

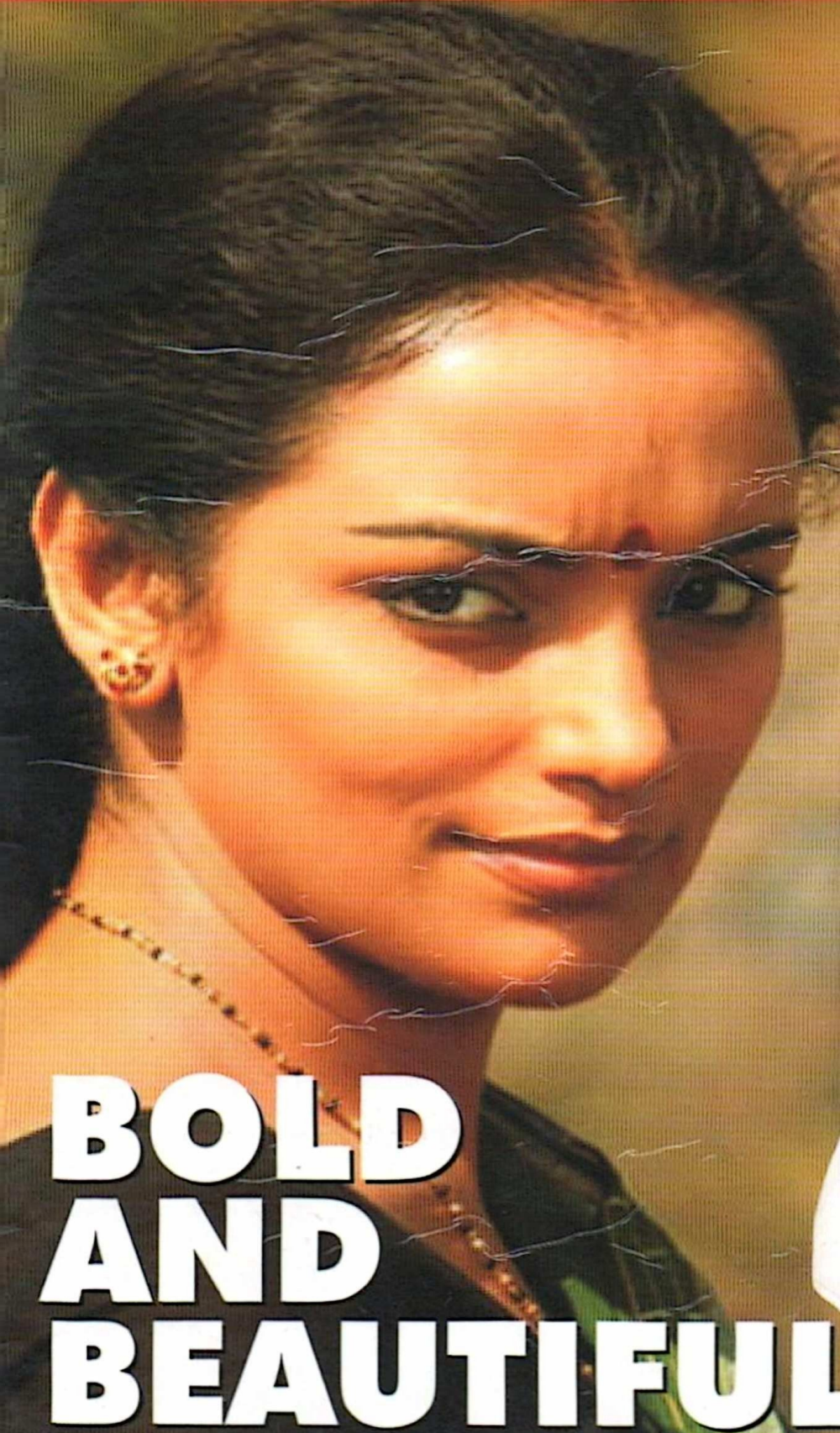
Kerala in Mumbai

Only English/Malayalam Monthly Magazine linking Mumbai Malayalees

Vol.3 No. 10

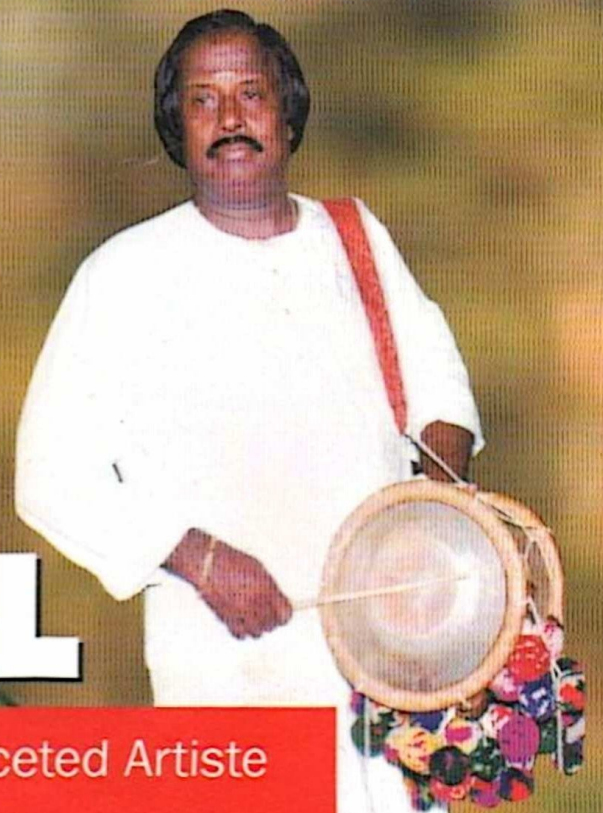
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January 2013



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BEAUTIFUL**



Happy New Year

Multi Faceted Artiste

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EDITORIAL

LEADERSHIP LACUNA

The political leadership in the country made a gross mistake in leaving it entirely to the police to handle the spontaneous protests in the heart of New Delhi. As thousands of angry, outraged youth gathered for days to register their protest and demand stringent punishment to the men involved in the rape of a 23-year old medical student, no one from the ruling parties thought it fit, or had the courage to face the protesters and give them the minimum assurances of stringent action they were demanding.

Instead the politicians left it entirely to the Police Commissioner to tackle the situation. The police on the fifth day, employed what they are best trained for Force. Unarmed, peaceful protesters were brutally lathi charged, teargassed and subjected to drenching by water cannons. When even this failed to subdue the crowds, they went back to their familiar tactic of letting loose street rowdies to stage incidents of violence. This is one strategy the Indian Police has adopted from the British Raj.

The violence that "broke out" at the India Gate provided the excuse for the police to let loose more brutal measures on the protesters.

Where have all the politicians of the ruling class gone? If only one of them had the courage to face the protesters in the first three days, the fiasco that emerged later could have been avoided. One is reminded of the incident in the North West frontier province, when Jawaharlal Nehru faced the bayonets of the British Police, in Quetta in 1946. Anything could have happened then.

On the fifth day of the Delhi protests Congress spokesmen were demanding of TV Channel anchors if the protesters were prepared to give a guarantee that Nehru's great grandson would not be harmed if he did stand in front of them. If he were a good leader, he would have dared diffuse the situation.

A young Cabinet minister did try to sneak past in his official car and was attacked by some sections of the crowd.

The Home Minister showed his true colours of the time he was himself a policeman gushing about the brilliant work of the Delhi Police. He had earlier been told by NGOs and women activists to appoint a woman Police Commissioner in New Delhi solely to look into complaints by women and gender sensitise the police force. It was also suggested to him that the government liaise with the judiciary to hand down time-bound exemplary punishment to rapists and perpetrators of crimes against women. Fast track courts could be increased to handle all such complaints.

When the Home Minister addressed the media a few hours later, he elaborated his plans to ban tinted glass panes on buses and insisting on lighting inside buses during the night.

It was clear that he was pushed into the august post of Union Home Minister by his party High Command for other purposes than ensuring law and order in the country where every citizen would be able to exercise his or her constitutional rights and privileges.

The silence of the other top leaders of the ruling party was deafening. The Delhi Chief Minister upbraided the city police, instead of, as on an earlier occasion advising young girls not to be "too adventurous," when a city journalist driving her own car late in the night was brutally assaulted and killed.

The entire leadership, one finds, lacks credibility, courage, self - confidence and the basic ability to lead.

In the meanwhile, a woman is molested every 12 minutes in the country, a woman is kidnapped every 14 minutes, raped every 21 minutes and a dowry death occurs every hour. Thanks to the police 73 percent of the rape accused go free. So do 72 percent of the kidnapers and 65 percent of dowry death accused. That speaks volumes about the "Brilliant" record of our police departments, Mr. Home Minister.

SHWETHA MENON TOP OF THE MEDIA

Courageous and independent in her decisions, Shwetha Menon's grit and determination helped her reach the position she has attained today in the world of media and entertainment.

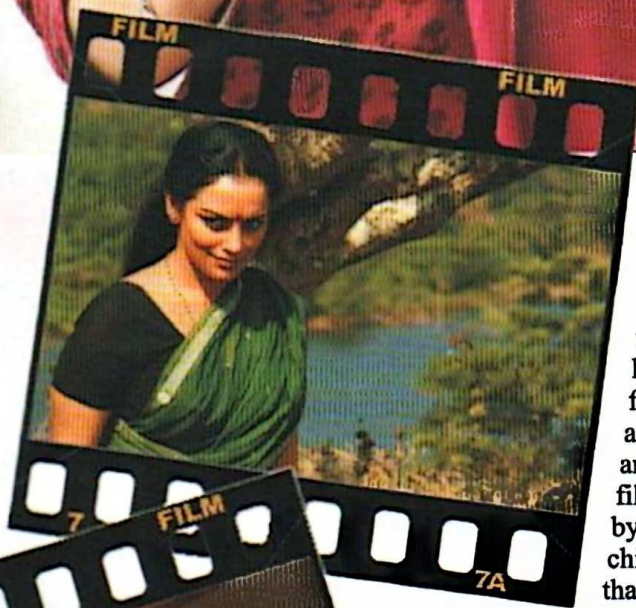
- Sriprakash Menon



■ Actress, TV anchor and model Shwetha Menon symbolises the new age Malayalee woman. She is probably the first Malayalee who dared to change the perception about

Malayalee women in the glamorous and glitzy world of advertising, cinema and television. Once a conservative and shy Kendriya Vidyalaya student, born in Chandigarh and schooled mostly outside Kerala, she graduated from Hyderabad.

Shwetha was known for her hot and bold images in Hindi and Malayalam films. She was a popular and attractive model and walked with her sexy body to set the ramp on fire. She did all these when a majority of Malayalees would go crazy even thinking about a woman



doing such diverse roles in the early nineties.

She was in the news recently for allowing her pregnancy to be filmed. Women's groups and activists were up in arms against her and the film *Kalimannu* directed by Blessy. Delivery of a child was made bigger than the story of the film, according to her. She is on a maternity break with her

husband Sreevalsan Menon in Kerala.

Shwetha's grit and determination got her recognition and work in the advertisement and film world and she also courted controversy for being independent and courageous in her decisions. Whether her recent pregnancy or her films in the past or her *Kamasutra* advertisement during her modelling days her "controversies made her newsworthy." She started her film career with the Malayalam film *Anaswaram* with superstar Mammooty.



"My career got exciting after *Rathi Nirvedyam* and *Salt N Pepper* running simultaneously in cinema halls. I had to move the local court and approached Women's Commission in Kerala When my film *Kayam* tied up with *Musli Power* (sex stimulant drug). *Kayam* got lot of publicity due to the controversy. My image was used in the publicity posters of the *Musli* without my permission. People tend to remember controversies but my films *Paleri Manikyam*, *Salt N Pepper*, *Venal* and *Rathi Nirvedyam* got recognition and awards", she explains.

Shwetha in all has acted in 30 Hindi films including *Asoka*, *Maqbool* and *Corporate*. She has also acted in Tamil, Telugu and Kannada movies. Shwetha has done about 12 movies in Malayalam.

This Valanchery (Malapuram) girl Shwetha married journalist turned corporate analyst Sreevalsan Menon who hails from Thrissur, grandson of Vallathol Narayana Menon in 2011. In September 2012 a baby girl was born to them. Sabaina Menon's birth was shot live on camera as part of *Kalimannu*.

"Film maker Blessy would not do any thing which would be



Shwetha's father P V Narayankutty was in the Indian Air Force (IAF) and hailed from

Valanchery and mother M P Sharada was from Tirur. She studied in Kendriya Vidyalaya Calicut for a year.

In 1994, she was noticed by the fashion world when she was runner - up in Miss India contest with Sushmita Sen on the top followed by Aishwarya Rai in the second place. She was *Gladrags* female super model, Miss Asia Pacific runner - up.

"I did a lot of glamorous stuff then and in Hindi I am still getting roles to do 'item numbers' but I am not interested. Audiences in Kerala like my films and the roles which I did. Now the Malayalee audience wants to see mature women and not girls and 30 plus roles are becoming interesting", she noted.





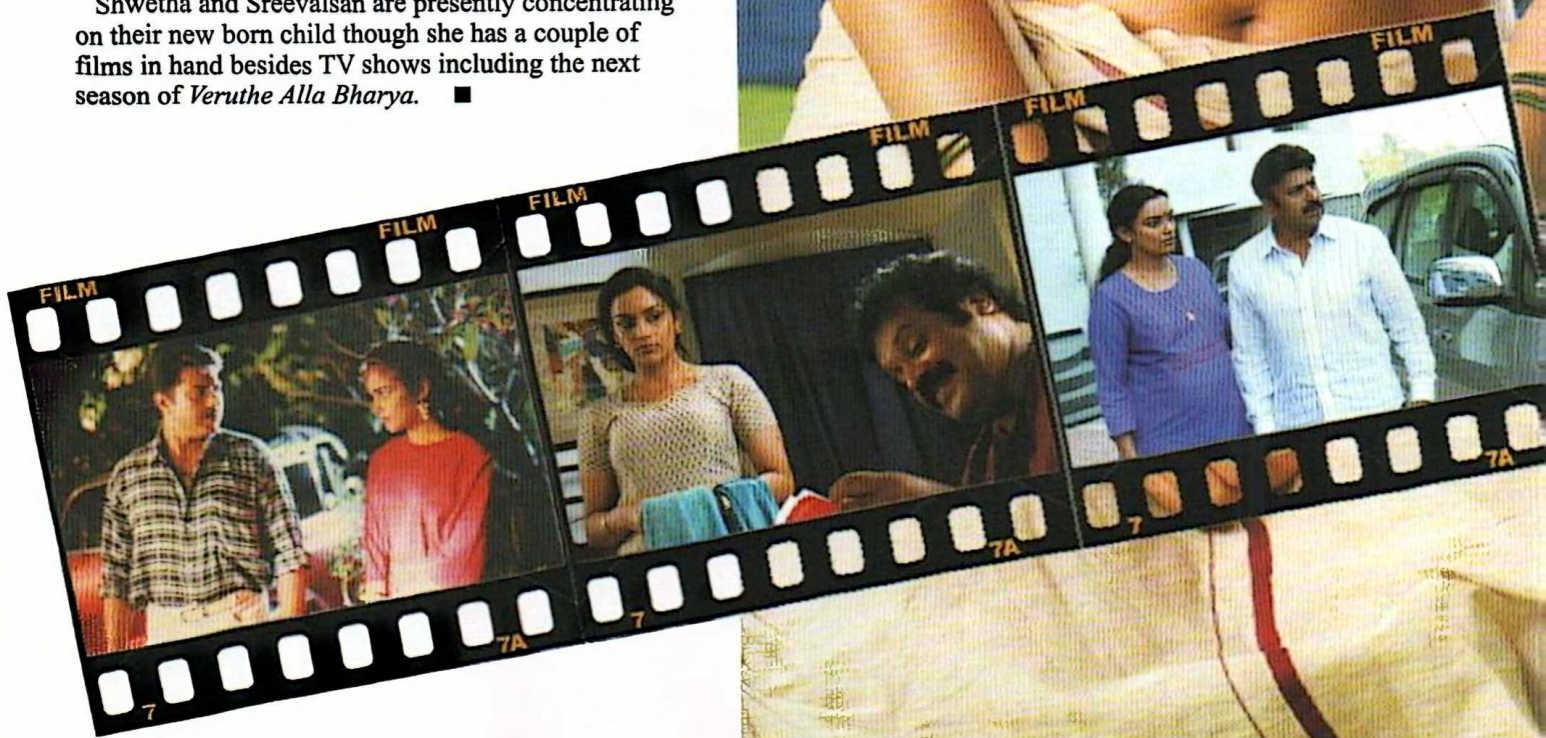
against the guidelines of the censor board hence all the hoopla over the 'delivery scene' was unwarranted. It is just part of the film scene. No doubt the controversy has given the film enough publicity", she felt.

"Sree had come to interview me for *Vanitha* in 2006. We were both in touch since then. Of course I was irritating him. By mid 2010, he proposed to me and my parents approved it. We had an arranged marriage in June 2011", she recalls. Sreevalsan has worked in various national media including *Manorama*, *Business Standard* and later joined *Edelweiss* in their corporate office.

Shwetha has done TV shows for Zee, Colors, Asianet, Surya and Kairali but she instantly became a household name with the show *Veruthe Alla Bharya* on Mazhavillu Manorama channel. "I loved doing this show, it is an interactive show where people spoke honestly about issues. It's like a family talking in a drawing room. It's not a gender show. Basically it showcases today's family life styles and marriage. This seasonal reality show brings out the reality in each one of us. The show is popular also because it brings out the naughtiness in all of us. Malayalees could not believe that they could speak so openly on TV. We behave as though we are conservative but actually we are modern within ourselves," she points out.

According to Shwetha there is a change in the attitude and mindset of women in Kerala though they cannot be like they are in Delhi, Mumbai or Bangalore."The culture in Kerala is different though women are very liberal. However we need to fight the menace of rape wherever we are. There were so many rape cases reported in the country and most of them get away. In the case of the recent Delhi gang rape the culprits should be chemically castrated for their demon like brutality and rape. Why is the government waiting to take a decision? A 23 year old girl who wanted to live has died. Citizens should be made to feel secure in their own country with strong laws and policing.

Shwetha and Sreevalsan are presently concentrating on their new born child though she has a couple of films in hand besides TV shows including the next season of *Veruthe Alla Bharya*. ■





ANDHERI EAST

GLOBAL MALAYALEES

Andheri can be called the capital or karmabhoomi for well known Malayalees of Mumbai. Today, not only prominent Malayalees have made Andheri their home but many have their business operations in this highly industrialized suburb.

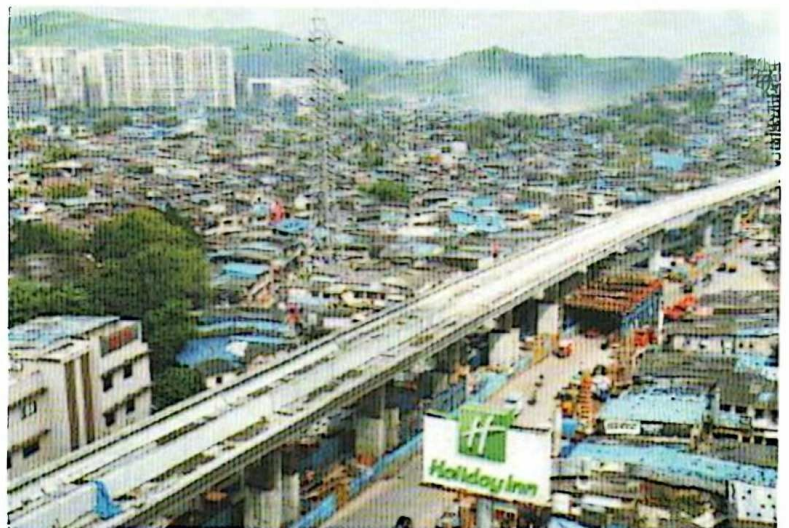
- KIM News Bureau

Andheri, on the Western railway line, spreads up to touch the central suburbs of Kurla and Powai. Andheri is flanked by the Arabian Sea at Versova and Aarey forest near Mahakali Caves. Andheri houses Bollywood, media companies, MIDC, SEEPZ and the Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport. It will soon have Mumbai's first metro rail line starting and passing through its stretch. With so many businesses and industrial units in Andheri, you cannot imagine it without Malayalees. Geographically it is as big as Singapore.

Andheri East comprising residential areas of Nagardas Road, M V Road and Pump House had Malayalees in large numbers but slowly many migrated to other areas of the suburb. But Andheri Malayalee Samajam was one the first organisations of Malayalees in Andheri to have a small reading room and office.

M Ramachandran (popularly known as MRC) an entrepreneur has been with the Samajam since its inception. There is a huge population of Kerala Catholics in Mahakali and Marol area. The Holy Spirit

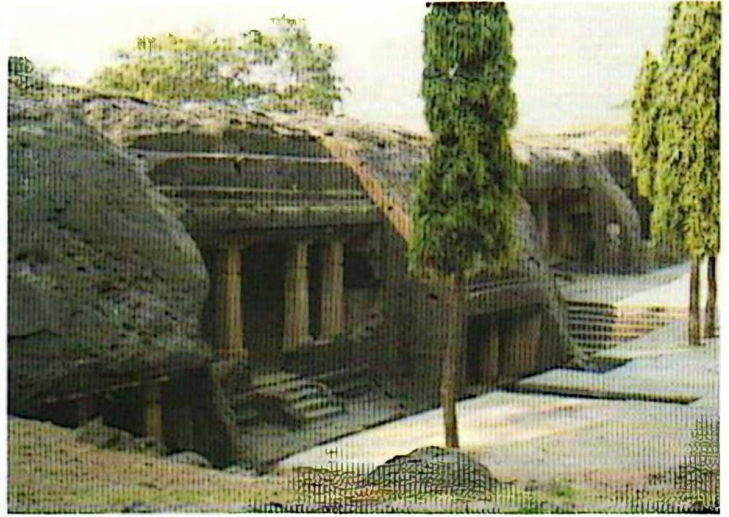
Hospital has several Malayalees working for it especially nurses from South Kerala. Sathya Saibaba's 'Dharmakshetra' is also known for its Malayalee presence. Tyre shops, Kerala mess, Kerala stores, automobile workshops are some of the



Metro line under construction



Holy Spirit Hospital



Mahakali Caves

salient features of Andheri East.

Ayyappa Sangham at Blossom Society is another old unit of Malayalees with regular Ayyappa pujas during the last four decades. The Ayyappa Sangham at Sahar Cargo Complex, with the Shiva - Parvathi Temple, has been conducting cultural and spiritual activities for the last several years. Ayyappa Pujas are conducted at Shanti Nagar, Marol Pipe Line, PNGP Colony and by Mahakali Ayyappa Seva Sangh at Poonam Nagar. There are several Ayyappa pujas in Andheri East alone that a few years from now every housing societies may have one. Instead of bringing Malayalees and the South Indians together for spiritual purposes besides creating a synergy with the local population, these samajams are only getting competitive and ritualistic among themselves.

Andheri East also has an active Nair Service Society with its office in J B Nagar but again like other Malayalee organisations, people do not have time to further its various cultural and developmental activities ahead. Moreover, the younger generation of Malayalees have hardly any time, whether it is Ayyappa puja or any other Malayalee cultural function and but for a few, most of them take little interest in them. Another reason is that the youth are not empowered by the elderly generation who for some reason or the other, cling on to the Committees, whether it is a Marriage Bureau or any other socio-cultural outfit. Most of the cultural shows



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put up by the various Samajams in Andheri East are of school level so there is no novelty for the youngsters to get attracted to such ethnic Malayalee activities.

Andheri East also houses a cultural group *Odakkuzhal* promoting art, culture and performing arts. *Raagalaya Academy of Music and Arts* is well

known in Andheri East for the promotion of music and dance. The annual music talent competition and its annual musical extravaganza at Shanmukhananda Hall is now famous with shows by SP Balasubramaniam and K J Yesudas, P Jayachandran and other wellknown singers in the past. Vijaykumar, *Raagalaya's* President also is the publisher of 'KERALA IN MUMBAI' an English monthly with its office in Marol. The World Malayalee Council also operates from Andheri East. Directory of Mumbai Keralites published by Sivadas Menon's *Pravasi Media* is based at Koldongri, Andheri East. Late Guru Krishnan Kutty's *Nrityashree* also famous for Kathakali, Bharata Natyam and Mohini Attam dance classes is located in Sher - E - Punjab area.

What makes Andheri East so super special is that it has given India some of the top businessmen and entrepreneurs. Capt. Krishnan Nair who began with Leela Lace went on to become one of the noted global hoteliers with his Leela group. His name in the hospitality industry is very well known. Inga Pharmaceuticals led by Dr. Abraham

Pattani is another big name in Pharma industry. With his plants in Andheri and other parts of India, this low profile Malayalee has set a bench mark of entrepreneurship for Malayalees across the world.

Ujala may be a well know brand for Indians but the man behind this stainless reputation is M P Ramachandran who is a Malayalee multi national



Capt Krishnan Nair



Ujala Ramachandran



with his operations in Andheri East and is responsible for spreading the brand influence of his Jyothi group as far as Europe and other parts of the world. Just as we cannot avoid plastic in our daily life, we cannot forget Daniel. He can be termed as the father of Indian plastic industry. K. Nandakumar of Chemtrols is another example of Malayalee enterprise. Today his company is one of best known in the field of engineering in India and overseas. FEI Cargo's Pratap Nair is also a well known businessman with interests in social and cultural fields. M. N. Kutty Nair (CMD of MIEL) is the new generation entrepreneur who has made his mark in UK, Middle East, Africa for his IT security solutions with his office headquartered on Mahakali Road, Andheri East.

A large number of businessmen in Andheri East are into business like exports, forwarding, cargo handling, machine parts, garments, Ayurveda, automobiles, garages, travel agencies and a few names which come to the fore

are Sukumar Panikker (Shree Group of Companies), Sureshkumar Madhusudanan (Seagull), Joesph Tharakan (Bruce Logistics), Haridas Pillai (Excellent Motors) and Balachandran Nair (Motorcraft

airlines staff mainly Air India and hospitality industry personnel, creative artists, musicians, dancers and media people also form the core group in Andheri East. The famous dancer

actress Sudha Chandran runs her dance academy in this locality. Surendra Babu (director, Parksons), actor and once a film society activist is a well known name in printing business, works and lives in Andheri.

Andheri has several more corporate and business people living and working to be discovered in each area: Pump House, Koldongri, Sahar, Marol, Sher -E- Punjab, Mahakali Takshila, Poonam Nagar,



Dharmakshetra

Engineers).

It is not just the presence of business tycoons that make Andheri East exclusive, it has several technocrats and professionals like in the field of banking Aneish Kumar (MD and country executive of BNY Mellon) and K R Menon (earlier heading an US bank now with Centrum Capital Ltd.,). Kumar is also a poet and painter and exhibits his work abroad periodically. Doctors, pilots, aeronautical engineers,

MIDC/SEEPZ etc. Even today when Malayalees remember People Art Centre's Mamankam - a cultural extravaganza - staged in 2000, they remember Andheri Sports Complex on the west side of the suburb. If Andheri West is more fashionable with a concrete jungle, Andheri East is more industrial yet green and picturesque. ■



COSMOS ENGLISH SCHOOL

Turning Twenty five Years

- Lakshmi Venkatachalam

A school established by a Mumbai Malayalee organisation, Cosmos English High School and Junior College, completes 25 years of providing education to students in and around Bhandup at reasonable fees thus giving an opportunity for economically weaker sections of students to study in a good English medium school and come up in life.



■ Cosmos English High School and Junior College established and managed by Bhandup Keraleeya Samajam celebrated its silver jubilee on December 21, 22 and 23 with

various educational, cultural events and a presentation of its journey from the time of inception till date.

