MADRAS MMA MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION — ESTD. 1956 — 70 YEARS CELEBRATION

KONRAD ADENAUER STIFTUNG

BEYOND POETRY

BHARATHIYAR'S TIMELESS LESSONS IN LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT



DEC 10 2026

THURSDAY

6:15 pm - 7:30 pm

MMA MANAGEMENT CENTER



Dr Sudha Seshayyan



Dr Kavidasan



Dr Rajkumar Bharathi



Niranjan Bharathi



R Suresh Mallya

Synopsis

Beyond Poetry: Bharathiyar's Timeless Lessons in Leadership and Management

A Special Commemorative Lecture on the 144th Birth Anniversary of Mahakavi Subramania Bharathiyar

Mahakavi Subramania Bharathiyar was far more than a legendary poet. He was a visionary thinker, fearless reformer and passionate advocate of freedom, equality, innovation and social progress. His extraordinary ideas, articulated more than a century ago, continue to resonate with the challenges of leadership and management in today's rapidly changing world.

At a time when organisations are navigating technological disruption, uncertainty and changing societal expectations, Bharathiyar's philosophy offers timeless insights into fearless leadership, visionary thinking, challenging the status quo, empowering people and leading with purpose and conviction.

This special commemorative lecture will explore how Bharathiyar's inspiring thoughts and writings can be interpreted through the lens of contemporary management, offering valuable lessons for business leaders, entrepreneurs, professionals and students.

An inspiring opportunity to rediscover the Mahakavi, not merely as a poet of his times, but as a visionary whose ideas can continue to shape the leaders of tomorrow.

Programme

5:30 PM — Registration & Hi-Tea

6:15 PM — Welcome & Introduction

Mr C Siva Kumar
Member, MMA Managing Committee
Managing Partner, Timelinks

Special Address by the Guest of Honour

Dr Kavidasan
Director, Roots Industries India Private Ltd &
Secretary, Satchidananda Jothi Nikethan International School, Kallar

Address by the Chief Guest

Dr Sudha Seshayyan
Former Vice-Chancellor, The Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University,
Director, Chennai Campus and Indo-Japan G20, Chair Professor, SASTRA Deemed University

Special Invitees

Dr Rajkumar Bharathi
Indian Classical Carnatic Singer, Music Composer & Great Grandson of Mahakavi Subramania Bharathiyar

Mr Niranjan Bharathi
Tamil Poet, Film Lyricist & Great - Great Grandson of Mahakavi Subramania Bharathiyar

Dr Sudha Seshayyan

Dr Kavidasan

In conversation with

Mr R Suresh Mallya
Consultant & Mentor
Suvid Hospitality & Learning Services

Q&A

7:25 PM — Vote of Thanks

Gp Capt R Vijayakumar (Retd), VSM
Executive Director, Madras Management Association

7:30 PM — End of the Program

Profile



Dr Sudha Seshayyan

Former Vice-Chancellor, The Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, Director, Chennai Campus and Indo-Japan G20, Chair Professor, SASTRA Deemed University

Dr Sudha Seshayyan is a distinguished medical academician, anatomist, administrator, accomplished author and renowned orator. She served as the Vice-Chancellor of The Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, making significant contributions to medical education and academic administration.

She currently serves as Director of the Chennai Campus and Indo-Japan G20 Chair Professor at SASTRA Deemed University, focusing on healthcare, Indian philosophy and the Indian Knowledge System. She has also been nominated as Vice-Chairperson of the Central Institute of Classical Tamil.

A highly sought-after speaker, Dr Sudha Seshayyan is widely admired for her eloquence and thought-provoking addresses in both Tamil and English on literature, culture, spirituality and social values at prestigious institutions and forums.

A prolific writer, she has authored over 30 books across diverse genres and has translated a book by former President of India, Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, into Tamil. Her remarkable contributions to education, literature and culture have earned her widespread recognition and respect.

Profile



Dr Kavidasan

Director, Roots Industries India Private Ltd & Secretary,

Satchidananda Jothi Nikethan International School, Kallar

Dr Kavidasan, born in Coimbatore into an agricultural family, is a distinguished HR professional, educationist, motivational speaker, author and Tamil poet. His passion for learning has earned him four Master's Degrees, a Postgraduate Diploma in Labour Laws, a Law Degree and a Ph.D. in Emotional Intelligence. He was also a Gold Medallist in Political Science from the University of Madras in 1984.

With nearly four decades of experience in Human Resource Development and Personnel Management, Dr Kavidasan has served as Director – HR at Roots Industries India Ltd for over three decades, overseeing the Corporate HR functions of the Roots Group. Earlier, he held positions at Lakshmi Mills and the Sakthi Group. He is also the Secretary of Satchidananda Jothi Nikethan International School, a renowned residential institution at the foothills of the Nilgiris, educating around 900 students.

A respected HR leader, he is the Founder President of HRD Circle, Coimbatore, and has served on various prestigious bodies, including CII panels, the Senate and Planning Board of Bharathiar University, and the Standing Committee of Anna University, Coimbatore. He has also trained police personnel at various levels.

An inspiring motivational speaker and passionate advocate of self-confidence, Dr Kavidasan has reportedly conducted over 1,00,000 workshops, reaching more than 50 lakh people, particularly students and youth. His mission is to instil self-confidence and empower young minds to realise their potential.

