

# Kerala in Mumbai

Only English/Malayalam Monthly Magazine Linking Mumbai Malayalees

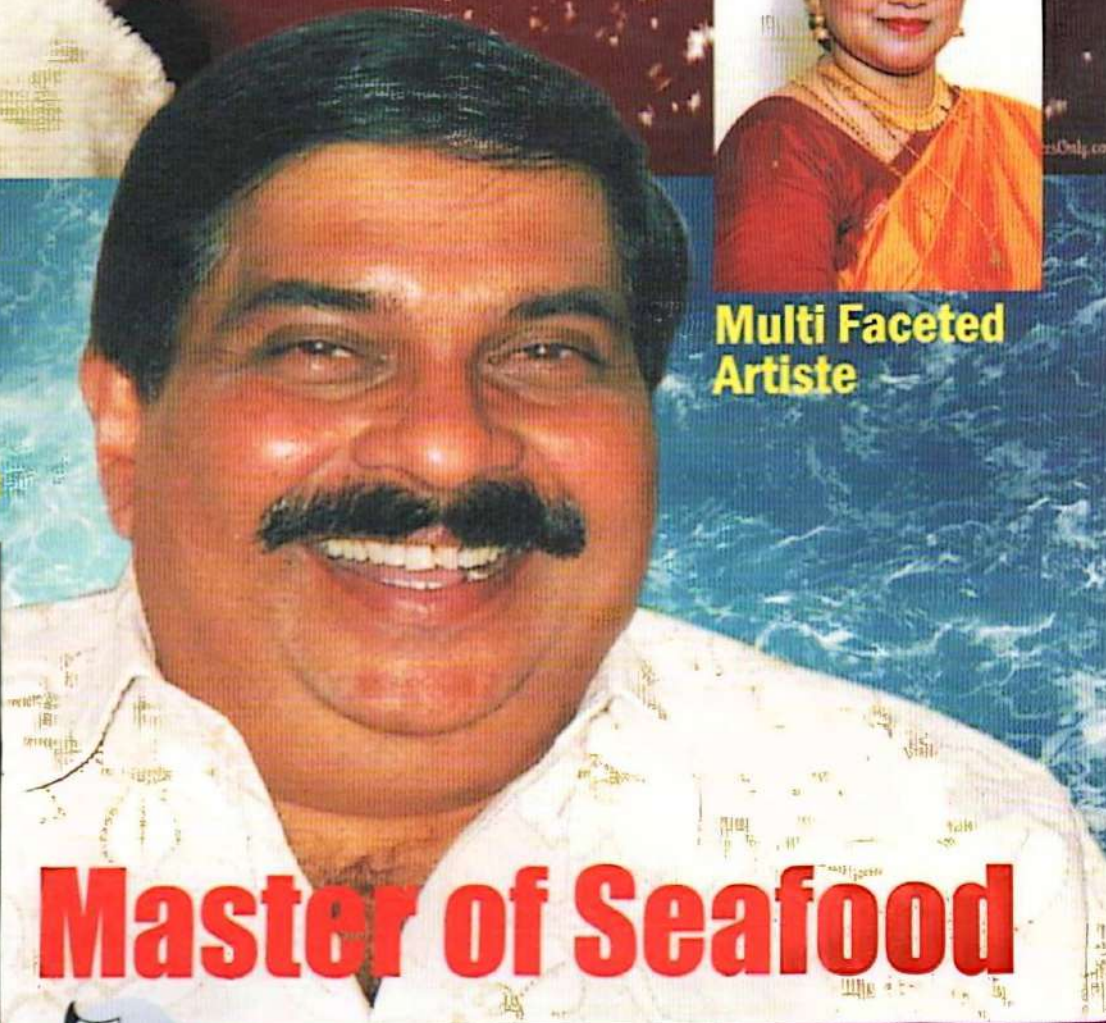
■ Vol.4 No. 9 ■ Price Rs. 70 ■ December 2013



## Merry Christmas



Multi Faceted  
Artiste



## Master of Seafood



Malayalam Drama Festival

- The Milk Visionary
- Koodiyattam Exponent
- Raagalaya Music Competition



Promising Singer

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Vibrant Printing & Publishing Pvt. Ltd

**Place of Publication**  
B-105, Twin Arcade, Military Road  
Marol, Andheri (E), Mumbai-400 059.  
Tel: 022-29209959

**Printing Press**  
Sharprints, 13/679, Sardar Nagar 1,  
Slon-Koliwada, Mumbai-400 022.

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# Depoliticisation vital for Kerala's progress

A few years ago Mumbai High Court imposed on two prominent political parties a heavy monetary penalty for wanton destruction of public and private property during a bandh they jointly called for. Though the parties concerned tried to wriggle out of the penalty, they failed as Supreme Court of India refused to amend the verdict. Since then, Mumbai has not seen any bandh that disturbed public life.

On last November 17, the State of Kerala witnessed a strange phenomenon. Against the Kasturi Rangan Report on the Western Ghats, the LDF called for a 'hartal' across the state and most of the parties in UDF also joined besides other religious and caste-wise organizations. Among the ruling coalition, finance minister K M Mani's party took a leading role in opposing the Report.

It is normal for all governments, to appoint commissions to go into the issues which they consider themselves incompetent to decide and spend several crores of rupees on the Commission for its working. It is rare that any commission completed their assigned work in the stipulated time. Even if the Commission submits its report, extensions after extensions, the appointing authority is not bound to accept the Report unless it is in its interest. It was not clear whom they were protesting against, when the Union government announced that the state governments could use 60 days to study and recommend amendments, before the report is incorporated into a law.

For LDF, especially for the CPI(M), it was a god (nay, devil) given opportunity to drive out the present government which is surviving on wafer thin majority.

During the hearing of public interest litigation in the High Court, the justice wanted to know if the supporting parties ever read the report before the hartal was being called for. Kerala does not hold bandh any more, as the High Court prohibited it six years ago. But hartal has never had such a stipulation. Thus Kerala has only Hartal (a wolf in the mantle of a lamb) but if anyone disobeys them, that party would brutally be assaulted and property destroyed. Considering that destiny, the people of the state amicably co-operate and instead of lamenting his losses, celebrate it in the best possible manner (you know it!).

A hartal is a voluntary act of protest. Kerala, as in the past, saw several violent acts of brutality in the recent hartal, in assaulting principal, teachers, children, government officials who decided to work, forcing visiting foreign tourists to walk to their destinations like Munnar, observing fast the whole day (no hotels reopen after the hartal hours as business would be dull, making sick persons and relatives walk to and from the hospitals, crippling the state finance that is in a dangerously threatening level (liabilities running to several thousands of crores of rupees, accumulated since formation of the state) due to the maladministration by the competing united fronts, with no vision about the future.

One needs not to be an economist to realize that money lost overtly or covertly is a real loss and steps should be taken to recover such losses from the people responsible for it. It needs no wanton destruction of visible properties. State utility services are mostly under loss and these hartals throw them further down. The loss and inconvenience are the result of planned assault. Even if the government is disinterested, the courts should come forward to recover the loss to the government while individuals need to be compensated for the inconvenience they are subjected to.

A suitable commission to look into this matter would be welcome and all right thinking parties would whole-heartedly support such a commission. Further, a political party or organisation, indulging in any activity that is anathema to the interests of the state, should be stripped off of its constitutional recognition or registration. India and its states that constitute the federation should prosper and that and that alone should be our consideration. It is time to shed the neo-patriotism and to embrace the real one.

## Old Age Is Not A Curse At All

I am a retired seniormost officer from a nationalized bank. I happened to read the article titled "OLD AGE IS NOT A CURSE AT ALL", by V. Balachandran in "Kerala in Mumbai".

The points discussed in the article are true, practical and meaningful. However, I am of the opinion that one more point may be included. That is when you make a will either at your executer's place or elsewhere, the executer should be briefed and he should clarify to the Bank to get your deposit and other belonging to your beneficiary, because several unclaimed amounts are lying in the banks.

T.V Prabhakaran

## Inspiring Article

The article on Upendra Menon deserves appreciation. It was very inspiring. His life shows how a Keralite who made Mumbai his home can contribute towards social upliftment of people who live in this city. He exemplifies a person who single-handedly undertook various projects to help people in distress. Through his association with Giants International, he did his best in contributing to the all-round development of society as a whole. His efforts in the construction of a big temple at Kalwa for the Hindu community as a whole are very commendable. His capacity to organize people for helping the needy warrant special mention.

Hope to read articles about many more such inspiring personalities in future editions of your magazine.

N R Krishnamoorthi  
Advocate, High Court

## Enriching Issue

I have been enriched by the November issue of KIM. The article on Upendra Menon, Sabarimala, Parappurath, Kelappan, Viji Venkatesh and others were extremely interesting.

After having a cursory glance at the Letter to the Editor in November issue of Kerala in Mumbai, under title "Modi and KIM", I am amused as well as relieved. Amused, because you have gone ahead published the parts of the letter in spite of the language, tone and tenor of the letter. I am relieved because you did not publish all the 9 (nine ?) pages of the letter, as stated by you in your response. I respectfully remind you that Editor is accountable only to himself for his "Editorial". A

third person has no right to restrain an Editor's freedom of expression. I am not close to any political party or political leader. However, I would like to read also about political leaders of all parties and states in KIM. For example, you have published "Achuthanandan turns 90, to carry on struggles". Even though I am not a communist or marxist, I appreciate your publishing this very informative article which I read with interest. Please keep enthralling us with your writings in KIM.

Dr. Gopakumar G. Nair  
President

Thakur Complex Malayalee Association

## "THE PULAYA STORY"

K R Narayanan has laboured hard to highlight the plight of the Pulayas. He has narrated in detail the very many progressive steps taken by the Governments right from the days of the Maharajas of Travancore and Cochin and the various people's governments. He has equally spotlighted the successful efforts in the matter by committed activists like Ayyankali.

But have we achieved any substantial results? The exploitation of the Pulayas and the bias on them continue even now. In his epoch making poem "Vaazhakkula" Chengampuzha has described elegantly and yet with pathos the exploitation of a poor Pulaya by the upper caste feudal landlord, where the feudal landlord demands the bunch of bananas on a plant grown in the pulaya's courtyard and affectionately tendered and nurtured by his pulaya children. Much to their grief and frustration, the Pulaya submits the bunch of bananas to the landlord on his making a demand. Changampuzha ends the poetry with a challenge: "Ithinokke pratheekaram heyathadangumo pathithare nigalthan pinmurakar"?"

(Oh! the fallen ones !! Your future generation will not rest until we seek revenge)

S Ganesan, Chembur

## Corrigendum

"Co-opted members in the current Managing Committee of the Keraleeya Mahila Samaj are: Mrs. Lilly George, Mrs Molly Ephrem, Mrs Sushila Unni."

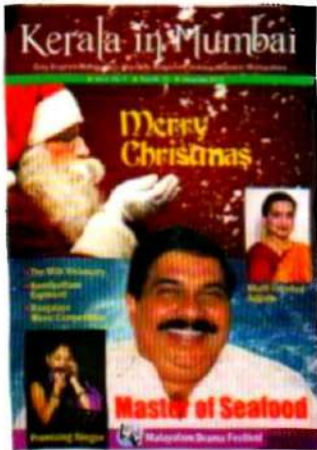
We regret the lapse on our side in our feature 'A Tharawad for Malayalee women', KIM September 2013 Issue.

We welcome responses from readers. Please forward your responses and suggestions about various happenings concerning Malayalees residing in this part of India. You may send us your piece in either English or Malayalam. (We shall translate and publish it in English) You may send them via e-mail to keralainmumbai@gmail.com or by post to Editor, Kerala In Mumbai, 105-B, Twin Arcade, Military Road, Marol, Andheri (E) Mumbai 400 059.

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Printed & Published by P V Vijaykumar on behalf of Vibrant Printing & Publishing Pvt. Ltd. & printed at Sharprints, 13/679, Sardar Nagar-1, Sion-Koliwada, Mumbai-400022 & published at B-105, Twin Arcade, Military Road, Marol, Mumbai-400059. Editor: P V Vijaykumar



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# Christmas

## Season of Peace and Joy



**Lakshmi Venkatachalam**

Christmas is a festival that celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ, who according to believers is the Son of God and the Saviour of mankind, who brought Peace on Earth and Goodwill among men and women. The first mention of 25th December as the birth date of Jesus occurred in 336 A.D. in an early Roman calendar.

According to some historians, Christmas originated in the West and was brought to India and Kerala especially by St Thomas, one of the disciples of Jesus Christ. Today the festival is celebrated all over India by Christians with a feeling of camaraderie among members of Catholic, Syrian Catholic, Protestant denominations. All over India Christmas is celebrated by secular non-Christians also as a season of joy and happiness highlighting India's unity in diversity. Called 'Bada Din' in Hindi, Christmas is a national holiday in our country.

Jijo George, General Manager, Benzy Palace, explains



**Christmas involves a spiritual awakening among the believers and makes them mentally prepared to practise the life Baby Jesus taught and showed when He lived**

that Christmas literally means the 'Mass' (celebration) of Christ. "Christ is a Greek word and title that means 'anointed' or 'one set apart by God for a special purpose'. Christ is equivalent to the Hebrew word 'Messiah' based on the words of ancient prophets. The first century Jewish

people expected the arrival of the messiah promised by God as "a great deliverer of the people."

For Johnson Therattil, Member, State Level Consultative Committee of FCI, the festival of Christmas not only celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ but also conveys his message of love, tolerance and brotherhood. "It is a celebration of

humanity and mankind. Though Christmas is a primary festival of the Christian calendar, it has a special significance in everyone's life."

Dr P J Aprain, President Hiranandani Keralite Association, believes, "there is only one God in different names and He helps in making us better human beings. Even today we wait for Christmas that signifies hope and joy to mankind."

## Christmas Festivities

Starting from the first week of December, Christians prepare themselves for the arrival of baby Jesus into their lives. Shibu John who is an active member of church activities in St George Orthodox Syrian Church in Sakinaka says that he observes lent and attends prayers in church daily for 24 days from 1<sup>st</sup> December to 24<sup>th</sup> midnight in the preparation of the arrival of baby Jesus Christ. The congregation practises good deeds, service to elders, teach moral values to the youth, spiritually preparing them for the arrival of their Saviour, Shibu says.



Shibu John

Several Malayalee Christian families go to their native place in Kerala to spend Christmas with their parents and siblings there.

Sunnykutty George and his brother Benny George doing business together in Kandivali, have been going to their native place Charumoodu near Kayamkulam for the past 17 years with their families during Christmas, to celebrate the festival with their 94 year old mother who is now staying there alone after the demise of their father. Jesus Christ is a symbol of love and service to the poor, they feel. This year they have plans to build a few houses for the poor and do other charitable activities in their village.

P J Mathew, Director of Mathew International, says, "I came to Mumbai when I was 18, but till date every year I go back to my village to celebrate Christmas with my 93 year old Mother, (who still resides in our family home)

## Christmas Eve

On the religious front the Christmas midnight mass on December 24 is an important part of Christmas and majority of the believers attend the mass without fail. After observing abstinence and attending prayers for 24 days, they wear new clothes and make their way to the church for



Jijo George and his family

the mass and prayers. They remember fondly their Saviour who was born in their midst centuries ago, the Son of God who gave up His life so that they can live. After the prayers, and lighting of votive candles, members greet one another Merry Christmas. Jijo George says that after the mass the Church distributes cake, coffee and cold drinks. Then the gathering plays some games like housie etc. There is merry - making because a

glorious child has been born, gifts kept under the Church Christmas tree are distributed to the parishioners, crackers are burst and fireworks lighted and people wend their ways home with a happy heart after the revelry.

## Carol Singing

Carol singing is one of the most important activities during Christmas. Even weeks before the festival, all the spiritual organization



Carol singers along with the Parish Priest of St. George Orthodox Syrian Church, in Sakinaka

**The festival of Christmas is celebrated all over India by Christians with a feeling of camaraderie among members of Catholic, Syrian Catholic, Protestant denominations. All over India Christmas is celebrated by secular non-Christians also as a season of joy and happiness highlighting India's unity in diversity. Called 'Bada Din' in Hindi, Christmas is a national holiday in our country.**

members gather in churches and practise carol singing under the guidance of the parish priests. Schools, Clubs and other institutions also have their own carol groups and they practise carol singing for Christmas. Even competitions in carol singing are held. By December 23, parishioners go from house to house to sing these songs of Baby Jesus. Shibu says that as Christmas approaches and they visit homes singing carol, they are welcomed with cakes, sweets and soft drinks.

Anthony Moyalan, a resident of Andheri and doing business in steel and metal products, feels that unlike Kerala, Mumbai being the financial capital of India, becomes one of the biggest party hubs during Christmas. Here Christmas is celebrated with a bang! Anthony and his family decorate their home not only with stars and lights and

crib. "Here, both young and old, girls and boys, all go for carol singing adorning a red Christmas cap with drums and tambourine and a jolly Santa Clause carrying a bag full of sweets. Santa Clause is the main attraction for the public as we go about singing in our Christian homes. Special mass is conducted in churches all over Mumbai celebrating the birth of Jesus. In our parish, after Christmas mass, we have an elaborate Carol Singing by youth, during which Santa Clause comes forward and give away gifts to all children of our parish," he sums up.

## Christmas Trees

Christmas trees decorated with lights, and other trinkets have become an integral part of Christmas in all Christian homes. Beautiful star shaped paper lights in different colours and sizes hang from balconies and at entrance of houses to welcome the joyful season. The crib is decorated with baby Jesus in the manger along with Mary and Joseph and the three wise men and the sheep and cows in churches, homes and community halls, grounds and schools.

Johnson Therattil states that one of the unique features of Christmas among several Indians is the use of banana or mango tree for decoration instead of the traditional pine tree. "This is the time for people to flaunt their creativity. They decorate these trees with colorful ribbons, blinking lights, stars and sparkled balls and use poinsettia flower to decorate churches. In South India, people put oil-lamps of clay on their flat rooftops to let everyone feel the presence of God in light. Days before Christmas market places, shop, streets and churches are decorated with scenes of nativity, lights and stars. The local Indian customs and tradition have a massive impact on the Indian Christians. Most of the Indian Christian families always try to decorate Christmas trees during Christmas season near cribs made by them. Churches often have an Evening Service on Christmas and are fabulously decorated with poinsettias and candles. Caroling processions on streets and thoroughfares can also be seen."

For over 35 years P J Mathew and his family decorate their house in Mumbai during Christmas with Infant Jesus in the crib, the Christmas star, Christmas tree, Lanterns, Lamps and Lights. The family hosts a Christmas party for their friends (both Christmas and Non-Christians) and



**The local Indian customs and tradition have a massive impact on the Indian Christians. Most of the Indian Christian families always try to decorate Christmas trees during Christmas season near cribs made by them. Churches often have an Evening Service on Christmas and are fabulously decorated with poinsettias and candles. Caroling processions on streets and thoroughfares can also be seen."**



Alice and Johnson Therattil with their family

cuts the Christmas cake. Mathew says that his wife Celine as well as his two sons, Joseph and Thomas, along with their wives, Maria and Delita, are equally enthusiastic about celebrating Christmas.

Ajay Joseph, a businessman in Navi Mumbai, says that he and his family always attend the Christmas Mass, join his parish's carol singing group and have a sumptuous Christmas feast with his family on Christmas day.

## Welcoming Baby Jesus

Johnson Therattil and Alice Therattil, former Mumbai Congress Corporator, say that in several Christian households, preparations for Christmas begin at least a month in advance. People get their homes whitewashed and indulge in spring cleaning of the house to give it a fresh new look. Ladies start preparations for the traditional Christmas cake and other cuisines which are eagerly awaited not just by the entire family but also by the neighbours'. Christmas Gifts are also bought for friends, relatives and kids in the family.

Jijo George feels Christmas being the birthday of Christ the Saviour is a joyful occasion for the Christian community throughout the world.

"We clean our house, decorate it with Christmas tree, balloons, lanterns and colourful stars. We make a beautiful crib with baby Jesus." His family joins the carol singing at all houses of his parish before Christmas, prepare all types of sweets cakes and distribute them among his friends and neighbours. On December 24, the family wearing new clothes, attend the Christmas mass and then they partake of the

cake and after a little bit of merry making they return home.

## Celebration Time

On December 25, Christians greet one another merry Christmas, wear new clothes and visit each other. The high point here is the grand Christmas breakfast/lunch they all have with their near and dear ones. Traditional snacks like vattappam, palappam, chicken curry, tharavu curry etc. are prepared. Many Malayalee Christians cut the Christmas cake, plum cakes and dry fruit cakes being popular among them. Mumbai items like marzipan, nankattai, fudge etc are also in demand among Malayalee youngsters.

"After we come back home from mass, we exchange sweets and gifts, visit and wish our relatives and friends a Merry Christmas. Our non-Christian friends also greet us and we give them Christmas sweets and gifts. On Christmas day we have a sumptuous lunch of traditional dishes," Dr Aprain says.

According to Alice Therattil, "exchanging gifts and cards is an important part of Christmas festival. Children in particular, enjoy the festival the most as they get to participate in the native plays and Christmas carnivals conducted by schools or socio-cultural clubs. They also receive gifts from their favorite Santa Claus. The festival of Christmas celebrates not only the birth of Jesus Christ but also conveys his message of love, tolerance and brotherhood. It is a celebration of humanity and mankind. Though Christmas is a primary festival of the Christian calendar it has a special significance in everyone's life."

Jijo George states that the whole week from Christmas up to January 1 is celebration time when friends and relatives visit one another and host parties and Christmas balls. Christmas songs are played in all homes. Marriages very often take place during this time. Anthony sums up the festival of Christmas when he says, "December is the blessed month of cakes and candles, snow and songs, carols and joy and above all laughter and love."



# Significance of Christmas

Windows are decorated with stars! Walls are decorated with the images of Christmas tree and Santa clause! All are in a hurry to reach their Christmas cards to the beloved ones! Yes, once again the joy, happiness and the spirit of Christmas envelop us and we all are getting ready to welcome Infant Jesus to our homes and hearts.