The Silver Jubilee celebrations were officially inaugurated by Gurudas Kamath, MP, accompanied by MP Sanjay Dina Patil (Guest of Honour). M. Kumaran Nair, President of the School, presided over the meeting and addressed the gathering. Principal Mrs. Sajitha Venugopal welcomed the dignitaries and the audience. There was a cultural programme by the Junior College students. An orchestra by Mumbai Kala

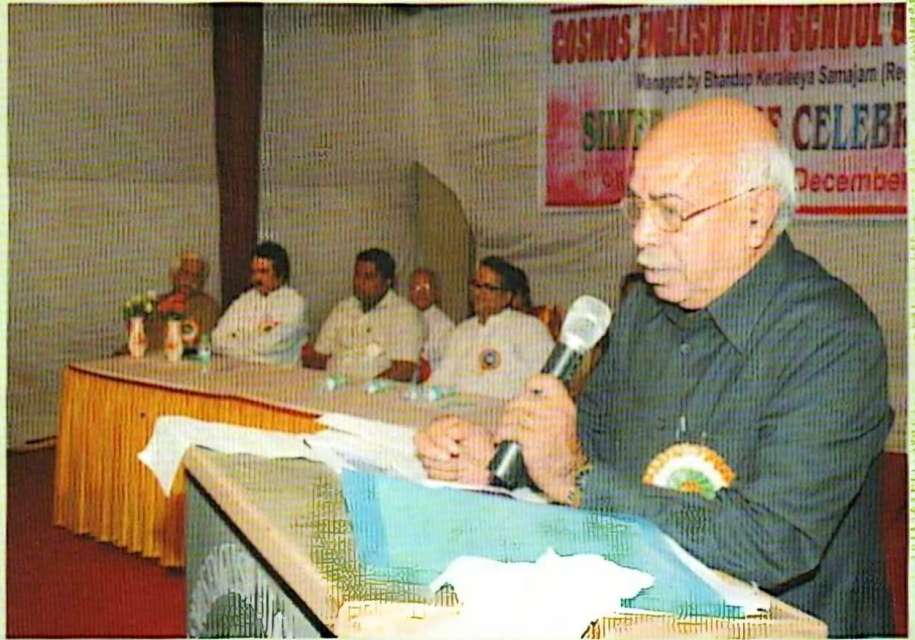


M Kumaran Nair inaugurating the Junior College for Commerce in July 2012

Kumaran Nair The Brain Behind Cosmos

The founder President of the School is M Kumaran Nair, an eminent personality and President of Bhandup Keraleeya Samajam from the year 1985. A symbol of good leadership, many schools are functioning under his guidance. He is involved not only in schools but also in political, social and various other cultural activities in Mumbai.

“We wanted to provide quality education in English medium to economically weaker sections at affordable fees. That was the genesis of the school. Our school was located in an under developed area of Bhandup and the students were mostly from economically backward sections of Society. The beginnings were humble, with about 10-20 children, two teachers and a couple of rooms for Junior and Senior KG classes. With dedicated efforts and hard work of the Management, teaching and non-teaching staff the school has grown slowly and steadily over the years. Due to strict adherence to the rules and regulations of running a school and because of its consistent progress in the standard of education, the Maharashtra Government granted permission to start a junior college in



President M Kumaran Nair addressing the audience at the Silver Jubilee Celebrations 2012,” Kumaran Nair says.

From a small KG School in 1987, Cosmos School blossomed into an English medium High School and in July 2012 a Junior College for Commerce was inaugurated with 75 students enrolled in the first batch. Plans are afoot to start a Junior College in the Science stream.

Today Cosmos has a strength of 2000 students from Junior KG to Junior College. Every year the SSC results are

very competitive and several years the school has achieved cent percent result. The school has been upgraded as a main Examination Centre for SSC in Bhandup. Admissions are open to children of all communities without any distinction of community, religion or caste. “Today there are several professionals well-placed in life with promising careers who were students of Cosmos English High School,” Kumaran Nair states.

Bhavan regaled the audience on the opening day of the celebrations. Gurudas Kamath spoke about the development and remarkable achievements made by the school. Sanjay Dina Patil offered full support and co-operation for the institution.. Vote of Thanks was proposed by K. K. Balaram (Joint Secretary of Bhandup Keraleeya Samajam).

On the second day cultural activities were presented by Secondary students which imparted values like patriotism, social values etc. The students performed with the great zeal and made it a colourful evening. A K Vasudevan, Chairman Sree Narayana Guru Co-operative Bank was the Chief Guest. Guests of Honour were Bargude, Sr. Inspector of Police and Vichare, Sr. Policeman of Bhandup.

The events on the third day were inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Sishir Shinde, MLA.



Bhumi Puja dt 22nd October 1985

Guests of Honour were Prince Vaidyan (Chairman, K&K Foundation) and Roopesh Waigankor (Municipal Corporator). Prince Vaidyan spoke highly about the school, students, staff

and the management. Roopesh Waigankor extended his support and co-operation to the institution. Cultural programmes were presented by Primary and KG children.



MP Gurudas Kamat and MP Sanjay Dina Patil releasing the Souvenir at the Silver Jubilee Celebrations



Prize Distribution during the Silver Jubilee Celebrations

School History

Cosmos English High School has become one of the reputed educational institutions of Mumbai. Seeing the injustices meted out to students during admissions in schools a group of socially conscious dedicated Malayalees of the Bhandup Keraleeya Samajam under the leadership of M Kumaran Nair established this school in 1987 with the sole aim of imparting quality education to underprivileged children in and around Bhandup. Other founder members are N Natarajan, KK Appu, and K Sadanandan. The Executive Committee members in 1985 who put forward the idea to start the English medium school were M Kumaran Nair (President), NA Bharathan (Vice President), KS Irada (Secretary), MK Balan Nair (Jt

Secretary), KK Appu (Treasurer), K Sadanandan, N Natarajan and PS Achari.

The foundation stone of the School was laid by Gurudas Kamat (then Cabinet Minister) on a plot of land procured from Sardar Tara Singh. It was attended by MLAs and Municipal Corporators of the area, along with Sardar Tara Singh.

The first principal of Cosmos English High school was K Balakrishnan Nair, who contributed his mite for the development of the school. Though he retired in 2000, he is in touch with the school and provides ample guidance.

Mrs. Kurian, the first teacher of Cosmos English High School was a very hard working and efficient teacher. She took the responsibility of moulding the under-privileged children. Now

retired, yet Mrs Kurian remains a part of Cosmos school. She has served from June 1987 to April 2009.

Cosmos School imparts quality training to students. It has a good computer unit, audio visual room, science lab and imparts learning using modern technology. Co-curricular activities are regularly held in the school through house system to provide for the holistic development of the child. The students have participated in inter-school cultural competitions and won prizes. They have also actively participated in interschool sports meet. The school has represented 'S' ward for District level competitions and won prizes.

As part of social awareness programmes, the students help poor and needy cancer and leprosy patients apart from educational and pleasure trips.

Managing Committee Members

Presently M Kumaran Nair is the President, VVK Nambiar, Vice president, MK Balan Nair is the Secretary and Pankajakshan is the Treasurer. PR Krishnanunni and KK Balam are the Jt Secretaries.

Committee members include KK Appu, VP Sachidanandan, KG Vallabhan, TRK Nair, N Kunjiraman, TR Shaji Thankappan, N Sahadevan, Sanjeev Kumar Sachidanandan, J Nalinakshan, MGA Menon, PS Achari, Joy Sebastian Xavier, V Vijayan and PJ George. Mrs Sajitha Venugopal is the Principal of the School since 2000. Mrs Vijayalakshmi Nair is the Headmistress of the Primary Section. ■



Mrs Sajitha Venugopal Head of the Institution

S K Pottekkat

The first multifaceted Malayalam litterateur who indulged in poetry, short stories, novels, plays, travelogues and politics

Unlike his contemporaries, S K Pottekkat was a prolific writer of short stories, novels, poems, plays, travelogues and personal letters besides being a politician and a great host. Always dressed impeccably, he was very particular about his personal appearance.

Early life

Sankaran Kutty Pottekkat was born to Pottekkat Kunhiraman Master and Kuttooli, on March 14, 1913. Kunhiraman Master was a highly respected person of Kasaba Village of Kozhikode Taluk. Even though very religious he was a true secularist. Married to Unnoolikutty he had four children, three boys and a daughter. Madhavi, the youngest of the four children, died early due to typhoid, followed by her mother. Kunhiraman Master had no option but to marry a second time to take care of his aged mother and sick son Raghavan and other sons Bapputty and Krishnan Kutty.

He married Kuttooli, a new widow with a girl child, Madhavi. After Kuttooli's marriage, her daughter lived in her maternal home. Before his birth, the family had moved to Thottoolipattam, a picturesque village, surrounded by a river and most of the men working in a neighbourhood saw mill. Thottoolipattam in later years became famous like Thalayolapattam of

Vaikkom Mohamed Basheer, because of its famous son S K Pottekkat.

Sankaran Kutty, fondly called Kunhan, roamed in the village and closely watched the people and events. These astute observations helped him to caricature the village life.

Very often Sankaran Kutty used to go

to Chelavur, his mother's village and there he made several friends of his age and absorbed their knowledge of the village and its flora and fauna. This village life is reflected in his well known novel 'Oru Desathinte Katha' (The story of a village), which won him the Jnanpith award.

His forays into Chelavur and return were facilitated by Cheriyaakkan, a male servant and the stories narrated by the latter opened a world of magic and intrigue before Sankaran Kutty.

Further, the discussions on epics between his father and friends made his mind widen beyond the horizon of his school and village.

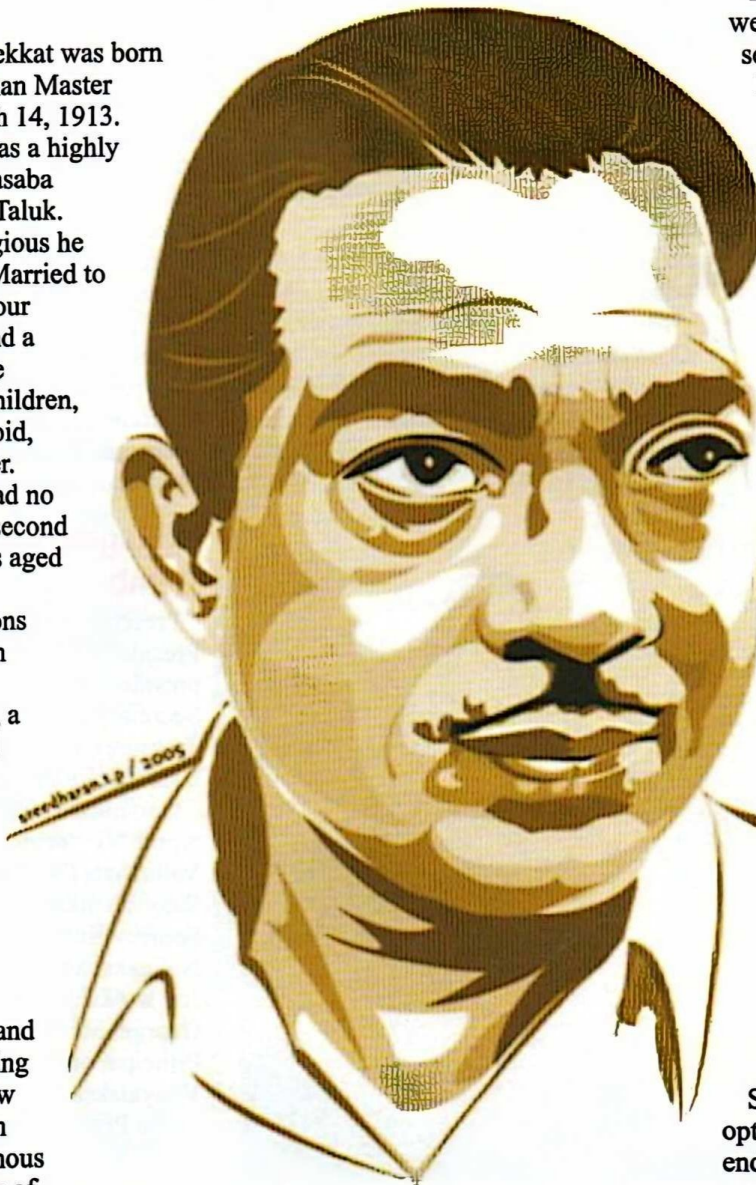
Sankaran Kutty studied in Ganapat High School and Zamorin's College. During his college days, Poet Vallathol visited the college to inaugurate the literary meet and during his speech, he described the clouds in the sky as pieces of white paper thrown up by some body. This simile inspired Sankaran Kutty and he wanted to be a poet like Vallathol. His first short story titled *Rajaneeti* was published in the college magazine in 1928. While praising his story, his teacher Kuttiappa Nambiar

prophesied that one day Sankaran Kutty would become a well known author but none of them would be

alive to see it.

Entry to the literary world

Sankaran Kutty took Sanskrit as his optional subject and it helped him to no end in his later years. He sent a poem to





A K Gopalan

a poetry contest conducted in connection with the silver jubilee of Indian National Congress and won the first prize. The prize was a set of books by Poet Kumaran Āsān and it gave an impetus to his desire to be a poet. Soon his poems and short stories started appearing in *Ātmavidyakāhalam* of Vagbhatananda Swami, *Deepam* of Moorkoth Kumaran and *Kathāmālika* of K Damodaran.

Once Sankaran Kutty was returning from the Municipal library, he saw a girl losing her umbrella in a heavy wind and he gave his umbrella to her. Next day she returned his umbrella along with some poems written by her to him. In her poems, he saw only the warmth of love and he started writing romantic poems.

തരളമൊഴി തിരളുമൊരു
തളിരിലുരളും നറും
പുലരി ഹിമബിന്ദുപോൽ
സുന്ദരിപ്പൂൺപൂ-തൻ
കരളിലൊരു രാഗാമൃതത്തിൻ കണികയീ
വിരളഭഗനൈക്കുറിച്ചുണ്ടായിരിക്കുകിൽ
(പ്രഭാതകാന്തി)
പ്രേമത്തെ നെയ്യും നറുവട്ടുനൂലുകൾ
വ്യോമത്തിൽ നിന്നുർന്നു വാർന്നീടുന്നു
വാർമെത്തും വെണ്ണിലാവോലുന്ന മേരിനി
പുമെത്തയായിച്ചമഞ്ഞിടുന്നു.

Wherever he turned he saw only romance.

His passion for poetry resulted in his repeated failures in Intermediate examinations and this saddened his father no end. He entered Sankaran Kutty's room and found a large number of romantic poems and became very angry. He threatened his son that he would burn all his poems. That day, Sankaran Kutty noted down in his dairy (S K used to write a diary since his early days till his end), "If my father destroys my poems, I would commit suicide. Why should I live when I do not have my invaluable treasure?"

Not only SK's failures in examinations but his elder brother Krishnan Kutty's



Mathai Manjooran

incurable disease of Syphilis, contacted through immoral sexual relations with a prostitute, drove Kunhiraman Master into despair. Krishnan Kutty soon died.

Both Krishnan Kutty and friend Choyi Kutty encouraged S K to continue his literary pursuits. It was Choyi Kutty who taught him the intricacies of sex. This Choyi Kutty in the disguise of Chathunni appears in *Oru Desathinte Katha*. The third attempt at the examination saw him through and then S K decided to end his studies. He wanted to tour other countries for a change and also indulge in movie making.

S K pocketed his mother's jewellery and sold it for sixty rupees and left for Bombay with his Typing Higher Examination certificate. The very next day of his arrival, he was cheated off his money and other possessions except the certificate. A Malayali Hotel owner gave him a meal and asked him to return home. He borrowed one rupee from a friend and send a telegram to his father for money. More than 24 hours he spent without food and sleep. When he received Rs 100 via telegraphic money order, he wept thinking of his father's affection.

Soon Kunhiraman Master died of cardiac arrest. His elder son Bapputty

came on the fourth day with his Tamilian wife and wanted partition of their property. The new house and compound were sold for Rs 1100. With his share Bapputty left for Penang with his wife and child and for a living S K joined National Gujarathi School as English and Malayalam teacher.

Into politics

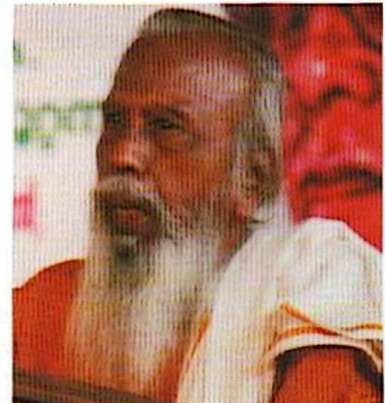
In 1937, S K was introduced to P Krishna Pillai, EMS Namboodiripad and Mohammed Abdurahiman Saheb and he became a Congress man. Soon he started writing poems about the working class and published them in *Prabhatam* news paper edited by EMS. His short stories with a romantic touch appeared in *Mathrubhumi* and *Navajeevan*. Soon he became a friend of M R Nair (Sanjayan) and wrote poems and short stories under the pseudonym 'Arunan' in *Sanjayan* and *Viswaroopam* magazines.

It was Vidwan M Koru Panicker who introduced S K to M R Nair. He was earlier a policeman in the Railways. One day a man committed suicide by jumping before a train and Panicker was assigned the job of guarding the corpse. Due to heavy rain, Panicker sought refuge under a tree for some time but when he returned the head of the corpse was missing. His search for the missing head became the topic of an interesting story (*Thalavaetta*) which appeared in *Mathrubhumi*.

Changampuzha Krishna Pillai soon became S K's friend and both of them presented their poems in a Poets Meet held at Irinjalakuta. Vallathol and G Sankara Kurup also attended this meet. Changampuzha was a fan of SK's poems and he showed the bound volume of all poems of SK kept in his home library. SK liked his sincerity. Next time he saw Changampuzha fully



EMS



M V Devan

submerged in country liquor and yielding to his pressure, SK also had some liquor. Till Changampuzha's untimely death in 1948 March, both were in touch with each other and they discussed poetry through their intermittent letters.

When Changampuzha was busy with writing of *Ramanan*, S K was writing *Mihiran*, a romantic poem. Incidentally, both were depicting the tragic life of Edappally Raghavan Pillai and both the poems had an uncanny similarity in their style of depiction. Because of this similarity, S K did not venture to publish it though he kept its manuscript.

S K joined Indian National Congress quite early and wrote many poems to inspire young minds to join Congress. He wanted to be a delegate from Malabar to the Tripura Congress held in 1939. This conference had several important issues to settle and one among them was the ideological conflict between Mahatma Gandhi and Subhash Chandra Bose. Gandhiji's close confidante Patabhi Seetharamaih was contesting for the post of Congress President against Bose. The election fever reached such a pitch that the Mahatma declared that "Patabhi's defeat will be my defeat." Like other youngsters, SK's sympathy was with Bose. To facilitate attendance at the conference, S K applied for leave from Gujarat School Managing Committee Secretary Shyamji Sunderdas but he was not in agreement. Even on the last day of departure, when S K approached Sunderdas, the latter declined. S K did not hesitate to hand over his resignation and proceeded to the railway station. This conference had a lasting impression on his mind. When all other representatives left, S K did not follow them but moved to Bombay.

In Bombay, S K shared a room with a man from Kannur, at Dadar.

Stay in Bombay

S K used to go to Victoria Gardens in Byculla with a bunch of writing paper, steel pen and a bottle of ink. It was here that he completed *Pulliman*. What he saw, heard and experienced became seeds for many of his later stories. 'Pazhaya coat' (Old coat) was one of them. His stay in Bombay witnessed several turns in his life. He became closer to A K Gopalan, Mathai Manjuran and V A Kesavan Nair.

SK also got an opportunity to meet Gandhiji on his Silence Day and recited some poems he wrote on Gandhiji. The

Sk's virtual warnings

During his North Indian tour SK spent some days in Varanasi. One day he reached Harischandra Ghat where dead bodies were waiting for their turn to be cremated as only five platforms were available at a time. Sitting there, SK thought of various aspects of human life and slipped into sleep. Suddenly he woke up with a shudder as he dreamt of his elder brother Bapputty being dragged by death.

He then wanted to go to Calcutta but had no money to buy a railway ticket. Luckily he got a one-day job of assisting a surveyor in a difficult terrain. When he received Rs.5 for his services (normal wage was Rs.2) he went there and finally returned to Kozhikode.

There were two letters waiting there for him; one from brother Bapputty informing him about his illness and another from an unknown Malayali, informing him about the death of fitter Bapputty. From his diary, SK realized that on the day of his brother's death, he was at Harischandra Ghat.



SK was standing on a hill covered in moon light. Suddenly he saw a big stone coming in his direction and he swayed to one side to allow the stone to pass. It passed and hit Kinathi Narayanan, who was standing behind him. With a shock, SK woke up. Next day early morning, SK went to

'Pradeepam' the house of Congress leader Narayanan. There he saw Narayanan was rolling on his bed with severe pain on his chest. Within a few days, Narayanan breathed his last.

In another dream, SK saw Pachan Master of Balusseri asking him

why he was not getting up to have his meal. Master ordered, "Get up fast and come!"

Early morning, SK left for Balusseri. When he reached his destination he found a large crowd. SK straight away went inside. Seeing him, Master's wife started crying.

It was the engagement ceremony of Master's daughter but they forgot to invite their close friend SK and so the couple blamed themselves on the previous night. But without being invited, SK reached there on time.

Mahatma wrote down his appreciation but SK could not decipher the great man's handwriting and had to seek the help of T K Narayanan of Thalasseri, who was with him then.

With forty rupees in his pocket, SK left Bombay and reached Kozhikode on January 16, via Bangalore.

SK's Bombay experiences have come through well in his novel *Mootupatam* and several short stories. These experiences turned him an ardent supporter of the Progressive Literary Movement.

SK could not endure a relaxed life in Kozhikode for more than six months. His spirited soul wanted to explore the entire North India. But there was not enough money to venture out so to save money, that chain smoker cut down the number of cigarettes per day to three.

He got an excuse to go as he received

the Souvenir printed from *Mangalodayam* that they withheld earlier and so it had to be delivered to Bombay. When he reached there, a letter from a 'black cat' was waiting for him. The letter indicated that he should reach Luknow soon and the date of arrival to be informed to another Malayali friend. So when he landed at Luknow railway station, Mathai Manjooran and Ambati Damodaran were waiting for him. Soon the three became inseparable and proceeded to Ayodhya. A job was waiting for SK at Luknow when they returned there, thanks to Mathai's efforts.

After 45 days, SK gave up the job and proceeded to Lahore and then to Kashmir. His experiences in these provinces later came through a travelogue 'Yatrasmaranakal' and several short stories.



Mohammed Basheer

When he exhausted his finances, SK borrowed Rs 25 from a casual acquaintance, one Malhotra but before he could gather that amount, the latter had to leave the city. Unhesitatingly SK handed his expensive wrist watch over to him. The same day he came to know that some money sent by publishers P K Brothers was waiting for him in the post office but he could not get it as no one was available to vouch for his identity. He had to endure starvation till he could prove his identity.

His main income during these days was from his writings in periodicals like *Mathrubhumi* and publishers like P K Brothers.

SK had bought a small plot in Puthiyara and he built a house there. It was named *Chandrakantham*.

It was after his return from the Afro-Europe tour in 1950, that SK thought of getting married. His close friends took him to many places to 'see a girl' but within minutes, SK would indicate that he did not like the girl.

A Congress leader Kinathi Narayanan brought a message from a wealthy advocate that he would like SK see his daughter. This proposal resulted in the marriage of SK with Jayavalli of Mahe. SK loved her beauty and pride and she, his literary skills. She had read '*Natanpremam*', her first book in Malayalam. The marriage took place on May 18, 1950.

After marriage, SK took his wife to Sri Lanka for honeymoon and stayed there for one month. Indian High Commissioner K P Kesava Menon was known to both of them.

Soon he was busy with writing the screenplay of *Pulliman* at the request of P Bhaskaran in Madras and the newly wed couple enjoyed special biriyani prepared by the best chef in the trade, Vaikkom Mohamed Basheer. To



Adoor Bhasi

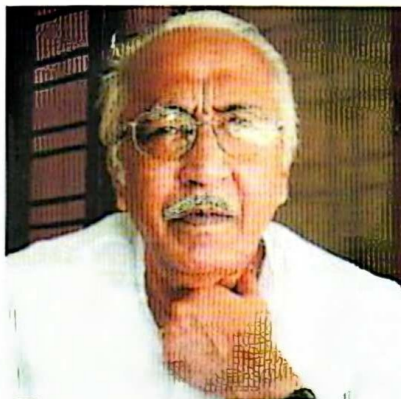
complete the work, they moved to Thiruvananthapuram and stayed with friends Bhaskaran, Vasu and an unknown identity then, Adoor Bhasi.

The script was completed in Kanyakumari and handed over to Bhaskaran. SK and Jaya boarded a ship to Singapore and stayed there for a year. Their son Jyotindran was born in Singapore.

Electoral politics

In the 1957 general elections, S K Pottekkat was an independent candidate with CPI support, from Telicherry (Thalasseri) Parliamentary seat. His opponents were Jinachandran (Congress) and Padmaprabha Gowder (PSP). They were brothers as well as directors of *Mathrubhumi* that published SK's literary pieces. For Jinachandran, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and for Padmaprabha, opposition non-CPI national leaders canvassed. For SK, Vayalar Rama Varma, N V Krishna Warriar, M V Devan, M T Vasudevan Nair etc attempted to convert the voters in his favour.

S K was defeated as he got about 1000 votes less than the winning candidate, Jinachandran.



Shobhana Parameswaran Nair



M T Vasudevan Nair

In the 1962 election, S K was again an independent candidate with CPI and Muslim League supporting him from the same constituency. In other constituencies, the last mentioned parties were bitter rivals and the Congress candidate was Prof Sukumar Azhikode. SK won the election with a majority of 66,526 votes. SK was the first Malayali MP to take oath in Malayalam. He was a regular in Parliament and often called to present the opposition view on many issues. Unfortunately, during his tenure CPI got split and AKG and followers left it to form CPI (M). SK and M V Raghavan, another independent member sided with AKG. After the Chinese aggression, Nehru died and the parliament saw three more Prime Ministers.

Despite different political relations, SK maintained good personal affiliations with all especially with Nehru and Indira Gandhi. SK in his memories mentioned the discussions he held with Nehru on literary matters. During this time, his *Mootupatam* became a movie and won the best Malayalam film award from the Union Government. But he wrote only two poems during this period, both published in *Mathrubhumi*, but started writing two novels *Kurumulagu* (pepper) and *North Avenue*, a political satire, but they remained incomplete.

Pottekkat stayed in flat No.85 of North Avenue with his wife Jayavalli and was often inundated with guests who adored Jaya's cooking. A frequent guest was AKG who used to sneak into the kitchen before leaving to steal good *achar* and sweet preparations, both were prohibited to him by doctors.

During this period, *Chandrakantam* was often encroached by his local friends like Basheer, MT, Devan, NP Mohammed and the like for their literary and film pursuits.

It happened with S K Pottekkat

SK Pottekkat was working as a typist in Textile Commissioner's office in Bombay during 1943-'44. He used to have a frequent visitor, three to four times in a week; John Master. He was none but Mathai Manjooran, in hiding to avoid police arrest. He was the main accused in the Kizhariyoor Bomb Blast case. Besides he blocked a bullock cart carrying paddy for Raja of Cochin and distributed it among the poor.

On May 25, 1944, both Mathai and SK walked from Jogeshwari to Mahakali Caves and spent a long time there. After a short nap, Mathai announced, "We should organize an All Bombay Malayali Conference in a grand manner." SK supported the idea and decided to invite Pattom Thanu Pillai and Prof Joseph Mundasseri as Presiding Officer and Chief Guest. A souvenir titled 'Bombay Malayali' should also to be brought out.

A committee was formed with K N Menon as Chairman and S K as Secretary. Ulloor, Vallathol and Sardar K M Panicker contributed poems and an article to the souvenir.

During October, SK took two weeks leave and came

to Kerala and met Pattom and Mundasseri. Both of them agreed to take part. The task of souvenir printing was entrusted to *Mangalodayam*.



There was a sudden twist to the matter. One Menon of Trichur wanted to sponsor the entire conference but Mathai blasted him for being arrogant. He wanted every Malayali in Bombay to donate a quarter rupee each and thus make it a grand mass affair.

Menon felt insulted. He was determined to sabotage the conference. He advertised in papers that the meet was postponed. He went to Trichur and met Mundasseri. The latter sent a telegram to SK expressing his inability to attend. Sensing danger, SK sent long telegrams to Mundasseri and Pattom. The latter confirmed his participation.

The souvenir was not printed by

Mangalodayam and could not be released.

On November 19, 1944, the conference was held in a grand manner in Sunderbai Hall. Needless to say, the saboteur Menon was sitting in the front row as if he was not aware of any conspiracy. The above incident left a miserable scar in SK's mind.

As an MP and a writer, he held responsible positions in Thunchan Memorial Committee, Kendra Sahitya Akademi, Kerala Sahitya Akademi, Sahitya Parishad, Sahitya Pravarthaka Sahakarana Sangham, Sangeeta Nataka Akademi, Advisory Board of Mental Hospital, Kozhikode etc.

The first Malayalam magazine exclusively meant for women in Kerala was edited, printed and published by Jayavalli, who started learning Malayalam after attaining 20. In 1976, she had a jaundice attack but later recovered after prolonged treatment. But she had a relapse in 1980 and died suddenly on July 8. SK felt like an orphan and looked more than his age.

SK was busy in writing his North Avenue, staying at Panjal, away from friends and modern communications. On June 17, 1981 he went to Kozhikode to attend a marriage and there he was told that an announcement was made over radio that he was the

recipient of Jnanpith Award of that year. He was told about it by a group of media persons who heard it. There was a race among the various organizations and groups of friends to organize receptions for him from next day till the last day of the actual presentation of the award, November 28, 1981. It was presented by the President of India, Dr Neelam Sanjiva Reddy at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi. On the same day, translations of the award winning novel '*Oru Desathinte Katha*' (*Katha Ek pranth Ki*) and a compilation of his prominent short stories (Jnanpith Puraskar S K Pottekkat Aur Unki shreshta Kahaniyam) were released by the President at the venue.

