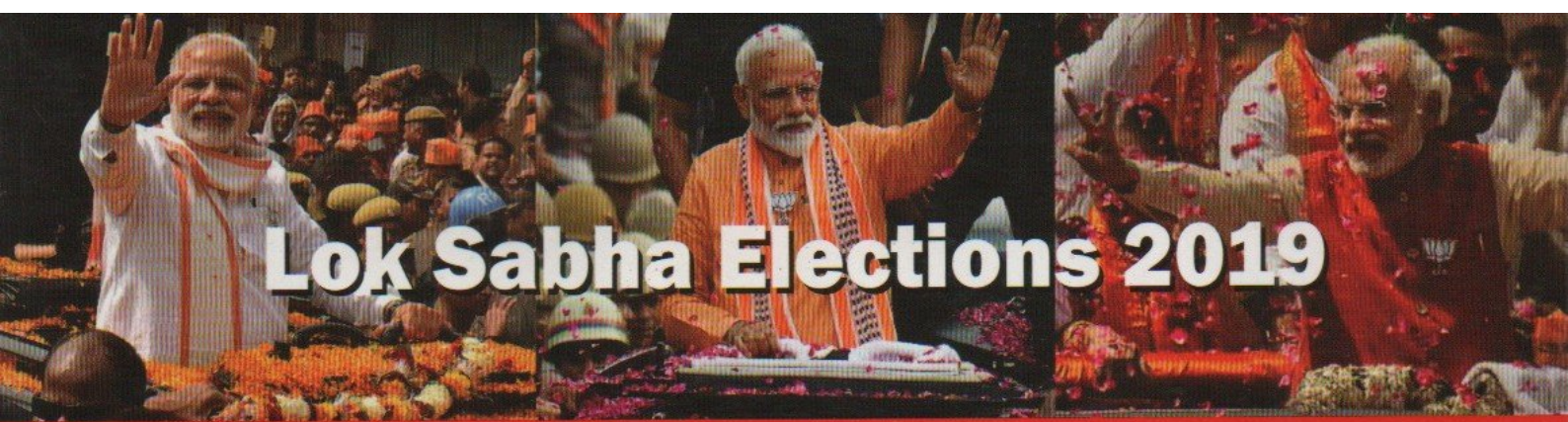




Lok Sabha Elections 2019

■ Vol. 9 No. 5 ■ Price Rs. 70 ■ June - July 2019

Kerala in Mumbai

The only English / Malayalam Bi-Monthly Magazine linking Mumbai Malayalees



**CHARISMATIC
LEADER**

■ Health and Beauty ■ Kerala Digest

Publisher, Printer, Managing Editor
P V Vijay Kumar

Executive Editor
K V Satyanath

Feature Editor
Lakshmi Venkatachalam

Feature Writers
V. Balachandran
P R Krishnan
Sriprakash Menon
Dr. A. P. Jayaraman
Dr. (Major) Nalini Janardhanan
Dr. Sujatha Nair
Guru Vijay Shanker

Office Administration
Reshma Nair
Bureau Chief -Thane Region
Rajan V Nair
Mob: 9004972655

Consulting Creative Director
Shankar S Bhogwekar

Designer
Sudhakaran K M

Photographer
Mangesh U Borade

Advertisement & Marketing
T R Raghunandan
(Kochi - 09847169725)

Production & Logistics Co-ordination
K V Prabhakaran

Owner
Vibrant Printing & Publishing Pvt. Ltd

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

Printing Press
M/s. Supriya Print Art,
143, Pragati Industrial Estate.,
N M Joshi Marg,
Lower Parel (E), Mumbai 400013.

Email: keralainmumbai@gmail.com
Website: www.keralainmumbai.com

Printed & Published by P V Vijaykumar
on behalf of Vibrant Printing & Publishing
Pvt. Ltd. & printed at M/s. Supriya Print
Art, 143, Pragati Industrial Estate, N M
Joshi Marg, Lower Parel (E), Mumbai
400013 & published at B-105, Twin
Arcade, Military Road, Marol,
Mumbai-400059.
Editor: P V Vijaykumar

Vibrant
Printing & Publishing Pvt Ltd

105 - B, Twin Arcade, Military Road, Marol,
Andheri (E), Mumbai - 400 059
Tel: +22 29209959 Telefax: 29202094

Is Kerala moving towards past?

From the recent events, we are compelled to think that the state is moving backwards. Kerala is designated as the most literate state in India and we have bestowed a title on it: 'God's Own Country.' We are competing with other states to stay ahead of them in the social, techno and scientific arenas. However, our advancement seems relevant only on paper while we did not adopt them in life. It is not a mere high talk. One hundred percent literacy, Kerala model of social reformation and cultural supremacy! All these tall claims seem mere empty slogans when we witness the recent happenings. In Neyyattinkara a mother and young educated daughter committed suicide being victims of sorcery and domestic ill-treatments. We cannot imagine that a woman of eighties and her son of sixties compelled two much younger women to embrace the most depreciative steps. These culprits were expected to placate the victims when they are in misery but what we saw was the exact opposite. When the victims were physically and mentally down, they were not taken to medical facility but to a sorcerer! The victims alleged that in past the mother-in-law and other close relatives tried to harm them. Instead of using the money in hand to repay the outstanding loan, it was used to buy lottery tickets with the foolish belief that lottery would enable to clear them from debt. We often see advertisements in the media claiming godly powers by the so called 'holy men' but our so-called revolutionary government did nothing to apprehend them.

The influence of holy men was such that the victims were even considered as sacrificial goats. There were even attempts to kill them on advice of holy men. The unholy influence did not limit to the uninitiated but to the educated lot too.

The advertisements in the media tell us there are agencies to enhance wealth, to rob the neighbour's wealth, to annihilate the enemy through spirits but there is not even of an iota of evidence to catch and bring them to justice. Many centres for the above activities are to mint money for the holy men and their agencies or to satiate their sexual thirsts. Women who cannot take decision by themselves are usually the prey to these illegal, immoral and antisocial activities. There is a huge spurt of educational institutions catering to modern technologies but they serve mostly to grab highly paying jobs in India and abroad. Education is never considered here as an instrument to expand mental and intellectual faculties but only to grab professional growth. In the past Kerala has witnessed several efforts to develop the mental faculties of its citizens by its leaders. It is sad that today we are striving to reverse of progress we achieved through decades of hard work. We failed to learn from history and fell for illogical pursuits. During the recent electioneering how many illogical pronouncements we heard from people whom we used to revere till recently. There was a time in India that the saffron clad people could be considered as educated and wise. Now such assumptions are proved not only wrong but dangerous.

It is time for Union and State Governments to wake up and to legislate suitable laws against such superstitions and their perpetrators and to bring the guilty to book. The NGOs have a great role to play in this regard. They should reach out to interiors of the country and illuminate the mindset. They should tell the people that every printed word should not be trusted as final truth. Every story and video coming through the WhatsApp, Youtube and similar media is not necessarily true and before believing their veracity we should verify their sources and trustworthiness.

Any public servant serving the interest of the self-seeking leaders should be identified and caught. A mere suspension from work would not be adequate. They should get the right punishment so that they would serve the right cause with full earnest.

Kerala should take the initiative and set an example for others to follow. Let God's own Country be truly so.

Best Wishes

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has won the elections and has become Prime Minister of the country for a second continuous term. It shows his popularity and the respect he commands over Indians. We may as well consider the election results as a historical verdict by Indians. I believe that this is a victory of every party worker and the BJP government's policy of 'sabka sath, sabka vikas', and the new mantra added to this is 'Sabka Vishwas'.

We hope to see more welfare activities and good governance by the party in power.

Rajan V Nair, Thane

Long Live Democracy

We are privileged as a nation to enjoy the privilege of choosing our leaders. There are so many nations in the world where the citizens do not have the right to elect their leaders. It always gives me a surge of happiness and love for my country when I see scores and scores of men and women, old and young, wait patiently in queues at the different polling booths set up in municipal schools and other Governmental buildings to cast their votes. I also admire those polling officers who toil the whole day for the smooth functioning of the electoral process. Long live

democracy in our country

*Laxmi R,
Matunga.*

Bouquet Of Articles

April May Issue of Kerala in Mumbai was a bouquet of articles on varied subjects ranging from Vishu, Easter, Gardening, Education in addition to Mumbai Malayali and Kerala news snippets and of course entertainment zone. It made interesting read. Here is hoping you come out with similar interesting articles in all your forthcoming issues.

*Shailaja Nair
Marol*

Avoiding Monsoon Troubles

Very soon the monsoons will arrive in Mumbai. As a Malayali residing in Mumbai for the past thirty years, it saddens me to note that as years roll by the condition the metropolis is worsening. Potholes, open drains, traffic jams, trees falling down, going out is becoming a nightmare as the rains arrive in the city.

I sincerely hope the authorities will take all efforts to prevent accidents happening during the monsoons by clearing the hurdles of the rainy season in advance. In this way unnecessary snatching away of lives and accidents can be avoided.

As responsible citizens each one of us can consciously take care that the rains do not affect our daily routine of

living. The civic authorities should go out on a war footing to look out for trouble spots and take immediate steps to tackle and find a solution to problems. We can emulate cities like Singapore, London, and other cities where there is no flooding on the roads, even after rains. Ultimately we only stand to gain from this.

*Vimala Mohan
Bhandup.*

'Kerala in Mumbai' should be back as a Monthly

It is unfortunate that 'Kerala in Mumbai' (KIM) has been made a bi-monthly since October last. I am not happy over this change and I believe my unhappiness is shared by hundreds of other readers. The Journal, over the last nine years, has become a favourite with Malayalees in India and abroad. Its production value is superb. It caters to a variety of tastes, upholds the values of Kerala culture, profiles the achievers in various fields of life, publicises social and cultural events, and enlightens the people with ancient and modern thought. I would like this 'vallam' with its precious cargo to sail smoothly ahead.

The sooner KIM reverts back to being a monthly the better. This is my earnest hope and prayer.

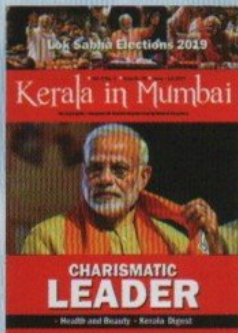
*V. Balachandran
Goregaon*

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

Attention Subscribers

Please intimate us in case you do not receive your subscribed copy by end of the first month (KIM is a bi-monthly published once in two months), in order to help us to take necessary action. Tel: 2920 9959 / 2094, Mob: 9820110509.
E-mail: keralainmumbai@gmail.com

Views and opinions expressed in Kerala in Mumbai are not necessarily those of Vibrant Printing & Publishing Pvt. Ltd. VPPPL does not take the responsibility for returning unsolicited material sent without due postal stamps for return postage. No part of Kerala in Mumbai can be reproduced without prior permission of the publisher. VPPPL



- 03** Editorial Is Kerala Moving Towards Past?
- 05** The Glorious Victory of Prime Minister
- 09** Cover Story BJP's Victory...
- 12** General Elections 2019
- 16** MRRWA Citizens' Collective
- 19** Fragrances and Flavours
- 22** Thrissur Pooram
- 24** Ideal Governance
- 26** Artistes of the Month Shilpa and Dhivya
- 28** Book Review Mohanam
- 40** Sayonita - A Landmark on Dance Scene
- 44** Mumbai News
- 51** Kerala News Digest
- 57** Malayalam Short Story
- 60** Beauty & Health
- 64** Addiction
- 65** Entertainment Zone

V Balachandran
Sriprakash Menon
Kim News Bureau
Lakshmi Venkatachalam
Dr A P Jayaraman
Satyanath
Parur S Ganesan
Mohandas D Warriar
Ashwati
Kim News Bureau
Kim News Bureau
Kim News Bureau
Ravi Variath
Dr (Major) Nalini Janardhanan
Dr Sujatha Nair
Kim News Bureau



majority.

If offensive language and falsehood cut no ice with the people, open mindedness and truthfulness can win their hearts. The election results have proved this beyond doubt, and Modiji has emerged as the most acceptable national leader with no equals. In many ways he is comparable to Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865), the 16th President of the U. S. and acclaimed as the 'greatest'. He is known to have moved from a log cabin in Kentucky to the White House in Washington D. C. in 1861, by virtue of his high mental calibre, hard work, dedication to democracy and passionate love of human freedom. Similarly, Modiji (born September 17, 1950) has risen in stature from being a vendor of tea (as he describes himself) at Vadanagar in Gujarat to be the Prime Minister of India for a second time with a selfless devotion to the ideal of development. After the elections, he has committed himself to four goals viz. 1. Promoting the welfare of all, particularly winning over the minority communities by removing their distrust, if any. 2. Strengthening of co-operative federalism by reconciling national ambition and regional aspiration (NARA). 3. Working without arrogance of power and in a spirit of service. 4. Ensuring people's participation in all social welfare programmes and Government's decisions affecting them. In adopting these, Modiji has but re-affirmed Lincoln's ideal of government 'of the people, by the people and for the people.'

After Gandhiji, India has not known a political leader who combined in himself political vision with religious

fervour. Modiji is essentially religious and believes in a 'Divinity that shapes our ends.' His visits to temples are not ritualistic but spontaneous arising from his religious instinct. At the end of the Civil War (1961-65) in America, between the North and the South, which was fought for the abolition of slavery in the latter, some liberated Negroes kneeled to kiss Lincoln's feet. He told them, "Don't kneel to me, kneel to God only".

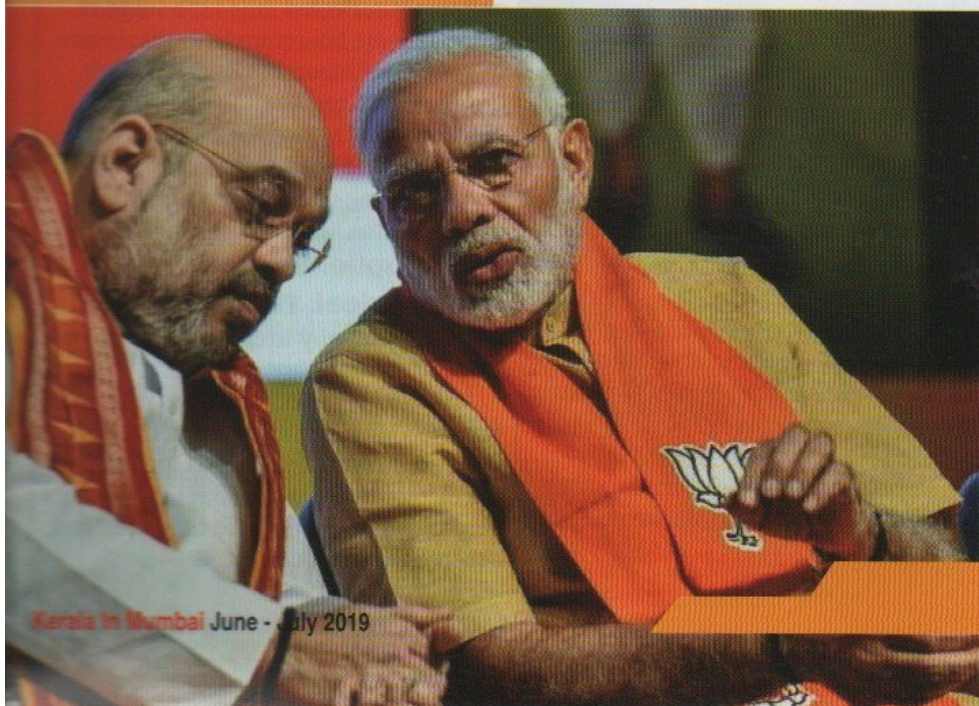
The Doklam Settlement

Lincoln once wrote: "What I wish to live for is to connect my name with the events of my day and generation, to link my name with something which will be of interest to my fellow men." Lincoln will long be remembered for the emancipation of the slaves of the South.

If a parallel is to be cited, Modiji will long be remembered, among other things, for arriving at a settlement with China over Doklam. This singular achievement was conveniently forgotten by the Opposition during their electioneering. No Indian citizen worth the name can deny that for about 10 weeks, from June 16 to August 28, 2017, there was an all-pervasive subdued fear in the country that a war with China was imminent. The Chinese, without notice, had started laying a road in Bhutanese territory at Doklam close to the Indo-China border. India, bound as it was by an agreement, helped Bhutan to get over a very critical situation.

On a charge of alleged trespass, the Chinese launched on a tirade against India. Day in and day out, they hurled abuses (much less virulent than that of the Indian Opposition leaders) and accused India of having committed 'seven sins' (not fully spelt out). The bellicose utterances rose to a crescendo when the Indian Foreign Minister, Mrs. Sushma Swaraj, was called a 'liar'.

Modiji and his Ministers refused to be provoked and observed an admirable restraint. This attitude, much in the Gandhian tradition, was effective in forcing the Chinese to stop their ululation abruptly. Prime Minister Modi, by the manner in which he handled the Doklam issue, averted a war. More importantly, he established personal rapport with the Chinese President, Xi Jinping, who visited India and lent support (though rather belatedly) to India's efforts at eliminating terrorism. It was with China's support that the U. N.



declared Pakistan's Mohammed Asher as a world terrorist. To Modiji goes the credit of putting an end to more than 50 years of hostility between India and China.

Visit to America

Another landmark event was the 5-day visit of Modiji to America in the last week of September, 2014, which made President Donald Trump his personal friend and admirer. Earlier, he had been denied visa for nine years to visit that country. There was an unprecedented demonstration of the people's esteem for him in that country.

Modiji was remarkably successful in establishing friendly relations with most countries of the world. Internally, too, his welfare measures aimed at financial inclusiveness, cleanliness, health-care, provision of educational facilities, improvement of transport and communications and, not the least, employment particularly in rural areas. It is the beneficiaries of these measures who, it may be asserted, voted for Modiji and his party, ignoring foolish accusations and foul-mouthed utterances.

It is against the above background that the electoral victory of Modiji's party (the Bharatiya Janata Party BJP) and his coalition Government, the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) has to be viewed. Many epithets have been used to describe the victory in the 17th Lok Sabha elections but the most appropriate may be 'historic'.

The final electoral verdict was as follows:

(Total No. of seats 542)

1. National Democratic Alliance 353 seats (BJP 303 seats against 272 in 2014).

2. United Progressive Alliance 92 seats (Congress 52 seats as against 44 in 2014)

3. Others 97 seats

Vote share percentage: B. J. P. 37.4%, Congress 19.5%

State-wise, while the B. J. P. has an impressive record of increase in all the North Indian States (except Punjab) and Karnataka, it could not get a single one in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. While this dismal performance was expected in the latter two States, it was hoped that it would raise its flag in Thiruvananthapuram, Pattanamthitta, Ernakulam and Thrissur; its respective

share of votes was: 31.26% (T), 29% (P), 14.73% (E) and Thrissur 28.7% (Th).

One can only hazard a guess as to why the BJP fared so badly in Kerala though the candidates were men of ability. The BJP as a party is not well organised in Kerala; this was clearly seen when the President of the State unit handled the Sabarimala issue clumsily. In his briefings to the press, he often made confusion worse confounded.

The Kerala press and the media have never given adequate publicity to Central Government policies and programmes. The commentators in the TV channels were ironical in dealing with the NDA and the P. M. For instance, in the popular 'chitram-vichitram' feature of the Asianet, the P. M. was called 'Pravasi Pradhan Mantri' with reference to his foreign tours and depicted him as one with a bag hurriedly going to catch a plane. The 'Munshi' programme, though remarkably original, was not different

Modiji was remarkably successful in establishing friendly relations with most countries of the world.

in lampooning the Centre.

A glance at the pattern of voting in the 20 constituencies shows that all is not lost for the BJP. The electorate, the press and the media may pay more attention to the Central Government's policies and programmes and bring the Ministers who do well into sharp focus. It is for the Kerala unit of the BJP to take new initiatives to attract people to its fold.

Tamil Nadu is a house divided against itself. The Dravidian parties are at loggerheads. The State unit of the BJP must find ways of strengthening itself. 'Tughlaq', a Tamil weekly under the editorship of Mr. S. Gurumurthy, is already doing commendable work in propagating the BJP ideals, and the programmes of the NDA.

In regard to Andhra Pradesh, it is too early to say anything about the BJP making inroads in the electoral field as a new government has taken charge just now after a total victory at the polls. The party of one of most vitriolic opponents of Modiji was decimated.

This may be taken as a hopeful sign for the future of the BJP in the State.

In Maharashtra and in Mumbai in particular, the BJP (with Shiv Sena) has done well. The middle class, to which most Keralites belong, seems to have contributed substantially to the success of the BJP Shiv Sena alliance.

The Opposition had only one target Modiji. Its leaders were willing to reconcile themselves even to the victory of the BJP as a party but would not have Modiji as the P. M. They raised issues which were not of a major concern to the people. Among these are the following:

Failure to fulfill promises: All parties make promises before elections. There are always practical difficulties in fulfilling them within a time-frame of five years. Rome was not built in a day.

The economy is declining: No, the current date of growth of the GDP is about 7% The World Bank has predicted a higher rate of growth (The growth-rate is only a broad indicator of the development or otherwise of the economy. Too much importance need not be given to quarterly fluctuations).

Unemployment is growing:

There is no reliable statistical basis for estimating unemployment at present. The Government has already initiated action in this regard.

Farmers' Suicides: These are isolated cases in different parts of the country. The State Governments should make arrangements to get timely information from the Panchayat level.

Demonetisation: This was resorted to as a part of the campaign against corruption and black money. The economy has been cleansed (i.e. transparency in business transactions) and this is reflected in (1) the surge in filing income tax returns, (2) disclosure of concealed incomes (Rs. 1.30 Lakh crore), (3) de-registration of shell companies, (4) stoppage of stone-pelting in Kashmir, (5) cessation of the counterfeiting of notes and (6) inflation under control.

Corruption in the Rafale defence deal: The Supreme Court has not found any irregularity so far. Review petitions are pending.

By electing Modiji and his partymen for a second term, amidst much slanderous shouting by the Opposition, the electorate in its wisdom has given its verdict which needs to be honoured and accepted without demur. ■

BJP's victory would have boosted Kerala economy

Narendra Modi wins second term as prime minister of India in the 2019 general elections with a thumping majority for BJP.



Sriprakash Menon

■ Congress president Rahul Gandhi might have rarely imagined that his wink in the Lok Sabha (LS) will work in

Wayanad, if not elsewhere in the country. Not too long ago, another budding actress/student Priya Warrier winked and became an international sensation, she became the darling of the masses courtesy - the social media. So there is something which Malayalees love about this gesture though it has no direct connect to Kathakali. Rahul winked in Delhi and got elected with a huge margin in the scenic wilderness of Wayanad.

It was surprising when Congress was rejected by the voters nationally, in Kerala they swept 19 out of the 20 LS seats stunning even the LDF. But what was not expected was BJP not winning a single seat from the state where for months fierce campaign against ruling left coalition had reached a crescendo. Many political experts felt BJP's lotus will surely bloom in slush of Kerala politics. Now, political workers and a section of voters regret that electorate in Kerala had a golden opportunity to bring a change in the state which for long has stagnated in growth and development.

People get the government they deserve. For the first time elections in Kerala was so keenly monitored globally by the Malayalees and the outcome was even more astonishing. Everyone was sure the flamboyant Shashi Tharoor of the

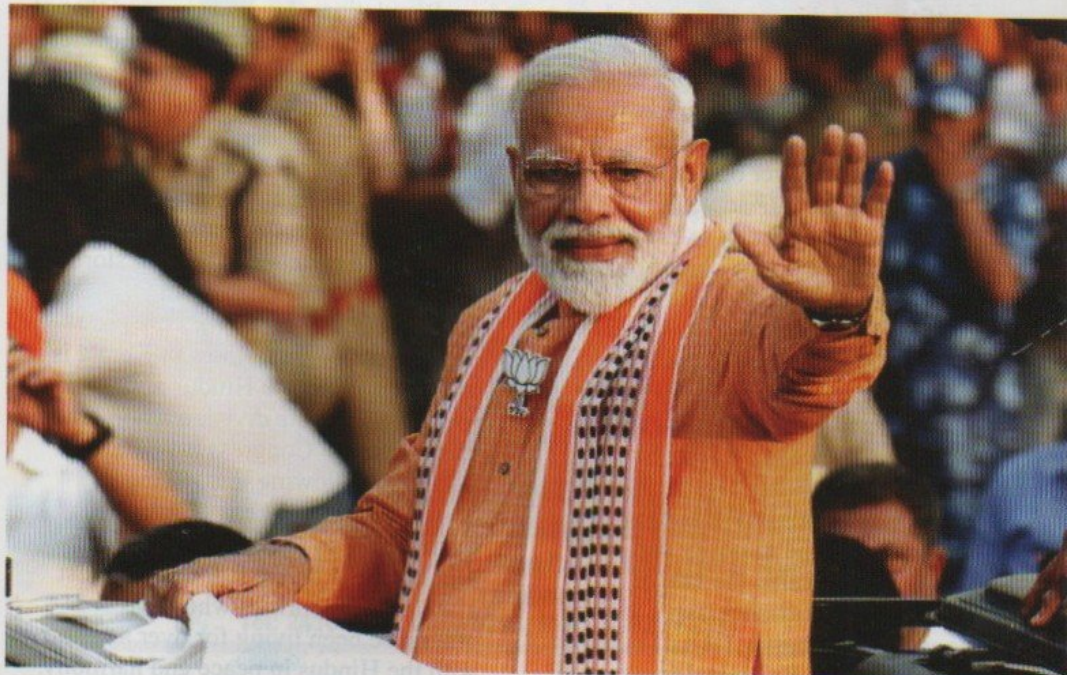
Congress would get a drubbing for his anti Hindutva tirade but he managed well with a divided Hindu electorate.

The loss of K Surendran's BJP seat in Pathanamthitta was due to the triangular contest between Anto Antony (Congress) who won and Veena George (CPM). The minority vote consolidation and division of Hindu votes helped the Congress immensely in Thiruvananthapuram, Pathanamthitta and Thrissur.

Keralites are unusual people, known to elect a government which has no connect with the party in New Delhi. The first democratically elected communist government in the world was in Kerala. Yet unemployment, low agricultural output, no industrial growth and mass consumerism have become the socio economic norm. Branded as the politically liberal state alcoholism, suicide, hartal, bandh, anti majoritarianism and lack of fiscal prudence mars its reputation of high

literacy and rich cultural legacy. UDF and the LDF two main political groups rule this 'god's own country' generally taking turns every five years.

Elections are the time, when Malayalees swing from its lassitude to help the state in its political process. Politics comes as a matter of fact to Malayalees in this highly polarised state. The fronts LDF and UDF have to just swing the minorities votes in their favour and whoever does it tactfully and effectively win the elections. Issues like development, employment, nationalism, price rise do not seem to effect the electorate who are relatively free from poverty. Politics is the primary occupation of several people in state some actively working for different parties while others gossip and form opinions under the Banyan tree in every village. A few of course from party office reaching the corridors of power while the rest debate, discuss and wait





for the elections.

BJP being a relatively new political force without any sizeable cadre in every district of the state has to compete with right wing Congress and the left. In a highly fragmented Hindu society, it's a Himalayan task for BJP to consolidate the majority community votes who are for decades loyal to the Congress. Another factor which went against them is BJP initially was not sure about launching the Sabarimala agitation. Only after gauging the mood of the Hindus they felt it would help to bring together the Hindus as a vote bank.

Later, when it started its high voltage campaign against the LDF over Sabarimala women entry issue, Congress a more organised political outfit seized the opportunity and gave a momentum to the movement. During elections they were stronger in targeting the LDF being the main opposition party. Of course it helped them and provided a stronger option to defeat the Left. What the BJP sowed the Congress harvested it politically in the polls with its well oiled state machinery forgetting gender equality and progressivism.

The indecisive and confused Nair Service Society (NSS) as always, were according to many the main culprit in Congress victory. It's their indirect support that helped at least Shashi Tharoor in the state capital. Flamboyant Tharoor with his anti Hindutva jibes could garner the minority and NSS votes which sealed the fate of Kummanam Rajashekar's victory losing by almost a lakh of votes. In 2014, BJP's O Rajagopal (now a BJP

legislative member) lost this seat to Tharoor by 15,000 votes.

Kerala is a strange place, it's said to be the bastion of communism, socialism and liberalism yet you will find palatial individual houses with narrow approach roads where two BMWs may not be able to cross each other with ease. When darkness sets in, many in their motor vehicles carry garbage bags to throw at isolated places in the absence of community or government garbage collection system. Autorickshaws, taxis may charge the commuters double the money for a single trip, Uber and Ola are not allowed to ply in several districts as they may make people's life more easier. But the locals are not complaining nor are they unhappy about anything.