I was fortunate enough to witness some of the Syro-Malabar Catholic traditions as I grew up. Children and Youth have got very special spiritual preparations to welcome infant Jesus into their hearts. One among many is "Making the Dress for the Infant Jesus". Just like a pregnant lady waits for the birth of her child by weaving and stitching dress with her own hands, small children and youth prepare a "Spiritual Dress" to gift to the Infant Jesus at Christmas Night. This dress is made by the little virtues of love and charity towards others, and by accepting willingly the simple sacrifices of daily life. Marking them very carefully on a calendar, on 24th midnight they will have their "Spiritual Dress" ready for the Infant Jesus, which would be decorated with their virtues and sacrifices.

During this season elders abstain from the favorite likings of their life, especially from items like meat, fish, milk etc. This is aimed at gaining virtues and defeating evil inclinations from one's life. Some elders attend spiritual retreats. Thus with a special thrust on the interior renewal all will wait for the most important moment, 24<sup>th</sup> midnight. In the Syro Malabar liturgy for the Christmas Mass, there exists the ceremony of "Warming of Neonate Jesus". After the birth of the Infant, the whole congregation would move out of the church with the statue of Infant Jesus and shows it to the flames of the fire prepared in the church courtyard. Flames of fire symbolizes the flames of love. This ceremony means that, the warmth of

our love must protect the neonate from the chilling winter of December.

There is also a candle light procession during the midnight services. This is the moment when the Church proclaims the coming of the true Light of the World (Jn 1:9), he is the Light of our lives and families. After the Midnight Ceremonies everyone exchange Christmas gifts, and participate in the special Christmas meal, when all break their abstinence.

Together with external celebrations, let us also make a deep interior spiritual transformation. Permit Christ, God incarnated, to permeate into your life and fill you with true Joy, Peace and Happiness. Often we see power lines running across the streets... Unless current flows through them there is no light. The power line is YOU and I. The current is GOD. We have the power to allow the current to flow through us and thus generate the light of the world: Jesus, or to refuse to be used and thus allow the darkness to spread... Christmas is at our door... So this Christmas are we ready to receive the Light of the world into our hearts and radiate this Light to the corners of the world?



**Father Shaiju Kattayath**  
Vice Rector, St Thomas Minor Seminary,  
Diocese of Kalyan

# The Message of Christmas

Jesus was born to Mary and Joseph more than two thousand years ago in Bethlehem in Palestine.

Christians believe that Jesus is the messiah of peace to the world, opening the doors to new hope and eternal life. Christmas is one of the most important times of the year, when the story of a child born in a humble manger in Bethlehem is shared and celebrated in churches and homes throughout the world. Christmas is a time of wonder and joy, of generosity and peace that brings family and friends together in



Dr Oommen David and his family



*Wish you a Merry Christmas &  
Happy New Year*



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celebration and song. The arrival of Christmas season holds a special promise for those yearning for love, hope and peace.

The birth of Christ reveals how God so loves each and every one of us that He sent His only Son to take up all human sorrow and pain on the Cross and transform it into eternal life in the Resurrection.

The message of Christmas is the triumph of life, goodness, and love over death, evil, and hate.

Christmas means the coming of peace between men. If we could simply imbibe the spirit of Christmas, there would be no more war or strife or hostility between us and other fellow-humans. If we could simply grasp the meaning of Jesus' life, we could eliminate the hatred and cruelty that exists between people. Jesus calls us to help others, and acts of kindness toward the less fortunate fulfill the spirit of the Christmas season.

Christianity is a way of life. Christmas should not be confined only to celebrations. Christ should be born in the hearts of every Christian which in turn will modify his attitude towards life.

This Christmas let us remember those who are without their loved ones, the poor and the helpless. May they experience peace, and may they find hope.

**Dr Oommen David**  
Director Holy Angels' School &  
Jr. College, Dombivli

# Christmas Nostalgia

## P J Mathew

Those days we looked forward to the festivals during Christmas time which brought us new clothes, special dishes and Church visits. Belonging to the village Karumadi between Thakazy and Ambalapuzha, Christmas was an important festival for us and we celebrated the same with abundant joy with family members. The important ritual was walking to the well-lit and decorated Church for the mid-night mass and attend the service. The crib with Infant Jesus was the center of attraction for kids like us. We used to be mesmerized by the Choir singing and the Decorations. Around 2 am in the morning we used to walk back home wishing each other with joy and warmth.

Another memory that still lingers in my mind is the myriads of chootukettu (bunches of lighted dried coconut husks) carried by the people going to and returning from the church.

We also used to have sumptuous breakfast of palappam, puttu, idiappam etc with gay abandon.

## Dr P J Aprain -

It gives me great pleasure to share nostalgic memories of my childhood celebrations in my small village Muttar, Kuttanad Thaluka, Kerala. We sang Christmas Carol songs wishing Peace, Goodwill to each and every house from 6.30pm



P J Mathew and his family

to midnight, some days up to 2am enjoying with great involvement, commitment and dedication in singing with a large group for a week long period.

Christmas trees and crib with Baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph, shepherds and kings, angels and little stars adorned all around the village and looked beautiful. We used to get excellent snacks and dinner every night. On Christmas night after church service, there were games and gifts near the Christmas tree in the Church. All this gave us a great thrill! We children played here for a long time on Christmas eve and our families went home thinking we were with them. I

remember the times when sometimes I was left alone, and then I used to run across the Church and cemetery in fear, singing loudly to dispel my fear. By then the entire family would have realized I was not there, and someone would be sent towards the Church in search of me. I can never forget this incident.

Sumptuous breakfast with duckroast and appam/stew at 1am with my family - all this was very exciting! New clothes for all and the joy of Christ the Saviour being born are my unforgettable childhood memories.

Those days the village as a whole celebrated Christmas with participation of people from all communities. Our school was a great leveling ground. While we were enthusiastic about the temple utsavam, Hindus used to participate in the Christmas celebrations. People were broad minded.



Dr P J Aprain and his family

## Anthony Moyalan

In my childhood, we would make stars with bamboo sticks and kite paper. When all the children were busy making the stars and crib, the mothers and daughters of the house were busy cleaning up the house and preparing delicious dishes.

A few days before Christmas, we went for Confession (repenting and confessing our sin). This was an auspicious way to begin Christmas celebrations.

On the eve of Christmas day, all the altar boys and the church choir boys assembled in the church at around 6 pm and sang carols.

Thereafter we proceeded with lanterns in hand, to all the Christian home belonging to our church, singing traditional Christmas Carols like Unnipirannu Bethlehemil....., Varunnu Mangala Sandheshavumai..... Yesu Maha Rajan Ezhunnelli..... etc. We Carol Singers returned to the church as the church bell rang before commencement of midnight mass. The holy mass was conducted in a special way by the parish priest.

After midnight mass, all the carol singers continued singing carols and going to the rest of Christian homes. We would sing into the wee hours of the morning and return to our home tired; but filled with the joy and spirit of Christmas. After refreshing ourselves, we joined our parents, brothers and sisters for delicious breakfast of traditional sweets, bread with fish molly or appam with Chicken stew and from then on, it was spending time with family members, playing, having fun and feasting on delicious dishes all which gives traditional touch to the celebration of the Christmas.

Every year during Christmas, I think of those days of my childhood with great nostalgia.



Anthony Moyalán and his son Dominic, son-in-law Dinu Mathew, daughter Divya and wife Litty

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- 1 ഡബിൾ ഹോഴ്സ് ഇന്റസി പാലപ്പം മിക്സ് കലക്കുക
- 2 അപ്പച്ചട്ടിയിൽ ഒഴിച്ച് ചുറ്റിയ്ക്കുക
- 3 അപ്പച്ചട്ടിയെച്ച് വേവിക്കുക

**പാലപ്പം റെഡി**

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# Christmas Then and Now

Nisha Gilbert, a Bharatanatyam dancer, recalls her Christmas celebrations when she was a child and how her family celebrates the festival today.

Christmas, that beautiful holiday season and a mere mention, conjures up memories of chocolate flavoured cakes, decorated Christmas trees, laughing and pot bellied Santa Clause, busy amma smilingly making those delicious vatteppam and vellappam for a large joint family, happy and excited kids, the big 5 pointed stars, the preparation of the crib representing the characters at the time when Jesus was just born and the lovely red colour of the season spreading its magic and embracing each and everyone with the message of peace and happiness. Christmas seems to be getting better and exciting with each passing year and as I go through life's phases from being a studious kid, to a young college student, to being a young bride and now a mother of 2 lovely kids, the flavours of celebration are getting more varied and pleasantly different.


Christmas during my growing up days in Kerala was such a wonderful occasion, especially when you were part of a large joint family and ruled by a strong willed but a loving Great Grandfather. I remember being thrilled to wear a new dress and standing in front row of the carol group and it was so exciting to soar your voice as the crescendo would reach its highest pitch during the last song of the midnight Christmas Mass Celebrations at Church. The day also provided for a good occasion for the family to celebrate and come together towards a joint purpose of decorating the house and preparing the grand afternoon meal. A big meal given that all the elders would have just completed the 25 days fast of the Advent. Workers working in the fields would be invited as well to partake in the meal and there would be so much of joy and smiles in all our hearts.

Christmas in Mumbai with my darling kids, my loving husband, my graceful in-laws and my fun loving friends continues to be a joyous event. The most happening event of the day is my son lead singing the carols in the Church during mass. My daughter Nupur would be seen



Nisha Gilbert


directing her father on the finer nuances of decorating the house and both are usually busy spreading, hanging, sticking the silver, the golden and red coloured decorative items around the house and on the tall Christmas tree. As it nears 7 pm on Christmas Day, I will be getting excited as a small group of friends start streaming for a party in the simmering lights of the candles, the subtle glow reflected from the brass statues and from the small twinkling Christmas tree lights. Christmas day is going to come soon and preparation is already underway to welcome Jesus into our hearts and home.



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 <b>Jonelle</b> 91.27% Divine Child	 <b>Narayan</b> 91.09% M.E.A.	 <b>Nikita</b> 90.55% M.E.A.	 <b>Candida</b> 90.55% Divine Child	 <b>Abimon</b> 90.36% St. John

M R FRANCIS

# FROZEN FOOD EXPERT

- Lakshmi

M R Francis is an experienced person in the field of exports of frozen sea foods, known for its quality and in great demand in the overseas market.

**S**tarting his career in Mumbai as Production Manager M R Francis today is General Manager of Naik Frozen Foods Pvt Ltd, Director of Refrigerated Distributors Pvt Ltd and one of the partners of Nine Up Frozen Foods. M R Francis' career graph is impressive.

Hailing from Kochi, Francis' parents are the late M K Rockey and the late Philomena. He completed his education at Santa Cruz High School in Ochanthuruth in Kochi and Graduation in Botany from Maharajah's College Ernakulam. Francis did his post-graduation in Botany from St Albert's Ernakulam. Later he joined CIFT (Central Institute of Fisheries Technology) in Kochi for specialised training in seafood technology. As a young man he used to play football.

Francis came to Mumbai in 1976 and first joined Gujarat Fisheries. Since 1978 he is with Naik's Frozen Foods Pvt Ltd. and

Francis has always helped the less fortunate without any distinction of caste or religion.



M R Francis with his wife Kunjumol, son Prashant and daughter Priya

The family celebrates Christmas together. Sometimes they go to Kerala during Christmas. Mostly they take a vacation and go abroad. But they make it a point to attend the midnight Christmas Mass wherever they are. This year they plan to spend their Christmas in Kerala.



Receiving FMC Business Excellence Award from the hands of the Bishop



M R Francis and Nisar Naik, MD of Naiks Frozen Foods Pvt Ltd with overseas buyers at Seafood exhibition abroad.

today he is in a senior position in this group which is one of the leading exporters of seafood from Western India with five factories in Maharashtra, co-ordinating production, purchase and part of marketing and exports and with the managers of all the five factories.

M R Francis' company purchases from suppliers and deals with processing of sea food like fish, cuttlefish, shrimps etc and the frozen sea-foods are exported to the Middle East, the USA, U K and several other countries of the world. The company also caters to the seafood sections in supermarkets across the world. His company's products are of good quality and in great demand. Francis travels abroad often on official work.

Francis has won the Business Excellence Award from FMC (Fraternity of Malayalee Christians), and Jeevakarunya Award from Jwala Group of Publications.



Receiving 'Jeevakarunya Award' from Jwala Group of Publications



M R Francis felicitating Dr Bijoy Kutty at Raagalaya Music Award function



M R Francis and Kunjumol : wedding photo

Francis has one elder brother who retired as Principal from St Alberts' College and two younger brothers, one of whom passed away this June in Saudi. The other brother stays in Kochi. Francis has three sisters all married and settled in Kochi.

Francis married Kunjumol daughter of the late C A Joseph and the late Ruth Joseph in 1982. She hails from Kochi and came to Mumbai after her marriage. Kunjumol has two elder brothers and one younger sister. Kunjumol's hobby includes gardening and she nurtures a green garden at the open space in her house.

Francis and Kunjumol have a son Prashant who completed his BE (Chemicals) and MBA in International Marketing from Singapore and is currently working as Asst. Sales Manager in Marico Group of Companies. Their daughter Priya is doing her Final year MBA at ITM Kharghar specialising in Marketing. She has also learnt yoga from Dr Mohan's Yoga Institute at Chembur and practises and teaches yoga. Priya has also learnt Bharatanatyam for a few years.

The family celebrates Christmas together. Sometimes they go to Kerala during Christmas. Mostly they take a vacation and go abroad during Christmas. But they make it a point to attend the midnight Christmas Mass wherever they are. This year they plan to spend their Christmas in Kerala.

Francis has always helped the less fortunate without any distinction of caste or religion. He contributes for charitable activities and in his own way works for the welfare of society. ■

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year**

*Joseph Sebastian*

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# PARAPURATH AND HIS LITERARY WORLD

-Satyanath

Parapurath started his literary pursuits in 1950s. He was a keen observer of the society and many social anomalies he witnessed deeply affected him. Unlike his contemporaries Thakazhi and Kesavadev, he did not react to them violently but like an ordinary Christian silently watched and suffered.

**R**eligious divisions apart, caste system was strongly prevalent. Every religion and caste moved away from the other and inescapably observed the traditions. A vast majority of people had no right to enter the village office and the post office premises. Namboothiri men thought that it was their birthright to have an alliance with any Nair women and the latter in turn felt that it was the result of their good deeds in the previous birth. In villages, many children could not openly address their father overtly or covertly. Many Namboothiri women suffered in their own homes without finding a suitable husband and were forced to accept old men as their husbands since younger male progenies were not allowed to marry from their own community. Superstition ruled the roost. People of lower caste were not allowed to cover their nudity, grow and tend hair, use foot wear and even to cover their own houses with tiles. Before the upper caste, the lower caste had to address themselves in crude disrespectful terms. The crudity of the system could be gauged from the autobiography of Mannath Padmanabhan. People of Travancore suffered most in comparison with those of Malabar.

The social work done by the Christian Missionaries and the English education provided by them played an important role to make some change in this respect. The preaching of Sree Narayana Guru, Chattambi Swamikal and Ayyankali also contributed to the renaissance. The revolutionary changes brought out by the scientific inventions and the spread of revolutionary ideas of socialism and trade unionism acted



as catalysts. While Thakazhi and Dev vigorously and aggressively used their writing as a tool for social change, Parapurath could not do so mainly because of his link to the Armed forces where public writing was banned. By the time, he left army, his style of writing was widely accepted and the situation was not demanding as the climate had changed.

Parapurath could see and read the minds of the poor especially of his village Onattukara and most of his characters were drawn from there. During the forties, majority of the people were very poor and their life was miserable. The hoarders, black-marketers and money lenders amassed money and by virtue of it, became respectful. Even political leaders were under their influence. This way of life found reflections in

Parapurath's writings too. He did not treat it as a social evil but wanted to show how the poor are suffering because of it. 'Ninamaninja kalpatukal' and 'Pani Theeratha veedu' are covering this style of life extensively.

## Ninamaninja kalpatukal



The first novel was immensely popular. When his mother came to know its story, she asked him, how he could remember all those small things. It depicts the story of Mathew who joined army not out of

patriotism but of necessity to earn a living and he always thought of his mother, their poverty, his childhood heart throb Thankamma. She was lost to him because of the trappings of the village's new rich man but Mathew could do nothing to save her or to fulfill his desires. He was totally incapable and helpless. The various characters and their doings of this novel completely unravel the life of Central Travancore of that time, very realistically. Mathew was not an achiever but only a witness to all the happenings of that era.

## Pani Theeratha veedu

In the second novel, the hero is not a NCO but a military clerk. Jose joined army to get some reprieve from poverty. In this novel, the novelist etches his characters with great care and sometimes with a little bit of strong shades. When Thankamma was the love of Mathew, Jeevanthi was a girl who earned Jose's sympathy but

he was conscious of his limitations and could do nothing when Jeevanthi needed his interventions. Pani Theeratha Veedu also brings forth the changes man undergoes when his economic status changes. When Jose's uncle returned from Singapore with a little bit of money, he was contemptuous of his sister and her children. Jose was subjected to shame by his uncle when he approached the latter for financial help and this compelled him to shift to Malabar.

### Ara Nazhika Neram



Parapurath's classic 'Ara Nazhika Neram', (Many translated this title to 'Half an hour' but it is indeed 12 minutes as two and a half nazhika make up one hour) tells the story of Kunjenachan, who was on the wrong

side of 90. He is a widower and father of five children. Eldest son Kunhoma died early and the second son Philipose is a contractor and hence rich while the third son Keevareed struggles to make out a living. The fourth son Kunhu-cherukkan is also poor while the fifth Mathukutty is public spirited and always in demand. He has no time for the family but Kunjenachan likes him. His first wife died and her son joined army. His second wife Deenamma also had a daughter Santhamma. Though Kunjenachan lives with Mathukutty, he had to go to different son's homes for his daily food and often hears about their statements how much each of them spends on him. He hears what he did not want to hear, sees what he did not want to see and was killed when he thought that he had only half a 'nazhika' more to live.

Philipose has an illicit relationship with his maid whom his son Johny Kutty runs away with, leaving his mother insane. Keevareed did not want his daughter, a school teacher, to get married as the family dependent on her salary. One day she elopes with a man whom she liked. Kunhucherukkan's son Danikutty is involved in smuggling and he and his father get arrested for illegal activities. Deenamma was full of love and care for Kunjenachan but one day he came out of his room looking for

water to quench his thirst and what he saw inside his daughter in law's room was shocking. His beautiful daughter in law and mother of a teenaged granddaughter was lying intimate with Sivarama Kurup his friend and opium supplier. To save self reputation, Deenamma mixes poison with opium and fed the old man.

Parapurath has adopted the latest trend in literary circles. In those days, stream of consciousness, in his narration of this novel. The story moves forward through the sudden going back into the past of Kunjenachan and mixes with the stories in the Old Testament, to lay a strong base to the events of the time. Kunjenachan too had a very interesting young life and his games with the women and how he managed his wife along with them and justifying his actions using biblical tales, were quite fascinating. The story is gripping and gives a new dimension to the story telling. Though there were some more novels which used the stream of consciousness technique, none of them was as successful as this one.

Prof K M Tharakan describes 'Akasathile Parhavakal' (The birds of the sky) as a novel of epic proportions. What makes a novel of epic proportions? It needs to have the magnitude of life, depth, variety, complexity and fluidity. In his opinion, initially we had only two novels of this genre Ummachu and Sundarikalum Sundaranmarum, both by Uroob.

"We have many Christian novelists but none of them could transcend the spirit of Christianity like Parapurath," commends Prof K P Sankaran. "Suffer silently the pain; smile after



translating the sadness into a beautiful halo and earn the goodwill even of the enemies by bringing brightness with that smile. Such was the characters created by Parapurath."

### Anveshicchu kantethiyilla

It depicts the story of Susamma, the military nurse. Her father was not sure if she was his own daughter. Susamma lost her mother quite early and had endure the ill-treatment of her step mother and a suspecting father. To escape from the tyranny, she joins the army as a nurse. Parappurath draws her army career in great detail and tells us how she was disappointed with her life.

### Adyakiranagal

It depicts the life of a grama sevika, a new job created along with a new development department NES Block. Marykutty was looked upon by other women of the village as a loose character as they could not comprehend the work pattern of this young girl. Disregarding all disapproving comments, Marykutty moves forward and brings a new dimension to the village house.

This novel like the earlier ones was made into a successful movie by P Bhaskaran.

Though there are many more novels by Parappurath, none of them come to levels of the above mentioned. Parappurath had indulged in short story writing also but did not succeed as much as a novelist. ■

Wishing all Mumbai Malayalees  
a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year  
from Jacob Varghese



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It happened with-20

# Madhava Menon

**K**ozhippurath Madhava Menon was an acclaimed freedom fighter, minister from the Malabar region of the erstwhile Madras province and Congress President of Malabar Region. After independence, he became a minister under O P Ramaswamy Reddiar and P S Kumaraswamy Raja as CMs in Madras state. Towards the end of his political career, Madhava Menon became afflicted with diabetes and a wound on his leg remained unhealed for a long time. Subsequently the doctors



attending to him in the Calicut Medical College decided to amputate that leg to save his life. After the operation, Madhava Menon was very depressed and wanted to commit suicide. He complained

about sleeplessness at night and requested his attending nurse to provide him sleeping pills. To get adequate number of tablets, he started secretly storing them. When he felt he had enough tablets, he decided to commit suicide after supper. During evening visiting hours, Menon had a close friend K P

Kesava Menon as a visitor. Kesava Menon, on account of his cataract, was totally blind and both Menons had a hearty conversation for nearly an hour.

After Kesava Menon left, Madhava Menon started analyzing his plight. If a completely 'blind' Kesava Menon could come to 'see' him, why couldn't he pull on his life with a single foot, he asked himself. Thus the plan to commit suicide was annulled.

During a felicitation ceremony in honour of Kesava Menon, Madhava Menon himself revealed this incidence while addressing a sizable audience.

