரங்கள் Tāvaraṅkaḷ

8.15 FOOD STUFF உணவு பொருள் Uṇavu poruḷ

8.16 SPICES மசாலா Macālā

8.17 MINERALS, METALS and JEWELS தாதுக்கள், உலோகங்கள் மற்றும் நகைகள்
Tātukkaḷ, ulōkaṅkaḷ maṛṛum nakaikaḷ

8.18 MUSIC இசை Icai

8.19 PROFESSIONS தொழில்கள் Toḷilkaḷ

8.20 BUSINESS வணிகம் Vaṇikam

8.21 WARFARE எதிரியின் மீது போர் தொடுத்தல் Etiriyaṅ mītu pōr toṭuttal

8.1 ANIMALS, Domastic / Farm

வீட்டு விலங்குகள் Viṭṭu Vilaṅkukaḷ

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Bitch | பெண் நாய் Peṇ nāy |
| Buffalo | எருமை Erumai |
| Bull, Bullock | எருது Erutu |
| Calf | கன்றுக்குட்டி Kaṇṇukkuṭṭi |
| Camel | ஒட்டகம் Oṭṭakam |
| Cat | பூனை Pūṇai |
| Colt | குதிரைக்குட்டி kutiraikkuṭṭi |
| Cow | பசு Pasu |
| Dog | நாய் Nāy |
| Donkey | கழுதை Kaḷutai |
| Ewe | பெண்ஆடு Peṇāṭu |
| Goat | வெள்ளாடு Vellaṭu |
| Hare | குழி முயல் Kuḷi muyal |
| Horse | குதிரை Kutirai |
| Kitten | பூனை க்குட்டி Pūṇai kkuṭṭi |
| Lamb | செம்மறி ஆட்டு க்குட்டி Cem'mari āṭṭu kkuṭṭi |
| Lizard | பல்லி Palli |
| Mare | பெண்குதிரை Peṇkutirai |
| Mouse | சுண்டெலி Cuṇṭeli |
| Mule | கோவேறு கழுதை Kōvēru kaḷutai |
| Ox | எருது Erutu |
| Pig | பன்றி Paṇṇi |
| Puppy | நாய்க்குட்டி Nāykkkuṭṭi |
| Rabbit | குழி முயல் Kuḷi muyal |
| Ram | ஆட்டுக்கடா āṭṭukkaṭā |
| Rat | எலி Eli |
| . | |

8.2 ANIMALS, Wild

காட்டு விலங்குகள் Kāṭṭu vilaṅkukaḷ

| | |
|-----------|----------------|
| Alligator | முதலை Mutalai |
| Bat | வெளவால் Vauvāl |

LESSON 9

Tamil Imperative and Negative Sentences

1. Requests and Orders

- i. The Requests (formal) and orders (informal) imperatives are made to the Second Person 'you' only. The pronoun you, as the subject, may actually be mentioned or only understood.
- (ii) In Tamil, as said earlier, subject 'you' could be (i) singular (நீ *nī* தூ), non-honorific; (ii) singular honorific (நீர் *nī nīr* आप, तुम), technically a plural form but used as singular; or (iii) the plural (நீங்கள் *nīngal* आप, तुम लोग, आप लोग), courteously used as singular honorific (आप) or used as plural non-honorific (तुम लोग, आप लोग).
- (iii) In Tamil, similar to Hindi and Sanskrit, pronoun நீ *nī* நீ (नी = तू) is used for addressing inferiors, children or very intimate people, In this case, the pure form of the root verb (without any suffix) is used as imperative (order) form as well. e.g. (Thou, you) study! (तू पढ़!) (நீ) படி! (*nī padī* नी पडि).
- (iv) Pronoun நீர் *nīr* निर् (नीर् = तुम) is used for addressing similar people or friends. Technically this pronoun is plural of singular non-honorific pronoun (तू → तुम), but is used as semi-honorific singular. In this case, the imperative (request) suffix உம் *um* उम् is added to the pure form of the root verb. e.g. (you please) study! (तुम पढ़ो, आप पढ़ो!) (நீர்) படியும்! (*nīr padiyum* नीर् पडियुम्).
- (iii) Pronoun நீங்கள் *nīngal* निंगळ् (नींगळ् = आप, आप लोग) is used for addressing someone formally with respect. Technically this pronoun is also plural of singular pronoun (आप → आप लोग), but is also used as formal honorific singular. In this case, plural suffix கள் *gal* गळ् is added to the singular imperative suffix உம் *um* उम्. This compound oblique suffix உங்கள் *ungal* उंगळ् is then added to the pure form of the root verb. e.g. (you Sir please) study! (आप पढ़िये!) (நீங்கள்) படியுங்கள்! (*nīngal padiyungal* नींगळ् पडियुंगळ्).

