Note on Transliteration, Quotation, Names, and Transcripts

I indicate Tamil language material with *italics*, with words of English origin retaining their canonical English spellings and all others transliterated following a modified Madras Lexicon system (as per Nakassis 2016a:xiii–xv). When used within otherwise Tamil speech, linguistic forms of English origin that are not normalized as Tamil are left unitalicized. For the transliteration of Tamil proper names (of people, places, texts, films), I follow general usage in unitalicized font (for example, Madurai instead of *Maturai*), unless they are titles of films, in which case I italicize them (for example, *Mankatha* instead of Mankatha or *Mankāṭṭā*). For direct quotations in the original language, I use double quotation marks. For English translations of quoted Tamil discourse, I use single quotation marks. Except for place names, film titles, character names, and publicly known figures, all names in this book are pseudonyms. In some transcripts, I use the following symbols:

- (#) # second pause
- () short pause (fewer than 0.2 seconds)
- //...// overlapping speech
- = no pause between turns of talk
- - interruption, break in speech
- a:: elongated vowel or sonorant
- ↓ falling intonation
- SMALL CAPS louder volume
- () implied, elided, or contracted linguistic material
- [ ] referent of anaphor or other term
- <> description of nonlinguistic action
- {} description of audience behaviour
- (( )) speech that is unclear or uncertain in a recording
- (h) aspirated burst of laughter within an utterance
elided speech
* * non-diegetic sound (*bleep*)
[EXCL.] exclusive ‘we’ (speaker plus non-addressee[s])
[INCL.] inclusive ‘we’ (speaker plus addressee[s])
 [+HON.] honorific linguistic form (“polite” pronouns, verb endings, address terms)
[-HON.] non-honorific linguistic form (“impolite”/familiar pronouns, verb endings, address terms)