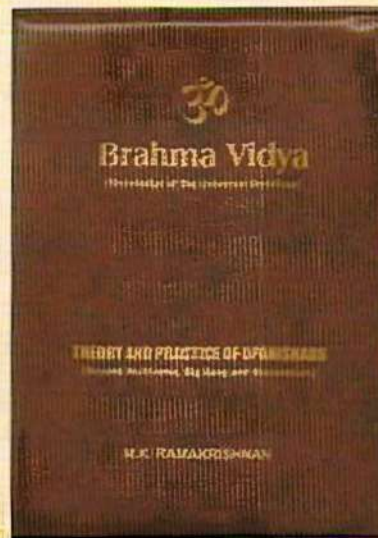
## Book Review

# A peep into the world of Upanishads

-Ashwati

**M**ost of the Hindus are interested in knowing what the Vedas and Upanishads teach them but do not pursue with an excuse that they do not have enough time or a good Guru. Some others pretend after a few discourses that they know about the Upanishads and there is nothing more to know. All of us are aware of the existence of Upanishads (though we may not know the exact number) but only a few of us studied them with the seriousness they deserve. Further, only very few understood the essence of their teachings. For others ignorance is bliss. When we realize that the wisdom that Upanishads collectively provided fifty centuries before the modern science evolved, we have no words to explain our ecstasy. It is now established beyond doubt that what our ancient wisdom gave us though without empirical proof but with elaborate examples are invaluable gems.

The author of Brahma Vidya Theory and practice of Upanishads, Dr M K Ramakrishnan is a graduate in Mathematics, postgraduate in Statistics and also had a doctoral



degree in the same subject from The Indian Statistical Institute, one of the coveted institutes in the world. He served four foreign universities besides Indian Statistical Institute and Kochi University of Science and Technology as professor before he retired in 2000.

Dr M K Ramakrishnan delved into the vast ocean of Vedas and Upanishads during a period of 18 years and came out with pearls of knowledge and wisdom for his readers. During those years, he

dissected those granthams and came out with his book Brahma Vidya. Every mantra he chose from each of the 108 Upanishads he explains in a lucid manner. To the initiated into Mathematics and Science such as Physics and Chemistry, he uses their principles and makes them understand them better. To the uninitiated, he has plenty of examples from our life. It is a commendable effort from the part of Dr Ramakrishnan to elucidate the priceless principles governing the human body and mind, and to take his readers into a new higher plane. It is tough to provide the salient features of the book in a limited space. It would be enough to state that Swami Paramarthananda of Chennai has written a Foreword to this book. It is often said that the best proof of the pudding is to eat it. [Brahma Vidya (Knowledge of the Universal Umbilicus) - Theory and Practice of Upanishads (Beyond Multiverse, Big Bang and Biocentrism) by M K Ramakrishnan. Published by the author and price unspecified. Library edition and pages 290. For information, call on 98336 77968]

Dr. Verghese Kurien

# A VISIONARY AND HIS DREAM

"I too Had a Dream" is a biographical account of Dr. Verghese Kurien, the architect of the 'White Revolution' in India, as told to Gouri Salvi.



K. R. NARAYANAN

■ I have been reading this Lotus Collection (Rolly Books series) publication again and again during the last few years. The reason for my continuous 'revision' of the book was a piece

of news, which said that a few giants of the film world were contemplating to bring the "success story of the milkman and his co-operative of Anand (Gujarat)" to the celluloid. If so, I thought, it would be the second time that the White Revolution of India was being pictured. For, as early as 1976, Shyam Benegal had already portrayed the success story of the milk producers of Kaira (Kheda) through his film "Manthan". It was a low budget film and cost only Rs.10,00,000 at that time. Girish Karnad, Nassiruddin Shah, Smita Patil, etc. co-operated and performed very well in this film. It was a grand success both as a commercial movie and a documentary as well.

My sentimental attachment to the para-agriculture sector of the then Kaira/Kheda District (present Nadiad and Anand Districts) of Gujarat, where I had spent some of my formative years, was another reason for my frequent reading of this work very many times. There were many persons from the bureaucracy, politics, NGOs and the co-operative movement known to me in this memoir. The familiarity with this district of Gujarat, its socio-economic environment and the persons involved in the movement made the reading very enjoyable. (I had opportunities too to design some specific rural area -based projects for this region and also to attend many of the Tribhuvandas Patel Foundation meetings in those days). I very often feel that many issues dealt with in this



Dr. Verghese Kurien

book deserve to be made known to the young and old generations of our country. Hence I thought I would share some of the interesting aspects dealt with in this book on Dr. Verghese Kurien, his "Amul", the Operation Flood, and the White Revolution.

## The Employee of the Farmers

Dr. Verghese Kurien needs no introduction. He is the most democratic citizen of India, who firmly believed that the national assets belonged to the rural population of the country and the politicians, bureaucrats or monopolists did not

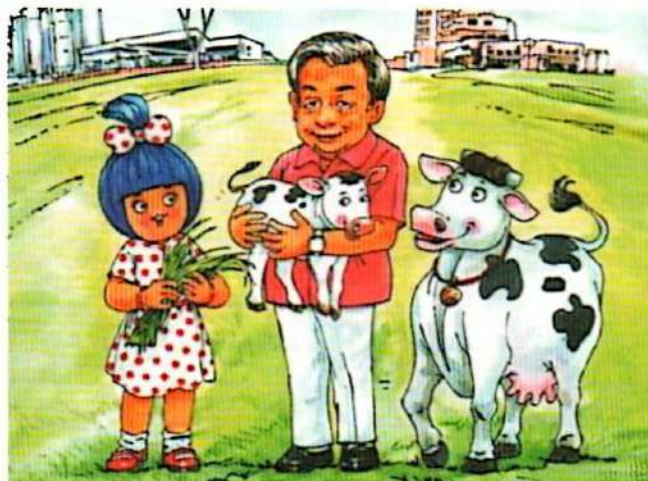
have any right to tamper with them. In view of this, he was adamant and stubborn, when he fought for the villagers' rights.

This greatly misunderstood technocrat of India was deadly against red-tapism and politicization of any economic or development activities. He very well knew the games played by the overseas powers, who always wanted the underdeveloped countries remain economically dependent on them, and fought with such tendencies fearlessly. In spite of this, he admired the efficiency, sincerity and the pragmatism of some of the self-less politicians (like late Sardar Patel, Shri. Lal Bahadur Shastri and the like) and sincere civil servants of the country, who really wanted the country to progress and become self-sufficient.

"A true visionary, Dr. Kurien built a series of institutions, which made India the world's largest milk producer, developed a logistic chain to produce and deliver hygienic and nutritious milk to the millions and created the world's biggest food marketing business and the country's largest food brand. He enabled India to nearly double its per capita milk availability and made India's dairy industry the largest employment provider..... One cannot help but wonder what India would be today, if we had a thousand Dr. Kuriens, with

this type of vision and with similar commitment, dedication and national spirit.....", observed Mr. Ratan N. Tata, the former Chairman of the Tata Group of Companies about Dr. Kurien and his crusade for the rural sector enforcement, in his Foreword in the book on Dr. Kurien titled "I too had my dreams".

Verghese (as he was christened) was the grand nephew of Cherian Mathai (Mathai Master) of Thrissur. Cherian Master was a well-



known Director of Public Instruction in the erstwhile Cochin State and his younger brother Dr. John Mathai was the Finance Minister in Nehru's cabinet, Director of Tatas and Vice Chancellor of many Indian Universities. Verghese's father (Dr. Kurien) was a Physician in Ernakulam (Kochi). Brought up in Kozhikode, Kurien studied Physics from the Loyola College, Madras (Chennai) and did his post graduation in Physics. Also he completed PG in Metallurgy from the Michigan State University (USA). But very few people knew that he never studied Dairy Engineering, Veterinary Sciences or Live-stock Management, wherein he excelled in the later part of his life.

He bagged a Govt. of India scholarship in Dairy Engineering (when he was working as an engineer with the Tatas), though he desired for Metallurgy or Nuclear Physics. His selection for Dairy Engineering was in spite of his replying the Interview Committee, "Pasteurization? I do not know the process, but I think it has something to do with sterilization of milk". Nonetheless, after his training abroad, he had his posting in the Government Creamery in Anand (then in Kaira District), in the then multi lingual Bombay State.

He used to help Tribhuvandas Patel (the Sardar's trusted and chosen lieutenant for social works in Kheda), due to their close friendship, in the organization of co-operatives for milk producers. When he decided to leave the job in the Government Creamery in Anand and was preparing to go to Bombay, Tribhuvandas prevailed upon him to stay back and help the former to organize the milk producers' co-operative in Kaira. He stayed back (honoring the request of his friend), started a dedicated life living in an old garage on a paltry sum as salary. He resigned from the Govt. of India and joined Kaira District Co-operative Milk Producers' Union (now Amul), inspite of very lucrative offers from Bombay. The rest of his life is history. He rose to become the Chairman of the Dairy Development Board (NDDB), Chairman of the Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation, Chairman of the Institute of Rural management (IRMA) and Chairman of the National Co-operative Federation of India.

Dr. Kurien was honored by many all



over the world. He received countless awards including the Ramon Magsaysay Award (1963), Wateler Peace Prize (1986), World Food prize (1989), Padma Shri (1965), Padma Bushan (1966), and Padma Vibhooshan (1999)

### The Country's Gains

"At my age, one does not really have a future. One only has a past" said Dr. Verghese Kurien to a journalist, when asked what were his future plans, about a few years before his demise. And history proved Kurien's past was really glorious in the transformation of poor rural farmers of the country to powerful milk producers and marketers. "Our greatest national resource is our people and too often have we neglect this resource", felt Dr. Kurien. The Amul or the Kaira Co-operatives or the Anand pattern of co-operatives have demonstrated, with out doubt, that the biggest asset of India is its people.

He brought in a revolution in



producing, procuring, value adding and marketing milk the White Revolution. His novel ideas of promoting the co-operativization in the milk production and distribution system, with the backward and forward linkages the Amul Pattern and its nation wide duplication Operation Flood were all grand successes and enhanced the milk production and consumption in the country to unimaginable levels.

The country is now self sufficient in so far as its requirement for whole milk, milk powder, baby feed, milk-based value added food (like Butter, Cheese, Chocolates, Ice creams, Srikhand, etc.). We are no more depended on the imports from Australia, New Zealand or Scandinavian countries for our needs. On the contrary, we have risen to the level of competing in the international markets. In the domestic front, the milk production has grown to a healthy clip of about 5% during the last twenty and odd years. The milk availability per capita is 214 gm/day. About 66% of the rural households and 90% of the urban households in India consume milk. The per capita house-hold consumption of milk has increased to 23% and 15% in urban and rural areas in 1993-94. (It has gone up still further till 2010) The cost of milk production in India is 40% lower than the European Union and the USA. To top it all India is now the largest milk producer in the world

The World Bank (1998) brought a report on the impact of the dairy development in India and its own role in the same. At its investment of INR 200 crores, the net return to India's rural economy was a massive INR 24,000 crores each year over a period of ten years! Certainly no other development Programme, either before or since, matched this remarkable input-output ratio.

Dr. Kurien passed away, in 2012, at the age of ninety one, in his Karma Bhoomi in Nadiad/Anand. He has left behind an invaluable milk industry and an effective rural resources management and development system, which brought great laurels to the country. We are often compelled to say: Wish we had more Kuriens in the country, rather than Babus and Netas! ■

Swadeshabhimani K Ramakrishna Pillai

# Passionate Patriot and Forceful Writer

Swadeshabhimani K Ramakrishna Pillai was a writer, journalist, newspaper editor and political activist of Travancore who used his pen as a sword.



V.N. Gopalakrishnan

■ K. Ramakrishna Pillai was the editor of a journal Swadeshabhimani published in Travancore and hence he is known as

Swadeshabhimani (The Patriot). His

severe criticism against nepotism and corruption through the editorials shook the rulers, which led to the confiscation of the journal and the press in 1910. Due to its criticisms against the government and P Rajagopalachari, the Dewan of Travancore, he was exiled from Travancore.

K. Ramakrishna Pillai was born in a Nair family named Thekkekod Veedu in Athiyanoor in Neyyattinkara Taluk on May 25, 1878 as the youngest son of Narasimhan Potti and Chakkamma. His father was a temple pujari. It is said that a patriarch of this family saved Prince Marthanda Varma from his enemies and when he became the Maharaja of Travancore, the family was gifted with 50 acres of land, 12-room mansion and certain privileges in the Krishna temple in Neyyattinkara. Ramakrishna Pillai was born in this family over a century later.

In January 1887, Ramakrishna Pillai joined the Neyyattinkara English medium school and later the Rajagiyamahapatashala (Royal school), Thiruvananthapuram. He got ample opportunities to read new books and newspapers here and visit new places. He passed matriculation at the age of 14. While studying for F.A. he used to read almost every newspaper published from Travancore, Malabar and Kochi states. He also started contributing articles and in the process gained friendship and guidance of many editors and literary personalities of that period including Kerala Varma



Valia Koil Thampuram, A. R. Rajaraja Varma, Ulloor S. Parameswara Iyer, Oduvil Kunji Krishna Menon and Kandathil Varghese Mapilla. He passed F.A. examination in 1898. He was supposed to join for BSc degree in Madras, but instead he joined for BA degree course at University

College, Trivandrum. During this time, Ramakrishna Pillai and other well-wishers felt the need of a Malayalam newspaper from Travancore. In 1900, two newspapers Kerala Darpanam and Vanjivibhujhika were started. Though his friends persuaded him to take up the editorship of Kerala Darpanam, his uncle Keshava Pillai objected and consequently, he had to leave his home. He struggled hard to cope up with his studies and the editorship. However, he passed B.A. in Malayalam in first rank and received Keralavaramamudhra, an honorary award for the excellence. Ramakrishna Pillai wrote against the ill customs and malpractices prevalent in the society. He challenged the society by marrying Nanikutti Amma, a lower caste woman from the Nair community and a relative of Parameswaran Pillai, the owner of Kerala Darpanam. In 1901, Kerala Darpanam and Vanjivibhujhika merged to become Keralapanjhika under the ownership of Marthanda Thampi. Ramakrishna Pillai continued to be its editor from 1901 to 1903. During this period, he travelled the length and breadth of Travancore to get first hand information about its people and their problems. In February 1903, he resigned from Keralapanjhika and continued writing in Nasranideepika and Malayali newspapers. In 1904 he settled down with his family in Kollam to serve as the editor of Malayali. He wrote editorials on the rights and duties of the people of Travancore. Vakkom Muhammed Abdul Khadir Moulavi alias Vakkom Moulavi founded the weekly newspaper on January 19, 1905, to spearhead the fight against corruption and to struggle for the democratic rights of the people in Travancore. He managed to import, directly from England the latest automatic flatbed printing press. The

College, Trivandrum.

Angered by the criticisms against the Dewan and the Maharajah, Ramakrishna Pillai's newspaper was confiscated and he was arrested by F.S.S. George, the British Superintendent of Police without even furnishing a warrant. The police escorted him till Thirunelveli in Madras which was under the British rule. Many Indian newspapers reacted against the confiscation of the newspaper and his arrest. Many newspapers in Kochi and Malabar offered him editorship, but he chose to remain in Madras.

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press operated from Anjuthengu, a British colony at the time directly ruled by the British East India Company. Ramakrishna Pillai took over as the editor in January 1906 from C.P. Govinda Pillai. Though Vakkom Moulavi was the proprietor, Ramakrishna Pillai was given full freedom in running the publication. They never had any legal or financial contracts between them but still, Moulavi provided him all financial assistance to set up a press.

After the death of his wife in 1904, he remarried Kalyani Amma with whom he had several literary discussions in the past. Ramakrishna Pillai also started a woman's magazine titled Sharadha, a student's magazine named Vidhyarthi and another called Keralan. P. Rajagopalachari, the Dewan of Travancore, was the centre of criticism through the newspaper. It accused that corruption had riddled the government of Travancore. His vitriolic criticism moved against corruption and injustice prevalent in the society. He also wrote against Sree Moolam Thirunal, the Maharajah of Travancore criticising the extravagant expenditure incurred for the construction of private palaces and public celebration of the wedding of his daughter etc.

Angered by the criticisms against the Dewan and the Maharajah, Ramakrishna Pillai's newspaper was confiscated and he was arrested by F.S.S. George, the British Superintendent of Police without



Swadeshabhimani Smaraka Samidhi is the trust formed in the memory of Ramakrishna Pillai. The Samidhi observes anniversaries of the banishment of Ramakrishna Pillai every year. Swadeshabhimani Ramakrishna Pillai Award is given for journalism every year by the Government of Kerala.

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Meanwhile, Ramakrishna Pillai passed B.L. degree and his wife B.A. degree in Philosophy. In 1912, he published the famous book on Journalism titled Vrithantha Pathra Pravarthanam. He also published biographies on Karl Marx and Benjamin Franklin. The biography of Karl Marx was the first in any Indian language.

In 1913, he contributed articles in Aathmaposhini and other magazines. In May 1913, the family returned to Palghat, after which he published his books titled Mannante Kannathu and Narakathil Ninnu. Ramakrishna Pillai wrote over 20 books which also include: Ende Naadukadathal, Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, Socrates, Pathradharmam, Christopher Columbus (Translation), Kerala Bhasholpathy, Delhi Durbar, The Deportation case of Travancore (English), Pratima, Kamandalu (dramas), Thookumuriyil, Thapthabashpam, Aa Deenarodhanam (stories) etc.

When his wife joined as a teacher

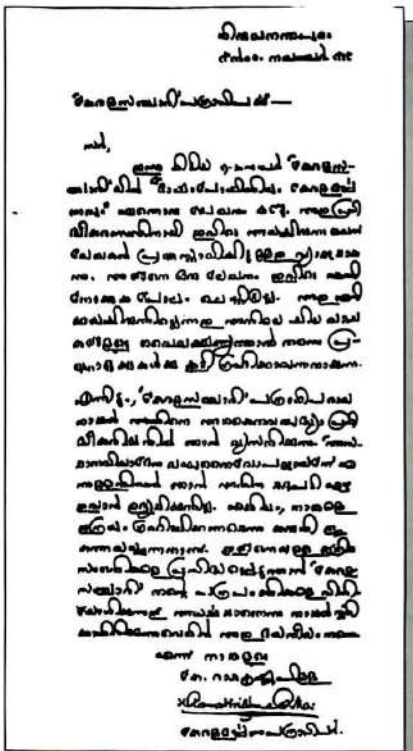
in a school in Kannur, he moved his family there. However, his health began to deteriorate during this period. On March 26, 1916, Ramakrishna Pillai passed away.



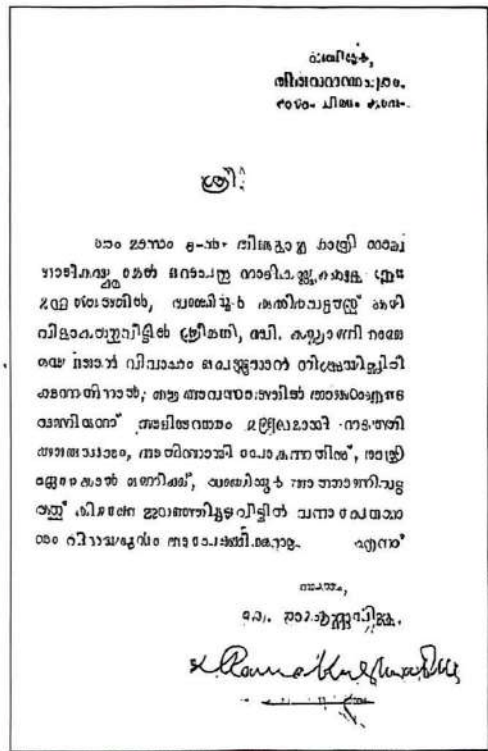
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After the Independence, the Government of Kerala returned the press to Moulavi's family and son Abdul Kadar in 1957. On January 26, 1968, E.M.Sankaran Namboodiripad, the then Chief Minister of Kerala presented it to the legal heirs of Vakkom Maulavi at a public meeting, 36 years after his death. ■



His handwriting



His invitation for his second marriage with Smt B Kalyani Amma



Shailaja Menon

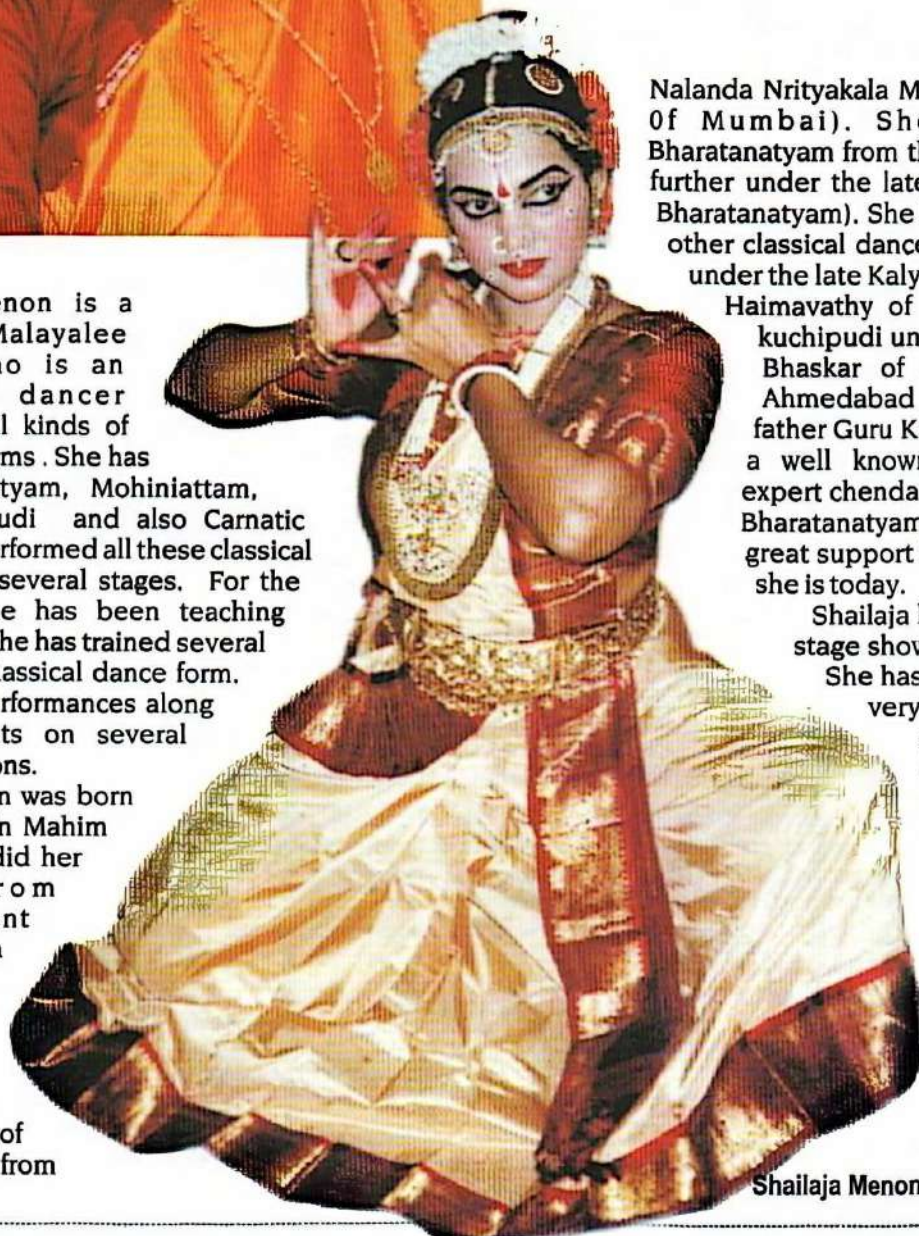
# Classical Dance Exponent

- Elvee

Daughter of the veteran kathakali exponent in Mumbai the late Guru Krishna Panicker and his danceuse wife Gowri Panicker, dancing runs in Shailaja's veins. In fact the entire Panicker family is one of dancers. Her sisters and daughter are also classical dancers.