TABLE 20 : IMPERATIVE Request or ORDER (verb example படி *padī* पडि Read)

| You | Verb Read | Imperative suffix | = Request / Order : You (please) read. |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---|
| நீ நீ <i>nī</i> | படி <i>padī</i> पडि | No suffix | (நீ) படி! (<i>nī padī</i> नी पडि) You read. |
| நீர் நீர் <i>nīr</i> | படி <i>padī</i> पडि | உம் <i>um</i> उम् | (நீர்) படியும்! (<i>nīr padiyum</i> नीर् पडियुम्) |
| நீங்கள் நீங்கள் <i>nīngal</i> | படி <i>padī</i> पडि | உங்கள் <i>ungal</i> उंगळ् | (நீங்கள்) படியுங்கள்! (<i>nīngal padiyungal</i> नींगळ् पडियुंगळ्) You (all) please read. |

MORE TAMIL VERBS, Part II

TABLE 21 : VERB LIST 2

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------|---------|--------|---------------|-------------|----------|----------|------------------|
| 1) Add | கூட்டு | कूट्टु | <i>kūttu</i> | 29) Love | நேசி | नेसि | <i>nesi</i> |
| 2) Agree | உடன்படு | उटन्पु | <i>uṭanpu</i> | 30) Make | பண்ணு | पण्णु | <i>paṇṇu</i> |
| 3) Ask | கேள் | केळ् | <i>keḷ</i> | 31) Open | திற | तिर | <i>tir</i> |
| 4) Bathe | குளி | कुळि | <i>kuli</i> | 32) Pick up | தூக்கு | तूक्कु | <i>tūkku</i> |
| 5) Become | ஆகு | आकु | <i>āku</i> | 33) Place | இடு | इडु | <i>iḍu</i> |
| 6) Bite | கடி | कडि | <i>kaḍi</i> | 34) Plant | நடு | नडु | <i>naḍu</i> |
| 7) Bloom | பூ | पू | <i>pū</i> | 35) Play | விளையாடு | विळैयाडु | <i>vilaiyāḍu</i> |
| 8) Burn | எரி | एरि | <i>eri</i> | 36) Punish | தண்டி | दंडि | <i>daṇḍi</i> |
| 9) Catch | பிடி | पिडि | <i>piḍi</i> | 37) Remove | நீக்கு | नीक्कु | <i>nīkku</i> |
| 10) Control | அடக்கு | अडक्कु | <i>aḍakku</i> | 38) Rub | தேய் | तेय् | <i>tey</i> |
| 11) Count | எண்ணு | एण्णु | <i>eṇṇu</i> | 39) Save | மீள் | मीळ् | <i>mīḷ</i> |
| 12) Cover | மூடு | मूडु | <i>mūḍu</i> | 40) Say | சொல்லு | सोल्लु | <i>solḷu</i> |
| 13) Create | படை | पडै | <i>paḍai</i> | 41) Shake | ஆட்டு | आड्डु | <i>āḍḍu</i> |
| 14) Cut | வெட்டு | वेड्डु | <i>veḍḍu</i> | 42) Show | காட்டு | काड्डु | <i>kāḍḍu</i> |
| 15) Dance | ஆடு | आडु | <i>āḍu</i> | 43) Shut | மூடு | मूडु | <i>mūḍu</i> |
| 16) Desire | ஆசை | आसै | <i>āsai</i> | 44) Sing | பாடு | पाडु | <i>pāḍu</i> |
| 17) Die | மாளு | माळु | <i>māḷu</i> | 45) Sit | உட்காரு | उटकारु | <i>uṭakāru</i> |
| 18) Drive | ஓட்டு | ओड्डु | <i>oḍḍu</i> | 46) Stop | நிறுத்து | निरुदु | <i>niruddu</i> |
| 19) Feed | மேய் | मेय् | <i>mey</i> | 47) Strike | அடி | अडि | <i>aḍi</i> |
| 20) Get | வாங்கு | वांकु | <i>vāṅku</i> | 48) Study | படி | पडि | <i>paḍi</i> |
| 21) Happen | நேரிடு | नेरिडु | <i>neriḍu</i> | 49) Swallow | விழுங்கு | विळुंकु | <i>vilūṅku</i> |
| 22) Have | கொள்ளு | कोळ्ळु | <i>koḷḷu</i> | 50) Swim | நீந்து | नींदु | <i>nīndu</i> |
| 23) Heal | ஆறு | आरु | <i>āru</i> | 51) Think | எண்ணு | एण्णु | <i>eṇṇu</i> |
| 24) Hold | பிடி | पिडि | <i>piḍi</i> | 52) Tie | கட்டு | कड्डु | <i>kaḍḍu</i> |
| 25) Hope | நம்பு | नंबु | <i>nambu</i> | 53) Touch | தொடு | तोडु | <i>toḍu</i> |
| 26) kill | கொல்ல | कोल्ल् | <i>koll</i> | 54) Trust | நம்பு | नंबु | <i>nambu</i> |
| 27) Learn | கல் | कल् | <i>kaḷ</i> | 55) Wait | நில் | निल् | <i>nil</i> |
| 28) Leave | விடு | विडु | <i>viḍu</i> | 56) Worship | தொழு | तोळु | <i>toḷu</i> |

