

Dravidar Kazhagam : Dravidar Kazhagam (DK) is an atheist movement founded by the great social revolutionary, Periyar E.V. Ramasami (1879 – 1973) to make the people, who were denied education and employment in the name of god and religion for so many centuries aware, understand and realise self respect. The deprived masses were named as 'Dravidian' by the historians. The Movement, with its multitudes of BLACK SHIRT cadres has been adopting sustained strategies to reform the society, ensuring social justice. It develops scientific temper by striving on the hard path of propagation of the ideals through the mode of meetings, agitation, picketing, imprisonment etc. to attain the goal of humanism. The ideologies of Periyar are propagated with self commitment by adopting sustainable strategies by Dr. K. Veeramani, who became the President of Dravidar Kazhagam, after a brief span of leadership by E.V.R. Maniammai (1917-1978), wife of Periyar.

DK, the mass movement has been instrumental for many reformatory, socially justifiable legal enactments enforceable not only in Tamil Nadu but for the whole of India. In fact, DK is the causative force, acknowledged by the rulers of the Nation, at the time of making FIRST amendment to Indian Constitution in 1951 which facilitated admission of deprived sections of people in educational institutions. The various political parties and their present leadership in Tamil Nadu consider as a pride in identifying themselves with the ideals of Periyar. Periyar continues to remain as the integral force on ideological front for the leadership of both the treasury bench and the opposition side of political governance of the state of Tamil Nadu. The unique feature of Dravidar Kazhagam is making the propagation of atheistic ideals as mass movement.

DK is publishing periodicals and magazines in Tamil, *Viduthalai* (Liberty) daily, *Unmai* (Truth) fortnightly, *Periyar Pinju* (Periyar Bud) Children's monthly and in English, *The Modern Rationalist* monthly. Many educational institutions including Periyar Maniyammai University, Periyar Centenary Polytechnic, Periyar Pharmaceutical College, Teacher Training Institute, Primary, Secondary, Higher Secondary and Matriculation Schools securing significant distinctions in every academic year are managed by it. Community Development Institutions and social organisations like Children Home, Old Age Home, Free Medical Centres, Legal Aid Centre etc. are also maintained by it.

Atheist Centre : Atheist Centre was founded by the renowned atheist Gora (1902- 1975) with its head quarters at Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh. Periyar and Gora are contemporaries of atheism propaganda mission for the cause of uplifting mankind by removing them from the clutches of god and religion. Gora founded the ideology of 'Positive Atheism' which is a noble ideology for the livelihood of individuals and well being of the society. After the demise of Gora, The Atheist Centre was managed by Saraswathi Gora (1912-2006). Atheist Centre, presently headed by Dr. G. Vijayam, the second son of Gora, is accomplishing social activities organizationally through many progressive deeds and community development programs in Andhra Pradesh. Atheist Centre has convened SEVEN successful World Atheist Conferences through its sustained relationship with atheist fraternity world over. Atheist Centre is publishing two monthly magazines viz. *Nasthika Maargam* (Atheistic way) in Telugu and 'Atheist' in English.

The Rationalists' Forum : The Rationalists' Forum is a Humanist Movement founded by Periyar E.V.R. in 1971 and presently patronised by Dr. K. Veeramani, President, Dravidar Kazhagam. It is a unique movement, because of the composition of membership and carrying out the activities. People who are committed to Periyar's ideology and employed in various organizations – government, public private co-operative have shouldered the responsibility of propagating the preaching and practising rationalistic ideals. The activities include organising meetings, seminars, science exhibition, superstition exposure show to develop scientific temper and humanism among the public. Many State and Central Ministers, Vice Chancellors of Universities, educationalists, officials who are at the helm of affairs to-day were the earlier functionaries of The Rationalists' Forum. It is signified with network of functionaries and cadres at state, district and village levels in Tamil Nadu.

For Details :
Co-ordinator,

World Atheist Conference

Periyar Thidal, 84/1 (50), E.V.K. Sampath Road, Vepery, Chennai – 600 007, India
Fax: 044 2661 8866 e-mail : atheistconference2011@gmail.com

WWW.WORLDATHEISTCONFERENCE.COM



**WORLD
ATHEIST
CONFERENCE
2011**

at Tiruchirapalli,
Tamil Nadu - INDIA
January 7-9, 2011

DON'T MISS THE
GRAND
INTERNATIONAL
EVENT!

PEOPLE FROM
MANY STATES OF
INDIA AND OTHER
COUNTRIES

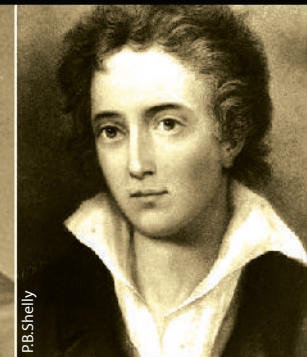
PARTICIPATE IN
LARGE
NUMBERS!



Bertrand Russell



Charles Bradlaugh



P.B. Shelly



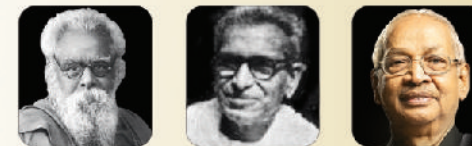
R.G. Ingersoll

WORLD ATHEIST CONFERENCE

(Jointly convened by Dravidar Kazhagam, Atheist Centre & The Rationalists' Forum)



World Atheist Conference (WAC) convened by
**Dravidar Kazhagam, Atheist Centre and
 The Rationalists' Forum**
 on 7, 8 & 9 January 2011 at Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu, India.
 Theme : **"ATHEISM- AN ALTERNATIVE CULTURE"**



**WAC PROCEEDINGS TAKE PLACE WITH HONOURED PRESENCE OF
 THE FOLLOWING DIGNITARIES**

WAC is the ideological confluence of atheists, rationalists and humanist fraternity from the countries – England, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Switzerland, United States, Malaysia, Singapore etc. and from all the States of India.

