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ATEA REGIONAL CONFERENCE - 2018

Sunday, May 27, 2018 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM,
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**Tamil Nadu Foundation
44th Annual Convention
Skillman, NJ**



வகுந்தி எளிதில்

May 26-27, 2018

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

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PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Saturday, May 26, 2018 - சனிக்கிழமை

9:30 AM:

தமிழ்த்தாய் வாழ்த்து, அமெரிக்க தேசிய கீதம்
- Greetings in Praise of Our "Mother Tamil",

American National Anthem

குத்து விளக்கு ஏற்றுதல் - Lighting of Lamp by Mrs. Padma Mohanam
குழந்தைகளின் 'நமது தமிழ் நாடு' அணிவகுப்பு, நியூ ஜெர்சி
கலைக் குழுவின் பறை இசையோடு - "Our Tamil Nadu" - A Parade by
Children, accompanied by New Jersey Kalai Kuzhu's Parai

வரவேற்புரை - Welcome Address

- Balaji Prakash Rao, Convention Coordinator

- Somalay Somasundaram, President, TNF USA

கலைமாமணி திருமதி நித்யஸ்ரீ மஹாதேவன் அவர்களின்
இன்னிசைவிருந்து

- Carnatic Music Concert by Mrs. Nithaysree Mahadevan

அலைகடல் போல் ஏழை மாணவிகள் -

An Ocean of Destitute Girls - by Youth from TNF New Jersey Chapter

வேலூருக்கு வாங்க! - TNF New York Chapter

Noon to 1:25 PM மதிய உணவு - Lunch, Trade Show

1:30 PM

தேவை! உங்களின் மூளை!

Reverse Brain Drain - A TNF Initiative on Rural Entrepreneurship.

Dr. R.M.P Jawahar, Director, Tiruchirappalli Regional

Engineering College-Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Park,
Trichy, India

மகாகவி பாரதி பிறந்த மண் - தூத்துக்குடிக்கு போகலாமா?

Shall we go to Thoothukudi? The birthplace of Mahakavi Bharathi

- TNF Central Ohio Chapter

பட்டி மன்றம் Tamil Debate

நடுவர். திரு. ராஜா

"சின்ன சின்ன பொய்கள் வாழ்வில் - சுகமே!! சமையே!!"

Telling Little Little Lies in Life - A Pleasure! A Burden!

சுகமே!:

1. திரு. பிரபுசின்னத்தம்பி - நியூ ஜெர்சி,

2. திரு. அகத்தியன்பெனடிக்ட் - வெர்ஜினியா

3. திரு. மோகன் இராமன் - நியூ ஜெர்சி

சமையே!:

1. திருமதி: நெல்லிக்கனி அழகப்பன் - பென்சில்வேனியா

2. திருமதி: ஜெயாமாறன் - ஜார்ஜியா

3. திருமதி: பாரதி பாஸ்கர் - சென்னை

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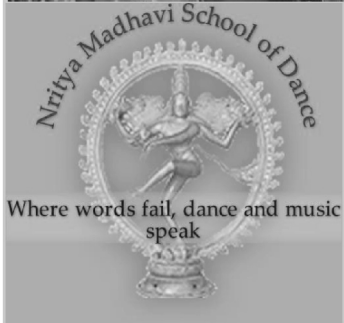
WHERE IS KANYAKUMARI? Convention Report documents various TNF projects over the past 44 years. Although TNF has implemented projects in all the districts, many districts were subsequently bifurcated. Based on the current district geography, there are two districts where TNF has not implemented projects and we have plans to initiate projects in those two districts in 2018. The convention report does not include Kanyakumari district, although TNF has implemented projects in the current Kanyakumari district. We apologize for that omission in the Convention Report.

Delicious Indian Breakfast available at the venue on
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**Congratulations
and
Best Wishes to
the 44th TNF
Convention
celebrations
from
Nriya Madhavi**



An Odyssey Of Cultural Entanglement

அட்லாண்டா மாணவியும் தமிழக மாணவிகளும்- Empowering Girls in
Tamil Nadu through Health and Hygiene, A Girl Scout Gold Award Project- Shreya
Ramesh, TNF Georgia Chapter

ஹரூஸ்டனில் வெள்ளம்- Special Cheers, A Flood Relief Project by TNF Houston
Chapter- Sam Kannappan

Hilarious stage play- அப்பா! அப்பப்பா!! By Stage Friends (USA)