2. Making Verbal Nouns or Infinitives from Verbs

- i. Many Hindi teachers, grammarians, authors and thus the students, have a general misunderstanding that *pīnā* (पीना to drink), *khāna* (खाना to eat), *ānā* (आना to come), *jānā* (जाना to go)... are verbs. They are not verbs. They are Infinitives or verbal nouns. In these infinitives or verbal nouns, only the *pī, khā, ā, jā ...etc.* पी, खा, आ, जा are verbs (or verb-stems), and *nā* (ना) is infinitive (or noun) forming suffix. Tamil grammarians are clear about verbs and the infinitive mood, as Sanskrit.
- ii. In Tamil, an infinitive (or verbal noun) is formed by adding **அ** *a* அ or **க்க** *kk* க்க to the verb roots.
- (a) **அ** *a* அ is added to the Type 1 verbs that form Present tense with suffix **கிறு** *kiru* கிரு, and (b) **க்க** *kk* க்க is added to the Type 2 verbs that form Present tense with suffix **க்கிறு** *kkiru* க்கிரு (See Tables 12, 14 and 17 Tense Suffixes). e.g.
- (a) Type 1 verb Eat : Verb Eat (Hindi खा) Tamil **உண்** *uṇ* उण् ; Tense suffix **கிறு** *kiru* கிரு, (First Person Singular Present tense will be **உண்கிறேன்** *uṇikiren* उण्किरेन्). Therefore, Verb **உண்** *uṇ* उण् + Infinitive type 1 suffix **அ** *a* அ = **உண்ணா*** *uṇṇa* उण्ण = To Eat (खाना) or Eating (खाना). Similarly verb Say **என்** *en* एन् will be **என்னா*** *enna* एन्ना To Say or Saying.

* REMEMBER THE IMPORTANT RULE : If a word ending in mute (half) consonant is joined (संधि) with a word starting with a vowel, the mute consonant doubles. e.g. Verb ending in short consonant **உண்** *uṇ* उण् + vowel **அ** *a* அ = **உண்ணா**, the short consonant **ண்** *ṇ* ण s doubled **ண்ணா** *ṇṇa* ण्ण.

- (b) Type 2 verb Read/Learn : Verb Read (Hindi पढ़) Tamil **படி** *padi* पडि ; Tense suffix **க்கிறு** *kkiru* க்கிரு, (Present tense **படிக்கிறேன்** *padikkiren* पडिक्किरेन्). Thus, Verb **படி** *padi* पडि + Infinitive type 2 suffix **க்க** *kk* க்க = **படிக்க** *padikka* पडिक्क = To Read (पढ़ना) or Reading (पढ़ना).

