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மதுரை பாரம்பரிய  
நுடைப்பயணம்



Friends of Hospitality



DHAN Foundation

Virtual Heritage Walk 14.2.2021

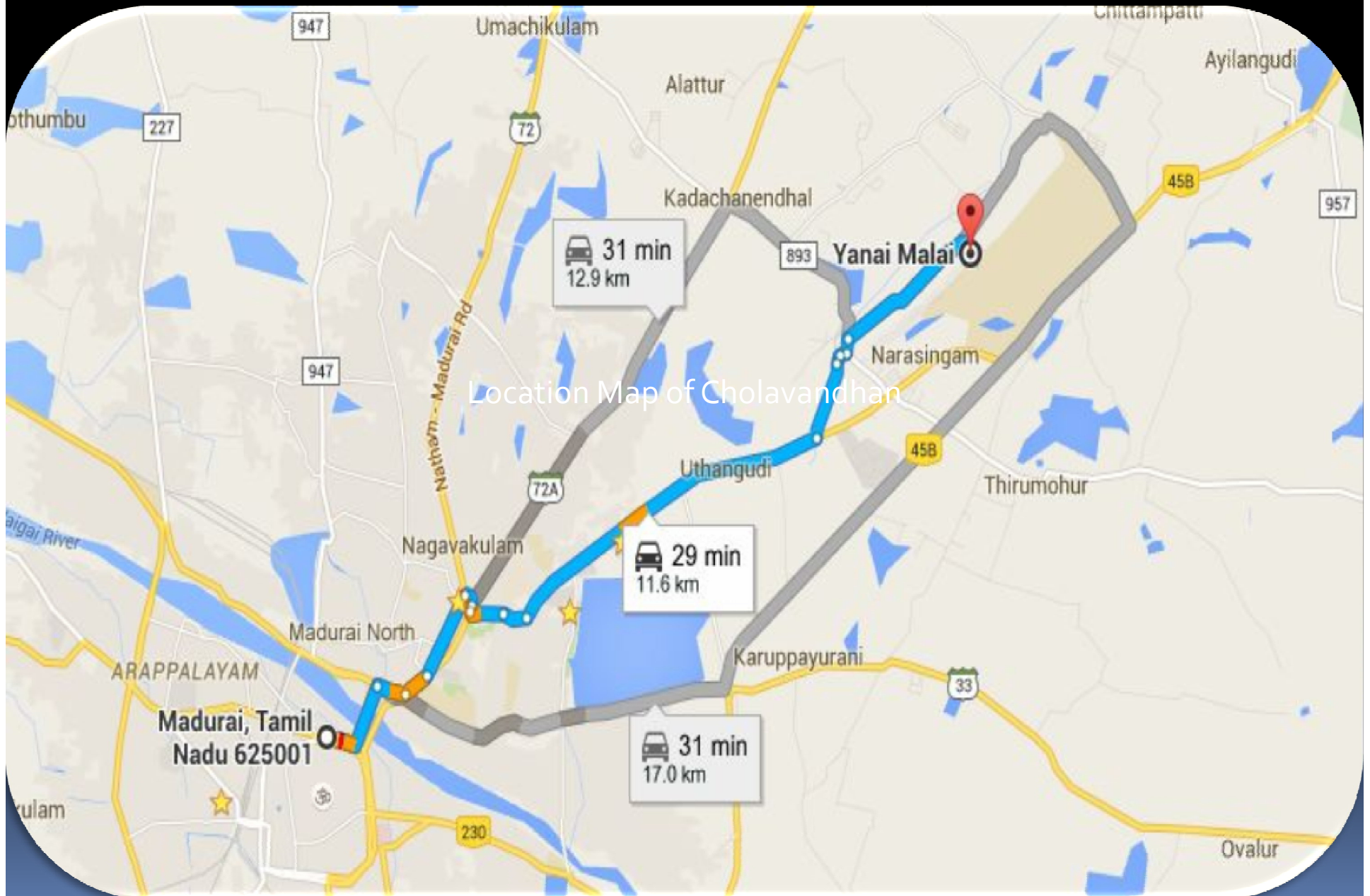
Yanaimalai

(Madurai District)