Population of women exceed that of men in the Kerala yet they are nowhere in the political structure of this male dominated political system. The social proponents of gender equality in the state does not find lack of women representation in large numbers as an issue. Yet the intellectuals and so called progressive cartels create a big storm supporting women's entry in Sabarimala.

The entire left politics in Kerala is targeted against the Hindus and worked overtime to create division among them on caste lines. Congress is not far behind in following this strategy of divide and rule. Whenever it suited them they also raised the bogey of secularism to create fear and mistrust among the minorities who have otherwise been living for over a century with the Hindus in peace and harmony.

With such dirty politics coupled with political murders, the threat was really to the Hindu community. In such a backdrop, BJP's growth in the state politics was natural. Marxists hate tradition, legacy and patriotism and BJP loves to showcase it as a unifying force for the majority of the people in the state. This might not have translated into votes for the party in this election but the trend would soon change.

A state with highest literacy, best social indicators, picturesque natural beauty and resources, good individual entrepreneurs, better compliance of laws and governance yet suffered from poor economic growth. The political class and others are always in a celebration mood with periodic hartals and bandhs. Both the Marxists and Congress would have done well to Kerala, if they, like our Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited China at least a few times not for only sight seeing but to study their economic structure. As chief minister of Gujarat, Modi visited China and saw immense opportunities and seized the opportunity to bring investments to Gujarat. He remodeled businesses and agricultural enterprises.

Modi saw that even in communist regime growth zones like Beijing, Shanghai and other cities in China created economic boom for its economy. While the "left and right wing governments in Kerala were engrossed in the academics of revolution. No wonder the Left and Congress fronts are so scared about Narendra Modi's BJP as it could have ushered an economic revolution in Kerala. So the easiest way to check the BJP is to play the

communal card misleading the minorities for political survival. How will it solve state's fiscal and economic woes?

Intellectuals (mainly left oriented) have criticized Modi's Gujarat developmental model. However renowned economist Jagdish Bhagwati felt Modi's approach would generate wealth in turn will help in lifting people out of poverty besides generating employment. This was the perfect model for Kerala to come out of its backwardness and stagnancy. The state's agricultural growth has stagnated even for food grains, Kerala depends on other states.

Once a self sufficient agricultural state, today, paddy crops being not viable, the farmers are turning to cash crops without much success. Farmers have hardly any option, coconut farming is reviving with out any direction while rubber plantations are hit due to crash in the prices. Small farmers are surviving against all odds. The recent floods have exposed the state's vulnerability in times of natural calamity. There is hardly any contingency plan in the state. With all these negatives, Kerala is still regarded as a well governed state. A few chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan's well wishers quipped "had he not become a religious social reformer with Sabarimala issue, his party would have fared well as Congress had no major issues (as always) against him in this election".

A state can only develop if its youth and the others seek a political change. The attitudinal make over of people is yet to happen. Long years of isolation from the mainstream development across the world has sustained complacency in the system. An urban population using the latest electronic gadgets, Italian tiles or designer Audi cars cannot catapult a state in to a fast track growth centre. Tourism (including hotels, wellness/ Ayurveda, malls), Marine/Spice exports and sky rocketing sale of beverages will not generate enough wealth and employment for the teeming educated or literate populace.

Even after seven decades of shared governance of the LDF and UDF exception being during Congress veteran Karunakaran regime (despite allegations of corruption against him), he did initiate developmental projects including India's first private airport at

Nedumbessary (Kochi). No doubt there were a few other projects including IT parks (Pune alone has more IT hubs than in the entire state) in the state since independence but smaller states like Goa has more industrial units. Grave fiscal deficits have never been an issue in Kerala. It is a state which depends on borrowings and remittances from outside the state to trigger its economy.

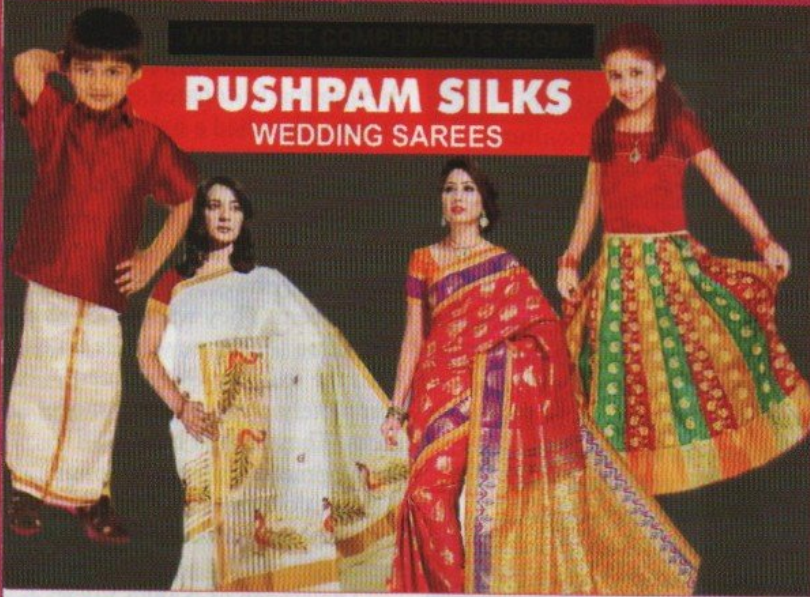
Modi's tenure as PM from 2014 saw some high points especially on the international front. India was recognised as a soft power besides a fast developing economy. He empowered poor and the down trodden by providing them several schemes which even the left governments have not been able to do after so many years in power.

His style of functioning may not have impressed everyone but Modi rooted in his rural ethos, his government brought big ticket reforms like the Demonetisation and GST.

Congress and left parties did everything to block it but miserably failed as public supported it despite undergoing hardships due to its not so smooth implementation.

What made Modi instantly popular was his concern for national security and with a single pointed vision to develop a prosperous and resurgent India, he worked hard taking along all sections of the people. His victory symbolised an India above caste, creed, religion and region. Wish the pseudo politics took a backseat in Kerala for ushering a vibrant dynamic Kerala. With the LDF in the state and the BJP in New Delhi, what the 20 Kerala MPs would be able to do for the state remains to be seen.

Finally, let's be reminded of what Gandhiji said "religion can be defended only by the purity of its adherents and their good deeds, never by quarrels with those of other faiths". ■



PUSHPAM SILKS
WEDDING SAREES

D. S. CUTPIECE & R. M. SHOPPING
HANDLOOM TEXTILES

SILK, COTTON, POLYSTER, KERALA SAREES, SET MUNDU, SKIRT WITH BLOWSE, CHURIDAR, POOJA CLOTHES AVAILABLE

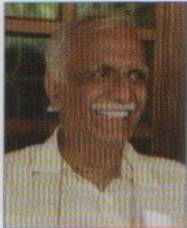
RAMRAJ DHOTI, MUNDUKAL, READYMADE SHIRTS, VELCRO DHOTI WITH POCKETS AVAILABLE

രാമരാജ് ദോത്തി, മുണ്ടുകൾ, റെഡിമെയ്ഡ് ഷർട്ടുകൾ
"ഓട്ടിച്ചോ കെട്ടിക്കോ വെൽക്രോ ദോത്തി പോക്കറ്റ് ഉൾപ്പെടെ"
ഫാക്ടറി വിലയിൽ ലഭിക്കുന്നതാണ്

No. 2, Matunga Mansion, Opp. Post Office, Bhandarkar Road,
Matunga (C.R), Mumbai - 400 019.
Tel: 2418 1025, 2410 5293, Mob: 98920 67581

GENERAL ELECTIONS 2019

THE LOTUS BLOOMS: How the Modi-Shah combo made the Lotus bloom again...



A S Madhavan

Chairman Emeritus of
Flyjac Logistics Pvt Ltd.
and Managing Trustee of
Warrior Foundation

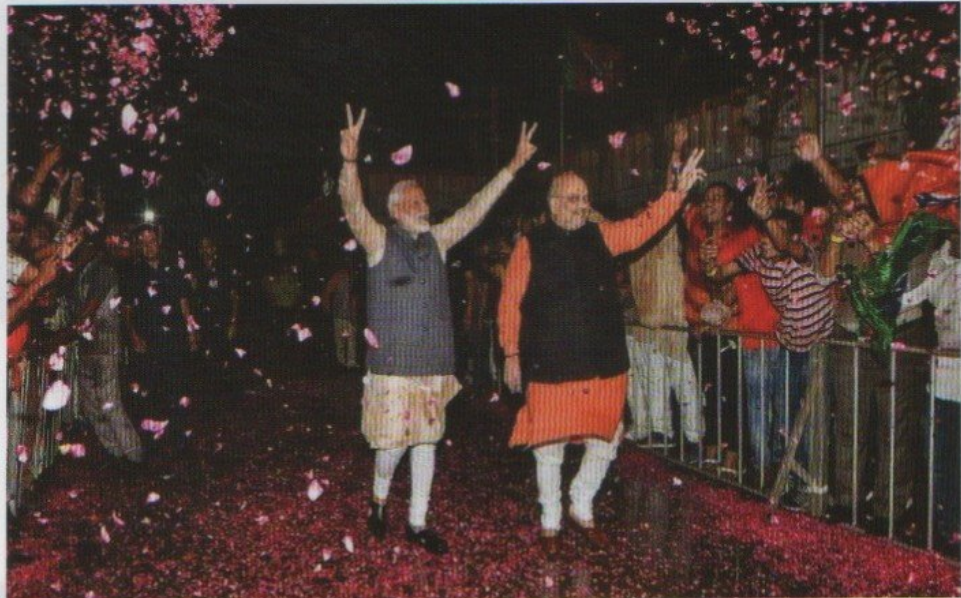
Kerala is God's own country blessed by nature with rivers, mountains etc. Our people are 100% literate and highly devoted and dedicated at their work place, especially when they are out of Kerala. Foreign remittance received from NRIs is the highest revenue in Kerala and our people are working in Gulf countries, Europe, USA and Far East. They are very good in construction, IT, Engineering, Admin, especially when they are out of Kerala.

Major crisis facing Kerala are unemployment, industrial non-development and non-agricultural activities due to the wrong policies of ongoing Communist and Congress Governments.

All our people want to do white collar jobs in Kerala and hence for labour activities we have to appoint migrant labourers from Bengal, Bihar etc. Skill development programmes are not happening enough in Kerala.

Appeasement of Kerala Government for vote bank has created a lot of labour issues including very high wages, union activities etc. An individual employee should have accountability and responsibility, then only he should get freedom. At present Government rules are in favour of the labourers and hence people became lazy and lenient in their activities. Job is secure and labour laws would not allow to sack them unless substantial payments are given to them.

Freebies, especially for tribal and particular community etc make them beggars now since they get most of the things free of cost. While conversing with one of the Panchayat heads, I was told that earlier while they were cooking food they used to



cook one handful of rice extra, which they normally donated to others every month. They had a habit of giving and supporting each other. At present, these values have been lost and they have to open up their hands with begging bowl and wait for Government support. In reality, they have lost their prestige and self-esteem. They will not be able to add value for the new India unless and until the existing Government completely change their concept and ideas. They should have skill development centres and tough competition for them to study well and achieve higher marks. This should be the parameter for getting jobs etc.

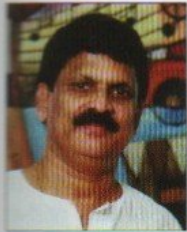
The slogan of 'Sabka Vikas' (progress for all) by our beloved Prime Minister is highly important to follow. Benefits like giving free gas connection, cleaning of villages (Swachh Bharat), providing free toilets, providing electricity to all the villages etc are highly important for the upliftment of the society. This has been carried out without any distinction of caste, creed and religion etc.

We really want to admire the present Central Government for looking on these areas with commitment of 'SabkaVikas'. Here there is no religion, caste or creed.

The Government is bringing a lot of rules which have no meaning and also bringing lot of restriction, even for a charitable organization to function. We have more than 300 under-privileged students in Kerala and Mumbai, to whom we are giving free education. The Government has sanctioned certain funds for this, but due to lack of clarity and integrity even now we are not getting the payment in few of our centres. There should be an end to all these bureaucracy and change of management with different thought perception is highly important at this juncture.

It is also unfortunate that a lot of unwanted political controversy had been generated in Kerala very often and hartals and strikes are very common without having prior notice. Many of the visitors are being stranded in Kerala.

It is time for a change and change is the only constant. The present concepts and ideas and methodology that are now adopted has to be looked at differently. There should be a political will and inner commitment to excel. The present Government at the Centre, who is going to take over the reins of the nation will definitely look for change in Kerala and it is the need of the hour.



Harikumar Menon

KNSS General Secretary

At the outset my hearty congratulations to Modiji and his team for achieving

such a spectacular victory in the recent Parliament election. After 1971 this is the first time an incumbent government has come back to power with more number of seats and that too with absolute majority.

In spite of BJP's outstanding performance in almost all the parts of the country, no BJP/NDA candidate has won from Kerala. Nevertheless their vote share has gone up as compared to last election. In my opinion, the consolidation of minority votes (put together almost 45 %) along with a tactical approach of the majority community in favour of UDF prevented BJP/NDA from winning any seat. The primary reason for such consolidation of votes in favour of UDF is the anger and dissent of the people especially the majority community against the LDF government in particular the Chief Minister for his handling of the Sabarimala issue. Barring two or three constituencies BJP/NDA's chances were slim. Hence the majority community opted for UDF to prevent splitting of votes between UDF and NDA. A split in the votes would help LDF. At any cost nobody wanted a victory for LDF. The net result was BJP/NDA not winning any seat and wiping LDF out from the scenario.



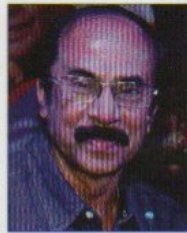
Adv Prema Menon

AIMA General Secretary

With the landsliding victory of NDA in 2019 Lok Sabha elections,

Narendra Modi proved himself to be the true and strong leader with proper perspective, vision and mission. "I am not seeking votes in the name of caste... I live for the country and so I am seeking votes for the country," was his slogan during election campaigns. The voters irrespective of party, caste, creed, sex and religion trusted this strong visionary in the light of his past actions

to make India globally strong and voted for NDA to make India stronger than ever before. There is only one equation, those who thought for the Nation voted for NDA.



Upendra Menon

Businessman

The success of Modi in the recent elections is the success of Democracy.

Democracy is the symbol of a civilised society. The allegations the harsh criticism Chawkidar chor hai etc that often violated the barriers of decency, may be the reason that compelled him to find retreat in meditation and isolation of course to come back. Chawkidar jor hai, Chawkidar chamatkar hai. Not only party workers but also the public took it in their shoulders to work for him. The press was also ruthless in manipulating facts.

Of the 130 crore population in the country Modi's BJP recorded 65% in favour, a thumping majority to form the government. Such a clear majority through democratic process only BJP could achieve and Modi remains numero uno in the world among other countries.

In spite of this fact he is criticised, hated by the media.

The English speaking regions, say, the southern part of the country rejected him. The crime he has committed- the main allegation which they have not pronounced is the fact that he proudly announced that he is a Hindu. An insecurity feeling for other religions was developed. They think a Hindu shall not go to the temple let alone follow the religion. Muslim can go to Mosque Christian can go to church. Hinduism never instruct to hate other Religion.

Let us see what he stands for. His twitter handle recently shows, "Together we grow, together we prosper, together we build a strong and inclusive India".

In fact the people who voted for him are convinced he is a man with Midas touch and is the best answer to India's economic development. His actions earlier might have been success or failure, they are convinced that his

endeavours are manifestations of his undiluted intentions and no ulterior motives to gain personal benefit. Demonetisation, surgical strike, swachh bharat has come to national and international attention. Cooking gas, electricity, public toilet, bank account has attracted support from the less privileged.

What are the other issues which need attention?

Farmers suicides, empowerment of women, wipe off feeling of insecurity among other religions,

Create a confidence to say with pride I am a Hindu, to inculcate values of decent living, to eradicate poverty, narrowing difference between haves and have-nots, provide education and improve its quality, to encourage and recognize voluntary social service.



Dr. P. J. Aprain

AIMA President

By birth I am a Keralite but I am a Mumbai settled Mumbaikar. The charismatic leadership provided at the

National level by Narendra Modi and in the State of Maharashtra by Devendra Fadnavis are awe-inspiring! We are hoping for a better India by the fully empowered BJP Government with a good election manifesto declared before the election. We look forward to a benevolent leader in Hon'ble Narendra Modi for the development of India.



Gopal Krishnan Iyer

MD, In & Out Advertising Pvt. Ltd.,

Traditionally Kerala is a Communist-Congress ruled state. These

main parties are being supported by smaller local parties.

BJP is a strong national party. To penetrate into Kerala it needs to do a lot more ground work eg build up strong dedicated cadre (to support RSS). BJP should announce and implement far more Central projects, create ample employment opportunities and above all alleviate poverty through direct Central

Government schemes.

Strength of the present parties also derive from their presence right from Panchayat level. BJP needs to increase their numbers considerably by working at the grass root level.

In West Bengal, CPM got wiped off quickly. So was Congress. In Kerala, we need to have a TMC type BJP to take head on with CPM and UDF. It's a major task but by 2024 it should be possible for BJP to have at least 8 MPs.



Good Knight Mohan

Industrialist & film producer

I find it surprising that Kerala voted differently from most of the country

in Lok Sabha 2019 election. This was a good time to try out a change in Kerala, for LS election to start with. I was expecting the BJP to get 3 to 4 seats. That did not happen but there was an increase in percentage of votes for the BJP this time. Pathanamthitta got 29%, Thiruvananthapuram 31% and Thrissur 28% more votes.

I hope that Kerala moves in this direction of progress. We have seen that Communist rule is not working in most of places in the world. I wish that the people of Kerala will be wiser next time.



C. Nandagopal Menon

Chairman, TJSB Sahakari Bank Ltd.,

Kerala voters have failed to show political maturity by

distinguishing the issues in a national election and the assembly election. While the rest of India except a few southern states including Kerala voted for a strong central government in Delhi, capable of meeting the internal economic development and external threats.

The Kerala voters were only keen on "which political formation can defeat the incumbent state government led by Pinarai Vijayan's LDF. The voting pattern of 2019 parliamentary election showed the anger of a section of the traditional left supporting voters

against the Communist government's stand on Sabarimala Temple women entry issue which got divided between United Democratic Front(UDF) and the BJP.

The UDF sweep in the elections in Kerala owe to the religious combinations supporting the UDF through their political outfits coupled with the shifting of a part of the LDF voter base to the UDF. The voter base of UDF is 26% Muslim Population through Indian Union Muslim League and 18% Christians through Kerala Congress (Mani) and Kerala Congress(Joseph) and the splinter group of Hindus who do not vote for Communists and BJP.

While Marxists voter base is majorly Hindus, any slight shift of non committed Hindu voter base of Marxists to UDF helped the UDF to sweep the elections with an already 44% minority vote in its kitty.

Adding to the political immaturity of Kerala voters, the social and caste leadership of Kerala, the NSS and SNDP, two major Hindu caste formations which supported the Sabarimala Temple Protection movement failed to gauge the "Modi Tsunami" engulfing the rest of India.

The above two groups sat on the political fence although members of these groups participated in the movement spearheaded by the RSS activists and BJP activists under the leadership of Sabarimala Achara Samrakshana Samiti. This resulted in the old proverb in Malayalam "Mathilum Charinnavan Pennum Kondu Poi" (one who was slanting to the wall, got away with the girl).



V N Gopalakrishnan

Journalist

The Congress-led UDF won 19 of the 20 seats across

Kerala, while Left-led LDF just managed to win only one seat in Alappuzha in the 2019 Lok Sabha election bagging roughly 10,000 votes. The electoral fight was largely between the UDF and the LDF. BJP's attempt to capitalise on the Sabarimala issue does not seem to have turned the tide in its favour. The landslide victory of Narendra Modi was

mainly on account of the nationalistic fervor espoused by him. The Kerala government on the contrary was harping on loss on account of GST and the denial of foreign assistance on the eve of the 'Killer Floods' in August last year.

Meanwhile the handling of the Sabarimala issue after the Supreme Court verdict became a contentious issue. The Renaissance Movement initiated by the CPI (M) was vehemently opposed by the Congress and the BJP. BJP expected that the Central Government would bring in legislation against the Supreme Court verdict. In the process, the supporters of the Sabarimala issue expected that the Congress would support their cause if it rules the country. It is believed that the votes from the LDF supporters must have gone to the Congress candidates in order to prevent the BJP candidates getting their share of votes. The support of the minorities also must have gone in favour of the Congress. The 'soft Hindutva' propagated by the Congress was well received by a section of the Hindus resulting in their votes going in its favour. The result is a massive victory for the Congress candidates. The BJP leadership in Kerala has to do soul-searching and work hard for the by-elections or general elections in the future, to prove its relevance in the state.



Mohandas D Warriar

The verdict is out. The saffron party will be in charge of the country's affairs till the next election. The

hype surrounding the elections have begun to settle down and its time for the "Chowkidar" to lead again.

So what made the BJP come to power again?

There has been a lot of back-end work behind this victory. A team of dedicated individuals working round-the-clock have been instrumental in the party's progress. For all the talks of the "Chowkidar Chor Hai" and the like, Narendra Modi has managed a stupendous victory creating history. From the abysmal lows the party faced in 1984, today the BJP rules nearly 2/3rd of the country.

There has not been a Prime Minister in recent times who was a headache to

the opposition parties. The "Mahagathbandhan" which got a lot of hype fizzled out as the results came out. In spite of demonetization and GST which were criticized for their bad implementation, Modi came out trumps when it mattered. The PM had a certain conviction in his speeches which made the public vote for him. It was his right hand Amit Shah's strategy and tact which made the party's flag fly high. The meticulous planning and the spot-on execution has helped them win elections by a massive margin. The thumping majority has been a validation of people's belief in the leader.



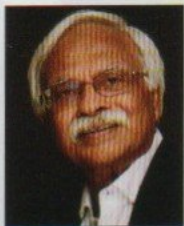
P C Nambiar

Corporate Professional,
Pune

Kerala politics is different. Though small, there are traditional congressmen and

communist comrades, who never change their preferences. New generation voters think more practically. BJP has started getting roots in Kerala. But, not of decisive majority in any constituency. Therefore, new gen voters choose winning candidates. The Sabarimala issue was indeed a factor for them to defeat CPM. In many constituencies, BJP didn't have winnability. They therefore voted for Congress notwithstanding their political liking.

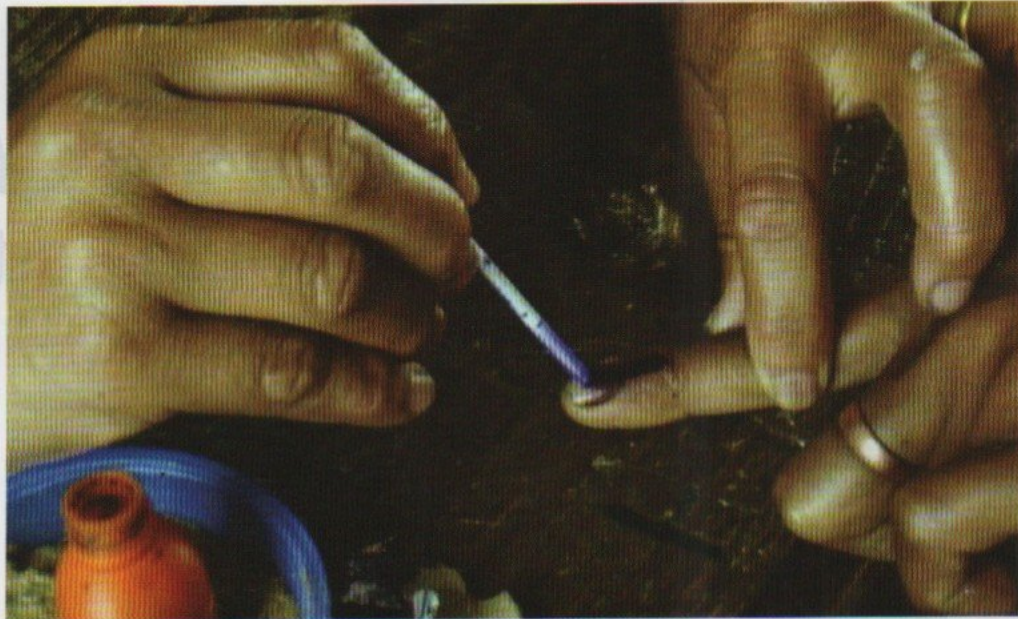
The other factor is the declared policy of CPM to support Congress at national level to defeat BJP. CPM did not contest enough seats for a decisive government formation. The followers implemented this decision in letter and spirit which resulted into massive defeat for CPM. Many follower comrades took this chance to defeat CPM on account of most unilateral, rigid and unpopular stand taken by CM Pinarayi Vijayan on Sabarimala.



Raghu Palat

MD, Cortlandt Rand &
Senior Banker

Kerala has an educated electorate. When the people of Kerala have given their mandate it is



definitely a considered mandate.

As you would appreciate I have not lived in Kerala for several years. I can therefore only surmise the reasons as to why the Congress won more seats in Kerala than any other party.

The two main parties upto the last elections in Kerala were the Congress and the Communists and the Communists are in power. The Chief Minister was extremely popular after the disastrous floods that devastated the state in September last year consequent to the manner he led the state during the crisis. However, I believe he fell in disfavour due to the Sabarimala controversy. The people in Kerala are extremely tolerant and persons of all religions live side by side in harmony. They also respect traditions and beliefs and the overwhelming majority did not want any change made to beliefs they hold sacred. These persons voted for the Congress fearing that if they voted for the BJP, the votes would be split resulting in the Communists getting elected.

Another reason as to why the BJP may not have been favoured could be that the people feared that the BJP may not have a secular outlook. There is a concerted effort to lay this concern to rest as the Prime Minister himself has assured the people of India immediately after the election that the minorities would have no cause to fear.

The BJP has not had a significant presence at the grass root level in Kerala. I believe that in the last few years they have made progress though. This is proven by the improvement in

the number of votes their candidates have received in 2019. Having said that, this effort is likely to increase.

With regard to some of the wins, I am sure Shashi Tharoor worked hard for the people of his constituency which is why there was a significant increase in his electoral margin. He is extremely capable and committed and deserved to be re-elected. I also believe that with regard to Mr. Gandhi, the people of Kerala will now expect him to deliver on his electoral promises if they are to continue to support him.

The next five years will see concerted efforts from the Congress to hold onto its lead, the BJP to break through and the Communists to regain their position of power.



Prince Vaidyan

President, K & K Social
Foundation

My best wishes to Prime Minister Narendra Modi who got elected with a complete majority. I

pray and wish he gets full majority in the Rajya Sabha as well so that he will be able to take decisive decisions.

He has already said his government will take everyone along hence surely his party workers should follow his words to avoid minor issues and safeguard everyone's interest. India being a secular nation under the leadership of prime minister I hope everyone will help to take the country forward. ■

MRRWA

Citizens' Collective To Better Living



Lakshmi
Venkatachalam

■ Military Road Residents Welfare Association (MRRWA) in Marol, Mumbai, is an example of how citizens' initiative and efforts can achieve social and

civic improvements. Thirty years ago Military Road in Marol was a poorly lit and single lane road diverting from Maroshi Road in Marol in Andheri East. The Borosil Glass Works Factory and Raj Oil Mills were abandoned landmarks shrouded in darkness as evening set in. There were few houses and fewer shops here. Blossom Society was the first Housing Society to be developed here way back in 1969. Many Malayalees were the first residents of this society.

But today Military Road is a well known postal address in Marol with

offices, supermarkets and sprawling housing complexes that boast of swimming pools, gym, club house playground etc. Public conveniences have also increased here. Marol Post Office is located in Military Road. Raj Paradise stands majestically in the place of Raj Oil Mills and Borosil Glass works has been transformed into Vasant Oasis, 'an oasis of luxury where life blooms.' Several high rise constructions, double and four lanes road have been constructed for smoother flow of traffic and lights brighten the nights as well.

All this has been possible because of the united efforts and initiatives of the residents of Military Road who formed MRRWA Military Road Residents Welfare Association in 1999. According to the Secretary of MRRWA, Suresh R Nair, the members are Co-operative Societies of the area and their aim is to tackle the problems the residents of the societies with the objective of finding a solution to them.

With untiring dedication and perseverance the members have worked to transform the area into a clean and beautiful residential area. Over a period of twenty years, several improvements have been effected through their efforts.

Initially there were seven to eight open garbage dumps along the road leading to unhealthy hygienic conditions. MRRWA eliminated all the open garbage dumps and initiated door to door garbage collection. This waste management initiative continues even today with segregation of wastes as per norms laid down by the civic authorities.

