



MADURAI KAMARAJ UNIVERSITY

(University with Potential for Excellence)

(Accredited by NAAC with "A++" in the 4th Cycle)

MADURAI - 625 021, TAMIL NADU, INDIA

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON

HARNESSING FUNGAL DIVERSITY FOR AGRICULTURE, BIOTECHNOLOGY, INDUSTRY AND ONE HEALTH

AND

53RD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF INDIA.

Organized by

Department of Microbial Technology,
School of Biological Sciences, Madurai Kamaraj University,
Madurai- 625 021, Tamil Nadu, India

21ST TO 23RD
OCTOBER
2026



For Any Queries, Kindly contact:

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Technology

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About Madurai Kamaraj University

Madurai University was established as a State University in the year 1965 and renamed MADURAI KAMARAJ UNIVERSITY in the year 1979, shortly known as MKU, reaccredited with the "A++" with a CGPA score of 3.54 by the NAAC in the 4th cycle in March 2021. Now MKU is in Category-I Universities of India. The University has secured 85th rank among Indian Universities and India's best government Multi-disciplinary University in NIRF ranking - 2025 and by the Ministry of Human Resource Development respectively. MKU has 21 Schools comprising 78 Departments, 21 academic centres, 117 affiliated Colleges, and 15 Institutions. Madurai Kamaraj University offers 41 PG, and 17 Diploma/ P.G Diploma/ Certificate courses in various Departments. University Grants Commission (UGC), has recognized MKU as a "University with a potential for Excellence".

School of Biological Sciences

The School of Biological Sciences, Madurai Kamaraj University, had a humble origin in the early 1960's as the postgraduate extension centre of the Zoology Department of the Madras University at Madurai. Prof. S. Krishnaswamy, popularly known as SK, was the founder, dreamer and a visionary. When the PG extension centre became the Madurai (later Madurai Kamaraj) University in 1966, SK founded the Department of Biological Sciences, the first integrated department in the country. SBS has made 8 FASC, 7 FNA, 5 FNASC, 2 FAM 2 TWAS Academy Fellows and 4 TANSA and Shanthi Swarup Bhatnagar Awardees.



About Mycological Society of India

Mycological Society of India (MSI) is a scientific body constituted for the advancement of Mycology in India. The study of fungi includes mushrooms, molds, truffles, yeasts, lichens, plant pathogens and medicinally important fungi. The society was founded in January 1973 by a team of mycologists led by Prof. C.V. Subramanian, Former Director, Centre for Advanced Studies in Botany, University of Madras, Chennai, India and former President, International Mycological Association, with a view to bring together the mycologists of the country and with the broad objectives of promoting development of mycology for the prospects and in the widest prospective. The MSI and its office bearers, both past and present, and life members and annual members have contributed significantly in the development and improvement of Mycology since its inception at Chennai in 1973. A good number of Indian mycologists have also been active in presenting papers, creating collaborations, and even actively participating in the affairs of several international associations. One of the objectives of the MSI is to establish, maintain and strengthen partnerships and linkages with institutions and organizations within India and abroad for the welfare and benefit of mycologists.

At present, there are more than 700 Life Members in the society. Journal "KAVAKA" the official Transactions of the Mycological Society of India (the word 'Kavaka' represents the Sanskrit word for fungus) publishes original articles and reviews on all aspects of mycology including conventional and molecular taxonomy, phylogeny, diversity, ecology, physiology, biochemistry, molecular biology and biotechnology. Till now 62 volumes of Kavaka have been published. MSI publishes 4 issues of Kavaka from 2022. The Mycological Society of India each year seeks applications from prospective candidates to be elected as fellows of the Mycological Society of India (FMSI) through a review process. Every year the Mycological Society of India organizes Annual Meeting along with conference organized by universities and/or Scientific Organizations in various parts of India. Till now 52 Annual Meetings have been conducted throughout the country spreading scientific knowledge. The happy occasion of 50th Annual Meeting – Golden jubilee Celebration was Celebrated at Centre for Advanced Studies in Botany, University of Madras, Chennai during March 6 – 8, 2024.

