

Jeeva started telling stories from the age of 5 as she herself grew amidst excellent storytellers. She took up teaching - especially to the toddlers - where she felt she could enjoy telling stories. Her life moved on as a teacher more than a storyteller until recently, when she turned a storyteller, thanks to Tulika Publishers. They gave her the responsibility of translating an activity-based storybook into Tamil, which introduced her to the public as a storyteller. She has now grown to be a resource person representing India at many international conferences.



Jeeva's lively and dramatic storytelling performances keep people of all ages spell-bound. Though she occasionally uses hand puppets, paper and sign language, she believes that she herself is the best prop for her storytelling.

Her repertoire of stories includes a wide range of Indian and Asian folk-tales, European tales, Family stories, True-life incidents, Cross-culture and modern stories.

Jeeva's Workshops are highly interactive and based on time-tested storytelling ideas. They have also proven effective for varied groups and ages. Topics include storytelling techniques, story development, communicative skills through stories, exploring India and developing language skills through stories.

The settings for these programs include Schools, Colleges, Cultural Associations, Social Clubs, Hospitals, Libraries and Museums, Festivals, Community centres, Private parties... there's been no limit so far.

Jeeva is also an author of children's books. She has written two original stories, two Tamil (regional Indian language) letterbooks and has translated 17 books.

She has also performed on-screen for many private television channels.

## Personal Information

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Date of birth:	05-04-1956
Age:	54 years
Education:	B. Sc., Madras University (1977) Diploma in French
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## Professional Experience – India (2000-2002)

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1. Professional Storyteller at schools, public libraries and other gatherings in Chennai, other cities in southern India and state capitals of India.
2. Educational consultant for Dr. M. G. Ramachandran Trust's school and university level institutions dedicated to education in all fields and women's education in particular.
3. Language skills and drama consultant to Vel's Trust's secondary school.
4. Tamil translations of English children's literature for established publishers in the field.
5. Tutoring varies levels of students in English, Tamil and French.
6. Establishing children's activity centres at paediatric wards of hospitals.
7. Established stagecraft, a drama training school for children from Kindergarten to Upper secondary level.
8. Central character in 50 – part TV serial on storytelling for telecast in UK and Europe.
9. Central character in 13 – part TV serial on storytelling for telecast across India and Middle East.
10. Central character in Audio Cassette series titled "Storyteller" marketed in India.
11. Consultant and head of children's activity centre at Good Books and Kid Zone – Landmark, India's No.1 book shop.

## Professional Experience – Singapore & Malaysia (2000 – 04)

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1. Indian delicate and workshop head at the Asian Storytelling Congress since 2000.
2. Workshop head to train teachers for the Ministry of Education.
3. Storytelling presentations at various schools.
4. Public performances at various libraries, Esplanade and other Theatres.
5. Actress osteoporosis drama for Health Promotion Board.
6. Resource person for schools under Drama plus arts and Language Arts.
7. Three successful children's tele-serial in Tamil - awarded best children's programme by Vasantham.
8. Workshop head at the storytelling carnival held in Kaula Lumpur, Malaysia for National Library Board.
9. Managing Director Auro Creative Services Private Limited – A Company to promote language skills and drama.
10. Arts facilitator – Drama Plus Arts - Singapore



## Professional Experience – International (2004-Present)

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1. Specialist Storyteller at schools, libraries, museums in Oakland and San Francisco.
2. Storytelling workshop facilitator at the University of San Diego.
3. Concert at the University of San Diego.
4. Performer at the GIMI Storytelling festival organized in the Cayman Islands.
5. Salon performance at Toronto, Canada.
6. Performances at A storytelling event, Toronto
7. Creative head of Goodbooks store for children and resource centre.
8. Concerts at schools and colleges.
9. Facilitator — Storytrails — The touring story guides.
10. Founder member — World storytelling Institute — Chennai
11. Invitee to address Writers Union of Sweden at International Book Fair 2008, Gothenburg on collaboration project with Indian writers & illustrators
12. Specialist host for U.S. Storytellers & Librarians “Story Tour-Vision” 2008 to southern India.
13. Represented India at the Lyungby Storytelling festival –Sweden
14. Creative head-Image venture-International Animation series “Bommi”
15. Director “A story house” A chettinad foundation initiative.

## Publications — International

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1. Uma's Secret - co-authored with Sweden's Marie Oskarsson, illustrated by Kenneth Andersson to be published in Swedish, Aug 2009

## Publications — Translations in English

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1. Priya's Day
2. Why Are You Afraid To Hold My Hand?
3. Sunu, Sunu – A Storm In The Garden.
4. Look At The Moon.
5. "I Forgot How To Sleep".
6. Snoring Shanmugam.
7. Pavo Kavo.
8. Busy Busy Grand-Ant.
9. The Village Fair.
10. Never Ending Story.
11. Lailai The Baby Elephant.
12. The Rooster And The Sun.
13. Help, Help.
14. Cricket.
15. Gift From The Sea.
16. Up And Down.
17. What Shall I Make?
18. Thakitta Tharikitta — The Bouncing Ball.
19. Sameer's House.

## Publications — Authored in English and Tamil

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1. Malli
2. Gadagada Gudugudu
3. A Vilirunthu Akku Varai — Tamil alphabet book in simple verse.
4. Kasakasa Parapara — Tamil tertiary letters in verse
5. Early Reader Series: Thumb Thumb series.
  - a. Where is Thangi?
  - b. Up Up.

## Publications — Editor

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1. Personality Development for Asiapac, Singapore

## Publications — Audio Cassettes & DVD

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1. Tales from Panchatantra
2. Tales of child devotees
3. Stories from India with Roger Jenkins — DramaPlus Arts, Singapore.