

Contents

Message From Honourable Governor of Tamil Nadu	11
Message From Pujya Sri Kanchi Shankaracharya Swami	13
Message From Sri La Sri Kasiwasi Swami - Tiruppandal Adheenam	15
Preface	17
Acknowledgments	21
An Ageless Connect	25
A Liberating Connect - <i>Sapta Moksha Puri</i>	27
A Timeless Connect Established From Purana	29
Kasi – Kanchi Knowledge and Silk Connect	31
An Ancient But Ever Fresh Puranic Skanda – Kanda Connect	31
The Ever-Continuing Silken Threads Of Bharat	32
Yatra – The Binding Thread of Bharat	33
Bharat – Bound By Invisible Threads	33
The Yati of Bharat	33
Adi Shankara’s Yatra	34

Link Between Dravida Land and Kasi Through Kala Bhairavashtakam	34
Adi Shankara's Kasi Yatra	34
Adi Shankara's Kanchi Peetha	36
From Kanchi To Kasi For Mukti	36
A Memorable Kasi Yatra By A Kanchi Swami in 1930s and in 1970s Too	36
The Route	36
The Welcome	38
The Sentiment	39
Our Takeaway	39
The Kasi – Rameshwaram Link From 7100 Years	41
The Kasi – Rameshwaram Corridor	41
Start Of The Connect During Rama's Times	44
Hanuman Brings Kasi To Rameshwaram	44
An Unshakeable Kasi – Rameshwaram Connect	45
Cities Leading To Same Destination - Moksha	45
The Ganga - Vaigai Connect	47
Sri Appayya Dikshitar – Link Between Kasi, Kanchi and Madurai	47
Sri Neelakantha Dikshitar's Gangavataran	48
Sri Neelakantha Dikshitar's Insight Into Kasi	49
Sri Samarapungava Dikshitar's Travelogue	50
Kasi Among Many Kasis	51
Not One, But Many Kasi	51
Kasi - Varanasi	52
Kasi To Kashgar	53
Kashigiri in Western China Today	53
Kashigiri - A Centre For Knowledge	54
Silk Trade and Knowledge Sharing	54
Kasi to Dakshina Kasi, Kanchi	55

Kasi to TenKasi - Sivakasi	55
A Southern Kasi	55
Why A Need For A Southern Kasi?	56
A Venba In Honour	57
Universal Name Across Languages	58
Many Kasi Viswanatha Temples in Tamilagam Today	59
King 's Dream Come True Many Times Over	59
A Different Set of 3 Devi	61
<hr/>	
The Maratha Ghat Connect	63
<hr/>	
From Western Ghats to Ghats of Kasi	63
Rebuilding of Ghats – A Sample Few	64
Rebuilding of Ghats – A Sample Few	66
Maratha Hand To Kasi In Its North East	66
Maratha Hand To Tamilagam In Its South East	66
Ensuring Safe Passage and A Safe Homeland	67
A Heart-Wrenching Tale of Connect 200 Years Ago	69
<hr/>	
Extent of Charity Beyond Extent Of Kingdoms	69
The Planned Design of Yatra Routes and Facilities	71
Kedar Ghat Connect of Kasiwasis - Over 300 Years Ago	73
<hr/>	
Divine Efforts By A Southerner	73
Why Kedar Ghat?	74
Swami Kumaraguruparar's Kasi Kalambakam	75
Restoring The Spirit Of Kasiwasi, The People of Kasi	76
Emergence Of Kasiwasi Swami In Tamilagam	76
Kasiwasi Keeping Connect Alive	76
Mystifying Questions	77

Bharatiyar Forges A Kasi Connect – Over 100 Years Ago 79

Subramani Goes To Kasi	79
Bharatiyar Emerges From Kasi	80
Bharatiyar's Kasi Life	80
Bharatiyar's Life Changing Kasi Trip in 1905	83
Emergence Of A New Bharati Every Time From Kasi	84
In Memory of Bharatiyar's Connect With Kasi	84
Kasi - A Knowledge Centre Across Ages	87
A Knowledge Line Between Kasi and Kanchi	88

Dikshitar Sets A Musical Connect Over 200 Years Ago 89

The Musical Trinity Of The South	89
Saga of Sri.Muthuswamy Dikshitar	90
Kasi Fine Tunes Sri.Muthuswami Dikshitar	90
Treasure Troves Of Information	92
Merging With The Divine	92
An Interesting Note	93