It organizes periodic cleanliness drives with the help of BMC and local representatives. These initiatives always receive a huge participation from citizens which in turn counters waste management issues at ground level.

The creation of a public park Bharat Van in Bamandaya pada is a success story for MRRWA. There was a six acre



MRRWA members at Bharat Van

abandoned quarry and barren land which could have been converted into a hub of illegal activities by anti social elements or ended up as slum encroachment land. Foreseeing these dangers and to avoid them, MRRWA drew up a plan to create a public garden on this land. On 2nd October 1999, the first tree was planted in Bharat Van. Toady Bharat Van is a beautiful public park with many shady trees, playground, an amphitheatre and several other facilities. This green oasis thrives today due to the efforts of local residents.

Besides offering peace and calm to visitors, Bharat Van is a hub for wellness classes including yoga and martial arts, dance workshops and cultural activities organized by MRRWA. It has also been helping the economically backward sections by collecting Funds for their Medical needs. It conducts activities like Training in Fire Fighting and emergency preparedness, diabetes and other medical camps to benefit all sections of society. It has also partnered with Seven Hills Hospital in several initiatives.

Recently a Street Art Festival, 'Ladies First' was organized by Wicked Broz, a graffiti collective in association with MRRWA. Women Graffiti artistes from Maharashtra, and other Indian cities as well as women artistes from abroad, painted graffiti art on the walls in Bharat Van and other society building walls along the stretch of the Military ushering beauty and colour to the road. Members of MRRWA supported the festival by getting the necessary permissions from Government and police officials and in whatever ways they could. The street Art Festival won a lot of appreciation for the artistes and the organisers Omkar Dhaireswar and Zain Siddiqui of Wicked Broz. During the Festival there was an Art exhibition, filming of short art films and open mike performance as well as hip hop dance competition in which there was a major youth participation. Auto drivers plied free of charge for the artistes along the road, many MRRWA members and residents joined in as waste warriors and went on garbage collection drives and there was an air of festivity from March 25 to March 29 when the event took place. The event brought together people of all sections of society and



Meeting with DCP Navin Chandra Reddy



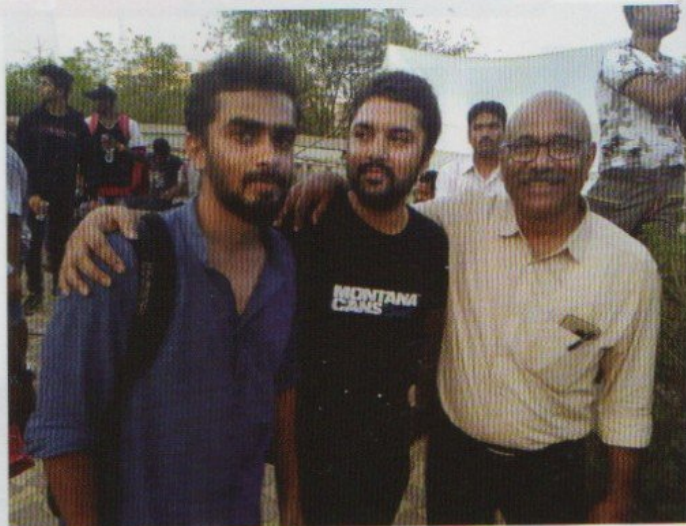
Office bearers at BMC Head Office



created an awareness on cleanliness; the larger agenda was to make Marol a cleaner and more beautiful place.

Under its wide umbrella, MRRWA has a Laughter Club and Ladies Group. Ladies Group comprises a team of residents who have been teaching slum children for over 10 years. Though many of them have no formal teachers' training, these volunteers have educated over 40 underprivileged children, especially the often neglected girl child.

MRRWA's Laughter Club is one of the most popular laughter clubs in the city. Besides the health benefits, their 'Laughter Yoga' performances have spread happiness and positivity in old age homes and hospitals. Their recent performance for Women's Day at Seven Hills Hospital was a successful one.



Secretary Suresh Nair (right) with Omkar and Zain of Wicked Broz



Waste Warriors

MRRWA also conducts spoken English classes that ensure overall personality development and help students gain confidence for future job prospects. MRRWA has gained a lot of recognition through its citizen-oriented initiatives and overall contribution to the society. The association continues to expand as more and more citizens are identifying with MRRWA's altruistic mission.

In the beginning there was only a decrepit narrow bridge from Military Road to Ashok Nagar. With the efforts of MRRWA and funds from neighbouring society the existing bridge was repaired and a broader concrete bridge was built to increase connectivity between Military Road and Ashok Nagar. During last years' monsoon, the old bridge was badly damaged.

This poses a safety problem. The road that is used now always faces a traffic jam and is a dangerous ground for any unfortunate incident to happen during the forthcoming monsoons. Also many lorries and other heavy vehicles are always parked there. MRRWA is currently following up on matter related

to relaying of the section of road from Ashok Tower bridge to Saki Vihar road, (work on Phase 1 has commenced), repair of the old and damaged bridge across Mithi river, coordinating with traffic officials to free the new bridge and surrounding areas of parking. Removal or shifting of the garbage dump opposite Ashok Tower, making

follow ups till the desired results are effected.

Though the Mithi river that passes through Military Road has effectively got rid of its plastic garbage to a great extent, cleaning it up and removing its sludge and slime has to be taken up on a war footing by the civic authorities and MRRWA's initiatives.

The roads have been concretised at several places, increased connectivity has been established, but there is scope for improvement and public conveniences. With concerted efforts by MRRWA and the public, a lot more can be achieved. Military Road can be made a model road for others to emulate.

Suresh R Nair, a long time resident of Marol is the Secretary of MRRWA. Under his dynamic leadership and with the untiring co-operation of several other residents from the area, MRRWA holds every promise of leading the way of residents' collectives improving the

surroundings they reside in.

Selwyn Bonwaity is the Chairman, Ramesh Pandit is the Treasurer, Suresh S Nair, VS Bhatnagar, Archana Khare, Vipul Rodrigues, Jaya Rama Shetty, Sareesh Nagwekar are other Committee members of MRRWA. ■



available the Footpath for pedestrians to use etc. are other important points on their agenda.

MRRWA members regularly engage themselves with the elected representatives, Police dept and BMC wherever required and proceed in their



Dr A P Jayaraman

Fabulous Fragrances and Flavours

Shakespeare's Lady Macbeth, wringing her blood-soaked hands, lamented that all the perfumes of Arabia would not sweeten them. It was a sad commentary on the bad chemistry of perfumes and the impotence of even the celebrated Arabian fragrances. Had chemoinformatics and artificial intelligence (AI) developed in Elizabethan era, Lady Macbeth's perfumery wish would have been realized in full-blown form. A tailor made perfume would have been synthesized under the direction of AI.

Tapputi

Scents have a venerably old feminine history and are largely her story. In the dim distant past, our great ancestors had endeavored to mask the foul odor of their bodies and to be pleasantly romantic with aromatic stuff from flowers. The word perfume was derived from the Latin word *perfumare*, meaning, 'to smoke through'. The world's first woman scientist, Tapputi, was a chemist from second millennium BC in Mesopotamia. She is immortalized in a cuneiform tablet. She was not only a skilled perfume maker but also a manageress of royal cosmetics.

In India, the art of making perfume prevailed in the Indus civilization and dates back to over 4000 years. Al-Kindi, an Arab chemist in the 19th century wrote the *Book of the Chemistry of Perfume and Distillation*. It is a treatise with more than 100 recipes for making fragrant oils, aromatic water and pharmaceuticals.

My Experiments

When I was in primary school, I was fascinated by the fragrance of roses. Assuming I was smart, I used to put a thin wet cotton cloth over a bunch of roses hoping to capture their

evanescent fragrance. Frustrated, I crushed the flowers and made a solution to dip my handkerchief and my angry chemistry was an exercise in futility as I came to know later in chemistry classes. The Persian chemist Ibn Sina introduced the process of extraction of oils from flowers through distillation. He successfully experimented distillation with the rose. I did not know that then.

I was not even aware of the great perfumery work done by Tapputi 2150 years ahead of me. She used flowers and oil along with cyperus, myrrh and balsam. Addition of water, distillation and filtration were her techniques, which I learned in my chemistry classes later.



Global Giants

Today we have a huge global chemical industry of fragrances estimated at 75.6 billion dollars and growing at 7 % per annum. There are big perfume manufacturing companies like L'Oreal, Robertet, Firemenich, Takasgo, and O Boticario, Symrise. Our own standing in this sector is notable. Of course we have a massive Agarbatti industry in the micro and small industry sectors.

Perfume Chemistry

Making the nicest fragrance and the nastiest foul smell is the business of chemistry. In the beginning it was extraction from nature. Even today the bulk of raw materials are from natural sources. Natural produces are favored and artificial or synthetic products are frowned upon. Smart chemists make the active ingredient in high purity where as nature gives a mixture often laced with undesirables. Yet the adjective artificial is anathema to most of us.

Principal chemicals of perfume are fragrant oils, which are extracted from flowers, plants, animals or other natural resources. Several alcohols can be used in perfume making, but ethyl Alcohol, is the most commonly used as it helps the fragrance to spread out. This is the

intoxicating stuff of drinks. Distilled water is also used in fragrance for spreading out the smell of the fragrance.

Perfumes have a three-part structure. The head, or top note is the first olfactory impression the perfume conveys. The second is the heart note, which is the main fragrance, which lasts for several hours. The last one is the base note, which is the fragrance that underpins the full perfume and it comprise of the minimum volatile chemicals. These parts or structure makes the fragrances lasts the whole day.

Nose Knows

"The nose knows," but could AI change that popular saying? Engineers from the Thomas J Watson Research Center at IBM are working on an AI system that might one day create the scents we have in our laundry detergent, air fresheners and perfumes.

IBM collaborated with Symrise on the AI and the products are out of the crucible to hit the market soon. A giant leap in machine learning! The AI is called Philyra, and the researchers hope it can revolutionize industries surrounding new fragrances. Philyra, named after the Greek goddess of perfumes can design entirely new perfume formulas by exploring the entire landscape of fragrances.

Symrise's longer-term goal is to introduce this technology to their master perfumers around the globe and continue to use the solution for the design of fragrances for personal care and home care products. Symrise also plans to introduce Philyra into their Perfumery School to help train the next generation of perfumers, firmly embedding AI into the heart of its organization.

Skilled Sniffers

Becoming a scent professional requires a naturally excellent sense of smell and creativity. At the basic level, perfumers have to have a wide variety of knowledge about smells both good and bad. They have to distinguish between smells, even picking up on subtle notes of a fragrance through much stronger scents. Indeed a very sophisticated nurtured skill.

For centuries, being a perfumer for groups normally meant taking up an apprenticeship with another skilled perfumer to learn the trade. Since 1970

Muraleedharan joins Modi's Council of Ministers

Into the second edition of Narendra Modi's council of ministers, former President of Kerala State BJP Vellamvelly Muraleedharan has been added. Muraleedharan is elected to Rajya Sabha from Maharashtra Legislative Assembly and there is no elected BJP member from Kerala. This induction into the Union Council of Ministers is being construed as a political message that the NDA government would not nurture a negative attitude to the State for the reversals it

suffered in the recent Lok Sabha election. Modi appointed him as a Minister of State for External Affairs and Minister of state for Parliamentary affairs.

It is imperative for Bharateeya Janata Party that it would look forward to enhancing its clout by contesting the ensuing assembly byelections and the local body elections due in 2020.



Despite being sent to Rajya Sabha from Maharashtra, Muraleedharan is active in the State's political and organisational affairs. Muraleedharan succeeded in taking up the onerous task of BJP in Kerala from grassroots to a great

extent and quelling the dissidence in the state party. In this, he earned the appreciation of Modi. Even after stepping down from the post of President of State BJP, he was a vestibule between the

national and state leaders.

Muraleedharan enjoyed total trust of the central leaders.

Muraleedharan hails from Thalasseri and his wife K S Jayasree is a professor in S N College, Chelanur in Kozhikode district. She is also the general secretary of *Sthree Chetana*, an NGO working for women's empowerment.

there are formal schools imparting instruction on the subject. Skilled perfumers can get some of the most impressive and unique job locations besides incredible pay packets.

Nose Knows

A group of 49 sniffers smelled 476 pure chemical substances and assessed their smell along 21 different smelly features such as garlicky, sweet, fishy, flowery and so on. They also noted olfactory characteristics like intensity and pleasantness. The great smelling experiment covered a broad spectrum of molecules representing diverse odors. This created a strong database to benchmark fragrances in the industry. Sniffing is important and even NASA has an official professional sniffer to

train astronauts the finer art of smelling. Of course trained police dogs have the uncanny knack of sniffing!

Jasmine

Apart from aesthetic and romantic value fragrances are claiming therapeutic value. The whole spectrum of Aromatherapy is a burgeoning industry. A recent study suggests sedatives; sleeping pills, relaxants and other psychotropic drugs can be replaced by fragrances. A nose full of jasmine from *Gardenia jasminoides* could also help. Scientists have discovered that the two fragrances found in jasmine vertacetol-coeur and its chemical variant have the same molecular mechanism of action and are as strong as the commonly prescribed sleeping pills. ■



Thrissur Pooram

Satyanath

When the summer season is in full swing, the festivals of temples bloom from the North to the South. The festivals could be of different styles, but all of them get the unstinted support of the entire population irrespective of caste and religion. Among the festivals, Pooram occupies an important place and the Thrissur Pooram has a pride of place. Malayalees across the country throng to the city of Thrissur to witness the festival consisting of Panchavadyam, Elanjithara Melam, Kudamattam, fireworks, exhibitions and so on. Very few know that this festival is slightly older than two centuries. It was first organised by ShakthanThampuran as a ploy to boost the business of the city and earn it an impeccable name. He used the Christian and Muslim Communities to meet his objectives and thereby achieve a stamp of secularism. We have read in many newspaper reports that the idols on main elephants of Thiruvambadi and Paramakkavu bid adieu till next year on the last day. In fact, they are bidding good bye to Shakthan Thampuran because he gave them opportunity to meet every one. It is

indeed an opportunity to bring all idols from the neighbouring temples to the venue of Pooram.

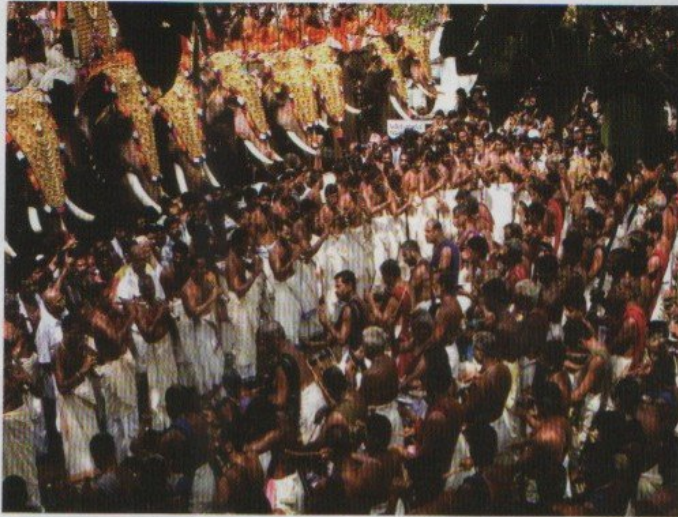
Thrissur Pooram

Thrissur Pooram this year drew attention of the state and India for

various reasons. There were security warnings of terrorist attack by Islamic fundamentalists and the deployment of the tallest elephant of Kerala, *Thechikkottukavu Ramachandran*. On account of intelligence warning, Thrissur witnessed severe and topmost



Kudamattam



Pakal pooram

regulations and a few indigenous bombs were recovered though no arrests were made. The security arrangements were unprecedented.

Chamayam Display

The exhibition of the *Chamayam* (decorative items and colourful umbrellas used for elephant procession) was opened on May 10. Thiruvambadi arranged their display at Kausthubham Hall along the Shornur Road. There were 46 sets of umbrellas this year, with separate motif such as Jawan, Dasavatharam, Ayyappan on Tiger etc. Some umbrellas carried pictures of Krishna, Bhagavathy, Ganapati, Subramanyan, Shiva et al printed in Golden colour.

The sample fireworks were conducted on May 11. By May 13 morning, the elephants from distant places representing various temples started coming to Thekkinkad Maidan. On account of security, there was slight delay to start the rituals. There were special individual security checks on entry for Elanjithara Melam at Vadakkumnathan Temple premises. Female constables were deployed to check the women devotees or enthusiasts. Carry bags and plastic bottles were banned. Police force numbering 160 bomb squads were in place for detecting bombs. Central police force was also present. 3500 police officers from different parts of the state were deployed. This set up could be in place for future Pooram festivals. There were 10 dog squads and 80 CCTV cameras

and binoculars as precautionary measure.

Panchavadyam of Thiruvambadi Temple started by 11.30 am and Elanjithara Melam started by 2.30 pm. The stage was set for Kudamattam by 4.30 pm. There was unprecedented crowd to watch the proceedings. Police built barricades 10 metres away from elephants to reduce the impact of crowd. The veterinary doctors and police had warned the Pooram authorities about the adverse impact of high temperature on elephants participating in the procession, as nothing could be anticipated about their behaviour. Panthals were erected above the procession route to protect them as well as the mahouts and people on top of the caparisoned elephants.

Processions from Paramakkavu and Thiruvambadi would move towards the statue of Shaktan Thampuran, former Raja of Kochi, to pay obeisance to him. It was he who decided to hold the Pooram festival to raise Thrissur into a high clamoured busy city, more than two hundred years ago, as mentioned earlier. The preparations for the festival were kept as top secret between the two



Panchavadyam

temples initially though now it is a coordinated effort.

The crowd started coming to Vadakkumnathan Temple since early morning and the inflow continued till the Pooram ended.

Lost boy got reunited with parents

Vaishnav was looking lost when Angamaly SI Bijo and other police officers spotted him near Southern Tower Gate during *Kudamattam*.

He had come with his family to watch Pooram but lost contact in the huge crowd. Police managed to trace his parents with their mobile number provided by Vaishnav. Police control room came to their rescue. Police could help about 60 children lost in the melee. For their untiring energy and sense of public service, police got a pat on their back.

Food and drinking water were provided to the policemen and officers by their department while police association supplied buttermilk and refreshments.

Peruvanam faints

When Chembada Melam was in full swing, Peruvanam Kuttan Marar who led the Paramakkavu side, fainted and was taken to hospital. However, within hours he rushed back to the temple premises to reassume the leadership of the Melam. Earlier Kuttan Marar led the Melam for Karamukku Bhagavathi before assuming charge of Paramakkavu. Kuttan Marar was leading the team when he was suffering from fever. Police took



Couple reunited with lost child



Peruvanam Kuttan Marar

him to the nearby Ashwini Hospital, accompanied by minister V S Sunilkumar. Until he returned to the Maidan, the crowd was anxious for him as they doubted about his joining Elanjithara Melam. He was insisting on returning against the bed-rest prescribed by doctors. He resumed charge of the Melam at 2.30 pm from Kelathu Aravindakshan Marar.

The melam was held before 15 caparisoned elephants of the Paramekkavu Temple.

Thiruvambadi Pandimelam was led by Kizhakkoottu Aniyam Marar.

The elephant issues

The tallest elephant *Thechikkottukavu Ramachandran* is a one eye-blinded 52-year-old elephant. For the last five years, it was *Ramachandran* who brought the idol out through the massive doors of the

southern tower of Vadakkumnathan Temple. During last year he killed two people while participating in a house-warming ceremony, totalling his victims at 13 so far. The collector of Thrissur and police authorities prohibited his participation. This led the Kerala State Elephant Owners Association refusing to lend their elephants to all Kerala festivals, creating a popular uproar. Finally, all senior government, Devaswom and police officials held discussions and allowed *Ramachandran* provided the doctors allowed but with a lot of restrictions such as he would be there only for one hour. Thus, *Ramachandran* could not carry the *Thitambu* for the entire time and it was handed over to *Thechikot Devidasan*. This caused another controversy. Neythalakavu Temple Devaswom argued that it was a violation of tradition as till now, the *thitambu* was

carried by a lone elephant. The declaration of commencement of Pooram is normally done by bringing the *thitambu* of Neythalakavu Bhagavati through the door of the southern tower. This *thitambu* has to be taken on a single elephant to the western gate and by sounding the Conch, they argued. The authorities contested this argument by saying that the elephant pays obeisance to the Maharaja and not the Bhagavati. This resulted in Neythalakavu Devaswom boycotting further discussions.

Finally, *Ramachandran* participated in the rituals, leading to a massive participation of curious elephant admirers. Nevertheless, his return from the Pooram site was by truck.

Fire works

Thrissur Pooram came to a conclusion on May 14 evening. After the major ceremonies and processions on May 13, 'Cherupooram' of all the participating temples took place at Srimoolasthanam. Marking the end of the Pooram, small fire-works display was held at Thekkinkad Maidan, after shifting the public to Swaraj Round. It took more than one hour to get the maidan cleared for pyrotechnic display, first by Thiruvambadi and then Paramekkavu.

Though the fire works of one faction concluded within 10 minutes of starting it, the finale was followed by 'Amittu'. It bloomed red, yellow and white flowers in the sky though the reverberations were a tad lesser than in previous years. ■





Parur S. Ganesan

IDEAL GOVERNANCE (Rama Rajya)

With the General Elections just over, a peep into the concept of ideal governance becomes relevant.

The demand for ideal governance becomes important when the country faces the crisis of mis-management- an all pervasive and inefficient state, increasing lawlessness, competitive populism, criminalization in polity, excessive centralization, serious erosion of legitimacy of authority and extremely tardy and inefficient judicial system. All these are now evident in most of the countries world- wide - India being no exception.

Among the few greatly cherished and yet unfulfilled dreams of mankind almost passed off as 'utopian' is an ideal society, where there is neither injustice to the weak nor exploitation of the meek. Almost all great thinkers and philosophers in the history of mankind- nay from times immemorial- have tried to define the conditions, rules and mechanisms of such a society... The concept yet remains a distant image.

Mahatma Gandhi who championed the cause of India's liberation from the colonial rule had dreamt that upon attaining Swaraj, Bharat would be modelled as a Ram Rajya - the state of bliss - a nation that would be governed with ideals of good governance.

To many, an ideal government may sound Utopian, but it has universally been the yearning of people - both the rulers and the ruled- from times immemorial.

Thus, man in his cultural march - mental, moral and sublime - evolved instruments of governance. He shaped them in the form of constitutions incorporating the fundamental ideas he regarded as cardinal. Abraham Lincoln aptly defined the state structure as

"government of the people, by the people and for the people". In the medieval times Jeremy Bentham propounded the object on governance as "maximum happiness of the maximum number". This was improvised in 1970's by Jigme Singye, the fourth King of Bhutan who announced that his mission was pursuit of 'Gross national happiness.' (GNP) a statement which baffled hard core economists world wide and who still have no alternative answer to the King's mission. The Preamble to the Indian constitution adopted in 1950 too is a case in point.

India where the belief system, including in politics, is fundamentally rooted in the heritage from Vedas, Upanishads, Epics like Ramayana and Mahabharata further promoted by Buddha, and Ashoka. Gandhiji's was not a social ideal, it was a model of the statecraft only with the mission of a welfare state.

As early as 1929, Gandhiji elaborated his theory of Ram Rajya in an article published in Young India:

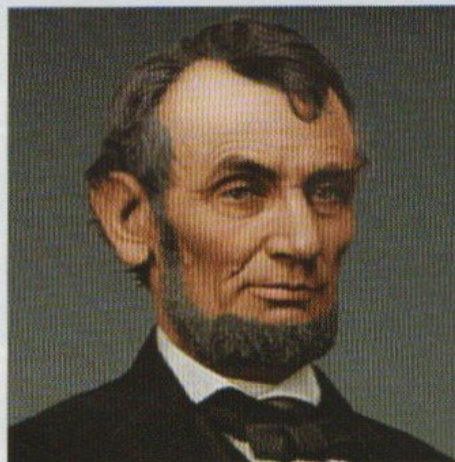
"By Ram Rajya I do not mean a Hindu Raj. I mean by Ram Rajya a divine Raj, the kingdom of God..... whether Ram of my imagination ever lived or not on this earth, the ancient

ideal of Ram Rajya is undoubtedly one of true democracy in which the meanest citizen could be sure of swift justice without elaborate and costly procedures... Ram Rajya of my dream ensures equal rights alike from the prince to the pauper".

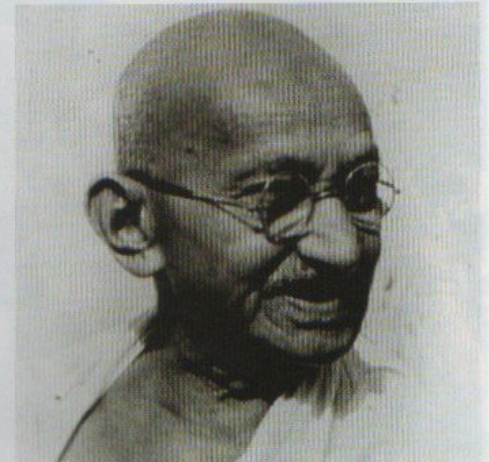
Further clarifying his ideal, Gandhiji wrote in 1947 that by Ram Rajya he meant a society where every body followed a code of righteous living, lives in contentment and happy and meet their essential needs.

Though Sri Ram lived and ruled Bharat thousands of years ago, his life and values are still cherished and extolled. Lord Ram has become synonymous with good governance. It is not a myth or imagination- it is a historical truth of its time and for the times to come. No other Emperor or King is revered, recognized or celebrated as much as Sri Ram who is in the hearts of Indian people and the politicians of all hues. It is interesting that Rajiv Gandhi launched the 1989 general election campaign at Ayodhya with a promise to usher in Ram Rajya in India.

Ramayana gives a majestic description of Ram Rajya, where peace, prosperity and tranquillity reigned and where values of justice, idealism,



Abraham Lincoln



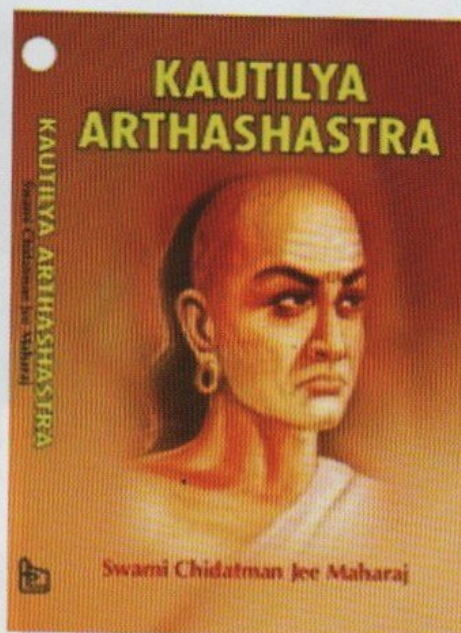
Mahatma Gandhi

renunciation and sacrifice were practised. Valmiki the author of Ramayana introduces Sri Rama as the unique and perfect man- kind hearted, brave, follower of dharma, committed to truth, of firm character, learned, clever, universally loved and with self-control. Back from a period of 14 years of exile, he took over as the King of Ayodhya and ruled the state for several centuries with absolute transparency, peace, prosperity and tranquility and the subjects rejoicing in absolute happiness. The poet describes the period of his reign (the Ram Rajya) where there was total order and discipline- free from social evils like thefts, poverty infant deaths or harassment. There was no sorrow of any kind in the whole state. Every one looked after their own vocations and no one spoke any untruth. The state was marked for its affluence. His firm faith in dharma for governance is further highlighted in his conversation with the officiating King Bharatha who went to meet him in the forest to persuade him to return from exile. Sri Rama who declined, has a check list of over 100 points on ethical governance and seeks answers from Bharatha on these to make sure that the state was safely governed by him.

Mandates of Dharma are a set of universally valid ethical principles. Often in the past, when the Kings of India proclaimed themselves as the Supreme, the Rajgurus seated nearby, intervened and reminded the rulers that dharma was supreme and not the king, who was only the instrument to realize the goal of dharma.

Even as the entire gamut of the Ramayana is glorification of dharma, the other Itihasa, namely Mahabharatha, establishes the dangers of ego and greed and how they take you to complete destruction. The Bhagawat Gita (Song Celestial) which is the most cardinal of this Itihasas deals with the sensitive areas of the philosophy behind governance and gives solutions. It too gives prominence to dharma as a means to happiness. Significantly, the war between the cousins is described as "dharma yuddha".

As he lies in a bed of arrows counting his last moments, Bhishma the most revered of the clan presents the role of the ruler as a person of purity and uprightness - the ethical warrior, the upright statesman and the learned philosopher. Again, in the Udyog Parva



of Mahabharatha, principles of statecraft are narrated in the form of dialogues between Vidura and Dhritarashtra. This dialogue is known as Vidura Neeti - the science of politics, considered a precursor to the later Chanakya Neeti.