An accomplished Tamil poet and author, he has published several motivational books and poetry collections. His celebrated poem Karuvarai Olangal was selected by All India Radio for the National Poetry Symposium in 2001, translated into 18 Indian languages and broadcast nationwide. His literary works have been included in academic curricula and inspired several research studies, including three Ph.D. theses.

His numerous honours include "Man of the Year 2000," "Icons of Coimbatore 2015," "Tamil Chemmal" and "Sollin Selvar." He has delivered motivational talks internationally and represented Tamil Nadu at the World Tamil Conference in Malaysia in 2015.

A committed champion of Tamil language and culture, Dr Kavidasan played a significant role in mobilising approximately ₹1 crore towards establishing the Tamil Chair at Harvard University, USA.
Dr Kavidasan is married to Mrs Krishnaveni, a postgraduate, and they have two sons, Mr Kavi Scidharth, an entrepreneur, and Dr Kavi Vidyarth, a medical professional.

Profile



Dr Rajkumar Bharathi

Indian Classical Carnatic Singer, Music Composer &
Great Grandson of Mahakavi Subramania Bharathiyar

Rajkumar Bharathi is a classical singer and music composer from India. He is the great grandson of the renaissance poet Subramanya Bharathi.

Rajkumar Bharathi was introduced to music by his mother Lalitha Bharathi at the age of 5. He was also trained later under the tutelage of classical musicians like Valliyur Gurumurthi, M. Balamuralikrishna and T. V. Gopalakrishnan. Rajkumar Bharathi has given Classical Carnatic music concerts throughout India and abroad.

Rajkumar Bharathi has been honored by several Awards. A few of them are listed below.

- Outstanding Young Person Award by the Rotary Club of South Madras
- Sangeetha Gana Sudha Nidhi by Thyagaraja Samithi, Anantapur.
- Sangeetha Sudhakara by his Holiness Sri Sringeri Sankaracharya, Sringeri Math.
- Asthana Vidwan of Shri Datta Peetham, Mysore and Sri Sringeri Math, Sringeri.
- Gana Kala Bharathi by Hindu American Temple and Cultural Centre, NJ, USA.
- Outstanding Young Musician Award by Maharajapuram Viswanatha Iyer trust, Madras.
- Kalki Award for Young Musician by the Kalki Magazine, Madras.
- Central Excise Award for Young Achiever by the Central Excise Department, Government of India.
- Sahitya Priya Award by Jankalyan Trust, Madras.

Profile



Mr Niranjan Bharathi

Tamil Poet, Film Lyricist & Great - Great Grandson of Mahakavi Subramania Bharathiyar

Niranjan Bharathi is a Tamil poet, film lyricist, online Tamil teacher, and orator, best known as the great-great-grandson of the legendary Tamil renaissance poet Mahakavi Subramania Bharathiyar.

Profile & Background

• Family: Son of renowned classical musician and composer Dr. Rajkumar Bharathi (who is the great-grandson of Mahakavi Bharathiyar); spouse is Divya.
• Roles: Poet, film lyricist, online Tamil educator, public orator, and digital content creator running the Bharati Consciousness ("Bharati Consciousness") platform/YouTube channel.
• Mission: Dedicated to preserving, promoting, and introducing Mahakavi Bharathiyar's literary works and optimistic philosophy to the younger generation

Profile



Mr R Suresh Mallya

Consultant & Mentor

Suvid Hospitality & Learning Services

Mr.Suresh Mallya has 39 years of experience in the hospitality field and held General Management assignments in Hotels and in Food and Beverage retail business domain.

He has worked with leading hotel chains like The Oberoi, ITC Welcomgroup, Choice Hotels, Pride Hotels, Ramanashree Group of Hotels, Sangam Hotels and Pizza Corner etc.

He has undergone an advanced residential "Fast Track General Management Program" and Relationship Marketing from Indian Institute of Management-Bangalore to hone his Management skills.

He participated in Hotel Conventions in Dubai, Singapore and Shanghai.
Alumni of IIM-Bangalore, Member of MMA, ISTD, NIPM & Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan and many social and literary forums.

He has presented live talk shows on TV & FM Rainbow Radio on careers in the hospitality domain.

Presents custom designed soft skills learning and development programs to Institutions and career guidance to young working professionals.
He was a guest Speaker at the Times Education Boutique for South conducted by Times of India.

Presented Hospitality Education pavilion at the "Education Fair" hosted by The New Indian Express at Chennai Trade Centre with Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology, Tharamani-Chennai.

Translated 38 social quotes from English to Tamil for Shiv Khera, Author of the best-selling book YOU CAN WIN.

Service to Nation Initiative:
Dedicated a patriotic song in Tamil for Viksit Bharat 2047 on Republic day-2025.

The song has been written, composed and sung by Dr.Rajkumar Bharathi-the great grandson of Mahakavi Bharathi.
Published the translated version of the song in Bengali, Hindi, Kannada, Konkani, Malayalam, Marathi, Sanskrit and Telugu in Viksit Bharat 2047-YouTube Channel.

Published a title song for Tamilnadu Day on the 1st of November 2026.The song has been penned by Poet R.Niranjan Bharathi-great-great-grandson of Mahakavi Bharathi.

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