



**TAMIL
ECONOMIC
FORUM** | **THE
RISE
2024**
DAVOS
SWITZERLAND
JUNE 7 - 9

**13th Global Summit of Tamil
Entrepreneurs and Professionals**

JUNE 07 - 09, 2024 | Davos, Switzerland

The Tamils

WorldData.info puts the number of Tamil origin people in the world to be 84.12 million, spread across several countries and continents. Recent archaeological findings prove the antiquity of Tamil language as 5000 years, a language well equipped with scientific grammar and a richly versatile body of literature, and it is the only language that has survived all the way to the modern world. Tamils are also a people who define their cultural nationhood based on their language, and there is scholarly acceptance today of this language and its people as an ancient and enduring civilization. A careful and critical analysis of their literary, socio-cultural, and knowledge traditions charmingly reveal of their civilizational foundations deeply anchored on universal humanism, environmental primacy, pursuit of knowledge and high ethics, spirit of enquiry, importance to logic & mathematics, hard work, and above all empathy, harmony and peace. The advances Tamils are making today all around the world in various professional and public pursuits emanate from these civilizational foundations. It is the same values and ethical tenets that make Tamil people relevant to the 21st century world. The Rise Davos Summit would inform the global community in a more articulate manner who Tamils are, what makes them a distinct civilization and how they can also contribute to the shaping of a more equitable, inclusive, humane and peaceful 21st century.



The RISE is the most expansive and embedded global network of Tamil speaking entrepreneurs, investors, professionals, academia, researchers, artists and public intellectuals who believe in the ideals of shared prosperity, impactful collaborations, empathy, environmental stewardship and peace. It was founded in the year 2018 by Rev. Dr. Jegath Gaspar Raj. The RISE exists, operates and rests on the bedrock of its belief in Tamil's continuity as a civilization and practicing Tamil values which are generally known as "Thamizh Aram". They are:

- That all women and men are equal, so are every being on earth.
- That every place on earth is like my village, every person a friend and every being have an existential purpose.
- That nothing is equal to the transformative power of hard work and perseverance.
- That "Trust" shall be of paramount importance in all human interactions and engagements.
- That every The Rise member will be humble, generous and dignified in success.
- That it is in giving, we actually receive.
- That love, kindness and empathy are the best and shining ornaments, and hatred is cancer of the soul.

Tamils in Davos

Davos of today is more than a beautiful Alpine mountain town of Switzerland. In contemporary global discourses Davos marks an incredibly re-assuring idea that the most powerful decision makers of the world can come together, converse, converge, collaborate and drive impact on issues affecting billions of people and the planet. Davos today means prioritizing solutions than amplifying the problems. Be it re-imagining globalization, building resilience muscle for the global economy, upholding human rights throughout the value chain, equity and inclusivity, net-zero pathway and environmental responsibilities - Davos could dispassionately address the challenges in order to find inspiring and enduring answers. This became possible because of one visionary organisation: The World Economic Forum- WEF, established in the year 1971 by the now celebrated Swiss-German Economist Dr.Klaus Schwab.

What WEF is for global community of nations and people The Rise is for global Tamils. The Rise is neither WEF nor a big voice, in fact it is not even a small voice- nevertheless it's a distinctly gentle whisper that has some magic to infuse hope, purpose, confidence and commitment among global Tamils. The 11 Global summits The Rise successfully pulled off in a short span of last five years, braving even the deadly pandemic is a testimony to its quiet resolve and unassuming relentlessness in pursuing its mission. During JUNE 07-09, 2024, The Rise would gather 500+ successful and merit worthy Tamils from around 40 countries of the world in Davos with backgrounds in business, governance, professions, academia and civil society with two major objectives twined as one: to strengthen and deepen its internal capacities as a community in order to contribute meaningfully and effectively as a cultural collective to the global priorities of equity, sustainability, environmental responsibility, resilience, ethical innovations, global collaborations, and well being of all beings.

The RISE Davos Summit will also be an occasion for Tamils to learn, to grow, to resolve and to express gratitude. To learn and understand possibly the most defining unfolding of human journey - Industry 4.0 with its limitless and bewildering possibilities; to grow one's business and global friendships through networking and socialising ; to resolve to strengthen the bond of community and deepen the spirit of collaboration and make a difference to the wider world; and to express gratitude to every nation on earth who helped and are helping the Tamils to peacefully rise particularly the Tamils of Srilankan origin who fled to escape the civil war - most specially the democratic nations of Europe and Canada who gave them not only refuge but an enabling and inclusive democratic space to prosper.