India is guided by spiritualism for ages. Social and spiritual awakening of the masses has been the guiding factors in ancient Indian literature. Dharma alone can keep the world together. Dharma alone leads you to a happy, peaceful, contented life. Propagate dharma and discourage adharma was the principal objectives of the Vedas. While the Upanishads dealt on religious practices and spiritualism. Dharma (Righteousness) and Sadachara (Noble conduct) bind the society and the community- the ruler and the ruled.

On the subject of Raj dharma and Raj neeti, Indian literature is a gold mine. Manu Smriti, (reportedly 500 BC) the oldest and the most popular, deals with this specific subject. Chapters 7 and 8 give elaborate instructions on 40 aspects of governance (Raja dharma) some of which include duties, peace time functions of the king, emergency acts during war, diplomacy, day to day administration, finance management, offence linked punishments Salary rules, taxation, consultation with Ministers and so on. There is a chapter specially dedicated on how to handle a ruler who goes wrong. There are also three other less known Smritis namely, Yagnavalkya Smriti, Shukra Neeti and Parasara Smriti. In addition, Brihaspati

Smriti, Kamandak Nitisar, Somadeva's Niti, Kural in Tamil, Vikramaditya anecdotes and many other works expatiate on governance related matters.

Kautilya's (Chanakya) Chanakya Neeti and Artha Sastra (around 400BC) highly recognized and respected for their content on this subject, deal with them on a practical plateau and have universal applications, irrespective of time, place and the society. Several sections of the Book lucidly describe each aspect of governance with minute details.

Vyavahara Mala and Raja Neeti (both translated in English and local languages) have been the two guides which have been adopted by many Hindu rulers of India even upto the 20th century.

It is worth mentioning here that there have never been any charges of despotism or highhandedness of any of the former Indian rulers and their merger with the Indian Union in 1947 was more for administrative and political reasons than any slang of their ethical performance. The fact that successive Maharajas of Travancore maintained aloofness from the huge treasury deposits of the Padmanabhaswamy Temple under their charge and not claiming the same running into several crores, speaks eloquently of their ethics in governance.

In Kerala there is a folklore on ideal governance, about the time when Mahabali the demon Emperor ruled the country -celebrated as Onam even now. Similarly, Raja Raja Chola of Chola Dynasty (985-1014A.D)'s grievances bell outside the palace gate, where public got access to the king by ringing the bell and got instant justice and of Shibi of Jathaka Tales are well known folklores in India eulogizing ideal governance.

So, what is ideal Governance? Government, both political and administrative is one of the natural arrangements to carry out the essential activities for the sustenance of society. In England it has always been the dictum of the 'rule of law'. There is a saying "that government which is least governed is the best governed". Here it involves the ethical practices of both the ruler and the ruled The US Declaration of Independence promised "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." The Preamble to India's constitution also details the objectives of our governance which mostly meets with Gandhiji's vision. ■

Shilpa & Dhivya

Following Their Passion For Kathakali

Having learnt kathakali at a young age, Mumbai Malayali dancers Shilpa and Dhivya have resumed learning kathakali and giving performances after marriage



Shilpa as Srikrishnan



Mohandas D Warriar

Shilpa Variar Chhablani: Shilpa Variar is married to a Sindhi. Vishal Chhablani, who has

been her pillar of strength and support.

Born and brought up in Mumbai, Kathakali is in her genes as she is the granddaughter of Kalamandalam Krishnankutty Variar, a



Shilpa

“Learning Kathakali in itself is a great privilege and blessing”

trained Kathakali artiste and her earliest tutor of Kathakali and Bharatanatyam. She started relearning Kathakali in Mumbai under the tutelage of her Guru Kalamandalam Gopalakrishnan from January 2015.

The reason why women were not involved much in Kathakali was because it required a tremendous amount of strength to do a performance at a stretch of 3-4 hours wearing a 20 kg costume.

Her alma mater in Mumbai for Kathakali is Kalakshetram at Dombivili, which presently has three times more women students than men practising Kathakali. She, along with the other students takes great pride in belonging to an institution which is at present the only centre for learning authentic Kathakali in Mumbai.

She has performed various roles like Krishnan, Bhadrakali and Indran in Dakshyagam, which have given her wide appreciation and acceptance among Kathakali lovers.

A resident of Andheri East, her family has been her greatest source of support. Her mother's blessings and her husband's support along with their 15 year old son Jashith's, has been her motivation to learn Kathakali.

Shilpa considers learning Kathakali in itself as a great privilege and blessing. She wishes that more and more boys and girls take up the art and give life to it. According to her, there are various ways to enjoy Kathakali, be it the soulful music, the spectacular percussions or the larger than life dance drama visual representations.

She hopes that Kathakali programmes in Mumbai would witness a much larger audience and receive the acceptance it deserved.



Dhivya as Hanuman

Dhivya Nandagopan: Dhivya, now a resident of Thane, was born and brought up in a small Palakkadan village called Kadampazhipuram.

This Master's Degree holder (in HR and Marketing) traces her interest in Kathakali to her childhood days when she used to watch various Kathakali performances along with her father (Late Mr. Natarajan). Her two sisters, Dhanya and Vidya are also Kathakali performers with Dhanya based in Kochi and Vidya in Palakkad.

Dhivya is married to Nandagopan, a banker, who is a big Kathakali admirer and a solid support to her. Their son Aswin, all of 13 years is a talent to look out for in the future as he is also a Kathakali artist and has debuted with his performance in December 2018.



"I hope for a bright future for Kathakali"

Dhivya

Dhivya's mother Mrs. Sugatha Kumari is a retired banker who lives in Palakkad.

Owing to her father's support and motivation, she joined Kathakali classes at the age of 7 under the tutorship of Kalamandalam Kuttikrishnan Aasan. She made her Arangettam at the age of 8 and continued her performances till the age of 20. Post her marriage in 2004, she shifted base to Mumbai, following which there was a break in Kathakali for 12 years.

It was in 2016, that she rekindled her passion for Kathakali by joining Kalakshetram institute at Dombivali, under the tutelage of her Guru Kalamandalam Gopalakrishnan. For the past three years, she has had the opportunity to perform at various stages, in and around Mumbai and also in various dance festivals like IIDF (India International Dance Festival), Upvan Festival etc.

Her first performance in her second innings, as Hanuman in LavanasuraVadham received a lot of appreciation.

She has seen many girls coming forward to learn Kathakali who are willing to take this up as a profession. She hopes for a bright future for Kathakali and for the artistes of this divine art form. ■



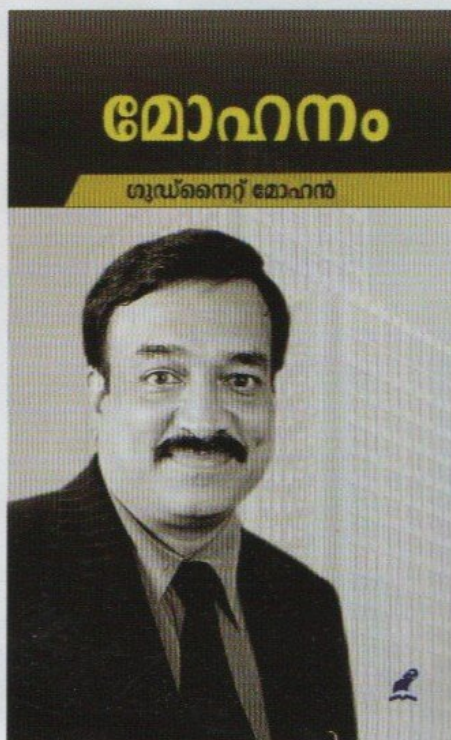
MOHANAM

How to be a successful entrepreneur

- Ashwati

**When a person is not content with what he has, his life feels like an unpleasant storm...
How many people realise that happiness is not in earning, but in spending what we earn!**

Life is a word that has never exhausted finding definitions to it. For some, it is search for truth and for some others, it is a span of uncertainty. We all dream every day. Dream is an unconscious effort to give body and spirit to our aspirations and fears. What we see acceptable and enjoyable in our dream, we (at least a few) may try to give a chance to realise them or some may leave them as frivolous. Among the positive section, some abandon their pursuit midway while others relentlessly pursue it until they achieve it in a form that gives them pleasure. Among such people, amassing money and thereby all luxuries that would accrue thereof becomes their objective. Others do not give money much importance but satisfaction is their motive. If money comes, that is only a by-product.



Mohanam, written by R Mohan alias Kalyanaraman popularly known as 'Good Knight Mohan', is not an autobiography but a collection of certain memories in his life. The book is divided into five parts viz., Childhood and youth experiences, Mumbai, Good Knight, Films, people who have made an impact, and some general observations.

He came to Mumbai as an electrical engineer, looking for a job. He climbed the ladder of progress step by step with confidence and courage. His father Shri Ramaswamy hailed from North Paravur but constructed a modern house in Punkunnam *Agraharam* when he came to Trichur as General Manager of Sitaram Mills. Mohan acknowledges the influence exerted by his father in moulding his character and attitudes. His grandfather (the founder of Kalyan group) also had a share in shaping his

personality. In a striking example, Mohan cites a very moving instance about how his father boosted his confidence over telephone in a matter of life and death.

Good Knight

After working in three private companies, he was determined to do something on his own. Mohan takes the reader through a very humorous journey of events, meeting all kinds of people on the way.

He steals our heart, narrating his experience in Rome airport, where he was robbed of his passport and money. He shares with us his story, of how he transformed from a struggling employee to an entrepreneur, manufacturing a mosquito repellent brand that created history - Good Knight. It is a long and tough journey which earned him a the name he is now known as "Good Knight Mohan".

It was a journey of tumultuous obstacles. What started off as a product needed to protect his daughter from mosquitoes, led to the dream of protecting millions of children in households in India. He believed in the idea and chased this dream. He did not want to make money out of this venture and when money came out of it, he treated it as a by-product. Several people helped him in various ways, and he remembers many of them, a rare quality...

He often acted against the advice of many experts, and in the end proved them wrong... The narration of the Good Knight story feels like a screenplay of a successful movie. No wonder, it made him a film producer who made several successful movies in Malayalam and Hindi.

Mohan was an ardent movie lover and fan, from his student days. Being a movie producer was never in any of his

plans. The transition was accidental. He shares with us how he stepped into the movie industry, and then eventually stayed in it for many years!

He learnt and gained from many little lessons from many unlikely common men, and how he used them in his life make our heads shake in wonder. By the way, Mohan's interaction with an unnamed high level, Government officer is an interesting read. How he walked into this powerful senior officer's home without any appointment is a high-octane incident, maybe better than any movie sequence. He was in a do-or-die situation, and the way he handled it on impulse, is an inspiring narrative.

stuck. He stepped in to help his friend complete a film. That film was Isabella. He completed the film, and from there started the journey of Good Knight films. He used the power of the medium to promote his brands. And it is the cinema industry that gave him the name 'Good Knight Mohan'.

His first film Isabella, and his second film Pooram both failed. The gambler in him made him continue, helping Rathish to complete his film *Iyer the Great* starring Mamooty. This movie went way over budget and took very long to complete. However it was a success and very popular. One of the earliest instances of visual effects in a Malayalam film.

In 1991 he produced *Kilukkam!* A film that broke all box office records and still continues to be a favourite.

A casual meeting with writer director Padmarajan led him to *Njan Gandharvan*, and the experiences of this movie make a wonderful read. After the release of the movie, suddenly Padmarajan left the world. Mohan and Nitish Bhardwaj

(who played Gandharvan in the film) met with accidents separately, in Kerala and in Maharashtra respectively.

His first Hindi film called *Gardish* was a success, remake of the Malayalam film *Kireedam*. Mohan never interfered during the making of his films and he gave the director a free hand. Although many

times he felt he should have insisted on some changes, based on his gut feeling as a member of the audience... In the successful cult Hindi film *Chandni Bar* (2001), he played a deeper role in moulding its story, screenplay, and even reshooting parts of the film. This film earned four National Awards and still continues to be talked about till today.

When director Jayaraj made *Deshadanam*, Mohan brought the



Success of Goodknight led to the incorporation of Diapers India Limited manufacturing baby diapers under 'Snuggly' brand. And India's first Aerosol spray mosquito repellent HIT.

Movies...

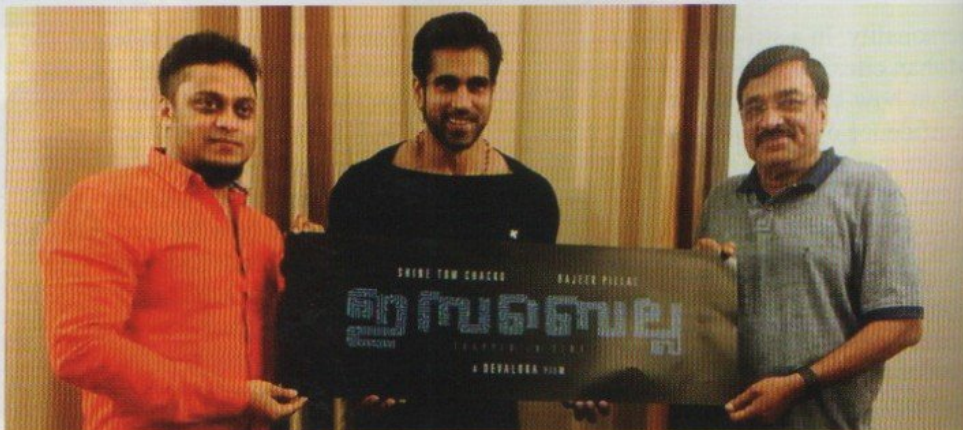
Mohan was a movie buff. But he did not venture into movie production because of this... He got a call from his friend who was making a film, and was

distribution rights and decided to release it in Kerala in an innovative way. The film had no big stars, and it was creative marketing ideas that made the film work. It is a must read for anyone who believes in innovative marketing, to sell a product he is confident about! The advertising campaign of the film was a huge success and so was the film.

People who have touched his life...

Among the people who have touched his life, he mentions experiences with leader K Karunakaran, Balasaheb Thackeray, film maker Guru Dutt, Amitabh Bachchan, R D Burman, A R Rahman, Yesudas, K T Joseph and Sampathkumar Badala. Each of them taught him indelible lessons.

His good friend the megastar Mohanlal has written the foreword and introduction to this book!



Lessons Learnt from Life...

In the concluding part of the book, he lists down some thoughtful ideas and views that make us all rethink our life...

He reminds us that we should give back to nature... We tend to take things from it, but we should remember to give back... We have to leave this for our children and future generations... He has now started an organic farm and enjoys being close to nature.

(Www.theroots.farm)

Overall, the books gives us a look into the interesting and fulfilling life of an individual, who always dared to be different. It is an inspiring read, not to be missed .

The book from Matrubbhumi publishing is available online: <https://buybooks.mathrubhumi.com/product/mohanam/>



ONGC employees who recently retired

From left to right holding Aloe Vera plant 1. Mrs. K.M. Aleyamma, Direct Employee
2. Mrs. Maggie Johnson, Manager (HR) 3. Mrs. K.A. Vasumathi, Chief Manager (HR)
4. Shri M.K. Dineshan, Dy. Gen. Manager (Mech.) 5. Shri Sebastian Jacob, CGM(Mech.)
6. Shri P.K. Dileep, ED 7. Shri V.S. Sankaran Namboothiri, CGM(Prod)
8. Mr. Johnson Mathai, DGM(Prod.) 9. Mrs. Usha Chandramouli, DGM(HR)

ONGC Malayali Samajam felicitated 15 ONGC Mumbai Malayali employees who had retired from service recently, co-ordinated by Samajam President Vincent Karimpannur. ONGC Executive Director and Asset Manager P K Dileep inaugurated the event.

Committee Members of ONGC Malayali Samajam



DAUGHTER TAKES REIN OF FATHER'S BUSINESS.

Jyothy Laboratories Ltd appoints M R Jyothy as MD

Jyothy Laboratories Ltd (JLL), the Indian home grown FMCG Company, has announced the appointment of Ms. M R Jyothy as its Managing Director. Her appointment comes with effect from April 01, 2020. She takes over from her father the eminent Mumbai Malayali businessman, M P Ramachandran, who is its current Chairman. He will continue to serve as the Chairman Emeritus of the company. The company also unveiled its new logo and brand identity.

Jyothy Laboratories Ltd is a Mumbai-based fast-moving consumer goods company founded in 1983. This 36 year old company, established in Kerala by M P Ramachandran selling a household product has grown from a propriety firm to a multi - brand and NSE listed company. Today it is a multi brand multi product company that sells family need products all over the country and abroad. For the fiscal year ended FY 2018-19 the company recorded a Net Profit of Rs 193 crore on a Net Revenue of Rs 1,769 crore. The company is also engaged into service sector in organized laundry to provide "World class laundry at affordable price at your doorstep" through its subsidiary 'Jyothy Fabricare Services Limited'.

The company has 21 manufacturing units at 14 locations across India. It has 6 business divisions namely Fabric Care (Ujala - market leader), Household Insecticide (Maxo), Utensil Cleaners (Exo), Fragrances, Personal Care (Margo) and Fabric Care Service. Ujala is the biggest brand in the company portfolio and contributing up to 46% (in 2010) of the company revenues. The company is the largest player in the fabric whitener space in India with a market share of 72%.

M R Jyothy has been a part of Jyothy Labs for 14 years and her expertise lies in marketing and brand communication. In her last held designation, she was the Chief Marketing Officer and the Whole



M R Jyothy

Time Director of the company. She has been instrumental in integrating brands like Henko, Pril and Margo and has successfully handled the post acquisition operations of Henkel India.

She reveals that her top priorities would be to further strengthen the power brands with enhanced focus towards innovation and continuous Research & Development. She also aims to strengthen the sales and distribution of the company.

"I will strive my best to continue the legacy built by my father, by keeping the culture and value system intact while growing the company further," Jyothy says.

Mr. M P Ramachandran, Chairman and Managing Director of Jyothy Laboratories stated, "I'm very happy that the next generation is ready to take charge with responsibility and are well qualified, well trained to take the company to the next level of growth. I'm very confident that my daughter MR Jyothy as the Managing Director will deliver results to all the stake holders of the company."

"Ms. Jyothy has been on the board for the last 14 years, and has observed the functioning of the company from close quarters. She is associated with

the company from a very long time in senior management team and I'm sure that along with other experienced and qualified professionals at the helm, the company is geared for next level of accelerated growth", he added.

M P Ramachandran well known for his Ujala magic, (as white as white can be), started his business in 1983 by selling a single product in just one district in Kerala. The place was Kandanessery near Guruvayur. The product was Ujala a liquid blue, to keep clothes whiter than the whitest. He inherited this love for white clothes from his father. Even today wearing white shirt white trousers and shoes is his trademark. The company started with an initial investment of Rs. 5,000 and today boasts a market cap of over Rs. 6,000 crore.

The six storeyed Jyothy House at Marol, Mumbai, that houses the administrative offices is a divine gift to him, he believes. He never entertains any negative thoughts and that along with hard work is the reason for his successful business advances. An ardent patriot, his endeavour is to keep the nation shining white and sparkling like his products. ■

Modi's Triumph - Once More



P.R. Krishnan

■ The results of the 17th Lok Sabha election declared on 23rd May have set aside all speculations and predictions about a hung parliament.

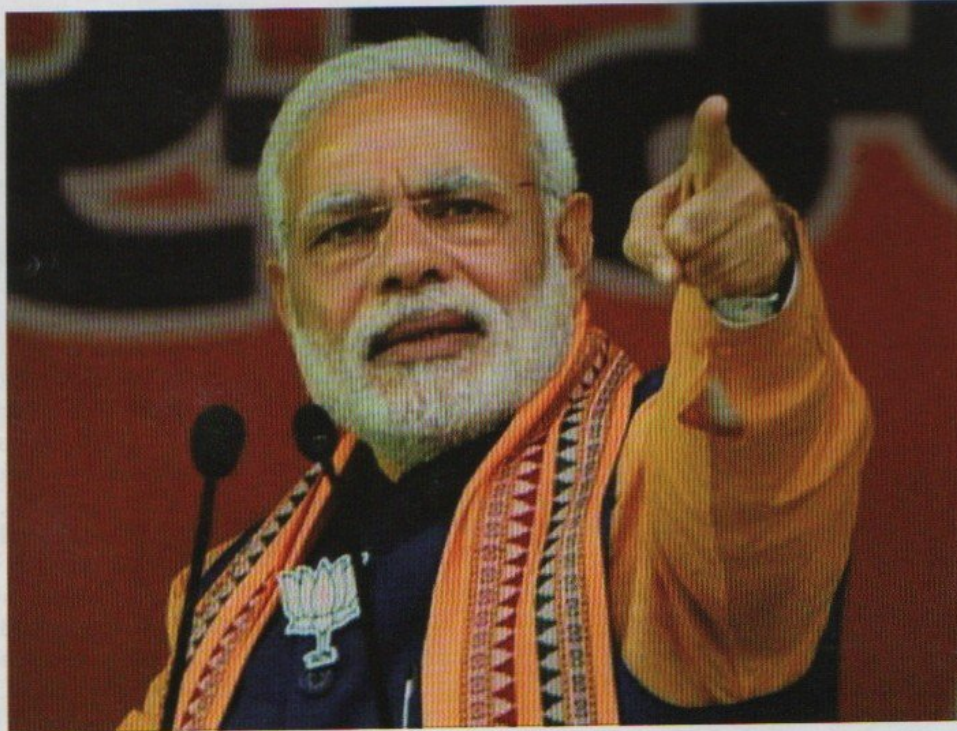
The Bhartiya Janata Party led National Democratic Alliance has once again been voted to power with larger number of MPs and increased percentage of votes than it had in 2014 poll. As against 282 MPs in the last election, the ruling NDA has won 352 seats this time. The NDA has thus increased its strength in Lok Sabha by 70 more MPs. The BJP's own share in that is 303. Narendra Modi has thus been once again sworn, in as Prime Minister of India on 30th May in

Rashtrapati Bhavan. He has thus become the 22nd Prime Minister of India. The new cabinet includes 58 ministers in place of the 71 member outgoing ministry. This includes 25 with cabinet rank and 33 ministers of state.

Amongst the ministers 6 are women. Twenty of 29 states find place in the cabinet. But bigger states like Andhra, Tamil Nadu have none in the ministry. So also Sikkim, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Meghalaya. Kerala has been given representation by inducting V. Muralidharan as a minister of state. Notable in the new

ministry are exclusions, inclusions and replacements. Significant in that are exit of Arun Jaitly, Sushma Swaraj and Maneka Gandhi, entry of Amit Shah and transition to defence for Rajnath Singh, finance to Nirmala Sitaraman, women and child welfare portfolios to Smriti Irani. A new comer is Dr. Subramanian Jaishankar as the foreign minister.

The presence of heads of states and



governments of Bay of Bengal Initiatives for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (Bimstec) countries was a notable feature this time in Modi's oath taking ceremony. Apart from India, Bimstec countries include Bangladesh, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Nepal and Bhutan. In addition Presidents of Kyrgyz Republic and Mauritius also took part in the event. In 2014, it was the Saarc countries including Pakistan which were invited for Modi's swearing ceremony.

The United Progressive Alliance (UPA) led by Indian National Congress which was hoping to unseat the NDA in the election, could win only 91 seats. In that, the Congress number is a mere 52.

It has not got a single seat in 18 states and union territories in the country. The Congress president Rahul Gandhi, though suffered a humiliating defeat in Amethi could score victory in Wayanad in north Kerala. Sad however is the fact that in the present Lok Sabha too, the Congress cannot have the status of an official opposition in Parliament. This is because, in the 542 member house, a minimum of 55 MPs are necessary for

any party to have the official status of opposition. Of the 91 members of UPA, the Congress strength being 52, its status remains the same as was in the last Lok Sabha. The only solace it can have is that it could gain 8 more seats this time and reach to 52 from 44. The parties comprised in the UPA are, Congress, DMK, NCP, Muslim League, Jharkhand Mukti Morcha, Kerala Congress (M), VKC and Janata Dal (S).

Whereas

together with the tie-ups with smaller parties and groups in North Eastern states, the BJP's allies this time has increased to 40 in place of 24 during Atal-Advani phase. They include Assam Gana Prishad, Bodo People's Front, AAJSU, North East Development Alliance (NEDA), All Jharkhand Students Union in north east, Shiva Sena in Maharashtra, Janata Dal (United) in Bihar, Shiromani Akali Dal in Punjab, AIADMK and DMDK in Tamil Nadu and BDJS in Kerala.

Hit miserably in this election, are CPI (M) and CPI. The CPI (M) which is leading the Left and Democratic Front in Kerala could get only one seat from that state. CPI which is the other major party

in that coalition drew a blank. However both these parties could have consolation, because, they each got 2 seats from the neighboring state, Tamil Nadu. This could happen because both these parties became parts of the DMK-Congress alliance in that state.

This was a 7 phased election spread over 39 days beginning from 11th April ending on 19th May. Included in the parliamentary election process this time were assembly elections in Andhra Pradesh, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and Odisha. There were bye polls too, for some other state assemblies.

Disunity in the opposition camp became visible throughout before and during the election campaign. Opposition parties could not forge an effective alternative to the BJP. This apart, there was failure within the opposition parties in the assessment of mood of the people and their feelings towards BJP and its Narendra Modi led government. Terrorist attack in Pulwama and Balakot strike, people's desire for stability and some of the welfare measures initiated by the Modi government paved a major ground for BJP's triumphalism. BJP's communal outbursts also became a contributory factor for its triumph. Any body who

criticised BJP and the anti people deeds of Modi Government came to be termed anti nationals and agents of Pakistan. This was the line of RSS led BJP election propaganda.

In Kerala, Sabarimala issue became one of the grounds for LDF defeat. The propaganda that Congress is the only secular alternative to BJP in the Centre, made a significant impact among voters in Kerala. A major section of minorities and a significant number of traditional LDF supporters voted for UDF. These factors have caused erosion in the support base of LDF.

Amongst the elected MPs, 78 are women. This is the highest ever female members in the history of parliament. Majority of them are from Biju Patnaik led Janata Dal and Mamata Banerjee led Trinamool Congress.

An unprecedented development in the present election was curtailment of a full day campaign facility by the Election Commission in nine constituencies in West Bengal due to violence between Trinamool Congress and BJP. Such a step under article 324 of the constitution was the first instance in India's electoral history. It was in this incidence on 15th May that BJP supporters allegedly vandalized a bust

of 19th century Bengal icon, Ishwarchandra Vidya Sagar.

A peculiarity this time was the alleged partisan role of chief election commissioner Sunil Arora. His silence over and inaction on violation of model code of conduct by prime minister Modi and BJP president Amit Shah during election period has invited serious criticism from all the opposition parties and Supreme Court.

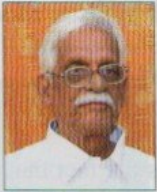
Disturbing however is the fact that the massive victory scored by the BJP is being now made for toppling non BJP state governments. They have started horse trading to destabilize the opposition ruled state governments. West Bengal and Karnataka are examples. The ground for engineering such defections was made by the Prime Minister Modi himself when he said in an election rally in West Bengal before the poll that 40 MLAs of the Trinamool Congress were on the way to joining BJP after the result.

In the speech made by Modi after the swearing in ceremony he has coined all promises made in the BJP's manifesto and repeatedly declared in its election rallies in 6 words thus "we will build a new India" Hope it will not be like the ones that he promised in 2014. ■



Manu, son of Mrs and Mr A N Shaji Powai got engaged to Shwetha on May 13, 2019, at Paragon Banquets, Meluha the Fern, Hiranandani Gardens, Powai.

MALAYALAM NOVELS - A Review



Prof M R
Chandrasekharan

■ In Kerala, there are three types of paddy crops: *Virippu*, *Mundakan* and *Puncha*. There is nothing wrong if consider that the Malayalam novels also have a similar

passage. The first crop was the work of Chandu Menon - C V Raman Pillai duo. A heavy one! The literary form of novel became a cause for the pleasure and admiration of Malayalees because of the heavy work of these towering personalities. It is debatable if Malayalam novels rose to this level subsequently. Success of novel also depends on its size. The writings of Samuel Richardson are still on top of successful novels of the world literature. Besides their novelty, their sheer size also played a great role in their success. Chandu Menon and C V followed the Richardson model. Menon could not complete his second volume of 'Sarada' as death snatched him away from us. Had he completed it, it would have secured a higher place not only by quality but its size also.

'Marthandavarma' of CV drew much more attention than his 'Dharmaraja' and 'Ramaraja Bahadur.' They are in fact not two different novels but one long story in two volumes.