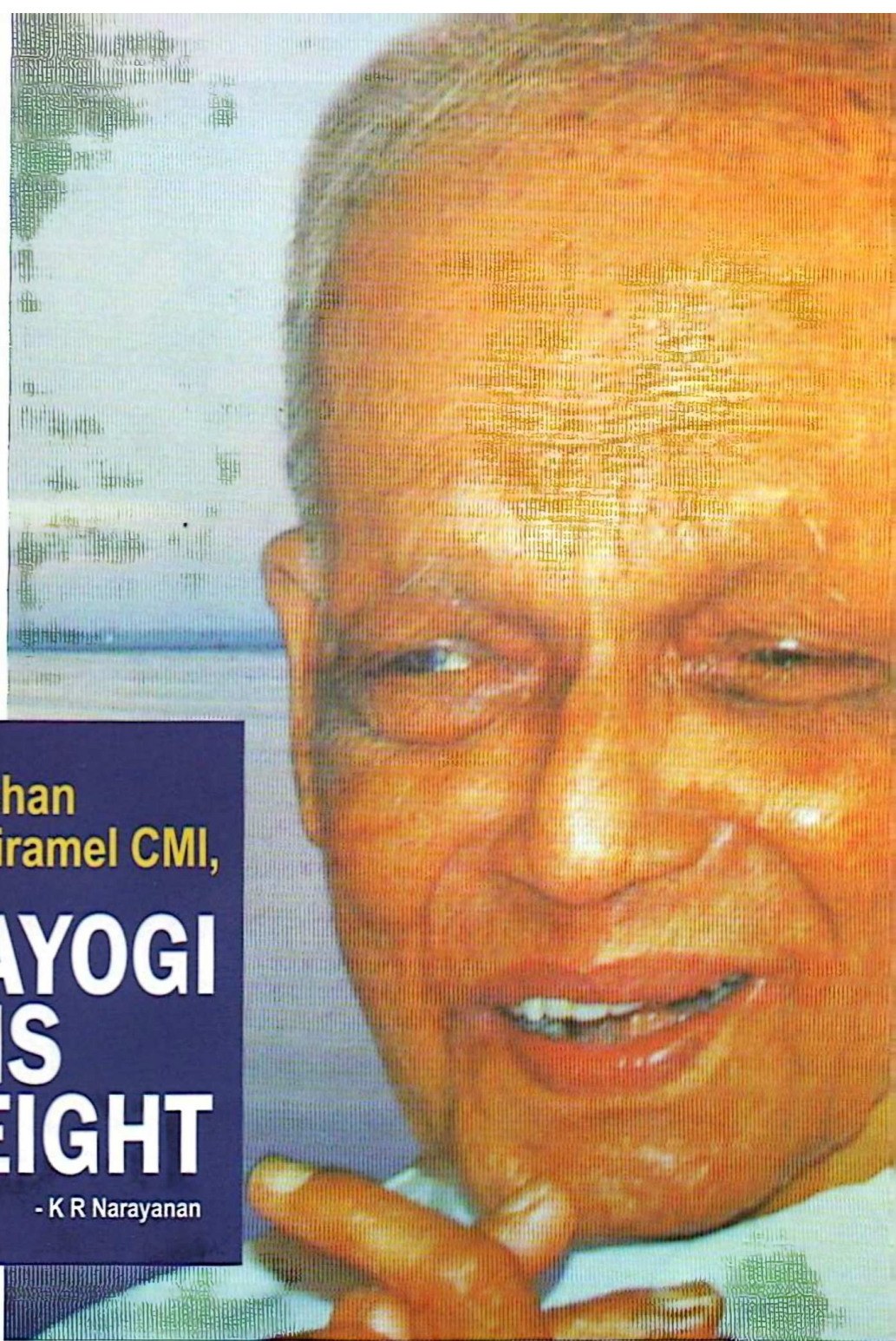
S K Pottekkat was not the same person now that his friends knew till then, after the death of his wife. Yet he was pressurized to hold several responsible positions such as President of Thunchan memorial Committee, Chairman of Abdurrahiman Memorial Committee, President of Uroob Memorial Nidhi,

President of the Committee for the anti pollution of water and Air, President of Indo-Arab friendship Committee etc.

On July 30, 1982, during his morning walk, SK fainted and was duly admitted to the Heart Hospital of Dr Balraj by friends. He suffered from cerebral haemorrhage and a cardio-attack. His left side became paralysed. While improvement was observed due to medical care, suddenly his kidney failed completely. On August 6, 1982 evening, S K Pottekkat left to join his beloved Jayavalli.

Kozhikode had never seen a funeral procession of this magnitude as it had seen during his last journey. Despite a cloudy sky and a drizzle, thousand joined the funeral procession from *Chandrakantam* to the crematorium along Mavoor Road.

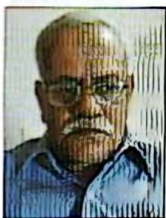
(To be continued)



**Padmabhushan
Rev. Fr. Gabriel Chiramel CMI,**

A KARMAYOGI TURNS NINETY EIGHT

- K R Narayanan



■ Padmabhushan Rev. Fr. Gabriel Chiramel CMI, the only Catholic priest who was honored by the Government of India (2007), with the civilian title of Padmabhushan for his

yeoman service in the field of Education, celebrated his 98th birthday on 11th December, 2012.

This humble Catholic priest - like the legendary Saint Vasishta of Ramayana - is considered by his students throughout the world as the "Preceptor" of the entire student community. He imparted

knowledge to the small children, the youth, the aspirants to priesthood, the nursing staff, young managers, scientists and many others for about seven decades. He taught them all how to learn and this learning process is endless and continues in spite of the fact that many of them have turned grey and some have reached great heights.

A priest of the Devamatha Province of the Carmelite Congregation of Mary Immaculate (CMI), Rev. Fr. Gabriel Chiramel was born as Chiramel Pavu Antony in the Manaloor village of Trissur district, and ordained on 2nd

June, 1942. Not only did he dedicate his life to the service of the Providence as a missionary, but also for the service of human beings as a scholar, scientist, a very benevolent teacher and an able guide of the youth.

His ability as an organizer and a manager is remarkable. Many of the educational, medical, para-medical, health-care and research institutions in Kerala created by him speak of his prowess of vision, organization and implementation.

Reputed as a "Master Builder of Institutions", Rev. Fr. Gabriel CMI is responsible for the

creation/establishment of innumerable institutions to take care of the educational, health-care and the general welfare needs of the young and old. The Christ College in Irinjalakuda (Thrissur district) and the well-known Amala Cancer Hospital & Research Centre in Thrissur are the jewels on his crown.

His selfless contributions to the Indian Society were recognized by the Government of India, and he was awarded the Padmabhushan on 26th January, 2007. Rev. Fr Gabriel CMI had also been bestowed with various laurels, for his services to the society.

Some of them are:

Award for educational and social contribution by Samskarika Sadassu, Thrissur (1991).

Honour for meritorious service in the fields of education and health by all Kerala Catholic Congress (1994).

Award for educational and social service by the Kerala Citizen Forum (1995).

Share and Care American Malayalee Award for Service (1996).

Award for the Man of the Century by Telegraph Daily (2000).

Award instituted by Better Life Movement, Aloor for service for society and recognition by Rotary International for service (2001).

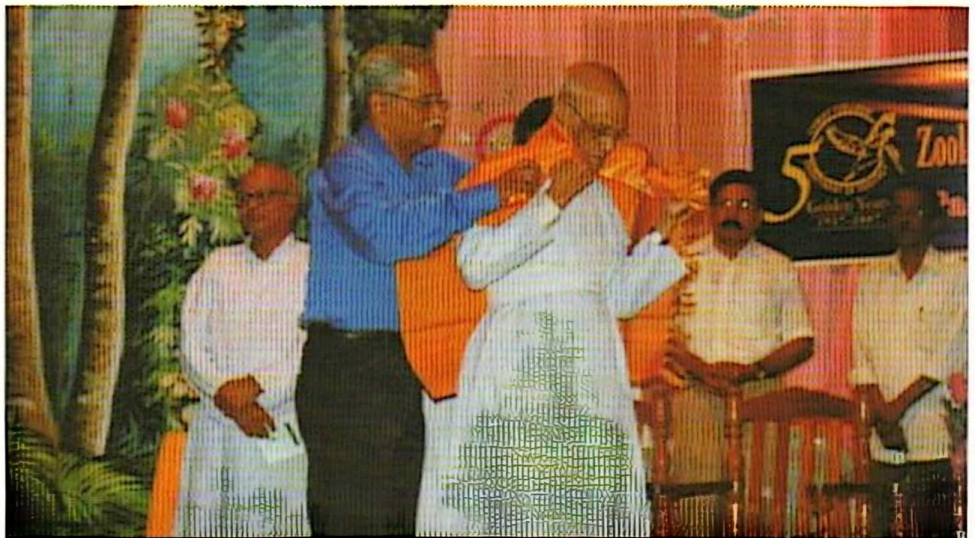
Sevan Mitra Award by C.V...M. Irinjalakuda for Human Service (2003).

Life Time Achievement Award by Assoc hem (2005).

In spite of all these laurels and recognitions, the 98 year old master of education, teaching and social service believes that "The faith bestowed by the youth in him is the most valuable reward in his life". He considers that thousands of children and youth - to whom he has been imparting knowledge are his real achievement in his life. "My children"



Rev. Fr. Gabriel CMI, receiving the Padmabhushan Award from Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, the then President of India (2007).



The author - a student of Rev.Fr. Gabriel CMI honoring him by draping a Golden Shawl When the latter was awarded the Padmabhushan by the Government of India

he often says, "are my biggest assets".

The student community of our generation profusely thanks their Gabriel Achan, for all his love, his

guidance and the immense knowledge he shared with them. They pray to the Providence to bless this Karmayogi with a very fruitful and peaceful life. ■



Amala Cancer Hospital & Research Centre, Thrissur



Christ College, Irinjalakuda (Trissur District)

GANESANS A WELL - BALANCED COUPLE

-Elvee

The sense of camaraderie and comfort between them is palpable to anyone who spends a few moments with Parur S Ganesan and his wife Lalitha. And that could be the secret of the couple's completing their 50 years of marital bliss, golden Jubilee celebrations, on January 27 this year.

Paur S Ganesan and his wife Lalitha can well be termed a model couple. They complement and complete each other. Hailing from North Parur, Ganesan completed his schooling in Kerala, MA from Loyola College in Chennai and came to Mumbai in 1961, did his LLB and Diploma in Public Relations and started working here.

Ganesan belongs to a family of lawyers. His father V Subramania Iyer was a lawyer in N Parur in Ernakulam district. He has three brothers and one sister among whom only one brother is living. Mother Parvathy Ammal hailing from Koovapadi in Ernakulam district, was a housewife.

He came to Mumbai in 1961, lived at Wadala, Santa Cruz and other places in various lodges, guest houses etc and finally settled in Chembur after marriage.

"Ours was a typical arranged traditional wedding," Ganesan



In Marks Square (Venice) feeding the pigeons

recollects. I had put forward three conditions to my parents: The girl must be a graduate and given the option to work after marriage, if she so desires. The horoscopes must match (I believe in astrology). I will not marry any relative of mine, which is a common practice among us in Kerala. The third condition I am sure went well with my uncles for I was often considered a rebel, leftist etc because of my different ways of thinking, hiccups in my academic career etc.”

Ganesan had gone traditionally to 'see' 12 girls for marriage but nothing clicked and Lalitha was the 13th girl he 'saw' and chose as his life partner.

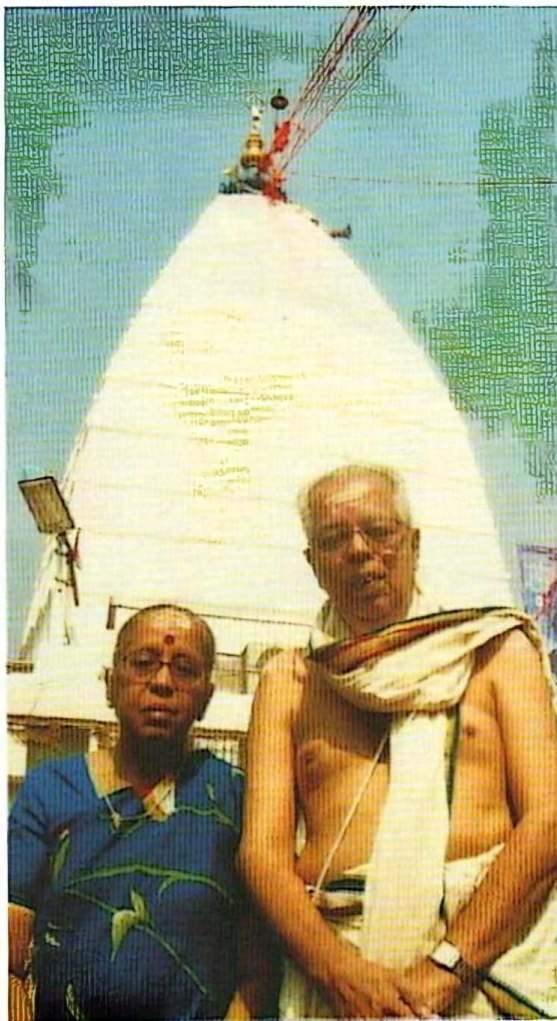
“ 13 is my lucky number. Lalitha was the 13th girl I saw and we are celebrating our 50 years of married life in 2013, “ Ganesan says proudly. Lalitha, native of Ayilam in Palakkad, was born and brought up in Mumbai stayed at Matunga and completed her schooling at SIWS Wadala and graduated in Economics from Ruia College.

Correspondence was exchanged



Ganesans at the Silver Jubilee anniversary of their wedding

“ My wife changed my dress habits from simple white pants, Bata chappals, single borderless dhotis to colourful pants, shirts, costlier chappals, shoes , double veshtis and so on. For all my own progressive suggestions her support was instant and assured, as in 1972, when I wanted to buy my first car, she took a loan from RBI for the same. And for the second car another loan again from RBI. ”



Ganesans during one of their temple visits

between the girls' and boy's parents, horoscopes matched, antecedents checked, his mother came to Mumbai all the way from her native town to 'see' the girl and the marriage was fixed. After a betrothal ceremony in Parur in November 1962, Ganesan tied the knot with Lalitha on January 23, 1963. It was a traditional Iyer wedding in Mumbai at Geet Govind Hall in Sion, attended by his relations who came from Kerala.

Lalitha's father is the late AS Viswanatha Iyer who had come to Mumbai in the 30s and worked with Lloyd's Bank for about 42 years. Her mother Parvathy also belonged to Kerala though her parents had settled in Mumbai a long time back. Lalitha comes from a large joint family and her lineage can be traced to ASP Iyer (ICS) of

Chennai. She has two sisters and two brothers all of them well settled in Mumbai.

Since Ganesan had to search for a house, he left his wife Lalitha at his parent's place in Parur for three months soon after marriage to familiarise herself with his folks and above all learn to read and write Malayalam since his mother knew only Malayalam.

Much to his astonishment, Lalitha learnt the language in three months' time, won over his parents and other relatives in Parur and above all brought music into their lives. There was a harmonium in Ganesan's house at Parur hardly used by anyone there. Lalitha had learnt Carnatic music for about 15 years in Mumbai and she brought the harmonium down and sang to its accompaniment. Ganesan's family started to appreciate her music. Thus this Mumbai born girl removed all apprehensions and fears from her in-laws' hearts and in course of time endeared herself to all her husband's relations who continue to love her and hold her in high esteem to this day.

As a token of appreciation for having learnt Malayalam in a short span of three months Ganesan gifted her 8 volumes of *Aithihya mala* by Kottarathil Sankunni which Lalitha treasures even today.

After settling down Lalitha took up a job in Mumbai, encouraged by her father in law as well as her husband and she worked with Reserve Bank of India from 1964 to 1986 when she took voluntary retirement to spend quality time with her husband.

Ganesan on his part, took up a job in the newly formed Central Government Indian Economics Services in the Tariff Commission office from 1965 to 1976 and later at SEEPZ till he took voluntary retirement in 1980 with full benefits. In 1980 he joined the private sector with Garware Polyester Ltd one of India's leading corporate houses and retired from there in 1994 as Director (Business Development and Public Relations). In 1994 Ganesan started on his own as Corporate Advisor to many Indian and a few Overseas Companies.

Lalitha worked in the Foreign Exchange Department in RBI from 1964 to 1986 and she was Exchange Control Officer in the Foreign Exchange Department of RBI, a very prestigious position in those days of FERA.

The couple now decided to enjoy life and pursue their passions and dreams and involve themselves in social activities. She took up her subjects of interests reading, stitching and travel. She has in her collection over a thousand music cassettes and LPs which she is now enjoying. A lover of reading she has also a huge library including books on Musicology.

The couple love to travel and have visited several places within India and abroad and to Kerala by car, stopping enroute to see places of tourist interests or temples on the way. They have gone on cluster travels, to the 12 jyothirling, Pancha Nathas, river Ganga at different spots, Churches of Seven Sisters (in Europe), Jerusalem and the Holy city etc.



Ganesan and Lalitha on their Wedding day

To make a success of a happy married life a lot of tolerance and adjustments is essential. I am honestly ignorant of money management and she does the entire job, of course, with my nod. I am an extrovert and enjoy all that is offbeat. She is traditional and that makes the balance even.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Right from childhood, Ganesan has been a student activist. In all the offices where he had worked, he founded a number of welfare bodies such as Co-operative banks, thrift funds, sports clubs and so on. Since 1990 until 2000 he was an appointee of the Maharashtra Government as Special Executive Magistrate/Officer. He was also appointed as "Police Mithra" and a badge holder of the Mumbai Municipal Corporation for assisting in civic hygiene and cleanliness. He was chairman of the Chembur Telephone User's Association and was very actively involved with the technical upgradation of the Telephone Exchange there. He is the Founder Chairman of the Pestom Sagar Citizens Forum as well as the Founder President of the Chembur Citizens' Forum. These contribute substantially to enhance the quality of life of the citizens. He successfully got a sub-way constructed in the Eastern Express Highway, connecting Pestom Sagar to Chheda Nagar much to the benefit of the residents. He renders free legal advice and service to deserving persons. He has created endowments in many schools and other institutions through

donations. All their endowments are made in the name of "Ganesans," on their birthdays, wedding anniversary etc for feeding the poor at Palani, Kashi and Shirdi.

Lalitha used to work for the nearby Holy Family school who in association with the Sisters of Mary were conducting free check up and medicines to the poor slum dwellers twice a week. When Ganesan was active with the Citizens Forum she supported him all through.

Awards and accolades

Reader's Digest honoured Ganesan in 2003 with a special feature on "Everyday Heroes of the World". He was recipient of "Me Mumbaikar Puraskar" for community service from Shiv Sena and co-ordinator for M ward (west) for the "Chak-a-Chak Mumbai"- a

movement for keeping Mumbai clean, initiated by the Government of Maharashtra through the Maharashtra Economic Development Council.

As a writer

Ganesan's publication (2006) on Divine Experiences with Lord Siddhivinayaka of Mumbai after an extensive research into the faith factor has been a hit. (This has since been telecast as a serial). Recently he published a book on "Death and After"- a Manual for post death obsequies. "SPARK PLUGS" (2009) highlights the renowned Activists of Chembur. "Ghosts, Occults and Exorcists-True and Real Experiences" detailing his personal experiences with apparitions was published in April 2010. He is currently toying with the idea of compiling and publishing a book for the empowerment of politicians and is in touch with some NGOs/Trusts for sponsoring this.

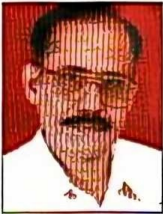
The couple enjoy occasional get-togethers with friends like their Silver Jubilee celebrations (1988), 'Just like that' (Lalitha's 50th birthday) his 60th birthday, 'And the peacock danced a thousand rains'(Lalitha's 60th birthday) and now 'Lunch on Leaf,' their 50th golden wedding anniversary. ■

Sardar K.M. Panikkar

Versatile Statesman, Diplomat, Historian, Poet

- V N Gopalakrishnan

Kavalam Madhava Panikkar popularly known as Sardar K.M. Panikkar was a scholar, journalist, historian, administrator and diplomat. Cultivating an interest in Malayalam literature at a very young age he became a lifelong friend of Vallathol Narayana Menon, one of the Kavithrayas of Malayalam



■ Kavalam Madhava Panikkar was a genius with command over a wide spectrum of subjects ranging from literature to administration, which he embellished in the

most accomplished manner. An academic to the core, a renowned diplomat, top ranking statesman with unimaginable credentials and intellectual capabilities, he was an incomparable phenomenon of the 20th century whose stature is far beyond present day comprehension. His proficiency in English helped him scale inconceivable heights both in life as well as his academic career.

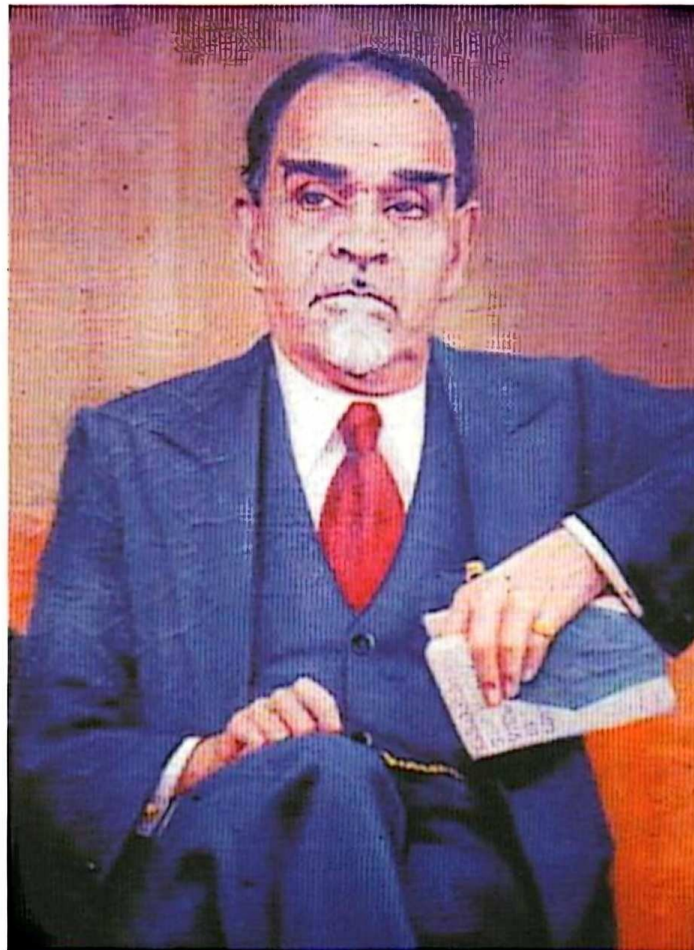
His maiden writing in English was an article on the freedom movement in Hungary which was carried by the *Indian Review* of Madras. The writer in Madhava Panikkar received an exposure when he was selected first in an English essay competition conducted for the Indian students in foreign countries by *Colonial Review*. The publication of this essay headlined 'Introduction to the Problems of Greater India' (1916) with a foreword by Sir. C.

P.Ramaswamy Iyer inspired him to write more. His brilliant articles which appeared in *Modern Review*, *Hindustan Review*, *Indian Review*, *Common Wheel*, etc. caught the attention of academics and intellectuals.

Madhava Panikkar had cultivated an interest in Malayalam literature at a very young age and became a lifelong friend of Vallathol Narayana Menon,

one of the *Kavithrayas* of Malayalam. His interests extended into diverse fields such as art, literature notably novels, poetry and *Kathakali*. He published over 50 books and numerous articles both in English and Malayalam and even translated some Greek plays into Malayalam verse. Like the Savyasachi who darted with both hands, he handled very sublime and beautiful Malayalam, both prose and poetry, with as much ease as he wrote English. His *Bhupasandesham*, *Sandhyatharam*, *Haidernaikker*, *Amruthalahari*,

Madhava Panikkar entered political life in the service of the Indian princes and became Secretary to the Chancellor of the Chamber of Princes (Organization of the rulers of the Princely States) and subsequently got the title 'Sardar'.



Swathanthryasamaram, *Pankiparinayam*, *Rasikarasayanam* (translation of Omar Khayam's *Rubayyath*), etc. still remain gems of Malayalam literature. *Kavitakautukam*, *Kirtanamala*, *Ambapali* and *Chadukti Muktavali* are his major poetic works. *Enapakshikal* is the

translation of a Chinese poem. *Kalyanamal*, *Dorasini*, *Dhumaketuvinte Udayam*, *Parankipadayali*, *Punarkottuswaroopam*, *Keralasimham* are his novels. *Keralasimham* is the popular novel which narrates the story of Pazhassi Raja. *Kavita Thatwanirupanam*, *Ugrasapatham*, *Apakwabhalam*, *Kurukshehtrathile Gandhari*, *Balikamatham*, *Chinthatarangini*, *Velu Thampi Dalawa*, *Natakathrayam* are some of his other works.

Panikkar was born to Puthillathu Parameswaran Namboodiri and Chalayil Kunjikutti Kunjamma in the village of Kavalam at Kuttanad in Kerala as their third child on May 15, 1894 (ME.1069). Though his forefathers hailed from Kasaragod, they had settled in Kavalam as the managers of the Pallarakavu temple in Alapuzha. Kuttanad is referred to as 'Kottonora' by the anonymous author of the Roman travelogue, *Periplus of the Eritrean Sea* was known as the rice bowl of Kerala and the hub of international commerce in those days.

Young Madhavan's grandmother taught him the basic alphabets and he studied in the school run by his uncle Kunjunny Panikkar. Up to the 7th Standard, he studied at the Maharaja's School, Thiruvananthapuram under the supervision of his brother and uncle. When he failed in Standard VII, he was admitted in a school at Anaprampal near Thalavady in Alapuzha and later on he studied at C.M.S. School, Kottayam. He passed the 10th Standard from St. Paul's High School, Madras and joined the Madras Christian College. After passing the Intermediate examination, his brother got him admission in the Christ Church College, Oxford University from where he graduated in History in 1917 and spent another year there learning Anthropology. The new experiences he gained from his London life coloured his imagination and enriched his academic excellence. He could write vividly about Oxford and its scholastic endeavours in some of the leading Malayalam publications like *Bhashaposhini*, *Kairali*, *Mangalodayam*, etc. While returning to India in 1918, the ship he was travelling in was torpedoed and he managed to escape unhurt and returned to England. In the following year, he returned to India and married Gauri Amma.

Madhava Panikkar first taught at the Aligarh Muslim University and later at the University of Calcutta. Later, he became the Vice-Chancellor of Jammu and Kashmir University and Mysore University. During this time, he was attracted to the Freedom Movement and met Mahatma Gandhi. Subsequently, he resigned from the University. He later joined *Swarajya* published from Madras as its Editor. He also had a chance meeting with T.K. Madhavan and presented before him the idea of Vaikom Satyagraha, though he himself did not participate in it. As desired by Mahatma Gandhi, he proceeded to Amritsar to work among the Sikhs. Subsequently, he joined the *Hindustan Times* in Delhi in 1924 as its first Editor. It was Mahatma Gandhi who inaugurated the daily and his son, Devdas Gandhi also joined the editorial board but later he left the Daily after differences with the management. During this time, he made friendship with Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru,

K.M Panikkar was the architect of India's naval doctrine and argued in his works more than fifty years ago that New Delhi should recognize the significance of the Indian Ocean for the development of its commercial activities, trade and security. The 'Panikkar Doctrine' (named after him) also emphasized the importance of the Indian Ocean for the defence of India.

Rabindranath Tagore, Sarojini Naidu and other national leaders.

In 1925, he read for the bar at the Middle Temple, London and later undertook a visit to Europe. During this trip, he met Dr. Chempakaraman Pillai in Germany. He also travelled to Portugal and Holland to do research on the involvement of these countries with Malabar. Two books titled *Malabar and the Portuguese* and *Malabar and the Dutch* were the outcome of his research. After a brief sojourn in Kashmir in January 1928, he wrote a book on Gulab Singh, the ruler of Kashmir and the various antecedents to the accession of Kashmir.

Madhava Panikkar entered political life in the service of the Indian princes and became Secretary to the Chancellor of the Chamber of Princes (Organization of the rulers of the Princely States) and subsequently got the title 'Sardar'. He spent 20 years

serving as Foreign Minister of the State of Patiala and as Foreign Minister and later as Chief Minister of the State of Bikaner (1944-47). In 1946, he became a member of the Constituent Assembly and also a member of the UN Mission.