The Rise welcomes you all to Davos for the 12th Global Summit of Tamil Entrepreneurs & Professionals. It will be a great moment of Tamil friendship and global purpose. Let's meet in Davos, JUN 07-09, 2024 to re-affirm our commitment as Tamils to create a better world!

The Organizing Committee

13th Global Summit of Tamil Entrepreneurs & Professionals.





The Future

The RISE Davos Summit has been named as “The Future”. Through a long 300 days of preparatory journey and through the very professional events in Davos we will try to understand the contours of Global Future, we will make sense of Industry 4.0, gain predictive understanding of Industry 5.0 and beyond, reflect together on Tamil Future within that Global Future through adoption, participation, contribution and collaborations.

What to expect in Davos, and on the Road to Davos.



1

We are in Switzerland

Understanding the Business Eco System of Switzerland and opportunity to directly engage with mainstream entrepreneurs of Switzerland, representatives of Government, trade & industry bodies, Chambers of commerce and such other Business organisations.

The economy of Switzerland is one of the world's most advanced, ranking first in the world since 2015 with a GDP per capita about USD 90,000. Its success is largely due to social- political- economic stability, robust service sector particularly banking and tourism. City of Zurich which is near to Davos is the most important economic centre of the country. While the country exports machinery and equipments, chemical- pharmaceutical products, gold, coal briquettes, watches, chocolates, textiles and apparels it mainly imports raw materials, food- organic food, vegetable oils, cultured pearls, precious or semi precious stones, precious metals and electrical machinery equipments. The Swiss education system is one of the best in the world, and Nestle is probably the most universal Swiss brand.

2

Scandinavian Focus

Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Iceland and few autonomous territories like Faroe Islands and Greenland are known as the Scandinavian bloc- Their economies are among the world's wealthiest, known for distributed entrepreneurship, small wage gaps, high employment, accessible education- health care and social security, and high taxation. This region is also pioneering in Environmental and Social Governance, clean energy and technologies. The Davos summit will provide a great opportunity to understand the economies of the region as well as open some gateways for investments and business partnership.

3

Understanding the European Union & UK

The European Union & UK are two of the most powerful and tested economies of the world. The Davos Summit would encourage and assist the Tamil Entrepreneurs and Professionals to understand the markets of EU & UK, as well as the business eco systems of various countries in the region, and provide legal and professional assistance to set up offices and operations in the region.

4

Small too is Beautiful. Little steps towards inclusive Globalisation.

Equitable, Distributed, Collaborative and Responsible Globalisation, Preferential option for Micro-Small & Medium Enterprises, specially the ones led by Women. The Rise aspires to be one of the cultural mediators for equitable and inclusive globalisation. Davos Summit will look at five each micro & small enterprises from Switzerland, Nordic Bloc, rest of EU & UK for global commercialisation wherever Tamils live. Similarly 30 Tamil Business and Enterprises will be identified for such global commercialisation.

5

Stronger Focus on Canada & USA

The USA pivots the Global Economy. Canada is the country of the future where we have a substantial Tamil Population. The Tamils in these countries, particularly the GenNext have gained professional and entrepreneurial mobility and sophistication. We expect around 100 delegates from these two countries at Davos - mostly from the IT, Fintech, Venture sectors adding depth and scope to the Davos Summit.

6

Strengthening GCC as the hub and gateway for Tamils to Europe, Africa & North America.

The fastest growing world economy in 2022 was Saudi Arabia. The Ukraine war in fact is helping the oil economies of the Gulf region. Importantly, countries of this region are progressively modernising. The Rise would deepen its operational presence in this important region, further preparing its role as the gateway to Africa, Europe and North America. A mini Pre-Summit will be held in Muscat, Oman and the mega follow up Global Summit will be held in Dubai during December 2024.

7

Can we assist and collaborate to make 10 Tamil Brands to emerge as global brands?

The Rise considers Davos Summit not merely as a three day event. Rather Davos is approached as a journey with key milestones on the way. The Rise would form a team of experts to identify ten Tamil owned brands which have the potential to emerge and grow as global brands, and devise strategies to make them really become global brands.

8

Open the Gateways for locally established Tamil brands to become global franchise.

The Rise Davos invites successful local Tamil enterprises to evolve and emerge as global franchises. The Rise will provide expert assistance and guidance.

9

MSME Olympics

Select Enterprises to scale and go global.

As preparation to Davos Summit The Rise will invite MSME enterprises for an online exhibition / presentation / super contest. Industry icons will evaluate and select 10- 25 enterprises with the potential to scale and possibly go global. The Rise will take responsibility for this process.