'Ramaraja Bahadur' was published in 1920. For the next twenty years, there were no significant novels in Malayalam, though poems made a significant stride. It was the period of triumvirate of great poets. According to Prof Joseph Mundasseri, with the arrival of novels, the rhythmic literature lost its significance. While praising Kumaran Asan, he forgot the fact that Asan gained prominence after Menon and CV. Renaissance in poetry occurred with the triumvirate. Vehicle of renaissance was prose. It was towards the end of nineteenth century, renaissance entered Malayalam. Its waves spread to the poetic literature. It resulted in birth of Poetic triumvirate.



Samuel Richardson

Malayalam novels had new impetus in the middle of 1940s. A few writers who tasted success in short stories entered into the world of novels. Their novels were small in size like their short stories. Leanness was their character. Prof N Krishna Pillai has expressed his dissatisfaction about the size of novels by Vaikkom Mohammed Basheer, Kesava Dev, Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai and S K Pottekkat. Their novels were having only 75-100 pages. That the same novelists wrote massive books later was noteworthy.

Towards the middle of 1950s, a new generation of novelists emerged. One of them was M T Vasudevan Nair. Parappurathu, G Vivekanandan, K Surendran, Rajalakshmi et al were among them. Their novels had more pages and wider ideals. Till then, the novels spoke the language of 'stomach' of the characters. There was statement by M T Vasudevan Nair to the effect that 'in the new phase, the minds of characters started talking.' It meant that unlike in the past, the new writings did not give much importance to the socio-politico-economic thoughts. Can we conclude that he meant a change of the then prevalent poverty, exploitation and inequality among the people to a better environment? That is impertinent here. I feel that the new writers closed their eyes from those directions. Their stress was on the physical aspects of life. In 'Naaluketu,' M T stressed on the bitter experiences and miseries within those four structured homes. He did not turn his eyes towards the causes which stimulated those social and economic



C V Raman Pillai



Chandu Menon

sides behind those miseries. The physical relationships are as important as the social and economic aspects. It reflected on the viewpoints of the onlooker. Vivekanandan wrote about the problems faced by the backward communities. Surendran gave importance to the failed romances. Parappurathu was employed in defence force. He weaved his experiences in the army and rural life into one fabric. Rajalakshmi gave stress to her personal experiences and expectations.

After the novels of these authors came out, voluminous novels of Uroob, S K Pottekkat, Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai were published. Uroob brought in humour into his novels. His novel bloomed in humour. Frenchman Franco Raballe and Spanish writer Cervantes gave prominence to humour in their novels. The first recognised Malayalam novelist Chandu Menon brought in humour for social criticism. Some critics believe that the survival of novels is in humour. Some others think that it is not novel but the tales based on experience would have demand in years to come.

The main event of Uroob's novel (*Ummachu*) is a murder. The readers took its humorous description into their hearts. In the novel (*Oru Deshathinte Katha*) that won a Jnampith Award, S K Pottekkat also gave prominence to humour. However, Thakazhi's massive novel 'Aenippattikal', there is no touch of humour. Yet it drew the admiration of readers. It is the same case with Keshava Dev's 'Ayalkkar.' Thakazhi's 'Kayar' has a vastness comparable with Mahabharat.

(To be Continued)

Marriages Are Made in Heaven



P V Ramanathan

held out against horoscope matching, there is a logical argument for dispensing with this age old convention.

One major factor in matching is Kuja Dosha. The quantum of this dosha in the horoscopes of male and female should be balanced to avert any calamity in life.

According to one school of thought, destiny is supreme. A larger question arises whether by the mere exercise of matching, destinies of individuals can be altered.

Every birth and every death sets in motion a chain reaction, rather a ripple effect elsewhere as an inevitable sequence, answering to a cosmic pattern. In essence, no death is an end in itself. Further, we cannot negotiate Death.

We may be easily misled to a complacent feeling that since the doshas are balanced, the couple will live in great harmony and happiness. Far from it, all the balancing process does, is to stall the early loss of the mate. It doesn't improve the quality of the marriage, as promised in the charts.

Matching charts for marriage have its scope and also its limitations. Charts showing loss of spouse within months or year or two after marriage, can benefit from astrological counselling through matching and manage to push the eventuality to a reasonably distant future point of time. Since a chart is bound by Karmic parameters, matching cannot bring about miracles. But it can be an effective tool to fight premature loss of spouse and minimise other problems that could occur between spouses.

■ On a rough estimate, three fourth of the world's population does not resort to matching of horoscopes for marriage. While that reasoning alone is not

V A K Iyer, learned astrologer says: "A historical survey of the institution of marriage reveals that it was performed during Vedic times on intrinsic merit alone and oriented towards Dharma. There are no evidences for, nor was there need to compare horoscopes for marriage.

We do not hear of such practices even during puranic times, Sri Rama did have a horoscope and so had Sita but neither Dasharata nor Guru Vasishtha seemed to have asked for it. Sri Krishna had one as Garga made it but Rukmini's love letter rather than the horoscopes seemed to have fixed the match. It was Gandharva-cum-Rakshasa style, with the consent of the bride."



There is a universal law that writes the destiny of all things in the universe. The pattern of our past lives holds sway over our present lives. The strongest propensities of our nature embedded in our subconscious mind, control our destiny and find manifestation at the appropriate time at the physical level attracting good or bad experiences, or as someone said there are no rewards or punishments in this world, only consequences.

Chanakya echoes the same thought when he says, "Age, profession, financial status, levels of education, time of death the five basic parameters of human life are ordained when the being is in the embryonic stag.

In this context, Einstein's observation would be relevant. "Everything is determined, the beginning as well as the end by forces

over which we have no control. It is determined for the insect as well as for the star, human beings, vegetables or cosmic dust. We all dance to a mysterious tone intoned in the distance by invisible piper."

There should be some cosmic power which channelises individual Karma to align with a programmed set of planetary combinations to trigger its birth at the exact moment. The following statement from Shri Yukteshwar would be a revelation.

"A child is born in that hour and on that date when his celestial rays are in mathematical harmony with his individual Karma. His horoscope is a challenging portrait revealing his unalterable past and its probable future results.

Against this backdrop of formidable array of assertions by our ancient and modern intellectuals irrevocably establishing the supremacy of destiny how could man's miniscule efforts could alter cosmic patters ordained by a superior power. Would it not be like holding a candle before the Sun?

Did not Ramana say that what is going to happen will

happen and what is not going to happen will not happen. Paul Brunton, an ashramite elaborates that predestination does not exclude the possibility of effort.

An instant in point is a historical event involving Warren Hastings on his visit to India to seek his fortune. In the ship there was a German baron and his wife. An intimacy sprang up between the lady and Hastings. Later the lady left the baron and married Hastings.

Macaulay says, thus was born the future Empress of India. It was in her destiny to become an empress by changing boats mid-sea unknowingly though as she was marrying a commoner even without a calling. Destiny had willed it and no human effort or horoscopic adjustments would have brought it about. In plain terms she went to where she belonged. -



Prof Dr John
Mathews Vazhappilly

Vembanad Lake Villas

A Paradise for Home Stay

T. S. Eliot once wrote: "April is the cruellest month". Eliot may have thought of the scorching heat of the Indian summer. In the month of April and May who would not think of staying for a week in a villa nestling on the banks of a beautiful lake where the cool and refreshing breeze that blows across can give us a rejuvenating experience - an experience that invigorates the body, stimulates the mind, enthuses the heart and enlivens the spirit. I found Vembanad Lake Villas an ideal place for home stay, a small paradise of comfort and ease, rest and relaxation in God's own country.

Vembanad Lake Villas are situated on a 6 acre strip of virgin land, on the bank of Vembanad lake in Vaikom-historically famous for Vaikom Satyagraham. This town is also famous for its ancient temple dedicated to Vaikathappan, an Incarnation of Lord Shiva. Vaikom is also very near to the celebrated tourist spot Kumarakom.

The Ambience of a "Tharavadu" - an Ancestral Home

The distinctive and distinguishing feature of Vembanad Lake Villas is that they have the charm of our ancestral homes, what we call in Malayalam "Tharavadu". Like the ancestral homes these villas have tiled, slopping roof, doors and windows made of thick, robust teak wood. Some of the villas have exquisitely laid wood-paneled walls giving it an antique touch. In one of the villas I found the walls covered with mats made of cane, giving it a rustic and sylvan appearance. Like the 'tharavadu' these villas are erected on a sprawling area of 6 acres of lush green land dotted with coconut trees, mango trees, Jack fruit trees, banana plants and a variety of different species of plants, bushes and shrubs.

The salient feature of these villas is that they create the right ambience for fun and frolic, rest and relaxation, serene reflection and profound meditation. Those who are of a bit

philosophical nature can sit leisurely by the lake side and watch the bosom of the Vembanad lake being tickled by the gentle breeze that blows across the lake. I was reminded of the Shakespearean sonnet.

As the waves make their way to the pebbled shore

So do our minutes hasten to their end

Those who are endowed with a poetic sensitivity and sensibility can admire with incandescent wonder the flock of white cranes floating on the placid waters of the Vembanad lake- the ease, comfort and serenity with which they glide along the surface of the lake, often taking a dip in the lake. Again the lines from Shakespeare flashed into my mind:

All furnished, all in arms;

All plumed like estranges that wing the wind

Glittering in golden coats, like images;

*As full of spirit as the month of May
And gorgeous as the sun at midsummer*

Henry IV 4:1

A front view of Vembanad Lake Villa

There is a long stretch of fairly broad canals winding its way around the compound. One can see a variety of fish shooting through the canal water, occasionally rising to the surface only to plunge down into the depths of the canals. It was fascinating to watch a flock of ducks wiggling their tails and move around gracefully. Their webbed feet and flat and broad beaks amuse us.

The ambience of the 'tharavadu' is more keenly felt in the early morning hours. As we get up in the early morning the fresh, cool air is filled with the twittering of birds. Occasionally we can hear the song of a nightingale perched on the top of a luxuriant mango tree, singing all by itself in its splendid solitude. The whole place resonates with the crowing of the cock and the shrieks of other winged wonders.

Features

• Water Front Villas:

Enjoy the luxury, comfort and ease of staying in water front villas. Each villa is spacious and comprises of an area of 900 square feet and has A/c and non A/c rooms, with modern amenities and laundry service.

• Home Made Food

A distinctive feature of your stay in Vembanad Lake villas is that you can enjoy home made food, prepared from fresh vegetables, fish, and meat procured from Vembanad Lake Villas Farms. Moreover, you are free to prepare the food jointly with the host, if you feel like preparing a favourite dish of yours.

• Traditional Kerala Cuisine along with Continental Food items.

• Savour and Relish Fresh Catch Sea food delicacies along with lobsters, prawns etc.

• Enjoy the most delicious, Kerala Fish, now world-famous 'Karimeen', freshly caught from the canals flowing through the compound of the villas.

Entertainments

• Enjoy cruising through Vembanad lake and canals by country boats, peddle boats, Kayaking.

• Enjoy the thrill and excitement of angling (fishing)

• Have a good swim in the clean water of Vembanad Lake.

• Enjoy Elephant Safari

• Enhance your Cultural Quotient



by participating in Cultural Programmes like Kathakali, Chendamelam.

• Rejuvenate, Refresh and Energise yourself through, Ayurvedic rejuvenation therapy.

Visits and Tours

Vembanad Lake Villas makes arrangements for visiting geographically, historically, culturally and religiously important places such as Kumarakom Bird sanctuary, Thekkady Game Sanctuary, Athirapally Water Falls, Thiruvananthapuram, Kovalam, Munnar Hill Resort and famous Pilgrim Centers.

A very affordable Resort

From a pragmatic point of view, Vembanad Lake Villas are affordable even for a middle class family. The rent for a water front Villa is very reasonable and this includes a good breakfast. Just compare this with what you would be paying in a three star hotel situated in the middle of a concrete jungle. You can also have home made food at a very reasonable rate and what is more noticeable is that it is prepared with maternal care and affection. You have to stay here for a few days to ensure the veracity of what I have experienced and stated here.

Management: Palackal Family

Vembanad Lake Villas are managed by the Palackal Family. This is one of the most ancient Catholic families in Vaikom. Their aristocratic background, high moral and spiritual values, social commitment, cherished, treasured and

lived for centuries, impart a classical and aristocratic touch to the management of these Villas. The Management is very strict in maintaining the ethical purity of this Resort. No drug addicts, alcoholics or any kind of antisocial elements are allowed to stay here.

Mrs. Resmi Thomas is the Managing Director of these Villas. She is a young, charming and dynamic person, radiating an aura of positivity and optimism. Her personal attention and solicitous care is visible in each and every aspect of the Resort. She is ably assisted by her husband Mr. Thomas Philip Palackal- a bubbling cauldron of energy and enthusiasm and his brother Simon Philip Palackal manages the marketing segment.

If you are looking for a holiday resort where you can live in close harmony with nature, in a sprawling compound carpeted with lush green grass, shrubs, flowering plants and tall luxuriant trees- their rich foliage forming a green dome arching over the entire compound, come to Vembanad Lake Villas and experience and enjoy the thrill and excitement, the bliss and blessings of a small paradise in God's own country.

Contact:

Palackal, Panambukadu, Vaikom, Kottayam, Kerala-686141

Email.ID: info@vlvs.com

Ph.No. 9142558388 (Thomas)

964564411 (Liz)

9142542377 (Simon)

Land no.04829-222487



Photo credit: Madhusudan S Menon

Kathikalolsavam Bringing cross rhythmic patterns to Life

The family of the legendary Maestro Kalaimamani Guru Shri T.S. Kadirvelu Pillai recently celebrated his memory by organising an evening of dance by eminent artistes. The venue was Kashinath Ghanekar Natyagruha in Thane. Guru Kalashree Shri Kalishwaran Pillai, son and disciple of the Guru and his family expressed their gratitude to Deepak Mazumdar and Kalashri Lata Surendra for their lifelong support and love for his family. Deepak Mazumdar, Kalashri Lata Surendra and Padmasri Narthaki Natraj performed select items from their repertoire.

Rarest of the rare among teachers, Vidwan Kalaimamani Guru T S Kadirvelu Pillai had studied mridangam, dance and nattuvangam at Pichiah School of Dance, Thanjavur under the famous dancer Lakshmikantham. He was a wizard of natyam and choreographed dazzling intricate passages of thirumanams for Varnams, jatiswarams and thillanas. He was associated with Mrinalini Sarabhai, Sonal Mansingh, Asha Parekh and finally was appointed teacher at

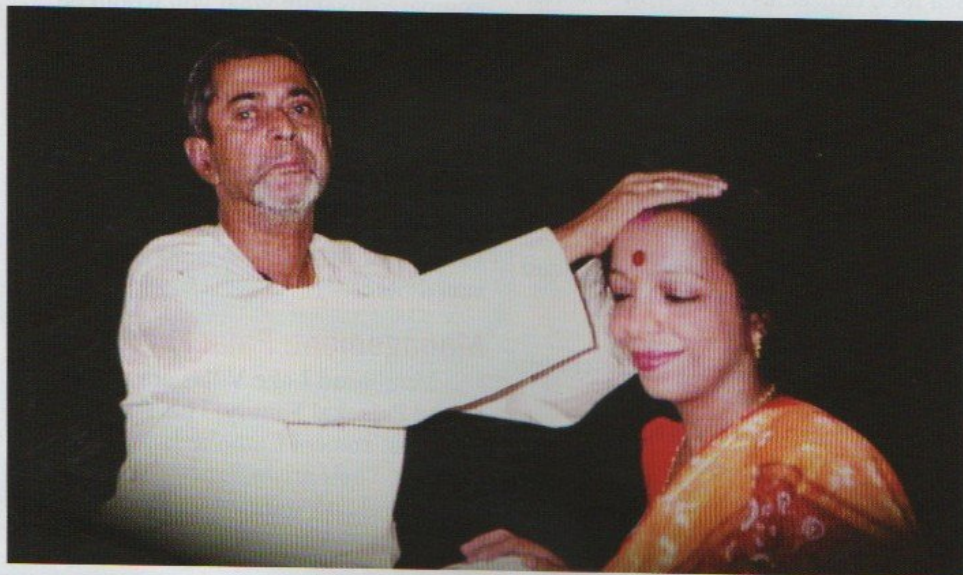
Nalanda University (Mumbai). The One man institution that he was, he took to teaching those who could digest his intricacy.

Kalashri Lata Surendra is a senior acknowledged dancer who could decipher his complex arithmetical mind, immediately absorb his ideas and perform them to perfection. There was a great sense of anticipation in the audience for her performance.

Kadikalolsavam brought to life the intricate cross-rhythmic patterns of

Kalaimamani Guru T S Kadirvelu Pillai. Lata Surendra in her performance, shared the jewels of her Guru's intricate choreography to the waiting audience, some who had never ever witnessed his complexity and others who wished to revive memories that highlighted a Maestro's tryst with Rhythms.

The irritation of the delayed start of the evening were simply wiped out once Lata appeared. Her introduction was a warm emotional tribute to the Master.



Lata Surendra getting Guru's blessing

Alarippu is the finest item in a Margam that has not lost its attractive skeletal choreography but lends itself to innovation and varied rhythms. The Alarippu, played digitally, was composed in Khanda jathi ada talam (14 beats) and recited by Guru Kadirvelu himself. The amazing construction of this brief item made it appear colossal enshrined in his voice and dazzling cymbals.

This was followed by the Varnam of eternal beauty 'Mohamana' in Bhairavi Raga. Petite though she appears, Lata did full justice as her trim and agile movements covered the expanse of the stage effortlessly. Her abhinaya is a flow of natural emotions and was a pleasure to watch. The Padam 'Idai Vida' in Saveri Raga (composer Subbramier) followed, depicting the Khandita Nayika who is angry and disappointed that her lover had betrayed



Lata Surendra

her.

The abhinaya was natural, flowing from her heart but dignified and in full control of the situation. Young dancers would surely benefit observing senior and experienced dancers like Lata and

to avoid caricaturing the distraught woman.

Lata concluded her performance with an exhilarating Thillana (Behag) which she announced she could not resist performing if only to share its challenging complexity, although it was truncated due to the time constraint. Lata's supreme confidence and control over her art was impressive.

The musical support was by Kalishwaran Pillai (Nattuvangam), N.N. Sivaprasad (Vocal) Dakshinamoorthy (Mridangam) and Nandakumar (flute).

Lata Surendra is a multi-faceted personality. Besides teaching dance to underprivileged children, she is President and Curator of the Dadar-Mumbai section of CID the International Dance Council, based in France. She brings together dancers from all over the country and the globe for meaningful discussions and performances.

-Indumati Raman

Catch Them Young

Mudra Traditional Arts Foundation and Mudra Dance Academy (Dombivli) presented the Nritya Utsav of traditional Bharatanatyam and other dances at Gandhi auditorium in Kalyan. It was a unique occasion for the dance students and parents to watch their children perform to a packed audience.

Mudra Dance Academy is established by accomplished Bharatanatyam exponent Vrunda

Upadhyaya who trains several dance aspirants in the field of Bharatanatyam and every year they get a chance to perform in the presence of parents and dignitaries. Vrunda is also privileged to have performed for various prestigious festivals all over India. The dignitaries present were Dr Amit Mhatre of Education Department, KDMC, philanthropist Prathmesh Pawar, Vikram Kumar, Editor of Dance India magazine, Bharatanatyam exponent Kashmiri Trivedi and Kuchipudi exponent Vijay Shanker.

The programme was entitled 'Krishnanjali'- salutations to Lord Krishna through the medium of varied dances that encompasses the complete 'charitram' of the Lord. After invocations to Lord Ganesha, Sankshipt Bhagwat gives the audience an insight to the essence of the Bhagwat Gita that proclaims the philosophy of performing your duty with utmost sincerity and honesty. While Krishna Ne Begane Baro that interprets the vatsalya of mother Yasoda for Krishna, Vallabhacharya's Madhurashtakam interprets the Lord as an incarnation of beauty and aesthetic quality. The dancers also performed Meera bhajan and the Marathi abhang. It was a pleasure to watch children and youngsters performing on the same platform. Although some were nervous, one can definitely expect a better performance.

The dancers received fine orchestral support from Vrunda Upadhyaya for vocal and nattuvangam, mridangam by Satish Krishnamurthy, violin by Balasubramaniam, flute by Krishna Kumar and tabla by Devansh Shukla. A fine attempt indeed.

Guru Vijay Shanker





SAYONITA

A landmark on the Dance Scene

The untold was unfolded on 1st May 2019 at the Juhu ISKCON temple with the launching of the idea of bringing out something unique using her students' talent and expertise brainstorming in the mind of the Vasai based Abhinayaa Institute Guru Dr. Chitra Vishwanathan over a decade.

As a first step a pair had to be identified to play the main characters in the story/dance recital; and for this she had short listed the two senior most students of Abhinayaa Institute, Kalashree Meena Santhosh and Nrutya Kowmudhi Sneha Anujan who had been associated with Guru Dr Chitra as her disciples and teachers in her Institute for over 15 years. This idea from Guru Dr. Chitra to launch Meena and Sneha as a pair received immediate consent from their respective families- Meena's husband Santhosh and Sneha's parents Anujan and Hema.

Now, it was for Guru Dr. Chitra to give a unique name to this pair after contemplating with various options, she finally settled with a very rare but meaningful and apt identity title SAYONITA meaning *Soul Sisters*, since Meena and Sneha, with over 15 years of close association, had developed a great understanding and rapport befitting the title Sayonita.

Next was to identify unique stories from the Indian epics which would not



Scenes from Srushti Nirvana Performance



have been staged until the Sayonita launching. After doing a lot of exercise and exploring through social media and libraries Guru Dr. Chitra came across Anand Neelakantan, who is a famous Indian author, columnist, screen writer, television personality and motivational speaker. His major works comprise ASURA- Tale of the Vanquished in 2012 which became a surprise best seller. When approached with the idea of Sayonita's mission of Unfolding The Untold Anand very kindly consented for the Sayonita to have his writings transformed into a Bharatanatyam recital format and depict unstaged epics from the Indian culture.

Sayonita was launched in Mumbai on 1st May 2019 at Juhu ISKCON with the presentation of *Srishti Nirvana*, which indeed was untold until now, and depicted Ravana's kind hearted form as Sita's father. The entire presentation lasting about two hours was absolutely unique and a real visual treat, with the audience giving loud round of applause.

Sayonita's vision will be to move



Felicitations to Dr Chitra and Vishwanathan by her disciples while guests of honour look on.

forward with an attempt to revive and imbibe the high values of Indian culture into the present young generation who are naive on various Indian epics,

making cultural creations accessible to the audience thereby nourishing the community in general and the self in particular.

DANCING FOR HEALTH AND HAPPINESS

Illa Dalal Dance Academy presented an unusual and unique Bharata Natyam recital by Renu Kapoor at the NCPA Godrej dance academy theatre last week. The performance was an evidence as to how one can remain healthy and happy by consistently practising Bharata natyam, while coming closer to the divine aspect of the rich style of Bharata Natyam.

Renu Kapoor is an ardent

disciple of Illa Dalal who is an accomplished Bharata Natyam exponent and dance therapist and also heads the Illa Dalal Dance Academy, who has trained several aspirants in varied disciplines of dance.

Renu Kapoor commenced the performance with the traditional Alarippu and followed with the Ganesh Stuti sung by Lata Mangeshkar and Shankar Mahadevan that vividly describes and power and the glory of the

Lord. Illa Dalal and her disciples demonstrated the "tai chi" technique of energizing the complete body with the tap method, the audience was surprised to know about the health benefits. The piece-de-resistance of the evening was "Bhishaj Sardham Nritya" - healing with dance with the Mudra therapy, different mudras(hand gestures) are used to maintain good health and cure diseases, this was followed by 'Namah shivaya' in which Renu danced on the brass plate in perfect rhythm..

The popular number "Piya Tohe Naina" from the film "Guide" was a surprise item that thrilled the audience. Besides the combination of Indian and western music in "Swala", the folk "Ghumar" and Shankar Mahdevan's "Breathless" was the added attraction of the programme that was well applauded by the packed audience. In spite of being a professional chartered accountant, it is creditable that Renu pursues her passion for Bharata natyam as she danced with ease and elegance, winning the appreciation from the audience.



Renu Kapoor

by Vijay Shanker

Chaturbhavana Pathways to Sublime Love

Bhakti Kala Kshetra cultural wing of ISKCON, Juhu, in their programme highlighting a journey back to Godhead through Shastra and Sangeet featured the unique production *Chathurbhavana*, highlighting four pathways to sublime love through folds of devotion bhakti. Conceptualised by the renowned Bharatanatyam exponent, teacher and choreographer Kalashri Lata Surendra, the absorbing production unfolded through four established mentors and four distinct classical styles.

Dasya bhavam - Servitude through an evocative representation of Saint Meera and her Lord Krishna, sheathed in the kinesthetics of Kathak by established exponent and Guru Smt Paullumi B Mukherjee and another seasoned artiste Sunil Sunkara. Through skillful usage of theatre, props and dance they mirrored the one - to - one connection of Meera with her Lord. The choice of compositions were apt and Smt Paullumi B Mukherjee as Meera and Dr Sunil Sunkara as Krishna through *Dasya bhavam* led the audience to a pathway culminating in Meera's ultimate oneness in the Lord.

Sakhyam- Friendship through bonding with the Lord as a friend was effectively brought to life by renowned Kuchipudi exponent and mentor Dr Sailaja Desai with her disciple Kum Sindhuja Desai. *Sakhya Bhavam* was brought to life through choice *sancharis* highlighting friendship through Krishna and Gopas, through the concern of the Lord to all creation and standing by them as the saviour through his leelas tiding over the changing flux, the friend who could hear the unspoken words and see the burdened heart of his friend Sudama and who could assuage the

dilemma of Arjuna in the battlefield of Kurukshetra. The mother-daughter duo complemented each other. In fact the vibrancy of Sindhuja was an absolute foil to the experience of Dr Sailaja Desai that saw its climax in the evocative scene of Krishna -by Sailaja Desai and Arjuna- by Sindhuja Desai.

Vatsalyam- nurturing quality in a bonding was mirrored through Mohiniattam, by established exponent

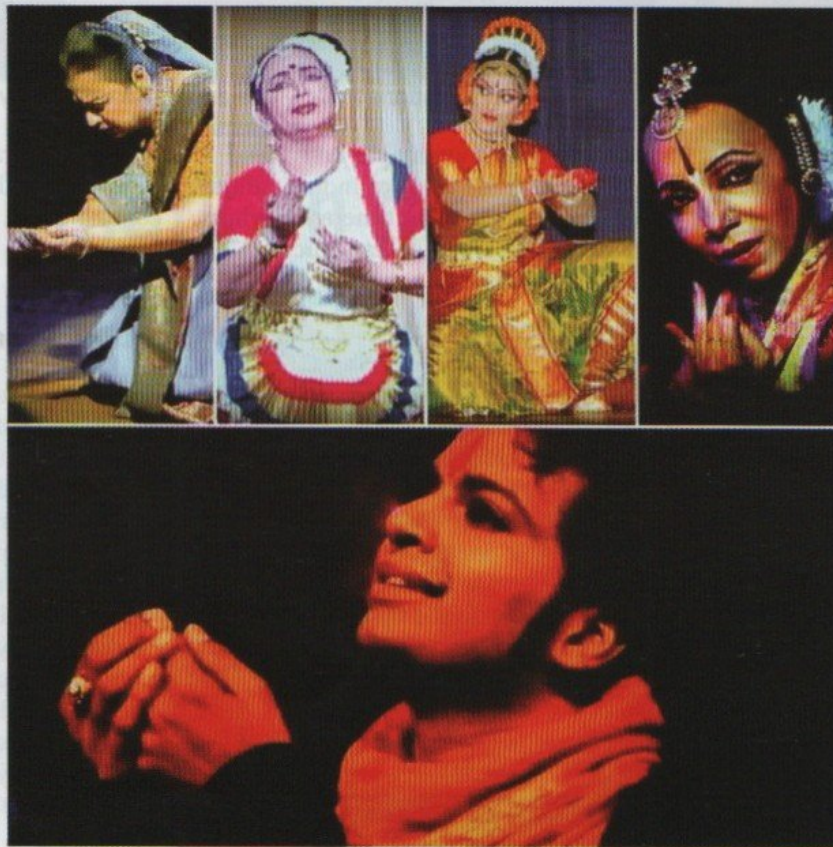
to life by the seasoned and renowned Bharatanatyam exponent, teacher and choreographer Guru Kalashri Lata Surendra. With an in-depth awareness of the technique and subject, she brought out the immortal essence of the sublime thread binding two souls - 'Krishnamayi Radha and Radhamayi Krishna' Surendra's choreography touched upon madhuryam, the romantic side of love, where the lovers' heart beat

in rhythm for each other, even when they are far apart. Of that love, where even silences converse, a love that gathers togetherness and forms ultimately the essence of the universe itself, the flowering of the theme and the potency of Bharatanatyam sought a pulsating synergy through the meditated choreography that concluded with Krishna leaving Radha for the waiting mission he had to fulfill. The true hallmark of an artiste is when she has the pulse of her audience intent and connected to her soul and Lata immortalised madhuryam through Radha.