Madhava Panikkar served as a member of the State Re-organising Committee (the Fazl Ali Commission). He suggested breaking up Uttar Pradesh into more manageable units. Disagreeing with the Commission's decision in favour of a large, undivided Uttar Pradesh, he stated that it would be imprudent to put one-sixth of the country's population into a single State. He also served for a while as member of the Public Service Commission.

After independence, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru entrusted him with greater responsibilities as Ambassador to China (1948-52), Egypt (1952-53) and France (1956-59). A severe stroke forced him to return to India. While in China, he played a key role in building better relations with Chiang Kai-shek. He

wrote of his experiences in the books titled *In Two Chinas* and *Asia and Western Dominance*. Jawaharlal Nehru used to recommend that the young people should read *Asia and Western Dominance*. The *Time* magazine once described him as the 'Bearded Panikkar' and noted his resemblance to Vladimir Ilich Lenin.

K. M. Panikkar was the architect of India's naval doctrine and argued in his works more than fifty years ago that New

Delhi should recognize the significance of the Indian Ocean for the development of its commercial activities, trade and security. The '*Panikkar Doctrine*' (named after him) also emphasized the importance of the Indian Ocean for the defence of India. K.M.Panikkar, like V.K. Krishna Menon was branded a leftist after the Chinese and Tibetan debacle. Though his name was considered for nomination to the Rajya Sabha, he declined the offer.

With extraordinary ability, he exposed before the intellectual community the western distortions in Indian history. In his criticisms written in conformity with the European colonial requirements, he gave strong replies to many of the historical confusions. His *A Survey of Indian History* is one of the classics of history which do away many misunderstandings born of European Indology. It elaborately analyses India's cultural expansion and the East-West

പ്രവാസം



പി ഭാസ്കരൻ നമ്പ്യാർ

പിറന്നുവീണ കേരളം തൃജിക്കുവാൻ വിധിച്ചവർ
വേദനയും കണ്ണുനീരും മുകരായ് സഹിച്ചവർ
കേൾക്കുവിൻ പ്രവാസി നാമൊരമ്മ പെറ്റ മക്കളൊ-
ണെന്ന ബോധമെന്നുമെന്നും നമ്മളിൽ വളർത്തണം.

എത്ര ദുഷ്കരങ്ങൾ നാം നടന്നുവന്ന പാതകൾ
മരിക്കുവോളമാക്കൊഴിഞ്ഞ നാളുകൾ സ്മരിക്കണം.
ഓണമു വങ്ങളെല്ലാമോരോർമ്മയിൽ തെളിച്ചവർ
ശുഹാതുരത്വാനോന്മരം വിതുവലിൽ കെടുത്തിയോർ.

സമരപരിവേഷങ്ങളില്ല, പണിമുടക്കു, തല്ലുമില്ല
കഠിനജോലി സഹനശീലമാപ്പുവാക്യമാക്കിയോർ
തുച്ഛമായ വേതനംകൊണ്ടെത്രനാൾ കഴിഞ്ഞു നാം
കഷ്ടതയകറ്റിടാനായ് പട്ടിണി കിടന്നവർ.

എന്റേനാടിതെന്ന ചിന്ത നെഞ്ചിലേറ്റിയന്നുമിന്നും
ജന്മനാടിൻ പൈതൃകമുയർത്തുവാൻ ശ്രമിപ്പൂ നാം
ഓർക്കുവിൻ പ്രവാസി നാമൊരമ്മ പെറ്റ മക്കളൊ-
ണൊത്തുചേർന്നുയർന്നിടാം ഉണർത്തുപാട്ടു പാടിടാം.

ദൂരയാണു താമസം വിധിച്ചിരുന്നതെങ്കിലും
വിദ്യമല്ല മാതസം പിറന്ന നാട്ടിൽ നിശ്ചയം
നോക്കുവിൻ പ്രവാസി നാമൊരമ്മ പെറ്റ മക്കളൊ-
ണന്യനാട്ടിലന്നുമിന്നും സ്നേഹമായ് കഴിയുവോർ.

എന്റേനാടിതെന്ന ചിന്ത എത്രയും മഹത്തരം
എന്റേദേശമെന്ന വാദമെത്ര മാതൃകാപരം
ജാതിയും മതങ്ങളും വിഭിന്നമായതെങ്കിലും
ഒരേയൊരമ്മ പെറ്റ മക്കളൊണതോർക്കുക.

* * * * *
വാൾത്തലക്കു മുർച്ചകൂട്ടി കൊടി പിടിച്ചു കൊല നയിക്കും
കപടദേശഭക്തരാം നേതാക്കളെല്ലാമറിയണം
ഇങ്ങുദൂരെയമ്മനാടിൻ രോദനങ്ങൾ കേട്ടിടുന്നു
മാപ്പുസാക്ഷിയാക്കിടൊല്ലേ പാവമീ പ്രവാസിയെ.



ഇന്നു നിങ്ങളേന്തിടുന്ന കത്തിയും കഠാരിയും
നാളെ സ്വന്തം നെഞ്ചുകീറി ശാപമായി തുളച്ചിടും
ഇത്തിരി ദയയ്ക്കുവേണ്ടി കാൽക്കൽ വീണു കെഞ്ചിയോർ
ഇല്ല; മാപ്പുസാക്ഷിയായി വരികയില്ലൊരിക്കലും.

ചോരയിൽ പുളയുംസ്വന്തമച്ഛനെ പുണർന്നതും
വിധവയായൊരമ്മയും കരഞ്ഞുറങ്ങും പെങ്ങളും
മകന്റെ പ്രാണവേദനകണ്ടു ഭ്രാന്തിയായ വൃദ്ധയും
മറന്നിടാൻ ശ്രമിക്കിലും ദുസ്വപ്നമായ് തെളിഞ്ഞിടും.

പാതകം നടത്തിടുന്ന ഘാതകന്റെ പാപവും
നിസ്സഹായയായ് കരയുമമ്മതന്റെ ശാപവും
കാലമെത്രമാറിയാലും മായുകില്ലൊരിക്കലും
ശൂലമായ് തറച്ചിടും നിൻ ഹൃത്തി, ലെന്നുമോർക്കണം.

നിദ്രാശൂന്യരാത്രിയിലുംണുതുളളും കോമരം
തലയ്ക്കുമേൽ വാളുറഞ്ഞു താണുവം ചവിട്ടീടും
സാന്ത്വ്യസന്തോഷങ്ങളെല്ലാം ശൂന്യവാക്കിൽ നീറിടും-
മൊശാത്ഥമാവായ് മാറീടു, മീ ധരിത്രിയിൽ അലഞ്ഞീടും

* * * * *
ദേവഭൂമി കേരളത്തെ യുദ്ധഭൂമിയാക്കീടാതെ
സ്നേഹനൂലിൽ കോർത്തിണക്കാൻ സമയമായി കൂട്ടരേ
കക്ഷിചേർന്നു വ്യക്തിയെ കശാപ്പു ചെയ്കയല്ല ദേശ-
ഭക്തിയെന്ന സത്യവും ശ്രഹിക്കുവാൻ ശ്രമിക്കണം.

എന്റേനാടിതെന്ന ചിന്ത എത്രയും മഹത്തരം
എന്റേദേശമെന്ന വാദമെത്ര മാതൃകാപരം
ജാതിയും മതങ്ങളും വിഭിന്നമായതെങ്കിലും
ഒരേയൊരമ്മ പെറ്റ മക്കൾ നാം പ്രവാസികൾ.

cultural contact in ancient times. It is interesting to look at how he responds to British writings on Indian history. For instance, he exposes the European writers' deliberate depiction of Emperor Asoka as the Buddhist Constantine and the fallacy of looking at Indian history through European spectacles. Throughout his writings on Indian history and culture, he reminded Indians of their cultural coherence and strength. A doyen among historians, all his works such as *Hindu Society at Crossroads*, *Sri Harsha of Kanauj*,

India and China, *India and Indian Ocean*, *In Two Chinas*, *History of Kerala*, *Malabar and the Dutch*, *Malabar and the Portuguese etc.* are veritable sources of history. His valuable contributions to Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's *History and Culture of the Indian People* are the reflections on the versatility of the country's history and culture. K. M. Panikkar was crowned with much recognition, which few could match. He was a member of the National Academy of Letters (later Kendra Sahitya Academy) and

Chairman of Kerala Academy of Letters (later Kerala Sahitya Academy). He was Chairman of UNESCO's Advisory Committee to write on the cultural values of East and West. He was one of the three editors appointed by the UN for its project of writing the *History of Mankind* along with Caroline Ware and J. M. Romain. The book was well recognized and continues to be appreciated by scholars. This rare Indian who carved a niche for himself among the international community of scholars breathed his last on December 10, 1963. ■



TULU AS TEMPLE PRIESTS IN KERALA

The Tulu Brahmins in Kerala are known by both the names of Embrans or Embrantiris. They came from Tulunad, North of Chandragiri River, from Kasargod and neighbouring places.

- G H Ananthanarayanan



■ Based on the time they arrived in Kerala, they have been classified into three categories. In the first category fall the children of those who arrived first. The Pottis who are the

Ooralars of the Shri

Padmanabhaswamy temple and the Pottis at the ten Illams fall in the first category. The second category of Pottis are those who came from South Karnataka. Their customs and practices are akin to those of Namboothiris. In this category there is a sub-category, which goes by the name Thiruvalla Desis, because they first settled down in Thiruvalla and its surroundings in the erstwhile Travancore State. They are found mostly in Chengannoor and Venmani villages. Their head is located in Mampilly Pandaram, which is also known as Vanjippuzha Mukhyan. Those in the third category are also those who came from South Karnataka. They are known as Embranmar or Embranthirimar.

Origin

Most historians are agreed that it was King Mayuravarman Kadamba who brought genuine Brahmins to Tulunadu and settled them there sometime in the 8th century. He is said to have brought them from Ahiksetra or Ahichhatra. Different historians have given different versions about the location of Ahiksetra. The Puranic Ahichhatra was

the capital of North Pancala and is to be identified with Ramnagar in Bareilly District, where a fortress is to be found. It was also called Chatravati in Mahabharata. One historian locates Ahichhatra in Telengana and states that Haiga and Tuluva Brahmins were brought in by Mayuravarman from there. Another historian locates it on the banks of the Godavari River. Still another has suggested that Ahiksetra was merely the Sanskritised form of Higa or the land of the snakes. Traditions speak of Brahmanas having been brought from Gokarnam, which is in the northernmost part of Higa.

Another tradition speaks of Brahmanas as having come from Valabhipur in Kathiawar, consequent on the destruction of Valabhi by the Arabs in the 7th or 8th century. It is said that Mayuravarman himself hailed from Valabhi.

Mayuravarman is said to have brought 32 families. They were settled in Kandarpakanana (3 families), Gokarna (4 families), on the banks of the Suktimati in Koteswara (2 families), on the banks of Sitanadi at Ajapuri and Gajapuri (2 families each) at Udipi's Rajatapitha (10 families) and on the northern banks of Netravati (9 families). After the death of Mayuravarman, these families returned to Ahiksetra. His son, Chandrangadan recalled them. He granted land to these 32 families and assigned them tenants to till the land. According to traditions in Kerala, Parasurama is said to have brought in 64 families of Brahmins from

Aryabhoomi, who were the Namboothiris. He is said to have divided Kerala into the following divisions: i) Haiga from Gokarna to Sitanadi, ii) Tularajya from Sitanadi to the Payasvini river, iii) Kularajya from the Payasvini river to Pudukattana, iv) the Keralarajya from Pudukattana to Kanneli and v) Musika. The 32 villages where Mayuravarman settled them are their important centers. The places Sri Valli, Koda, Kotteswaram, Udipi and Kandavar are their chief centres. Their subdivisions have taken their names from these villages. They are followers of Bhattacharya.

It was Kolathiri (the dynasty of kings who ruled with their capital at Mt. Eli or Ezhimala and held sway over Chirakkal and Kasargode areas), who brought Tulu Brahmins to Kerala. There was a rift between the Perinchellur Namboothiris and Kolathiris. As a result, the Kolathiri replaced the Namboothiris with Tulu Brahmins to conduct their religious rites and rituals. When in the 14th century, the Venad Kingdom adopted two princesses from the Kolathiri royal family, ten Embranthiri families took up residence in Travancore to take care of the performance of their religious rites and rituals.

In the Padmanabhaswamy temple in Thiruvananthapuram, the Tulu Brahmins are accorded a place next to Namboothiris. They are also entrusted with certain duties and responsibilities in the temple. They are divided into two groups called Akkara Desi and Ikkara Desi. The former came from the northern



Ananthapura temple of Tulu Brahmins near Kasargode

side of Chandragiri river and the later from the southern side. Divakara Muni had a strong hold on the Padmanabhaswami temple and it is believed that it was due to his influence that the Tulu Brahmins got a hold on that temple. The management of this

temple is in the hands of a Trust of which the Maharaja is the supreme head. The other trustees are one Sanyasi (Namboothiri), six Potties and one Nair Chieftain. This trust is called 'Ettara Yogam'. Pottis have the right to participate in mura japam subject to

their qualifying in a preliminary test. In the Suchindram temple, Namboothiris have the exclusive right to perform the pujas of the main deities in the north and the south. Tulu Brahmins can perform the pujas only in the Kailasanathaswamy, Subramaniaswamy, Aran-Vathalaman, Kalabhairavan, Makalai and Jayanthiswaram. While Namboothiris conduct the pujas in the Pazhayannur Bhagavathy temple of the King of Kochi located in the Dutch palace at Mattanchery, it is the Tulu Brahmins who conduct the pujas in the Palliarakavu temple of the King. Tulu Brahmins began to enter into matrimonial alliances with Sudra women from about the latter half of the 14th century. Like the Konkana Brahmins, the Tulu Brahmins also speak their mother tongue at home. Outside they communicate in Malayalam. Their rituals and customs are the same as those of Namboothiris and they are accepted as equal to them. Some of them are Sama Vedis following the Aswalayana Sutra. The Tulu Brahmins have made a very significant contribution to the growth of the hotel industry. ■



H.H. Chattampi Swami Thiruvadikal

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Maharashtra Nairs 

Vagdevatha

For literary and cultural roots

- Sriprakash Menon

With a sizeable Malayalam population in Pune it is not surprising that magazines and Malayalam literature would crop for the linguistic diaspora over a period of time. As activities of Malayalees grew with the onset of new Samajams, social and spiritual organisations, special booklets and annual issues were published for the Malayalam readers periodically. Malayalees however felt there was enough space for a Malayalam magazine within Pune's city and suburban areas.

In 1993, *Malayala Sabdam* was launched by K V John for the exclusive Malayalam readers and soon became popular yet around 2000 it ceased its publication. There was a void for the local Malayalam readers for some time but soon *Pravasi*

Sabdam by K Harinarayanan in the tabloid format was launched that later turned in to magazine format. In 2010 another Malayalam publication *Vagdevatha* was launched by P Velayudhan who had earlier been associated with

Malayala Sabdam and had come to Pune in search of a job from Nileshwaram (Kasaragod) to Pune after completing his graduation in 1993.

Velayudhan editor and publisher of *Vagdevatha* initially worked with the Sree Krishna Temple at Nigdi before joining the editorial team of John. Since he had done the *Moffussil Reporter* course from Kerala Press Academy he

soon took over as the editor of the *Malayala Sabdam*.

"I wanted to do something different after coming to Pune and John gave me a platform to show my potentials. Later due to old age John was unable to manage the publication and he stopped publishing of *Malayala Sabdam*", Velayudhan recalled. "For Pune's about five lakhs Malayalee community



Velayudhan P

literary and cultural monthly with topical news was essential. We have an English section for budding writers/artistes of Pune to nurture their talents. *Vagdevatha* is also a forum for promoting various art forms including music and theatre from Kerala. We have a subscriber base of less than 10,000 but in couple of years we would surely be around

25,000", he hoped.

Velayudhan said "the readership is increasing and we are getting requests from Bangalore, Delhi, Kerala, UAE and other parts of Maharashtra. *Vagdevatha* covered current affairs, poems, stories, travelogue, cookery, Vastu Sastra, film reviews, astrology and news relating to Malayalees in Pune. We are becoming a bridge between Malayalees of Pune and Kerala since we publish varieties of articles that caters to the various tastes of Malayalees.

Though there are few other publications from Pune like *Pravasi Sabdam*, *Sargam* quarterly bulletin,

Vagdevatha is well accepted and encouraged by the Malayalees of Pune".

The objective of *Vagdevatha* is also to provide a proper platform for Pune Malayalees to showcase their

talents in various fields, he said recounting

"We organised an exclusive international film festival for Malayalees last year and screened five best films from all over the world followed by an open forum for discussion with film personalities on various aspects of film making. Noted Tamil film actor



Sapna Velayudhan




Nasser was awarded *Vagdevatha Puraskaram* on the occasion. Then we conducted a Theatre Festival involving professional troupe from Kerala and local talents from Pune in September last year. During the theatre festival, *Vagdevatha Puraskaram* was given to film actor Devan who is not only a good actor but also a political activist." Last year during Onam, he said "we organised an *Aksharamala*, teaching/guidance programme for the children to familiarize them with the Malayalam alphabets with the aim that each child should be able to write his/her own name and parents name in Malayalam by the end of this event. This programme was conducted in association with various Malayalee organizations. In February 2012 we staged two dance dramas by artistes from Pune based on the poems of two eminent Malayali poets, "Poothapattu" by Edasserri Govindan Nair and "Kurathi" by Kadammanitta Ramkrishnan. These two classic works provided visual impact through the medium of dance- dramas depicted in the various ancient dance and other martial art forms of Kerala. During the Kavyasilpam programme we also did a dramatized version of well known Malayalam short story writer Santosh Echikkanam "Komala" by local artistes. On that occasion veteran theatre personality, TV and film actor V.P. Ramachandran was honoured with *Vagdevatha Puraskaram*. In April this year *Vagdevatha* in association with Nigdi Sri Krishna Temple organized triple *Thayambaka* of Padmashri Mattannur Sankarankutty Marar with his sons. In order to recognize the contribution made by Sankarankutty in the field of *Melam* and *Thayambaka*, *Vagdevatha Puraskaram* was bestowed upon him", he explained. Now, *Vagdevatha* has made a foray into film association with Bats and Crows Productions and has produced their first movie "Forgotten Memories" which focused on serious social issues. The film is directed by national award winning director Rajeev Raj. This film will be sent to various film festivals in India and abroad according to Velayudhan. Next year, *Vagdevatha* is planning to organise Malabar Folk Festival, *Sahitya Sammelan*, *Nataka Kalari* and Malayalam Film Festival in 2013. Velayudhan's busy schedule did not deter him from doing an MBA from Kerala University. Presently, he is working with Kirloskar Oil Engines and is also a *chenda* artiste. "My wife Sapna is the owner and publisher of *Vagdevatha*. She is a post

graduate in English Literature and was working as a sub editor with Madhya Pradesh Chronicle in Bhopal before marriage", he noted. *Vagdevatha* has great objectives and let

us hope Pune Malayalees will sustain and help the growth of this cultural and literary organisation for connecting the present generation of Malayalees to their roots. ■



Social personality Rajan V Nair giving the Mumbai Mahila Ratnam Award (Jwala Award) to Adv Padma Divakaran for her contribution to society



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The injured times

-Ashwati

It was veteran journalist Kuldip Nayar who started jotting down points on issues that created history in the life of the nation and published them in the form of a book, 'Between the lines.' Later he chose the same title for his popular newspaper column. These jottings help the new generation to pick up the threads of history to understand the future of the country.

The jottings at the end of each day, help an individual to remember the days he lived and shaped his life till the last second and we call it a diary. It helps his next generation to find their roots and aids to direct the objective of their lives. The diary, written by the Editor or the editorial board of a magazine, does exactly the same. It finds out the most important issue or event since the last published issue till the current one and thus helps the reader to focus on the most important issue, in the magazine's perspective, to reflect upon. In 'Murhivetta Kālam' (The Injured Times), U N Gopi Nair,



Chief Editor of 'Jwala', a monthly magazine published from Mumbai and dealing with the issues concerning the city and its residents, compiles the editorials he penned during the last five years, 2007-'12.

Gopi Nair has covered innumerable issues that affected the common people of this dream city as well as our native state Kerala besides India. Though everyone may not concur with his views, it would help one to ponder over those issues. The most important aspect is that they would serve as pointers to the events that we knew but soon forgot. These jottings have some historical importance.

Though not free from the printer's devil, it is produced well and priced moderately.

['Murhivetta Kālam' by U N Gopi Nair, published by Smitha Publications, Mumbai

400 078. Pages 160 and priced Rs.120.]

When the shady trees blossom

The cosmopolitan city of Mumbai witnessed thousands of people from the other parts of the country thronging to it to elk out a living, better the existence or realise their dreams. Those people eventually settled down here and helped their relations and friends to follow suit. Though a lion share of these emigrants just survived as quite ordinary people, a few of them realized their dreams and gave back to the society what they received from it. K M Lowrence introduces twenty such extra ordinary individuals in this book 'Thanalmaram poothulayunnu' (When the shady trees blossom). They are already known to those who mingle with th societal section but it would be inspirational to those who are not so lucky.

The names of those people who appear in the pages of this



Book release of *Thanalmarangal poothulayunnu* during the Jwala Awards function

book are not intended to be mentioned here. The matter is left to those who are indulged enough to go through the pages to find out.

['*Thanalmarangal poothulayunnu* by K M Lowrence, Bhandup and published by Smitha Publications, Mumbai 400 078. Pages 151 and priced Rs.120.]

KNP Nambisan

Master of Rhythm

- Lakshmi V

An orchestra with as many as a dozen instruments played by a single artiste is a unique event. And this is what KNP Nambisan has achieved in his artistic life. It is a treat for the connoisseur and the most meticulous and demanding lover of music.

KNP Nambisan plays musical instruments such as *Edakka, Mridangam, Ghatam, Ganjira, Chenda, Maddalam, Thavil, Tabla, Pakhwaj, Dolak* for several dance, music and solo performances in and out of Mumbai. He is the only percussion artiste in Mumbai who can play various

types of musical instruments particularly Kerala traditional temple instruments. Nambisan is a classical instrumentalist who has given rhythm for Bharatanatyam, Mohiniattam, Kathakali, Ottan Thullal, Dance Ballets, Carnatic Concert and various other art forms. He has also accompanied for legends like



Kalamandalam Ramankutty Ashan (Kathakali), Kalamandalam Krishnan Kutty Varrier, Gopi Krishna, Kalamandalam Sundaranarayanan, Kizhakoot Aniyam Marar (*Chenda*), Padmashree Dr. Kanak Rele (Mohiniattam), Dr. Leela Omcheri, Kalamandalam Kshemavathi, Kalamandalam Hymavathi, Dr. Nina Prasad (Delhi), Kalamandalam Leelamma, Gopika Varma (Madras),

Hema Malini (film star), Meenakshi Seshadri (film star), Aishwarya Varrier, Udyogamandalam Vikraman Pillai, Kalamandalam Gopalakrishnan, Lata Surendra, Dr Sandhya Purecha and several others. Nambisan has a thorough knowledge in Carnatic *Thalams* as well as Kerala Kathakali *Thalams*. He started learning Mridamgam at the tender age of six, from Thrissur Appu Iyer for a short period and then continued with Eranellur Narayana Pisharody. His teacher for Carnatic vocal was Nelluvai Krishnankutty Marar, he learnt *Chenda* from Nelluvai Kuttan Marar, basic Edakka from Pallimanna Narayana Marar and dance from Kalamandalam Sundaranarayanan Master.

Traditional Family Background

Nambisan is the third son of Nelluvai KN Neelakantan Nambisan, an eminent Sanskrit scholar and a noted Malayalam poet belonging to Kizhepat Pushpakam, one of the famous *Tharavads* of the agriculturally rich Nelluvai Village in Thrissur district. KN Neelakantan Nambisan was a Sankrit scholar, Malayalam pandit and poet who held the title of *Shiromani*, was a Teacher at Vivekodayam High School, Thrissur and had many students around the world. His father's brother was the Late Kalamandalam Neelakantan Nambisan, the maestro of Kathakali music - a Teacher at Kerala Kalamandalam, who later became its Principal and trained several students who are all presently famous singers. Nambisan's mother, Sreedevi Brahmini Amma is also from a traditional art family of Peruvanam, Cherpu.

After completing his formal education, training in the traditional musical art forms and with a knowledge of shorthand and typing, Nambisan came to Mumbai in 1969 with his percussion instruments and with hopes



Nambisan with Ranjini, Rajesh and Girija

to take up a job and to make a career out of arts.

He approached Dr. Kanak Rele, Mohiniattam dance Scholar. She offered him a job as a stenographer with a condition that he accompany her dance performances which gave him a chance to build contacts all over Mumbai's dance and music fields and expand his opportunities. He also received a lot of support to develop his art from Basant, who was a music director in the Mumbai drama field. Initially Nambisan was playing for Drama Songs and Orchestra on Tabla and Congo Drum. He was also a dancer and directed dances for several dramas. He has also composed music for famous Drama Directors like Anthappan, Venu of Prathibha Theatres, KG Kodungallur, Kumaran, Dr. Madhavan, Pavithran Kannapuram and Kaimal.

Rhythms for Dance and Music Shows

In a dance performance like Kathakali, the percussion beats are as important as the singer's voice and conveys the feelings that the dancer expresses through hand gestures and

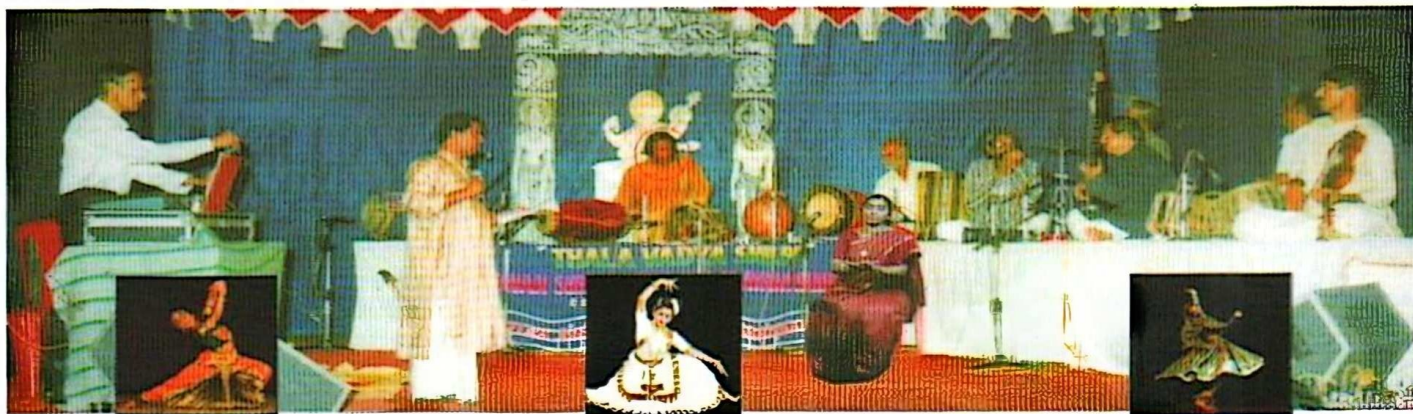
facial expressions, according to Nambisan.

For more than four decades, Nambisan has given support through his various percussion instruments to more than 5000 classical dance and music shows which include Demonstrations, Workshops, Dance Ballets, Kathakali, Thayampaka, Solo and Group performances in India and the UK and Europe, Hong Kong, Singapore, Korea, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Poland, Budapest, Switzerland, Rome, Paris, Czechoslovakia, Muscat, Sharjah etc. on several occasions. Hearing Nambisan's Edakka Play, a foreigner once remarked that it was a 'speaking instrument'.

Rhythm-Mics

Nambisan has created three dance and musical *jugalbandhis*.

Once the writer - poet Dr Chummar Choondel seeing his percussion play on 3 different instruments, asked him to create an Instrumental Musical Programme and that was his first effort to create a Musical Jugalbandhi *sapta raga thala vadya tarangam* in which he used 7 Ragas, 7 Talas, 7 Percussions and it was performed on more than 20 stages in India. The second production was a



Souparnikamrutam - dance and musical jugalbandhi



Nambisan as a boy (left) with other artistes from Kerala during 1967 Republic Day celebrations at Delhi with Smt Indira Gandhi. Nambisan's Guru Kalamandalam Sunderanarayanan Master (extreme right second row).

Dance and Musical Jugalbandhi *Souparnikamrutham* in which there are three Classical Dance forms, more than a dozen Rhythm, String and Wind instruments and this was also presented on more than 10 stages. Both the above *Jugalbandhis* are sponsored by Department of Culture, Delhi. The Third Musical Jugalbandhi is *Kshetra Kala Vadya Manjari* in which 10 Kerala traditional temple instruments are used namely, *Chenda, Maddalam, Thimala, Edakka, Kombu, Kuzhal, Thalam, Shanku, Chengala and base Chenda*. This was presented at Kerala and in Mumbai at Lalitha Kalalayam's Annual Day 2012 function.

