

*A celebrated work by the greatest poet
of classical Tamil literature*

Tiruvalluvar probably lived and wrote between the second century BC and the eighth century AD though these dates have not been conclusively established. The work by which he is known, the *Kural*, comprises 1,330 couplets and is divided into three sections—Virtue, Wealth and Kama (love)—and is based on the first three of the four supreme aims prescribed by Hindu tradition: *dharma* (virtue), *artha* (wealth) and *moksha* (salvation). Taken together, the three books of the *Kural* inform, criticize and teach the reader, in brilliantly styled and pithy verse, about life, love and the ways of the world.

Translated and edited with an Introduction
by P.S. Sundaram

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Cover: A Popular Rendition/Rendering
of the poet Tiruvalluvar

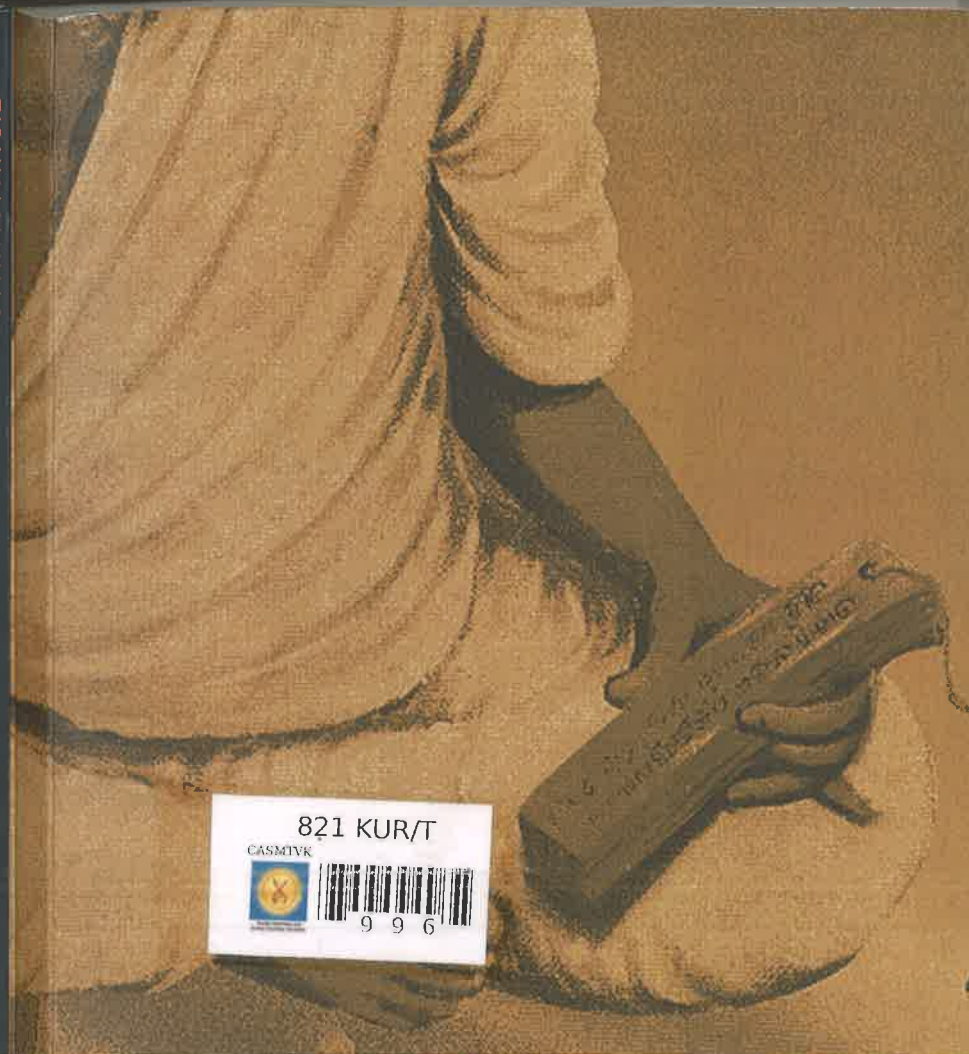


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TIRUVALLUVAR
Kural



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Tiruvalluvar

THE KURAL

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For my friend V.V. John
**Good friends are like good books—
A perpetual delight.**

Kural : 783