The ballet concluded with the truth that like rivers, seeking oneness in the ambience of the ocean, each of us through diverse pathways seek to gather oneness in the all pervading Providence

It was a oneness that one saw mirrored through four devotional pathways of Bhakt in the chemistry between Mentors of various styles, their disciples and the support strength of Orchestra members.

The Music that was part audio and part live had mellifluous Vocals by N.N Sivaprasad, supportive tabla by Rohit, Flute by Nandakumar, Sound effects by Nandlal Rele and lights by Pednekar. ■



and Guru, Smt Geetha Vijayshanker and her graceful disciples. The graceful delineation through Mohiniattam depicted skillfully the *vatsalyam* through Devaki, as she envisaged her child fondly brought up by Mother Yashoda. She fondly smiles as she imagines her child - the Lord, who had come to awaken the world, being lulled to sleep by Mother Yashoda through the famous lullaby 'Omana Thingal Kidavo'. The Guru and disciples evocatively brought out the *vatsalya bhavam* highlighting the bonding circle of love between a Mother and Child. Madhuryam-Sublime love was brought

Fund Raising programme for War Martyrs

FAUJI FOUNDATION OF INDIA is an initiative by a few army veterans and social activists that started a year ago. The main mission of this non - profit non - governmental organization is to address the financial needs of the families of war martyrs and disabled personnel of our defence forces.

Fauji Foundation of India, World of Mohammed Rafi Welfare Foundation and Klub Nostalgia joined hands to organize two grand fund raising shows ... first on 22nd July 2018 (titled *Ye Desh Hai Veer Jawanon Ka*) and on 26th April 2019 (titled *Jab Pyar Kisi Se Hota Hai*). The shows were highly successful in raising precious funds for Fauji Foundation of India's welfare activities

Whereas the Government is doing its role there is a need to complement through involvement of non-governmental sections of our society.

Areas such as financially helping the war affected families to live a life of respect and dignity, health and education of their children , especially designed medical care to soldiers disabled during war engagement etc are the areas addressed by Fauji Foundation of India.

The role of this NGO is increasingly relevant today taking into view the continuing strife at our borders. The Foundation has in its board of advisors eminent personalities who have meritoriously served in the defence field.

The society at large has a responsibility to first recognize the need to support this noble initiative particularly considering the fact that they live a life of peace and happiness because of the humongous sacrifice by our defense forces.

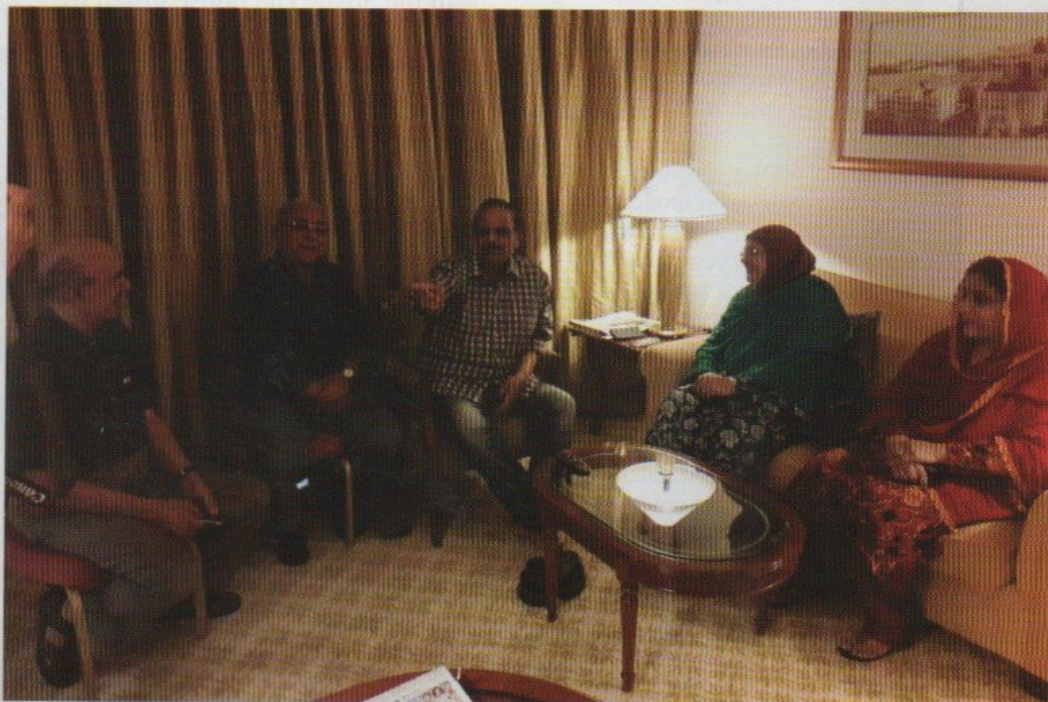
Klub Nostalgia a highly popular musical event management outfit with a mission to serve noble causes, has collaborated with Fauji Foundation of India . Klub Nostalgia



Daughters of Mohd Rafi and Venkat handing over cheque of Rs 15 lacs to Fauji Foundation of India CEO Capt Prasoon Kumar

is the brain child of N R Venkitachalam (popularly known as Venkat) a retired Corporate Executive hailing from Kerala. Through 280 fund raising shows in India and abroad Klub Nostalgia has carved a niche for themselves in the field of social service.

Incidentally Venkat is also an Hon Director in World of Mohammed Rafi Welfare Foundation (along with daughters of the legendary singer) and MBA Foundation an NGO engaged in the management and rehabilitation of differently abled children.



S P Balasubrahmanyam, with Venkitachalam and Daughters of Mohammed Rafi.

Sree Narayana Guru International School opened at Ulve



SNMS Chairman M I Damodaran inaugurates the IB School in Ulve. Admission procedure is in full swing.

■ The prestigious project of Sree Narayana Guru International School at Ulve is now culminated. The school is following a CBSE syllabus currently but IB syllabus will be implemented from pre-primary to fourth standard. Comparatively low fee will be charged and a few free seats are kept aside for extremely poor students. The class rooms are air conditioned. Facilities like smart board, wide computer lab, audio-visual room, library etc are also functional.

Mandira Samiti has received land from CIDCO for the school. The construction work of the school is now going on. There will be swimming pool, playground, parking lot, class rooms with modern facilities. The entire work will be completed in two years.

At present Sree Narayana Mandira Samiti is running educational facilities from pre-primary to coaching for Civil Service Examinations and about 7000 students are being benefitted.

In the inaugural ceremony, Samiti Chairman M I Damodaran, General Secretary N S Salimkumar, Zonal Secretaries K K Susmeran, Sriratan Nanu, R Sreedharan, M G Raghavan, Pushpa Marbarose, Principals various institutions Lincy David, Dr Anna Fernandes, Hilda Andrews, Deepa, Jaya Roy, Beena Kollara, Ulve School Principal Bindu Viswanath were present.

Kharghar NSS Builds Home for Santhamma

■ Kharghar NSS, an affiliate of Kendriya Nair Samskarika Sangh, has helped to build a small house for Kavalam Kariyur Mangalam Santhamma in Kuttanad who lost her home during last year's floods in the area. The house gifted to them is 372 sq feet and cost about 5 lakhs. After personally visiting the place and verifying its authenticity by the office bearers,

members of Kharghar NSS contributed generously to provide the shelter for them. The keys were handed over by President Rajasekharan Nair, Vice President Devan Padmanabhan, at a function in which NSS Kuttanad Taluk Union President, Prof K P Narayanan Pillai and KNSS General Secretary Harikumar Menon also attended.



Handing over the keys of the house donated by Kharghar NSS.

Warrier Foundation Opens New Office



Lighting the inaugural lamp

■ Warrier Foundation opened its new office premises at Nahar Business Centre, Nahar Amrut Shakti Chandivili Farm Road on May 18. The Chief Guest was Lalit C Jobanputra Managing Director, JWC Logistics Park, and Guests of honour included former Union Minister Dr S Krishnakumar IAS (Retd), Prakash Padikkal social activist and several other eminent personalities. This was followed by lunch and further discussions on future projects and activities of the Foundation. The event was co-ordinated by Founder Chairman AS Madhavan and Dhruva Madhavan of Warrier Foundation.

Cent percent Pass in Holy Angels School Dombivili.

■ Holy Angels School, Dombivili administered by Malayalis has secured for the thirteenth time 100 % pass in the recent HSC examination, according to Principal Bijoy Oommen. Geethika Nair scored the highest 92.31 in the Commerce group and Asmitha Patil scored 85.69 and secured the first rank in the Science stream. The school has secured 100 % pass in the current SSC Board examination as well, according to Director Dr Oommen David.



Pratibha Nritya Mandir, Nagpur celebrated thirty five years of its fruitful existence, with the guidance of Guru Parvathi Janardhanan, with a grand performance of Bharatanatyam, Kuchipudi, Kathakali and Kathak dances at the Yeshwantrao Auditorium recently. Dignitaries included MLC Parinay Fukrey and Kuchipudi exponent Guru Vijay Shanker.

Kalanjali Theatres Tenth anniversary

■ Kalanjali Theatres Chembur, celebrated its tenth Annual Day in a grand manner. Devadas G Nair, Kumaran Nair, Adv Padma Divakaran, Premlal, Raagalaya Vijaykumar and Harikumar Menon jointly lighted the lamp. Harikumar Menon, Suresh Kumar Madhusoodanan, Adv Prema Menon, R V Venugopal, M Vijaykumar, C P Krishnaumar, Suresh Babu, Suma Mukundan, Haridas, Sunil Kumar, Jayaraman, M V Ravi, Manoj I G et al were present on the occasion. Singers Shruti Mohan, Amruta, Ashwin Vinayan, Rahul Menon, Reuben Sebastian, Christina Marydas, Vidya, Amruta rendered songs. Drishya Nair presented Mohiniattam and Nangeli Ballet. Sreejit Mohan presented classical dances. Presenter Ashish Abraham imitated the voice of 60 prominent personalities in five minutes. Madhu Nambiar, Sebastian, Viswanathan and Chitra Pradeep presented a musical section. Folk songs were presented by Ramshi. An award



Lion Kumaran Nair lighting the lamp

instituted in memory of Devika Azhakesan was presented to Niranjan Menon. Namita Menon and Suraj Ramanan were felicitated for their contribution to cultural shows. The winners of Kerala Sangeeta Nataka Akademi competitions Nikhil and

Vishnupriya were also felicitated. The event was organised under the leadership of Kalanjali President Premarajan Nambiar, Secretary Madhu Nambiar, T S Vijaykumar, C H Gopalakrishnan, Balan and Vinayan.

Shree Sharavana Babaji meets devotees in Mumbai

■ Sadguru Shree Sharavana Babaji of Om Sharavanabhava Matham, Palakkad, as part of his itinerary in Mumbai visited many temples in Mumbai in April 2019. Besides Ayyappa Vishnu Temple, Powai, Babaji also visited Sree Suvarna Temple, Powai, Krishna Mandir, Andheri West, Ayyappa Temple, Borivli West, Guruvayurappan Bhakta Samaj, Vashi and Ram Mandir, Goregaon.

Babaji, believed to be the incarnation of Lord Subrahmanya by his disciples, was born on October 11, 1979 in Sreekrishnapuram in Palakkad. Babaji has established an Ashram at Mayiladumkunnu in Kozhikode district. Subsequently the Om Sharavanabhava Dharma Trust was established to render service to the needy. A temple of Sri Lakshmi Mandapam dedicated to Goddess Lakshmi has also been built at Palakkad adopting designs from traditional architecture.

Babaji established Om Sharavanabhava Matham which is engaged in charitable activities. Babaji's vision is to spread global peace and harmony, eradicate hunger among underprivileged class, to promote free

quality education to the deprived children, provide healthcare services in semi-urban and rural areas, empowering and rehabilitating destitute women, to create awareness on nurturing and safeguarding nature etc.

Babaji's mission has touched the lives of many people and over a period of time, devotees from all walks of life

visited Babaji and started Centres/Ashrams in their respective places. All the Ashrams are headquartered in Palakkad. Babaji has sizeable followers in India and abroad including Singapore, Malaysia, Switzerland, Sri Lanka, England, Germany, France, Norway, Mauritius, Dubai and U.S.A.



Shree Sharavana Babaji

Vayanotsavam 2019

■ Bhasha Samrakshana Samiti, the literary and cultural wing of Keraleeya Kendra Sanghatana, is organising a Literary Festival (Vayanotsavam). It is open to Malayali cultural organisations and Samajams and educational institutions in and around Mumbai. There will be reading, elocution, recitation competitions in two groups : for students upto Std V and from Std VI to Std X. The first round of contests will be held between June 16 to August 31. Further details on 9421999321/98699006440/9167449 349.

Consecration of Swamy Ayyappa Temple at Kharghar

Thousands of devotees of Lord Ayyappa participated in the event of consecration of the Lord in a temple in Kharghar. The ceremony was started with Ganapati Homam early morning and the rituals of consecration commenced by noon. Tantri Azhakath Prakasan Namboothiripad presided over the rituals. The entire events lasted nine days and ended on April 22.

Swamy Ayyappan is the main idol while Ganapati and Devi will be subordinate idols. The temple is designed according to the Kerala temple architecture system. It was designed by Kanippayyur Krishnan Namboothiripad. The temple construction was carried out by Kshetropasana of Thrissur, using Krishnashila.



Devotees at the event

During the ceremonies, Chirakkal Nidish and troupe presented Thayampaka. There was annadaanam also after the ceremonies.

President of Kharghar Ayyappa Seva Sangham K K B Nair, Secretary Nandakumar Nair, Treasurer A K K Pillai, Vice President N Unnikrishnan Nair, Joint Secretary P K Shajikumar,

Joint Treasurer I Gokuladevan and PRO Suresan Puthalath provided the impetus to the ceremonies. Managing Committee include Mohanan K Menon, Mukundan Nair, M Muralidharan, Pramodkumar, P Prasanth, Ravindran Nair, Surendran Nair K P, T P S Nair and T Unnikrishnan Varrier.

Nature lovers make Earth Day colourful

Children and senior citizens transformed the Earth Day into an unforgettable experience. They all attended a camp organised by Trombay Township Fine Arts club in its premises. Using the medium of painting they conveyed the message of 'Save the species.' They splashed colours brought by them on long canvas and made the venue very colourful. Instead of observing one day for the sake of Nature, they wanted every day to be dedicated to nature. Nature has to be protected and not exploited was the message they conveyed to those who were present. Trees

are umbrellas to protect earth from heat and also to prevent drought. Their pictures reminded man that one day everyone has to return to earth and it should be preserved for the next generations also. Excessive use of gases and plastics and cutting of trees lead to destruction of nature. When the temperature increases by 0.5°F , water level of the sea rises by one foot. It is sufficient to swallow the sea shores. We will survive if the earth survives and these pictures remind us that reality. We have a tendency to forget that we are mere eye witnesses when the earth displays its cruel face.



Celebrating Earth Day



Ms. Nikhita Sunil received the NavaPratibha Puraskharam from Tru Indian information and Guidance Society.

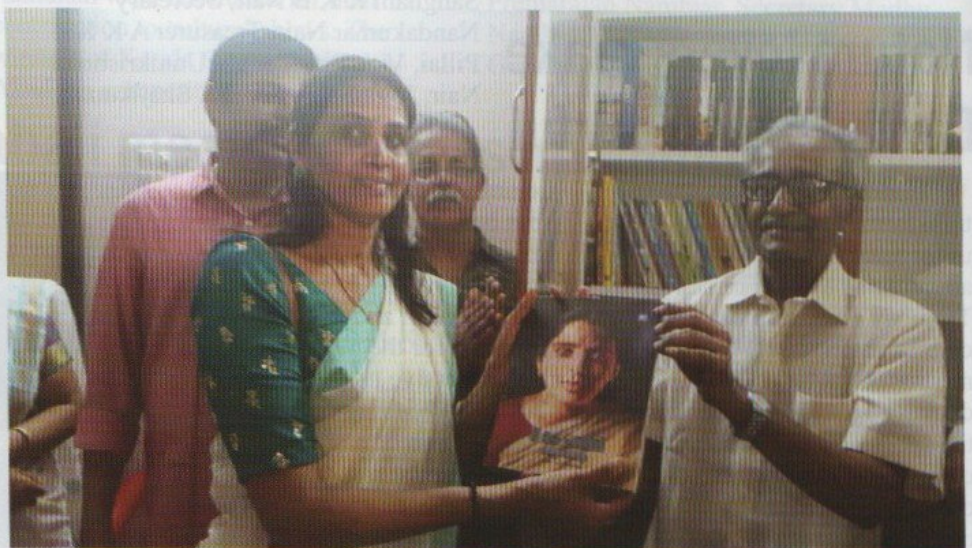


Lion Kumaran Nair, P.V.Vijay kumar, Managing Editor, Kerala In Mumbai, Rajan V Nair, Mrs. Rajan Nair, Bindu Prasad and Mrs.Kumaran Nair along with Swami Krishnananda Saraswati of Shree Ramadaasa Ashram Badlapur during a courtesy visit on Sunday the 26th May 2019.

KCA Library inaugurated

■ With the active co-operation of Malayalam Mission of Government of Kerala, Kairali Cultural Association of Vrindavan Society of Thane, opened its library. It was inaugurated by Shekhar, a senior member of the Association as well as a teacher of the Malayala Mission and social activist on April 15, the day of Vishu, at 9 am. A teacher of Malayalam class Jayalakshmi Vijayakumar and Joint Secretary Mohandas received the books from Shekhar. Balakrishnan, Edasseri Ramachandran Padmanabhan and V P R Nair wished success to the library. Bharathan Menon, KRJ Nair, Prabhakaran Nair, Jinachandran, Ajit, Ravikumar, Mohan Menon, Sasikumar Menon, Prakash Nair, Jayakumar, Smitha, Sudhakaran, Padmanabhan, Rajani, Malini, Swapna, Beena Unnikrishnan, Ramachandran Nambiar and Suresh also spoke on the occasion.

KCA also celebrated Vishu on a grand manner on April 15 at its office premises. On the previous evening, they lighted sparklers and on Vishu day, they arranged 'Kani' for hundreds of their members and family; Along with prasadam, all were presented 'Vishu Kaineettam.' President, Secretary, Treasurer and other committee members provided the necessary impetus to the occasion.



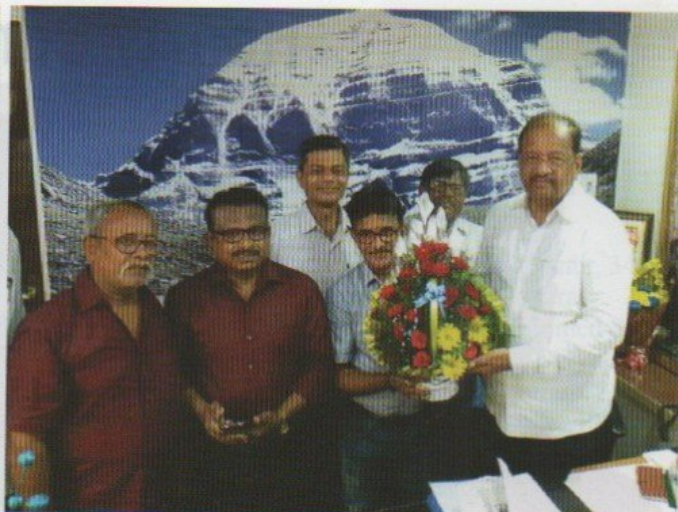
On the occasion of library inauguration



Vishu celebrations



Secretary of Maharashtra Congress Committee Jojo Thomas was felicitated by his colleagues from Kalyan Dombivli. Manoj Ayyaneth, Jose Varghese, Joy Nellan, C G Warier at MPCC Office in Tilak Bhavan, Dadar West.



Sree Ayyappa Seva Sangam Charkop, Kandivili felicitating newly elected M.P Gopal Shetty

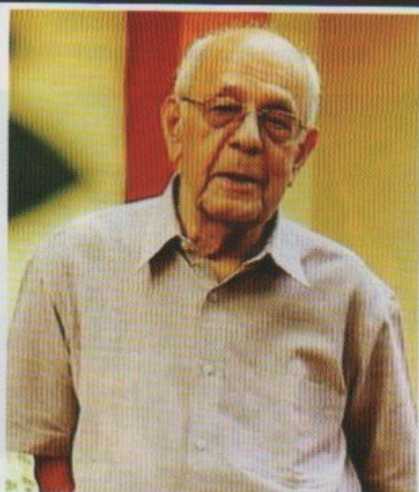
Powai Chai Masti Centre donates books to Colleges

■ Dignity Foundation's Powai Chai Masti Centre has taken up an innovative initiative by starting a Book Bank Project. As many as 140 books have been received from members. Dr Shankar Kankaria, Bhikalal Chandarana, Prabhakar Pevekar and B.T. Shah, D.K. Roy and Smt. Reeta Malhotra donated the books. The books were donated to Chandrabhan Sharma College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Powai Vihar; Vikas College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Vikhroli (E); Asmita College of Arts, Commerce & Science for Women, Vikhroli (E) on February 11, 2019. Earlier books were

donated to Powai English High School, Powai as well. Books were handed over to Ms. Pratima Singh, Principal, Chandrabhan Sharma College; Prof. Shaji Mathew, Vice Principal, Vikas College; Dr. Manisha P.Nair, Principal, Asmita College, and Smt. Sherly Uday Kumar respectively.

They complimented the Powai Chai Masti Centre and appreciated its latest initiative. V N Gopalakrishnan, Co-ordinator, Chai Masti Centre accompanied by B T Shah, one of the donors visited these institutions. The donors were felicitated at a special function on February 15, 2019.

OBITUARY



A true Gandhian, Adv. P.A Menon, Chairman, V. K Krishna Menon College, Bhandup passed away. May his soul rest in peace.

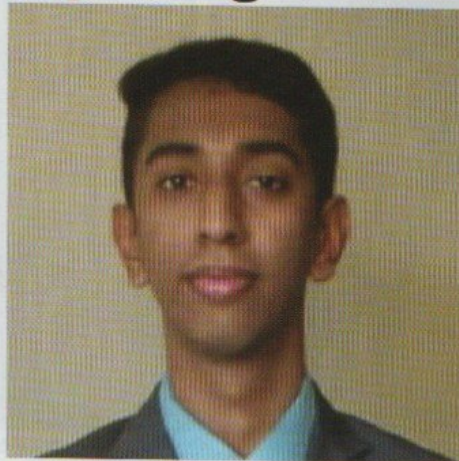


Smt Sherly Uday and Journalist V N Gopalakrishnan at the function

Hearty Congratulations



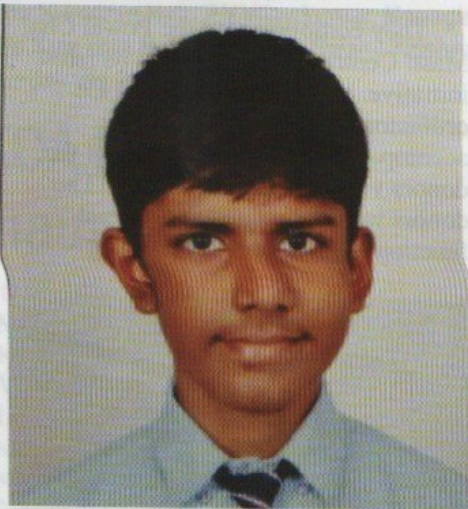
Pranav Nambiar
98.8% CBSE Board
School: Rajhans Vidyalaya, Andheri
Son of Gopinath Nambiar
& Ajitha Gopinath



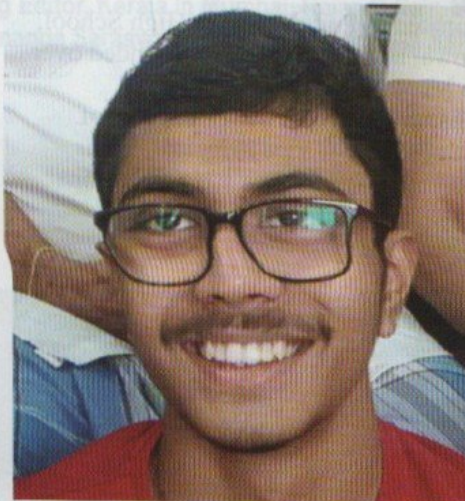
Allen Andrew
97% in ICSE Board
School: Hiranandani Foundation School.
Hiranandani Powai.
Son of K J Andrew & Mary Andrew



Gayatri Subramanian
93.8% in CBSE Board
School : Infant Jesus School, Ambernath
Daughter of Narayanan Subramanian
& Kanakatara Subramanian



Aditya Murali Mattummal
93% in ICSE Board
Class :10th
School: Podar International School
Son of Murali Mattummal &
Jisha Mattummal



Chaitanyaa Menavan
91.2% in CBSE Board
School- Narayana e-techno school,
Borivali.
Son of Manoj Menavan &
Tanuja Menavan



Smriti Nambudiri
95.25% ISC
School - St. Mary's Junior College, Pune
Daughter of Sanjeev Nambudiri
& Krishna Priya Nambudiri



Rakhee Sunil was installed as President of Rotary Club of Mumbai Borivali East. Seen here along with her is the club Secretary Pankaj Karde and District Governor Harjit Talwar.



Mohit Sajeewan
90.2% CBSE Board
School - R N Podar High School,
Santacruz.
Son of C P Sajeewan & Anitha Sajeewan

Civil Service Examinations and Kerala

The results of civil service examinations of 2018 were out on April 5. Among the first 100 victorious candidates only three Keralites find their names. They are Srilakshmi R, ranked 29th, Renjina Mary Varghese, ranked 49th, and Arjun Mohan ranked 66th. So far eighteen candidates from Kerala are known to have cleared the examination.

Srilakshmi



The first rank holder from Kerala Srilakshmi, youngest daughter of V A Ramachandran Kaladevi of Kadungalloor, near Aluva secured 29th

rank. Parents are both retired SBI employees. She has two predecessors in civil service from Kadungalloor. Since she has come first from the state, in all possibilities she would get her posting in a state of her choice.

According to Srilakshmi, reading of newspapers, both Malayalam and English, helped her a lot in answering questions on global matters. A systematic approach is a must to cross hurdle, she says. She reads most of the books of eminent authors from India and abroad. Sreelakshmi did her BA in Economics from Stella Maries College, Chennai. She did her postgraduation from the London School of Economics. She spent a minimum of five hours per day for preparation.

She has worked with some NGOs too. Her elder sister Vidya is an Assistant Professor at Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayalam University.

Srilakshmi cleared the exam in her fifth attempt. "I did self-study in all my attempts. But I used the library of a private academy which

gives training in civil service in Thiruvananthapuram, in my last attempt and wrote their test series. It was my dream to become an IAS officer that made me repeatedly attempt the exams, every time with the support of my parents," she said. Her optional subject in the examination was Economics.

Renjina Mary Varghese



Kasaragod native Renjina said that she wanted to join Indian Foreign Service (IFS). "It has been my dream since childhood to be an IFS officer. I have been inspired by our former foreign

secretary Nirupama Rao," said Renjina, who decided to study for civil services in 2015 while she was working as a chemical engineer in a multinational company. Nirupama Rao is a Keralite from Malapuram.

"This is my third attempt and I have finally made it. In the last attempt, I got into the Indian Ordnance Factories Service (IOFS) and I am on probation here," said Renjina. "There are only 15 seats in the general category for IFS and normally those who come within the 150th rank easily make it. If I don't get into IFS, then I will opt for IAS," she added.

Other Rank holders From Kerala

The remaining top ranker holders from Kerala are Jishnu J Raju (Thiruvananthapuram, 132nd rank), Nidhin Raj P (Kasaragod, 210th rank), Vishnuraj P (Thrissur, 234th rank), Suraj Shaji (Pathanamthitta, 288th rank), A B Silpa (Velloor, Thiruvananthapuram, 298th rank), Veena S Suthan (Alappuzha, 299th rank), Arya R Nair (Kottayam, 301st rank), Sooraj Ben (Muvattupuzha, 321st rank), Nirmal Ouseppachan, (Thumpoly, Alappuzha, 329th rank),

Archana P P (Payyannur, Kannur, 34th rank), S Gautham Raj (Chavara, Kollam, 353rd rank), Muhammed Sajad (Malappuram, 390th rank), Divya Chandran (Thiruvananthapuram, 397th rank), Amith M P (Kozhikode, 405th rank) and Sreedhanya Suresh (Wayanad) ranked 410.

