

Notes on Language and Transliteration

This publication incorporates terms in Sanskrit and Tamil. Generally, I give prominence to Sanskrit rendition to be consistent, but Tamil terms are favored when dealing with vernacular tradition such as the *kolū*. When I consider it relevant, I provide both terms. Tamil is transcribed in accordance with the Tamil Lexicon, published by the University of Madras. Sanskrit is transcribed according to the International Alphabet of Sanskrit Transliteration (IAST). Terms in Sanskrit and Tamil are italicized and explained the first time they appear (and occasionally twice if they appear far apart).

Names of contemporary people, place names and castes appear without diacritics, but names of deities, characters from literature and folklore, and famous historical persons are given with diacritics. I favor Sanskrit names in the cases where the deities are widely known (such as Śiva and Durgā rather than Civaṅ and Turkkai). Less known and local deities, such as Māriyamman, are given with Tamil transcriptions.

Abbreviations

ARE – *Annual Report on Indian Epigraphy*, New Delhi.

DM – *Devīmāhātmya*

KV – *Kāmākṣīvilāsa*

LSN – *Lalitāsahasranāma*

LU – *Lalitopākhyāna*

MW – Monier Williams Sanskrit-English Dictionary (<http://www.sanskrit-lexicon.uni-koeln.de/monier/>)

SC – *Saubhāgyacintāmaṇi*

Skt. – Sanskrit

Ta. – Tamil