10

Women Entrepreneurship Fest

As preparation for The Rise Davos Summit, TWI - Tamil Women International will organise a two days online EXPO for Tamil Women Entrepreneurs. Ten women will be identified for support, global branding and global commercialisation. This would be a conscious attempt to infuse gender inclusivity into the Davos summit.



11

Global Tamil Women Power Circle

The Rise Davos would herald the beginning of Tamil Women entrepreneurship era and overall transformation of Tamil Women. This Global circle of influential women would function as a catalyst for generating ideas, mobilising resources and creating systems.

12

Support 100 Women Micro Entrepreneurs of North East Sri Lanka and Malayagam.

As we mark Davos to be the beginning of constructive and substantive engagement of Global Tamils in rebuilding the economic and socio-cultural life of Tamils in Sri Lanka The Rise Davos Summit would committ to identify, train and provide financial assistance to 100 women micro entrepreneurs in North East Sri Lanka and Malayagam. Preferential option will be shown for war widows.

13

Experience Meets the Energetic & Innovative. The Strategic Growth Planning Circle.

This is a Big Top Circle of accomplished entrepreneurs and under 40 entrepreneurs owning or heading businesses with scope and potential to scale. This is a learning session for strategic growth planning.

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Top Circle B2B

The Rise Davos summit is designed as a perfect blend of rigorous curation and responsible openness. It will thus have the depth for B2B close networking among Top circle entrepreneurs while also offering a reasonable scope to aspirational and startup entrepreneurs to pitch, explore and succeed. Among the 500+ Delegates around 300 will be accomplished ones and the rest aspirational ones, making it a productive blend. Small Group Huddles will be curated for Top Circle Delegates tailored to their needs and expectations.

15

Focused and inclusive, result oriented Networking.

We would close the Summit registrations by April 14, 2024. From then on we will begin online Business dating between registered delegates for 30 days so that much of the business deals can be explored and negotiated even before coming to Davos. During the summit days too 60% of the time shall be kept for industry / cross industry sector based networking. 'No one shall be left behind, everyone should have a chance' shall be the driving moto.

16

Knowledge Spring

We would want all the delegates to gain deeper knowledge and understanding about new global market trends, cutting edge technologies, ESG Governance, New marketing and sales avenues and strategies, AI, Digital transformations along with themes on management, talent acquisition, high performance, strategic growth planning and New Leadership.

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The RISE wants to hold a Thai Pongal summit in North East Sri Lanka during January 2025. The journey would however begin from Davos. The educational, economic and cultural development of the North East region and upcountry plantation Tamils will be the focus. The Davos summit will adopt a Mandate to prepare a blueprint of holistic development plan, and devise ways to inspire the global Tamil community to get involved.

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மலையகம் 200

The 200 years of plantation Tamils in Sri Lanka are a story of systematic injustices, deprivations and neglect which weigh down on their present realities. The Davos Summit will dedicate a special session to them to gain deeper and empathetic understanding of their realities in order to bring global Tamil attention and engagement.



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3rd Conclave of Global Tamil IT Entrepreneurs & Professionals.

Aatral Davos Conclave will have fourfold Agendas:

- B2B between members; Cross tenderings.
- Revival and Global expansion of TRIDS - The Rise Institute of Digital Sciences.
- **Establishing an Academy of Excellence for Deep Technologies.**
- Launching a movement to teach all Tamil children a Digital Language towards creating a Digitally Inclusive Future.

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2nd Conclave of Global Tamil Engineers Forum

The Conclave will have sixfold agendas:

- Sharing of Inter-Sectoral business opportunities between members.
- Framework for promoting industry- academia collaborations.
- Sustainable manufacturing technologies.
- Supporting sustainable innovation.
- Industry ready Futuristic skilling.
- Organising a Global Job Fair in Tamil Nadu in partnership with Aatral and other similar forums.

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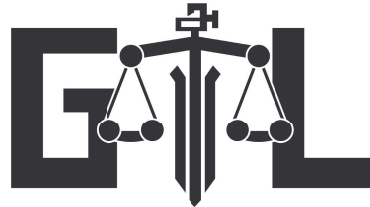


Tamil Doctors International

3rd Conclave of Global Tamil Doctors.

- Evolving a Global Framework and actionable programs for TDI.

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GLOBAL TAMIL LAWYERS

2nd Conclave of Global Tamil Lawyers

- Evolving a Global purpose, framework, Global structure and actionable programs for GTL.

23



Tamil Women
International

6th Conclave of Tamil Women International

- Taking responsibility for creating and nurturing a Global Tamil Co-Operative Movement, Women Entrepreneurship, தமிழ்மூலக், and Economic - Social - Cultural - Educational Development of North Eastern Sri Lanka and Malayagam.

