



## 1. Identification of Manuscripts

➤ **Exploration and Survey:** Conducted thorough surveys across Kerala, collaborating with local archives, libraries and communities known for preserving such manuscripts.

➤ **Consultation with Experts:** Engaged with scholars, historians and custodians possessing deep-rooted knowledge of local history and manuscripts to identify potential repositories.

## 2. Selection and Preparation for Digitization

➤ **Criteria for Selection:** Established criteria based on historical significance, rarity and thematic importance to prioritize manuscripts for digitization.

➤ **Preparation and Handling:** Employed meticulous care and conservation techniques to ensure the safe handling and preparation of delicate palm leaf manuscripts for digitization.

## 3. Digitization Process

➤ **Technology and Equipment:** Utilized modern digital equipment and for fragile historical documents.

➤ **Digitisation Protocols:** Developed protocols to maintain accuracy, resolution and preservation of the original content during the digitization process.

➤ **Quality Assurance:** Implemented stringent quality checks to verify the fidelity and completeness of digitised manuscripts.

## 4. Cataloguing and Documentation

➤ **Data Organisation:** Established a systematic method for cataloguing, organizing and archiving digitised manuscripts.

➤ **Descriptive Metadata:** Recorded detailed descriptive metadata including titles, authors (if known), dates, languages, scripts and any unique features or content within the manuscripts.

➤ **Collaborative Input:** Engaged with scholars and experts for accurate interpretation and categorisation of manuscripts.

## 5. Accessibility and Preservation

➤ **Digital Repository Creation:** At Present, the digital copies of the manuscripts are securely preserved within hard drives and cloud storage spaces. Concurrently, I am in the process of developing a comprehensive digital repository system for these manuscripts. Additionally, efforts are underway towards editing and preparing the collection for future publication.

➤ **Preservation measures:** Implemented long-term preservation strategies and conservation

guidelines to ensure the sustained preservation of manuscripts.

## 6. Ethical Considerations

➤ **Cultural Sensitivity:** Maintained sensitivity to cultural and religious aspects while handling the manuscripts.

➤ **Permissions:** Adhered to ethical guidelines, obtained necessary permissions when sharing the content.

## Descriptive Catalogue of Newly Identified Manuscripts

Title: ललितसहस्रनामावलि:

Lalitāsahasranāmāvaliḥ

No.: 1

Language: Sanskrit

Script: Old Malayalam

Size: 28cm by 2cm

Extent: 20 leaves; written in both sides; 11 lines to a leaf; about 30 letters

to a line

Description: Palm leaf. old Malayalam characters; rather hurried but generally legible and correct writing. Corrections made here and there with black. Some upper side portions are partially damaged; complete.

Subject: Thousand names of Hindu goddess. A part of Mārkaṇḍeya Purāṇa

Begins: ഹരി: ശ്രീഗണപതയേ നമ:

ഒാം ശ്രീമഘത്രേ നമ:

Reference: The text has been printed in India many times.

Notes: Manuscript contains many textual variations in the names and order some of them are hitherto unknown names. For example,

विसतन्तुनिभाकृतायै नमः in the place of वि(बि)सतन्तुतनीयस्यै नमः, भद्रप्रदायै नमः instead of भद्रप्रियायै नमः etc

Title: वैष्णवनवीकरणप्रकारः

Vaiṣṇavanavīkaraṇaprakāraḥ

No.: 2

Language: Sanskrit

Script: Old Malayalam

Size: 28cm by 2.5cm

Extent: 23 leaves; written in both sides; 10 lines to a leaf; about 36 letters

to a line

Description: Palm leaf. old Malayalam characters; generally legible and correct writing. Some portions are partially damaged;

complete.

Subject: A Tantric temple ritual related to Vishnu.

Begins: ഹരി: ശ്രീഗണപതയേ നമഃ  
അവിഷ്ണവനവീകരണപ്രകാരം  
ലിഖ്യതെ തദ്യഥ മുഹൂർത്തദിനന്തർ  
പ്രഗഷ്ടമെന്നി രത്നത്രേ  
ബീജംകുരൂർപണം കുര്യൻ.

Notes: Manuscript possesses a Tantric temple ritual of Kerala. It contains a unique regional variation of the ritual process.

Title: വിജയാബലിപ്രകാരം

**vijayābaliprakāram**

No.: 3

Language: Malayalam and Sanskrit

Script: Old Malayalam

Size: 34cm by 2.5cm

Extent: 13 leaves; written in both sides; 11 lines to a leaf; about 47 letters

to a line

Description: Palm leaf. old Malayalam characters; generally legible and correct writing. complete.

Subject: A rare Tantrik ritual of Kerala temples.

Begins: ഹരി: ശ്രീഗണപതയേ നമഃ  
അവിഷ്ണവനവീകരണപ്രകാരം

വിജയാബലിപ്രകാരത്തെ ചെല്ലുന്നു  
.....

തിരുവേണവം വിഷ്ണുപഞ്ചമിയും

ആകുന്നതിനടുപ്പതിന് ഉള്ള ദിവസം..