Awards and Recognitions

Nambisan has received several titles and mementoes from Smt Indira Gandhi, former Prime Minister of India and Marshal Tito, during Independence Day Celebrations at Delhi continuously for three years 1967, 1968 and 1969. Dr. Chumar Choondel conferred on him the title of *thala vadya shilpi*, Prof. George S. Paul the title of *Master of Rhythm* and *Sarva kala Vallabhan*. Nambisan also received a Sangeetkar Award the *Rashtra Gaurav Puraskar* in 2001 from Pune and the *Best Citizen Of India Award* in 2009 from New Delhi. Nambisan has also availed of UNESCO Membership from

2001.

Nambisan has completed more than 43 years as a performing artiste in Mumbai as well as in Kerala. He is a 'B' Grade Artist of All India Radio and 'A' Grade Artist of Mumbai Cine Association. He has accompanied for



Receiving the Rashtra Gaurav Puraskar

Famous Music Directors of Mumbai, Laxmikant Pyarelal, R.D. Burman, Vanraj Bhatia etc. His memorable playing on *Chenda, Maddalam, Edakka, Mrindagam*, was in Shyam Benegal's *Bharat Ek Khoj* in which Vanraj Bhatia had composed the Music.

Dance Guru

Nambisan underwent training Classical dance under Guru Kalamandalam Sunderanarayanan Master who was a Kathakali Artist as

"A life without the arts is a living death. I will love my art till my last breath"

well as a Dancer. When Master was working with Kerala Famous dance ballet group of Guru Shadow Gopinathan, Nambisan used to accompany his Guru. After his arangettám at Nelluvai Temple at a very young age, he had performed dances in the temples of Kerala.

Nambisan has choreographed more than a dozen dance ballets which are all based on mythological and historical stories *Bhasmasura-Mohini, Shri Dharma Sastha Pasupatharsthrum, Mahabali, Kaleeya Mardhanam, Duravastha, Ma-Nishada, Shiv Shakthi Tharakasura Vadham, Devi Mahatmyam*. The Department of Culture, New Delhi sponsored his dance ballet *Ritu Samharam* in 1999. His latest dance ballet, *Jesus-the Great* in 2012 is ready to be performed on the stage.

Academic Experience

For the past 27 years, Nambisan has been working with Dr. Kanak Rele's Mumbai University Affiliated Institution of Nalanda Nritya Kala Maha Vidyalaya at Juhu as a Teacher-cum Accompanist. Nambisan is the Director of education of his own institution Lalitha Kalalayam Fine Arts Academy Trust at Dombivli and Founder-Director of Ranjini Rasika Sabha Trust (A Natya Kala Kendra) Nelluvai, Kerala. Both are recognized by Kerala Sangeet Nataka Academy, Thrissur, Kerala.

Family

Nambisan's wife Girija, works for the Western Railways. She is a String Instrumental Veena *Vidushi* and hails from a traditional art family, Kodungallur Pushpakam, She has a Diploma in Veena from Bangalore and her father was a Veena Vidwan at Kodungallur Palace. They have one son Rajesh, who has taken *Visharad* Diplon in Mridamgam and is Administrative Manager of Lalitha Kalalayam Fine Art Academy, Dombivli, Mumbai. The hav a daughter, Ranjini who holds a Diplon in Bharatanatyam from Bharatiya Sangeet Samithi, Mumbai and MBA from Mumbai University. She is a Dance Teacher in Lalitha Kalalayam Fine Arts Academy and is also working in a private firm. Ranjini married Siddharth recently. ■



9th raagalaya

Music Awards

Raagalaya Academy of Music and Arts is a registered charitable trust in Mumbai. In order to honour the stalwarts of the popular music world, Raagalaya presents a musical award nite every year and to encourage the budding talents, Raagalaya conducts a light music contest for amateur singers and the winners are awarded at the hands of reigning music stalwarts. For the first time, Raagalaya is also conducting a contest for performing arts. In the new contest, dancers are encouraged to participate in Mohiniattam (single contestant), kaikottikkali and oppana (group of 6 to 10 participants). The contests will be held on January 26 (for music) and 27 for dances. Interested participants may send their details along with an entry fee of Rs.200 per participant to Raagalaya's office on or before January 20, 2013. Even if a participant is willing to participate in all items, he or she needs to send only Rs.200. Photographs of the winners will be published in the February 2013 issue (Third Anniversary Special) of Kerala in Mumbai. They will be given their awards (Cash prize along with trophy) on the Annual Day scheduled to be held at Kalidasa Natya Mandir, Mulund on 10th February 2013.





Dr C N N Nair

The Pilgrimage

*

I

Stood

On the banks

Of the river of Time;

Fresh from innocence, enveloped in fragrance.

Alone, blissful and hopeful; music flowing through my flute

In ecstatic union with nature

Alone I stood, on the banks

Of the river

Of Time.

**

Many a procession did I watch; of seasons,

Of tears and mirth, of joy and sorrow;

My empty bag was filled with petals,

Dry leaves, fruits, birds and bees.

The bells I heard: the music began to fade,

My flute began to warp and crack.

My soul was full; I thought; I felt

I would be waiting for ever and ever!

**

The

River of Time

Beckoned; I knew

The weary wait was over.

Without moving an inch, I had traveled afar.

Casting my bag away, lightened in body and soul,

Atremble as a bird fluttering its wings;

On the banks of the

River of Time

Stand

I

*



at hands of Ms Sudha Chandran and other dignitaries. Raagalaya Music Award 2012 is dedicated to the veteran Music Director Shri K Raghavan. The first recipient of Performing arts is the most popular dancer cum actress Ms Sudha Chandran. Both the awards consist of a purse of Rs. 25,000 each along with Raagalaya Life Time Achievement Award.

The award function will be followed by a dance performance by Ms Sudha Chandran and her troupe. There will also be a musical evening comprising of the songs composed by Veteran Music Director Shri K Raghavan by well known singers from Kerala and Mumbai. Limited seats are available for the subscribers of Kerala in Mumbai on a First Come First Served basis. For details, contact Ms Reshma Nair on 99305 14940 or Rakhi Sunil on 98203 70060. Details can also be obtained from Raagalaya's office at B-105 Twin Arcade, Marol Military Road, Mumbai 400 059 (Tel: No. 29209959/29205641. E-mail: raagalaya@gmail.com Website: www.raagalayamusic.com)

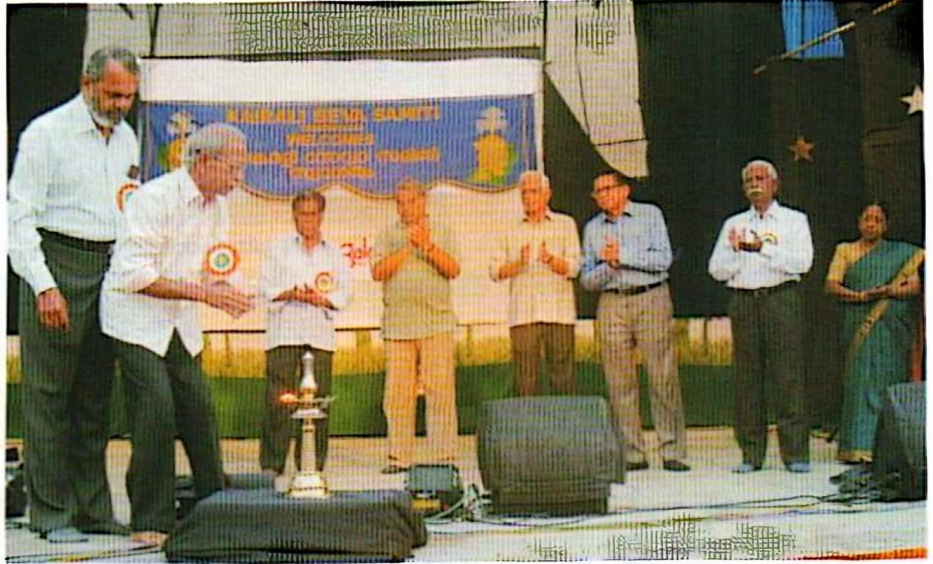


KAIRALI SEVA SAMITI

Kairali Seva Samiti is a ten year old Organisation of Mumbai that nurtures and instills a love for the fine arts and Malayalam language among the Malayalees of Chembur.

Kairali Seva Samiti, Chheda Nagar, Chembur, is a registered charitable organisation, engaged since the last ten years in the promotion of sports, cultural, artistic, literary and educational activities, devoid of any religious or political affiliation. It was formed in 2003 by a few enthusiastic Malayalees of Chheda Nagar, and registered in 2006. The Samiti operates beyond the confines of religion and politics, and endeavours to promote fellowship, not only among the 250 Malayalee families of the area, but also instill brotherhood and fraternity among other communities. Keeping these goals in view, the Samiti organises at least twice a year, get-togethers where variety entertainment programmes are held.

With a view to familiarise the children of the community with their mother tongue, the Samiti has in the past conducted Malayalam classes. In association with the Marathi Sanskrutik Mandal, it has also conducted Marathi classes for the benefit of non Maharashtrais. Kairali has also been conducting workshops on personality development, public skills and other empowering programmes. The Samiti's "Educational Endowment Fund", apart



Secretary Sathyavvrathan lights the lamp at the inauguration of the anniversary celebrations.

from granting educational awards to SSC and HSC toppers of Chheda Nagar, also helps the economically weaker sections of the society, through free distribution of note books and uniforms, and in some cases, even sponsoring their educational expenses.

In the event of sudden sickness of any member, the Samiti renders all possible

help by way of urgent medical aid including hospitalisation arrangement. Whenever a demise takes place in a family, the Samiti also extends its help through moral and emotional support, and for funeral arrangements.

In the recently held election, Mr. T.Vijayan was elected the President, and G. Mohanan Pillai, the Vice President. N. Sathyavvrathan, Vinod Nair and P. Sreenivasan were elected the Hon. Secretary, Hon. Jt. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer respectively, while O.M.B. Nair, M.V.Srinivasan, Kurien Joseph, K.G.M. Kurup, Vincy Kurien and R.Rajagopal are the other members of the managing committee.

At its tenth annual day celebration held on December 23, 2012, at the Modern English High School, the Samiti released a souvenir, published under the convenership of V. V.Vijayan.

The evening started with a prayer by Ankita and Anushka followed by the Presidential address by T Vijayan who stressed the fact that the success of an organization depended on the united and harmonious efforts of the members. Any problem could be solved by team work, he said.



Kaikottikali by the lady members

Secretary Sathyavathan outlined the future projects of the Samiti. This would include conducting public speaking and personality development classes on a monthly basis, organising medical camps for BP and cancer awareness etc, and helping member families at in times of need or emergency.

Meritorious SSC and HSC students were felicitated. *Sapthaswarangal* of Cheddanagar performed a musical orchestra.

This was followed by an entertaining musical programme of film songs (ganamela) by Raagalaya Academy of Music and Arts led by PV Vijaykumar and Party. ■



Audience enjoying a programme of the Seva Samiti

Fruits, Water and Good Living

Fruits are good for health. But to get the full benefit of fruits, there is a correct way to eat them.

Never eat fruits after meals. If fruits are eaten after eating a whole meal, the fruit mixes with the other putrefying meal just taken, produces gas and a bloated feeling.

Fruits should be eaten on an empty stomach. This helps in detoxifying the system, helps in weight loss and keeps us active.

Graying and balding hair, nervous outburst, and dark circles under the eyes

can be prevented if fruits are taken on an empty stomach.

If you have mastered the correct way of eating fruits, you have the secret of beauty, longevity, health, energy, happiness and normal weight.

Benefits of some fruits

Kiwi: Tiny but mighty. This is a good source of potassium, magnesium, vitamin E & fiber. Its vitamin C content is twice that of an orange.

Guava and Papaya Top awards for vitamin C. They are the clear winners for their high vitamin C content.

Hot water after a meal

Drinking Cold water after a meal = Cancer! Can you believe this? But it is true.

For those who like to drink cold water, this article is applicable to you.

It is nice to have a cup of cold drink after a meal.

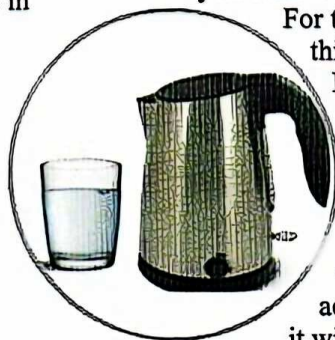
However, the cold water will solidify the oily stuff that you have just consumed.

It will slow down the digestion. Once this 'sludge' reacts with the acid,

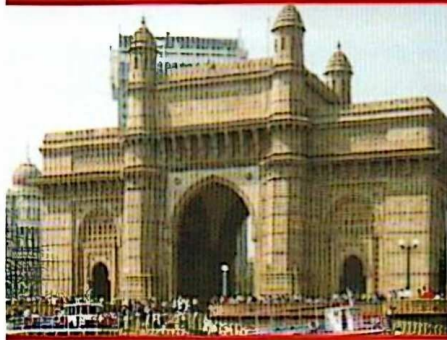
it will break down and be absorbed by the intestine faster than the solid food.

It will line the intestine. Very soon, this will turn into fats and lead to cancer.

It is best to drink hot soup or warm water after a meal.



Compiled by Sudhir Nair



KIM News Bureau

Faith Proclamation and Marian Rally of the Eparchy of Kalyan

congregation continuously recited rosary and divine mercy chaplet. As they entered the Mother of Victory Church, litany was sung and the pilgrims visited the Statue of Mother Mary which was brought from Witgratzbad in Germany from the Shrine of Mother of Victory Church 10 years ago.

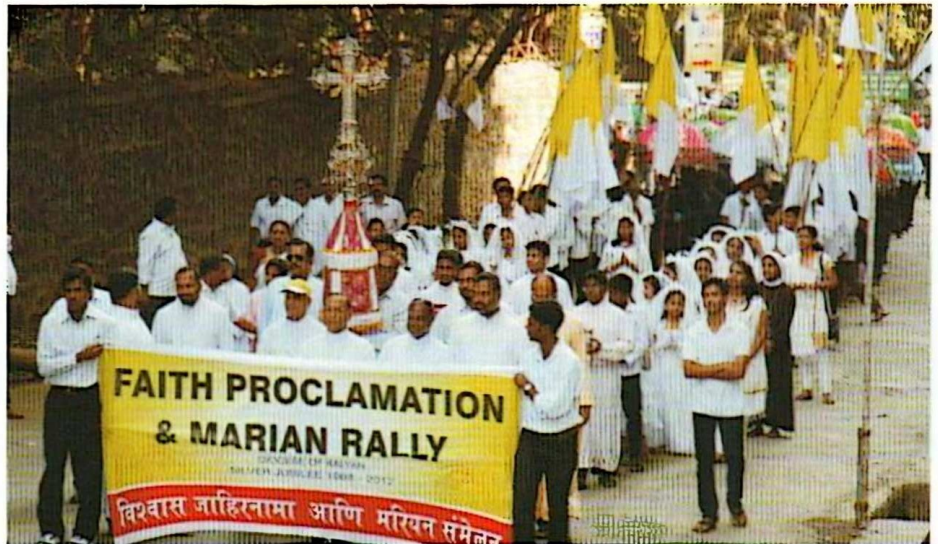
The Silver Jubilee celebrations of the Eparchy of Kalyan was inaugurated on 2 October 2012 together with the inauguration of the Pastoral Centre by Mar Thomas Elavanal, Bishop of Kalyan in the presence of Mar Paul Chittilappilly, the former Bishop, the priests, the religious and many faithful of the Eparchy.

A procession with the Relic of St. Thomas to all the parishes of the Eparchy beginning on Jan 6, 2013, the

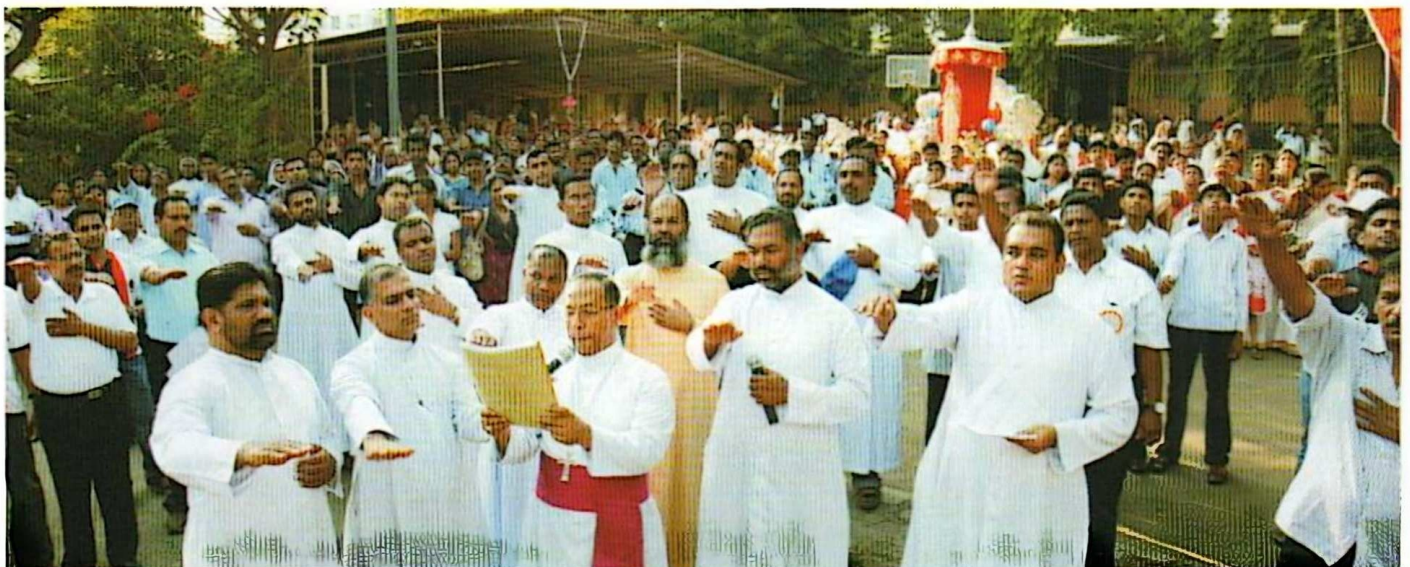
Mass wedding of 100 couples of various faiths on April 4, 2013 and providing 25 houses to the villagers in Kalyan are some of the major programmes envisioned for the Jubilee Celebrations. Besides, the entire Eparchy is united in the observance of 'the individual Prayer and Fasting Day' scheduled during the entire year by the Priests, the religious and the Parishes of the Eparchy. The Eparchy looks forward in the Jubilee Year, to the re-union of all the Priests and the religious, who with their total commitment and hard work put a strong foundation to the Eparchy and went onto other ministries. The conclusion of the Jubilee celebrations is planned on Nov 10, 2013 with three days Charismatic convention on 7, 8, and 9 Nov, 2013 for various age-groups of the faithful.

In a Faith Proclamation and Marian Rally, the pilgrims of the Eparchy of Kalyan declared to exercise India's fundamental right to freedom of religion, including free profession, practice, and propagation of religion, according to Fr. Francis Eluvathingal, Chancellor and PRO.

Any efforts to curtail this fundamental right will be opposed, the rally declared. As part of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations, more than 10,000 Catholics came to celebrate Holy Qurbana at Little Flower Church at Vartak Nagar Thane, a parish of the Archdiocese of Bombay and then proceeded to the Mother of Victory Church, Tikujiniwadi, a Shrine of the Eparchy of Kalyan in a procession. The Programme began at 2 pm with the declaration of the Eparchial bishop that the Silver Jubilee Year be the year dedicated to Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Thomas. All 14 zones of the Eparchy projected their faith by displaying placards, live presentations, tableaux, prayers, songs etc. The whole



Rally Faith Marian



Bishop Mar Thomas Elavanal reading out the Proclamation along with other priests at the Faith Rally

Old Age Home visit

Students of Pillai College of Arts, Commerce and Science visited *Ashraya*, a Senior Citizens' Home at Nerul in Navi Mumbai to celebrate the literary day. The literary association in-charge Prof. Navneet Kaur, along with her team spent some time with the seniors, discussing social and other issues which has not only brought a smile on the elderly faces but the students also absorbed a lot of knowledge.

The main topic of discussion that made a significant impact on the students was "youth today serve abroad and abandon their own motherland." The survey made it clear to the students that education abroad is not a bad option but cutting off connection from your own nation and fixing up an entire new life is not the right decision. A senior advised the students "no matter how much you grow in life, but never leave your parents alone." The youngsters



Senior citizens of *Ashraya* and young students of Pillai College of Arts, Commerce and Science

raised their heads with pride and promised to keep family as their first priority. The students prepared handmade cards for all the elderly as a token of love. Group photographs and sweet messages were exchanged. As a student

remarked after the event, "Life is just not about monetary benefits. Money can buy anything but not love and peace of mind. *Ashraya* has changed me and my friends for good. Today has been one of the best days of our life."

Navarasa Dance Academy Annual Day

The 24th annual day of Navarasa Dance academy Nerul, run by Sushama Gopinath was celebrated on December 1 and 2 at Agri koli Auditorium, Nerul. Around 400 students performed during the event. V.K Narayan (President of Guruvayoorappan Bhakta Samaj, Vashi) was the Chief guest and P.V Vijaykumar (Managing editor KERALA IN MUMBAI) was the Guest of Honour who gave away the course completion certificate to the students who completed their course during the year.



Gopinath, PV Vijaykumar, VK Narayan, Mrs Narayan and Sushama Gopina:



Sushama Gopinath with her students

Get together

Annual Get together of Kodungalloor Kootayma will be held on February 3, 2013 from 9 am at Tilak Institution, Kurup's Education Institute, Vashi, according to Advisory Council Chairman, Murali Menon. President MK Navas will preside over the function and Chairman PK Ananthan will give the Inaugural Speech. Leaders of Mumbai social and cultural associations will attend the get together. There will be a variety entertainment programme by children of the members.



Padma Divakaran and Rakhee Sunil from Bombay Keraleeya Samithi Malad Office members visited Governor Shankaranarayanan to wish him on Kerala Piravi day. (November 1)

Kathakali performances

Kalakshethram presented a series of Kathakali performances by artistes from Kerala, students of Kalamandalam Gopalakrishnan and the Guru himself. Music was by Kalamandalam Gireesan. On December 22 *Duryodhanavadham* was performed at LIC Colony Borivali, *Kiratham* on December 23 at Ayyappa Temple, Panvel and *Dakshayagam* on December 25 at Dombivli. At Dombivli it was preceded by *Purappad* (the debut stage performance by any Kathakali Student), like *Arangetram* in Bharathnatyam by three disciples of Guru Kalamandalam Gopalakrishnan who are also Kalakshethram students. *Baalivadham* was performed at Vartak Nagar Ayyappa Temple Thane on December 28 and at Anushakthi Nagar on December 29.



Purappad - Three Kathakali students of Kalakshethram who are students of Guru Kalamandalam Gopalakrishnan held their 'Purappad Aangetram', the debut performance.

Soorya Festival

Soorya Festival by professional artistes will be held on February 5 and 6 at Model English School, Pandurangwadi, on and at Dighe Municipal Hall, Gandhi Nagar in Dombivli East on February 7 and 8. On February 5 there will be staging of short Malayalam plays by artistes from Kerala, Carnatic music and Sopana Sangeetham by Kavalam Sreekumar of Thiruvananthapuram on February 7 and Bharatanatyam performance by Savitha Sastri of Delhi and Mohiniattam by Smt Sunanda Nair of America on February 8, 2013.



Dakshayagam: Kathakali Dakshayagam, exclusively presented by Kalakshethram students.

Experiment in Pre-primary School

St.Mary's Malankara School, Sakinaka has decided to introduce 'Play-Method' in the Pre-Primary section from the academic year 2013-2014. 'Learn through Doing' and 'Play to Learn' are the two new concepts adopted by the School. According to the School Principal Mrs.Liji Elizabeth who has 20 years of teaching experience, this project is specially dedicated to

commemorate the Elevation Ceremony of His beatitude Cardinal Baselios Cleemis Catholicos in Vatican on 24 November 2012. The Principal is ably guided by a team, President Bishop Jacob.Mar.Barnabas, Manager-Father Sam, Bethany Sisters Sister Arsha and Sister Anjali and a band of socially committed-Trustees, with a passion to serve and provide the much needed infrastructure and

support.

The Curriculum is simplified into visual worksheets, prepared by Teachers and modified by Ms.Jagjeet Kaur. The School is organizing a 'Vigyan Utsav' in January 2013, to create interest in students with the theme "Environment and Development", where the school is joining hands with its Parent Teacher Association, and Agastya International Foundation in partnering with Science Projects.



PVK Nambiar President of Bassein Kerala Samajam and active in several Malayalee associations has been nominated as Corporator of Vasai-Virar Municipal Corporation by Bahujan Vikas Agadi as the representative of the South Indians in the Vasai-Virar belt.



Oommen David, Director of Holy Angels' School and Junior College, Dombivli was felicitated at the hands of Ganesh Naik - Minister of Maharashtra for Excise at a function organised by Mumbai Pooram Foundation for his achievements in the field of Education. Besides him is the Chief Minister of Kerala Oommen Chandy.

Natyasri Award

Kalamandalam Gopalakrishnan has been awarded the Natyasri Award for promoting Kathakali outside Kerala and for his contribution to the art form at a function at Pannikottiri Mahavishnu temple at Kumaramputhur near Mannarkadu. The prestigious award was handed over to him by the doyen of Kathakali Kalamandalam Raman Kutty Nair with his blessings.

Just before the award ceremony, a *keerthishilpam* duly placed at the Lord's feet and blessed with prayers was traditionally given to Gopalakrishnan by the temple priest Narayanan Namboodiri. Gopalakrishnan has done his postgraduation in Kathakali from Kerala Kalamandalam and is a teacher of Kathakali at Dombivili Kalakshetram and Nalanda Nritya Mahavidyalaya. He has performed in India and abroad on more than 1000 stages and many students have learnt this dance form from him.



Kalamandalam Gopalakrishnan receiving the Natyasri Award from veteran Kathakali artiste Kalamandalam Raman Kutty Nair.

Samaj Sevak Awards and Thiruvathira celebrations

Tru-Indian Information and Guidance Society celebrated Thiruvathira in Sarvesh Hall, Dombivli East. The event was used to present Samaj Sevak National Award. Film artiste Kaviyoor Ponnamma inaugurated the festivities. Padma Divakaran presided and Malathi G Menon delivered the main address. Bhilai Sri Narayana Dharma Samajam President V K Muhammed also spoke on the occasion.

Well known social worker Dayabai, Ajay Menon, Dr Bijoy Kutty and Saji Varkey were presented with awards. Artistes of fine arts were also given awards.

Kathak Dance by Varsha Prasad, passion dance by Shweta Varier and Aishwarya Sundaresh were part of the cultural show.

Prince Vaidyan, V G Nair, P K Anandan, M K Navaz, Sasi Nair, Rajan V Nair, M V Parameswaran, T V



Malathi Menon, Padma Divakaran, Dayabai, Kaviyoor Ponnamma, Ambika Warsiar on the stage

Ramachandra Varier, Suma Mukundan, C P Sajivan, Farook Padickal, C H Basheer, Sunil Kumar, T N Surendran, E P K Vasudevan, Ramachandran

Mancharambath, P K Lali and Muralidas Peralasseri were guests of honour.



ATMA Office bears Mathews, Shrikant Nair, Smt. Tara Verma, A.M. Balan and Upendra Menon, , meeting with Maharashtra Governor K. Shankaranarayanan at Raj Bhavan.

Lok Kalyan Sree Ayyappa Seva Sangham

Lok Complex Sree Ayyappa Seva Sangham Kalyan East celebrated its 20 th Mandala Puja on December 27, 28 and 29 at Lok Gram grounds with pujas devotional cultural and variety entertainment programmes.

Annual Day Celebrations

Kerala People's Education Society and Adarsha Vidyalaya Chembur celebrated its Annual Day on December 22 at the Adarsha Vidyalaya School Grounds. Dr Uma Shankar Professor of Philosophy SIES College Matunga was the Chief Guest at the function.