**S**hailaja Menon is a Mumbai Malayalee artiste who is an accomplished dancer having learnt all kinds of classical dance forms. She has learnt Bharatanatyam, Mohiniattam, kathakali, kuchipudi and also Carnatic Music. She has performed all these classical dances forms on several stages. For the last 25 years she has been teaching Bharatanatyam. She has trained several students in this classical dance form. She also gives performances along with her students on several stages and occasions.

Shailaja Menon was born and brought up in Mahim in Mumbai. She did her schooling from Canossa Convent High School in Mahim and graduation (BCom) from Ruparel College Matunga. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree from



Nalanda Nrityakala Mahavidyalaya (University Of Mumbai). She started learning Bharatanatyam from the age of five. She learnt further under the late Guru Kittappa Pillai ( Bharatanatyam). She has also been trained in other classical dance forms like Mohiniattam under the late Kalyani Kutty Amma, and Smt Haimavathy of Kerala Kala Mandalam, kuchipudi under her sister Smt Radha Bhaskar of Mudra Dance Institute Ahmedabad and kathakali under her father Guru Krishnan Panicker who was a well known kathakali artiste and expert chenda player and her mother, a Bharatanatyam dancer, who has been a great support for making Shailaja what she is today.

Shailaja has performed various stage shows in and around India.

She has been performing from a very young age with her sisters. She has played key roles in several dance ballets like 'Shri Krishna,' Kalidasa's 'Megha-dhoot,' ballet on Lord Ayyappa and others composed by her father and staged all over India at educational, social, cultural and religious institutions.

Shailaja hails from Thiruvalla in Kerala. She has performed

Shailaja Menon



Shailaja performing Bharatanatyam, Mohiniattam and Kathakali

Kathakali at Sree Vallabhakshetram along with her family as an offering. Guru Krishna Panicker had founded Nrityaprabha, a School of Classical Dance and Shailaja is teaching and performing for Nrityaprabha.

### Family of Dancers

Shailaja's five sisters Prasanna, Radha, Rema, Ambika and Girija have all performed at Nrityaprabha. Shailaja is the youngest of them. Shailaja performs at Mookambika temple also every year as an offering.

Radha and her husband have founded and are running 'Mudra' a dance school in Ahmedabad. Rema living in Baroda, is a dance teacher and performer. Girija, her sister has settled in Thrissur recently. Her other sisters, Prasanna and Ambika are settled in Mumbai.

Shailaja along with Ambika is running the branches of Nrityaprabha at Canossa Convent and at her parent's residence, Tapovan, in Mahim.

Nrityaprabha has a branch at Charkop in Kandivali also. She is conducting dance classes at IES School Charkop Branch. She has to her credit several students who have completed their courses in Bharatanatyam under her guidance, participated in dance shows and competitions

and won prizes.

Shailaja's husband Pradeep Menon is encouraging and supports her in promoting this art form. Pradeep Menon works as Duty Manager for Cambata Airways (Pvt) Ltd and is a trade union activist looking after all the unions at the airport at Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, under the leadership of trade union leader, Sharad Rao. Pradeep Menon is also born and brought up in Mumbai. He hails from Ernakulam District in Kerala. Shailaja's daughter, Priyanka Menon, is currently doing her second year MMS (MBA) from Guru Nanak Institute of Management Studies (GNIMS) run by Khalsa College in Matunga. Priyanka has also given a number of stage performances and has the humility to learn in a spirit of devotion and dedication. She performed her arangettam on January 9, 2011 at Bhaidas Auditorium

Vile Parle. The function was graced by Smt Shradha S Jadhav, Mayor of Mumbai and other dignitaries. Priyanka presented Kalidasa's Abhigyan Shakuntalam for her arangettam and apart from her mother Shailaja, she was trained specifically for the arangettam by her aunts Rema Srikant and Smt Ambika Viswanathan. Bharatanatyam is her forte but she has learnt western dance and salsa and has performed Bollywood numbers also on the stage at various functions. ■



Shailaja with her husband Pradeep and daughter Priyanka

SUDHA MENON

# 'LEGACY' OF LETTERS

Sudha Menon is based in Pune but she goes across the country now to give talks on personality enhancing subjects at corporate boardrooms, social clubs and of course college class rooms. Her latest book Legacy, she says, is inspired by her 21-year-old daughter. "Today's children have no set values to guide them unlike we had from our parents", she points out. She talks about her new book and the challenges she faced as a writer.



Sriprakash Menon

■ "For me it was more of a natural progression to become a writer after being a journalist for about 25 years. I grew up in a family where we treasured books.

The four of us siblings saved enough money to be able to buy books rather than buy toys. Ours was a family of extremely modest means but my parents made sure we read books and newspapers. I think if we read a lot, that in itself will propel us towards writing and expressing ourselves through words. So writing books happened to me very naturally", she explains.

In the mid 2011, "I started work on Legacy, a compilation of letters to their daughters from eminent men and women. This book's journey started as my own need to bridge the communication gap between my 21-year-old daughter and me. A gap brought about not because we don't care for each other but because of the huge change in the present day life style.

"My daughter Nayantara had grown up into a lovely 21-year old whose world is thickly populated with friends on Facebook, Whatsapp and every other social networking avenues possible. She has no time to look up from the various screens on which her eyes are riveted intensely even when I am with her



Writing Legacy has been a deeply moving experience for me because I have realized that reading my book has been the catalyst for several people who are reaching out to their parents and vice versa.

on a cherished two hours outing. I told her to treasure these moments with me because we never know when life steps in to disrupt our well-laid plans" Sudha reveals and says " I am worried that our children would have nowhere to go and no one to reach out to when they want to discuss a heart break, resolve a crisis at home or want to chat with a trusted elder. I remember the warm letters that my grandmother and grand aunts wrote to me while I was away from home studying to be a journalist. Those letters were full of homegrown wisdom, lessons learnt from lives well-lived, often against many odds and they taught me how to stand my own against problems of life especially when you are a woman. Unfortunately these days we don't write letters to our own children. We have become lazy to write to our own kids and share the benefit of the knowledge that we have garnered from our life experiences".

"Legacy came from my need to leave her a Legacy in the form of the collective wisdom of so many respected men and women who we all look up to in modern times. I am sure that reading Legacy will throw light on many of the issues that we face at some point or the other in our life", she observes. "I think there is no substitute for a handwritten letter from a loved one as you can get closest to someone even after they are gone from this world", she feels.

**How is the book reaching out to the people and its response ?**

"I am writing to you about 'Legacy' that I am reading. I can't put it away! I am so inspired reading those letters and especially so because they are written to daughters and I am a daughter and I think only a daughter can understand that emotional connect that she has with her parents, it's so instinctive and deep that my eyes well up even as I write these lines, it's such a feeling", a mother working with an NGO reacted.

The daughter found out about my book and mentioned it to her father who immediately sent her the book! "So every day since then I

have been reading it and after reading the very first letter I messaged my parents that I wanted a letter from them and they've both agreed to do so! I want to thank you for writing and compiling this book and bringing the parent and the human side of eminent personalities who seem so larger than life and distant otherwise!", she said. Writing Legacy has been a deeply moving experience for me because I have realized that reading my book has been the catalyst for several people who are reaching out to their parents and vice versa.

A few days ago a teacher at an engineering college in Cochin called me up to tell me that she was deeply influenced by the letters in Legacy and said she is planning to gift a hundred copies of the book to the girl's school in which she studied. She said it was the

perfect gift to give to young women on the threshold of a new life. For me it was a hugely humbling moment and I felt the book is touching a very important relationship at every level.

My first book, "Leading Ladies: Women Who Inspire India", too had a good response. A lot of women wrote to me about how it inspired and motivated them. I was surprised at how much impact that book had on the readers. It went into several reprints. Then paperback edition of Leading Ladies..... was out last month.

It is not the royalty that comes from selling a few copies more that matters for me but the great impact it is having on the readers. I am happy that I have been able to do something very valuable in life and bring about a positive change in the lives of people.

**How did you select the people/letters, which became part of your Legacy?**

It was simple, the parents would have to be people we all respect and people who have impacted the way we live our lives. Men and women who have written in the book have first changed their lives through great struggle and have gone on to apply those lessons they

learnt during their life time to bring about change in their area of work. The journey of writing this book in itself was a great learning process for me. While I had always watched the growth of the splendid men and women in this book from afar as a business journalist, meeting them and discussing their personal journey was more of startling discoveries. I discovered that behind the larger-than-life public persona are people like you and me who have the same preoccupations and concerns that we do. They care about their families, worry about their children and take joy in the simple things in life, just like we all do. Most of them were from modest circumstances. They were keen on going only one path - that was up, to pursue their cherished goals. Among the letters that excited me the most were those of Narayana Murthy, legal eagle Zia Mody and finance diva Renuka Ramnath.

**How did you manage to get those private correspondences and anecdotes for your book?**

It was not an easy task because these letters were very private and were kept away from the media glare. The bond which individuals share with other individuals are very sacred and personal especially that with their daughters. It was a challenge in convincing them that this book would be a guiding light for their own daughter and for others like her, so they opened their hearts out to me. The renowned painter Jatin Das said a letter to his daughter is a private thing and cannot possibly be in a book. I requested him to reconsider and it was only after his daughter, actor Nandita Das, requested him that he agreed to write a note to her. That letter turned out as one of the interesting parts of the book! Narayana Murthy's letter to his daughter, advising her to be not just a successful working mother but to also to be a responsible citizen of the world is a great message for all of us. So were the letters by Renuka Ramnath and top legal eagle Zia Mody.

**What's your next move, writing a novel or a non fiction ?**

I have been working on a novel for last four years now I am trying to finish writing it. No doubt my heart is in non fiction and real life stories. I am working on two non-fiction books as well. ■

The journey of writing this book in itself was a great learning process for me.

Reshma Krishnan is a young singer who has performed on about 200 stages in Mumbai and its suburbs and won several prizes during competitions held in school/college / state and national levels.

-KIM News Bureau

**F**rom a very young age, Reshma used to sing and she says her mother T V Thankamani is her inspiration. She later learnt Carnatic music for about six years and also Bharatanatyam from Guru Srinivasan and performed dance recitals and competitions where she won prizes.

Reshma was conferred with Kalatilakam title (Senior Group) in the All India level competition conducted by FAIMA in 2012 at Nerul and the award was given to her by the Oscar award winner, Rasool Pookutty in the presence of the renowned playback singer K S Chitra. Last year she won prizes for various categories like Singing (Malayalam,Hindi,English), Maapilappattu, Malayalam Recitation, Malayalam Reading) in the Malayalolsavam Competition conducted by Malayala Bhasha Pracharana

Reshma Krishnan

**GIFTED  
SINGER**





Reshma with her awards



Reshma with S P Balasubrahmaniam

Sangham. Reshma has also received Raagalaya Music Award from Dr S P Balasubrahmaniam.

In 2008, Reshma was selected for Kairali TV reality show Gandharva Sangeetham Junior where she received positive comments from the music Director, the Late Johnson Master, singer and music Director Srinivas, Mrs. Manjari and others. She secured second prize in singing

in the Platinum Jubilee Celebration during 2006-07 conducted by "Bombay Keraleeya Samajam". Reshma is doing her Engineering in Electronics branch at Pillai's Institute of Information and Technology, New Panvel. She hails from Kongini Tharavadu, Taliparamba in Kannur District. Her father Krishnan works as Electrical Engineer in BARC and her mother Thankamani is a house

wife. She hails from Payyanur and is a good classical Carnatic singer.

Reshma's elder sister Keerthi, also born and brought up in Mumbai, is settled at Taliparamba after marriage. She is married to Anand and they have a three year old daughter.

Keerthi is a classical dancer and has won several prizes in dance competitions. ■

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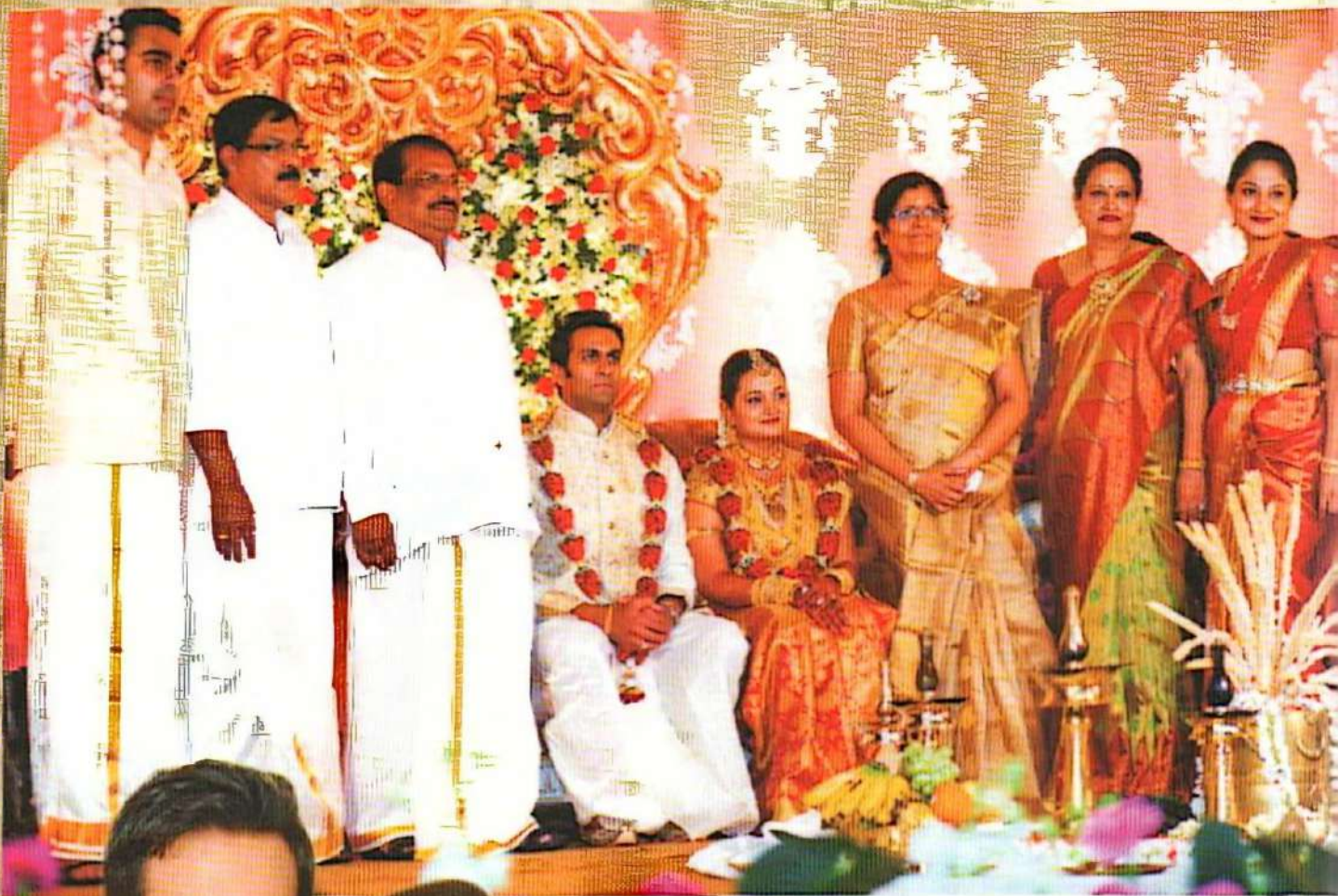


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# Wedding

**G R RATISH**, ( Captain JetAirways), son of G R Ratnakumar Manomani Ratnakumar married **SONIKA** (CA) , daughter of Surendran E K and Nirmala from Bangalore on 9th November at Le Meridien Hotel in Kochi. Several dignitaries like Legislator Assembly Speaker Karthikeyan with his family, Sreemathi teacher and M A Baby of CPM, RTI Commissioner Gunavardhan Gokulam Gopalan, Vincent MLA, Kerala Home Minister Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan's wife and son, Captain R. Mukesh, Devan, Jagadeesh, Kalabhavan Mani, Good Night Mohan from the film industry and many others were present at the wedding.

A grand Reception was held at ITC Grand Maratha Hotel Mumbai on November 17. Film actors Sreenivasan, Devan and others from the film fraternity as well as eminent personalities from the social and business field attended the Reception and conveyed their best wishes to the newly married couple, Ratish and Sonika.

G R Ratnakumar is an established builder and a partner of Galaxy Shelters, the other promoters/developers, being Ramachandran Nair, Kurian Zacharia, K P Anil Kumar and Jacob Oommen. The group is currently involved with a prestigious project Galaxy Towers of three bedroom apartments at Kakkanad, Kochi.





*Bliss...*



KALAMANDALAM SIVAN NAMBOODIRI

# Veteran Artiste of Koodiyattam

Kalakshetram Dombivli felicitated Sivan Namboodiri on his receiving the Padmashri Award 2012 for his outstanding service as a koodiyattam artiste.



Kunnam Vishnu

■ Padmashri Sivan Namboodiri stands out as a remarkable example of dedication, relentless determination and an all-encompassing love of the arts.

Born in 1950 as the son of the Late Ammankotu Manakkal Madhavan Namboodiri and Devaki Antharjanam, he found himself attracted to the dance-drama of Kathakali at the age of 14. Years later, armed with a passion to learn Kathakali under leading maestros, he ventured to do a course in the art form in Kalamandalam.

As luck would have it, life took a sudden turn when he was granted the opportunity to learn Koodiyattam under the distinguished guidance of the late Painkulam Rama Chakyar, the eminent thespian of the art form. The well-known art connoisseurs of the time, Kalamandalam Ramankutty Nair (Kathakali), Painkulam Rama Chakyar (Koodiyattam) and Kalamandalam Krishnankutty Poduval (Chenda) had ultimately found in the young man what they had been looking for 'a promising artiste of Koodiyattam.' Sivan Namboodiri enrolled himself at the Kerala Kalamandalam in 1965 for the six-year course as one of the two students of the first batch of Koodiyattam. Sivan Namboodiri is also credited for being the first person outside the Chakyar community to learn the art form of Koodiyattam, the ancient Sanskrit theatre of Kerala. Being a strict non-conformist by nature like his mentor Painkulam Rama Chakyar, he sailed



into the artistic arena with vigour, endeavouring to learn this ancient theatre form that was hitherto performed only by the members of the Chakyar community. After completing his six-year Diploma Course, he went on to do Post-Graduate Diploma course in Koodiyattam for two years followed by an advanced course under the scholarship of the Department of Culture, New Delhi. It took him ten years of intense training and perseverance to become a well-acknowledged, master practitioner of the art form.

Sivan Namboodiri's first performance after his arangetram was at Shanmukhananda Hall, Mumbai.

Sivan Namboodiri has also made his glorious presence felt in the stage of



Padmashri Sivan Namboodiri with Dombivli Kalakshetram members

Nangiarkoothu, the two thousand year old art form till then dominated by the Nangiars or the women folk of the Nambiar community. In addition to being the first - ever male performer of Nangiarkoothu, he is

also recognized for introducing certain innovations regarding the use of costumes and musical instruments in this age-old art form. In 1975, he joined the Kerala Kalamandalam in the Faculty of Koodiyattam as instructor. After retiring from Kerala Kalamandalam, he still continues his association with this premiere centre for learning performing art forms as its visiting professor. In January 2012, the nation honoured this outstanding artiste of Koodiyattam with Padmashri. He is also working as the visiting professor at the School of Drama (University of Calicut) since 1980.

An artist with an exceptional mastery over 'Abhinaya', Sivan Namboodiri is at complete ease with any mythical character he portrays. Whether it is the valiant prince Rama in Shoorpanakhangam or the handsome and spirited Arjuna in Subadradananjayam, his immaculate facial expressions and hand gestures bring out even the infinitesimal emotions of the characters with perfect artistry. Dressed in brilliant costumes, his Koodiyattam performances, no doubt, exude the same intensity, delightful vivacity and fiery radiance of that of his mentor, Guru Painkulam Rama Chakyar. The ten-headed demon Ravana in Jadayuvadhham is one of his favourite characters. His exhilarating performances are a visual treat for the aficionado of arts. ■

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# Delightful Foursome

**A**njali Institute of Bharata Natyam presented the debut performance by four talented children at the Mysore association auditorium, Matunga. The performance was noteworthy for the technical quality, fine synchronisation and considerable command over expressional dancing. The talented dancers who performed were Megha Pillai, Alisha Mali, Muveena Kumar and Unnati Agrwal, disciples of renowned Bharatanatyam exponent Lata Surendra. The programme commenced with the traditional invocatory numbers followed by the Alarippu that introduced the basic movements and attributes pertaining to the technique of Bharatanatyam. The Vasanta Jatiswaram was

sung well by vocalist Shivaprasad. The Kalyan Varnam, the most elaborate item of the Bharatanatyam repertoire, was especially choreographed to suit the age of the young dancers, as most of them were hardly ten or eleven years old. The theme was the universal mother or goddess and every child could relate to their mothers, so it was quite suitable and the expressions were naturally appealing. The dancers performed several items and concluded with the Kamas Thillana. The recital received fine orchestral support from Lata Surendra on nattuvangam, Shivaprasad for vocal, Nambisan for mridangam and violin by Ramachandra Sarma.