6:00 to 7:15 PM அறுசுவை விருந்து- Delicious Dinner, Trade Show

7:30 PM Krish and ThiruVignarajah, Candidates for Maryland Governor race and
Baltimore City State's Attorney race, respectively

உங்களின் ஈகை மற்றும் கடின உழைப்பினால் பயன்பெரும்
நலிவுற்ற தமிழர்கள்
-How the Less Fortunate in Tamil Nadu are Empowered with Your
Hard-earned Dollars - A TNF Video with Real Life Stories
Mr. P. Arulmudi, Trustee, TNF Center, Chennai

கனவகம் -Kanavagam by Balaji Prakash Rao

கர்ணன் - மதுரை முரளிதரனின் நடன இசைவிருந்து- Karna - A Dance
Musical by Madurai R. Muralidaran

Parallel Sessions

Youth Convention 10 AM to 5 PM

Carnatic Music Workshop by
Ms. Nithyasree Mahadeven - 2 to 4 PM

Sunday, May 27, 2018 ஞாயிற்றுக்கிழமை

9:30 A.M.

வாங்க பேசலாம்!-திருமதி. பாரதிபாஸ்கர், திரு. ராஜா
மதுரைசித்திரை திருவிழா- Madurai Chithirai Festival,
New Jersey KalaiKuzhu

ஓய்வு பெற்ற அமெரிக்கத் தமிழரும் மதுரைமாவட்ட கிராமமும்
-A Philadelphia Retiree's 401K Boosts Rural Development in Madurai District-
Jhansi Kandasamy

அதுஎன்னசிகரம்? What is Sigaram? - TNF Connecticut Chapter
பெண்மை- Womanhood, a Dance Tribute by Kavya Muralidaran

11:45 am to 1 PM மதிய உணவு- Lunch, Trade Show

1 P.M.

சிவகங்கை சீமையிலே - In Sivagangai district
- TNF Greater Philadelphia Chapter

குளு குளு கொல்லிமலை -
- Let us go to the Cozy KolliMalai - TNF Michigan Chapter

சக்தி - பெண்மையைப் போற்றும் நாட்டிய நாடகம்
- Shakthi - A Women Empowerment dance drama by Sumitra Ramjee and Team

திருநெல்வேலி அல்வா! - Tirunelveli Halwa - TNF Washington DC Chapter
நாகப்பட்டினம் மாவட்டத்தில் TNF - TNF in Nagapattinam District
- TNF South Florida Chapter

விவாதமேடை -

நம்பிள்ளைகளுடன் திருமதி. பாரதிபாஸ்கரும் திரு. ராஜாவும்
- Youth Debate Moderated by Mrs. Bharathi Bhaskar and Mr. Raja

5 PM

TNF GENERAL BODY MEETING

5:30 to 7 PM

அறுசுவைவிருந்து - Delicious Dinner, Trade Show

6:50 PM

TNF USA Board and TNF Chennai Center Recognition

மாட்டுவண்டி முதல் மிச்சிகன்வரை - TNF Life Time Achievement Award to Mr. P.R. Perumalswamy, Co-Founder, TNF

மண்வாசனை - A \$8 Million Initiative by TNF to Empower Our Native Districts - Somalay Somasundram, President, TNF

மெர்சல் - மெல்லிசைவிருந்து - Light Music Feast with Sathya Prakash, Pooja, Vasanth Vaseegaran and Vsharp

Parallel Sessions

Siddha Workshop by Dr. Selva Shanmugam 9 to 10 AM

Youth Convention 10 AM to 5 PM

TNF General Body Meeting 5 to 6 PM

உணவே மருந்து, Food is Medicine - Workshop by Vaidya (Dr) Priyaa Balaa 6 to 7 PM

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Last Name	First Name	Spouse	State	Native District	\$
KODAI	Baskar	Sudamani	New York	Erode	1500
Ganapathy	Krishnan	Neya	New Jersey	Kanyakumari	1500
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THARUMAM	Lakshmanan	Shanthi	New York	Madurai	1000
Lakshmanan	Lavanya	Shyamkumar	Pennsylvania	Chennai	1000
Shyamkumar	Bala	Prabha	New York	Madurai	1000
Swaminathan					
THAANAM	Radhakrishnan	Saraswathy	New Jersey	Salem	500
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Chinnababu	Krishnan	Anuradha	New Jersey	Chennai	500
Hariharan	Lena	Meena	California	Sivagangai	500
Kannappan	Soma	Saroja	Pennsylvania	Trichirappalli	500
Ilangovan	Appu	Prema	Florida	Salem	500
Rathinavelu	Palaniappan	Kalyani	Missouri	Sivagangai	500
Suppiah					

The omniscient Lord Krishna makes Kunti and Karna aware of the truth of Karna's birth. Karna is bound by his deep friendship and gratitude to Duryodhana and refuses his mother Kunti's pleading request to come to the side of her sons, the Pandavas. Krishna proclaims the start of the Mahabharata war.