TABLE 22 : INFINITIVES or VERBAL NOUNS

| Type | Verb Type1/Type2 | Present Tense | Infinitive / V. Noun |
|------|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1 | Become ஆ आ <i>ā</i> (हो) | ஆகிறேன் आकिरेन् <i>ākiren</i> (मैं होता हूँ) | ஆ आ <i>ā</i> (<i>honā</i> होना) |
| 2 | Create படை <i>padai</i> पडै | படைக்கிறேன் पडैकिरेन् <i>paḍaikkiren</i> | படைக்க पडैक्क <i>paḍaikka</i> |
| 1 | Get அடை अडै <i>aḍai</i> | அடைகிறேன் अडैकिरेन् <i>aḍaikiren</i> | அடைய अडैय <i>aḍaiya</i> |
| 2 | Walk நட नड <i>naḍ</i> (आ) | நடக்கிறேன் नडक्किरेन् <i>naḍkkiren</i> | நடக்க नडक्क <i>naḍakka</i> |
| 1 | Come வா वा <i>vā</i> | வருகிறேன் वरुकिरेन् <i>varukiren</i> | வருகை वरुगै <i>varugai</i> (<i>ānā</i> आना) |
| 2 | Love நேசி नेसि <i>nesi</i> | நேசிக்கிறேன் नेसिक्किरेन् <i>nesikkiren</i> | நேசிக்க नेसिक्क <i>nesikka</i> |
| 1 | Do செய் सेय् <i>sey</i> (कर) | செய்கிறேன் सेय्किरेन् <i>seykiren</i> | செய सेय <i>seya</i> (<i>karnā</i> करना) |
| 2 | Drink குடி कुडि <i>kudi</i> | குடிக்கிறேன் कुडिक्किरेन् <i>kudikkiren</i> | குடிக்க कुडिक्क <i>kudikka</i> |

LESSON 10

Making Complex Tamil Sentences

We have seen how to Make our Own Basic Tamil sentences in all three tenses (lesson 6). We have seen interesting tables, basic Tamil verbs (Tables 13 & 21) and a Pictorial Tamil Dictionary (Table 19). We also briefly saw how to make imperatives, interrogatives and negative expressions, which we will use extensively in the following lessons.

Let's now see how to make a bit complex Tamil sentences with the use of several 'Postpositions' (case suffixes). Similar to the tenses (Lesson 6), this is another very important chapter. Please make sure you understand its every word properly. Again, do not start this lesson without finishing previous lessons well. Review this lesson at least twice. So we begin ...

BEFORE GOING AHEAD PLEASE UNDERSTAND THE FOLLOWING

- i. As we learned before (Lesson 6.1), the Tamil nouns are divided into three genders. (i) all human male noun words are Masculine Gender, (ii) the human female noun words are Female Gender, and (iii) all other words are Neuter Gender.
- ii. Masculine and Feminine noun words are together called the Rational Nouns. The Neuter noun words are called Irrational nouns.
- iii. In grammatical mumbo-jumbo, the '**form**' taken by a noun (or pronoun) to show its 'relationship' in the sentence is called the '**case**' of that word. Big deal.
- iv. The noun (or pronoun) itself (singular or plural), without any modification and without attaching any suffix to it, is called the 'Nominative' case of that noun. This case is reserved for the doer ('subject') of the action (verb) in sentence.
- v. In addition to this Nominative relationship, there are seven more relationships or 'cases' of the nouns and pronouns. As said in previous point, the Nominative nouns do not require any modification, it means the other cases do need some kind of modification before attaching the case suffix to them. This modified form of any noun (or pronoun) is called the 'Oblique' case or the 'Inflectional Base' of that noun.
- vi. The addition of any of the eight case suffixes to the oblique/inflectional base of a noun is called Declension of that noun.
- vi. The Plural Nominative is always formed by attaching the 'Plural' Tamil suffix to the Singular Nominative. Most common plural suffix is கள் *kaḷ* கல். The plural Inflectional base of a noun (but may not be of some pronoun) is always same as its Plural Nominative.
- vii. All Tamil noun end only in one of the six vowels (ஆ, இ, ஈ, உ, ஊ, ஐ) or in one of the eight consonants (ண், ட், ய், ற், ல், ழ், ள், ன்). Tamil nouns do not end in any other Tamil character.

THE FOUR GROUPS OF DECLENSIONS

10.1 THE FIRST GROUP

Masculine nouns ending in **ன் n ன்**.