# Dance Trio

**N**rtyanjli Dance Academy(Thane) established by Lata Rajesh presented the Bharata Natyam debut performance of their senior most disciples at the Kashinath Ghanekar auditorium in Thane.

The debutant disciples of Guru Lata Rajesh, were Anupama, Amritha Nair and Gayatri Pillai. It was a visual delight to watch the trio performing with fine synchronisation and co-ordination.

The trio commenced with the traditional Pushpanjali and the Alarippu followed by Jatiswaram in Ragamalika that formed a fine synthesis of music, melody and varied movements that were danced to precision.

The most elaborate item of the evening the Valaji Varnam portrayed the Virahokantita nayika as she suffers from the pangs of separation from Lord Muruga and requests her sakhi to call him at once. The Kriti described and praised the Lord of Sabarimala known as Lord Ayyappan and the bhajan Shri Ramachandra, an extract from Tulsidas Sriramacharitrmanas, incorporated the grandeur and the beauty of Lord Rama. The trio concluded the



performance with the intricate Thillana in Mohana Kalyani. The dancers received fine orchestral support from Guru Lata Rajesh on nattuvangam, fine vocal support by Rajashrirvarshan, mridangam by Satish Krishnamurthy, violin by Ramachandra Sarma, flute by Raghavendra Baliga and ghatam by Vijay Dravid.

# Mira Road Sree Ayyappa Temple



Sree Ayyappa Temple, Mira Road

One of the famous Ayyappa Temples in Maharashtra is the Mira Road Sree Ayyappa Temple, situated at the heart of the town within Thane region.

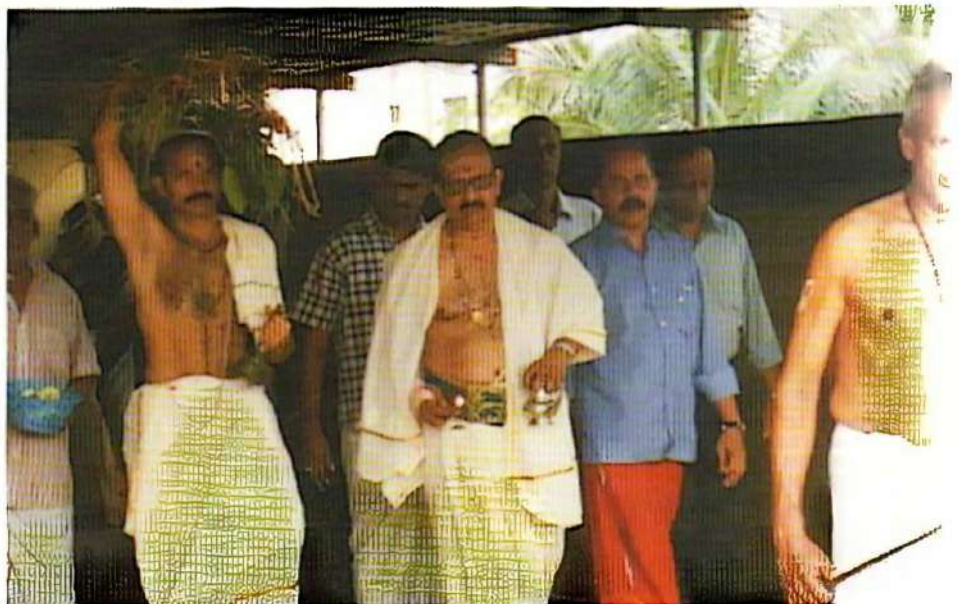
Mira Road Ayyappa Seva Samithi was formed in 1987 by a few devotees of Swami Ayyappa. On 17th January 1991 the Samithi got registered under the Public Trust Act 1950. The success of Mandala Pooja celebrations conducted every year led the Samithi to think about the construction of a new temple. After conducting Ashtamangalya Prasnam in 2000 under the guidance of Cheruvalli Narayanan Namboodiri, Kozhikode, along with vastu and construction supervised by Vastuniketan Jyotish Kozhikode, it was decided to make an abode to Lord Ayyappa. It was also decided that the temple should be built in a similar manner as the famous Temple of Sree Ayyappa at Sabarimala, with the holy eighteen steps and the idol of Ayyappa in the same Bhava and Roopa as the deity of Sabarimala Temple. Harshad Bhai Doshi of Unique Shantistar Builders and Developers donated a piece of land to construct the temple. With the blessings and guidance of Tantri Brahmashree Kantararu Maheswararu of Thazhamon Madom, the traditional Supreme Priest of Sabarimala Temple, Kerala the Stone Laying Ceremonies were

conducted in 2003 and on the auspicious Vijayadashami Day in 2004 the construction work of this temple was started. The temple was constructed identically similar to Sabarimala Lord Ayyappa Temple in Kerala and all materials including flag mast were brought from Kerala. The Prathishta of the Lord Ayyappa with Lord Ganesh and Durga was performed in 2009. All the Pooja functions are done as per the guidance of the Tantri. Dr Yagna Subramanian, an eminent citizen of USA has rendered invaluable services and contributions to this

temple. The temple bhajan hall is dedicated to Harshadbhai Doshi and Vysarpeedam is dedicated to Dr.Yagna Subramanian. The hall is used only for spiritual activities like bhajan and various homams, poojas etc. Some of the offerings include Ashtabhishekam for Lord Ayyappa, Ganapathy Homam, Muzhukappu for Devi and Ganpathy. Bhagavathy Seva is conducted every day in the temple during Karkitakam Month of Malayalam era. Bhajans are conducted regularly by devotees. Annadhanam is very popular here especially on Saturdays. The temple is open from 5.30 am to 9.30 am and from 5.30 pm to 9.00 pm from Monday to Friday. On Saturday, Sunday and Festival days the temple is open from 5.30 am to 11.00 am and from 5.30 pm to 9.30 pm.

## Programmes

The 27th Mandala Pooja celebrations will be performed on December 27, 28, 29 at the Mira Road Ayyappa Temple. On December 21, Namasankeerthanam by Mahesh Jayaraman and Party Mulund (West) will be conducted at 7.15 P.M. On December 22, double thayampaka by Ayyanthol Kannan, Kalamandalam Vivek and Party, Thrissur, will be held at 6 pm. ■



Gangadharan, Murali Thirumani, Veeramani Iyer, Santhosh Kumar, Balakrishna Mannadiar, Murali, Mohan Kurup during niraputhari in the temple.

# RAAGALAYA MUSIC AWARDS 2013

**A**s a part of the 10th Anniversary of Raagalaya Academy of Music & Arts, Raagalaya Light Music Competition will be held at Marol Education Academy, Bhavani Nagar, Marol, Andheri (East) Mumbai on 2nd February 2014 (Sunday) from 9.00 am onwards. As in the past, the competition will be held in six different age groups i.e. Group A (5 to 10 years), Group B (11 to 15 years), Group C (16 to 25 years), Group D (26 to 40 years), Group E (41 to 60) and Group F (61 and above).

Participants are allowed to sing light music /film songs from any language preferably Malayalam. A keyboard and tabla will be provided. Interested participants can contact Raagalaya office on 29209959 or log on to [www.raagalayamusic.com](http://www.raagalayamusic.com) to register their names. The participation certificate for all the participants and the cash prize along with the trophy for the winners will be given at the same venue at the end of each session.

## Malayalam Drama Festival

As a part of its tenth Anniversary celebrations, Raagalaya in association with Shri K D Chandran, is staging three Malayalam plays in memory of the well-known

dramatist the late Shri Rajan Kadannappally. The venue will be Marol Education Academy's Auditorium, Bhavani Nagar, Marol, Andheri (East). This year's festival consists of 3 popular Malayalam Dramas namely:

1. 'Divyabali' written by Paravoor George, directed by Rajendran Padiyoor and presented by Malad Mumbai Keraleeya Samithi will be staged on 19th January at 6.30 pm.'

2. 'Priyamanasam' directed by Vijayakumar and presented by Kalanjali Theaters, Chembur will be staged on 26th January at 6.30 pm.

3. 'Veerasingala' written by Balan Ayyampilli, directed by Rajan and presented by Mumbai Nattarangu will be staged on 1st February at 6.30 pm. This is a step to promote Malayalam dramas in Mumbai and more will follow in future.

Three veteran Malayalee Stage artistes of Mumbai, V V Achuthan, Anthappan and Smt. Mary Paul will be felicitated with Life Time Achievement Awards as part of Raagalaya Music Awards and KERALA IN MUMBAI Fourth Anniversary Celebrations to be held on 8th February, 2014, at the IES Manik Sabhagirha, Opp Lilavathi Hospital, Bandra West.



Rajan Kadannappally

## It Happens In The High Places

- Aquarian

**I**t is said that every News has some news behind it. They say it was so with the English News Bulletin of the Doordarshan as well, when it commenced in the early eighties.

The then Information & Broadcasting Secretary had very meticulously worked out the schedules for news bulletins in Hindi and English and, after verifying the convenience, of every political bosses, fixed the Hindi News Bulletin at 8.30 pm and the English News Bulletin at 9.00 pm. The Secretary (I&B) was delighted to receive great laurels and appreciation from all top bosses and he was very much happy that his new arrangement received great appreciation. But, somehow, he was a bit worried that

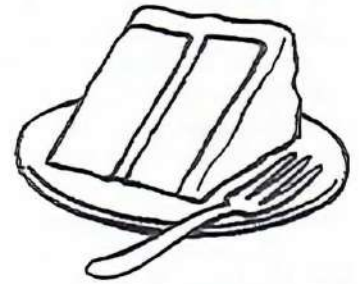
he did not hear anything about this, from his own boss, the Cabinet Secretary.

On the very next day, he indirectly hinted to his boss about the English News Bulletin that was regularly telecast at 9.00 pm and wanted to know if the boss liked it.

"Is that so? I never knew it," wondered the super boss. But, he also added "Look, I am at my dining table for dinner at 9.00 pm and do you want me to bother to see what happens in the television, during dinner?"

The message was very clear. And from the very next day English News Bulletins were aired only at 9.30 pm.

# RICH PLUM CAKE



## INGREDIENTS:

- 80 gms raisins
- 30 gms broken cashews
- 30 gms walnuts
- 120 gms tutti frutti
- 40 gms dry figs
- 40 gms dates
- 2 gms cinnamon
- 2 gms nutmeg
- 150 ml red wine
- 100 ml dark rum
- 100 ml beer
- 100 gms sugar
- 120 gms flour
- 2 eggs
- 20 gms mix fruit jam
- 120 gms butter
- 2 to 3 drops vanilla essence
- 5 gms baking powder..

## For the icing

- 1 egg white
- 2 gms cream of tartar
- 150 gms icing sugar

## METHOD

1. Cut the figs, dates and cashew nuts into small pieces and soak them along with the raisins and tutti-frutti in the rum, red wine and beer (this is normally done 20-25 days in advance so that the dry fruit absorbs all the spirits).
2. Cream the butter and sugar along with the vanilla essence.
3. Add in the eggs gradually mixing all the while.
4. Fold in the flour sifted with baking powder.
5. Mix in the soaked ingredients.
6. Grease a 1kg cake tin and sprinkle a little flour on the surface. Place a sheet of paraffin paper on the bottom.
7. Pour the cake batter into the tin and bake at 160° c for about 20 to 25 minutes
8. Un-mould and leave aside to cool down.
9. For the royal icing, make sure the egg whites are at

room temperature before beginning.

10. In a clean, dry bowl, place the egg whites, powdered sugar, and cream of tartar. Using a hand whisk, beat all together on low speed until combined.
11. Stop the whisk and scrape down the sides of the bowl. Beat the mixture on medium speed until very thick, shiny, stiff and white. This should take about 7-10 minutes.
12. Check the texture to ensure that it is suitable for your needs. If you require a stiffer icing, add a little more powdered sugar at this point.
13. Pour the icing on the cake and leave to dry
14. Any decorative pieces need to be put before the icing dries
15. The cake is ready to be served.

*Sudeesh Kumar, Executive Chef, Hotel Benzy Palace.*



Sudeesh Kumar with Parvathy Omanakuttan

# Sahitya Shilpasala



**Perumbadavam Sreedharan addressing the gathering**

**K**erala Sahitya Academy in association with Kairalyude Kakkakka quarterly magazine organized a Literary Workshop (Sahitya Shilpasala) at Odisha Bhavan, Vashi on November 23, 2013. The Shilpasala was inaugurated by Sakaria, renowned writer and Fellow of the Academy. Perumbadavam Sreedharan, President, Kerala Sahitya Academy presided over the Session. R. Gopalakrishnan, Secretary of the Academy welcomed the gathering. Akbar Kakkattil, Vice President of the Academy, Award winners of Kendra Sahitya Academy such as

Laxman Gaikwad and Leela Sarkar, Artist Bose Krishnamachari, Hari Narayanan, Editor, Pravasi Shabdham and Mohan Kakkanadan, Editor, Kairaliyude Kakkakka spoke at the inaugural session.

Sakaria stated that the writers should be on the side of democracy and secularism. He said that some writers are corrupting the society on behalf of some external forces. "The primary duty of a writer is to remain independent. If he is independent, the reader also will be equally independent", he said and added that true patriotism should be acknowledged.

Presiding over the function, Perumbadavam Sreedharan stated that the glory of the language should not be determined by its antiquity alone but by its literature and the literary works. He said that Malayalam could adopt any literary trends in any parts of the world. He added that the Academy is striving to reach to the Malayalees anywhere in the name of the language and literature.

R. Gopalakrishnan, Academy Secretary stated that Pravasi (Non-resident) Malayalees have identified Malayalam not only as a language but also as a culture and added that



the new generation should adapt to the new technology.

Akbar Kakkattil, Vice President of the Academy said that the people have reduced themselves to mere religious, casteist and political groups. He stated that there is scope for strong writings but they should be related to the people's life here. He added that writings here are recognized by those who take reading seriously.

Prof. Chandramathy, well-known writer inaugurated the Shilpasala, titled Pravasi Sahityavum Jeevitavum (Pravasi Life and Literature), which was presided over by Novelist Balakrishnan. Prof. Chandramathy urged the need for preparing a history of Mumbai writers and appealed for mutual encouragement of writers. Dr.



Tamil, and Marathi-Gujarathi poets had better communications. He said that Malayalam poetry was stronger when it progressed with social movements. However, the number of poets is increasing now which is a hopeful sign.

Manoj Menon, K.V. Maniraj, Santhosh Pallassana, Swapna Nair and Ashish Abraham recited their poems. The reaction from the participants of the Workshop was that quality of poems did not meet with their expectations. However, everybody appreciated the Academy's efforts in organizing such a Workshop in Mumbai after a long gap. N.Sreejith proposed a vote of thanks.

Shomur Kartikeyan, Dr. Ajitan Menoth, Dr. Venugopal and Rajendran Kuttoor spoke on the occasion. Sachin Ketkar, Marathi writer while referring to contemporary Marathi poetry, stated that when revolutionary changes are being taken place in the field of communication, interaction between different languages and cultures is on the wane.

P.B. Rishikesan presided over the Poetry Session and Prof. E.V. Ramakrishnan spoke on the Evolving sensibilities in modern Malayalam poetry (Naveena Malayala Kavithayile Bhavukatwa Parinamam). He emphasized the need for more lively interaction between Malayalam and Marathi writers. He said that there was a time when Hindi-Urdu, Malayalam-



# Sketches of Kerala



Participants of 'Sketches of Kerala'.

■ Sketches of Kerala' is an artistic form conceptualised and presented by 'Stage India' and 'Srishti', in which various art forms are depicted linking the history of Kerala. It is devised as a sightseeing trip of a tribal couple living on the Western Ghats, going to Kerala. It is a fusion of music and dance. The tribal couple is shown in Kathakali attire. The danseuse they meet on the way is appearing as in Mohiniattam. The latter shows the

couple various aspects of Kerala, such as its traditions, rituals and art forms.

An interesting aspect of the narration is the way the narrator goes around the fable of Parasurama and Vamana, the latter incarnating much before Parasurama. The creator Anil Poduval invents a new logic and tells us that after the Vamana episode, the land now known as Kerala got submerged in the sea and Parasurama reclaims it during his

time. Farming, Onam, Kuravan couple, oracle, Pana couple, Mudiattam, Kalari, boat race et al find their space in this art form. It is to be admitted that Stage India and Srishti have succeeded in their attempt. Anil Poduval is ably supported by Krishna Mohan, Tara Varma, Srikant Nair and Vinayan and about 30 artistes. The programme was performed on several stages during this Onam season.

## Bharatanatyam Recital

■ Shreedevi Manivannan, a Ph.D. scholar and disciple of Smt. Sushama Gopinath performed her first solo Bharatanatyam Recital at the Ayyappa Temple, Nerul on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Navarasa Dance Academy.

Shreedevi, daughter of Smt.Thankam Warier and I K Warier blends multiple roles of a daughter, wife, mother, academician and Training Consultant with ease and still finds the time to pursue her passion, which is Dance. Her biggest support comes from her husband Manivannan and her son, Sushanth who is her ardent fan. She performed her Bharatanatyam Arangetram in June 2012 under the guidance of her Guru Smt.Sushama Gopinath. She received her initial training in Bharatanatyam from Smt. Mallika Valsalan and now continues to learn both Mohiniattam and advanced Bharatanatyam under Sushama Gopinath.



Shreedevi Manivannan

## Mumbai Bhajanotsavam

■ To augment the fund resources, Sharanadhara Trust is venturing into a Mega Bhajanotsavam titled as "MUMBAI BHAJANOTSAVAM" from 30.1.2014 to 2.2.2014 at Agri Sabha, Subhash Road, Dombivili (W). There will be free Medical and Health check ups at the venue. The programmes include thodaya mangalam/ guru keerthanam by Bombay Hari and party (Matunga), namasan-keerthanam by Srinivasan and Party (Borivli), Manjapra Mohan and Party and several other well known artistes. Further details of the various programmes on [www.sharanadhara.org](http://www.sharanadhara.org).

# Kilikkoodu

■ Malayalam Mission of Thane Zone organized a Malayalam Camp titled 'Kilikkoodu' in Hiranandani Estate Club House from November 12 to 14. The co-ordinator of the camp was the Thane Zone Chief Adv Prema Menon. The camp was inaugurated by Novelist Balakrishnan. Chief Academic Co-ordinator Smt Rugmini Sagar, Corporator Vikrant Chavan, Lion Kumaran Nair, Upendra Menon, Srikant Nair, Rajan Nair, K Rajan, Prem Kumar, K Madhu, Jairam, Madhu Menon, Rajan Thomas, Adv Raj Kumar, George Pappan, representatives of Malayalee organizations, media activists, teachers, parents and children participated.

A glass walk over broken glass pieces with bare feet gave the children confidence to take up any risky programme. Anil



During the inauguration of the Camp.

Parappanangadi of Smart Wings of Kozhikode motivated children, through their 'I too can fly'. There were magic shows too. The dance on

fire cinders provided fear as well as amazement.

The programmes of the second day were new and revealing. Kaliyalla Kali, Kadha Kadha Muthassi, Pavakkoodu etc opened a new world before the children, outside their text books. Pravin Kottakkal, Sajish and Balasubrahmanian created a magic world before them.

On the third day, Premkumar presented a programme connecting art, culture and history of Kerala. Breaking coconut with glass bottles, glass walk by elders, fire walk etc were also presented.

Every day the participants evaluated the events presented on the day. Finally, before dispersal, they took a solemn pledge of protecting Malayalam Language and culture. Vasan Eye Care conducted a free Eye Check up. Suma Mukundan and Mohandas proposed vote of thanks.



Walking over cinders by a young participant



Young participants at a session of games

## New Zonal Secretaries for SNMS

■ Sree Narayana Mandira Samiti has appointed five new zonal secretaries for the entire area falling under Mumbai, Thane from Ulhas Nagar to Tarapur and Navi Mumbai.

The Samiti has expanded from 26 units to 50 units and to run this increased workload, these secretaries are appointed. Preethi Umesh, Asha Soman, Leela Pushpan, Adv Padma Divakar and Nivedita Bhasi will respectively supervise these zones. The task entrusted to them is to plan multilevel projects to help the community and educate them in this regard.

# Cultural Festival at Gurudevagiri

■ However high we may go up in life, we need to preserve humility and mutual love, said film actor Harisree Asokan. That is the only wealth we can achieve in real life. He was addressing a gathering on the concluding day of the two day Performing Arts Competition held as part of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of Sree Narayana Mandira Samiti in which seven units of the Samiti came together at Gurudevagiri in Nerul.

Sree Narayana Guru taught us to love and help each other. The chief guest lauded the achievements of the Samiti in the field of education. Film producer Martin Sebastian was the guest of honour.

The session was presided over by the President of the Samiti N Sasidharan. Zonal secretaries Sasi Damodaran, M G Raghavan, A K Venugopal, Cultural Wing chairman P P Sadasivan, Arts Wing chairman T K Mohanan and others addressed the session. Programme Committee Chairman Ssirratnan Nanu



SNMS President N Sasidharan presenting the memento to film actor Harisree Asokan.

introduced the guests to the audience. P R Baburaj proposed a vote of thanks.

In the Arts competitions, Nerul unit secured the first place. The units

securing first and second places in the zonal contests will participate in the final contests to be held in Chembur in January 2014.



Harisree Asokan speaking at the function.

## Obituary

### M R Varghese

KERALA IN MUMBAI deeply mourns the demise of M R Varghese, Proprietor, Emmar Enterprises, on 20.11.2013 and convey condolences to his wife Daisy Varghese and children Nixon, Nancy and Nelson. M R Varghese was 75 years old. May his soul rest in peace.