Scene-10: Mahabharata War and the demise of Karna

The warriors on both sides start the epic war after praying to their respective gods. On the seventeenth day Arjuna's arrows cause Karna's chariot to collapse. Krishna instructs Arjuna to kill Karna. Arjuna obliges and Karna dies in a hail of arrows from Arjuna's bow. Kunti is devastated and cries unconsolably on the demise of her first-born son Karna.

(This program overview was written in Tamil by Mr. Madurai Muralidaran. English translation is by Ms. Rhama Narayanan)

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The flashback ends and the scene returns to present time.

Karna's wife Urvi is amazed while hearing his foster-mother highlight the trials and tribulations in Karna's life. Saving more reminiscing for later, the foster-mother sends Urvi to spend time with Karna. During their romantic and playful conversations, Urvi speaks ill of Duryodhana. Though angered by this, he explains how great a friend Duryodhana is who bestowed honor by making Karna the ruler of Anga kingdom.

Now for another flashback.

Scene-6: Duryodhana – a friend who restores dignity

Guru Drona conducts a competition in Asthinapuram to showcase the skills of the princes. During the competition when Karna displays all skills at par with Arjuna, Kripacharya and the royal audience, mock and belittle Karna by questioning his lineage. Upon seeing this injustice, Duryodhana, the eldest of the Kauravas, anoints Karna as the king of Anga kingdom. This causes intense rivalry and perpetual enmity between Karna and the Pandavas.

Duryodhana invites Anga king Karna as his guest. One day Karna while playing dice with Duryodhana's wife Banumathi, pulls her hand playfully causing her bangles to break.

The flashback ends and the scene returns to present time.

Karna tells Urvi that Duryodhana is the ultimate friend who was magnanimous in not mistaking Karna's innocent act of pulling Banumathi's hand.

Scene-7: Roll of dices, Panchali's plight, and Urvi's fury

The Kauravas under evil Sakuni's guidance start plotting against Pandavas. Sakuni pledges to use gambling to achieve his nefarious goals. Pandavas are invited to a game of dice. Pandavas lose everything – their kingdom, themselves, and even wife Draupadi. Karna incites Duryodhana to disrobe Draupadi causing her immense embarrassment and anguish. Upon hearing this Urvi and the two children leave Karna. Karna is now resentful of his actions.

Scene-8: Kunti's dream of Karna's birth

Kunti is in her dreams lamenting the unknown fate of the child she abandoned during her youthful and playful days. The dream takes Kunti to her young playful maiden days

Kunti the young maiden gets a strange boon from sage Durvasa, playfully decides to test it, and prays to Sun God. Kunti realizes her folly when she finds a baby in her hand. Fearing societal tongue-lashing, she lets the Kavacha-Kundala bearing child sail away on the river on a float and is heart-broken.

Kunti is woken from her dreams by Arjuna and Lord Krishna

Scene-9: The giving away of the protective Kavacha-Kundala (armor and earrings)

Realizing Karna's immortality as long as he has the Kavacha-Kundala, Indra in the disguise of a poor brahmin asks Karna to bequeath the protective kavacha-kundala. Despite warning from the Sun God, Karna happily and knowingly donates the protective Kavacha-Kundala to Indra.

Karnan

A Dance Musical by Thiru. Madurai R. Muralidaran

Karnan is a key and central character in the Mahabharatha Epic. The supreme warrior king of Anga kingdom and the only one capable of defeating the archery expert Arjuna. Karnan is recognized as an **incarnation of Dharma** and known for his utmost gratitude to his constituents.

Scene-1: Wedding Reception

Urvi, the princess of Pukkeya, is mesmerized by Karna's valor, nobility and charity. She marries him even though he is already married to Vishali. Karna and Urvi are coming home in a festive and joyous procession. Karna's adopted mother 'Radhe' is chatting with Urvi and telling her about finding Karna in the river and how he was a Godly child bestowed with 'Kavacha-Kundala' (armor and earrings) at birth.