WAC proceedings cover seminar and sittings with lecture delivery and paper presentation on the various dimensions of atheism, rationalism and humanism. Film show, video presentations, science exhibition, book exhibition are organised. A massive public procession with demonstrations exposing superstitions is scheduled followed by public meeting. A Souvenir containing essays, real stories, personal experiences of scholars and activists on atheism and allied aspects is released on the occasion. Many leaders in public life and persons of eminence from the State and Central Governments, educationists and intellectuals participate in the proceedings.

Inaugural Function at 11 a.m. on Friday the 7th January

President : **Dr.K.Veeramani** • Inauguration : **Mr. Levi Fragell** • Conference Theme : **Dr. Vijayam**

Venue : **Periyar Centenary Educational Complex**

K. Sathanoor Main Road, K.K. Nagar, Metre Factory Road,
 Tiruchirapalli 620021, (TRICHY) Tamil Nadu
 &

Periyar Maniammai University, Vallam Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu

The sessions scheduled cover Paper presentations and interactions on the following topics chaired by atheist scholars and activists

TOPIC	CHAIR PERSON
Atheism and Humanism – A Way of Life	Mr. Lavanam
Atheism for Social Transformation	Mr. G. Karunanidhu
Atheism – A bedrock of Science and Scientific Outlook	Dr. V. Sundararajulu
Atheism for Women Empowerment	Dr. M. Thavamani
Sciences Vs Pseudo Science	Dr. D. Kumar
Youth and Atheism	Dr. Ilakkuvan Tamil
Role of media in strengthening secularism, atheism and humanism	Dr. Dhaneswar Sahoo
Role of Atheism in safeguarding individual and social health	Dr. Samaram

An exclusive session, inviting tiny thoughts by involving Pinjus (Atheists buds) to disseminate atheism, is co-ordinated by Mr. Prince Ennares Periyar.

Cultural Programmes by the staff and students of Periyar Educational Institutions will be the concluding part of everyday programme. "Periyar" movie is screened to the delegates.

Valedictory function by 12.00 on 9th January at Tiruchirapalli

Levi Fragell

Former President, IHEU, Norway

Kristin-Mile

Secretary General, Norwegian Humanist Association

Pekka Elo

Free Thinkers Association, Finland

S. Ratna Kumar

Singapore

K.R.R. Anbalagan

Malaysian Dravidar Kazhagam

Dr. Sanal Edamaruku

Indian Rationalist Association, New Delhi

Dr. Ravivarma Kumar

Lawyer's Forum of Social Justice, Bangalore

Actor Satyaraj

Lavanam

President, Samskar, Vijayawada

Prof. B.A. Parikh

Former Vice-Chancellor, South Gujarat University

Prof. Narendra Nayak

President, Federation of Indian Rationalist Associations

Prof. Suba. Veerapandian

General Secretary, Forum of Dravidian Tamils

U. Kalanathan

Chairman, FIRA, Kerala

Prof. Harchand Bhinder

Secretary, FIRA, North Zone

Ch. Vidya

Former Member of Parliament

Dr. Maru

Co-editor, Nasthika Margam

Rashmi Samaram

Secretary, Vasavya Mahila Mandal

B. Sambasiva Rao

Mavana Vikasa Vedika, Hyderabad

Poet. Kanimozhi

Member of Parliament, India

Dr. M. Naganathan

*Vice Chairman,
Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission*

Dr. A. Ramasamy

*Vice Chairman,
Tamil Nadu State Higher Education Council*

Dr. P. Jagadeesan

Member, Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission

**Dr. Soma Ilangoan &
Dr. Ilakkuvan Tamil**

Periyar International, USA

V.T. Rajshekar

Editor, Dalit Voice, Bangalore

Dr. Samaram

National President, Indian Medical Association

Prof. Dr. N. Ramachandran

Vice Chancellor, Periyar Maniammai University

Dr. Babu Gogineni

Executive Director, IHEU, Geneva

Prof. Dr. Dhaneswar Sahoo

Orissa Rationalist Association

R.G. Rao

National Secretary, FIRA, Goa

Prof. Balwinder Barnala

Tarksheel Society, Punjab

H. Subramanyam

Arthik Samata Mandal

Vidyabhushan Rawat

New Delhi

Niyanta

Director, Gora Science Centre

Dr. Babubhai Desai

Gujarat Rationalist Association

And many others from different progressive movements are participating in the World Atheist Conference.

**WAC concludes with the celebration of PONGAL-
 the secular, cultural festival of the toiling masses of Tamil Nadu**

You are welcome!

Participation fee per delegate:

India **Rs. 400/-** Foreign **USD 100**

The delegate fee is to be remitted through bank draft favouring 'The Rationalists' Forum' payable at Chennai and sent to the following address. Co-ordinator, **WORLD ATHEIST CONFERENCE** Periyar Thidal, 80/1 (50), EVK Sampath Road, Vepery, Chennai – 600 007.