History, Archaeology, and Food Tradition



# Location Map of Yanaimalai



# Virtual Heritage walk- Yanaimalai

## Programme schedule

Prayer

Introduction of Participant Host Communities

Introduction of Resource Persons and Participants

Introductory Remarks : M.P.Vasimalai E.D. DHAN

Historical Background of Yanaimalai; Dr.G.Sethuraman Art Historian

Archaeological Importance of Yanaimalai: Dr.V.Vedachalam

Archaeologist

Responsible Tourism in Yanaimalai - K.P.Bharathi

Community interaction on History, Archaeology , Intangible Heritage ,  
and Heritage Food

Release of Brochure on Yanaimalai

Concluding Remarks

Prayer Song  
Mrs.Jothi, Vaigai Vattara Kalangiam





Welcome and Introduction of  
Participant Host Communities :  
Mr.Venkatesan Federation  
Integrator,  
Vaigai Vattara Kalangiam

# Introduction of Resource Persons and Participants; K.P.Bharathi

Dr. G. Sethuraman

Dr.V.Vedachalam

M.P. Vasimalai

Various stakeholders and Participant  
in Tamilnadu

# Introductory Remarks By Mr.M.P.Vasimalai Executive Director, DHAN Foundation



# HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF YANAIMALAI

## DR.G.SETHURAMAN ART HISTORIAN

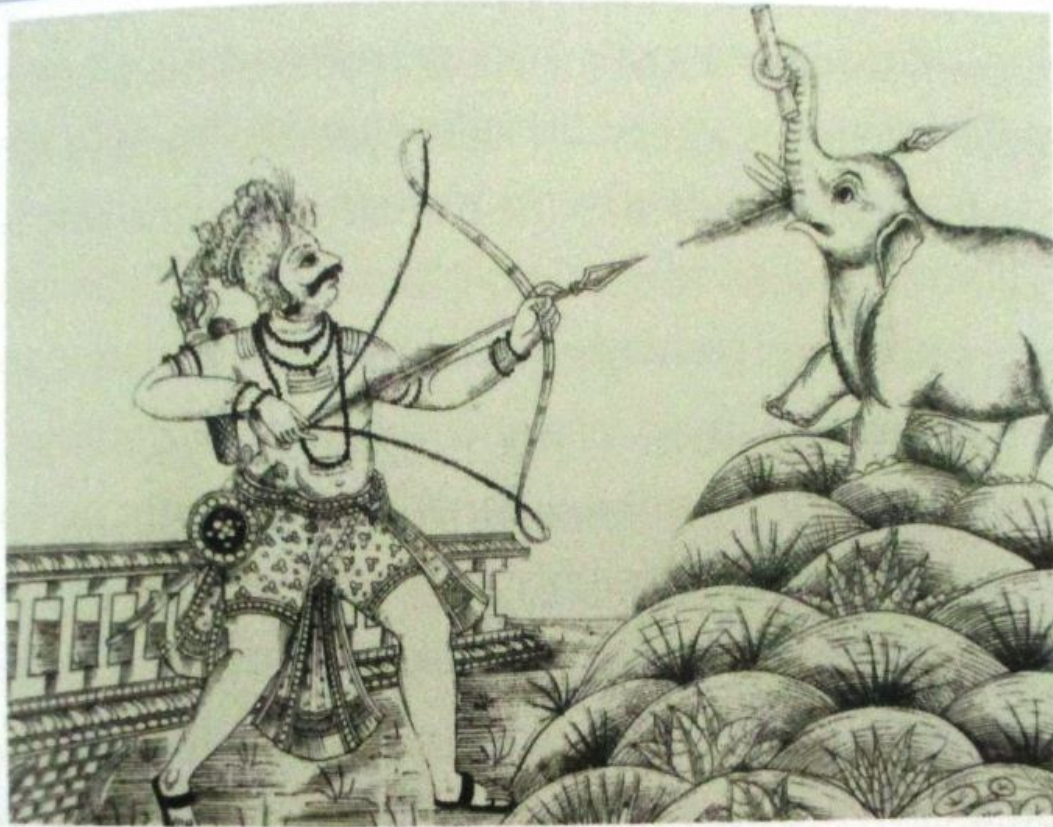


Fig. 98



# Anaimalai Heritage

- The hill is the historical source as it has early caves with epigraphical records and sculptures and the also the inscriptions of the Early Pandya, Later Pandya, Chola and Vijayanagar –Nayak rulers.
- The top of the hill possess Tamil Brahmi inscriptions of the 1<sup>st</sup> century A.D.
- This historic hill was sung by one of the three great Saiva Nayanmars, Thirugnanasambandar, as the dwelling place of the Jains.
- Paranjothimuni, in his Thiruvilaiyadal purana, mentions that this hill was originally an elephant incited by the Jains to destroy Madurai



Siva Himself as a soldier went up to the top of the hall with bow on his shoulder. As soon as the mad elephant was sighted, he darted a powerful arrow which pierced into the head, killing it instantly.