Now for a flashback.

Scene-2: A godly child arriving in a float on the river

The charioteer 'Adhirathan' hears a child's cries, finds and rescues Karna, and brings him home. The childless couple start raising Karna with love and affection as their own.

Scene-3: The Brahmin's Curse

Karna grows up acquiring and demonstrating great warrior skills. He self-learns the 'SapthaVedhi Vidya' skill of hunting animals by locating them through sound. During training, he inadvertently kills a cow belonging to a Brahmin. The enraged Brahmin curses that Karna's death will come in a similar fate as his cow.

Scene-4: Drona's unfair and spiteful prejudice

The young Pandavas are learning archery skills from guru Dronacharya. The young Karna requests Drona to teach him the same. Angered by the mere presence of Karna amidst his royal students, sends Karna away with insults and malicious comments regarding Karna's birth. Karna's foster-mother Radhe is baffled when Karna returns home questioning his lineage.

Scene-5: Parasurama's Curse

Karna, with the blessings of the Sun God, overcomes all obstacles and acquires great valor. He becomes a student of the supreme warrior Parasurama pretending to be a Brahmin. One day near the completion of training Parasurama sleeps resting his head on Karna's lap. A giant beetle attacks and bores thru Karna's thigh. Despite extreme pain and bleeding, Karna remains motionless so as to not disturb his guru's sleep. Parasurama says that only a Kshatriya and not a Brahmin would have the ability to tolerate such intense pain, curses that Karna will forget all warfare skills learnt from him, including the use of Brahmasthra, at the time of real need for such skills.

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Tamil Nadu Foundation - 44th National Convention Youth Convention - Programs

Time	Program	Presenter
Saturday, May 26, 2018		
10:00 AM	TNF Education & Summer Internship Overview	Mrs. Usha Chandra, VP Chapters
10:15 AM	Internship Panel Discussion	Janani Suriyanarayanan, Karthik Sunder, Ananya Ramanathan, Abirami Chinnakaruppan, Krishna Suresh
11:00 AM	Serving inner city (NY) underprivileged women as a lawyer	Devi Vairavan - NY Attorney
11:30 AM	Lunch	
1:00 PM	College Preparation - Panel Discussion - How Charity helped build resume? Why choose a women's college?	Lakshman Somasundaram, Lakshmi Ilakkuvan, Karthik Ilakkuvan, Devi Vairavan, Srinidhi & Arun Periakaruppan
2:00 PM	Rural entrepreneurship activity	Dr Jawahar - Director TREC-STEP, Incubation Center in Chennai and Trichy & Mrs. Gita Chengappa.
2:30 PM	Birthday Registry & Youth Committee Initiative	Siddaarth Mohan, Hrishi Kousik & Priya Periakaruppan
3:00 PM	Meditation & functioning of the Human Mind	Shushumitha Priadeep - 2nd year student at Rutgers University studying psychology, cell biology & neuroscience.
3:30 PM	Ancestral Village Presentation	Umayal Natesan
4:00 PM	Jeopardy Game - Focused on Charity	Ananya Ramanathan & Umayal Natesan
4:30 PM	Krish & Thiru Vignarajah	Kris Vignarajah - Policy Director to former First Lady Michelle Obama and Candidate for Maryland's Governor race Thiru Vignarajah - Former Deputy Attorney General of Maryland and Candidate for Baltimore City State's Attorney
Sunday, May 27, 2018		
10:00 AM	Teach for America	Karthik Ilakkuvan
10:30 AM	Group Discussion - Solicit ideas for forming & sustaining TNF Youth Committee	All
11:00 AM	Dancing for a Cause	Sahana Rajesh / Sowmya Suri
11:20 AM	Girls' health & hygiene project	Shreya Ramesh
11:30 AM	Lunch	
2:00 PM	Vivadha Medai in Main stage	
3:00 PM	Library Project	Shanthi & Preethi Bhaskar
3:30 PM	Vedarnyam Volunteering Experience	Aravind Kameswaran, Aadesh Arul, Ashna Arul, Sahana Rao, Keerthana Rao
4:00 PM	TNF Board & Chennai Chapter Q&A	Mr. Somalay Somasundaram, Mr. Rajarathinam, Mr. Arulmudi
All youth/young adults, please come to CHOIR ROOM after registration for Info about Vivadha Medai, Youth Expo & Youth Convention		