Sreedhanya Suresh

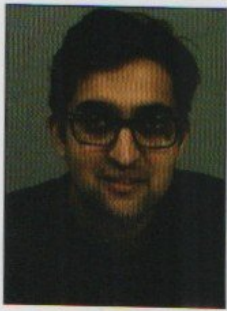


Sreedhanya Suresh is the first candidate from Scheduled Tribes category in the Wayanad district to clear the Civil Services Examination. Daughter of Suresh and Kamala of the Ambalakkolly tribal

settlement at Achooranam, near Pozhuthana in the district, Sreedhanya secured 410th rank in the examination. She was born and brought up in a Kurichiya tribal hamlet. Her father is a daily wage worker and mother is a worker under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme

Sreedhanya is an alumnus of Thariyodu Government Higher Secondary School. She did her postgraduation in Applied Zoology at the University of Calicut after graduating in Zoology from St. Joseph's College, Devagiri, Kozhikode. Her optional subject for Mains was Malayalam Literature. "Former Wayanad Sub collector Sreeram Sambasiva Rao, the current Kozhikode Collector, inspired me to attend the Civil Services Examination," said Sreedhanya. She said her first preference was the Indian Administrative Service, adding that she still found the feat hard to believe.

Sreedhanya was attracted to the civil service after seeing the respect commanded by Sreeram Sambasiva Rao, then subcollector of Mananthavadi presiding over a review meeting for the welfare of the tribal community. She being the co-ordinator of the event, was



Arjun Mohan



Kanishk Kataria

in charge of preparing the minutes. Once determined to pursue a career in civil service, she resigned from her job and joined a training centre meant for SC/ST aspirants. After the preliminary examinations, she joined Fortune, a coaching centre and continued studies with scholarship.

Kanishk Kataria

It is highly gratifying that the first rank holder of this examination is also from the Dalit community and he is Kanishk Kataria from Rajasthan. When the youth from the backward underprivileged sections come victorious, the equality enunciated in our constitution gets a boost. It also ensures that the high bureaucratic positions are not the monopoly of forward communities and assures its impartiality. The brilliant rise of Sreedhanya and Kataria would encourage other young men and women from the underprivileged sections to come up socially and economically.

Dubbing artiste Anandavally passes away

Senior dubbing artiste C R Anandavally (65) who lent her voice to several heroines in Malayalam films, passed away at a private hospital on April 5. She was under treatment for an undiagnosed illness.

Anandavally was born into an agricultural family at Veliyam, Kollam district, Kerala, to Tamil parents. She became a professional drama artiste at the age of 14. She was associated with famous professional theatre groups such as Kalidasa Kala Kendram and Kerala People's Art Club. Though Anandavally began acting in films only in 1973, it was her voice that made her popular. She was the most sought-after dubbing artist during 80s and 90s. She bagged the Kerala state award for best dubbing artiste for *Aadharam* in 1992 and also in 2015 for *Easwaran Sakshiyayi*. She has been accorded with Chalachitra Pratibha Award in 1997 and Best Narrator Award in 2007.

Anandavally began her film career



by doing small roles in Malayalam films such as 'Kadu'.

Malayali movie lovers have never seen her face onscreen, but her sound has only been too familiar to them. She has lent voice to over 5,000 characters in over 2,000 Malayalam movies.

Since the death of her son Deepan (Diphan) two years ago, she was not keeping well and was dependent on her co-artist Bhagyalakshmi who supported her wholeheartedly. During this period, she had financial problems too and Manju Warier used to lend support. Bhagyalakshmi used to take her to various places like theatre, Guruvayur temple, sight seeing spots etc. Though Anandavally had helped most of leading actresses in Malayalam by lending her voice that boosted their star value, none of them paid a visit when her body was kept for public view, Bhagyalakshmi noted.

Mother kills toddler

Kerala has earned a name, though not a pleasant one, in April 2019 when a 24 year old mother killed her own 15 month old daughter for disturbing her sleep. It happened in Cherthala, in Alapuzha district. The victim Aadisha is the daughter of Sharon and Athira of Kollamveli Colony of Pattanakkad Panchayath. The post mortem report revealed that the baby was killed using a pillow against her face. On enquiry, mother confessed to the killing. The Mother was arrested by the police.

Athira after killing her daughter, took her motionless child to her neighbour,



The heartless mother and the hapless child

complaining about the breathlessness of daughter. They then took the child to the Cherthala hospital. The doctors recorded her death on admission. On scrutiny, it was revealed as a murder.

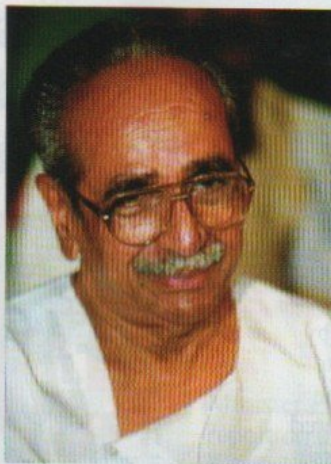
Earlier Athira and Sharon had

undergone imprisonment for cruelty against his mother. The daughter was only eight month old then and stayed with them in prison. Mother in law Priya had often complained that Athira was torturing her daughter mercilessly.

Former Minister V Vishwanatha Menon passed away

Viswanatha Menon, a former Finance Minister of Kerala, passed away in Kochi on May 3. He was 92. He is survived by his wife K Prabhavati Menon (retired teacher) and two sons, Adv V Ajit Narayanan (former government pleader) and Dr V Madhavachandran (director, Punarnava Ayurvedic Centre, Edappally) and daughters in law Dr Sreeja and Preethi.

Vishwanatha Menon was born to Ambadi Narayana Menon and Vadakkoot Lakshmikutty Amma in 1927. His education was spread across Sri Rama Varma High School, Maharajas College, Pune Law College and Mumbai Law College. Since school days he was involved in struggle for freedom. When Mahatma Gandhi came to Kerala and sought financial help for



the struggle, he, a student of Std VII, donated a lemon to Gandhiji and it was auctioned off for a big amount.

Popularly known as 'Ambadi Viswam,' Menon was elected to the Lok Sabha in 1967 from Ernakulam constituency and was also a member of Rajya Sabha from 1974 to 1980. He was elected to Kerala Legislative Assembly in 1987 from Thrippunithura

constituency as a CPI(M) candidate.

Though he was an ardent Marxist, he left the party and contested an election as an independent candidate with BJP support. Later he rejoined the Party.

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan condoled Menon's death and said it was a big loss for the country's Left-democratic movement.

SC orders demolition of residential complexes along coastal zone

Supreme Court of India ordered demolition of five complexes of residential flats constructed in coastal zone in Maradu Municipality of Kochi within one month. On finding that coastal zone regulations were violated for the construction, Justices Arun Mishra and Navin Sinha issued the orders. 350 flats will fall under this order. The complexes are Holiday Heritage, Holy Faith, Jain Housing, Kayaloram Apartments and Alpha Ventures. The court observed that the state cannot withstand these constructions.

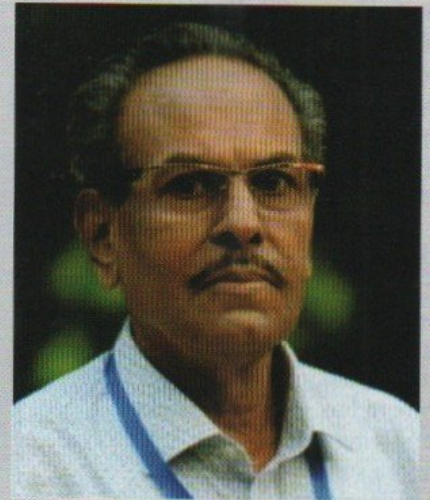
The affected complexes are spread across one acre of land and admeasure one lakh sq feet. The residents have

spent between Rs 40 lakh and Rs 3 crores depending on the time of purchase. Many owners are abroad after having rented them out. The building taxes are being paid to the municipality against an unauthorised number.



Jain Coral Cove

Former AIR news reader Gopan no more



Former AIR News reader Gopan (S Gopinathan Nair) is no more. He was 79. He died in a private hospital in New Delhi on April 29 following age-related problems. After retirement, he used to lend his voice for advertisements of Government of India and the most prominent among them was that related to anti-smoking campaign.

He is survived by his wife Radha and son Pramod, an IT engineer in Delhi. When retired he was head of News Desk. Afterwards, he was presenter of various events organised by Malayali organisations in Delhi. He passed M A in History and then shifted to New Delhi in search of job.

Since his college days, Gopan was a heavy smoker until it affected him with heart ailments. Then he gave up that habit in 1993 after 33 years and became a crusader against smoking. Later he was known as Swashakosam Gopan as his advertisement displayed in movie theatres and movie CDs.

Gopan was the grandson of C V Raman Pillai and thus was related to E V Krishna Pillai and Adoor Bhasi et al. When he joined AIR, he was only 21.

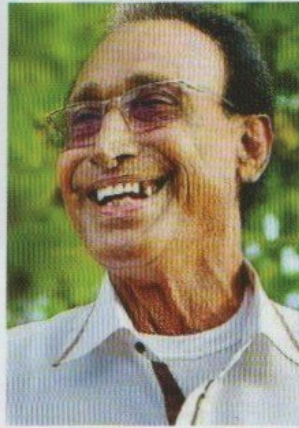
Folklore Singer Eranholi Moosa dead

Eranholi Moosa who made 'Mappila Paattu' popular not only in India but outside too is no more. He breathed his last on May 6. He was 79. He was having problems with his lungs for the last few months and could not speak properly and hence admitted to a private hospital in Thalasseri. He was Vice Chairman of Kerala Folklore Akademi.

Born to Valiyakathu Asiya and Abu in 1940, he had a troubled childhood. He studied upto fourth standard and then went to work stone quarries, matches making factories, coolie in bus stands etc to eke out a living. Attracted to folklore song like Mappilapaattu, he used to go to Muslim house on the eve of any wedding and used to sing, a popular tradition in Kozhikode. A chance meeting with music director K Raghavan became a turning point in his life. Sensing his sweet voice, Raghavan invited him to AIR to sing folk songs. It was Raghavan who made Eranholi Moosa from Valiyakath Moosa. He soon became a popular singer and was invited to Gulf countries. He made about 300 visits to Gulf

countries for music events.

He is survived by his wife Kunhamina and children Nazir (Andhra), Nizar (Saudi Arabia), Sadiq, Nazira, Samira and Sajida. They are all married and settled. The body of Moosa was buried with state honours.



He was honoured with an award by the state when he completed 50 years in 2008 in the field of folklore singing. Next year Kerala Sangeeta

Nataka Akademi honoured him. He was later made Vice Chairman of Kerala Folklore Akademi. He acted in a few films like Gramophone, Adaminte Makan Abu, Manjupoluru Pennkutty etc. He rendered about 3000 songs, cut several hundred music albums etc. He rendered a song in film 'Pathinalam raavu.'

Madhu's sister appointed Civil Police Officer

Chandrika, sister of Madhu, the Adivasi youth who was lynched in Attapadi last year for allegedly robbing some eatables, completed her training as a woman civil police officer on May 15.

It was through the special recruitment for women in Adivasi areas that Chandrika was selected. "This is one of the gifts bestowed upon us by our family deity, Malleswaran," said Malli,

mother of Chandrika. As the body of Madhu was waiting to be cremated, Chandrika was standing in queue for being called for interview for selection, at Kila Centre, Attapadi. She later underwent training at Kerala Armed Force (KAP) camp in Muttikulangara.

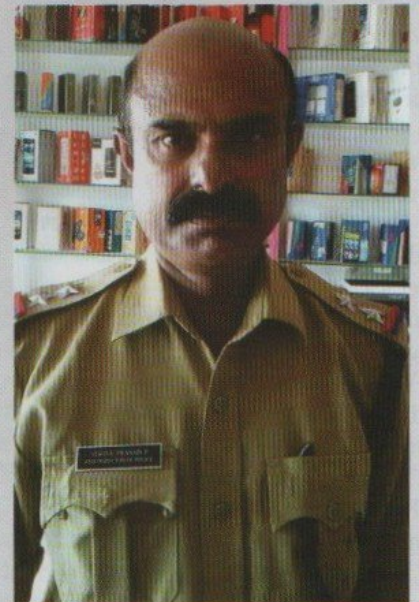


Chandrika in uniform



Madhu

Kerala Cop - a father collapses on eve of his daughter's wedding



A house brimming with wedding activities was gripped by tragedy when P Vishnuprasad, a Sub Inspector in Thiruvananthapuram, collapsed midway while singing on stage. It was the eve of his youngest daughter's wedding and while the 55 year old was rushed to the hospital, he could not be saved. According to police sources, he had suffered a cardiac arrest. He was singing raakiliponmagale a song sung by a father for his daughter in the Mammootty- starrer Amaram. While the orchestra played along, the father was tapping his foot and swaying to the tunes, when suddenly he collapsed.

However only his immediate family members knew what had happened, and they decided not to tell his wife and his daughter Archa and go ahead with the wedding which was on the next day - as Vishnuprasad had planned and would have wanted. They broke the news to them only after the wedding. Incidentally the groom shares the same name as the bride's father Vishnuprasad.

Mother and daughter ended their lives

A 41-year-old woman Lekha Chandran and her 19 year-old daughter Vaishnavi ended their lives by setting themselves on fire due to the alleged pressure from Canara Bank for recovery of a bank loan of Rs 5 lakhs taken 15 years ago, in Marayamuttom near Neyyattinkara. The bank had decided to initiate revenue recovery proceedings against them for defaulting on repayment.



Lekha and Vaishnavi

Lekha and Vaishnavi locked themselves in a room and poured kerosene over their head and lighted the matches. Lekha's mother-in-law Krishnamma saw smoke coming from the room and raised an alarm. There was no sound coming from the room. Sensing danger, their neighbour rushed there and poured water into the room but could not save the victims. Vaishnavi died on the spot while Lekha succumbed while undergoing treatment at Medical College Hospital.

According to police, Lekha's husband took a loan of Rs 5 lakhs from Canara Bank 15 years ago in 2005. The family repaid about Rs 8 lakhs and still owed Rs 6.5 lakhs for which the bank lodged a case. Chandran was earlier working in gulf. It was then he took the loan to construct the house. When he lost his job in gulf, he returned home and had no means to repay the balance to the bank. He was working as a carpenter and the income was not even enough to meet the educational expenses of Vaishnavi.

When the outstanding was too high, Chandran planned to sell the house and the 12-cent landed property but could not find a buyer. He almost found a buyer but the bank pressured the family before the buyer could give the money.

Now Revenue

Minister E Chandrasekhar sought a report on this matter from the Collector. According to the minister, the bank could not have forced the family as moratorium was in force till May 31. The Finance Minister Dr Thomas Issac also sought a report from the bank on this issue.

Next morning the story turned on its head and revealed quite contrary facts.

When the forensic experts examined the evidence available in the room, what was stated earlier looked silly and irrelevant.

The suicide note, found on the wall of the room in which Lekha and Vaishnavi set themselves on fire, did not

mention anything about the bank loan. It stated that the people responsible for their suicide are her husband Chandran, his mother Krishnamma, her sister Shantha and her husband Kashi. It also mentioned about the sorcery rituals regularly conducted behind their home and the physical and mental torture inflicted on them.

Lekha squarely blamed Krishnamma for blocking the sale of 'Vaishnavam.' Krishnamma was said to have told her that spirits would take care of the loan. Often, they were not allowed to eat. Rural SP B Asokan said, "The mother-in-law played a big role in the entire episode. Lekha was not in good terms with her other relatives and the latter used to pick up quarrels with her regularly."

Lekha had also pasted a banner on the wall stating that the four were responsible for their suicide. It was written using charcoal pieces found from the room and hearth.

Krishnamma always persuaded Chandran to buy lottery tickets instead of repaying the loan, and then pray to spirits to bring luck to them, through sorcerer.

The bank officials sighed a relief when came to know about the domestic harassment instead of pressure from the bank, being the real reason for suicide. Canara Bank branches were facing the ire of public protests since the news of suicide of mother and daughter were out. The crowd laid siege to the bank and blocked roads. Kerala Students Union (KSU), Students Federation of India (SFI) and Democratic Youth Federation of India (DYFI) protested separately. However, everything was cooled down when the real reason came out by evening.

When Chandran was brought to funeral rituals under police escort, he was heckled by the people present there. Lekha's nephew lit the pyre at the funeral.



The accused being taken to Police Station



Chandran brought by police for the funeral

Death of Balabhaskar turns mysterious

Death of the late violinist Balabhaskar turned mysterious now following the arrests of two persons in connection with gold smuggling. Fresh revelations that came out on June 1 on the accident that took the lives of Balabhaskar and his two-year-old daughter Tejaswini, deepened the mystery around their death.

In a new development, Kalabhavan Soby, a mimicry artist, claimed that he had seen two persons under suspicious circumstances a few moments after the accident.

"On my way to Tirunelveli for a programme, I passed through Mangalapuram, just a few minutes after the accident. Then I saw a person running and another walking a motorcycle. Thinking they were relatives of the victims, I went near to help them but they ran away," according to Soby. Only after reaching Kazhakkootam, he realised one of the victims was Balabhaskar. He



immediately contacted singer Madhu Balakrishnan as he was related to the violinist. However, he gave the number of Prakashan Thampi, saying he was manager of Balabhaskar, and asked to contact him. When Soby contacted him, the response was not positive. Afterwards he called Soby and informed that the Attingal CI investigating the case would contact him. That never

happened.

Soby came to know about the arrest of Prakashan Thampi recently and soon tried to contact the investigating officer but he did not pick up the calls.

In a facebook post, Balabhaskar's wife Lakshmi stated that Prakashan Thampi and Vinod Somasundaram were not the employees of Balabhaskar nor had he any business dealings with them. The case is now under investigation of the Crime Branch. The DRI had arrested the duo on charges of smugglings in connection with the seizure of 25 kg of gold from a passenger who alighted at Thiruvananthapuram airport from Dubai on May 15.

Unni, father of Balabhaskar revealed that he had named these two persons as possible suspects in the accidental deaths on September 25, 2018. Meanwhile relatives of Balabhaskar raised doubts about his financial dealings with a doctor in Palakkad.

Rama Navami festival in Matunga

The nine day Sri Rama Navami festival culminated on Sri Rama Navami day on April 13, at the Asthika Samaj Sri Ram Mandir in Matunga. On all the nine day's of the garbhotsavam, Vedic scholars were reciting Srimad Valmiki Ramayanam. On the Rama Navami day as part of the Ramrajya Pattabhishekam, the idols were bathed with milk. On this day, once a year, devotees are allowed to participate in the milk abhishekam of the lord and his consort.

Another temple nearby Sri Sankara Mattham celebrated it as Vasantha Navaratri with religious functions like homam, chanting of Vedic recitation and concluded on the last day with abhishekams of Sri Adi Sankara with holy waters. Poornahuthi was also held on the Ram Navami day.

K.A.Viswanathan



Sri Sankara Mattham



Asthika Samaj

ആരാച്ചാരുടെ പേടി

രവി വാരിയത്ത്.

ആദ്യമായിട്ടല്ല ഞാനി വായനശാലയിലേക്ക് വരുന്നത്. പണ്ട് വന്നിട്ടുണ്ട് ഒരുപാട് തവണ. അന്ന് ഞാനായിരുന്നുവല്ലോ ഈ വായനശാലയിലെ ലൈബ്രററിയൻ. പക്ഷെ അത് പൂസ്തകങ്ങളുടെ വസന്തകാലമായിരുന്നു. പൂസ്തകങ്ങളുടെ മാത്രമല്ല എന്റെ മനസ്സിലും വസന്തകാല പരവകൾ പ്രണയഗാനമാലപ്പിച്ചിരുന്ന കാലമായിരുന്നു. വായനശാലക്ക് കൊല്ലത്തിലൊരിക്കൽ ഗ്രാന്റായി കിട്ടിയിരുന്ന പൂസ്തകങ്ങൾക്ക് പൊതിയിടാനും ലെഡ്ജർ ബുക്കിൽ പേരും നമ്പറും ചേർക്കാനുമായി അവയൊക്കെ വീട്ടിലേക്കു കൊണ്ടുപോയപ്പോഴായിരുന്നു പൂസ്തകങ്ങളുമായി ഞാൻ കൂടുതൽ അടുക്കാൻ തുടങ്ങിയത്. അടുപ്പം സ്നേഹവും, സ്നേഹം പ്രേമവും ആവുന്ന പോലെ ഞാനാ പൂസ്തകങ്ങളെ കാര്യമായിട്ടു തന്നെ പ്രണയിക്കാൻ തുടങ്ങി.

തുടക്കം കോട്ടയം പൂഷ്പനാഥന്റെ അപസർപ്പക കഥകളോടായിരുന്നു. ഒറ്റ ഇരുപ്പിൽ വായിച്ചു തീർക്കുന്ന അവയൊക്കെ ഒന്നും രണ്ടും തവണ ആവർത്തിച്ചു കഴിഞ്ഞപ്പോൾ മുട്ടത്തു വർക്കിയും, കാനം ഇ ജെ യുമൊക്കെ മനസിൽ കൂടു കൂട്ടാൻ തുടങ്ങി. അവൾ അനുരാഗത്തിന്റെ ആദ്യാക്ഷരങ്ങൾ എന്റെ ഹൃദയത്തിൽ എഴുതി വെക്കാൻ തുടങ്ങി. ഞാൻ വർണ്ണ സ്വപ്നങ്ങൾ കാണാൻ തുടങ്ങി. അജ്ഞാതമായ പ്രണയ തീരങ്ങളിലേക്ക് സാങ്കല്പിക തോണിയേറി പോകുന്ന സ്വപ്നാടകനായി ഞാൻ.

പിന്നീട് മഞ്ഞിന്റെയും, നാലുകെട്ടിന്റെയും തുരുത്തുകളിൽ കൂടിയേറിപ്പാർക്കുമ്പോൾ രണ്ടു പെൺകുട്ടികളും പമ്മന്റെ ഭ്രാന്തു മൊക്കെ തലക്ക് പിടിക്കാൻ തുടങ്ങിയിരുന്നു. ഒപ്പം മലയാളത്തിന്റെ പ്രിയപ്പെട്ട മാധവികുട്ടിയുടെ എന്റെ കഥ കൂടി ആയപ്പോൾ മനസ്സ് നൂലു പൊട്ടിയ പട്ടം പോലെ പറക്കാൻ തുടങ്ങി.

അന്തമില്ലാത്ത ആ പറക്കലിനെ പിടിച്ചു നിർത്തിയത് വി കെ എൻ എന്ന നാട്ടുരാജാവിന്റെ പ്രജകളായ നാണോരും പയ്യന്മാരും ഒക്കെ ചേർന്നായിരുന്നു.

പിന്നീട് ഞാൻ സേതുവായി, വിലാസിനിയാക്കി, മലയാറ്റൂരായി.

അതിനിടയിൽ മാടമ്പ് കുഞ്ഞുകുട്ടനേയും, ലളിതാമ്പികാ അന്തർജനത്തേയും പരിചയപ്പെട്ടു. അവരെനിക്ക് അടിച്ചമർത്തപ്പെടുന്ന സ്ത്രീ ഹൃദയങ്ങളുടെ കദനകഥകൾ പറഞ്ഞു തന്നു.

അതൊരു കാലമായിരുന്നു. പൂസ്തകങ്ങളെ ഞ്ഞാട്ടു തലോടി, അവരെ കുപ്പായമിടിച്ചും പൊട്ടു തൊടിച്ചും ഹൃദയത്തോട് ചേർത്തു പിടിച്ചിരുന്ന കാലം.

അന്ന് മനുഷ്യൻ സാമ്പത്തിക ഭദ്രതയില്ലായിരുന്നു. പക്ഷെ എഴുതാനും വായിക്കാനും വർത്തമാനം പറയാനും മനുഷ്യന്മാർക്ക് മോഹമുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. മനുഷ്യൻ കവിതകളോടും, കഥകളോടും ചേർന്നു നിന്നിരുന്നു.

ഇന്നൊ.....
ഞാൻ വായനശാലയിലേക്കു കയറി. ഒറ്റ മുറിയുള്ള വായനശാലയുടെ ചുറ്റുവരാനുകളിൽ നിറയെ വെളിച്ചമുണ്ടായിരുന്നു.

പുറംതിണ്ണുകളിലും ബഞ്ചുകളിലും കൗമാരവും യൗവ്വനവും ഒത്ത് ചേർന്നിരുന്നു. പണ്ടത്തെ ക്യാരംസിനും, ചെസ്സിനും പകരം കളികൾ മൊബൈലിൽ ആയിരിക്കുന്നു എന്ന മാറ്റത്തോടെ.

ഞാൻ അകത്തേക്കു കടന്നു. പുറത്തുള്ളത്ര വെളിച്ചം അകത്തില്ലെന്ന് തോന്നി.

എന്നെ കണ്ടപ്പോൾ ജനലിനരികിൽ മേശയും കസേരയുമിട്ടിരുന്ന ഒരാൾ വല്ലാത്ത അതിശയത്തോടെ തല ഉയർത്തി നോക്കി.

ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞു.
ഒരു പൂസ്തകം കിട്ടുന്നതിനായി വന്നതാ
ആരാ മനസ്സിലായില്ല.
ഒരു മറ്റു ചോദ്യമായിരുന്നു അതിന് ഉത്തരം.
ഞാനിവിടുത്തുകാരൻ തന്നെയാണ്. കുറേ കാലം പുറത്തായിരുന്നു. അത് ശരി. അതാ കണ്ടപ്പോൾ

poem

Cover up!

Cover up.
Cover it all up,
Create a facade.
Layers and layers of lies.
So many layers.
Let people forget that the truth ever existed,
Or let it turn into a folklore,
Something people can only imagine.
A truth so unbelievable,
That if uncovered,
It would be frowned upon.
So hide it,
Hide it like a trap
Hide it well,
So it can find its next prey.
It's all that has been done
since the first folklore.
Live with it,
Because if you don't,
It'll eat you up alive.



Sanya Warriar

SKIN CARE FOR TEENAGERS



Dr. (Major) Nalini Janardhanan

■ Teenagers are prone to many skin problems like acne (pimples), Sunburn etc. Moreover the fluctuating hormone levels in teenage also make things worse especially for oily skin. So teenagers should take care of their skin.

For basic skin care, you need to identify your skin type as a skin care routine suitable for dry skin as a skin care routine suitable for dry skin will not work on oily skin. And also it may worsen conditions like pimples.

There are many different skin types ranging from very oily to very dry. As every person is different, their skin types are also different. Let us know about the various skin types and

skin care according to that.

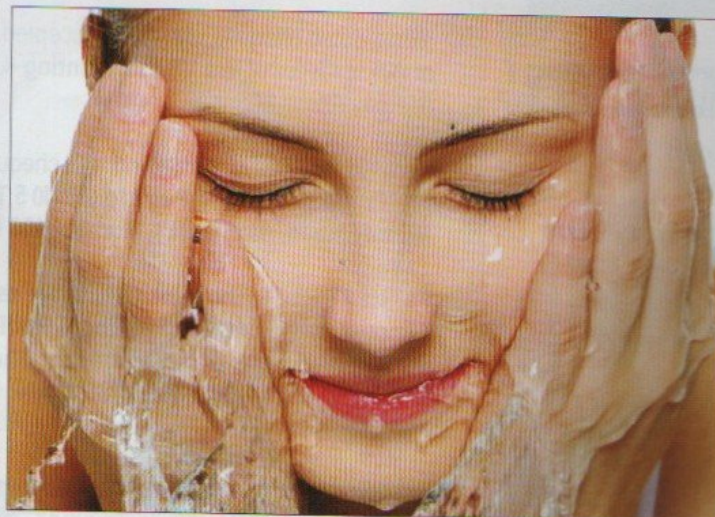
Routine Skin care

- a) Cleansing: Clean your face with face wash or cleanser. Don't use soaps to clean facial skin.
- b) Toning: Use non-alcoholic skin toner to maintain the PH balance of skin and also to close the pores on skin.
- c) Exfoliation: Use a good

exfoliating facial scrub twice a week to remove dead cells and keep your skin soft.

- d) Moisturising: Use a gentle moisturising to retain the moisture in your skin. Rose water or glycerine may be applied before going to bed.