Meenakshi Kalyanam

Well known dancer and dance teacher Mausam Mahendra along with disciples of SP Srinivasan's Gana kala Vidyalaya dance school Goregaon performed Meenakshi Kalyanam at ISKCON Temple Auditorium as part of its annual day celebrations. Mausam is also a disciple of SP Srinivasan



Mausam Mahendra

Anupama Wins Gold Medal

Anupama Janardhanan, a fourth year MBBS Student of Mahatma Gandhi Mission Medical College Aurangabad won the prestigious Doctor C.A. Franklin Gold Medal Award for securing highest marks in II MBBS Examination of MGM University of Health Sciences. Honourable Chancellor of MGM University of Health Sciences, Shri Kamal Kishore Kadam awarded the Gold Medal to Miss Anupama Janardhanan in a convocation ceremony held at MGM Institute of Health Sciences at Navi Mumbai. The function started with the floral tributes to Lord Dhanvantari, God of Ayurvedic Medicines followed by Saraswati Vandana. Successful post graduate medical students were conferred degrees in Medical Sciences. Miss Anupama, a Malayalee, is the daughter of Prof. (Colonel) Dr. Kavumbayi Janardhanan and Dr (Major) Nalini Janardhanan . She is an all-rounder student. She has won prizes in Drawing and Painting, Dance,



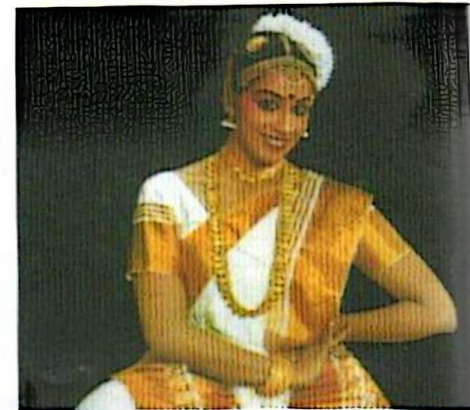
Anupama Receiving Dr. C. A. Franklin Gold Medal Award from the Chancellor of MGM University of Health Sciences, Kamal Kishore Kadam.

Music, Essay Writing , Quiz competition, Fancy dress as well as Sports and Games. She reached up to National level in Badminton and Regional level in Swimming. She has

also anchored Ghazal programmes in Doordarshan and a music video [in Hindi] of her mother Dr (Major) Nalini Janardhanan.

Mohiniattam Arangettram

Mohiniattam Arangettram of Ankita Menon was performed on December 30 at Bhaidas Maganlal Sabhagriha Hall Vile Parle (W). Dr Uma Singh, Head of Department of Philosophy, SIES was the chief guest. Ankita, a third year BMS student of MMK College Bandra, is a disciple of Geeta Radhakrishna, an exponent of Mohiniattam, a choreographer, writer and runs the Mohiniatta Nritya Kalakshetra. Ankita's parents are Nandini and Mohan Menon while her grandparents are Leela R Menon and late MR Menon, and Thankamani and Major KRP Nair (Retd).



Ankita Menon



Kripa Radhakrishnan and group performing dance ballet at Vasai Sabarigiri Ayyappa temple during Mandala Puja celebrations.

Mandala puja at Marol

Shree Ayyappa Seva Sangham Marol celebrated its 38th Mandala Pooja celebrations on December 14, 15 and 16 at Blossom Society Grounds, Marol. There was a Bhajan programme by devotees of Marol, Mohiniattam and Bharatanatyam by disciples of Geetha Vijayshankar and Radha Chandran respectively, Vilakku puja, Gita chanting, devotional music by Anup Shankar (playback singer) from Kerala and party and the traditional pujas, procession and annadaanam on the third day.



Bhajan by devotees at Marol Mandala Pooja celebrations

Ambika Warasiar in International Dance Directory.

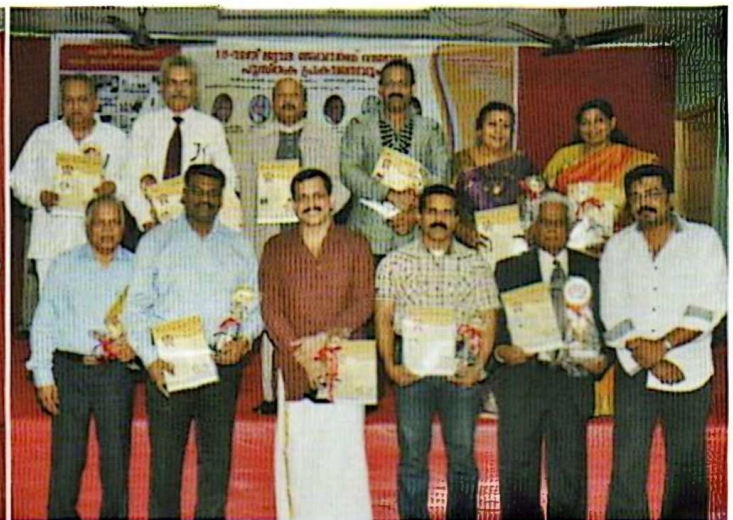
Ambika Warasiar Tru Indian Information & Guidance Creative Wing Director has found a place in the International Dance Web Directory, according to the Executive Secretary of the International Dance Council. (UNESCO) Miss Ada Angelie.



Mohiniattam by Geetha Vijayshankar's disciples at Marol Mandala Pooja celebrations



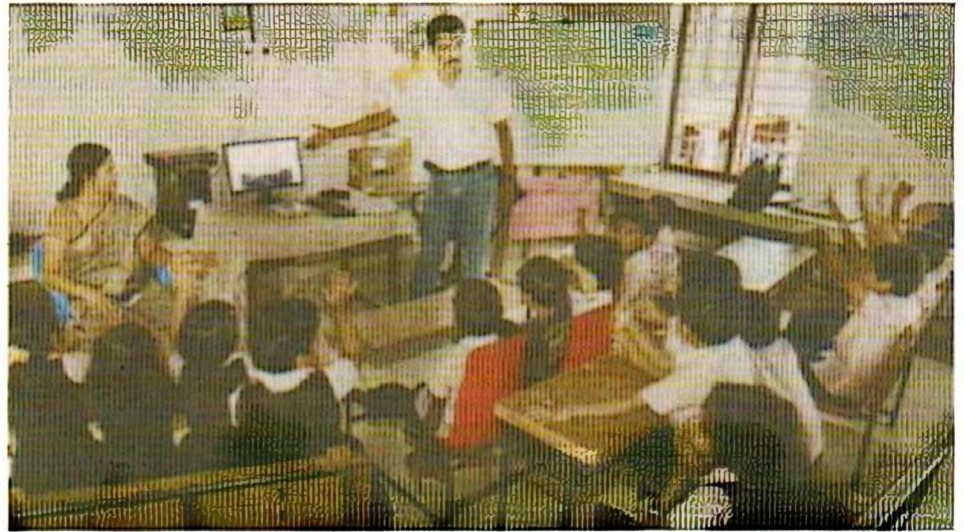
Bhupesh Babu, Kumaran Nair, Padma Divakaran, Oommen David, Sasidharan, K D Chandran and Gopi Nair at the Jwala Awards function.



Receptients of Jwala Awards

Wanted: Students for Malayalam medium school

Recent months saw the leaders of Kerala clamouring for classical status for Malayalam and conducting seminars and conferences for the said puposes not only in Kerala but outside the State also. On Novemeber 1, the State Government was kind enough not only to inaugurate the Thunchathu Ezhuthachchan University of Malayalam at Tirur but appoint Vice Chancellor even before the academic activities started. This is to be noted against the formation of University of Calicut where the first Vice Chancellor Prof Mohamed Ghani was appointed after several months of commencement of academic activities and the duties of VC were carried out by Pro VC Shri K C Chacko. Though there were no buildings worth the name, it had a few small buildings to function from. The necessary land was acquired too. With the birth of a Malayalam University, everyone was happy and thought that the bad days of the language came to an end. Now reports are coming from



Computer Class

various places where the students are dropping out from Malayalam medium schools run by government as well as private bodies. That too, irrespective of the high end facilities provided! Take this case of Parayancheri Government L P School in Kozhikode district. Clean, hygienic, well maintained, colourful and spacious class rooms with best furniture, internet connection in all class rooms, film projectors, well stocked libraries, swimming pool, study tours every month, free workshops for parents, high

class lunch with *kalan, olan* and *Sambar* served with rice, free fruits during breaks, adequate numbers of teachers and absolutely no fees. You may consider that there would be heavy rush for admission to this school. But, in this case, you are off the mark. There are only four classes of one division each and the school has less than 50 students where it can accommodate around 200. To attract students to the school, all are given free sports kit, Maths kit, free text books and note books and all modern



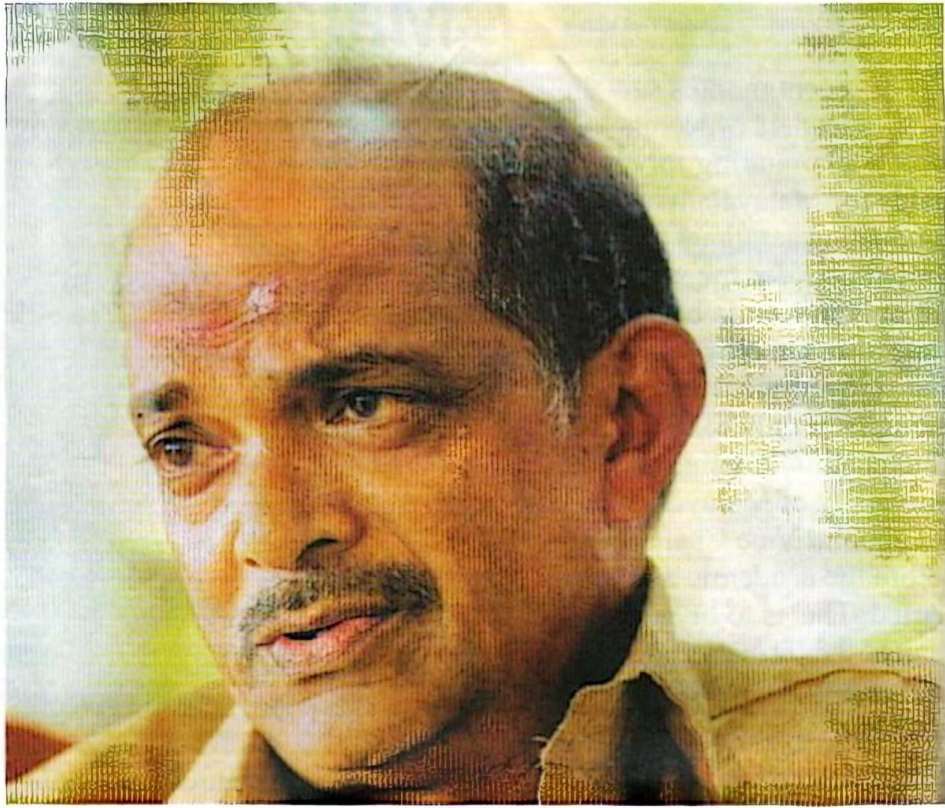
A break with fruits

methods are employed to educate them by showing them classic films of Charlie Chaplin etc, story-telling sessions, computer education to parents but the efforts are in vain as the parents are not interested in sending their children to a Malayalam medium school. It is that simple. Do we have to say more?

A wakeup call to Babus

An order by R Natarajan, member of the Kerala State Human Rights Commission levying a penalty of Rs.25,000 for the callous delay by its bureaucrats well over a period of twenty five years in processing an application for a loan for establishing a business under the state government's scheme for self employment for those above 35 years of age, asking it to find out the bureaucrats responsible for the delay in scrutinizing the application and to pass necessary steps to avoid such delays, has created quite a stir among the state's officials. The amount of penalty is to be paid to the original applicant N Sadanandan of Alappuzha, who applied for the loan from the government. The said amount is to be recovered from the concerned officials proportional to their degree of callousness.

No doubt, nobody would suspect the appropriateness of Commission's order and many individuals congratulated the member who passed the order. Since the case was stretched over more than 25 years, it had no political overtones as both the UDF and LDF parties were involved. Many persons were angry at the insensitivity of the officials and demanded severe punishments for them and sympathized with the victim. For a Mumbaikar, the story of N Sadanandan may be very interesting.



N Sadanandan

Till he attained 35 years, Sadanandan was receiving unemployment allowance from the government. As the people above 35, are not eligible for that allowance, he applied for a loan in 1987 to set up self employment under a government's scheme. Because of the

notorious red tapism, the government failed to respond soon and a reply was given in 1991, in which the Village officer had mentioned that it came to his notice that he was gainfully employed in a hotel and sending Rs 200 to his wife. Sadanandan then pursued the matter in the speed program of the Chief Minister in 1992 and approached other leaders. Despite the assurances from the Speaker and the concerned minister, the loan was denied to him as he was by then past sixty. Now he is no more eligible for a loan for self employment but the Commission empathized with him and hence issued the above said order.

Sadanandan married the daughter of a widow in 1980 and hence she was eligible for a wedding gift of Rs 1000 that she got only in 1989 after becoming a mother of three. His mother in law became eligible for pension meant for agricultural labour after she attained 60 but got it after 7 years. For each of these benefits, Sadanandan had to visit various government offices innumerable times. Kerala is a welfare state and everyone has something to receive from the government according to his age and status but be assured that the government would make everyone work for it. ■

WEDDING



The Marriage of Dr Krishna (daughter of Mrs Mohana and G. Natarajan, Nerul), with Shreedhar BE, MBA (son of Mrs Hema and Rangarajan, Nerul,) was held on 10th December 2012 at Gujarat Bhawan, Vashi.

CHAPPED LIPS OR CRACKED LIPS (Ruksha Oshta)

- Dr Reshma Kunju

Soft and smooth lips figure among the foremost indicators of physical beauty. Chapped lips are not only unsightly but can also be painful and prevent one from performing routine activities like drinking, talking, eating, smiling.



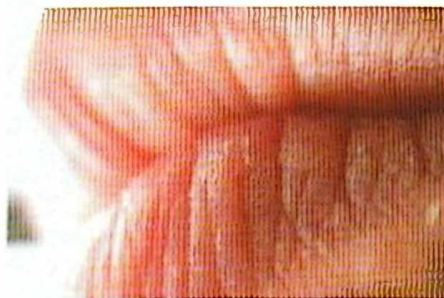
● Chapped lips or Cracked lips is a condition whereby the lips become dry and possibly cracked. It is a common problem.

Unlike the other parts of the skin, lips do not produce natural oils needed to protect against cold winds and low humidity. As such, the lips get dry, cracked or chapped.

Causes

Causes vary, but the most common cause of chapped lips is cold weather conditions. The main cause of this problem is the absence of moisture from the lips, which can make them dry out very quickly, leaving them chapped. This happens often in the winter season when the air is dry. Lips normally have a very thin oily film on their surface that provides natural protection against moisture loss. However, in some cases, this film is removed, sometimes due to excessive licking habits, and this causes the lips to become chapped.

This could manifest due to diverse reasons, the most common ones being the exposure to vagaries of weather, allergic reactions to cosmetic products,



drugs, dehydration, frequent use of chemicals or soaps and nutritional deficiency. While wind and cold have been cited as reasons for this, frequent and prolonged exposure to sun can also cause it. So prevent over exposure to vagaries of weather.

Vitamin deficiencies or smoking constantly could cause cracked lips or angular stomatitis. Systemic diseases like diabetes, Kawasaki Disease, Sjogren's syndrome, Macrocytosis, sexually transmitted diseases including HIV and other diseases can be an underlying cause of chronic cracked lips. One could try home remedies to get rid of chapped lips and if it does not subside by a week or two it is essential to see a doctor.

Some medications like Isotretinoin [prescribed in acne] could cause dry lips as side effects, which usually disappears 2 weeks after the drug is stopped. Acyclovir, which is used to treat oral herpes, may result in cracked lips associated with burning sensation etc. Chapped lips can manifest if you have started any new medication or changed cosmetics, mouthwash or toothpaste.

Symptoms

Some of the symptoms for dry or chapped lips are bleeding, lips that look dried, burning, red, swollen and rough, loss of moisture from the lips, slight pain, peeling of the skin on the lips, sensitivity of lips, frequent licking of the lips and tenderness of lips

Erythema around the lip is a common concomitant symptom in chapped lips. If the skin on chapped lips becomes extremely dry, stretching of the lips may cause large cracks, which may be painful and/or bleed.

What ayurveda says about cracked and chapped lips

*Oshatakopetupavanaathsta-
bhdhaoshtaumaharujau |
Daalyete paripaatyete
parushasitakarkashau ||*

According to ayurveda the lips crack, become painful and dark when vata dosha increases. The increase is attributed to the cold and dry climate of winter. The vitiated vata can be normalized by applying warm ghee infused with vata balancing herbs.

Ayurvedic concept of Cracked lips (Vata type)

The lips become stony hard, rough, stiff, blackish, painful, with cracks and fissures. This condition is also brought on by exposure to cold winds, infections and injury.

Treatment

- Oleos therapy: Application of ghee mixed with beeswax
- Sudation therapy with Vata-reducing herbs such as milk, castor plant leaf etc.
- Application of medicated oil on the scalp.
- Intake of medicated preparations like ghee, non-vegetarian juice, Rasnadi Guggulu, Triphala Guggulu etc.
- General Tips for Ayurvedic Skin Care in Winter
- Ayurveda says, in winter season people suffer from increased "Vata" and therefore they experience dry flaky skin, chapped lips and dry, brittle hair. The foremost tip for natural skin care in winter is thus to keep Vata dosha balanced in order to prevent Vata-associated skin problems.
- Never use hot water for bathing in winters. Always use warm water that feels gentle to skin. Very hot water can rob the skin of its natural oils leaving it dry and itchy.
- Ayurveda prescribes a pre-bath oil massage known as abhyayanga massage everyday in winter season using nourishing oils as coconut, almond, sesame, or some herbal oil meant for body massage.
- If possible, keep the oil on your body for at least half an hour before going to shower so that the same is absorbed completely by the skin.

- Do not use harsh soaps in winter. If possible, use some non-soap herbal cleanser recipes suitable to your type of skin. These can be anything ranging from milk mixed with flour or gram-flour mixed with cream or clarified butter (ghee) etc.

- Pay special attention to your diet in winter because your body needs sufficient energy to fight off the cold and your skin needs natural moisturizing agents from within which is supplied by the food you eat. Include more soaked and blanched almonds, soaked walnuts, whole milk, fresh cheese such as paneer (cottage cheese), and ghee (clarified butter) in your daily diet. Also, drink a cup of warm milk without removing its cream before going to bed.

- Although you do not feel the need to drink much water in winter, there is a constant loss of water from your body due to cold and dry air. So drink plenty of water to keep your skin hydrated from within. Eat fruits and vegetables high in water content with your meals.

Ayurvedic Tips for Vata Dry Skin in Winter

- Vata skin tends to be naturally dry.



Brahmi, shatavari, Amla and Aswagandam are some of the Vata-pacifying herbs for skin care. They help in maintaining skin elasticity, moisture balance, texture and radiance. Triphala is another herbal formulation which is good for Vata skin as it combines nourishment with a gentle detoxifying effect that enhances skin clarity. In winter, you may use topical formulations of these herbs made with nourishing oils and Vata-balancing aromas. You can also take them as nutritional supplements for giving support to your dry skin from within.

Ayurvedic Tips for Pitta Sensitive Skin in Winter

- Pitta skin is sensitive. It is generally neither dry nor oily. Amla, Bhringaraj, Grit Kumari (alovera), White Sandalwood, Red Sandalwood and



Lajawanti (Mimosa) are some of the Pitta-pacifying herbs for skin. They work by drawing out excess heat and supporting the skin's natural ability to withstand environmental harshness. They also keep the skin clear and healthy by nourishing sensitive skin tissues without irritating them. Triphala, Manjistha and Neem are also helpful for Pitta skin as they purify and clarify the skin without depleting it of moisture. In winter, you may use topical

formulations of these herbs made with soothing oils and Pitta-balancing aromas. The herbs amla, triphala and neem can also be taken as nutritional supplements for giving support to your sensitive skin from within.

Ayurvedic Tips for Kapha Oily Skin in Winter

Kapha skin is oily and tends to attract dust and grime. Natural skin care for such skin type therefore are purifiers that detoxify and clarify, along with properties of being nourishing and rejuvenating to the skin. Neem, Manjistha, Triphala, Tulsi and Turmeric are some of the Kapha-balancing herbs for skin. They detoxify the skin while nourishing it at the same time. They balance oil content in the skin and enhance clarity and brightness. In winter, you may use topical formulations of these herbs made with light oils and Kapha-balancing aromas. Neem, Triphala and Tulsi can also be taken as nutritional supplements for giving support to your oily skin from within.

Some common and effective Home Remedies

Dry chapped lips

1. The easiest and basic treatment for dry chapped lips would be drinking lots of water. Lack of water in body results in dryness of skin and lips. Keeping the

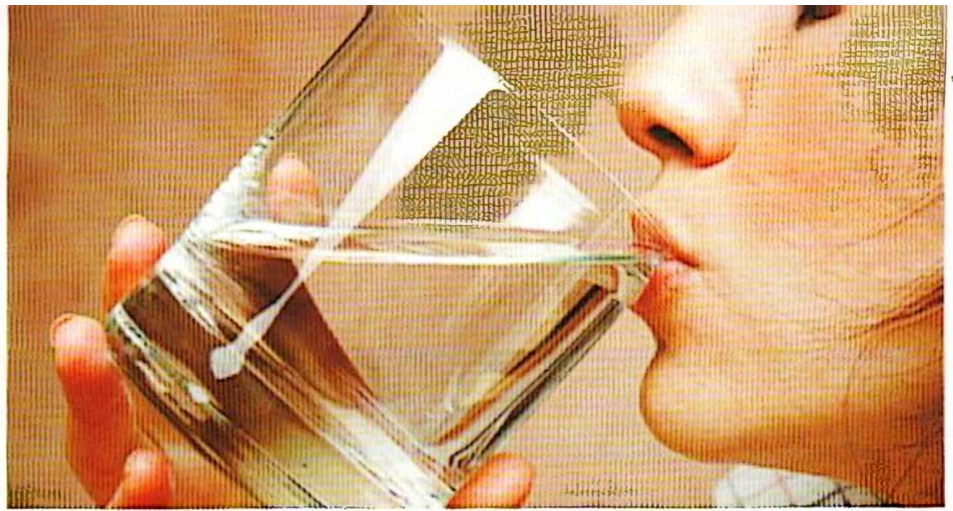


body hydrated is extremely essential.

2. Apply milk cream regularly on the lips. This will help in removing dry dead skin and make the lips smooth.

3. Butter and pure ghee are also helpful in treatment of dry chapped lips. Apply little amount ghee or butter on lips 2-3 times a day. It makes lips smooth and heals the cracks.

4. Soak some rose petals in raw milk for a few hours. After this, make a paste of the rose petals and milk and apply it



daily on the lips. This would not only repair the cracks, and dryness but also work efficiently in retaining pink colour.

5. Crush some rose petals in glycerin. This would not only save colour but also cure dryness.

6. Take a slice of cucumber and rub it on your lips. This would help in dry chapped lips treatment.

7. Take out the juice of fresh neem leaves. Apply this juice on the lips to cure the dry chapped lips.

8. Apply Aloe vera gel on the lips; it also cures dry chapped lips.

9. Take one teaspoon of glycerine and add a few drops of honey in it. Apply this mixture on the lips daily before going to bed and keep them overnight. This will cure dry chapped lips and also help to keep the lips soft and smooth.

10. Deficiency of vitamin A is one of the causes for dry chapped lips, so increase the consumption of foods rich in vitamin A like green leafy vegetables, carrots and tomatoes, grains and nutritional yeast.

Pink lips

Make the granular paste of olive oil and sugar. Apply it on your lips and rub this mixture in a round motion. This will work as an exfoliator giving your lips a natural shine and color. You can also use the tooth brush to remove the dry flakes.

Take some home made butter and apply it on your lips after scrubbing. This will soften the lips and impart freshness to them.

Cut down your coffee and beverages quantity as these cause the lips to darken. If you have the habit of smoking then also your lips will be black. It is advisable to quit smoking not only for pink lips but for good health.

Eat lots of fruits and drink about eight glasses of water a day.

Apply home made butter before

going to bed. You can also apply the milk cream if butter is not available.

To lighten the color of your lips, daily apply lime juice on them.

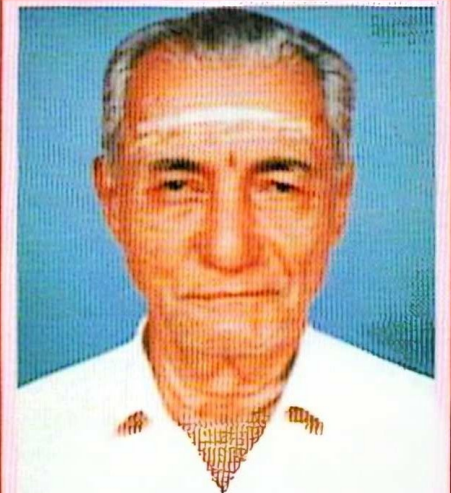
Soak raisins in water overnight and eat these as first thing in the morning. This will help you in getting pink lips.

Apply almond oil on your lips daily. You can also make a paste of almonds in milk cream. Rub this daily on your lips. It is a very good lip conditioner.

To lighten the lips either apply olive oil or almond oil on them.

Quit smoking. Although it is not easy but with this the lip discoloration can be stopped and many other associated diseases will not have any chance to occur in your body. ■

In Loving Memory of



O V Achuthan Nambiar

Annapoorneswari Stores, Matunga

Who left us for his heavenly abode on 9th January Six years ago.

Fondly remembered by his loving family

Kallichellamma (1968)

[കളളിച്ചെല്ലമ്മ]

Lyrics: P Bhaskaran Music: K Raghavan
Singer: P Jayachandran Ragam: Pahadi

Rohini



P Bhaskaran



K Raghavan



P Jayachandran

കരിമുകിൽക്കാട്ടിലെ രജനിതൻവീട്ടിലെ
കനകാംബരങ്ങൾ വാടീ കടത്തുവള്ളം യാത്രയായി...
യാത്രയായി... കരയിൽ നീ മാത്രമായി (കരിമുകിൽ)
ഇനിയെന്നു കാണും നമ്മൾ തിരമാല മെല്ലെച്ചൊല്ലി
പുകുവാളമാകേ നിന്റെ ഗർഭം മുഴങ്ങീടുന്നു... (കരിമുകിൽ)
കരയുന്ന രാക്കിളിയേ തിരിഞ്ഞൊന്നു നോക്കിടാതേ
മധുമാസ ചന്ദ്രലേഖ മടങ്ങുന്നു പള്ളിത്തേരിൽ... (കരിമുകിൽ)

Karimukil kättile rajaniṭan vīttile
kanakāmbaraṅgaḷ vātī kataṭṭuvaḷḷam yāṭrayāyī...
yāṭrayāyī... karayil nī māṭramāyī (Karimukil)
eniyennu kāṇum nammaḷ ṭiramāla melle colli
cakravāḷamākē ninte gadgadam muzhaṅgītunnu...(Karimukil)
karayunna rākkiḷiyē ṭirinjonnu nōkkitāṭē
madhumāsa candralekha mataṅgunnu paḷḷiṭṭēril...(Karimukil)

Transliteration:

ā=ഓ; ī=ഈ; ē=ഔ; ṅ=ങ; ṭ=ത; ḷ=ള; ṇ=ണ; c=ച; nj=ഞ;

Kallichellamma is based on a popular novel by G Vivekanandan and is the only Malayalam film shot in Orwo color. It is produced by Sobhana Parameswaran Nair under the banner Roopvani Films and directed by P Bhaskaran. He penned all songs of the film and all of them turned out to be popular. B Vasantha, CO Anto, KP Brahmanandan, Kamukara, Kottayam Santha, MG Radhakrishnan, P Jayachandran, P Leela and Sreelatha sang

the songs. The main artistes were Sheela, Prem Nazir and Madhu and the role of Chellamma brought a lot of accolade to Sheela. Cast : Prem Nazeer, KP Ummer, Madhu, Adoor Bhasi, Sankaradi, Veeran, Sheela, Kottayam Shanthi, Saraswathi M L, Adoor Bhavani, Jeasy, Paravoor Bharathan, Meenakumari, Khadeeja, Pala Thankar Nabeesa, Kuttan Pillai, Sankar Menon and Master Pramod.

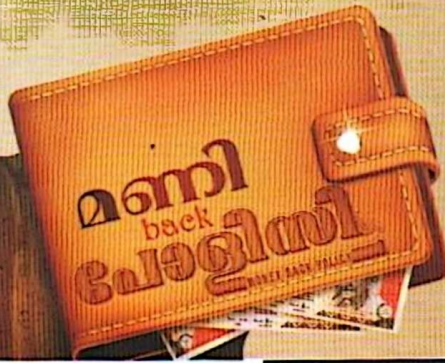


Money Back Policy

After playing several serious characters, Srinivasan is set to play a full length comic character. Titled 'Money Back Policy', the film will have him playing employee of a security company. The story revolves round issues arising out of the married life of the couple who are several years apart in age.

