

TRIOLOGY ON RAMALINGAR



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MR. G. VANMIKANATHAN, better known in the North as G. V. Pillai, was born on 6th January 1901 in Tennur, Tiruchirappalli. He received his education mostly from the S. P. G. (now Bishop Heber) High School and College, Tiruchirappalli and took his B. A. degree with History, Economics and Latin as his subjects. During his college years and later too for several years he took an active part in the Boy Scout Movement, and edited for the two years of its life a magazine called 'Drona' from Karachi. He was a District Scoutmaster in 1922-24 in Tiruchirappalli and later from 1926 to 1928 for the province of Sind. He joined the Accounts department of the North Western Railway at Karachi as a clerk in 1925, and after seeing service in Lahore, Jamalpur (Bihar), Calcutta and Delhi, he retired from Government service in 1956 from Bombay as a Deputy Secretary of the Central Secretariat Service of the Government of India on deputation as Office Secretary to the Khadi and Village Industries Board (now Commission), Bombay. He served later in the Delhi Cloth Mills as its Administrative Officer till September 1960. Since then he lives in Tennur, Tiruchirappalli within a stone's throw of the place where he was born. He was awarded the title of *Rao Sahib* for civilian service rendered during the war of 1939-45.

He comes of a long line of lovers of Tamil and its literature, and this ancestral penchant drew him to Tamil literature in 1938 since when he began to study Tamil seriously. The Tirukkural and the Tiruvachakam are his favourite studies.

He has a large circle of loving friends.

He is an ardent devotee of His Holiness Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Jagadguru Sri Sankaracharya Swamikal on whose instructions he had the privilege of writing for use of children meanings for the poems 'Tiruvembaval' and 'Thirupulicuchi' in *Tiruvachakam*.