



செம்மொழித் தமிழாய்வு மத்திய நிறுவனம்

(தன்னாட்சி நிறுவனம், கல்வி அமைச்சகம், இந்திய அரசு)

செம்மொழிச் சாலை, பெரும்பாக்கம், சென்னை - 600100

CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF CLASSICAL TAMIL

(An Autonomous Institution under the Ministry of Education, Government of India)

Chemmozhi Salai, Perumbakkam, Chennai - 600100

F.No. 11-264/CICT/2025-26/Kalaignar Award - 2026

Date: 30.01.2026

Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi Classical Tamil Award - 2026

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi, former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, has created out of his personal funds an endowment in his name for Classical Tamil Research in the Central Institute of Classical Tamil. From the endowment, an award will be given to scholars and researchers of eminence every year. The Institute has great pleasure in inviting nominations for the award for the year 2026.

- The award is one of the highest honours conferred in India.
- The award carries a cheque for Rs. 10,00,000, a citation plaque and a bronze replica of Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi.
- The award is given for the best contribution to Classical Tamil Studies by a researcher or a research team in any of the following areas leading to the creation of new knowledge in Ancient Tamil Culture and Civilization and gaining international recognition:

1) Archaeology	6) Literary Criticism
2) Epigraphy	7) Creative Writing
3) Numismatics	8) Translation
4) Literary Research	9) Music, Dance, Painting and Sculpture
5) Linguistic Study	

- The award may be given for a single work of great erudition or for a lifetime contribution depending on its uniqueness, excellence and international recognition.
- The awardees may be an eminent scholar of any nationality and the work may be in any language provided that it attracts global attention.
- Nominations for the award may be made by:

a) Persons who have already won the award

b) Internationally known Professors of subjects falling under the following categories: Archaeology, Epigraphy, Numismatics, Literature, Linguistics, Creative writing, Translation and Fine Arts

c) Persons who have won any of the accredited national or international awards

- No individual scholar shall propose himself/herself for the award.

- The nominee's books (Research, Editorial, Translation) and articles along with the details of the publication must be attached with the nomination form.
- On the day of the award ceremony, the awardee will deliver an endowment lecture on his/her contribution to Tamil research.
- Nominations that are not in accordance with the rules will not be accepted.
- Nomination form may be downloaded from the Institute's website: www.cict.in
- Nominations may be sent to the **Registrar, Central Institute of Classical Tamil, Chemmозhi Salai, Perumbakkam, Chennai – 600 100** on or before **31.03.2026**.

Registrar



Last Date: 31.03.2026

Central Institute of Classical Tamil, Chennai - 600 100

Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi Classical Tamil Award – 2026

NOMINATION FORM

I	Name of the recommending scholar (in block letters)					
1.	Address					
2.	To which of the three above-mentioned categories does he belong? (✓) (Please enclose evidence)	a				
		b				
		c				
3.	Experience with details of organization served, post held and period of service					
4.	Phone numbers and email address					
II	Name of the scholar recommended					
1.	Full address with contact phone numbers and email address					
2.	Date of birth	Date		Month		Year
	Age					

3.	Educational Qualifications	
4.	Experience with details of organization served, post held and period of service	
5.	1. Books: (a) written (b) edited (c) translated 2. Research articles (Enclosed list with published details)	
6.	Recognition/honours already received i) title of the recognition/honour ii) year iii) the conferring authority/ organization	
7.	Special contribution towards popularization of Classical Tamil with details (The research contribution should be within the above fields)	
8.	Please state the special reasons/ detailed justification for recommending the scholar for the award	

Date:

Place:

Signature of the recommending scholar

❖ **Instruction:** Details in separate sheet may be attached if the space provided in case of any of the columns above is found insufficient.