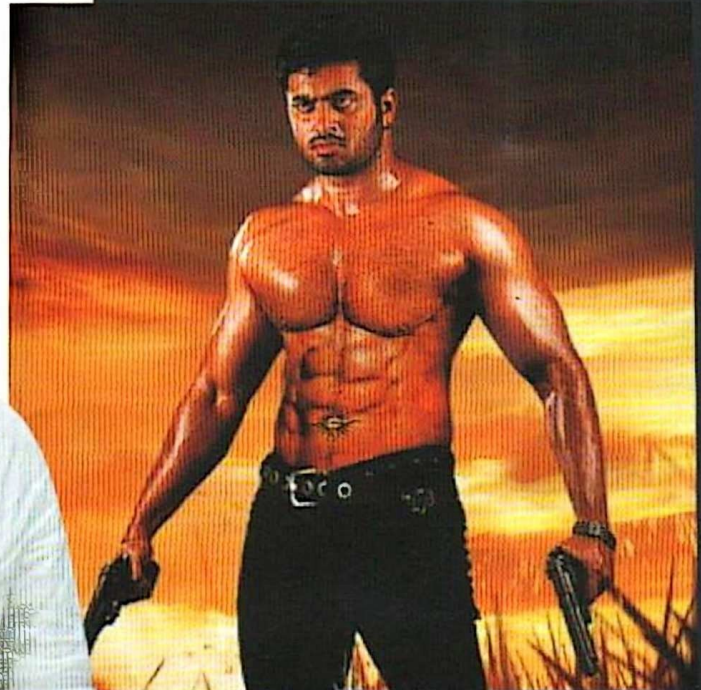
Sarayu plays his young wife. Malarvadi Arts Club fame Bhagath Manuel, Ratnirvedam fame Srijith Vijay, Rishi Kartik, Srita Sivasdas and Nedumudi Venu are the other actors.

Jayraj Vijay directs the film whose screenplay is by debutant Manoj Ram Singh who is also the producer of the movie. M Jayachandran composes the music of which lyrics are written by Santhosh Varma and Murukan Kattakkada.



Vijay Raz in KQ

Hindi film actor Vijay Raz who appeared in Delhi Belly is entering Malayalam movies through K Q. He is the villainous character while Parvathy Omanakuttan is the heroine. The role is very challenging and this aspect drew him to the film. This film scheduled to be released in March 2013 is being directed by actor Baiju Joseph (Aezhupunna Baiju).

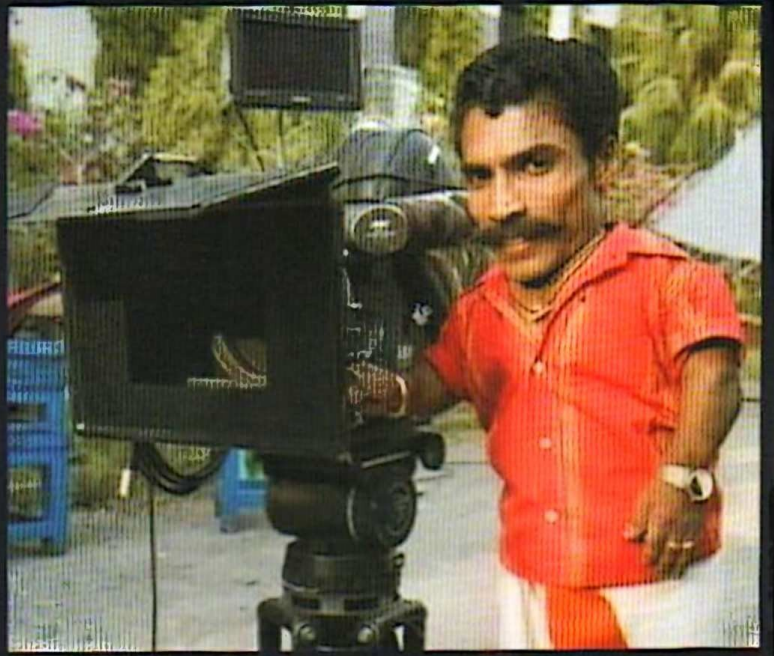


Son of Alexander

The sequel to *Samrajyam* (1990) is coming now and is titled 'Son of Alexander'. It is being shot in Singapore, Dubai, Spain, Ernakulam and Hyderabad. This film with Unni Mukundan, Thrisha, Biju Menon, Manoj K Jayan, Suraj Venjaramoodu and Prabhu as actors, is directed by Tamil Director Perarasu. Ajmal Hassan produces this film. The film's soundtrack and background score were composed by R. A. Shafeer and Ilayaraja, with lyrics penned by Sarath Vayalar, while Shekar V. Joseph handled the cinematography.

Guinness Pakru directs his first film

Ajayan (Guinness Pakru) directs his first film titled *Kutteem Kolum* in which he and Tamil actor Aditya share stellar roles. Sanusha is the heroine. Other actors are Vijaya Raghavan, Suraj Venjaramoodu, Sankar, Menaka, Ponnamma Babu, Munna, Saiju Kurup and Laya. Satish K Sivan and Suresh Menon write the screenplay, the story of which is written by Pakru himself. Vayalar Saratchandra Varma's lines are set to music by Shaan Rehman.



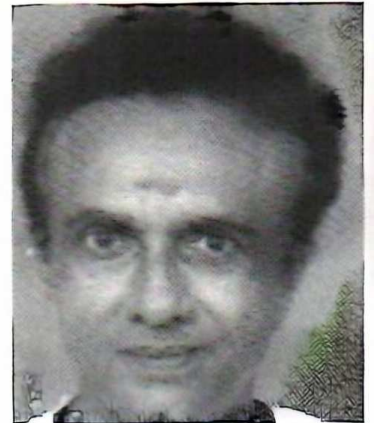
Mamta Mohandas to be single again

Malayalam film actress Mamta Mohandas and her husband of just one year, Prajeet are to separate. After getting married last November, they soon realized that they were two separate personalities who were not meant to live together longer and decided to divorce amicably. The legal proceedings would commence in January.



Actor Jagannathan dead

Character actor Jagannathan (74) breathed his last on December 8 in Thiruvananthapuram owing to kidney ailments. He is survived by his wife Saraswathi Amma, daughter Rohini and son Chandrasekharan.



Jagannathan started his career as a physical instructor in a school and came under the influence of Kavalam Narayana Panicker. His first stage play was 'Aayiram Katham Akale' of Kavalam and it secured him the State award for the second best actor in 1985. In 1999, he received the state award for the best serial actor. He played important roles in serials *Vaitharani*, *Kairali Vilasam Lodge*, *Droupathy*, *Malayogam*, *Aranzhikaneram*, *Mandan Kunchu*, *Jwalayayi*, *Punnakka Vikasana Corporation*, *Sri Krishnan* etc. His first movie was Rajiv Nath's 'Oru Gramathilninnu'. So far he acted in more than 175 films such as *Rajashilpi*, *Mazhavilkavati*, *Suryamanasam*, *Ezhunnallathu*, *Oritathu*, *Devasuram*, *Chanakyan*, *Swati Thirunal*, *Theertham*, *Oru Pennum Randu Aanum*, *Shruti*, *Kulam*, *Thiruda Thiruda* etc. He directed several stage plays such as *Pathanam*, *Parivarthanam*, *Karati*, *Vivahalochana* etc. He occupied several prestigious offices such as State Youth Welfare Officer, Administrator in State Sports Directorate. His last film was M G Sreekumar's 'Ardhanaari'.

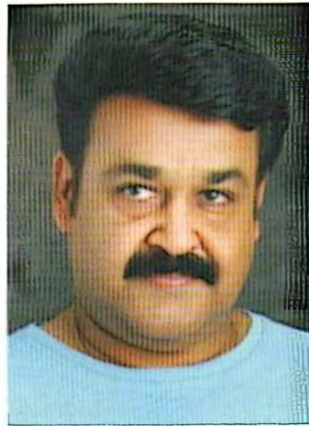
Nadodi Mannan

Nadodi Mannan produced by V S Suresh for Chithram Films and directed by Viji Thampy, is nearing completion. Dileep, Mythili, Archana Kavi, Ananya, Nedumudi Venu, Vijayaraghavan, Janardhanan, Suraj Venjaramoodu, Riyaz Khan, Salim Kumar are the main actors. Krishna Poojapura wrote the screenplay for the story of V S Subhash. Vayalar Sarat Varma, Anil Pachooran and Rajeew Alunkal wrote the lyrics for which Vidya Sagar scored the music.



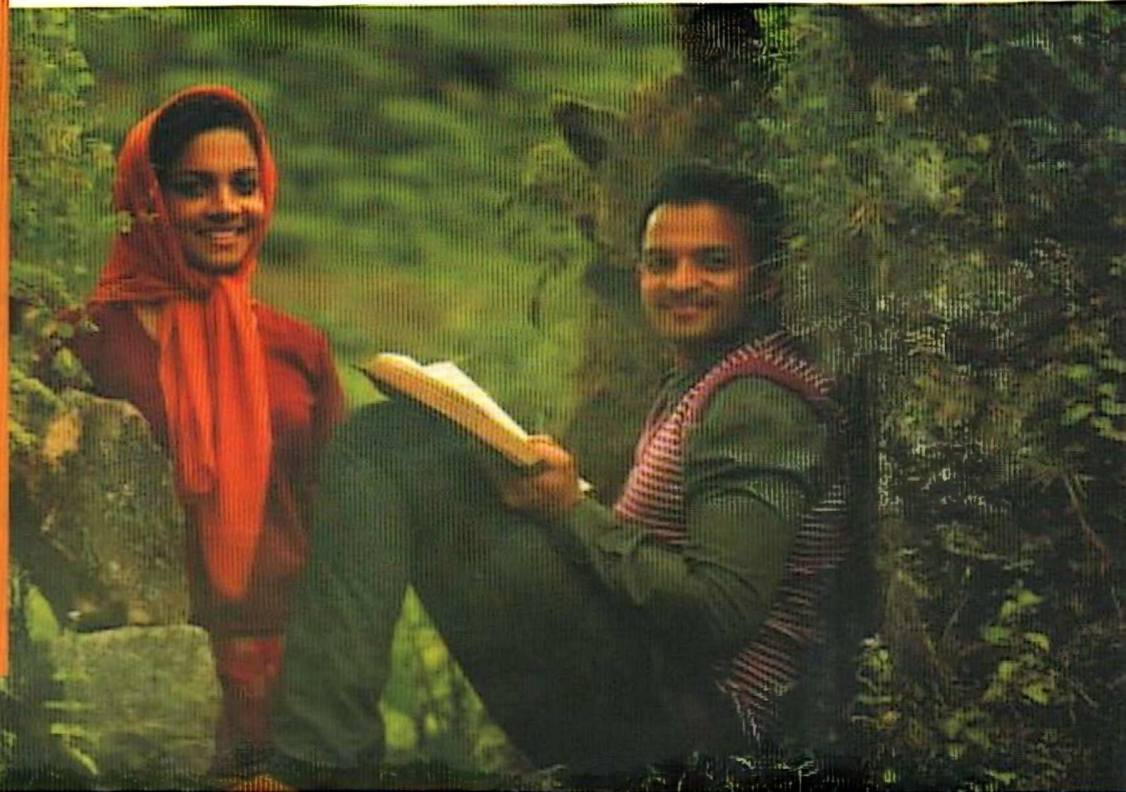
David and Goliath

David and Goliath is an upcoming Malayalam action film written by Anoop Menon and directed by Rajeew Nath. It stars Jayasurya, Anoop Menon, Soumya and Anumol are in the lead roles. The film is produced by Sudeep Karat under the banner of Salroza Motion Pictures. Music is composed by Ratheesh Vegha, while cinematography is handled by Jithu Damodar. In the Bible, the story of David and Goliath is about how the meek and innocent David kills the philistine giant Goliath through a slingshot in the battle of Philistine and Israel. The movie is a modern interpretation of the story, which deals with the concept of the strong and weak and has Jayasurya playing David while Anoop Menon appears as Goliath.



Red Wine

Salam Bappu, assistant director to Lal Jose in many films, is getting his first independent film to direct. He directs Mohanlal, Asifali and Fahad Fazil for 'Red Wine.' Produced by Girish Lal for Gowri Minakshi Movies, this film features Suraj Venjaramoodu, Saiju Kurup, Anoop Chandran, Manraj, T G Ravi, Sunil Sukhada, Meghna Raj, Mia, Maria and Anusri. Rafiq Ahmed's lyrics are set to tune by Bijipal.





കെ എം ആർ കലാസമിതി പ്രസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ രക്ഷകൻ

-പവിത്രൻ കുണ്ണപുരം



■ സ്വാതന്ത്രാനന്തര ഗ്രാമീണജനതയുടെ സന്താപങ്ങളും സംഘർഷങ്ങളും നെഞ്ചേറ്റിയ ഒരു സമൂഹത്തിന്റെ കൂട്ടായ്മയിൽ രൂപംകൊണ്ടതാണ്

മലബാറിലെ കലാസമിതി പ്രസ്ഥാനം. നാട്ടിൻപുറത്തെ തൊഴിലാളികളും അഭ്യസ്തവിദ്യരായ യുവാക്കളും ഇതിൽ പങ്ക് ചേർന്നു. ഓരോ ഗ്രാമത്തിന്റെയും രാഷ്ട്രീയവും സാംസ്കാരികവുമായ കാഴ്ചപ്പാടുകൾ ഈ കലാസമിതിപ്രവർത്തനങ്ങളിൽ നിഴലിച്ചിരുന്നു.

1948-ൽത്തന്നെ കോഴിക്കോട്ട് കലാസമിതി പ്രസ്ഥാനം രൂപം കൊണ്ടിരുന്നു. 1954 ആയപ്പോഴേക്കും അത് മലബാർ കേന്ദ്രകലാസമിതിയായും 1957-ഓട്കൂടി കേരള കലാസമിതിയായും വികസിച്ചു. കെ ടി മുഹമ്മദ്, കുഞ്ഞാണ്ടി, വാസു പ്രഭീപ്, ബാലൻ നായർ തുടങ്ങിയ നാടകപ്രതിഭകൾ ഈ പ്രസ്ഥാനത്തെ ഒരു ദശകത്തിലേറെക്കാലം നയിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തിരുന്നു.

കുണ്ണൂരിലെ നാടകപ്രസ്ഥാനത്തെ ഏകോപിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിൽ നേതൃത്വം വഹിച്ച വ്യക്തിയാണ് കെ എം രാഘവൻ മാസ്റ്റർ. ഒരു പ്രതിഫലവും

പറ്റാതെ രണ്ടു പതിറ്റാണ്ടിലേറെക്കാലം കലാസമിതി പ്രസ്ഥാനത്തിനുവേണ്ടി മാസ്റ്റർ അക്ഷീണം പ്രവർത്തിച്ചു. വിദ്യാർത്ഥിനാടകപ്രസ്ഥാനം വളർത്തിയെടുക്കുന്നതിലും യുവജനോത്സവങ്ങളിൽ നാടകാവതരണം, പരിപാടിയിലെ ഒരു ഇനമായി അംഗീകരിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിലും മാസ്റ്റർ വഹിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളത്രയും പങ്ക് മറ്റൊരു വ്യക്തിയിൽനിന്നും ഉണ്ടായിട്ടില്ല. ഇങ്ങനെ ജനകീയനാടകപ്രസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ വക്താവെന്ന നിലയ്ക്കും കലാസമിതിപ്രസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ രക്ഷകനെന്ന നിലയ്ക്കും സ്തുത്യർഹമായ സേവനം അനുഷ്ഠിച്ച

കെ എം രാഘവൻ നമ്പ്യാർ എന്ന നാടകപ്രതിഭയെ കെഎംആർ എന്ന ശ്രേഷ്ഠനായിൽ പ്രശസ്തനാക്കിയത് ഈ ജനകീയ കലാസമിതിപ്രസ്ഥാനമാണ്.

കണ്ണൂർജില്ലയിലെ പഴയങ്ങാടിക്ക് അടുത്തുള്ള അടുത്തിലയിൽ 1934-ൽ ആണ് രാഘവൻ മാസ്റ്റർ ജനിച്ചത്. പിതാവ് പി നാരായണൻ നമ്പൂതിരിയും മാതാവ് കുഞ്ഞുമാവില ലക്ഷ്മിയമ്മയുമാണ്. അടുത്തില എൽ പി സ്കൂൾ, എരിപുരം ഹയർ സെക്കണ്ടറി സ്കൂൾ, ചെറുകുന്ന് ഗവ. ഹൈസ്കൂൾ എന്നിവിടങ്ങളിലായി വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം പൂർത്തിയാക്കി. തുടർന്ന് കൊല്ലങ്കോട് രാജാസ് ഹൈസ്കൂളിൽനിന്നും അദ്ധ്യാപകപരിശീലനം നേടിയശേഷം കൊയിലാണ്ടി ഹൈസ്കൂളിൽ അദ്ധ്യാപകനായി. ജോലിയിൽ തുടർന്നുകൊണ്ടുതന്നെ സാഹിത്യവിശാരദ് പാസ്സായി മലയാളം അദ്ധ്യാപകനായി. ബി എ, ബി എഡ് എന്നീ ബിരുദങ്ങളും ഇതേപോലെ നേടിയെടുത്തു.

വിദ്യാർത്ഥിജീവിതത്തിൽ കലാസാഹിത്യമത്സരപരിപാടികളിലൊന്നും പങ്കു കൊള്ളാൻ സാഹചര്യം അനുവദിച്ചിരുന്നില്ല. കവിതയെഴുത്തിലായിരുന്നു ആഭിമുഖ്യം. 1955-ൽ പുരോഗമന സാഹിത്യസംഘടനയുടെ ചിറക്കൽ താലൂക്ക് സമ്മേളനത്തോടനുബന്ധിച്ച് നടത്തിയ കവിതാരചനാമത്സരത്തിൽ മാസ്റ്റർ ഒന്നാം സമ്മാനം നേടി. അക്കാലത്ത് പി ടി ഭാസ്കര പണിക്കർ പ്രസിദ്ധീകരിച്ചിരുന്ന അദ്ധ്യാപകലോകലോകം മാസികയിൽ തുടർച്ചയായി കവിതകളെഴുതി.

1957-ൽ ഇടശ്ശേരിയുടെ പുത്തൻകലവും അരിവാളും എന്ന കവിത നിഴൽനാടകമാക്കി നാല്പതിലേറെ ഏകാങ്കങ്ങൾ വിദ്യാർത്ഥികൾക്കുവേണ്ടി എഴുതി. അവതരിപ്പിച്ച മുപ്പത്തിമൂന്ന് നാടകങ്ങളിലേറെയും സമ്മാനങ്ങൾ നേടി. കിനാക്കുഞ്ഞുങ്ങൾ, ദശപുഷ്പം, അഞ്ചു നാടകങ്ങൾ എന്നീ സമാഹാരങ്ങളിലായി മാസ്റ്ററുടെ ഏകാങ്കങ്ങൾ പ്രസിദ്ധീകരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇതോടെ നാടകകൃത്ത്, നാടകസംവിധായകൻ എന്നീ നിലകളിൽ കെഎംആർ പ്രശസ്തി നേടുകയും ചെയ്തു.

1958-ൽ കൊയിലാണ്ടി



ഹൈസ്കൂളിൽനിന്ന് മാടായി ഹൈസ്കൂളിലേക്ക് മാസ്റ്റർക്ക് മാറ്റം ലഭിച്ചതോടെ അടുത്തിലയിലെ കേരളകലാസമിതിയുമായി ബന്ധപ്പെട്ടു പ്രവർത്തിക്കാൻ അവസരമായി. സി എൻ ശ്രീകണ്ഠൻനായരുടെ നഷ്ടപ്പെട്ടവടം എന്ന നാടകം സമിതിക്കുവേണ്ടി മാസ്റ്റർ സംവിധാനം ചെയ്തു. പിന്നീട് മാടായി സഹകരണ വാരാഘോഷത്തോടനുബന്ധിച്ച് അവതരിപ്പിക്കാൻ സമിതിക്കുവേണ്ടി എഴുതിയതാണ് വെളിച്ചം എന്ന നാടകം. തുടർന്ന് സനേഹം അനാഥമല്ല, ചോരയും കണ്ണീരും, കിർത്തിമുദ്ര, ചിറകടി എന്നീ നാടകങ്ങളും അദ്ദേഹം എഴുതി സംവിധാനം ചെയ്തു. 1962-ൽ ഗാന്ധിത്വ പ്രചാരകേന്ദ്രം ഏറണാകുളത്തു വെച്ചു നടത്തിയ നാടകമത്സരത്തിൽ പങ്കെടുത്ത്, മികച്ച രചന, മികച്ച സഹനടൻ, മികച്ച സഹനടി എന്നീ പുരസ്കാരങ്ങൾ സനേഹം അനാഥമല്ല എന്ന നാടകം കരസ്ഥമാക്കി. 1964-ൽ ആകാശവാണി തിരുവനന്തപുരം നടത്തിയ ദേശഭക്തി ഗാനരചനാമത്സരത്തിൽ രണ്ടാം സമ്മാനം മാസ്റ്റർ നേടി. ജി ശങ്കരക്കുറുപ്പും മറ്റുമായിരുന്നു ഈ മത്സരത്തിലെ വിധികർത്താക്കളെന്ന് മാസ്റ്റർ ഓർത്തെടുക്കുന്നു.

1966 മുതൽ 1973 വരെയുള്ള കാലയളവിൽ ചെറുകുന്ന് കണ്ണൂർപുരം പ്രസന്ന കലാസമിതിയായിരുന്നു മാസ്റ്ററുടെ നാടകങ്ങൾ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചത്. എൻ എൻ പിള്ളയുടെ ക്രോസ്ബെൽട്ട് സംവിധാനം ചെയ്തുകൊണ്ട് അദ്ദേഹം പ്രസന്നയിൽ തുടക്കം കുറിച്ചു. പയ്യന്നൂരിൽ വെച്ചു നടത്തിയ നാടകമത്സരത്തിൽ പങ്കെടുത്ത് മികച്ച നടനും നടിക്കുമുള്ള പാരിതോഷികങ്ങൾ ക്രോസ്ബെൽട്ട് നേടി. തുടർന്ന് നിമിഷങ്ങൾ, ചിതാപുഷ്പം, രാസക്രീഡം, പ്രഹേളിക, കാലനേമി, ദിവ്യദൂഃഖം, വിളംബരം, ശിലാരക്തം എന്നിങ്ങനെ ഒമ്പതു നാടകങ്ങൾ ഏഴു വർഷത്തിനിടയിൽ അദ്ദേഹം എഴുതി സംവിധാനം ചെയ്തു.

രചന, സംവിധാനം, ഗാനരചന എന്നിവയിൽ പ്രാഗത്ഭ്യം കാണിച്ച അദ്ദേഹം ഒരു മികച്ച നടൻ കൂടിയായിരുന്നു. നിമിഷങ്ങൾ എന്ന സ്വന്തം നാടകത്തിലെ തൊഴിൽരഹിതനായ യുവാവിന്റെ ഭാഗം

സാക്ഷാത്കരിച്ചുകൊണ്ടാണ് അഭിനയരംഗത്ത് അദ്ദേഹം തുടക്കം കുറിച്ചത്. സ്വന്തം രചനകൾക്കുപുറമെ സി ജെ തോമസ്സിന്റെ 1128-ൽ ക്രൈം 27 ഉൾപ്പെടെ 16 നാടകങ്ങളിലെ വൈവിധ്യമാർന്ന കഥാപാത്രങ്ങളെ അദ്ദേഹം അവിസ്മരണീയമാക്കി. പ്രസന്ന കലാസമിതിയുടെ വസന്തകാലമായിരുന്നു അത്.

മലബാർ കേന്ദ്രകലാസമിതിയും കോഴിക്കോട് കോർപ്പറേഷനും ചേർന്നു നടത്തിയ നാടകമത്സരത്തിൽ ചിതാപുഷ്പം, കാലനേമി, വജ്രമുഷ്ടി എന്നീ നാടകങ്ങൾ മികച്ച നടൻ, നടി, രചന, സംവിധാനം എന്നീ പുരസ്കാരങ്ങൾ നേടി. രചന, സംവിധാനം, നടൻ എന്നിവക്കുള്ളത് മാസ്റ്റർക്കും നടിക്ക്ക്കുള്ളത് കണ്ണൂർ രാജത്തിനും ലഭ്യമായി.

സ്ഥലമാറ്റം ലഭിച്ച് മാസ്റ്റർ കല്യാശ്ശേരി ഹൈസ്കൂളിൽ എത്തിയത് 1971-ലാണ്. നാടകത്തിന്റെ വളക്കൂറുള്ള കല്യാശ്ശേരിയിലെ മണ്ണിന് മാസ്റ്ററുടെ സാന്നിധ്യം പുതിയ ഉണർവ് നൽകി. കണ്ണൂരിലെ നാടകകേന്ദ്രങ്ങളിലൊന്നായി കല്യാശ്ശേരി മാറാൻ അധികം താമസം ഉണ്ടായില്ല. അരോളി ശാന്തിപ്രഭ നടന കലാസമിതിയ്ക്കുവേണ്ടി ഏകചക്ര, (സജീവനി) എന്ന നാടകം എഴുതി

സംവിധാനം ചെയ്തു. വീദിക വ്യക്തിത്വം, കർമ്മഭൂമി, പക്ഷിസാന്നിധ്യം, താൻഡ്രം, എന്നീ നാടകങ്ങൾ കലയാശ്രമി കവിത സിദ്ധമുഖ്യം വേണ്ടി 1978-ൽ മുടിയാട്ട് ഏറ്റം നാടകവും തുടർന്ന് കേൾക്കു പ്രിയനാടകം, സൗഖ്യം, പാവം ജനത, സഹയാസം, മരണക്കിണർ എന്നീ നാടകങ്ങളും എഴുതി സംവിധാനം നിർവ്വഹിച്ചു. കലയാശ്രമി കെ വി സ്മാരക കലാസമിതിക്കുവേണ്ടി പുറംകാലൻ, നീലേശ്വരം ബ്രഹ്മസ്മിതയ്ക്കുവേണ്ടി ഉഷ്ണസന്ധ്യ, ചെറുകുന്നൂർ കണ്ണപുരം പുരോഗമന കലാസമിതിക്കുവേണ്ടി നീയുമോ ബ്രഹ്മസ്മിത, കലയാശ്രമി ജയഭാരതത്തിനുവേണ്ടി അമ്മയിലെ സ്ത്രീ, അഞ്ചാംപിടിക യുവധാരയ്ക്കുവേണ്ടി നൃത്യ കേരള സർക്കിൾ, അഞ്ചാംപിടിക റെഡ് സ്റ്റാറിനു വേണ്ടി പടിപ്പുര എന്നീ നാടകങ്ങളും മാസ്റ്റർ എഴുതി സംവിധാനം ചെയ്തു.

പ്രൊഫഷനൽ നാടകരംഗം

പ്രൊഫഷനൽ നാടകവേദികൾക്കുവേണ്ടിയും മാസ്റ്റർ എഴുതിയിട്ടുള്ള നാടകങ്ങൾ ഏറെ ശ്രദ്ധേയങ്ങളായിരുന്നു. അവയൊക്കെത്തന്നെയും നൂറുകണക്കിനു വേദികളിൽ അവതരിപ്പിക്കപ്പെടുകയും ചെയ്തു. കോഴിക്കോട് സംഗമം തിയേറ്റേഴ്സിനു വേണ്ടി നന്ദി വീണ്ടും വരിക, മരിക്കാൻ എനിക്ക് മനസ്സില്ല എന്നീ നാടകങ്ങളെഴുതി. കണ്ണൂർ സൗഖ്യചേതനയ്ക്കുവേണ്ടി നീതിപക്ഷം, പ്രജാപതി, കാളകൃഷ്ണം, കാഞ്ഞങ്ങാട് കാകളിക്കുവേണ്ടി നിയോഗത്തിന്റെ തടവുകാർ, നാട്ടുപരദേവത, ആദി ശങ്കരൻ, കലയാശ്രമി കലാസേനയ്ക്കു വേണ്ടി മഹായാനം എന്നീ നാടകങ്ങളും മാസ്റ്റർ എഴുതി സംവിധാനം ചെയ്തത്.

എന്നാൽ പ്രൊഫഷനൽ നാടകവേദികളിൽ തുടർന്നുപോകാൻ മാസ്റ്റർ തയ്യാറായില്ല. സമൂഹത്തെ മാറ്റിത്തീർക്കുകയെന്ന നാടകത്തിന്റെ ലക്ഷ്യത്തിൽനിന്ന് സമൂഹത്തെ ഏതുവിധവും രസിപ്പിക്കുകയെന്ന രീതിയിലേക്ക് മാറാൻ മാസ്റ്റർ തയ്യാറായിരുന്നില്ല. കുറെ പേരുടെ ജീവിതമാർഗ്ഗമാണ് പ്രൊഫഷനൽ നാടകവേദികൾ എന്നതുകൊണ്ടുതന്നെ നാടകത്തിനു കൂടുതൽ വേദികൾ ലഭിക്കാതെ വരുമ്പോൾ, അതിന്റെ കുറ്റം മുഴുവൻ നാടകകൃത്തിന്റെ മേൽ ചുമത്തപ്പെടുകയും ചെയ്യുമായിരുന്നു. അമേച്വർ നാടകവേദികൾക്ക് ഈ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുകൾ ഇല്ലെന്നു മാത്രമല്ല, നാടകലക്ഷ്യത്തോട് നീതി പുലർത്താനും കഴിഞ്ഞിരുന്നു. അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ എല്ലാ നാടകങ്ങളുടേയും സംവിധാനവും ഗാനരചനയും അദ്ദേഹംതന്നെയാണ് നിർവ്വഹിച്ചിരുന്നത്.