Yanaimalai  
Mythology  
22<sup>nd</sup> Story of  
Thiruvilayadal  
Puranam

Yanaimalai Mythology 22<sup>nd</sup> Story of  
Thiruvilayadal Puranam , Paintings at Thanjavur  
Brakatheeswara Temple Corridor



# 1. Natural Jain Cavern- 1st century A.D

- There is a natural cavern of the Jains located at the top of the hill's southern side. It was established in the 1<sup>st</sup> century A.D. for the dwelling of the Jain monks.
- A Tamil Brahmi inscription of this period found here mentions that it was set up along with rock beds by one Eri Aarithan aththuvayi Arattakasibhan.
-





## 2 .Jain Sculptural Cave – 9th-10th century A.D.

- The bas relief sculptural panels of the Jain Thirthankaras, Yakshi and Yaksha are seen at the facade of a natural cavern located on the western side of the hill at a medium height.
- They belong to the 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> century A.D. The names of the donors of these sculptures are engraved in Vatteluttu script under the images.
- These sculptures also show early paintings on them.

# Jain Sculpture





# Jain Sculpture



# Archeological Importance of Yanaimalai; Dr.V.Vedachalam Archaeologist



### 3. Narasinga Perumal Cave temple - A.D. 770.

- The Narasinga Perumal Cave temple was excavated by Maran Kari and Maran Eyinan, the chief ministers of the Early Pandyas.
- On the two sides of the cave door way there are Tamil Vatteluttu and Grantha ( Sanskrit) inscriptions indicating the excavation of the cave.
- The Mandapa in front of the cave was constructed by the officials of the Vijayanagar ruler Krishnadevaraya.
- In addition to the Early Pandya records, there are also found the epigraphs of Later Pandyas, Cholas and Vijayanagar-Nayak found in this temple.

