

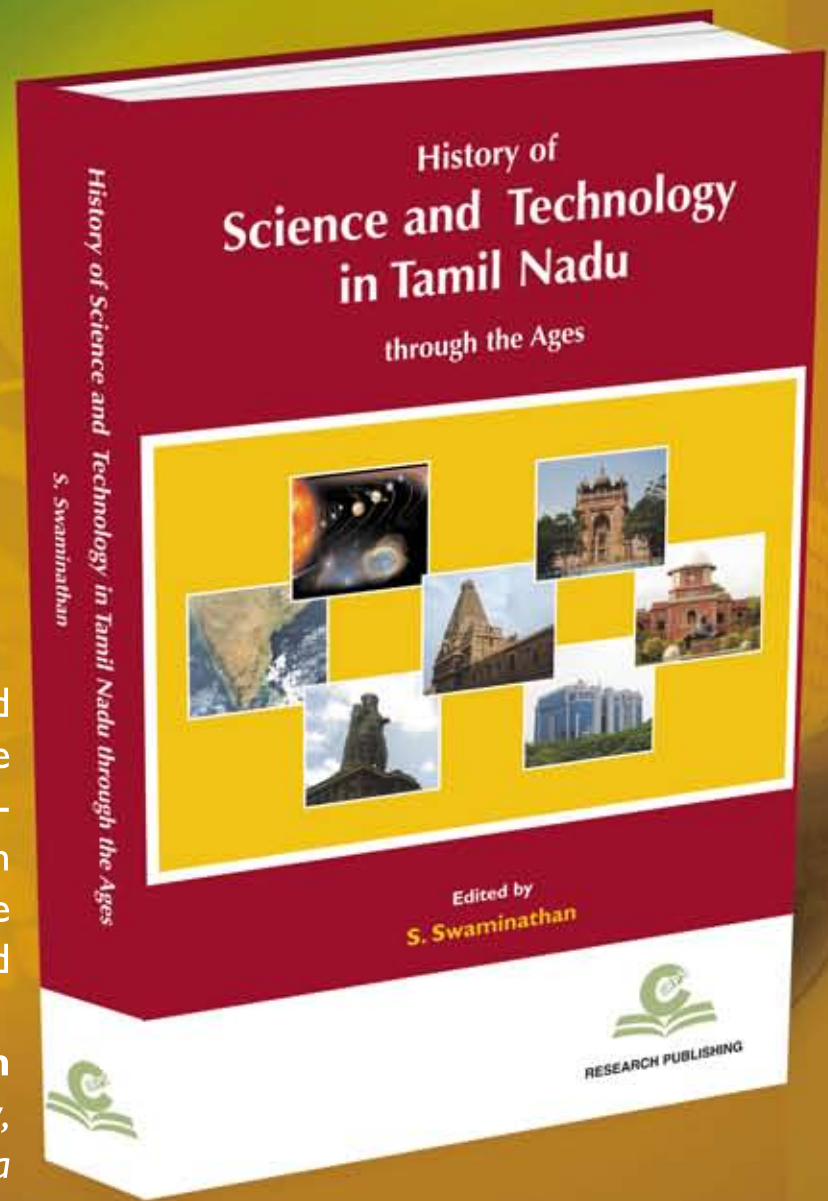
History of Science and Technology in Tamil Nadu through the Ages

Edited by **S. Swaminathan**

“This book has brought together eminent scholars who have documented the history of colonial and postcolonial developments in the sphere of science and technology. The merit of the present work lies in conceptualising history of science as an episteme and thus it has made a distinct contribution to the realm of history of science. The effort of the editor is appreciable and the book is a timely addition to the books on history of science and technology.”

– **Prof. Dr. N. Rajendran**

Dean of Arts, Professor & Head, Department of History,
Bharathidasan University, India



Knowledge versus ignorance transformed as wisdom of experience by the prehistoric homosapiens of the Tamils is explored from archaeological, epigraphic-sources of identify with anthropological linguistics. History of ideas like science of Tamil language, emotions of animals, planets and constellation concepts of the ancient Tamils are historicizing with the background of some Classical Tamil literature. Self-preservation and self-reliance technique of the tribal communities, their knowledge of physiographic, winds and monsoon, sea routes, and shipbuilding technology leads to the current climate observations are empirically well versed. Powers of tradition like medical practices of siddha, unani, aurveda, agriculture, irrigation system are discussed and change versus tradition traced with colonial initiatives of medical mission of the missionaries, study of Indian flora and fauna, colonial technical education, meteorological operations, space science led to modern science and nationalist quest for alternatives in the form of Swadeshi industry in Tamil Nadu exposes change of power – necessity. Glimpses of this book historically documented the developments of science and technology and the changeover from traditional to modern history of Tamil Nadu. Instead the chronological orders of facts; intended in the contents prosopography of Tamil scientists, science and rationalism for egalitarian Society, empowered visually challenged, change the scenario of educational institutions, environmental history, the effects of information revolution seeing that Tidel Park, travel, transport, and hospitality endeavor to expose ample facet of contemporary history of science in Tamil Nadu. The collection thus presents both the development of the field and current lively debates within it, challenging readers to rethink their notions about the direction, meanings, and to suggest new ways to conceptualize and organize their history of science and technology in Tamil Nadu.

This book attempts to fulfill the existing gap from prehistory to contemporary history of science and technology in Tamil Nadu. Scholars have been chosen to think globally act locally above and beyond their good job that reveals the themes elucidating the epistemology of the Tamils.

Readership: Academics, reserchers, graduates majoring in history and social science, institutions/centres, general public with an interest in History and Science & Technology of Tamil Nadu.

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