

shraddha presents

വാദവൂരൻ

(Vādavooran)

The epic tale of a man whom God believed.

1st - 4th Feb 2012

Naradagana Sabha



Shraddha
the theatre people

An information booklet on the theatre production Vādavooran

Vādavooran – The Man

If you are hearing the name Vādavooran for the first time, it is not a surprise. It is the only other known reference to the great Tamil Saint Manickavasagar. That Manickavasagar composed the sacred hymn of Thiruvagam is well known. But what do we know about the man?

Little else.

Yes, he was the Chief Minister in the court of King Varaguna Pandian in Madurai. He comes from a place called Vādavoor, and hence the name, Vādavooran. A scholar and intellectual, well-versed in the 64 art forms, he commanded special respect from everyone, especially the King. If he was just all of these, we wouldn't be talking about the man today. We talk about him for the verses that he sang and wrote.

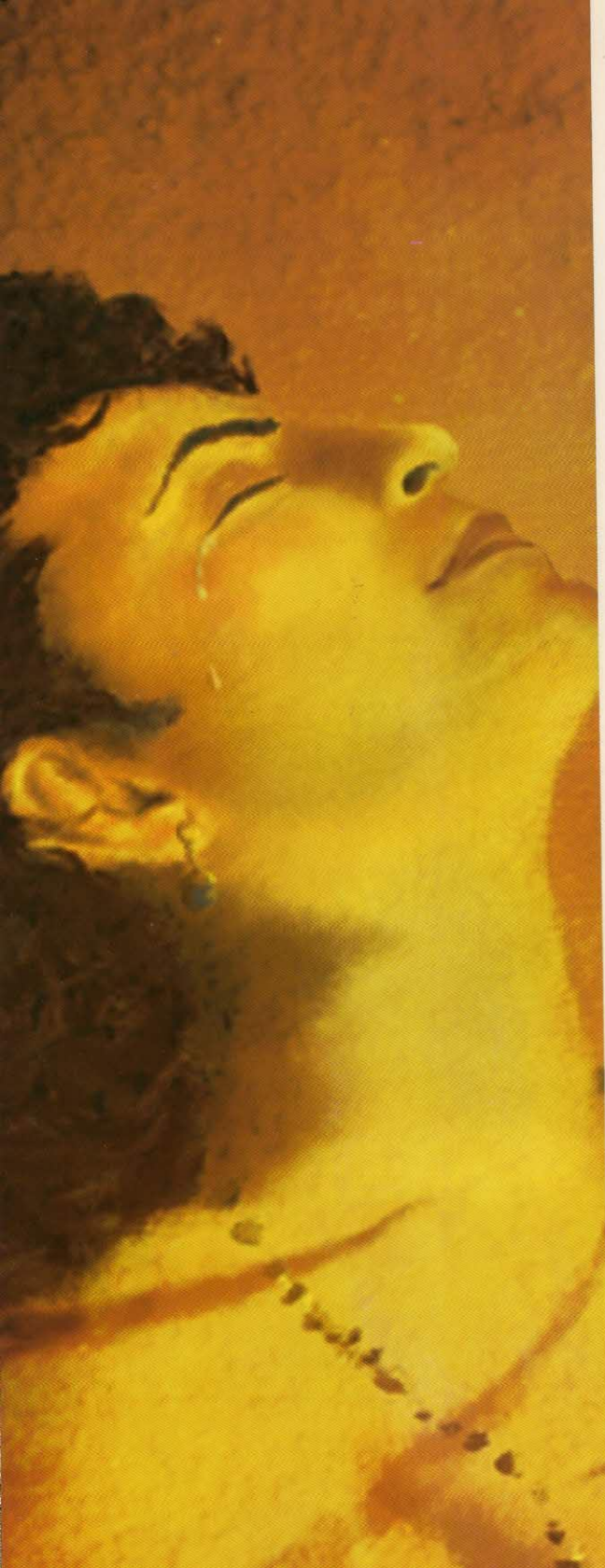
In those verses – in their beauty, their meaning and in their spirit, we find something beyond the ordinary. The verses of Thiruvagam evoke a sense in you that transcends the mundane. It possesses a kind of tranquil beauty, over and above the usual poetic charms of meaning, rhyme & rhythm. Bliss is probably the closest appropriate term for the feeling they evoke.