## Obituary

### A Thankamma

*"The moment a child is born...a Mother is also born and then as she fades away and merges in Providence, you gather her Motherhood in you and hear your own voice reaching out to her as your son calls out to you.....'AMMA'"*

Noted Dancer Lata Surendra lost her mother A Thankamma, wife of the late K S Parameshwar, on November 20, 2013. She was 92 years old.



# Children's Camp

■ The Bombay Keraleeya Samaj, Matunga conducted its sixth Annual Childrens' Camp from November 8 to November 10 at the Samajam premises. In all there were 46 participants out of which 17 were new entrants and 11 were non - Malayalees. The Samajam Committee Members inaugurated the Camp by lighting the lamp on the first day followed by interactive session and games etc that were conducted by Shri Swanand Kopardekar.

Later 5 groups were formed namely 'Neela thamara', 'Kalpa vriksham', 'Navagrahangal', 'Mayil' and 'The rising phoenixes'. The names were suggested by the group members and the logo of each group was drawn by their members.

The second day of the camp started with a yoga session by Vidhyanandan followed by another session by Smt. Lata Shetty, a corporate trainer. The topics were importance of communication, team building and honesty in our daily tasks. Each of the five groups were asked to make a story on moral values on their own and enact the same. There were other sessions by Stanley Louis, an English and physical training teacher, Parag Shah, Vice President (training), HDFC Bank



A session in progress.

and Shyam Singh Chouhan, who came all the way from Ludhiana, Punjab, T A Shashi on various topics such as importance of education, choosing right higher education, how to overcome obstacles and explore for more innovative ideas to win, the cultural and historical importance of each districts of Kerala etc.

The third day started with a yoga session and various other games and sessions by Major Vijay Kumar Nambiar, an ex Army Officer, T A Sashi etc. . The closing ceremony was attended by the parents of the participants. Cultural programmes like group songs, dances etc by the

participants were attractions of the evening.

Certificates and gifts were given to all the participants. Vijay Kumar Nair Member in Charge spoke about the camp and feed backs from earlier camps. Traditional Kerala food items like sadya, appam-stew, idli vada sambhar, parippu vada and North Indian delicacies were provided for the participants. Secretary Devdas G Nair, Sunil Kumar V A and other members supervised and co-ordinated the activities of the Camp. The Samajam conducts this Camp every year free of charge



Participating children at the camp.

# Eparchy of Kalyan Silver Jubilee Concluding Ceremony



■ The Catholic Diocese of Kalyan, erected for the Syro Malabar Migrants living in and around Mumbai and spread over 15 civil districts of Maharashtra, celebrated the conclusion of its Silver Jubilee Year from 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2013 at Somaiya Grounds, Sion.

The celebrations of the Silver Jubilee year began from 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2012. The concluding celebrations began with the Holy Qurbana on 7<sup>th</sup> November, presided over by His Excellency Mar Thomas Elavanal, Bishop of Kalyan. Inauguration of the concluding celebrations of the Silver Jubilee and the Charismatic convention was done by His Eminence Oswald Cardinal Gracias, Archbishop of Mumbai.

Rev. Fr. Mathew Elavumkal VC, Director, Divine Retreat Centre, Muringoor and his team led the three days' convention.

The last and concluding day began with Solemn Holy Qurbana presided by His Beatitude George Cardinal Alencherry, the Major Archbishop of Syro Malabar Church.

The public meeting was inaugurated by Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan and he appreciated the contributions of the diocese in the development of Maharashtra especially in the social and charitable fields through the Karunya Trust. He acclaimed that Maharashtra absorbs all the people irrespective of their caste, creed, religion, language, etc. and promised all sorts of help for the development of the minority community.

On that auspicious occasion,

Prithviraj Chavan handed over the key of the 100<sup>th</sup> house built for the poor people of Kalyan Taluka; the priests of the Eparchy handed over their Organ Donation agreement forms; the matrimonial website of the eparchy was amalgamated with the matrimonial website of the Syro-Malabar Church; four printed texts were released. Prizes were distributed for the winners of the English and Malayalam essay competition on the theme of the Eparchy of Kalyan and Silver

Jubilee.

Based on the 25 years of their memories, Msgr. Jacob Porathur (Proto-Syncellus) and Mrs. Rosily Thomas (Pastoral Council Secretary) shared their vision for the future. Rev. Dr. Francis Eluvathingal (Chancellor) welcomed the gathering and Fr. Justin Kallely (General Convenor) proposed the Vote of Thanks. The youth, children and young mothers of the eparchy prepared a Cultural programme after the public meeting.



Ketkipada Malayali Welfare Association, Dahisar celebrated Onam. Chief Guest Rakhee Sunil, Rajan V Nair, Rajendran Padiyoor, Adv. Padma Divakar and others at the function.

# Charity at Bhajanotsavam

■ Namasankeerthana a registered organization in Dombivili conducted Bhajanotsavam 2013 and felicitation of Bhagavathars at Pragati College Agri samaj hall Dombivili. Smt Vijayalakshmi R Iyer, Chairman and Managing Director, Bank of India was the Chief Guest while Smt Lata Sundar, Jt Commissioner of Income Tax, Kalyan was the Guest of Honour. Several charitable activities were carried out during the event. They included distribution of note books and uniforms to students of Jaibharath English School Sagav, Dombivli by Vijayalakshmi R Iyer, and Lata Sundar and distribution of white cane to the visually challenged persons of NAB IDBI Ambemath.



Distribution of notebooks and uniforms by the chief guest and guest of honour.

Namasankeerthana also distributed 12 ceiling fans to SAI Vridh Ashram and medical aid to the needy. It

felicitated the seniormost citizen of Dombivli Kalyan, Sridhar Ranade (101 yrs old).



Members of the Hill Garden Ayyappa Bhakta Sangham, Thane (K.G.Kutty, Sashikumar Nair, Ranjiv Ramakrishnan and Nalin Kutty) at the Raj Bhavan, Mumbai to invite the Governor of Maharashtra, K Shankaranarayanan and to seek his blessings for the Sangham's 18th Mandala pooja celebrations, on December 6 and 7 at Thane.



SNDP Yogam, Branch No 4961, Malad West celebrated its 159th Sree Narayana Guru Jayanthi Celebrations At Malwani From L-R: Pavithran, Rajan, Gopinadhan, Suseelan, S. Gopalakrishnan, T Madhavan, Adv. Pdma Divakar, Mrs. Pushpa Trotsky, Sunil Kumar, Manoj K. Soman,

## Mohiniattam festival

■ Kerala Sangeetha Natak Akademi under the aegis of Anjali Bharata Natyam Research Trust headed by noted Mumbai Bharatanatyam dancer Lata Surendra, will be presenting a Mohiniattam festival on three days from December 13 to December 15 at the Mysore Association Auditorium, Matunga East. The programmes include performance by Dr Deepti Omcherry on December 13 at 7.15 pm, Ayswaria Warlar on Dec 14 at 7pm and Vinita Nedungadi on December 15 at 3.30pm.

## Mohini Nriyati

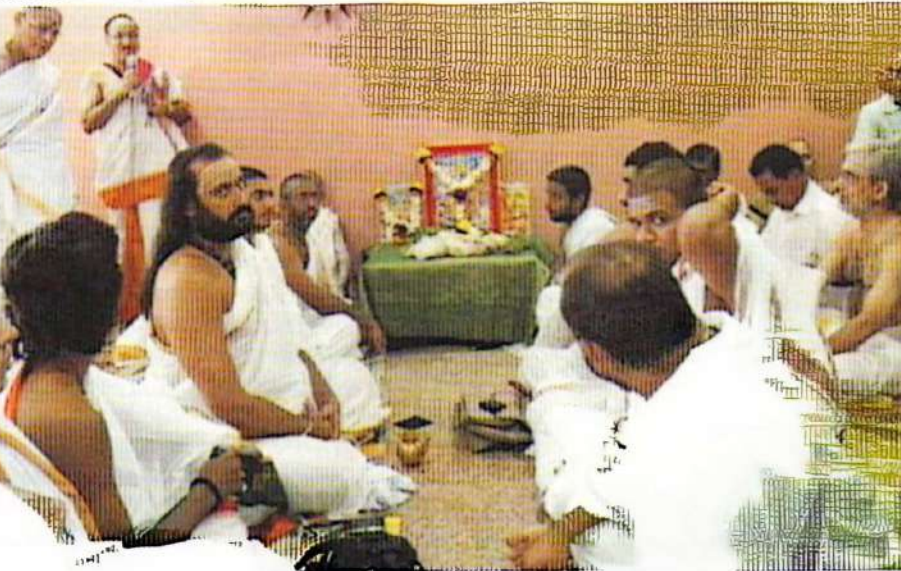
■ Kerala Sangeetha Natak Academy in association with Kalakshetram Dombivli is organising a Mohiniatta Utsavam named Mohini Nriyati on December 14 (Vinita Nedungadi), 15 (Deepti Omchery Bhalla) and 16 (Usha Suresh Balaje) at MES auditorium Dombivli at 7.00 pm on all days.

## Annual Celebrations

■ Kalakshetram will conduct its annual celebrations on December 24 and December 25 at Model English High School Dombivli.



M Sasikala IRS, Revenue Department Commissioner, speaking during the Onam celebrations at NSS Chembur. NSS Secretary Balakrishnan Nair, KNSS President K G K Kurup, Chembur NSS President R K A Menon, Sasi Nair Times of India, and legal advisor K Haridas also in the picture.



Chanting of Rudram and Chamakam mantras from Krishna Yajur Veda by learned scholars from South India at the Mira Road Ayyappa temple.



(right): Shreyas Raghu Nair from BPYS Kajupada Samajam won the second prize at 'Malayalothsavam' for singing Murukan Kattakada's popular kavitha - Kannada (ಕಾಣ್ಣಡ) held at Samta School, Perarawadi. (left):Sudha Nair and her team playing Oppana.

## New Managing Committee Members

■ Lokhandwala Township Malayalee Association (LTMA) has elected its new Managing Committee members. P S Haridas is the President and K J George Secretary. Sunnykuttu George is the Vice President, Krishnan -Treasurer, Dr.Suresh Nair - Jt.Secretary and Ramachandran Nair is the Jt.Treasurer. Executive members include M K Panicker, P K K Nair, E S Vasudevan, O K Venugopal, K.P.V.Nair, Sanjeev Nair, Mathew K Kutty, K Venugopal and Mrs.Sheeba Pillai.



P S Haridas  
President



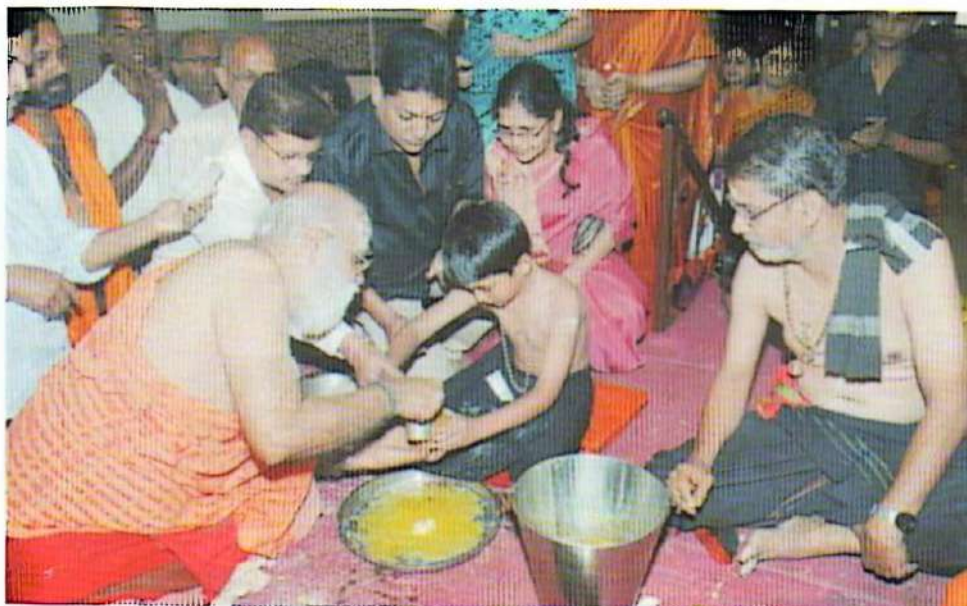
K J George  
Secretary



## Mandala Pooja at Matunga



Shree Ayyappa Bhakta Mandal conducted its Mandal Pooja at Kutch Loharwadi in Matunga. Bhajan in progress



Filling the coconut with ghee.



A view of the audience.

## Picnic for Cancer Patients

■ Sharanalayam Cancer Trust, Antop Hill organized a one day picnic to Panoramic Resort, Karnala on November 13, for cancer afflicted patients, their relatives and the general public to afford the patients an opportunity to realise that they are not destined to suffer alone but can lead a normal life like others.

## Marol Mandala Pooja

■ Sree Ayyappa Bhakta Sangham Marol will conduct its 39<sup>th</sup> Madala Pooja celebrations from December 20 to 22 at Blossom Society Grounds Marol. Apart from the regular poojas and offerings there will be Bhajan by Ayyappa Bhakta Sangham devotees and classical dance by students of Radha Chandran ( Bharatanatyam) and Geetha Vijayashankar (Mohiniattam) on 20th, Hanuman Chalisa and Ramayana recital by children, Sampurna Narayaneeyam and devotional orchestra by 'Raagalaya' (December 21). On December 22. Annadaanam will be served at Marol Education Academy High School premises and there will be procession from Vijay Nagar Ganesh temple to Blossom Society Grounds via Panchavati, Bhavani Nagar, Hill View, Lok Yamuna and Lok Saritha in the evening with thalapoli and panchavadyam by Achutha Marar and party.

## Kerala Piravi Day

■ Malayali Samajam Vikhroli held a meeting on November 1 to commemorate Kerala Piravi day. President of the Samajam K M Kurup presided over the event while the Secretary welcomed the gathering. Chief guest Dinesh Kodakkad gave a speech on the history of Kerala.

# Silver Jubilee celebrations of Navarasa Dance Academy

- Divya Janardhanan



**N**avi Mumbai based Navarasa Academy of Indian Classical dances celebrated their two-day Silver Jubilee celebrations on November 16 and 17 at Agri Koli Bhavan, Nerul. An exclusive rendition of Kalidasa's 'Abhijnyanashakuntalam', was staged by the senior students. This 90 minutes dance, composed and choreographed by Ms. Tapasya Nair, Rohit Gopinath, and Sanjana Nair, was directed by Guru Sushama Gopinath. Music and orchestra flourished through the ballet with Sivaprasad and team. Anil penned the lyrics while

Jigna Khoyani and team supervised the stage-props and art design. Divya Janardhanan wrote the drama script English narratives and screenplay, while Mrs Meera Nambiar and Mahesh Nair kept the audience hooked with their voice over. Dilip Rane, Vice President Navi Mumbai Sports Association was the chief guest at the event. During the Silver Jubilee celebrations a few senior students offered their 'Guru' a sincere, 'Guru Dakshina': 'Guru Vandanam' dedicated to her love, care, knowledge and guidance, on behalf of all students at Navarasa as a mark of their respect and gratitude. The

senior students of the academy also performed the 'Aigiri Nandini Mahishasura Mardini Stotram' which was a tribute to the power of 'Shakti' over evil. The concluding piece to the grand repertoire was 'Navarasanjali' by senior students, who displayed an offering of the 'Navarasas' or the nine emotions that form the cornerstone of Indian aesthetics. The make-up team was headed by Murugan who worked on approximately 500 dancers for several hours at a stretch to make them look what they appeared on stage.



Bombay Keraleeya Samajam President Devadas G Nair handing over to Chief Guest Sadanand Date, Jt Commissioner of Police the memento during the Samajam Onam Celebrations. Vice President Jayaram also in the picture.

## poetry session

Pambungal Publications will celebrate its 19<sup>th</sup> anniversary day on December 21 at 4 pm at V K Krishna Menon Academy Borivli (W). There will be a poetry session during the event. Those wishing to participate in the poetry session should contact on 9869443902 or by email to [pambungalpublications@gmail.com](mailto:pambungalpublications@gmail.com) before December 10.

# Sri Sankara Dhyana Kendra dedicated

**T**he first phase of Sri Adi Sankara Kanakadhara Smruti Complex was dedicated to the Jagat Guru by Padma Shri Awardee Dr M Leelavathy on November 17. The monument was under construction since 2011 at Punnorcode, the land where the divine incident was believed to have happened. The completed first phase was declared open by the Trust President Swarnath Narayanan Namboothiripad. Since early morning, devotees thronged to the site in hundreds and patiently waited to pay respects to the Jagat Guru. A part of the complex houses Sri Sankara Dhyana Kendra.



Lighting the lamp during the function



Dr Leelavathy addressing the audience

Sri Adi Sankara Kanakadhara Smruti Trust, an initiative of Malayalees residing in Mumbai, started construction in September 2011 and completed the work in March 2013. However, the completed portion could be dedicated only in November due to erratic rains. Two terracotta murals created by sheriff Nilambur, adore the entry point and the Dhyana Kendra. While Kanakadharastavam is depicted on the outer wall, the Adi Sankara mural is inside the Dhyana Kendra.

In her address, Dr Leelavathy stated that in the 100th vyazhavattom (score), this monument was bound to happen and lauded the trust for coming forward to raise the monument with many new features unheard in Kerala temples. The hidden ideal of Kanakadhara was that "Enjoy the food left out only after giving to the needy," she said.

From December 2013 onwards, regular philosophical talks by esteemed teachers on Advaita, Vedas and Upanishads would commence in the complex, according to K V Satyanath, Secretary of the Trust.

# Hartal against Kasturi Rangan Report

**K**erala witnessed another hartal on November 18. The entire state saw the main shops and establishments remained closed in cities and towns. However in isolated areas shops were open.

The hartal was called to protest against the Kasturi Rangan Report. Though the state experienced a paralysis across the land, the intelligentsia and the judges of the High Court questioned the motive behind the hartal.

While hearing a private petition of a quarry owner seeking police protection during the bandh, Justice Sirijagan made a scathing attack against the hartal. He asked if the participants really read the report before being a part of it. The court reminded the supporters of Hartal that their action would create only negative growth of the state. Court expressed doubt about the withdrawal of the report by the Central Government just because of the hartal. Justice Sirijagan wanted to know if the government would recover the cost of damage caused to the private property like in the case of government property, from the parties calling for bandh.

In Kerala both the LDF and UDF were supporting the hartal and vehicles were kept off the roads.

Reacting to the hartal in Kerala, Jayanthi Natarajan, minister for environment clarified that there was nothing in the report against the land owners as there would not be any eviction or ban on land transfer.



A lonely traveller on hartal day

The so called hartal was the outcome of misunderstanding or handiwork of vested interests, she said.

Kerala High Court had banned 'bandh' in the state on July 28, 1997 and the ban was upheld by the Supreme Court. Though technically bandh and hartal are different, in effect all hartals are compulsorily enforced in the state by political parties. Many places saw violent actions by the hartal supporters and their opponents. In sporadic cases, a few persons were injured due to violence. At Edavanna, Muslim League supporters vandalized the CPI(M) office and the latter retaliated. CPI(M) called for another hartal next day to protest against stone pelting on EMS Mandiram. Hartal supporters forced the students and teachers to leave classrooms of a school run by a Muslim

body. Head Master and some teachers sustained injuries in the melee.

In Idukki, protesters set their kitchen wares on public road and cooked food for their supporters while blocking the road. Of course, there was an assurance that no road block would be implemented against vehicles.

Several foreign tourists going to Munnar were forced to abandon their vehicles and made to walk to Munnar and the tourists complained about nonavailability of food items. Restaurants inside railway stations did roaring business as non-passengers crowded there. Many passengers were made to walk long distances to stations and alighted passengers had to walk to their destinations. Railway stations witnessed unusual rush of passengers as buses, taxis and private vehicles kept away from the public roads.

Chief Minister Oommen Chandy accused CPI(M) of going against their word. He accused the opposition of approving Kasturi Rangan Report earlier and going against it later. CPI(M) Secretary Pinarayi Vijayan had earlier given a letter approving the Report but suggested a few changes which were under consideration of the government, the CM said. Meanwhile the Union government clarified that the affected states could submit their points of view within 60 days.

The state government accused that this hartal was politically motivated.



Hartal supporters protesting against Kasturi Rangan report

# South India's first IVF baby in Kerala government hospital

**S**tate-owned S.A.T. Hospital in Thiruvananthapuram created a record of sorts when it became the first government sector hospital in south India to have test tube babies. S.A.T. Hospital is the women's and children's wing of the Thiruvananthapuram Medical College Hospital.

Head of the fertility clinic Sheela Balakrishnan told reporters the couple who underwent IVF treatment became proud parents of twins, a boy and a girl, at 5.30 a.m. on Nov 22.

'We thus became the fifth government hospital in the country and the first one in south India to be successful. We are expecting another test tube baby next week and then there are five more in various stages,' said Dr Sheela Balakrishnan.

In vitro fertilisation (IVF) is a process by which an egg is fertilised by sperm outside the body.

IVF is a major treatment for infertility when other methods of assisted reproductive technology have failed.

The process involves monitoring and stimulating a woman's ovulatory



The new born twins

process, removing ovum or ova (egg or eggs) from the woman's ovaries and letting sperm fertilise them in a fluid medium in a laboratory. The fertilised egg (zygote) cultured for two-six days in a growth medium and is then transferred to the patient's uterus with the intention of establishing a successful pregnancy. Dr Balakrishnan went on to add that

since this form of medical procedure is an expensive one, 'we operate on a no-profit no-loss basis and the entire cost for couples come to around Rs.1 lakh'.

In the private sector, the total expense for IVF treatment can touch up to Rs.10 lakh.

The IVF third stage clinic has been in operation for nearly two years.



Panchavadyam by Ottappalam Hari and Sadanam Varadarajan and Party during Mandala Pooja celebrations at Sree Ayyappa Seva Samithi, Vasai.

