



# Kashi Tamil Sangamam 3.0

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## Why in News?

The 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of **Kashi Tamil Sangamam (KTS 3.0)**, a cultural confluence between **Tamil Nadu and Kashi**, is being held in **Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**.

## What are the Key Highlights of KTS 3.0?

- **Kashi Tamil Sangamam (KTS 3.0)** coincides with [Mahakumbh 2025 in Prayagraj](#) and provides an opportunity to visit the [Ram Mandir in Ayodhya](#) for the first time post-inauguration.
  - The **1<sup>st</sup> edition of KTS was held in 2022, while the 2nd in 2023.**
- It features around **1,000 delegates from Tamil Nadu** across 5 categories, including **students, teachers, writers, farmers, artisans, professionals, entrepreneurs, SHGs, and innovation communities.**
  - Also, joined by **200 Tamil-origin students** from Central Universities, enhancing the event's diversity and engagement.
- **Central Theme: "Legacy of Sage Agastya".**

## What is Kashi Tamil Sangamam?

- **About:**
  - It is a **cultural initiative** that aims to **celebrate the deep-rooted historical and cultural ties** and strengthen the ancient civilizational bond between **Tamil Nadu and Kashi (Varanasi).**
  - The event aligns with the [Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat](#) initiative, emphasizing the **integration of India's diverse cultural heritage.**
- **Historical Significance:**
  - The historical ties between **Kashi (Uttar Pradesh) and Tamil Nadu** date back to the **15<sup>th</sup> century** when **King Parakrama Pandya of Madurai** traveled to **Kashi** to bring back a **sacred lingam for his temple (Sivakasi, Tamil Nadu).**
  - The **Pandya rulers** also established the [Kasi Viswanathar Temple](#) in **Tenkasi**, located in **southwestern Tamil Nadu**, near the **Kerala border.**
  - This deep-rooted spiritual and cultural connection underscores the **essence of the Kashi Tamil Sangamam initiative.**
- **Nodal Ministry:** The **Ministry of Education** in collaboration with various ministries and the **Government of Uttar Pradesh.**
- **Objectives:**
  - **Knowledge Sharing:** Encouraging interactions between scholars, researchers, artisans, and professionals.
  - **Academic Collaboration:** Facilitating discussions on **Indian Knowledge Systems** in alignment with [National Education Policy \(NEP\) 2020.](#)
  - **Promoting Traditional Art and Craft:** Showcasing classical Tamil art, literature, and cuisine to a national audience.
  - **Youth Engagement:** Providing young participants an immersive experience in

## **Agastya Muni**

- He is a revered **Saptarishi** in Vedic and Puranic texts, considered the father of **Tamil language** and **Siddha medicine**, with his works, **Agastya Samhita** and **Naadi Shastra**, being foundational to Siddha medicine.
- He composed the first **Tamil grammar, Agattiyam**, and introduced the **Tamil script**.
- He is also **revered in Java and Sumatra** for spreading Indian culture and credited with **propagating Vedic culture in South India, Aryanizing the Yadavas**, and **advancing Tampa Parniyam medicine and spirituality**.
- He is mentioned in **Ramayana**, with his hermitage on the banks of the **Godavari River**.

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