**For more details and membership form visit MSI website:
www.fungiindia.co.in & www.kavaka.fungiindia.co.in**

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

National Conference

on

Harnessing Fungal Diversity for Agriculture, Biotechnology, Industry and One Health

Theme of Conference

Fungi: Hidden Gems for Sustainability

In the era of climate change, mycologists are tapping into fungi's vast potential to advance sustainable development goals across multiple sectors. They're investigating fungal diversity, life cycles, genomes, and protein profiles to uncover novel biomolecules that benefit human health. Fungal studies have produced a wealth of innovations: nutritious mushrooms, vital drugs for emerging illnesses, and immune-enhancing metabolites. Bioengineered fungal pathways now yield superior enzymes for food processing like baking and brewing and efficient conversion of waste into valuable food and feed. Fungi are also combating antibiotic resistance with fresh antimicrobial agents, while offering health compounds like hepatoprotective, anti-diabetic, and anti-inflammatory agents. Industry gains too: bioengineered fungi produce sustainable fuels, versatile nanoparticles, and key compounds such as organic acids, edible oils, natural dyes, and microbial diesel. In agriculture, newly identified fungal communities boost crop tolerance to pests, diseases, and climate stressors. Environmentally, fungi excel at bioremediation breaking down toxins, synthetic dyes, plastics, bioaccumulating heavy metals, and enabling eco friendly pesticides. This conference, titled "Harnessing Fungal Diversity for Agriculture, Biotechnology, Industry and One Health" captures these ground breaking discoveries and forward looking paths in fungal research. Mycologists will present cutting edge results and collaborate to unlock fungi's role in building a sustainable tomorrow.

The following themes are going to be discussed during the National Conference

Fungal Diversity

Taxonomic and Phylogenetic Diversity
Ecological Diversity
Genomics and Molecular Diversity
Fungal population genetics and conservation Strategies



Fungi for Sustainable Agriculture

Diagnosis of fungal Plant and Animal pathogens
Fungal Interaction with Plant and Animal Systems
Fungi served as biocontrol agents,
Fungi served as biopesticides and Viricides
Fungi served as a biofertilizer
Nanoparticles from Fungi and their application for plant and animal systems
Role of carbon sequestration by fungi in the agricultural sector
Application of Fungi in the agricultural and Medical sector
Fungi for Crop stress management

Fungi for Biotechnological Applications

Fungi for the Production of Industrial Biomolecules
Production of hydrolytic enzymes by Fungi
Production of Primary and Secondary Metabolites
Fungal metabolites as antimicrobial therapeutics
Fungal metabolites as anticancer drugs
Genome mining for the development of novel compounds
Fungal Synthetic Biology



Genomic Revolution in Fungal Research

Fungal Whole Genome Analysis
Fungal Pan Genomics
Transcriptomics and Proteomics
CRISPR-CAS System for fungal genome editing for strain improvement
Identification of genes responsible for pathogenicity, enzyme production, stress tolerance, and secondary metabolites.
Metagenomics and Epigenetics
Mycobiome research: Role of fungi in gut and plant microbiomes
AI & Big Data: Predicting fungal behavior and metabolite discovery

Role of Fungi for One Health Perspective

Fungi for Human Health
Fungi for Animal Health
Fungi for Environmental Health

Mycological Society of India has constituted the following Awards. The awardees are invited to share their research work in the form of Award / Memorial lectures during the Annual Meeting of the Society.

- Life Time Achievement Award
- Prof. K. R. Aneja Award for Life Time Achievement Awardee
- Prof. C.V. Subramanian Memorial Award
- Dr. V. Agnihotrudu Memorial Award
- Prof. K. Natarajan Memorial Award
- Dr. S.K. Shome Memorial Award
- Prof. P.C. Jain Memorial Award
- Prof. Geeta Sumbali Award for Women Scientists
- Prof. P. Ramachar Memorial Award for Senior Mycologists
- Prof. C. Manoharachary Award for Senior Mycologists
- Prof. N. Raaman Award for Senior Mycologists

For Mid-Aged Scientists (36 - 50 years) – competition by Oral Presentation

- Prof. K.G. Mukerji Memorial Award for Mid-Aged Scientists
- Prof. B.P.R. Vittal Memorial Award for Mid-Aged Scientists
- Prof. J. Muthumary Memorial Award for Mid-Aged Women Scientists

For Young Researchers (up to 35 years) – competition by Oral Presentation

- Dr. M.J. Thirumalachar Memorial Merit Award for Young Mycologists
- Dr. Mrs. Sushma Aneja Memorial Award for Young Researchers
- Prof. K. R. Aneja and Dr. Mrs. Sushma Aneja Memorial Award for Young Researchers for Poster Presentation
- Prof. T.N. Lakhanpal Award to Young Researchers for Fundamental Mycological Research

OFFICE BEARERS OF MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF INDIA (2026)

