

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **TAMIL YOUTH FESTIVAL 2022 – TAMIL BEYOND CLASSROOMS**

The Tamil Language Council (TLC) is pleased to present the second edition of the Tamil Youth Festival (TYF), which will take place from 3 to 11 September 2022 during the school holidays. This year's festival will feature 12 programmes by 12 partners, as the youths come together to promote the Tamil language in Singapore.

The programmes aim to encourage youths to “Love Tamil, Speak Tamil”, embrace their mother tongue and use the language at home and in their daily lives. All programmes presented will target students, youths and young adults below the age of 35.

This year's theme is “Innovation”, and it encourages all youths to explore creative ways to encourage the use of the Tamil language. Everyone can look forward to participating in a variety of literature-based performances, language-based workshops, competitions, and more programmes. The festival calendar will feature online and in-person programmes. Online platforms would include Zoom, Facebook and Instagram.

“The theme of “innovation” is not confined to digital and technology-based programmes as this broad concept can be applied to mindsets, other facets of life, including language appreciation. The TLC inaugurated the Tamil Youth Festival in 2021, to reach out to youths in our community. Within the TLC, our younger members are also taking the lead for the TYF. Through their lens, we can better understand the needs and interests of the youths in the community, and this will help us support more relevant programmes with our partners,” says Mr S Manogaran, Chairman of the Tamil Language Council.

“Among our friends and youths that we interact with, we note the tendency to use Tamil only in a school setting, and not with friends or family. We wish to change this as we hope that Tamil will be our community's living language, especially among the young. We have worked with youth organisations to present relevant programmes which we find interesting, and we hope our peers will too,” says Mr Irshath Mohamed, Deputy Secretary of the Tamil Language Council.

As a new partner to TYF 2022, the Tamils Representative Council Youth Wing will present “Kadhaippoma”, an informal podcast where invited guests will share their thoughts on pertinent topics among Tamil youths. Participants in the podcast will also discuss the challenges youths face in using the Tamil language after graduation, and how youths are also pursuing their interest in the arts sector as a career choice.

For details on all programmes during the Tamil Youth Festival 2022, visit the Tamil Language Council's Facebook page at [facebook.com/tamilanguagecouncilsingapore](https://facebook.com/tamilanguagecouncilsingapore) or follow the TLC's Instagram handle @TamilLangFestival or check out the website at [www.tamil.org.sg](http://www.tamil.org.sg).

## **About the Tamil Language Council and the Tamil Youth Festival**

The Tamil Language Council (TLC) was formed in 2000 and comprises representatives from the education sector, major community organisations, arts groups and the media. All members are appointed by the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth.

The Tamil Youth Festival (TYF) was inaugurated in 2021, as a dedicated initiative to encourage the youths in the community to embrace their mother tongue. The TLC's main signature initiative remains the Tamil Language Festival, which has taken place annually since 2007.

Since 2017, the Tamil Language Council has also extended additional funding to support and cultivate capacity building initiatives for the youths and students within the community, in an effort to inspire them to use and develop the Tamil language.