

Accreditation Ambassador



Professor Thiruvananthapuram Kuppaswami Venkatasubramanian was born in the year 1947 at Ambasamudram in Tirunelveli (Kattabomman) District of Tamil Nadu. He completed his M.A. in History from Presidency College, Madras in 1968 and was awarded the doctorate in History from Madras University in 1979. He served as an Assistant Professor and Professor under Tamil Nadu Collegiate Education Service at the postgraduate level from 1971–84.

He joined the University of Delhi as a Reader in 1984 and became a Professor in 1994 and retired in 2012

With a teaching and research experience of more than forty-one years, Professor Venkatasubramanian has made significant contributions to the discipline of history through his continuous endeavour to explore the different facets of south Indian history. Besides his affiliation to history, his interests include a wide range from cricket to Carnatic music, and from environment to culture.

During his service in the University of Delhi, he held key positions at the national and international levels.

He became the Member Secretary of the Indian Council of Historical Research (1998–9), which was a Cabinet Committee Appointment through the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India.

During 1999–2002, he served as a member to Advisory Board of the Archaeological Survey of India.

He was the Head, Department of History, University of Delhi from the year 2001 to 2004; at the same time, he was also given the charge of the headship of the Department of Adult and Continuing Education and Extension, University of Delhi from 2001 to 2003.

During this period, he also functioned as the Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences; Chairman, Admission Advisory Committee; Director, Population Education Centre; Convenor, Sub-Committee, Board of Research Studies in Humanities, and a Member of Academic Council and Executive Council, University of Delhi.

He contributed significantly to the University of Delhi during the period 2001–7, when the syllabi at the undergraduate level were being revised.

He served as the Coordinator, Discipline Courses for B.A. Programme (2003–5), and Convenor, Indian Art and Indian Music (Application Courses) (2005–7)

During the period 2004–9, he was the Chairman, Senior Secondary course in History, National Institute of Open Schooling and External Member, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Between the years 2007 and 2009, he was a member of the Academic Council, Research Council, Joint Committee of UGC, AICTE and Distance Education Council, a Board Member of the School of Performing and Visual Arts, and Convenor of the Course Preparation Committee for Hindustani and Carnatic music at Indira Gandhi National Open University.

He also served as the Member, Secondary and Senior Secondary Board for Carnatic Music in National Institute of Open Schooling (2008–10).

He has also carried out several assignments for the UGC and helped in the preparation of a model curriculum for History and Archaeology in 2000–1.

He has been a member of the Implementation Committees for the Tenth Plan (2003–4) and Eleventh Plan (2008–9).

He also carried out a survey for the UGC to evaluate the effectiveness of telephonic counselling in seventeen universities during 2003–4.

After his retirement from service in 2012 Professor Venkatasubramanian successfully discharged his responsibility as the Chairman, Governing Body, Kirori Mal College, University of Delhi during 2015–16.

He made significant contribution to the Indian History Congress as the Treasurer (1986–9), Joint Secretary and In-charge, Permanent Office (1989–92) and as the Local Secretary (1992). He was also elected as the President for the Ancient India Section of the Indian History Congress, Chennai Session (1996); Cultural History Section of the South Indian History Congress, Gulbarga Session (1996); Historiography Session of the Andhra Pradesh History Congress, Tirupati Session (2003).

Besides these, he has also delivered many endowment and public lectures

He has presented papers in many national and international conferences such as the Beijing Forum (2005) organized by Peking University, China; Indology Conference (2006) at Moscow;

International conference on Teaching and Learning of World Civilization on the Web (2007) organized jointly by the City University, Hongkong and Peking University, China and

the meeting of EurIndia Project (2007) at Paris. He was also the Principal Investigator in the EurIndia Project (2002–7).

He is associated with the Academic Staff Colleges of many universities including JNU, AMU and Jamia Millia Islamia.

He also has membership of the Professional Bodies including the Indian History Congress, South Indian History Congress, Tamil Nadu History Congress, Indian Music Congress, Urban History Association of India, Place Name Society, Epigraphical Society of India, World Archaeological Congress, South Indian Numismatic Society and South Asia Studies (Chicago University).

He is an accomplished mṛdaṅgam player and had the privilege of accompanying veterans of Carnatic music. He is a graded artist of All India Radio and Doordarshan, and an empanelled artist of Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR). He has also served as the Joint Secretary of the Indian Music Congress (1989–95). He is connected with many organizations in Delhi and Chennai which promote fine arts. In the field of Carnatic music, he is known as Dr T.K.V.S. Mani. Very recently, he organized and coordinated a two-day Music Festival ‘Talavadyotsava 2013’ (30–1 March 2013) at Delhi Tamil Sangam to felicitate his guru Dr T.K. Murthy, the famous mridangist, for eighty years of his service to the field of music. He also produced a seventeen-hour video on Tāla for Sangeet Natak Akademi in 2013. Professor Venkatasubramanian is proficient in

Tamil, Malayalam, Sanskrit and Hindi besides English. He has visited Egypt, UAE, USA, Canada, China, Russia and many European countries.