Kasi's Connect With Annie Besant and J Krishnamurti 95

Dr.Annie Besant and Kasi	95
Jiddu Krishnamurti and Kasi	96

The Name Kasi 99

Kasi – A Special Name	99
What does Kasi Signify?	99
Sankalpa At Kasi	99
Kasi – A Maha Smashana and An Ananda Vana	100
Kasi – A Varanasi	101
Kasi – For Liberation, For Regeneration	101

Kasi – For Transition	101
Visalakshi – For Wide Vision	102
The Kasi - Chettiar Connect	103
Getting to Know The Nagarathars	103
A Tightly Knit Trading Community	103
A Dharmic Community	104
Patrons of Kasi Visalakshi Temple At Kasi	105
Etymology Of Chettiar	106
Idea of A Sreni	106
Rooted In Sreshti	106
Sundarar Swamigal – A Beautiful Mystic Connect	109
Story Behind The Tamil State Anthem	109
Origins Of Tamil Thai Vaazhthu	109
Author of Tamil Thai Vaazhthu – Dr.Sundara Perumal Pillai	109
Sundarar Swamigal - A Yogi Who Travelled To Kasi	110
Kodaganallur Sundarar Swamigal	110
Sundarar Swamigal's Early Life	111
Influence Of Kasi On The Yogi	112
Receives a Bana Lingam During marriage	112
Adopting Sanyasam	112
Initiating Disciples	112
A Spiralling String Of Connects	112
Bhaskararaya – Shining Example Of A Connector	113
A Moving Presence	113
Bhaskararaya's Miraculous Debate In Kasi	116
Bhaskararaya's Miraculous Act In Rameshwaram	119
A Radiant Personage	120

**Sri Nandi Devar Siddhar - An Early And Continuing
Connect Between Kasi and Tamilagam** **123**

The Tamil Siddha Tradition	123
Background of Sri Nandi Devar Siddhar	124
Sri Nandi Devar Siddhar And The Glow Of Kasi	125
An Eternal Glowing Connect	126

Kasi Glows With Pasumpon Thevar's Visit **127**

Importance To Kasi in Tamil Weddings **129**

The Kasi Halwa Desert	129
The Kasi Yatra Ritual	129

Celebrating Connects **131**

Dev Deepavali – Kartikai Deepam Light Festivals	131
Silk Sarees For Festivities	133
Auspicious Music For Festivities	135
Pongal – Khichdi For Festivals	136
Paan – Betel Leaf In Festivities	138

Austerity to Festivity Connect **139**

A Saffron Highlight	139
Leading Light Through Bronze Age	140
Kasi On the Tin Route	140
Tamilagam On the Tin Route Too	140
Kamandalam Creates A Legendary River	142
Alloying For Different Needs	142

Ancient Tamil Literary Connects **143**

Sangam Literature	143
List of Literary Connects Between Tamil and Kasi	145

Devotional Literature	146
Skanda / Kanda Puranam	146
Paadal – The Poetry For Worship	146
Thirumurai – A Compendium of Tamil Shaiva Literature By Saints of Tamilagam	147
Kasi As A Vaipputhalam in Theveram, A Thirumurai Work	147
Kasi in Thiruppugazh	151
The Import Of The Poem	152
The Truth Revealed By Kasi and Skanda	153
Tamils Hail Kasi As City of Compassion	155
<hr/>	
Kasi - A Yardstick For Comparison	157
Kasis in Tamilagam	157
Close to Kasi in Tamilagam	158
Equal To Kasi In Tamilagam	159
Higher Than Even Kasi In Tamilagam	160
Sacred Circuit Connect	163
<hr/>	
Bharat – A Land of Punya Teertha and Yatra	163
Kasi and Tamilagam - Punya Teertha In Many Circuits Together	163
A Subtle Bodily Connect Through The Devi's Shakti Peetha	164
The Unifying Mother	165
<hr/>	
The Multi-Faceted Connect Across Times	169
<hr/>	
Conclusion	171
<hr/>	
Re-establishing Connect For Present Times	171
Sister Cities For Kasi In Tamilagam	171
Kyoto - Sister City of Kasi in Japan	171
Tenkasi – A New Sister for Kasi in Tamilagam	171

Kanchi – An Ancient Sister Of Kasi	173
Sivakasi – The Third Sister	173
A Relook At Concept Of Punya Teertha – The Connectors	173
Cleansing Needed For Soul, Body and Place	173
Rameswaram’s 64 Teertha	174
The 84 – 64 Connect	176
Futureproofing The Connect With Vande Bharat	176

About Bharath Gyan 177

About Authors 179

Background	179
As Author, Educator and Speaker	179
Their Work	180
Their Distinction	181