



PRESS RELEASE

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Novelist A.C. Frieden Explores Chennai, India's Fourth Most Populous City

CHENNAI, India (Nov. 11, 2017) – Chicago-based novelist A.C. Frieden arrived in Chennai, in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu, for a legal conference held a few miles south of the city. Located on the Coromandel Coast off the Bay of Bengal, Chennai is rich in history and is an important economic center in South India. During the weekend following the conference, Frieden took the opportunity to explore various parts of the city with an eye to include local scenes in one of his upcoming novels and perhaps also for an article in Thrilleresque Magazine. While Frieden has been to South India a dozen times over the last three years, this was his first time in Chennai, formerly called Madras. “Of particular interest to me are the colonial-era buildings, which I could easily blend into one of my stories,” said Frieden, while touring the city’s old fortifications at Fort St. George.



(Photo above) Thriller author A.C. Frieden visiting the Ripon Building, a neoclassical style structure commissioned in 1913 that today serves as the headquarters of the Greater Chennai Corporation (or Chennai Municipal Corporation), the city’s principal governing civic body.



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Frieden concentrated his research on the north, central and southwestern parts of the city. He visited many of the city's most important sites, included the Ripon Building, Chennai Central Railway Station, St. Thomas Mount, St. Thome Basilica, the Madras Light House, the Chennai Government Museum, Vivekananda House, the Madras High Court, and several other key places. Also, Frieden stopped by the Chennai Port Trust Centenary Building, a 12-story building that has a large weather radar on the roof that is used mainly to track cyclones.



(Above, left) A.C. Frieden at the museum of Fort St. George, the first British fortress in India.

(Above, right) Chennai Central Railway Station, the city's busiest rail hub.



(Photo above) A panoramic view of the Chennai Central Railway Station, designed in Gothic Revival style by architect George Harding and completed in 1873.



*(Above) The Indian Southern Railways headquarters, built in 1921.
(Below) A commuter passes a bridge that forms part of Chennai's metro system.*





(Above) A.C. Frieden at St. Thomas Mount National Shrine, the religiously significant summit of a small hillock in the southwestern edge of Chennai, near the airport. The ancient church atop the hill was built in honor of Saint Thomas the Apostle, who is believed to have died there in 72 A.D., having sailed to India twenty years earlier to spread the Christian faith.

About the author: A.C. Frieden is an international author of mysteries and thrillers, including the acclaimed Jonathan Brooks series. He is also an attorney, private pilot, scuba instructor, martial artist, equestrian and former biologist and military sniper. For more information, visit his website at www.acfrieden.com or follow him on Twitter (@acfrieden), Instagram, Facebook or his various blogs.

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