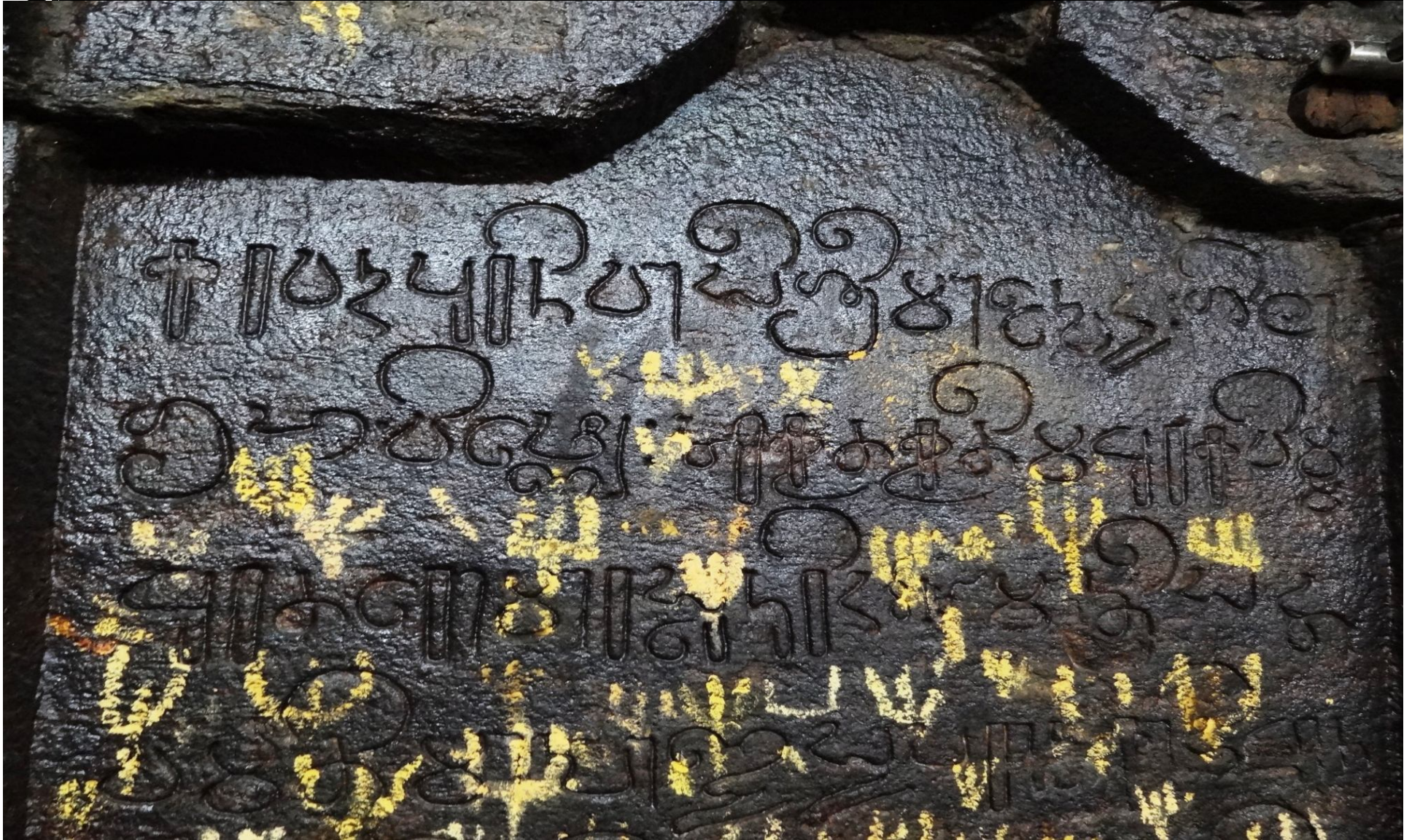
# Narasingaperumal Cave Temple



# Narasingaperumal Cave Temple



# Narasingaperumal Cave Temple



## 4 Murugan Cave temple ( Ladan Koil) 8<sup>th</sup> century A.D.

- ■ To the south of the Narasinga Perumal temple there is a cave temple dedicated to Muruga.
- ■ It was excavated in the 8<sup>th</sup> century A.D. , as per the Vatteluttu inscription found here, by one Vattakkurichi Nambiran Pattasomaji.
- Muruga is seen seated along with his consort Devayanai in the gabhagriha.

# Laden Temple







- Laden Temple

## 5. Veda Narayana Perumal temple *13<sup>th</sup> century A.D.*

- Veda Narayana Perumal temple is located at northern most corner of the Anaimalai hill. It belongs to the 13<sup>th</sup> century A.D. This area is called Thungavanam.
- There is a lotus tank called Brahmattirtha. A thirteenth century epigraph ( Kulasekara Pandya, A.D. 1288) engraved on the rock by the side of the tank mentions about the existence of a temple garden in the name of Alagiyamanavalan.
- It was here during hunting festival Kalamegapperumal used to visit this place and took part in the celebration.





# Traditional Water bodies



# Yanaimalai Responsible Tourism

## K.P. Bharathi



# Community Interaction- Mr.Venkatesan



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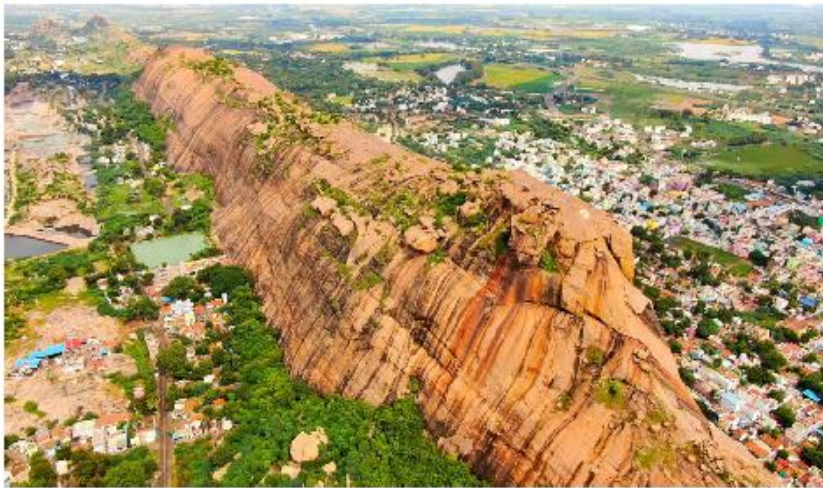


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யானைமலை



Release and Concluding  
Remarks  
Mrs.Rajalaxmi  
Regional Integrator  
Madurai Rural Region





Thanks to  
all Stakeholders and Participants

