South Indian Siddha Medicine is arguably the least researched and understood among Indian medical systems. The same might be said for other Siddha traditions as found in South Indian textual sources and lived practices. This may be due to complex interrelations of diverse subjects including alchemy, philosophy, astrology, therapies, ritual practices, etc., as well as to the synthesis of various strands of traditions throughout different periods of South India, including yogic principles, different schools of thought, or the influence of different therapeutic philosophies. This conference aims to bring together specialists on South Indian medical, alchemical and religious traditions, all described or understood as “Siddha” and to palpate the permutations, varieties, and, above all, interrelations of different Siddha traditions and their relations to other Indian traditions from various interdisciplinary social science perspectives, including anthropology, sociology, history, philosophy, religious studies and Indology.

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