# ADDICTION

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND WOMEN



**Dr Sujatha Nair**

■ Across the centuries the status of women has improved from being treated as Adam's rib or the weaker sex to receiving equal

rights to being at par with men on all fronts. The woman of today is thus a Superwoman managing home and work with élan and going beyond all conditionings - except a very deep rooted conditioning of emotional dependency. This rarely leaves room for her to develop as an individual ; thus making her vulnerable to dependency and co-dependency.

There are growing economic instabilities due to which both spouses have to work or in the upper class the woman feels emotionally neglected by an over occupied spouse. In all instances the woman feels under appreciated.

Thus, despite financial and educational independence they turn out to be emotionally challenged.

All these factors result in leaning towards addictions. The disadvantage in the case of women substance abusers is that they have an easier access to money and places of hiding the substance. Hence the abuse is detected after a longer period of time and still remains hidden many times due to fear of social stigma.

### Physiological effects of Substance abuse on Women

Women are affected physically quicker and in a worse manner as compared to man owing to their shorter stature, metabolism and hormones.

Long-Term Consequences: Women experience negative physical consequences and complications from alcohol sooner and at lower levels of consumption than men. Evidence suggests that women progress significantly faster in developing dependence, organ damage, and diseases with much lower levels of alcohol/drug consumption. Women are more likely to die many years earlier from alcohol abuse and dependence.

For eg cirrhosis of liver, Diabetes, Hypertension, cardiac conditions, malnutrition, painful or irregular menses, amenorrhoea [absence of menses] at times, various cancers, fetal abnormalities, Alzheimer's, Dementia etc.

The loss of inhibitions and rationality owing to the substance abuse makes women also more vulnerable sexually and to sexual abuse. The very roles she plays- mother ,daughter, spouse, friend etc are all affected by her usage.

In the bargain, the woman is ridden by guilt, resentments and fears which isolate her from her own true self and her loved ones.

However the woman can be trained to access her inner potentials - to learn to love and esteem herself - make herself not just financially independent but also free herself emotionally and be her own person.

### Treatment

For a woman to recover she requires an intimate and therapeutic setting where her confidentiality is maintained and she can regain her dignity, independence and find fellowship within and around her. Women thus experience living a life away from substance in a conducive and loving environment.

We at AH provide such an environment.

It is a most beautiful experience to see a woman learn from her own experiences, realize her own inner potential and individuality to blossom into the human being she is meant to be without finding the need to go back to the Substance.



Anatta Humaniversity Pvt.Ltd.

Contact Person:

Ms. Vandana Hiranandani

+91 9967334000

Website- [www.anatta.in](http://www.anatta.in)

Pani Theeratha Veedu (പണി തീരാത്ത വീട്) 1973



Lyrics: Vayalar Rama Varma Music: M S Viswanathan  
 Singer: M S Viswanathan Raagam: Aabheri

Rohini



P Bhaskaran

കണ്ണുനീർത്തുള്ളിയെ സ്ത്രീയോടുപമിച്ച  
 'കാവ്യഭാവനേ  
 അഭിനന്ദനം നിനക്കഭിനന്ദനം അഭിനന്ദനം  
 അഭിനന്ദനം(കണ്ണുനീർത്തുള്ളിയെ..)

വ്യാസനോ കാളിദാസനോ- അതു ഭാസനോ  
 ഷെല്ലിയോ ഷേക്സ്പിയറോ (വ്യാസനോ..)  
 അഭിനന്ദനം നിനക്കഭിനന്ദനം അഭിനന്ദനം അഭിനന്ദനം

വിഷാദസാഗരമുള്ളിൽ ഇരമ്പും തുഷാരഗർഭദബിന്ദു  
 വിഷാദസാഗരമുള്ളിൽ ഇരമ്പും തുഷാരഗർഭദബിന്ദു  
 നീയൊരു വികാരവൈഷ്യമിന്ദു സ്ത്രീയൊരു  
 വികാരവൈഷ്യമിന്ദു  
 'ശരിയാണ് അതൊരു ചിപ്പിയിൽ വീണാൽ പരാഗമാകുന്നു  
 തൊടരുത് എടുത്തൊരിയരുത്'  
 ഇന്ദ്രനതായുധമാക്കി ഈശ്വരൻ ഭൂഷണമാക്കി  
 വൃദിചാരത്തരുവിൽ മനുഷ്യനാമുത്തുകൾ വിലപേശി  
 വിൽക്കുന്നു- ഇന്നു വിലപേശി വിൽക്കുന്നു  
 (കണ്ണുനീർത്തുള്ളിയെ..)



M S Viswanathan

പ്രപഞ്ചസൗന്ദര്യമുള്ളിൽ വിടർത്തും  
 പ്രകാശബുദ്ബുദബിന്ദു (പ്രപഞ്ചസൗന്ദര്യ..)

സ്ത്രീയൊരു പ്രഭാതനക്ഷത്രബിന്ദു  
 'അതേയതേ ആ നീർത്തുള്ളിയിലേക്കു നോക്കിനിന്നാൽ  
 പ്രകൃതി മുഴുവൻപ്രതിബിംബിക്കുന്നതു കാണാം  
 തൊടരുത് അത് തുടയ്ക്കരുത്'  
 ചന്ദ്രിക ചന്ദനം നൽകി തെന്നൽ വന്നളകങ്ങൾ പുൽകി  
 വഴിയാത്രയ്ക്കിടയിൽ മനുഷ്യനാ കുമിളകൾ  
 വലവീശിയുടയ്ക്കുന്നു- ഇന്നു വലവീശിയുടയ്ക്കുന്നു.  
 (കണ്ണുനീർത്തുള്ളിയെ..)



This film was based on the novel of the same title by Parappurath (K E Mathai). Parappurath himself wrote the screenplay and dialogues. K S Sethumadhavan was the director. Prem Nazir, Nandita Bose, Roja Ramani, Jose Prakash, Prem Prakash, Bahadur, S P Pillai, Saraswathi, Junior Sheela, Baby Sumathi, Adoor Pankajam and Adoor Bhavani were the main actors. Viswanathan had created songs of the above genre earlier in Tamil, such as Ponaal pokattum Poda..., Veedu varai Uravu..., Amaithiyaana.. etc and all of them were super hits. In Malayalam, it was for the first time song of this genre used and its fate was no different. P Suseela, P Jayachandran, Latha Raju and L R Easwari were the other singers.

# Anju Sundarikal

**T**he anthology of love stories was based on five women Sethulakshmi, Esha, Gouri, Kullante Bharya, and Aami. The movie was helmed by five directors Amal Neerad, Anwar Rasheed, Aashiq Abu, Sameer Thahir and Shyju Khalid. The movie, which saw Kavya Madhavan, Isha Sharwani, Reenu Mathews and Baby Anagha, in prominent roles winning critical acclaim for its unique story-telling and profound themes.



## Actor-Producer Augustine dead

**M**alayalam film actor Augustine died after a prolonged illness in Baby Memorial Hospital on November 14. He was 58. The actor is survived by his wife Hansamma and two daughters actress Ann Augustine and Jeethu. His funeral was held next day.

Augustine, son of Kunnum-purathu Mathew and Rosy, began his acting career through theatre. He entered the Malayalam film industry in the mid eighties and since then he has acted in more than 100 films. His

sharing of screen space with Mohanlal allowed him to be accepted by family audience. His roles in 'Aaram Thampuran', 'Ustad', 'Ravanaprabhu', 'Chandrotsavam', 'Devasuram', 'Kazhcha', 'Commissioner', 'Ekalavyan', 'Katha Paryumbol', 'Arabikkadha',



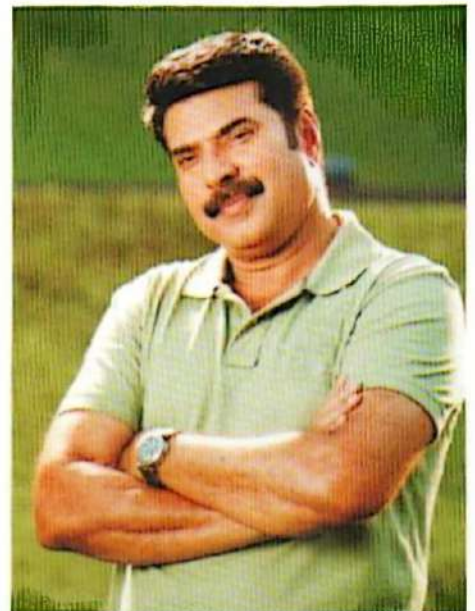
'Vesham', 'Chintavishtayaya Shyamala', 'Nandanam', 'Indian Rupee' etc made him a favourite of the fun loving audience. He produced 'Mizhi Randilum' written and directed by Ranjith, his close friend since beginning and it was well received. In fact, in

all Ranjith's films, Augustine had a prominent role. Augustine earned his roles mainly due to his Kozhikodan accent and many thought he was a Muslim. Augustine suffered a stroke in 2010 and since then even though

not fully fit, he acted in a few films and the last one was 'Shutter.' "He did not become an actor overnight. Instead he made use of small roles that came his way and peaked...he had extremely talented film professionals as his close friends," said Innocent, the president of the actors' organisation, AMMA.

## Praise The Lord

**A**fter finding success with the pious character 'Immanuel', Mammooty will once again don a Christian role for the new movie on sets. 'Praise The Lord' directed by Shiju Gangadharan, will have Mammooty playing the role of Joy, a Kanjirappally based large scale farmer. The shots that are being canned in and around Kanjirappilly also feature Innocent and Indrans in other important roles. Produced by Milan Jaleel of Galaxy films, the movie will have Immanuel heroine Reenu Mathew in the female lead.





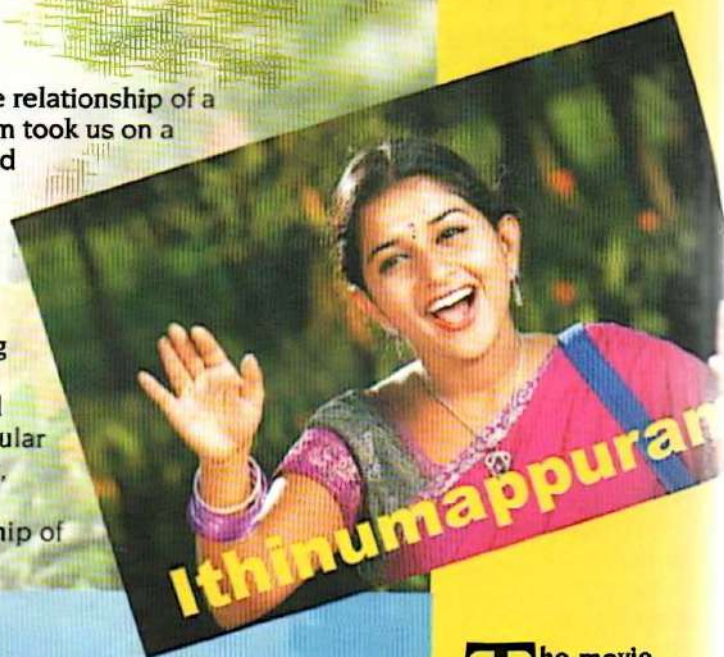
## London Bridge

**L**ondon Bridge is now completed and scheduled to be released as a new year gift. The film is by Anil C Menon and scripted by Jinu Abraham and entirely shot in the United Kingdom. Rahul Raj and Dr.Sreevalsan J Menon are scoring the music for London Bridge that also has two leading ladies - Andrea and newcomer Nanditha.

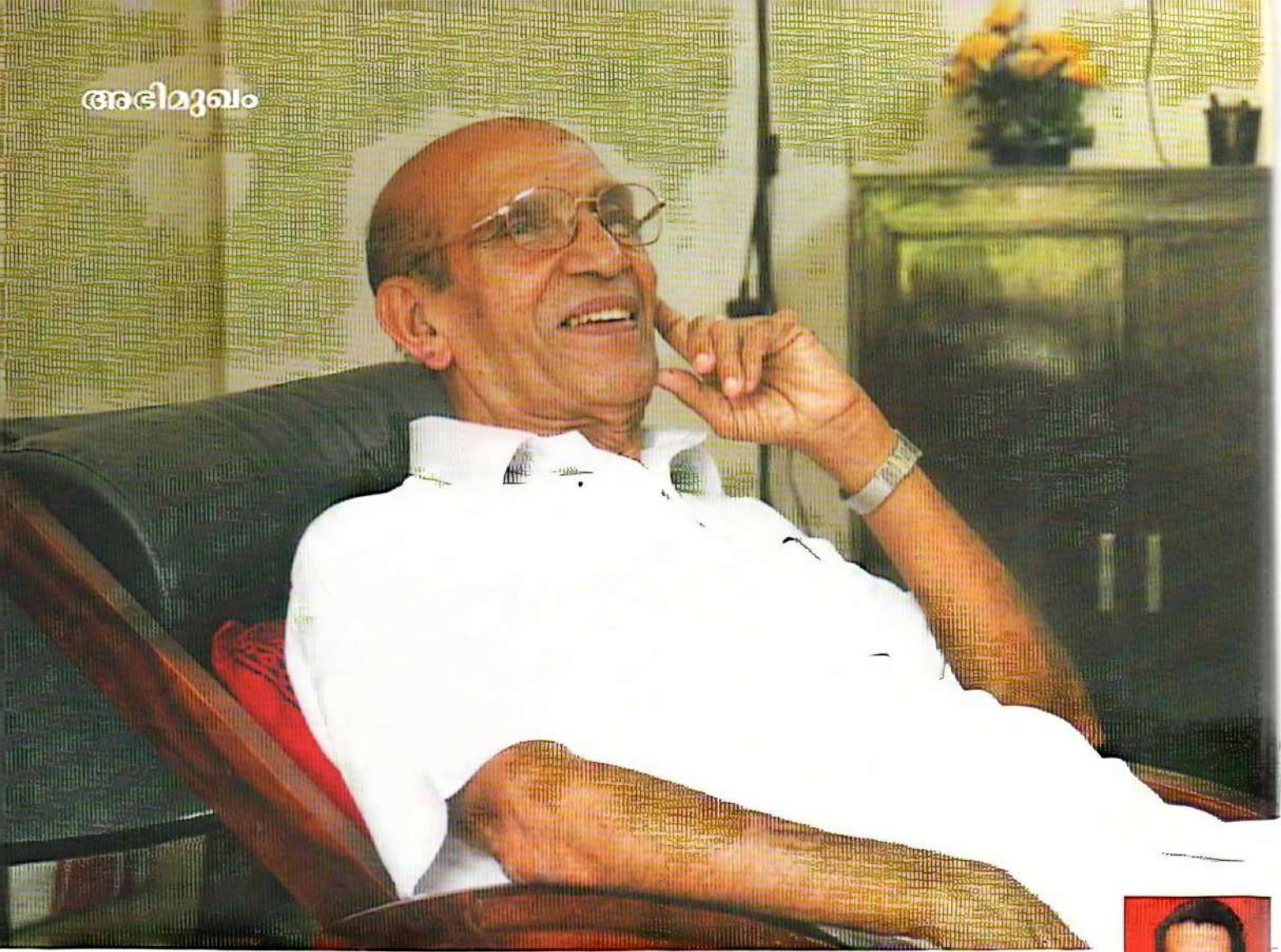
Vijay is engaged to beautiful Pavithra. She is the daughter of a crorepathi Malayali Nambiar, who is settled in London. Pavithra lives in the world of a fantasy after the engagement. But, Vijay is more interested in money. Vijay happens to meet Merin accidentally, who is a nurse. Both of them get close to each other. This relationship makes Vijay realise the other side of life. Prithviraj plays Vijay. Andrea Jeremiah is seen as Pavithra and Nanditha Raj plays Merin in London Bridge. Mukesh also plays a prominent character in the film.

## Kalimannu

**R**ight from the start, Kalimannu, which portrayed the relationship of a mother and her child, created a lot of buzz. The film took us on a ride through the life of a Mumbai bar dancer named Meera and her travails to become a mother through artificial insemination. It was much criticised for capturing its lead actress Shwetha Menon's delivery scene. But director Blessy maintained that it is a tribute to womanhood. Now Kalimannu has been making headlines for its unique theme. If the reports are anything to go by, Kalimannu will be remade in Tamil. The remake will include the title Uyirin Osai. Interestingly, Shweta will also play the female lead in the remake version. The popular Malayalam film, which was written and directed by Blessy, was inspired by the Puranic story of Abhimanyu and his mother Subhadra. The film revolves around the relationship of the protagonist with her baby, before and after his birth.



**T**he movie will see Meera Jasmine playing a single mother. The plot revolves around her fight against all odds to lead a successful and independent life. Ithinumappuram is a period film set in the 70s, and is scripted and directed by Manoj Alunkal.



പവിത്രൻ കണ്ണപുരം

# സി.എൽ. ജോസ് എന്ന നാടകപ്രതിഭ

പ്രശസ്ത നാടകകൃത്ത് ശ്രീ.സി.എൽ. ജോസ് മുംബയിലെ നാടകപ്രമീകളുടെ വേദിയിലേക്ക് ക്ഷണിക്കപ്പെടുന്നത് ആദ്യമായാണ്. അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ നിരവധി നാടകങ്ങൾ മുംബയ്ക്ക് നാടക വേദികളിൽ അവതരിപ്പിക്കപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. എന്നാൽ ഇത്രയും കാലത്തിനിടയിൽ ആരും തന്നെ അദ്ദേഹത്തെ മുംബയിലേക്ക് ക്ഷണിച്ചിരുന്നില്ല എന്നതാണ് വസ്തുത. ഇപ്പോൾ, ശ്രീ. ടി.കെ. ബാബുരാജനാണ് അദ്ദേഹത്തെ മുംബയിലേക്ക് ക്ഷണിച്ചത്.

മുൻകൂട്ടി തീരുമാനിച്ചതനുസരിച്ച് ജോസ് സാറുമായി ഒരഭിമുഖം തയ്യാറാക്കുന്നതിനായി ഞാൻ ബാബുരാജിന്റെ ഏറ്റുമാനൂർ എത്തി. മലയാള നാടകവേദിയുമായി ബന്ധപ്പെട്ടതും ഒപ്പം സ്വന്തം ജീവിതാനുഭവങ്ങളുടെ ഹൃദയസ്പർശമായ വസ്തുതകളും സംഭാഷണത്തിൽ ഇടം തേടി. എന്റെ ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്ക്, സരളവും മധുരവുമായ ഭാഷയിൽ, ഒരു ജ്യേഷ്ഠ സഹോദരനെപ്പോലെ ആ നാടകപ്രതിഭ നൽകിയ മറുപടിയിൽ എളിമയും തെളിമയും നിറഞ്ഞിരുന്നു.

**ചോദ്യം:-** മലയാള നാടകവേദിയുടെ പുഷ്പകലമായ കാലഘട്ടത്തിലൂടെയാണല്ലോ നാടക രചനയുമായി അങ്ങ്

കടന്നുവന്നത്. കേരളത്തിലങ്ങോളമിങ്ങോളവും, മറുനാടുകളിലും അങ്ങയുടെ നാടകങ്ങൾ നിരവധി അവതരിപ്പിക്കപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇന്ന് പിന്തിരിഞ്ഞുനോക്കുമ്പോൾ അങ്ങയ്ക്ക് എന്തുതോന്നുന്നു?

**മറുപടി:-** നൂറുശതമാനവും സംതൃപ്തിയാണുള്ളത്. പള്ളിയങ്കണത്തിലും ഉത്സവപ്പറമ്പിലും വായനശാലകളുടെ വാർഷികത്തിനും കോളേജുകളുടെ വാർഷികത്തിനും മറ്റുമായി ആയിരക്കണക്കിനു വേദികളിൽ നാടകങ്ങൾ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചു. നാടകത്തെക്കുറിച്ച് ഒന്നുമറിഞ്ഞുകൂടാത്ത ഒരു ഗ്രാമീണസമൂഹം, നാടകം എന്ന കലാരൂപത്തെ മനസ്സിലാക്കി. അങ്ങനെ നാടകം കാണുവാൻ ആളുകൾ ഒത്തുകൂടി. ഒരോ വർഷവും പുതിയ നാടകങ്ങൾ അവതരിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ, കലാസമിതികളും മറ്റു സംഘടനകളും തയ്യാറായി മുന്നോട്ടുവന്നു. എന്റെ നാടകങ്ങൾക്കു ലഭിച്ച വലിയ അംഗീകാരമായിരുന്നു അത്. എനിക്കതിൽ സന്തോഷവും അഭിമാനവുമുണ്ട്.

**ചോദ്യം:-** അങ്ങയുടെ ആദ്യനാടകം ഏതാണ്? ഏതു വർഷമാണ് അരങ്ങേറിയത്?

**മറുപടി:-** “മാനം തെളിഞ്ഞു” ആണ് ആദ്യത്തെ നാടകം.



1956-ൽ അരങ്ങേറി.

**ചോദ്യം:-** പുരോഗമന സാഹിത്യപ്രസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെയും ജീവൽ സാഹിത്യപ്രസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെയും ആശയങ്ങൾ തളിർത്തമണ്ണിൽ നിന്നും കമ്മ്യൂണിസ്റ്റ് പ്രത്യയശാസ്ത്രത്തിന്റെ സാധിനമുള്ള നാടകങ്ങൾ ഒട്ടേറെയുണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടല്ലോ. ഇത് സാമൂഹ്യരംഗത്ത് മാറ്റങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടാക്കിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇന്ന് എന്താണ് അതിന്റെ അവസ്ഥ?

**മറുപടി:-** ആ കാലഘട്ടത്തിൽ, വളരെയേറെ സാധിനം ചെയ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട് ആ നാടകങ്ങൾ, മാറ്റങ്ങൾ വരുത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. എന്നാൽ ഇന്ന് അതെല്ലാം അസ്തമിച്ചുപോയ നിലയിലാണ്. പുതിയ തലമുറയുടെ അഭിരുചിയും കാഴ്ചപ്പാടും ആ വഴിക്കല്ല.

