Field trip to India

November-December 2015
Pondicherry, the Indian union territory of Puducherry
Teachers and organizers

- Trip participants & organizers
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- Course teachers
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  - Åke Sander (LIR203) aake.sander@lir.gu.se
Pondicherry

- 1674-1962 French colony
- 675,000 Inhabitants
- Since 2006, Puducherry
- Pondicherry University founded 1985
Pondicherry city plan
Two courses

- **RKT 139**: Theory sub-course (5 hp), field knowledge literature, area literature (2,5 hp), field work and one report (7,5 hp).

- **LIR 203**: Theory sub-course (5 hp), field knowledge literature, area literature (2,5 hp), one larger project, one field report
The trip (preliminary planning) 1

- **Flight Gothenburg – Delhi**: Early November: FinnAir or Turkish Airlines.
- **Flight Delhi – Chennai**:
  - November X Several local air lines to choose from. Arrival in Chennai latest mid after noon.
- **Bus to Pondicherry University**
- **The trip home**:
  - December Y, bus Pondicherry – Chennai
  - December Z, Chennai – Delhi
  - December X, Delhi – Gothenburg
The trip (preliminary planning)

- End week (45) November Departure
- Week 1 (46) November: Lectures and Pondicherry
- Week 2 (47) November: Auroville
- Week 3 (48) November: Tiruvannamalai, for example the Annamalaiyar Temple
- Week 4 (49) Nov: Excursion, for example the Thanjavur, Srirangam, Madurai, Rameshwaram
- Week 5 (50) December: finishing off, departure

Of course, there are many other things and topics to study in the area than religious ones, as exemplified here. We will do our best to be accommodating to the academic interests and needs of those who take part in the field trip.
Examples of lectures at PU

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Auroville

- 1. Auroville belongs to nobody in particular. Auroville belongs to humanity as a whole. But to live in Auroville, one must be a willing servitor of the Divine Consciousness.
- 2. Auroville will be the place of an unending education, of constant progress, and a youth that never ages.
- 3. Auroville wants to be the bridge between the past and the future. Taking advantage of all discoveries from without and from within, Auroville will boldly spring towards future realisations.
- 4. Auroville will be a site of material and spiritual researches for a living embodiment of an actual Human Unity.
Thiruvannamalai

- Annamalaiyar Temple
- Arunachalwswarar Temple
- A Shiva Temple from 9th century

The Karthigai Deepam festival is celebrated during the day of the full moon between November and December, and a huge beacon is lit atop the hill.
Sri Raganathaswami Temple
Srirangam
Largest functioning Hindu temple in India. Vaishnava temple. 21 gopurams, 156 acres.
Dead lines and meetings

- 15 April: Dead line for applying to the courses (RKT 139, LIR 203)
- You can apply to the field trip from 15 April 2015 on a special web form.

- 30 April: Deadline for applying to the field trip to Pondicherry

- 15 May: Decision regarding admission to the field trip will be announced including reserve list.

- 25 May second information meeting
- 10 June: Down payment, 2,000 SEK
- Final payment 15 September 2015
Costs

- **Approximately 11-12 000 SEK** (dependent on exchange rate for US dollar (11,757 sek i dagsläget))
- **Included**: lodging, local travels, minor costs as entrance fees etc.
- **Not included**: Flight tickets: you pay yourselves, we give one preferred option and one or two alternatives
Scholarships (stipend)

- Adelbertska: dead line mid-end June 2015 (hum fak) Check GU:s homepage!!
  http://www.gu.se/forskning/stipendier/aktuellastipendier

- Application during spring – summer (different for different faculties (hum 30 juni)

- There are many other sources for scholarships, www.stipendier.se; www.stipendier.nu. Hunt on the net! . Hunt on the net!

Visa and Vaccine

- Visa: apply in very good time
  - [http://www.indianembassy.se(visa_services.html](http://www.indianembassy.se/visa_services.html)

- Vaccination: Twinrix, Dukoral
  - [www.resemedicin.com](http://www.resemedicin.com)
  - [www.vaccination.nu](http://www.vaccination.nu)
Social Media

- Facebook
  - https://www.facebook.com/pages/GoIndia/196648350352913?sk=wall&filter=2

- Blog
  - http://liripondicherry2013.blogspot.se/
Det finns mycket att läsa och se på internet!! Värda att botanisera bland:

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OcT5J0I3HNU
- https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=india+documentary
- https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=documentary+south+india
- https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=india+religion+documentary
- https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=shiva+movies+with+english+subtitles
- https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=mahabharat
- https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=bhagadvadgita
- https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=shiva+purana+full+movie