- Masculine Nouns such as **மனிதன்** *manidan* मनिदन् (Man), **பையன்** *paiyan* पैयन् (Boy), **மகன்** *mahan* महन् (Son), **மைத்துனன்** *maittunan* मैत्तुनन् (Brother-in-law), **பேரன்** *peran* पेरन् (Grandson), **அண்ணன்** *aṇṇan* अण्णन् (Elder brother), **சகோதரன்** *sagodaran* सगोदरन् (Brother) etc. ending in **ன்n ன்** fall in 1st group.
- In this group the Nominative and the Inflectional base are both same. e.g. **மனிதன்** *manidan* मनिदन् (Man), This form is often used for Possessive case also. e.g. **மனிதன்** *manidan* मनिदन् (Of a man or man's),
- The Plurals is formed by adding **ர் r ர** (optionally *rkaḷ* कळ्) to the Singular. e.g. **மனிதர்** *manidar* मनिदर् or optionally **மனிதர்கள்** *manidarkaḷ* मनिदर्कळ् (Men)

TABLE 28 : EXAMPLE of Cases of the first type of nouns, like **மனிதன்** *manidan* मनिदन् (Man)

| case | English हिंदी | GROUP 1 NOUN + CASE SUFFIXES | |
|------------|--|--|--|
| | | Singular | Plural |
| nom 1 | Man आदमी | மனிதன் <i>manidan</i> मनिदन् | மனிதர் <i>manidar</i> मनिदर् or மனிதர்கள் <i>manidarhaḷ</i> मनिदर्हळ् |
| acc. 2 | to a man आदमी को | மனிதனை <i>manidanai</i> मनिदनै | மனிதரை <i>manidarai</i> मनिदरै or மனிதர்களை <i>manidarhalaj</i> मनिदर्हळै |
| inst. 3 | by a man आदमी से, आदमी के साथ | மனிதனால் <i>manidanāl</i> मनिदनाल् OR மனிதனோடு <i>manidanoḍu</i> मनिदनोडु | மனிதரால் <i>manidarāl</i> मनिदराल் or மனிதரோடு <i>manidarōḍu</i> मनिदरोडु or மனிதர்களால் <i>manidarhḷāl</i> मनिदर्हळाल் or மனிதர்களோடு <i>manidarhḷōḍu</i> मनिदर्हळोडु |
| dat. 4 | to a man आदमी को -के लिये | மனிதனுக்கு <i>manidanukku</i> मनिदनुक्कु or மனிதனுக்காக <i>manidanukkāk</i> मनिदनुक्काक | மனிதருக்கு <i>manidarukku</i> मनिदरुक्कु or மனிதருக்காக <i>manidarukkāk</i> मनिदरुक्काक or மனிதர்களுக்கு <i>manidarhaḷukku</i> मनिदर्हळुक्कु or மனிதர்களுக்காக <i>manidarhaḷukkāk</i> मनिदर्हळुक्काक |

10.5 THE CASES OF THE PRONOUNS

- i. The cases of the pronouns are produced the same way as the general format of the nouns.
- ii. The oblique cases of pronouns, that is the base for forming cases, is shown in Table 9
- iii. As said earlier, when a word ending in a vowel is followed by a word beginning with க, ச, த, ப k, ch, ta or pa, க, ச, த, ப is doubled.
- iv. Also remember, when ற் r̥ is doubled, it is pronounced as tr̥ or tt̥ (See Table 16)
- v. Below is Table 33-A showing cases of pronouns in Tamil script. For the same data in English Transliterated script please see Table 33-B. And, for this info. in Devanagari (Hindi) script, please see Table 33-C presented below.
- vi. Hindi equivalents of each pronoun inflection is provided in each table for your clear understanding.