**ചോദ്യം:-** തോപ്പിൽ, വൈക്കം ചന്ദ്രശേഖരൻ നായർ, പി.ജെ. ആന്റണി, കെ.ടി. മുഹമ്മദ്, കെ.എം.ആർ. (കെ.എം. രാഘവൻ നമ്പ്യാർ), എസ്.എൽ. പുരം, എൻ.എൻ. പിള്ള തുടങ്ങിയ നാടക പ്രതിഭകളുടെ നിരയിൽ എന്തു കൊണ്ടാണ് താങ്കൾ സ്ഥാനം പിടിക്കാതിരുന്നത്?

**മറുപടി:-** മേൽപ്പറഞ്ഞ നാടക പ്രതിഭകൾ പ്രൊഫഷണൽ നാടകരംഗത്തെ പ്രശസ്തിയാർജ്ജിച്ച നാടകകൃത്തുക്കളാണ്. കെ.എം.ആർ അമച്വർ നാടകവേദികൾക്കു വേണ്ടിയും നിരവധി നാടകങ്ങൾ എഴുതിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. കലാസമിതി പ്രസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ രക്ഷകൻ കൂടിയാണ് അദ്ദേഹം. പ്രൊഫഷണൽ നാടകവേദി വിജയഗാഥ രചിക്കുമ്പോൾതന്നെ, സമാന്തരമായി ഞാനടക്കമുള്ള നാടകകൃത്തുക്കൾ ചെയ്ത സേവനം, നാട്ടിലെമ്പാടും നാടകം കാണാനുള്ള കാലാവസ്ഥയുണ്ടാക്കി എന്നതാണ്. അത് നാടകസാദനത്തിന് ജനങ്ങളെ പ്രാപ്തരാക്കി. അമച്വർ നാടകവേദികൾ ധാരാളമായി രൂപം കൊള്ളുകയും സജീവമായി പ്രവർത്തിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തിരുന്നത് അക്കാലത്താണ്. ഈ വേദിയിൽനിന്ന് കഴിവുകൾ നേടിയ മികച്ച കലാകാരന്മാർ പിൽക്കാലത്ത് പ്രൊഫഷണൽ വേദികളിലും സിനിമാ രംഗത്തും സ്ഥാനം നേടുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്.

**ചോദ്യം:-** സി.ജെ. തോമസ്സ്, കെ.ടി. മുഹമ്മദ്, ജി. ശങ്കരപ്പിള്ള, പി.ജെ. ആന്റണി തുടങ്ങിയ നാടക പ്രതിഭകൾ, നാടകത്തിൽ പരീക്ഷണങ്ങൾ നടത്തി വിജയം വരിച്ചവരാണ്. പ്രേക്ഷകലോകം അത് സ്വാഗതം ചെയ്യുകയുമുണ്ടായി. എന്നാൽ, തനതു നാടകമെന്ന

പേരിൽ കാവാലം കെട്ടിച്ചുറ്റി, കൊട്ടിപ്പാടി അവതരിപ്പിച്ച നാടകശൈലി പിന്തുടരപ്പെടാതെ പോയതെന്തു കൊണ്ട്?

**മറുപടി:-** കേവലം പരീക്ഷണത്തിനു വേണ്ടിയുള്ള പരീക്ഷണമാകരുത് നാടകത്തിൽ, സാമൂഹ്യപ്രസക്തിയുള്ള വിഷയം ഇതിവൃത്തമാക്കി, ശക്തരായ കഥാപാത്രങ്ങളിലൂടെ, മികച്ച നാടകീയ മുഹൂർത്തങ്ങളിലൂടെ, കുറിക്കുകൊള്ളുന്ന സംഭാഷണങ്ങളിലൂടെ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചാൽ പ്രേക്ഷകർ അതിഷ്ടപ്പെടും. അല്ലാത്ത പരീക്ഷണങ്ങളെ തിരസ്കരിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യും. നാടകം പ്രേക്ഷകമനസ്സിന്റെ ഉള്ളിൽ തട്ടണം. മനസ്സിൽ ആഴത്തിൽ പതിയണം. അതു തട്ടാതെ പോയാൽ മസ്തിഷ്കത്തിന്റെ നാടകമേ ആവുകയുള്ളൂ. കലയുടെ മാർഗ്ഗം മസ്തിഷ്കത്തിലൂടെ ഹൃദയത്തിലേക്ക് വരികയെന്നുള്ളതാണ്. പല നാടകങ്ങളും മസ്തിഷ്കത്തിൽ പ്രവേശിച്ച് അവിടെതന്നെ ചുറ്റിത്തിരിഞ്ഞ് ഹൃദയത്തിലെത്താതെ പോകുന്നു. ഹൃദയത്തിലെത്താതെ പോകുന്ന നാടകങ്ങൾ

വിജയമായി ഞാൻ കാണുന്നില്ല.

**ചോദ്യം:-** നാടകത്തിൽ ഒരു പരീക്ഷണവും സാർ നടത്തിയിട്ടില്ല. പ്രമേയത്തിന് പ്രാധാന്യം നൽകാതെ, കൊട്ടും, പാട്ടും, ആട്ടവുമായി - ഈ നാടക തുര്യത്രകത്തെ ആയുധമാക്കിയുള്ള കളരിനാടകങ്ങളും അങ്ങയെ സാധിനിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. അതുമാത്രമല്ല, സാമൂഹ്യ-രാഷ്ട്രീയ പ്രശ്നങ്ങളുടെ പരാമർശങ്ങളും അങ്ങയുടെ നാടകങ്ങളിൽ കാണാൻ കഴിയുന്നില്ലല്ലോ?

**മറുപടി:-** ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു പാർട്ടിയുടെയോ, കക്ഷിരാഷ്ട്രീയത്തിന്റെയോ, പ്രത്യയശാസ്ത്രത്തിന്റെയോ മതസംഘടനയുടെയോ വക്താവല്ല ഞാൻ. അങ്ങനെ ആകാൻ പാടില്ല. സമൂഹത്തിൽ ഒരു തെറ്റുകണ്ടാൽ, വളരെ നിഷ്പക്ഷമായിത്തന്നെ അതിനെ കാണാനും തെറ്റാണെന്നു പറയാനും കഴിയണം. മറ്റൊന്നിന്റെയും സാധിനം നമ്മുടെ സ്വന്തം അഭിപ്രായങ്ങൾക്ക് വിലങ്ങുതടിയാകരുത്. ഇതാണ് എന്റെ വീക്ഷണവും സമീപനവും.

സാഹോദര്യവും ധർമ്മികമുല്ല്യവും കുറഞ്ഞ, തിന്മകൾ നിറയുന്ന ലോകത്ത് നന്മയുടെ വെളിച്ചം കൊടുക്കുക, ഇച്ഛാശക്തി നൽകുക എന്നതാണ് ഞാൻ ലക്ഷ്യമിട്ടത്. ഏതോ നിരന്ദോഷം പോലെ, സർഗ്ഗശക്തിയുടെ ഒരു ചെറിയ അംശം എന്നിലുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. ആരതിയെ ഞാനൊരുതിരിയാക്കി. തിരിയെ ഞാനൊരു നാളമാക്കി. ആ നാളത്തെ ഞാൻ ജ്വാലയാക്കി. സമൂഹത്തിന്റെ മുമ്പിൽ ആ ജ്വാല ഉയർത്തിപ്പിടിച്ചു! അതിൽ നിന്ന് പ്രസരിച്ച പ്രകാശകിരണങ്ങൾ, സത്യത്തിന്റെ, സ്നേഹത്തിന്റെ, സമാധനത്തിന്റെ, സാഹോദര്യത്തിന്റെ, ശത്രുസ്നേഹത്തിന്റെ, അനുരഞ്ജനത്തിന്റെ, ക്ഷമിക്കുന്ന സ്നേഹത്തിന്റെയെല്ലാമാണ്. പ്രതികാരം ഒന്നിനും പരിഹാരം അല്ല.

**ചോദ്യം:-** കേരളത്തിലെ സാമൂഹ്യ-രാഷ്ട്രീയ-സാംസ്കാരിക അന്തരീക്ഷം മുല്യച്യുതിയുടെ ചളിക്കുണ്ടിൽ മുങ്ങിനിൽക്കുന്ന ഒരു കാലഘട്ടത്തിലൂടെയാണല്ലോ നാം കടന്നുപോകുന്നത്. കവികളുൾപ്പടെയുള്ള സംസ്കാരിക നായകന്മാരാരും തന്നെ ഈ ജീർണ്ണമായ അവസ്ഥയ്ക്കെതിരായി ശബ്ദിച്ചില്ല. ഒരു പക്ഷെ, അഴിക്കോട് മാഷ് ഇപ്പോൾ ജീവിച്ചിരുന്നുവെങ്കിൽ ഇതിനെതിരെ സാഗരഗർഭജനം ഉയർത്തുമായിരുന്നില്ലേ?

**മറുപടി:-** തീർച്ചയായും. അതുപോലൊരു പ്രതിഭ ഇനി ഉണ്ടാകേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. സാഗരഗർഭജനം തന്നെയായിരുന്നു അത്?



Pavithran Kannapuram with C L Jose and T K Baburaj

ഇതിനിടയിൽ ആറു പതിറ്റാണ്ടിലേക്കൊലത്തെ പ്രവർത്തന പരമ്പരയുള്ള മുംബയ് നാടകവേദിയെക്കുറിച്ചും, മുതിർന്ന കലാകാരന്മാരെക്കുറിച്ചും സംക്ഷിപ്തമായി വിവരം ജോസ്സാറിന് നൽകിയിരുന്നു. ഇവിടെ അരങ്ങേറി കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ആദരിക്കൽ ചടങ്ങിന്റെയും പൊന്നാടയണിയിക്കലിന്റെയും അവാർഡുവിതരണത്തിന്റെയും പൊള്ളത്തരങ്ങളെക്കുറിച്ചും അതിന്റെ പിന്നിലെ കച്ചവട കണ്ണുകളെക്കുറിച്ചും ഞാൻ വിശദീകരിച്ചപ്പോൾ, അദ്ദേഹം ഇങ്ങനെ പ്രതികരിച്ചു. അംഗീകാരം, അർഹതയുള്ളവർക്ക് വിളിച്ചുനൽകുകയാണ് വേണ്ടത്. പഠിച്ചെടുക്കുകയല്ല, പൊള്ളത്തരത്തിന്റെയും പൊങ്ങച്ചത്തിന്റെയും കെട്ടുകാഴ്ചകൾ അരങ്ങേറുന്ന ഇവിടത്തെ അന്തരീക്ഷത്തിൽ അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ വാക്കുകൾ അന്വർത്ഥമായിരിക്കുന്നു.

ഏതെങ്കിലും പ്രത്യയശാസ്ത്ര നിലപാടിന്റെയോ രാഷ്ട്രീയ കാഴ്ചപ്പാടിന്റെയോ കാഴ്ചപ്പാടിൽ, സി.എൽ. ജോസിന്റെ നാടകങ്ങൾ വിലയിരുത്താനാവില്ല. കുടുംബ ബന്ധങ്ങളും മനുഷ്യസ്നേഹവും ധർമ്മികമുല്ല്യങ്ങളും അടിസ്ഥാനമാക്കി മാത്രമുള്ളതാണ് അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ നാടകങ്ങൾ. ചെറിയ കലാസംഘടനകൾക്കുപോലും വലിയ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുകൂടാതെ അവതരിപ്പിക്കാനാവുംവിധം ലളിതമാണ് അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ നാടകങ്ങൾ. ഗ്രാമീണ അന്തരീക്ഷം തൊട്ടുതലോടിപ്പോകുന്ന അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ നാടകങ്ങൾ, പരിമിതമായ കഥാപാത്രങ്ങൾ, ലളിതമായ പശ്ചാത്തല സജ്ജീകരണങ്ങൾ, ചുരുക്കം രംഗങ്ങൾ, ചുരുക്കം സ്ത്രീകഥാപാത്രങ്ങൾ തുടങ്ങിയ കാരണങ്ങളാൽ അമച്വർ വേദികൾക്ക് ഏറ്റവും സീകാര്യവുമായിരുന്നു.

അര നൂറ്റാണ്ടിലേക്കൊലത്തെ നാടക ജീവിതത്തിനിടയിൽ അദ്ദേഹം നൽകിയിട്ടുള്ള സംഭാവനകൾ നിരവധിയാണ്. 36 പുർണ്ണ നാടകങ്ങൾ, 12 സമാഹാരങ്ങളിലായുള്ള 75 ഏകാങ്കങ്ങൾ, ഒരു കുട്ടികൾക്കുള്ള നാടകം, “ജീവിതത്തിന്റെ കാണാപ്പുറങ്ങൾ” എന്ന പേരിലുള്ള ജീവിതസ്മരണകൾ, “ചിരിയുടെപുരം”, “ചിരിയുടെ മേളം” എന്നീ ഫലിത സമാഹാരങ്ങൾ, “ഓർമ്മകൾക്ക് ഉറക്കമില്ല” എന്ന പേരിൽ എഴുതിയ ആത്മകഥ എന്നീ പുസ്തകങ്ങൾക്കുപുറമെ “നാടകരചന എന്ത്? എങ്ങനെ” എന്ന നാടകപഠനഗ്രന്ഥവും ആ നാടക പ്രതിഭ മലയാളത്തിനുള്ള സംഭാവനകളായി നൽകിക്കഴിഞ്ഞു.

കൂടാതെ, “മണൽക്കാട്”, “ജലനം”, “യുഗത്യുഷ്ണ” എന്നീ നാടകങ്ങൾ, യഥാക്രമം “കേരള”, “കോഴിക്കോട്”, “മഹാത്മാഗാന്ധി” എന്നീ സർവ്വകലാശാലകളിൽ ബിരുദവിദ്യാർത്ഥികൾക്കുള്ള പാഠ്യപുസ്തകവുമായിട്ടുണ്ട്. സാമ്പത്തിക ശേഷിയില്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടുമാത്രം കോളേജ് വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം നേടാൻ കഴിയാതെപോയ ആ നാടക പ്രതിഭയ്ക്ക് ഇതിൽ കൂടുതൽ എന്തു ഭാഗ്യമാണ് വന്നുചേരാനുള്ളത്!

“മണൽക്കാടും”, “അഗ്നിവലയവും” പതിനാലുഭാഷകളിൽ പരിഭാഷപ്പെടുത്തി, ആകാശവാണി ദേശീയ പരിപാടിയിൽ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തി പ്രക്ഷേപണം ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇതിനു പുറമെ, “മണൽക്കാട്” “അറിയാത്ത വീഥികൾ”, എന്ന പേരിലും, “ശാപരശ്മി” “അഗ്നിനക്ഷത്രം” എന്ന പേരിലും “ഭൂമിയിലെ മാലാഖ” എന്ന നാടകം അതേ പേരിലും ചലച്ചിത്രമാക്കുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഒരു മണിക്കൂർ ദൈർഘ്യമുള്ള ആറു നാടകങ്ങളും, നാല് കുടുംബ സീരിയലുകളും, നാല്പതു ലഘുനാടകങ്ങളും, കേരളത്തിലെ വിവിധ നിലയങ്ങൾ പ്രക്ഷേപണം ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്.

ഏതാനും ഏകാങ്കങ്ങൾ ഹിന്ദിയിലേക്കും ഇംഗ്ലീഷിലേക്കും പരിഭാഷപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ട്.

നാടകപ്രവർത്തനങ്ങൾക്കു പുറമെ, ആകാശവാണി, സമസ്ത കേരള സാഹിത്യ പരിഷത്ത്, കേരള സാഹിത്യ അക്കാദമി എന്നിവയുടെ ഉപദേശകസമിതിയംഗമായിരുന്നു അദ്ദേഹം. തൃശ്ശൂർ കലാസദൻ, തൃശ്ശൂർ ഫൈൻ ആർട്സ് സൊസൈറ്റി എന്നിവയുടെ മുൻ പ്രസിഡന്റ്, കാലിക്കറ്റ് യൂണിവേഴ്സിറ്റിയുടെ മുൻ ഫൈൻ ആർട്സ് ഫാക്കൽട്ടി അംഗം, കേരള സംഗീതനാടക അക്കാദമിയുടെ മുൻ ചെയർമാൻ, കേരള ഫിലിം സെൻസർ ബോർഡ് മെമ്പർ, കേന്ദ്രസംഗീതനാടക അക്കാദമി അംഗം എന്നീ പദവികൾ അദ്ദേഹം അലങ്കരിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. നടനും സംവിധായകനുമായിരുന്ന അദ്ദേഹം ആകാശവാണിയുടെ ഹൈഡ്രേഡ് ആർട്ടിസ്റ്റുമായിരുന്നു.

തൃശ്ശൂർ ക്ഷേമവിലാസം കുറിക്കമ്പനിയിൽ അസി. മാനേജറായിരക്കേ 1992-ൽ അദ്ദേഹം ഉദ്യോഗത്തിൽനിന്ന് വിരമിച്ചു. ഭാര്യ ലിസി. ഷേളി, തങ്കച്ചൻ, ഡെയിസൻ എന്നിവർ മക്കളാണ്. നാടകപ്രേമികളുടെ ക്ഷണം സ്വീകരിച്ച്, അമേരിക്ക, കാനഡ, കുവൈറ്റ് എന്നീ വിദേശ രാജ്യങ്ങൾ അദ്ദേഹം സന്ദർശിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്.

ഈ അഭിമുഖം തയ്യാറാക്കുമ്പോൾ, ജോസ്സാറിനോടുള്ള ഒരു ഗുരുഭക്തി എന്നിൽ നിറഞ്ഞുനിൽക്കുന്നുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. കാരണം അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ “നക്ഷത്ര വിളക്ക്”, “മണൽക്കാട്” എന്നീ നാടകങ്ങളാണ് ഞാൻ ആദ്യം സംവിധാനം ചെയ്തത്.

ഗാനങ്ങളെഴുതിയതും പ്രശസ്ത നാടകങ്ങൾക്കുതന്നെ. മുംബയിൽ വന്ന ശേഷം ആദ്യം ഗാനം എഴുതിയത് ജോസ്സാറിന്റെ “അഗ്നിവലയം” എന്ന നാടകത്തിനുവേണ്ടിയായിരുന്നു.

1973-ൽ കല്യാണിൽ അവതരിപ്പിച്ച ഈ നാടകം സംവിധാനം ചെയ്തത് ശ്രീ. അഗസ്റ്റിൻ ഫെർണാണ്ടസ് ആയിരുന്നു. ശ്രീ. സി.ജെ. പോൾ സംഗീതം നൽകിയ ഗാനങ്ങൾ ആലപിച്ചത് ശ്രീമതി ഇയാപിള്ളയും. നാടകാനുഭവങ്ങളുടെ മധുരസ്മരണകൾ പങ്കുവെച്ചു കൊണ്ട്, മണിക്കൂറുകൾ നീണ്ടുനിന്ന സംവാദത്തിന് വിരാമമിട്ടു. കുപ്പുകൈകളോടെ ആ നാടകഗുരുനാഥനോട് ഞാൻ വീടപറഞ്ഞു. ■

# Auxiliary verbs

-Guruji

**A**uxiliary verbs are used to modify the main verbs so that they would reflect the various aspects such as the character of the subject, object and the time of the verb and its possible connotations. At a first look, one may not find much difference in the meaning from a simple sentence but on repeated look, many characteristics would emerge if auxiliary verbs are used. In this session, we may not use much explanation but on analyzing the subject, several factors may emerge.

Suppose I need a job from someone else. I can present this case in several ways. Though all of them basically state the same thing, the character of the sentence would vary in each of them.

എനിക്ക് ഒരു ജോലി <u>തന്നെ</u> പറു	Insistent
എനിക്ക് ഒരു ജോലി <u>തരണം</u>	assertive
എനിക്ക് ഒരു ജോലി <u>തരുമോ?</u>	interrogative, doubt
എനിക്ക് ഒരു ജോലി <u>തന്നാൽ നന്നായിരുന്നു.</u>	suggestive, equable
എനിക്ക് ഒരു ജോലി <u>തരണമെന്ന് അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു</u>	formal request
എനിക്ക് ഒരു ജോലി <u>തരണമെന്ന് അപേക്ഷിച്ചു കൊള്ളുന്നു</u>	humble request

If these sentences are written down, the reader may find the mood of the sentence as given against it. If the above sentences are spoken, the expression on the face of the speaker adds extra emotion or character.

The sentences given below add feelings to the verbs.

ക്ഷേത്രത്തിൽ <u>പോയാൽ</u> കുറി <u>തൊടണം</u>	tradition
രാജൻ നാട് <u>വിട്ടു പോലും</u>	doubt, amazement, contempt
ജാരം <u>കൂടിക്കൂടി വരുന്നു</u>	progressive action
കാവപ്പശുവിനെ <u>വിറ്റു കളഞ്ഞു</u>	foolishness,
പഴ്സ് <u>പോക്കറ്റിട്ടു പോയി</u>	unexpected event
മരണവാർത്ത <u>കേട്ടപ്പോൾ</u> <u>ഞെട്ടിപ്പോയി</u>	bewilderment
പണം <u>തന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ</u> <u>കൊന്നുകളയും</u>	threat
ചിലപ്പോൾ <u>പോയെന്നുവരും</u>	indicative of not gone
പഠിച്ചെങ്കിൽ <u>ജയിക്കുമായിരുന്നു</u>	indicative of failure
മരുന്ന് <u>കഴിച്ചിട്ടും</u> <u>രോഗം തുടരുന്നു</u>	continuity
കേരളത്തിലേക്ക് <u>പോയിരിക്കയാണ്</u>	indicative of current absence
അച്ഛൻ അരി <u>വാങ്ങിക്കൊണ്ടുവരും</u>	Indicates non-availability now but reversal soon
ഞാൻ അമേരിക്കയ്ക്ക് <u>പോകുന്നുണ്ട്</u>	Indicative of immediate future

**Answer to Quiz No.17**

തമ്പം is an aberrated form of സ്തംഭം that means 'pillar'. A pillar represents a time span of ten years starting from first to last year of a decade, e.g.: 1931-'40, 1941-50 etc represent fourth and fifth pillars of ages. In this case, the referred തമ്പം means the age 1951-'60. (Dr M Leelavathy in അസൂരവിത്ത് - ഒരു പഠനം)



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