24

GTAFP

Global Tamil Auditors
and Finance Professionals

2nd Conclave of Global Tamil Auditors & Finance Professionals.

- ◆ Bridging the Gap between Entrepreneurial ideas and funds.
Finance education.

25



1st Conclave of International Tamil Micro Entrepreneurs Retailers Association.

- ◆ Global supply chain linkages between small traders- retailers.
- ◆ Digital transformation in the micro enterprise and retail sectors.
- ◆ Decarbonisation of the grass roots supply chain.

26

TCTI

1st Conclave of Tamil Consultants and Trainers International

- ◆ Shaping Entrepreneurial Leadership.
- ◆ Building adaptive capacities and resilience in the managerial eco system.
- ◆ Culture building.

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Top Tamils 10000

www.toptamils.com

This is a dramatic and pathbreaking initiative as a preparation to Davos. To identify, profile and celebrate 10000 Tamil success stories from all over the world. We will follow a bottom up inclusive approach to globally celebrate inspiring Tamil success stories, in the digital space.

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Davos International Organic & Millets Fest

At the initiative of India the United Nations declared 2023 as Year of Millets. The Rise in partnership with Nanban Mothers For Mother Nature Foundation organised Millets Fests all over Tamil Nadu. A Finale Fest will be organised in Davos during the Summit.

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New Education Alliance

The tectonic shifts that are happening in the field of technology require a radically new approach to education- most importantly from the equity-inclusivity paradigm. How do we begin preparing our children for Industry 4.0, 5.0 and 6.0 which not only involves evolving technologies but strong ethical frameworks as well. A high powered team will be formed as part of Davos initiative to grapple with these questions and come out with creative and feasible ideas and proposals.

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GenNext Leadership Summit

A special plenary session for global Tamil young leaders to express themselves and their dreams for the Tamil community.



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RBD- Resources Based Development

When The Rise was formed in the year 2018 Mr. Devasahayam IAS proposed a bottom up, holistic, distributed entrepreneurship model based on the natural-human-cultural resources available in the local geography in order to address the pressing issues of massive unemployment, distress migration and social unrest. The Rise Davos Summit will readopt this model for praxis with renewed vigour.

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GreenEarth Davos Walkathon

Tamils will make a Global Green Statement as Tamils on the streets of Davos reaffirming our commitment to environmental peace. The Walkathon will be curated by GreenEarth. Dignitaries from the UN will be invited to join.



33

Elders of Eminence

From among the Top Circle we will select a group of most eminent individuals to evolve as the moral voice of Tamil community, to be the guiding light of global Tamils.

34

Revisiting some of the key decisions of the previous Summits.

The Davos Summit will revisit some of the key decisions taken during the previous Summits particularly the London Summit where delegates proposed creating global financial architectures to support Tamil entrepreneurship.

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GLOBAL TAMIL ECO RESORT & CLUB.

As a legacy of Davos Summit, The Rise begins an important mission - to set up Tamil Social - Cultural Resort Clubs in all countries where Tamils significantly live. They will become centres where Tamils with a power to change and impact can come together regularly. Those centres will promote Tamil culture, Arts, Artisans, cultivating traditions. They will also become the hub of global Tamil travellers. The first such Resort club will be established between Tirunelveli and Kutralam as a tribute to the historic Davos Summit. The other proposed locations include Coimbatore, Chennai, Bengaluru, Malaysia, Abu Dhabi, Oman and North Eastern Sri Lanka.

The following are the High Profile Resource Persons we have in mind. They will be contacted, confirmed and officially communicated before January 31, 2024.



Dr. S. Jaishankar
External Affairs Minister of India.



Mr. Alain Berset
President of Switzerland.



Mr. Ashwini Vaishnaw IAS
Minister of Communication,
Electronics and Information, Govt of India.



Mr. Tony Blair
Former Prime Minister of the UK.



Prof. Dr. Klaus Schwab
Founder & Executive Chairman,
World Economic Forum.



Dr. P. Thiagarajan
Minister of Information Technology and
Digital Services, Govt of Tamil Nadu.



Dr. Raghuram Rajan
Former Governor of RBI
7th Chief Economist
of the International Monetary Fund.



Mrs. Ursula Von der Leyen
President, European Union Parliament.



Dr. TRB Rajaa
Minister of Industries,
Govt of Tamil Nadu.



Mr. Jairam Ramesh
Former Union Minister, Govt of India.



Mr. Erik Solheim
Former Foreign Minister of Norway,
President of Green Belt and Road Institute.