TABLE 33-A : CASE SUFFIXES FOR PRONOUNS in TAMIL Script

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|---------|-------------|---|---------------------------|---|--|---|
| Nom. | Accusative | Instrumental | Dative | Ablative | Possessive | Locative |
| | to ை | with/by ூல் | to/for ொக்கு | from ூல் | of ூன் | in/on/at ூல் |
| I मैं | to me मुझे | w./by me मुझसे | to/for me मुझे | from me मुझसे | my मेरा, मेरी | in/on/at me मुझमें |
| நான் | என்னை | என்னால் என்னோடு | எனக்கு எனக்காக | என்னில் என்னினின்று என்னிலிருந்து | என் * எனது என்னின் என்னுடைய | என்னில் என்னிடத்தில் என்னிடம் # (# see Table 27) |
| We हम | to us हमें | with/by us हमसे | to/for us हमें | from us हमसे | our हमारा, हमारी | in/on/at us हममें |
| நாங்கள் | எங்களை | எங்களால் எங்களோடு | எங்களுக்கு | எங்களில் எங்களிலிருந்து | எங்கள் * எங்களது எங்களின் எங்களுடைய | எங்களில் எங்களிடத்தில் |
| You तू | to you तुझे | w./by you तुझसे | to/for you तुझे | from you तुझसे | your तेरा, तेरी | in/on/at you तुझमें |
| நீ | உன்னை | உன்னால் உன்னோடு | உனக்கு உனக்காக | உன்னில் உன்னிலிருந்து | உன் * உனது உன்னின் உன்னுடைய | உன்னில் உன்னிடத்தில் |
| You आप | to you आपको | w./by you आपसे | to you आपको | from you आपसे | your आपका, आपकी | in/on you आपमें |
| நீர் | உம்மை | உம்னால் உம்னோடு | உமக்கு உமக்காக | உம்மில் உம்மிலிருந்து | உம் * உமது உம்முடைய | உம்மில் உம்மிடத்தில் |
| You all | to you आपको | w./by you आपसे | to you आपको | from you आपसे | your आपका, आपकी | in/on you आपमें |
| நீங்கள் | உங்களை | உங்களால் உங்களோடு உங்களுடன் # (# See Table 27) | உங்களுக்கு உங்களுக்காக | உங்களில் உங்களிலிருந்து | உங்கள் * உங்களது உங்களுடைய | உங்களில் உங்களிடத்தில் |
| He वह | to him उसे | w./by him उससे | to/for him उसे | from him उससे | his उसका, उसकी | in/on/at him उसमें |
| அவன் | அவனை | அவனால் அவனோடு | அவனுக்கு அவனுக்காக | அவனில் அவனிடத்திலி ருந்து | அவன் * அவனது அவனுடைய | அவனில் அவனிடத்தில் |

LESSON 11

USING PRE-MADE TAMIL SENTENCES, Part II

PLEASE THINK THIS, BEFORE YOU BEGIN

- i. When you learn to make your own sentences, you know what you are doing. You know how each word form is made and why the word is written that way. You will recognize this reality when you try to learn Tamil through the pre-made sentences. If you learn Tamil through only pre-made sentences, as usually done, you will be stabbing in the dark. You should use the pre-made sentences only to improve your learning by studying them in the light of what you have learned.
- ii. If you know Sanskrit grammar, you may have figured out from the previous lessons that Tamil grammar is based on similar style like Sanskrit, even though it is not as vast as Sanskrit. If you want to see or learn Sanskrit grammar to any depth, you may like to use my "*Learn Sanskrit through English Medium.*"
- iii. If you know Hindi, you must have discovered by now that Tamil grammar is much more deep, logical and systematic than the Hindi Grammar you learned in schools. In Hindi grammar, the gender is single most important aspect but it is very arbitrary with no fixed rules, the use of cases is mixed up and the tenses are violated too often. If you want to learn Hindi in a systematic manner, you may like to use my book "*Learn Hindi through English Medium,*" with properly laid out rules, noble truths, grammar dissection and unique tables.
- iii. If you studied in English schools, you may have guessed that the English Grammar is too brief, simple, cut and dry, as compared to the Tamil grammar. It is systematic like Tamil.
- iv. The present book (Volume I) deals only with the very basic primary level of the vast Tamil grammar. For the use of Tamil Grammar at next level, and for the use of a fully transliterated English-Tamil Dictionary, please see Volume II of this book.
- v. Again, make sure you have studied and understood previous chapters properly, before going ahead with this and the next lessons.
- vi. The answers to the questions are provided in this book for your 'help' only. Please first see if you can answer the questions by yourself, then look at the answers just to verify your answers.
- vii. In each exercise, the English transliteration and Hindi is given for your assistance only. Please learn through the Tamil script. Use English and Hindi only when you are in doubt.

