



Around \$100,000 raised at Isaiyarangam music event for University of Toronto Tamil Chair

The Tamil Chair will promote Tamil language, Research, Studies and culture

By Siva Sivapragasam

“தேமதுரதமிழோசை உலகமெலாம்
பரவும் வகை செய்தல்வேண்டும்”
- பாரதியார்

Tamil has been considered over the years as one of the oldest languages in the world abundantly rich with culture, tradition and civilization. Poet Bharathiyar’s dream of spreading the Tami language around the world is now becoming a reality in North America.

The establishment of a Tamil Chair by the University of Toronto follows in the footsteps of a newly created Tamil Chair at another world class University, namely the Harvard University in Cambridge, USA. A sum of \$6 million was raised recently throughout the world for the Harvard University Tamil Chair.

The Toronto University Tamil Chair project has now raised about \$800,000 including the \$100,000 raised at the music event which was held last Saturday at the Sir John McDonald College auditorium. The Mutrathu Mallikai show promoted by “Isai Arangam” was pioneered by the music lover Mr. V. Sornalingam. One of the key features of the music event was that the participants were all Canadian artistes and the lyrics sung were creations of Canadian music composers.

Georgette Zinatty, Executive Director who represented the University of Toronto at the musical event praised the music artistes for the wonderful and excellent performances of high quality and the project team for raising the funds necessary for the Tamil Chair. She recalled her trip to Jaffna sometime back and remarked that she was impressed by the culture and traditions of the Tamil community. She humorously remarked that the saree she was wearing was also purchased in Jaffna too. Georgette is providing invaluable enthusiasm and support to the Toronto Chair project and helping the fund-raising team to achieve their goals.

Many more future events are being planned by the University of Toronto Tamil Chair team to raise the balance funds required for the establishment of the Tamil Chair. The Toronto fund raising team consists of Messrs. A. Muttulingam, Sivan Ilangko, Dr. V. Raghuraman and others. Tamil is the language of over 80 million people across the world and is rich in content and abundant in literature.

(Seen here are some pictures taken at the Event - Picture Courtesy: S. Yogaratham)