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Registration Categories	Registration Fees		
	Early- Bird Registration Before 10.9.2026	After 10.9.2026	On-spot Registration
MSI Members	₹ 3000	₹ 3500	₹ 4000
Delegates (Faculty and Scientists)	₹ 3500	₹ 4000	₹ 4500
Foreign Delegates	100UDS	125USD	150USD
Research Scholars (MKU/MSI- Members)	₹ 2000	₹ 2500	₹ 3000
Research Scholars (Non-MKU/MSI- Members)	₹ 2500	₹ 3000	₹ 3500
PG/UG Students	₹ 1500	₹ 1750	₹ 2000
Industry Participants	₹ 5000	₹ 6000	₹ 7000
Accompanying Person	₹ 2000	₹ 2500	₹ 3000

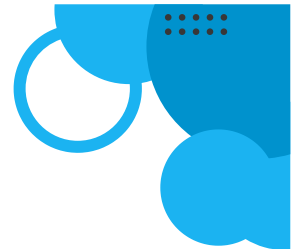
SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

- The conference is open to all involved in R&D, teaching, consultancy, planning etc., in the areas of conference themes.
- Interested participants are requested to contribute their papers for oral or poster presentations.
- Abstracts should be typed in MS Word on A4 size paper with 3 cm margins on all sides. The abstract should not exceed 300 words.
- The theme of the conference, title of the paper, name(s) of presenting author and co-author(s), and their address (es), e-mail IDs, and contact number should be typed in capital letters. The abstract should be properly edited and typed with 1.5 line spacing. (Times New Roman, 12 font).
- The last date for submission of the abstract is on or before 10th October, 2026.
- Those who are invited to delivering Award Lectures/Lead Lectures should submit a 1-2-page comprehensive Abstract to msimku2026@gmail.com on or before 10th October 2026.
- The name of the presenting author should be underlined.
- The abstracts should accompany the Registration Fee.
- No participant is expected to be a presenting author of more than two abstracts.
- Those who are competing for Awards for Mid-Aged Scientists (36 to 50 years) and Young Researchers (up to 35 years) should mention their age proof in the registration form.
- The recommended poster size is 1.00 m X 0.75 m (L x W) portrait.
- English will be the official language of the conference.
- No remuneration shall be paid for any oral/poster presentation.
- Submission Email : msimku2026@gmail.com

**REGISTRATION FORM
HARNESSING FUNGAL DIVERSITY FOR
AGRICULTURE, BIOTECHNOLOGY, INDUSTRY AND ONE HEALTH**

&

53RD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF INDIA.



PERSONAL DETAILS

21ST TO 23RD OCTOBER 2026

Name: _____

Designation: _____ Gender: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____

Email: _____

Phone/Mobile: _____ WhatsApp No. _____

Institution: _____

Correspondence Address: _____

_____ Country: _____

MSI Member: Life Member No. _____ / MSI Annual Member No. _____ / Delegates _____

PRESENTATION DETAILS

Mode of Presentation: Award Lecture / Lead Lecture/Oral/Poster/Only Participation

Whether Competing for Award for Mid-Aged Scientists (36-50 years)/ Young Researchers (up to 35 years): Yes / No

If yes, specify the Award: _____

Title of Paper: _____

Presenting Author: _____

Name of accompanying person (If any): _____

Details of registration fee transfer: Rs. _____ Dated _____ Transaction No. _____

The Registration Payment Make through the following Account Details

A/C No. 42170167803

A/C Name : THE PI UGCMRP DEPT OF MICROBIAL TECHSBSB

IFSC : SBIN0002235

SBI, MKU Branch



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ACCOMMODATION AND TRAVEL PLAN FORM

Accommodation

The hotels listed in the Table are within 1-10kms from the premises of Venue. The delegates/participants are requested to contact the hotels for their accommodation. Additional Charges applicable for Extra Cost with Bed, Extra Bed and Extra Person.

Non-AC single/double rooms and AC single/double rooms are available in the Hotels.

Delegates may avail discounted rates when reservations in above hotels are made via makemytrip or cleartrip or TripAdvisor or Booking.com or EasyMyTrip or Goibibo or Holidify or Expedia etc.

If delegates / student participants interested in staying Service Apartments (3-5 kms away from venue), kindly contact them one month before the conference. Only registered delegates will be provided hospitality. No TA/DA shall be paid to participants.

If any clarification or help, kindly contact the Organizing Secretary: Mobile: 9597414347 or via email: msimku2026@gmail.com.