LESSON 12

ADJECTIVES, ADVERBS AND PARTICLES

1. Adjectives and Adverbs

- i. An adjective is a word that qualifies or describes a noun.
- ii. An adverb is a word that qualifies or describes a verb, an adjective or another adverb.
- iii. Tamil adjectives and adverbs are indeclinable. They do not have Gender or Number. e.g.
- | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. Good boy | நல்ல பையன் | nalla paiyan | नल्ल पैयन् |
| 2. Good boys | நல்ல பையன்கள் | nalla paiyaṅgaḷ | नल्ल पैयंगळ् |
| 3. Good girl | நல்ல பெண் | nalla peṇ | नल्ल पेण् |
| 4. Good girls | நல்ல பெண்கள் | nalla peṅgaḷ | नल्ल पेण्गळ् |
- iv. Tamil adjectives are prefixed to the nouns. e.g. good boy நல்ல பையன் nalla paiyan नल्ल पैयन्
- v. Some words are by nature adjectives or adverbs. e.g. good நல்ல nalla नल्ल, Bad கெட்ட ketṭa केट्ट,
- vi. Some adjectives and adverbs are formed from nouns by adding suffixes such as :
- ஆன், வான், லான், மான், தான், ளான், பான், உள்ள, இய, ஆத் ān, vān, lān, mān, tān, lān, pān, ull, iya, ād आन्, वान्, लान्, मान्, तान्, ळान्, पान्, उळ्ळ, इय, आद, etc. Note that some of these suffixes are same as Sanskrit आन्, मान्, वान्, ईय adjectival suffixes.

TABLE 34 : NOUNS - ADJECTIVES

| NOUN | | | | ADJECTIVE | | | |
|-----------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Truth | உண்மை | ummai | उण्मै | True | உண்மையான | ummaiyaṅ | उण्मैयान |
| Heat | சூடு | sūdu | सूडु | Hot | சூடுள்ள | sūduḷḷa | सूडुळ्ळ |
| Falsehood | பொய் | poy | पोय् | False | பொய்யான | poyyaṅ | पोय्यान |
| Length | நீளம் | nīlam | नीळम् | Long | நீளமான | nīlamān | नीळमान |
| Shortness | சுறுக்கம் | surukkam | सुरुक्कम् | Short | சுறுக்கமான | surukkamān | सुरुक्कमान |
| Use | உபயோக | upayoga | उपयोग | Useful | உபயோகமான | upayogamān | उपयोगमान |
| Industry | சுறுசுறுப்பு | suruuruṅṅpu | सुरुसुरुप्पु | Industrious | சுறுசுறுப்புள்ள | suruuruṅṅpuḷḷa | सुरुसुरुप्पुळ्ळ |
| Wisdom | ஞானம் | jñānam | ज्ञान | Wise | ஞானமுள்ள | jñānamuḷḷa | ज्ञानमुळ्ळ |
| Longing | வேண்டி | veṅḍi | वेण्डि | Long for | வேண்டிய | veṅḍiya | वेण्डिय |

This Table is developed for Sanskrit Hindi Research Institute for “Learn Tamil Through English/Hindi” by Ratnakar Narale.

LESSON 13

COMPOUNDING OF LETTERS AND WORDS

संधि और समास

1. Compounding of Characters

संधि

PLEASE READ THIS BEFORE YOU BEGIN THE LESSON

- i. This lesson is a brief Tamil version of a the rules outlined in a couple chapters from my book “*learn Sanskrit through English medium,*” for the topics formulated in this lesson are parallel in these two languages.
- ii. Sanskrit *sandhi* is a mathematical addition of two characters, vowels or consonants. Sanskrit *samasa* is the linking of two words with a logical definition. The sandhi (கூட்டு *kūṭṭu* कूट्टु) and samasa (பற்று *paṭṭu* पट्टु) are both present in Tamil. Of course, from Sanskrit they have come into Hindi as well, directly and sometimes indirectly.

In Sanskrit, the *samasa* is a huge and one of the most beautiful linguistic aspects. However, in Tamil, only the तत्पुषसमासः aspect is used.
- iii. This lesson is presented here in the form of sandhi and samasa rules. You will remember that most of the sandhi rules are appropriately exemplified elsewhere in the earlier lessons of this book and are summarized in Tables 5, 6 and 16.
- iv. The sandhi rules can be further subdivided in to three categories of vowel-vowel sandhi, consonant-vowel sandhi and consonant-consonant sandhi.
- v. Although the visarga (ஆய்தம் *āyatham* आयत्तम्) is part of Tamil language, the interesting technique of the Sanskrit visarga sandhi has not come into in Tamil. It remains the most unique aspect of the Sanskrit language.
- vi. The following collection of rules also serves as a reference checklist of all the rules you need to know for the basic study of the Tamil language.

TAMIL SANDHI RULES

1. (a) Like Sanskrit, the **அ, இ, உ** அ, இ, உ are Basic or Simple Vowels.

(b) The rest nine vowels **ஆ, ஈ, ஊ, எ, ஏ, ஐ, ஒ, ஓ, ஔ** ஆ, ஈ, ஊ, எ, ஏ, ஐ, ஒ, ஓ, ஔ are Compound Vowels, composed of the three Simple vowels. e.g.

