

Topic: “The chronology of Muttusvāmi Dīkṣitar’s biographies”

Speaker: Vidvān Ravi Rajagopalan

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Venue: Kasturi Srinivasan Hall, The Music Academy.

Abstract:

Formal biographies have been written, printed and published about the life and times of Muttusvāmi Dīkṣita by Subbarāma Dīkṣita, Prof P. Sambamurthi, A Sundaram Iyer, Dr V Raghavan, Justice T L Venkatarama Aiyar and Bharaneedharan starting from the year 1905 till 1988 AD. Also, biographical references, brief life accounts & sketches and historical events in brief from Dīkṣita’s life have been narrated or captured in passing in manuscripts, printed books and periodicals starting from the year 1833 AD. This talk would seek firstly to detail these biographies and accounts chronologically, secondly to make a study of the life of Muttusvāmi Dīkṣita as available through these historical documents, and thirdly present the key points of interest from a biographical perspective. The talk would finally conclude with a set of salient takeaways and thoughts for us including a few unresolved open questions that persist even as of today, as to the life and the contributions of this great Trinitarian.