Performance by Lalitha Kalalayam Mumbai

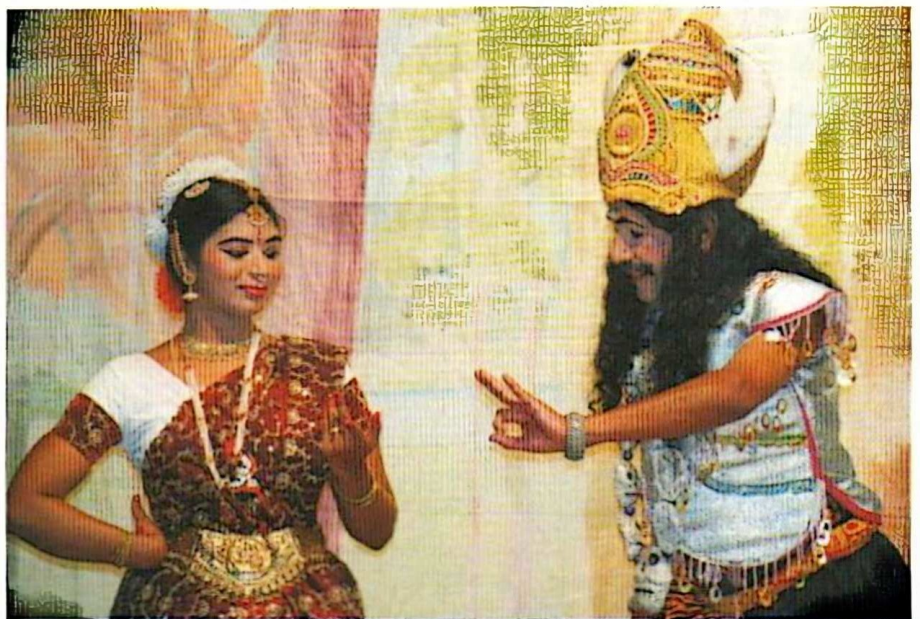


Govardhanagiri dance by Ranjini Nambisan

packed audience. Starting with Ranjini Nambisan's - *govardhana giri dhara*, Ganeshan's - *Mahaganapathim*, Anjana Arvindan's - *kaleeya mardhanam*, Dolanjali's - *peacock dance*, Payyannur Madhavanmaster's - *hunter dance*, the programme concluded with the dance ballet - *Bhasmasura-Mohini*. The ballet started with Bhasmasuran's penance, *Shiva thandavam*, Lord Shiva giving the boon to Bhasmasura, Bhasmasura wanting to experiment the boon on Shiva's head, Vishnu protecting Shiva,

scene of *Anantha Shayanam*, Narada's *Vaikunta yathra*, *Vishnu avathar* Mohini's Enchantress dance, Bhasmasura turning into ash himself by keeping his finger on his own head etc.

Songs were written by Nelluvai K.N. Nambisan, Mohan Punnadath, script by Girija Nambisan, stage control by Rajesh Nambisan, Make up by Minalur Unnikrishnan, and Choreography and Dance-Direction by Lalitha Kalalayam Nambisan-Mumbai.



A scene from dance ballet Bhasmasura Mohini

Lalitha Kalalayam Fine Arts Academy - Mumbai performed old styles of dance performances and a dance ballet - *Bhasmasura-Mohini* directed by Lalitha Kalalayam Nambisan on 22 December 2012 at Nelluvai Temple Dhanwanthari Auditorium to a



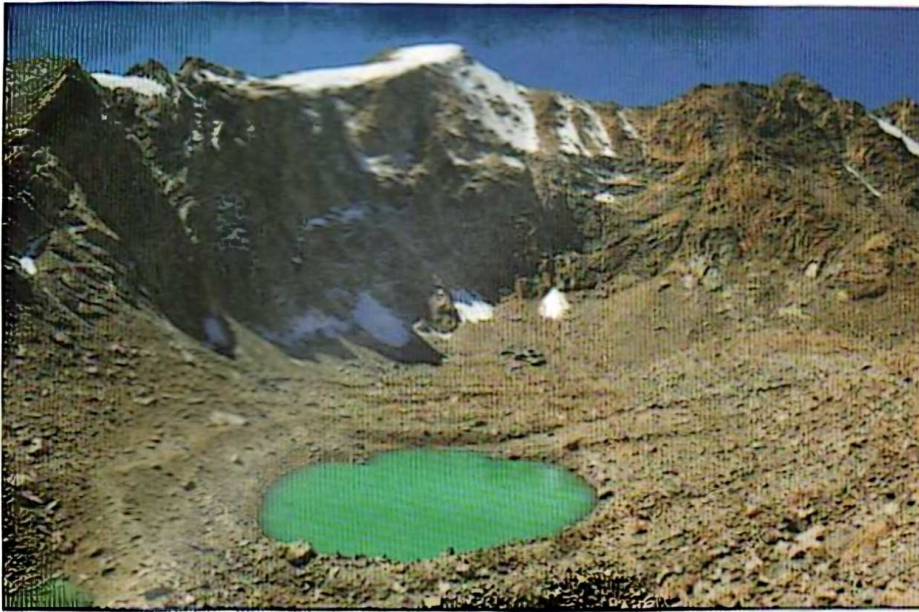
ഗന്ധരികുണ്ഡം

കൊലത്ത് അഞ്ചരമണിക്കൂറനന്ന കാൽനടക്കാറെ
 ഗന്ധരികുണ്ഡിലെത്തിക്കാനുള്ള പദ്ധതികൾ ആസൂത്രണം ചെയ്തു. (വാഹനസൗകര്യം ഗന്ധരികുണ്ഡുവരെ മാത്രമേ ലഭിക്കുകയുള്ളൂ). ഡോലിയിലും കുതിരപ്പറ്റത്തും മറ്റും യാത്ര തീരുമാനിച്ചവരെ ഏകദേശം ഏഴുമണിയോടെ ഗന്ധരികുണ്ഡിലെത്തിച്ചാൽ മതിയാകുമെന്ന് യാത്രാനേതൃത്വം വഹിക്കുന്ന രാമദാസും ശശിയും നേരത്തെ തീരുമാനിച്ചിരുന്നു. പിറ്റേന്ന് ഏതാണ്ട് മൂന്ന് മണിയോടെ, ഉറക്ക മുണർന്നു. നല്ല തണുപ്പുണ്ടെങ്കിലും പച്ചവെള്ളത്തിൽ അന്നെ കുളിച്ചു. നാലരമണിക്കൂറനന്ന പുറപ്പെട്ടു. പ്രഭാതക്ഷണത്തിന് രണ്ട് പപ്പാത്തിയും കിഴങ്ങുകറിയും. ഉച്ചക്ഷണം പൊതിരുപത്തിൽ എല്ലാവർക്കും വിതരണം ചെയ്യപ്പെട്ടു. അഞ്ചുമണിയോടെ കേദാർനാഥിലേക്ക് കാൽനടയായി ഞങ്ങളുടെ സംഘം ഗന്ധരികുണ്ഡിലേക്കു യാത്രയായി. സമുദ്രനിരപ്പിൽനിന്ന് 1981 മീറ്റർ ഉയരത്തിൽ സ്ഥിതി ചെയ്യുന്ന ഗന്ധരികുണ്ഡിൽവെച്ചാണ് പാർവതി ശിവനെ വിവാഹം കഴിക്കുന്നതിനായി തപസ്സ് അനുഷ്ഠിച്ചത് എന്നാണ് ഐതിഹ്യം. ഇവിടെയുള്ള ശിവ പാർവതിക്ഷേത്രത്തിനു സമീപത്തായി ഒരു ചുടുനീരുറവ യുണ്ട്. മടക്കയാത്രയിൽ യാത്രാസംഘത്തിലെ എല്ലാവരും ഈ ചുടുനീരുറവയിൽ കുളിച്ച് ക്ഷീണം അകറ്റി. ഹിമാലയൻ പർവതനിരകളിൽ ഗന്ധകശേഖരമുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടാണ് ഈ ചുടുനീരുറവകൾ അവിടവിടെയായി കണ്ടുവരുന്നത്. എന്തായാലും അതിശൈത്യമുള്ള പ്രദേശത്ത് ഇത്തരത്തിലുള്ള ഒരു ചുടുനീരുറവ ആശ്വാസത്തിലുപരി ആശ്ചര്യമായി നില



രമ ആർ. പിഷാരടി

കൊള്ളുന്നു.
 അഞ്ചുമുക്കാൽ മണിയോടെ ക്ഷത്യാദരപൂർവ്വം മലനിരകളെ പ്രണമിച്ച്, ഇതിനീടെ ഊന്നുവടിയുടെ സഹായത്തോടെ, മലകയറ്റം തുടങ്ങി. സൂര്യപ്രകാശം അങ്ങിങ്ങായി പരക്കുന്നതേയുള്ളൂ. എങ്കിലും ഈ വാഹകരുടെ വിലപേശൽ അല്പനേരം കൗതുകത്തോടെ നോക്കിനിന്നു. മുപ്പതു നിമിഷം കൊണ്ട് ഒരു കിലോമീറ്റർ ദൂരം കയറുക എന്ന ഒരുദേശത്തോടെ മനസ്സിൽ ഒരു പദ്ധതി ഞാൻ നേരത്തെ ആസൂത്രണം ചെയ്തിരുന്നു. ആ ഏകദേശകണക്ക് ചിലപ്പോൾ ഏറിയും കുറഞ്ഞും



Gourikund

വന്നുകൊണ്ടിരുന്നു. എട്ടടിയോളം വീതിയുള്ള നടപ്പാതയുടെ ഒരു വശത്ത് താഴെയായി മന്ദാകിനി എട്ടു വയസ്സുകാരിയുടെ കൃത്യതയോടെ തുളിച്ചാടി ഒഴുകുന്നു. ആദ്യത്തെ അഞ്ചാറു കിലോമീറ്ററിൽ അധികവും നിബിഡവനങ്ങളാണ്. എവിടെ നോക്കിയാലും അങ്ങിങ്ങായി വെള്ളച്ചാട്ടങ്ങളും മല ഇടിഞ്ഞതിന്റെ ലക്ഷണങ്ങളും കാണാം. നയനാനന്ദകരവും അവിസ്മരണീയവുമായ പ്രകൃതിദൈവങ്ങൾ കിടയിലും ഭീതിജനകവും ദുർഘടവുമായ യാത്ര! കുതിരകളുടേയും കുതിരക്കാരുടേയും ഡോളിയുടേയും മറ്റും തിരക്കും ഈ വഴിയിലൂടെ നടന്നു കയറുന്നുവർക്ക് ചില തടസ്സങ്ങൾ സൃഷ്ടിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരുന്നുവെങ്കിലും യാത്ര അനുസ്യൂതം തുടർന്നുകൊണ്ടിരുന്നു. ഇതിനിടയിൽ ദർശനസൗഭാഗ്യം ലഭിച്ച് ആത്മസംതൃപ്തിയോടെ കുതിരപ്പുറത്തും ഡോലികളിലുമായി മടങ്ങുന്നവരെ കണ്ടു. 'ജയ് ഹോലേനാഥ്', 'ജയ് കേദാർനാഥ്ജി', 'നമസ്തേവായ' തുടങ്ങിയ വയാണ് അഭിവാദന പ്രത്യഭിവാദനങ്ങൾ.

ആദ്യത്തെ രണ്ടുരണ്ടു കിലോമീറ്ററിനുള്ളിൽ ഉത്സാഹശീലരായി കണ്ട പലരും ഇതിനകം പിൻവാങ്ങി കുതിരപ്പുറത്തേക്കു മാറി. യാത്രാസംഘത്തിൽ അധികം പേരും കേദാരത്തിലേക്ക് ആദ്യമായി പോകുന്നവരാണ്. തണുപ്പിന്റെ കാഠിന്യം വർദ്ധിച്ചതുകൊണ്ടാണോ നടക്കാനുള്ള വഴി ഓർത്ത് പരിഭ്രാന്തിയും വേവലാതിയും

മനസ്സിൽ നിഴലിച്ചതു കൊണ്ടാണോ എന്നറിയില്ല മിക്കവരിലും അവശതയുടെ വിഷമതകൾ പ്രകടമായി തോന്നിയിരുന്നു. വഴിയിൽ പലയിടങ്ങളിലും ഓർപായ മേഞ്ഞ ചെറിയ കടകളും ചായക്കടകളും താൽക്കാലിക വിശ്രമ കേന്ദ്രങ്ങളായി ആശ്വാസം നൽകിയിരുന്നു.

ഗൗരികുണ്ഡിൽനിന്ന് ഏതാണ്ട് ഏഴു കിലോമീറ്റർ കയറ്റം കയറി കഴിഞ്ഞാൽ എത്തുന്ന റാംബാഡ എന്ന ഗ്രാമത്തിൽ അടിസ്ഥാന സൗകര്യങ്ങൾമാത്രം ലഭ്യമായ നിരവധി താൽക്കാലിക സെന്ററുകളും കെട്ടിടങ്ങളുമുണ്ട്.

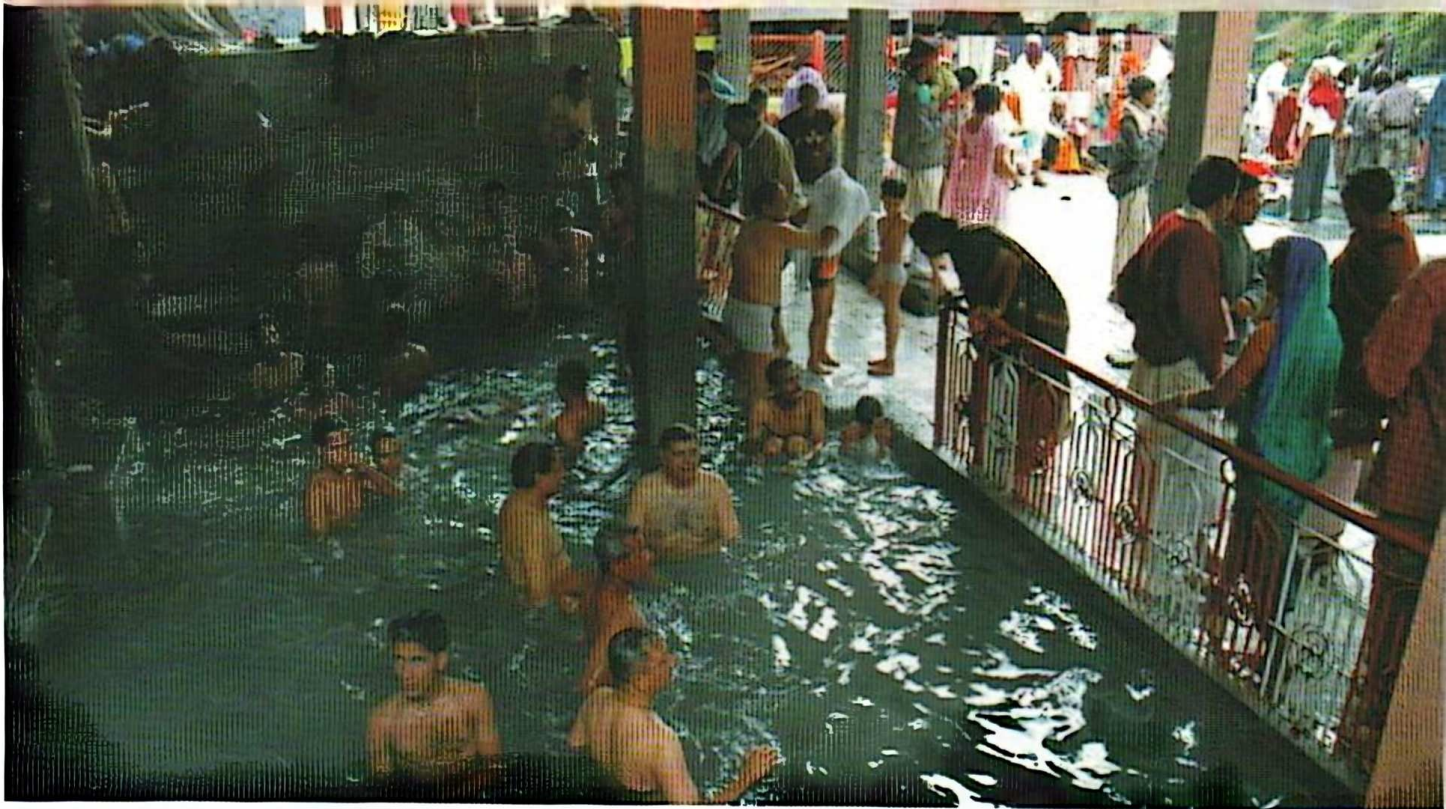
ഗൗരികുണ്ഡിനും കേദാരത്തിനുമിടയിൽ വൈകിയെത്തുന്ന തീർത്ഥാടകർക്ക് രാത്രി അത്യാവശ്യം തങ്ങുന്നതിനുള്ള സെന്ററുകളും ഇവിടെ ലഭ്യമാണ്. പെട്ടെന്ന് ചിരിക്കുകയും കരയുകയും ചെയ്യുന്ന 'കൊച്ചുകുട്ടികളെ പ്പോലെയാണ്

ഹിമാലയം' എന്നു പൊതുവെ പറയാറുണ്ട്. മഴയും മഞ്ഞുവീഴ്ചയും വെയിലും നിമിഷനേരംകൊണ്ട് വന്നും പോയും ഇരിക്കുമെന്ന് വായിച്ചറിഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിലും തങ്ങൾക്ക് അനുഭവിക്കേണ്ടി വന്നത് നല്ല വെയിലായിരുന്നു. ഉദ്ദേശം പതിനൊന്നു മണിയോടെ റാംബാഡയിലെത്തി. തണുപ്പുകറ്റാൻ കരുതിയിരുന്ന വസ്ത്രങ്ങൾ അഴിച്ചുമാറ്റിയതോടെ ലഗേജിന്റെഭാരം കൂടുകയും ആ ഭാരവുമായി മല കയറുന്നത് കൂടുതൽ ക്ലേശകരവുമായി തോന്നുകയും ചെയ്തു.

റാംബാഡയിൽ ഏതാണ്ട് ഒരു കിലോമീറ്റർ കയറിയപ്പോൾ പ്രയാസമേറി വന്നു. അതോടെ അത്യാവശ്യത്തിനുള്ള വസ്ത്രങ്ങൾ മാത്രമെടുത്ത് ബാക്കിയുള്ളവ ഒരു കടയിൽ ഏല്പിച്ച് യാത്ര തുടർന്നു. പഹാഡി വർഗ്ഗക്കാരായ ഈ കടക്കാർ വളരെ സത്യസന്ധരായാണ് എനിക്കനുഭവപ്പെട്ടത്. റാംബാഡ കഴിഞ്ഞ് ഗരുഡ് ചട്ടിവരെയുള്ള കയറ്റം താരതമ്യേന കുത്തനെയുള്ളതാണ്. നല്ല വെയിലുണ്ടായിരുന്നെങ്കിലും ചൂട് തീരെ അനുഭവപ്പെടാതിരുന്നത് ഒരു അനുഗ്രഹമായിത്തോന്നി. കേദാർയാത്രയിലെ ഏറ്റവും കഠിനവും ശ്രമകരവുമായ കയറ്റം ഇതാണ്. വഴിയോരങ്ങൾ നല്ല ഭംഗിയുള്ള വർണ്ണവൈവിധ്യമാർന്ന പൂക്കളാൽ അലങ്കാരസജ്ജമാണ്. ഭൂപ്രകൃതിയിൽ, അംബരചുംബികളായ



Journey to Gourikund



A bath in a hot spring

കൊടുംകാടുകൾ കുറ്റിച്ചെടികൾക്കും ഓർക്കിഡ് വർഗ്ഗത്തിൽപ്പെട്ട പൂക്കൾക്കും വഴി മാറിയിരിക്കുന്നു. കേദാരധാരത്തോട് അടുത്തപ്പോൾ ഗുപ്തകാശിയിൽ ഞങ്ങൾ വിദ്വരതയിൽ കണ്ടിരുന്ന അഭയമമായ കാഴ്ചയും ഒരു സ്ഥിര സമീപഭൂമിയായി. ജീവിതത്തിൽ ഒരിക്കലേങ്കിലും ഈ വഴി നടന്നിട്ടുള്ളവർക്ക് മനുഷ്യജീവിതത്തിന്റെ നശ്വരതയും ഹിമാലയത്തിന്റെ ഗാംഭീര്യവും മഹത്വവും ബോധ്യമാകും. ബുദ്ധ്വദ ഭംഗിയിൽ അഹങ്കരിക്കുന്ന നിസ്സാരനായ മനുഷ്യനെ കുറിച്ചൊർത്ത് അല്പം ചിന്താധീനയായി, പിന്നീട് ഈ പർവ്വതനിരകൾക്കു മുമ്പിൽ നമ്രശിരസ്കയുമായി.

വഴിയിൽ പല ഇടങ്ങളിലും ഉഖിമം വക പ്രസക്തമെന്നു തോന്നിപ്പിക്കുന്ന അർത്ഥഗർഭമായ വരികൾ എഴുതിവെച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. കാളിഭാസന്റെ പ്രസിദ്ധമായ കുമാരസംഭവത്തിലെ ഹിമവൽസ്മൃതി മനസ്സിൽ നിറഞ്ഞുനിന്നു.

അസ്ത്യത്തരസ്യം ദിശി ദേവതാത്മാ ഹിമാലയോ നാമ നഗാധിരാജഃ പൂർവാപരൗ തോയനിധീവഗാഹ്യ സ്ഥിതഃ പൃഥിവ്യാ ഇവ മാന്ദണ്ഡഃ നിരപ്പും വീതിയുമുള്ള നിരത്തുകൾ കണ്ടുതുടങ്ങിയതോടെ വിഷമം പിടിച്ച കയറ്റങ്ങൾക്ക് ഒരു വിരാമം സംഭവിച്ചതായിത്തോന്നി. അങ്ങകലെ വിദ്വരതയിലല്ലാതെ ഹെലികോപ്റ്ററിന്റെ ആരവത്തിൽ തല ഉയർത്തി നോക്കുന്ന പുൽമേടുകൾ. അവയെ പിന്നിട്ട് അധികം അകലെയല്ലാതെ ചെറിയ കെട്ടിടസമുച്ചയങ്ങൾ കണ്ടുതുടങ്ങി. പാണ്ഡവർക്കും ശ്രീ ശങ്കരാചാര്യസ്വാമികൾക്കും തപോവനസ്വാമികൾക്കും മറ്റ് മഹായോഗികൾക്കും മനസ്സറിഞ്ഞ് വരവേൽപ്പ് നൽകിയ ഈ പുണ്യഭൂമിയിലിതാ.... പുൽക്കൊടിയായ എനിക്കും സദയം സ്ഥലം അനുവദിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. ജന്മധന്യതയിൽ ഹൃദയത്തുടിപ്പുകളെല്ലാം കേദരനാദസ്മൃതികളായി. സന്തോഷത്തിരമാലകളിൽ മനസ്സ് നീന്തിത്തുടിച്ചു. ജഗത്പിതാവിനെ മനസം ശിരസം വന്ദിച്ചു. വാഗർത്ഥാവിവസംപൂർണ്ണ വാഗർത്ഥ പ്രതിപത്തയേ ജഗതഃ പിതരവന്ദേ ഫാർവ്വതീപരമേശ്വരൗ (തുടരും)



Hill Garden Ayyappa Bhakta Sangham celebrated its 17th Mandala Pooja at Hill Garden Community Centre at Tikujiniwadi, Thane. There were the traditional pujas, procession of the deity, annadaanam and Panchavadyam by Chelakara Madhavan Kutty and Troupe. Swami Krishnananda Saraswati who graced the occasion, launched the Sangham's website.

Use of words

-Guruji

Malayalam is a unique language but when people of different regions speak, you may note some difference among them. These variants are called dialects. When you bring rules of grammar to them, it would become easier for people from different regions to understand or comprehend each other. In dialects, the same spoken word may connote different meaning for different regions. For example, പറവ means any flying insect while some people use this word to refer to cockroach. In Malabar region, നരി is tiger while to the South Keralites, it means a small fox. For them, tiger is കടുവ. Any number of examples could be cited. Any new person has to seek help from knowledgeable persons to identify correct words. From experience, misleading words can be avoided.

One single sound or a collection of sounds making something meaningful, it is called a 'word.' In a sentence, there are several words, conveying a definite meaning. Tiger, book, writing etc are words which do not convey anything meaningful. ലീല പുസ്തകം വായിക്കുന്നു is a sentence conveying a definite meaning, with subject (ലീല), object (പുസ്തകം) and verb (വായിക്കുന്നു). You may also note the order of words in the sentence used is different from its English format, 'Leela reads book.'

In the sentence we used, it is incidental that three single words made a clear meaning. Very often, it does not happen. Like conjunctions, articles, preposition etc exist in English, Malayalam also needs them. See the following sentences:

1. പശുവിനെപ്പറ്റി ഒരു ഖണ്ഡിക എഴുതുക (Write a paragraph about cow)
2. ഒരു വീഴ്ചയിൽ അവൻ മുറിവ് പറ്റി (In a fall, he was injured)
3. പേനയോ പെൻസിലോ വാങ്ങുക. (Buy pen or pencil)
4. അവനിൽനിന്ന് ഇത് ഞാൻ പ്രതീക്ഷിച്ചില്ല (From him I did not expect this)

In the first sentence, the given sentence can be broken down as follows:

പശു + -നെ + പറ്റി + ഒരു + ഖണ്ഡിക + എഴുതുക

When -നെ follows പശു, one additional sound റി comes as a connector and we get the sound പശുവിനെ. When we further add പറ്റി to പശുവിനെ, an additional പ gets added, to give us the first collective word പശുവിനെപ്പറ്റി. Here പറ്റി is a conjunction connecting പശുവിനെ to the rest of the sentence.

In the second sentence, പറ്റി is not a conjunction but a word associated with another word മുറിവ് to give full meaning. Instead of മുറിവ് പറ്റി, another word മുറിവേറ്റു can be used. We used the same word പറ്റി only to show the difference in usage. Further, the sound ഇൽ is equivalent to 'in' in English.

ഒരു(a) വീഴ്ച(fall)യിൽ(in) അവൻ മുറിവ് പറ്റി In English, 'or' is used to show an alternate but in Malayalam the sound ഓ is attached to every option available as in പേനയോ പെൻസിലോ. Sounds like ന്, ക് etc are indicative; ന് for male pronoun അവൻ and for female pronoun അവൾ respectively.

In the fourth sentence, ൽനിന്ന് means 'from'. This is also a conjunction.

From him (അവനിൽനിന്ന്) I(ഞാൻ) did not (ഇല്ല) expect (പ്രതീക്ഷ) this(ഇത്). Please note that the usage of words are not in the same order in English and Malayalam. We must know that Indian and foreign languages retain their individual characteristics.

Answer to Quiz No.6

Given Quiz: നമ്മുടെ ക്ഷേത്രങ്ങളിൽ 90 ശതമാനത്തിലധികവും ഭരിക്കപ്പെടുന്നത് സവർണരാണ്. 1337 ക്ഷേത്രങ്ങളിൽ വെറും 3 ക്ഷേത്രങ്ങളിലാണ് സ്ത്രീകൾക്ക് ഭരണാധികാരമുള്ളൂ.

In the above, there is a clear mix up of active and passive voices. In the first sentence, the verb ഭരിക്കപ്പെടുന്നത് should be ഭരിക്കുന്നത്. OR if the verb is to be retained, സവർണരാണ് should be changed to സവർണരാലാണ്. Further, this sentence could be made more compact by re-writing as in

നമ്മുടെ ക്ഷേത്രങ്ങളിൽ 90 ശതമാനത്തിലധികവും സവർണർ ഭരിക്കുന്നു.

In the second sentence, ഭരണാധികാരമുള്ളൂ should be changed to ഭരണാധികാരമുള്ളത് to make it meaningful.

One correct answer was received from K S Nayar, 3 Priya, Ghatkopar (W).

Quiz No.7: അഗ്നിശമന സേനാംഗങ്ങളെ കൊന്നത് 'കെണിയിൽ വീഴ്ത്തി'

A news title from 'Malayala Manorama' daily dated December 27, 2012. If you feel that there is an error in the above, please send your corrected title to us soon. Names of those sending the corrected answers will appear in our next issue.



Kerala in Mumbai

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