ஆ = அ + அ; ஈ = இ + இ; ஊ = உ + உ; எ = அ + இ; ஏ = அ + ஈ; ஐ = அ + அ + இ; ஒ = அ + உ; ஓ = அ + ஊ; ஔ = அ + அ + உ

ஆ = அ + அ; ஈ = இ + இ; ஊ = உ + உ; எ = அ + இ; ஏ = அ + ஈ; ஐ = அ + அ + இ; ஒ = அ + உ; ஓ = அ + ஊ; ஔ = அ + அ + உ
 ஆ = அ + அ; ஈ = இ + இ; ஊ = உ + உ; எ = அ + இ; ஏ = அ + ஈ; ஐ = அ + அ + இ; ஒ = அ + உ; ஓ = அ + ஊ; ஔ = அ + அ + உ

$a + a = \bar{a}$; $\bar{i} = i + i$; $\bar{u} = u + u$; $e = a + e$; $\bar{e} = a + \bar{i}$; $ai = a + a + i$; $o = a + u$; $\bar{a} = a + \bar{u}$; $au = a + a + u$

2. The sound of letter **இ** *i* இ is normally prefixed to the words that begin with **ர** or **ல** ர, ல *r, l*,

e.g. **ராஜன் = இராஜன்** ராஜன் = இராஜன் *rājan = irājan* (King).

3. When letter **இ** *i* இ is followed by a retroflex consonant (ட, ஠, ஡, ஢ *t, th, d, dh*), the **இ** *i* இ is pronounced longer like **ஈ** *ī*.

4. When a word (made up of simple consonants and simple vowels) ending in **உ** *u* உ is followed by a word beginning with any vowel **அ** *a* அ, the final **உ** *u* உ is dropped.

5. When a word ending in a mute (half) consonant is followed by a word beginning with a vowel, these two words are joined (just like Sanskrit). e.g. **மீன் + இல் = மீனில்** *mīn + il = mīnil* மீன் + இல் = மீனில்
 + இல் = மீனில்.

6. When a word, (other than **அது, இது, எது** *adu, idu, edu* அது, இது, எது) made up of simple consonants and vowels and beginning with **ச**, is followed a word beginning with any vowel other than **அ**, the end **ச** is changed to **வ**. e.g. **சங்கு + இல் = சங்கில்** *sanku + il = sangil* சங்கு + இல் = சங்கில்.

7. When a word ending in **இ, ஈ** or **ஐ** *i, ī* or *ai* இ, ஈ, ஐ, **ஈ** or **ஐ** is connected to a word beginning with any vowel, letter **ய்** *y* ய் is inserted between these two connecting vowels. e.g. **பல்லி + இல் = பல்லியில்** *palli + il = palliyil* பல்லி + இல் = பல்லியில்.

8. When a word ending in **ஆ, ஊ, எ, ஏ, ஒ, ஓ** or **ஔ** *ā, ū, e, ē, o, õ*, or *au* ஆ, ஊ, எ, ஏ, ஒ, ஓ, ஔ or **ஔ** is followed by a word beginning with a vowel, letter **வ்** *v* வ் is inserted between the two vowels,

காண்டா + இல் = காண்டாவில் *kanadā + il = kanadāvil* காண்டா + இல் = காண்டாவில்.

2. Compounding of Words

समास

- i. In Tamil (तत्पुरुष) Samasa, compound words are formed by (sandhi) linking two nouns with a third noun, observing the above given sandhi rules.
- ii. Like Sanskrit samasa, the words to be joined must be first put in their Nominative Singular forms before joining them. And like the Sanskrit *tatpurusha* samasa, the first word qualifies the second word, but the last word stands for the compound word. e.g. Heartache **உள்ளம்நோவு**

உள்ளம்-நோவு *ullam-novu* उल्लम्-नोवु Heartache = **உள்ளம்** heart + **நோவு** ache. **உள்ளம்** Heart is the qualifier of the ache. Heart is the secondary word. Heart is the adjective of the word ache. **நோவு** Ache is the primary word. Ache stands for the word heartache. i.e. Ache represents the compound word and takes the gender and number suffixes. Secondary word can easily be replaced with any other suitable noun or adjective, like **தலை-நோவு** headache, **இரைக்குடல்-நோவு** stomachache, etc.

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