പൂർവ്വപക്ഷം ഏറെ പ്രധാനം

Ends: ആദിത്യൻ ഉദിച്ചു പേരയംകിൽ  
കുളിച്ച്

പശുദാനഞ്ചെഴ് നിർമ്മലയും

വന്ദിക്കണമെന്നുകേൾക്കൂ. ഇല്ലംകിൽ  
മഹാദേവം

സംഭവിക്കും.....

ഇങ്ങനെ

വിജയാബലിപ്രകാരം

ശുഭമസ്തു. ശ്രീ ഗുരുഭ്യേ നമഃ ഓം  
നമശ്ശിവായ

Notes: Manuscript contains a very rare Tantric ritual performing in the

Vishnu Temples of Kerala. This ritual process is not yet published.

Title: ധാന്വന്തരഹോമപ്രകാരം

**Dhānvantarahomaprakāram**

No.: 4

Language: Malayalam and Sanskrit

Script: Old Malayalam

Size: 34cm by 5.5cm

Extent: 2 leaves; written in both sides; 10 lines to a leaf; about 41 letters

to a line

Description: Palm leaf. old Malayalam characters; generally legible and correct writing. Not complete.

Subject: A Tantric ritual of God Dhanvantari.

Begins: അഗ്നിജനനത്തിന്നു  
ഷേഡശരക്ഷരത്തിന്റെ  
അക്ഷരങ്ങളെക്കൊണ്ട്  
ഷേഡശരക്ഷരക്രിയ

ചെത് ഹോമപ്രകാരം ഹോമമനുഷ്ഠിക്കും.

വൈഷ്ണവമായിട്ടു അഷ്ടക്രിയ  
ചെക്കിലുമ്പം.

Notes: Manuscript contains a very rare tantric ritual for health benefits. The

text is incomplete

Title: ആഗ്രയണം

**Āgrayaṇam**

No.: 5

Language: Malayalam and Sanskrit

Script: Old Malayalam

Size: 34cm by 5.5cm

Extent: 2 leaves; written in both sides; 10 lines to a leaf; about 41 letters

to a line

Description: Palm leaf. old Malayalam characters; generally legible and correct writing. Complete.



Title: ब्रह्मानन्दवल्ली

**Brahmānandavalli**

No.: 10

Language: Sanskrit

Script: Old Malayalam

Size: 32 cm by 2.5cm

Extent: 3 leaves; written in both sides; 8 lines to a leaf; about 38 letters

to a line

Description: Palm leaf. old Malayalam characters; hurried writing but readable. Partially damaged but complete

Subject: Brahmananda valli is the second chapter of Taittiriya Upanishad

Begins: ഹരി: ശ്രീഗണപതയെ നമഃ  
അവിഷ്ണുമസ്തു

ശം നേമിത്രസ്തംവരുണ.....

Ends: ..... അഹം വിശ്വം  
ഭുവനമഭ്യഭവേം

സുവർണജ്യോതി: യ ഏവം വേദ

ഇത്യുപനിഷത് ഇതി  
തൈത്തിരീയേഽപനിഷത്

The manuscripts in the above displayed catalogue are newly discovered from Tharananellur Padinjare Mana, Kerala. They provide a captivating glimpse into Kerala's rich cultural and spiritual heritage. This diverse collection encompasses a spectrum of texts ranging from Vedic rituals to profound Tantric practices, shedding light on the manifold traditions existing within this revered house.

Notably, the presence of texts such as Lalita Sahasranama, Srimad Bhagavad Gita and excerpts from revered Vedic scriptures like the Taittiriya Upanishad, signifies the repository's comprehensive spiritual legacy. However, the manuscript's textual

variations from commonly available versions of Lalita Sahasranama point to the uniqueness of the Tharananellur Mana's heritage.

Of significant scholarly interests are the tantric texts – Vaishnava Navikarana Prakara, Vijayabali Prakara and Dhanvantara Homa Prakaram. These manuscripts not only unveil tantric rituals but also introduce previously unknown regional variations, presenting an opportunity for deeper exploration into the evolution and diversity of these esoteric practices within Kerala.

The presence of both Vedic and Tantric traditions within the same repository highlights the syncretism and coexistence of diverse spiritual paths within Kerala's landscape.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, the manuscripts discovered in the Tharananellur Mana offer an invaluable glimpse into Kerala's spiritual and cultural ethos. The diversity within this collection, ranging from Vedic rituals to tantric texts, exemplifies the multifaceted heritage embedded within this renowned house.

The manuscript collection's potential publication after meticulous editing promises to unlock profound insights into Kerala's spiritual traditions, elucidating unknown regional variations in Vedic and Tantric rituals and shedding light on the nuanced textual differences in revered works.

The absence of specific dates within this article emphasizes the necessity for meticulous examination and scholarly scrutiny before any definitive dating of these manuscripts. However, the manuscript's mere existence within Tharananellur Mana attests to their historical and cultural significance, inviting further scholarly exploration and interpretation.

In essence, these manuscripts stand as venerable gateways to uncovering Kerala's spiritual and cultural richness, inviting scholars and enthusiasts alike to delve deeper into the nuanced world of Vedic and tantric traditions harboured within the storied walls of the Tharananellur Mana.