“Thiruvagamathukku urugaar oru vaasagathukkum urugaar” – they say.

What could possibly have motivated a poet to compose such vibrant verses? Could it be his extraordinary skill with words? Could it be his learning and experiences through life? Or could it be... the touch of God?



Thirupeturundurai - Vādavooran



Vādavooran - The Production

Legend has it that Chief Minister Vādavooran was handpicked and deputed by King Varaguna Pandian to buy War Horses that were brought on a Roman ship to a port near Madurai. Vādavooran was the right man for the job – an expert in judging the breed and quality of horses. He traveled with a band of soldiers and on the way to the port, he changed his mind and chose to spend the gold to renovate the Shiva temple at Thirupperundhurai.

This play explores the events that surround Vādavooran's extraordinary transformation that we believe have led to the creation of Thiruvvasagam. For a careful reader of Thiruvvasagam and as a story teller, the verses offer sufficient clues as to the events surrounding their creation and offer fertile ground for reconstructing possible events that might have led to his magical transformation.

Myth? We are not Sure! Legend? All of us know the story is hearsay. History? The evidence is in Thiruvvasagam itself. This is a work of not just regular fiction, but Inspired Fiction – with a strong connect with what we know is true and what can be plausibly constructed with the clues offered by the verses.



Shradha
the theatre people

Founded in 2010 by an eclectic group of veterans and contemporaries from the world of Tamil Theatre, Shradha has created the stage for this historical production. Calling Vādavooran a historical is right in every sense, as Shradha becomes the first theatre troupe in the history of Tamil Theatre to present the story of Manickavasagar on Stage. Known for its clutter-cutting content, cutting-edge production values, and a single minded spirit to take Tamil Theatre to a global audience across all age groups, Shradha is proud to dedicate this production to you, the world.

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(Vādavooran)

The epic tale of a man whom God believed.

7.00 p.m. at Naradagana Sabha, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Feb 2012

Conceived and Directed by: Krishnamurthy G

Written by: Aaryaan C P

Music by: Giridharan & Amudhan

Sets & Special Effects: Ramesh G

Executive Producers: Shivaji Chaturvedi &

T. D. Sundararajan

On Stage

Swaminathan, A. Girish, Vijay Viswanathan,

Tejaswini Vijay, Kavitha Sivakumar,

J. Venkat Subramanian, G.Ramesh, Prema Sadasivam,

Kathadi Ramamurthy, T. D. Sundararajan,

Shivaji Chaturvedi, Karthik Bhatt, C P Aaryaan,

G. Krishnamurthy, Rajesh, Srinivasan,

M. C. Sakthivel, N. Nandakumar.

Dance Choreography: S.Hemalatha, Kavitha Sivakumar
& Vijay Viswanathan

Theatre Sessions: S.Hemalatha

Animated Shadow Play: S.Karthikeyan

Set Execution: Malikaarjun Rao

Sound & Lights: Gopi, Modern stage crafts

Make Up: Perambur Kumar

Music : Giridharan & Amuthan

Lead Singers: R.Giridharan, Surmuki

Singers: Sam P Keerthan, Senthil Das

Priya Darshini

Percussions: Jeycha

Veena: Bhavani Prasad

Flute: Balasai

Synthesizers & Programming: Amuthan

Recorded & Mixed by: Vishak Nenmini

Recorded at: Mind Screen Post-Rajiv Menon Productions

Publicity designs :

Mayapuri Graphic Workstation Private Limited



"Marathadiyil Vozhippokan"
Shiva Statue from 10th Century AD