All participants are requested to submit travel plan with their arrival date-time, departure date-time, and the name of hotel/service apartment/guest house where accommodation is booked on or before 10.10.2026

REGENCY MADURAI BY GRT HOTELS



COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT, MADURAI



GATEWAY, HOTELS & RESORTS



TRAVELLERS BUNGALOW



HOTEL PARK PLAZA



HOTEL MADURAL RESIDENCY

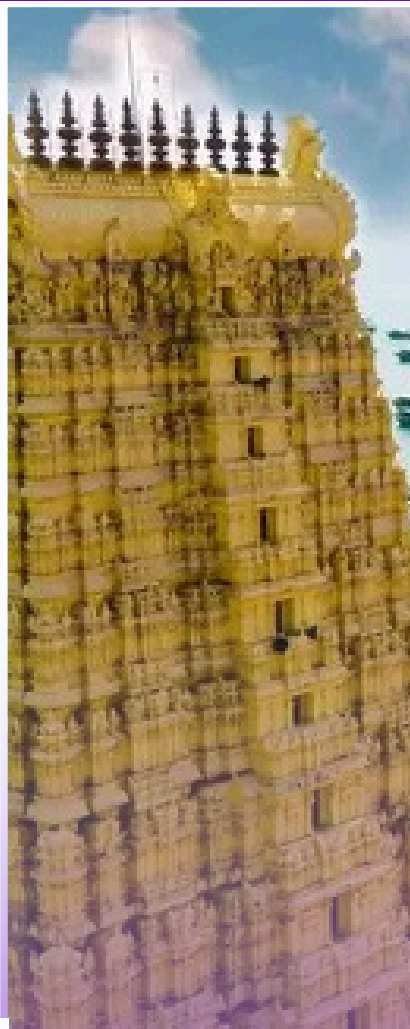




Meenakshi Amman Temple



Thiruparankundram Temple



Rameshwaram Temple



Kodaikanal

Sangam Literature references the Temple city of Madurai, but the first Mention of the Temple itself Appears in 6th-century CE Tamil texts. As one of the Paadal Petra Sthalams, it is Glorified in the Tevaram Hymns by the Nayanars from the 6th to 11th Centuries CE. The pandya Rulers Constructed its Initial Structures between the 12th and 13th Centuries CE. Following Destruction by Delhi Sultanate Forces, the Vijayanagara Empire Rebuilt it in the 14th Century CE. The Madurai Nayaks then Greatly Expanded the Complex in the 16th and 17th Centuries. Minor Enhancements Occurred in the 18th and 19th Centuries, but the Temple fell into Disrepair under British Neglect. Post-Independence in the Mid-20th Century, Public Donations Funded its Restoration, with further Kumbhabhishekam Ceremonies in 1974, 1995, and 2009.

The Subramaniya Swamy Temple, dedicated to the Hindu god Murugan, stands in Thiruparankundram, a suburb of Madurai in Tamil Nadu, India. It ranks among the Six Abodes of Murugan (Arupadai Veedu), the most revered Hindu temples for this deity. Featuring rock-cut architecture carved into a hillock, the original structure dates to the 6th century CE, built by the Pandyas. The temple is managed by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department of the Government of Tamil Nadu.

The Ramanathaswamy Temple (Rāmanātasvāmi Kōyil), dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva, sits on Rameswaram island in Tamil Nadu, India. It is one of the twelve Jyotirlinga shrines and among the 276 Paadal Petra Sthalams praised in hymns by Shaivite Nayanar saints Appar, Sundarar, and Sambandar. Legend holds that Rama established and worshipped its lingam before crossing Rama Setu to Lanka (modern Sri Lanka). As one of the Char Dham pilgrimage sites, it draws Shaivites, Vaishnavites, and Smartas. The Pandya Dynasty expanded it in the 12th century, with the main sanctum renovated by Jaffna kingdom rulers Jeyaveera Cinkaiariyan and Gunaveera Cinkaiariyan. King Muthuramalinga Sethupathy built its renowned longest corridor in India.

Kodaikanal (pronounced ko-DYE-KAH-null in Tamil: [ko'da:ka:nəl]) is a hill station and municipality in Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu, India. Perched at 2,225 m (7,300 ft) in the Palani Hills of the Western Ghats, it was founded in 1845 as a summer retreat from the plains' heat and tropical diseases. Renowned for its lush forests, star-shaped lake, and scenic viewpoints like Coaker's Walk, it draws tourists year-round. The area's biodiversity supports rare shola forests and endemic species, making it a vital ecological hotspot.