

PREFACE

Tourism as a socio-economic and cultural activity, it assumes importance in the international arena especially from the middle of the twentieth century. Countries with rich culture and tradition are much sought after by the tourists across the world. India is one such a country whose culture and heritage are known for its antiquity. Tamil Nadu, one of the states in India, in particular, enjoys the legacy of a classical language, rich culture and hoary tradition. Besides her natural heritage, a large number of places of worship, well-known for their excellent artistic work, fairs and festivals around temples, and Folk tradition attract both domestic and international tourists throughout the year. The Present study entitled, "**Cultural Tourism In Tamil Nadu (1947-2007) - A Study**" is an attempt to identify and to bring to light the culturally important centres in Tamil Nadu, with an intention to promote tourism in this region. In this work an attempt has also been made to quantify the tourist arrivals which will help to analyse the growth of tourism in Tamil Nadu.

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