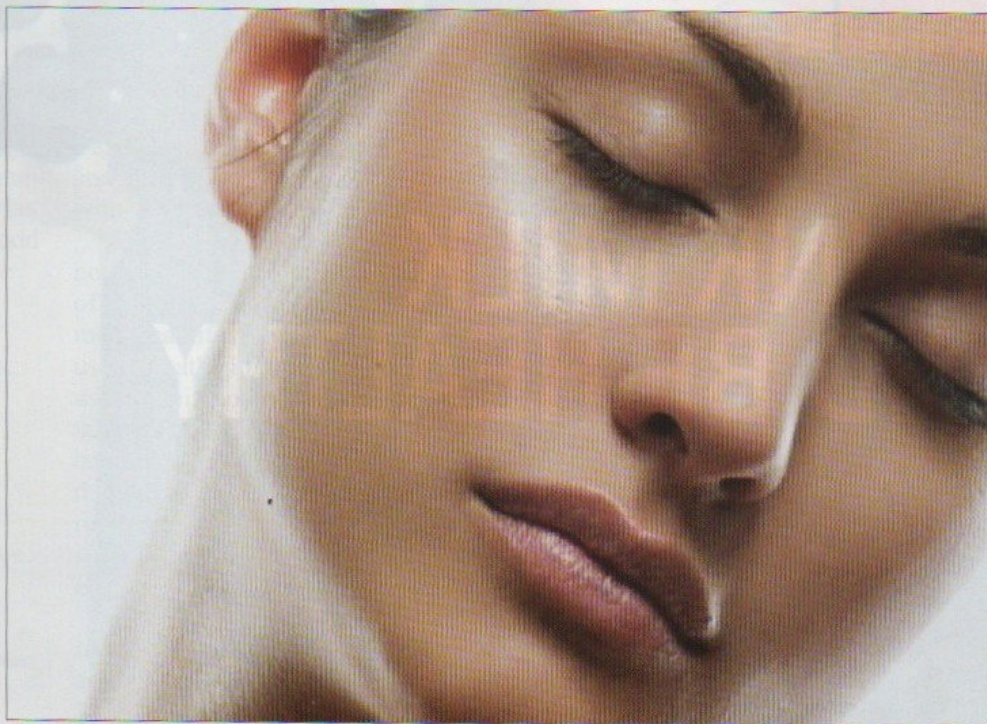
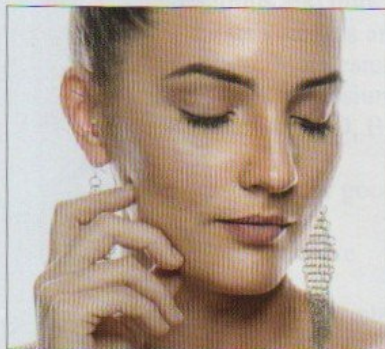
There are basically 4 types of Skin - Oily, Dry, Normal and combination types. Skin care depends on the type of your skin.



1) Oily Skin: Oily skin looks shiny due to excess sebum on it. The pores are open and sebaceous glands in the skin secrete more sebum (oil). Sweat and oil getting deposited on the skin may trap dirt, dust and germs leading to blackheads, white heads, pimples and boils. Fluctuating hormone levels and stress can lead to problems like acne especially for oily skin.

What to do

- Use an oil controlling



deep cleanser to clean your face.

- scrub your face twice a week with a mild scrub.
- use an alcohol free toner to tone your skin.
- use a light moisturiser after bath and after washing face.
- apply a water based or gel based sunscreen (with SPF 30) before going out in sun.

2) Dry Skin: Dry skin has invisible pores and it is not so smooth to touch. It is dull, itchy and flaky. The outer layer of skin keeps shedding. The skin gets dry and dehydrated leading to itching and cracking also.

What to do

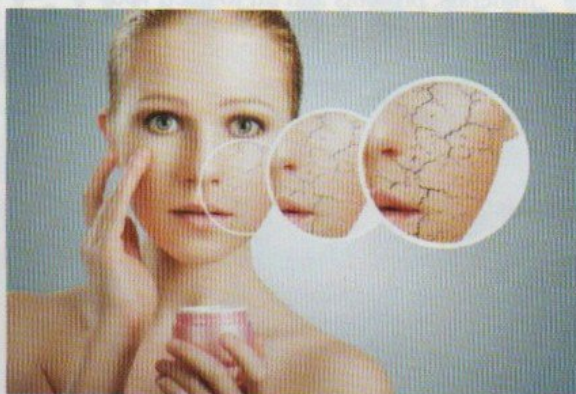
- use cream based and soap free cleanser
- use a moisturiser lotion or cream
- use an alcohol free toner
- use a heavy type of sunscreen (with SPF 30) before going out in sun.
- use waterproof make up and foundation
- try to avoid heavy makeup.
- don't wash your face with soap
- don't take hot showers
- avoid excessive washing and scrubbing

3) Normal Skin: Normal skin

does not have any blemishes or patches. It will be soft and smooth. Pores will be tight. The skin surface will be neither dry nor oily. The oil production and water content of normal skin will be balanced. Normal skin is less problematic but one must be careful to clean and remove dirt and dust from skin to avoid infections.

What to do

- Use a mild and non-alcoholic



cleanser to prevent over drying.

4) Combination Skin: This is a combination of Oily skin, dry skin and normal skin. There may be an oily T zone face (forehead, nose and chin being more oily than the rest of the face) and normal or dry cheeks. The T-zone tends to get more oily leading to pimples. You may have blackheads and open pores.

What to do

- cleansing with a gentle and moisturising type of cleanser.
- scrub at least twice a week to remove dirt and blackheads.
- moisturise with a light moisturiser.
- use a gel based sunscreen with SPF 15 or more before going out in sun.

Remember that skin needs to be cleansed moisturised and protected from the harmful effects of sunrays. Cleansing should be done at least twice a day using cleanser based on your skin type. Dirt and dead skin cells (especially on oily skin) can clog your pores which can lead to pimples so skin needs to be washed and cleaned. After washing, moisturise your skin, as cleansing can dry out the skin. Always use a sunscreen, based on your skin type, before going out. ■

DRINK MILK AND BE HEALTHY



Dr. (Major) Nalini Janardhanan

Milk is a wholesome food. It is good for both adults and children. World Milk Day (WMD) is being observed on 1st of June every year by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to recognize the importance of Milk as a global food. WMD was first celebrated in 2001. Different countries and NGO's pick up a theme of their own every year. The WMD theme of India in 2018 was, "Drink, Move and Be Strong." We celebrate National Milk Day on 26 November, WMD is celebrated to increase public awareness about the importance of milk and milk products for health.

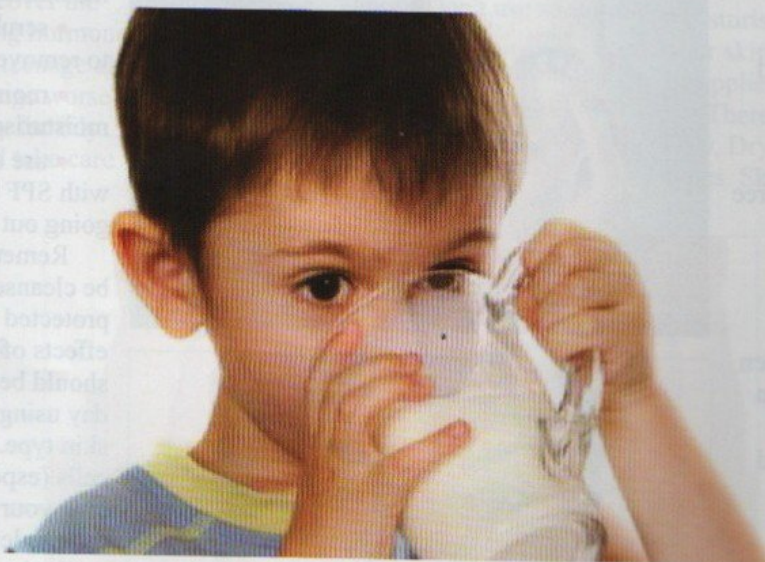
Nutritional Content of Milk

- 1 cup of whole milk with 3.25% fat contains 146 calories, 8 gms of fat, 13 gms of carbohydrates

and 8 gms of proteins.

- 1 cup of non fat or skimmed milk contains 86 calories, 0 gm fat, 12 gms of Carbohydrates and 8 gms of protein.

Health benefits of Milk: Milk is a wholesome food as it contains vitamins, minerals, proteins and fat to keep you fit, healthy and strong. Cow's milk is



considered the best for children and adults. Milk contains high quality or 1st class protein including essential and non essential amino acids which is required for body repair and growth.

There are various health benefits of consuming milk and milk products. A few of them are:

1 Milk proteins can support muscle growth and repair.

2 Milk is a rich source of energy in the form of saturated fat.

3 Milk helps in strengthening immune system.

4 Milk helps in preventing illness like arthritis, dental care, dehydration, respiratory problems, obesity, hypertension and osteoporosis.

5 Dental care: Drinking milk by children protects the enamel of teeth and reduce teeth decay and weakness of gums.

6 Improves bone strength: Milk supplies calcium which is essential for healthy bones and teeth. Calcium is the most important

mineral for healthy growth, functioning, repair and durability of bones and the complete skeletal system. Milk helps in preventing calcium deficiency and osteoporosis thus reducing the chances

of fracture of bones.

7 Improves Heart health: As per research studies daily intake of calcium is found to reduce cardiovascular diseases, strokes and arteriosclerosis. Cow's milk is good source of Potassium and Magnesium which can increase the volume of blood vessels, increase blood flow to vital organs which can reduce BP, decrease the stress on heart thus reducing the risk of heart diseases.

8 Contains vitamins and minerals: Milk contains various vitamins and minerals like Calcium, Magnesium, Zinc, Phosphorus, Iron, Potassium, Iodine, Folates, Vitamins A, D, B12, Riboflavin etc.

Vitamin A is essential for good eye sight and healthy skin.

Potassium for proper nerve functions.

Magnesium for proper muscle function.

Phosphorus for energy release, it also plays an essential role in many biological processes.

Vitamin B12 is essential for functioning of nervous system, \

Riboflavin (vitamin B2) is important for growth, it plays a vital

role in maintaining energy supply of the body.

Calcium: Milk is one of the best source of calcium for all age groups. Calcium in milk is easily absorbed milk and milk products are now fortified with Vitamin D.

9 Skin Care: Milk smoothen and nourishes our skin. Cleopatra the queen of Nile was considered as one of the most beautiful women in the world. She used to bathe in milk everyday. She used to mix honey and milk in water for taking bath, to maintain a soft and beautiful skin. Milk is good for treating dry skin. If you have dry skin, apply milk, leave it for 15 mts and then wash it off. Milk and milk products used in cosmetic nowadays.

Vitamin A in milk helps to rejuvenate skin and prevent premature ageing, wrinkles and age spots on skin. Milk is consumed by most of the people but some of them may have allergy to milk or problems in digesting milk (lactose intolerance).

Lactose intolerance

Some people may have problems with digestion of milk due to lack of an

enzyme called Lactose. Lactose enzyme is needed to break down lactose (the sugar in milk) for proper digestion. So when they consume milk, they may develop symptoms of lactose intolerance like bloating, stomachache, gas formation and loose motions. This is common in children.

Alternate choice for those with lactose intolerance are soya milk, almond milk, rice milk, coconut milk or oats milk.

Milk Allergy

This is different from lactose intolerance. Cow's milk allergy can cause wheezing, asthma, diarrhoea, vomiting, itching, rashes, running nose etc. Sometimes it can lead to severe allergic reactions (anaphylaxis) which may lead to death.

Directly drinking milk (pasteurised and boiled) and consuming dairy products like cheese, butter, ghee, curds, buttermilk, dairy whitener, ice cream, cottage cheese, flavoured milk or milk sweet are beneficial for our health. So we should include milk and milk products in our diet (in the required quantity) to make it a healthy and balanced diet. ■

GET PERMANENT POLISH FOR YOUR OLD POOJA ITEMS

Pioneer in Lacquer Polishing for
BRASS, COPPER, SILVER & GOLD
(Lamps, Trays, God Idols, Door Handles, Chandeliers etc)

Specialists in Antique Lacquering, S.Steel Polishing can be done.
Electric Bulbs can be fitted in all type of Lamps & Samias.
SPECIALISTS IN POLISHING KERALA LAMPS. LIFE TIME GUARANTEED POLISH

Now there is ultimate & permanent solution to this problem
PICK UP & DELIVERY FREE

God Idols can be polished in Brass, Copper, Gold, Silver & Antique
MORE THAN 1, 50,000 SATISFIED CUSTOMERS IN MUMBAI
INSPECTION AT YOUR PLACE FREE OF COST

Please Visit or Call: **S.RAMAKRISHNA** (8.00 am to 8.00 pm.)

No.2, Kiran Bldg., Ground Floor, Near Murugan Temple,
Chedda Nagar, Chembur (W), Mumbai 400089.

9821418929, 9167314911, 25253106, 25255630

THE STRUGGLE OF THE CO-DEPENDENT WHEN THE DEPENDENT IS IN RECOVERY



Dr Sujatha Nair

A Co-dependent is the family - spouse, parent, child i.e. loved one of a person who is using, whose life becomes about revolving around the dependent's using.

Most times the Co - dependent family thinks that the person who is using is the one who has a problem and has to change. They have done nothing. They are fine.

The co-dependent however, has to look at the traits within himself/herself

- of over - loving
- of enabling the user by bailing him out of legal situations , paying off debtors, doing everything for the person without being asked /otherwise.
- of taking control over every other aspect of their lives which can be controlled - the business, house and children - responsibilities that should have been shared etc.

Once the dependent comes back home from residential treatment as a changed person, like the Buddha who came home after 12 years - Siddhartha was no longer there ,however, his father and wife could only look at him as Siddhartha with old eyes, as they had not been through the process of transformation. Likewise, families who have not themselves undergone the aid of counselling, meditation and writing etc. will find it difficult to recognise change as they have not been through that change themselves. In such situations there can be conflicts and emotional outbursts which is not healthy for the relationships and for both individuals.

They expect the dependent to jump into home and job/business

responsibilities as though they have gone through a washing machine and have come out clean and should work now as normal.

This may not happen.

Once the person is back , he can go through mood swings, he can still behave like the person of the past in procrastinating things, in feeling lethargy, not wanting to get back to work due to a lack of confidence .

Going out with friends, who are not using, avoiding family functions that serve alcohol will all happen. The family many times feels he should be able to face such situations now that he has taken treatment, little realising that this sobriety that he has attained needs to be protected and worked upon every single day till it becomes second nature to not find the need to use . This can be possible by only keeping one's focus on self.

The family who has not taken treatment themselves to go beyond their co - dependency issues many times, continues to doubt and suspect the person's every move, if he goes out, if he asks money etc.

They even can create situations to test the person by putting him in situations where using is happening or provoking his anger . These are all petty and unnecessary risky situations that are not required for either and frays the bonds that had already been frayed when the person was using .

A few Dos and Donts' for the co-dependent loved ones

■ Do take treatment for yourself and work on yourself .. you need it more or as much as the dependent.

■ If you get worried that the person will use even after residential, non - medical, individualised treatment where he has emerged as a happy, joyful, individual living life to the fullest and you find yourself stewing in resentments, jealousies, hatred, mistrust, please remember these are your

emotions inside you, you need to work on yourself to get beyond them. Take help - it is available.

■ Many divorces have happened in recovery as the Co- dependent is unable to accept the change in the dependent and resents losing the control she had had over every aspect of his life earlier.

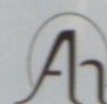
■ The dependent has worked through every painful incident of the past and taken full responsibility of his past actions and emotions... if you keep throwing the past at him... it is your past you have not resolved or reconciled with or taken responsibility of for putting yourself through it.

■ The individual has gone through treatment not enlightenment. So some old patterns of behaviour might recur, blame games might happen, one has to keep the focus on oneself in such situations and remember that it is their emotional swing, you are not responsible for it. Likewise, if you go through one it is you who are responsible for it.

You do not need to trust the individual with money immediately but give the opportunity to build trust too... bridges have to be built with each others' fresh experiences.

We have lived long enough in the hell of our own making in our heads. It is our choice how much longer we want to do so. Help is available in a non - judgemental, compassionate, loving environment where your dignity and self - love can be regained. You need to be receptive.

For any clarifications contact
Dr Sujatha Nair on 09820330439



Anatta Humaniversity Pvt.Ltd.
Contact Person:
Ms. Vandana Hiranandani
+91 9967334000
Website- www.anatta.in

Raghavan and Seena Antony chosen best TV actors

The serial 'Kshanaprabhachanchalam' aired by Amrita TV and directed by Shivamohan Thampi bagged the best teleserial award in Kerala State Television Awards announced for 2018. The TV awards were announced by minister for cultural affairs A K Balan on May 28. Veteran actor Raghavan (Dehantharam) is the best actor while Seena Antony (Devangana) the best actress. The best film 'Dehantharam' was chosen for many other awards such as best telefilm, best script writer (Shyam Krishna), best director (Dr Ashad Shivaraman) and special jury mention for cinematographer (Sinu Sidharth).



Ashad Shivaraman



Bijibal



Raghavan



Seena Antony

Bijibal is the best music director.

'Decemberile Akasham' of Amrita TV is the second best teleserial and it is directed by Antony Antony. The best television show is Amrita TV's 'Autumn

of The Big Stage. 'Ullathu Parhanjal' of Kairali TV is the Best Comedy Show. 'Premji: Ekalochanajanmam' directed by Neelan has been adjudged the Best Documentary in biography section.

WCC enters to third year

Women in Cinema Collective (WCC) enters into its third year of formation. The second anniversary was held with a National Convention to discuss the issues affecting women in movies. The convention, held in Kochi was inaugurated by Kerala Minister Smt K K Sailaja. Actress and director Revati presided over the event. In her address, Revati stated that AMMA had not responded positively to the demands raised by WCC, despite several meetings. Until the demands were met, WCC would not move forward, she said.

K K Sailaja in her inaugural address, remarked that despite the presence of famous personalities, favourable consideration could not always be expected. There would always be forces ready to pounce on this kind of movements, she warned.

Tamil director P Ranjit and actress Swara Bhaskar were chief

guests. WCC came into existence much before #me too movement in the international arena, Swara Bhaskar pointed out. WCC is the driving force to bring out the issues of equality and rights of women working for a living.

P Ranjit in his talk, said that everyone was getting scared of WCC since they could intervene in issues concerning women. If WCC had been there from the beginning, P K Rosy would not have faced such adverse reactions. WCC should spread to all corners of India, he said.

K Ajita, Producer of Gunit Monga, Director Dr Biju, script writer Shyam Pushkaran, Director Vidhu Vincent, SH College Communication Head Asha Achi Joseph et al also addressed the meet.

Sakhi Women's Resources Centre collaborated with this event.

Women activists in movies of different languages discussed the various issues affecting women in movies. Discussions to chart a

model guideline for working women were held.

Based on the pattern of WCC, there are attempts to forge similar bodies in other regions and establish co-ordination among them. The concluded convention was an attempt in this direction.

In a discussion, Sajita Mathathil, Anjali Menon and Vidhu Vincent stated that WCC was in the process of preparing a code of conduct to be placed before the December 2019 session to be held in Chennai. A copy of this document would be given to the state government so that it could frame rules and regulations for the female artistes of the movie world.

WCC was formed after a young actress was abducted and sexually assaulted. The indifferent attitude of AMMA compelled the female actors and technicians to form their own professional body. The state formed has constituted a commission under Justice Hema to study the issues and to recommend remedies.

Actor Mohanlal turns director of 3-D movie

It was in 1980 that Mohanlal opened his account in Malayalam films with many debutants. The banner, director, hero, heroine, villain and music director were all new. Nevertheless, the villain moved faster and left others far behind. He became hero, producer and business entrepreneur. He won innumerable best actor awards and also earned Padmabhushan and became Lt Colonel of Indian Army. Meanwhile he completed 350 films in Malayalam, Tamil, Telugu, Hindi etc. Now he turns director of a 3-D movie.

Mohanlal is that phenomenon. There are plans to dub the new movie to many Indian languages to recover the heavy production cost and to enhance the profit.

Though the plan was envisaged six months ago, the details were released only in April end. Mohanlal is closely working with Jijo, son of Navodaya Punnoose, who has prepared the script and screenplay. It is based on his own novel. Producer is most reliable Anthony Perumbavoor. Half of the cast is already finalised and Mohanlal adores the most important role. The film will mostly be shot abroad.

The shooting will commence in October after the release of *Marakkar*, directed by Priyadarshan. It is being dubbed into 10 languages.

Barroz

Announcing the big news to fans through his blog, the actor said that he will, for the first time, be directing a movie. Titled 'Barroz- Guardian of D'Gama's treasure', the film, Mohanlal says, is in 3D and can be enjoyed by both kids and adults.

"I had never dreamt of becoming an actor, had never asked anyone for an opportunity in a movie, but still have been working as an actor for 40 years. I am known as an actor and receive awards as an actor. It always amazes me," Mohanlal wrote.

Lal later narrated how the whole idea of him directing a film took shape. It started when he and Director TK Rajeev Kumar had decided to make a 3D show and had met Jijo, the 'magician' technician who made the movie 'My dear Kuttichathan'. Despite the financial resources to go ahead with the show being extensive, Jijo narrated



the story of Barroz.

Barroz, according to Mohanlal, was a man who took care of Vasco Da Gama's treasure.

"When the question came as to who will direct the movie, I said I will. Jijo told me to go ahead," the actor added.

Mohanlal also announced that the movie, which will have more than one part will be shot in Goa and will require

lot of international actors. He also announced that he would be playing the titular character of Barroz.

Mohanlal added that the story revolves around Barroz who has been guarding Gama's treasure for over 400 years and he will hand over the treasure to only the true successors of Gama. What happens when a kid cross paths with Barroz forms the crux of the film.

Priya Varrier in Bollywood

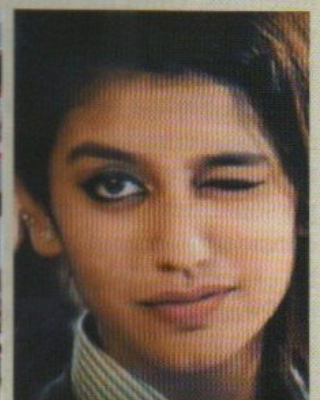
The 19 year old Malayali sensation Priya Varrier who shot to fame by winking to her co-actor in *Oru Adaar Love* has now entered Bollywood. The actress already wrapped up her first Hindi film *Sreedevi Bungalow* and signed her second film titled *Love Hackers*. The crime thriller is directed by Mayank Prakash Srivastava and is already on the floors.

"The wink was just a spontaneous gesture that we had in mind while shooting.

Nobody thought it would get worldwide attention in such a short span. It was more of a shock than surprise. My family took some time to come to terms

with it," she says.

Her second Hindi film is a youth centric story which exposes the dark side of the cyber world. The story is based on real incidences. For Mayank, it was a lottery to get a web celebrity in a film on cyber crime. Though India is top with the internet users, majority of them are not fully aware of the different forms of cyber-crimes. Mayank is trying to exploit that situation.



Miss Kumari - The Unforgettable Star

The first heroine of Malayalam films to remain unchallenged for 14 years, left this world fifty years ago, leaving a cloud of doubts among her admirers.

Thresiamma Thomas was the first Malayalam film actress who was rocketed to super stardom. She remained in film industry for fourteen years (1949-63). Her screen name was Miss Kumari. Though her first film was 'Vellinakshtram' (1949), she earned her place with 'Nallathanka' (1950). Vellinakshtram was the first film of Udaya Studios of Kunchacko and Nallathanka was the first film of music maestro V Dakshinamoorthy. Kumari the screen name was bestowed on her by film maker Koshy, during the making of Nallathanka. Koshy was a distributor of Tamil and Telugu movies in Kerala and Kunchacko erected Udaya Studios in Alappuzha.

Thresiamma was born as the second child of Thomas and Aeliyamma of Bharananganam of Kottayam. She was educated in Sacred hearts High School of Bharananganam and after her matriculation, joined that school as a teacher. During this period, Koshy and Kunchacko formed a film company under the banner K & K Productions and planned to make Vellinakshtram. Because of the love towards dramas, Thomas allowed his daughter to enact in a small role in this film. Working for dramas and films by women was considered below dignity by families of reputation. Thus, Thresiamma who was planning to join the Church as a nun, became a film actress by accident. Thresiamma participated in three scenes and received Rs.30 for her



efforts.

Koshy was distributing a Tamil film titled 'Nallathankal' and it was received in Kerala well. This prompted Koshy to produce the film in Malayalam and Thresiamma was contracted to be its heroine. To hide her identity, Koshy gave her the name Miss Kumari. A python trying to eat the heroine was the greatest attraction of the film. It ensured the place of Kumari in Malayalam film world.

In a chat with journalists, Kumari once revealed that she had seen only two or three movies before she started acting in Nallathanka. Movie Theatres were rare those days and villages seldom had any theatre even of temporary nature. Malayalam films were very few, may be one or two a year. Certain years did not have any Malayalam film released.

Though Koshy and Kunchacko

introduced Kumari to films, she acted only a couple of films with them. Kitappatam with PremNazir as hero was one among them. It was P Subrahmaniam of Merryland Studios who encouraged her afterwards.

In 1951 Kumari acted in Yachakan with M P Manmadhan (who later became Principal M G College of TVM) and with the then superstar of Malayalam films Thikkurissi Sukumaran Nair in Navalokam. In 1954, she had four films Avakashi, Balyasakhi, Aniyathi and Neelakkuyil. The first three were produced by P Subrahmaniam and the fourth was by T K Pareekutty of Chandrathara Productions.

Neelakkuyil was a turning point to many persons in Malayalam film world. After continuous pressure from Ramu Kariat, Pareekutty, a businessman indulging in fisheries, cashew and film distribution, agreed to produce a film for Ramu but Pareekutty was not having enough trust with Ramu as he had no previous experience with movie making. So, P Bhaskaran was added to the production. Ramu and Bhaskaran jointly directed it, Bhaskaran wrote the lyrics besides enacting an important role, Vincent became its cinematographer and all actors were drawn from theatre and AIR. Raghavan was the music director. Uroob (P C Kuttikrishnan) wrote the dialogue. He had earlier written several successful plays. It was his first attempt in cinema. Neelakkuyil was the first film



With Sathyam in Neelakkuyil



With Prem Nazir in Manthrawadi

to all these people named here. Pareekutty promised to invest Rs 10,000 for the production. Therefore, it was decided to have only two familiar actors be the lead roles. Thus, only Sathyan and Kumari were roped in. Sathyan insisted on getting Rs 5000 but Kumari agreed to work for Rs.3000 though she was senior to Sathyan. All other actors and technicians were told to be paid after the release of the film. Ramu, Bhaskaran and Raghavan all belonged to this category. As the work progressed, Pareekutty put more money into the production and he ended shelling out around Rs 1 lakh. However, he did not pay them as promised though he too earned name and fame because of Neelakkuyil. Pareekutty then made another film with Uroob as story writer to show that he incurred loss. However, Rarichan Enna Pouran also made money as it had melodious songs in it. Raghavan insisted on getting Rs 5000 for both the films and later he never worked for Pareekutty. Chandrathara became a prominent production house of Kerala. The character Kumari enacted in Neelakkuyil ceased by interval and yet she captured the heart of audience. Neelakkuyil won the Silver Medal of the Union Government for the second-best film of that year.

Afterwards she had plenty of memorable roles in several films. Some of them are Sasidharan with P K Vikraman Nair, CID, Mutiyanaaya Puthran, Harischandra, Rantitangazhi (with P J Antony), Bhakta Kuchela, Snapaka Yohannan, Paataatha Painkili, Christmas Rathri, Mariyakutty etc.

We do not know if Kumari copied her real life to her characters or vice versa. Majority of her characters were tragic. Her depiction of Chirutha in Rantitangazhi was superb. Mutiyanaaya Puthran, Pataatha Painkili, Bhakta Kuchela, Aniyathi, Harischandra and many others had similar intonations.

In 1963, she bid goodbye to movie world following marriage with Hormis Thaliath, an engineer employed in FACT and the couple had three sons Johnny, Thomas, Babu. Gradually she disappeared from public gaze confined to the four walls of her house. Johnny is in the movie industry, Thomas is an engineer in California, and Babu is a Professor in Jawaharlal Nehru University New Delhi.

Miss Kumari was the second of seven children and her father was not rich. She was the only source of



Kumari in Aana Valarthy Vanambadi

bringing up of her siblings and education, marriages of sisters. She had a very simple living. There were several rumours about the travails she had to undergo in her married life. She was not looked after by her husband and other members of the family. Prem Nazir, the hero of her most films, once narrated about Kumari. After a few years of her

marriage, Nazir happened to meet her on the roadside while he was driving to his native place. She looked pathetic and was in crumpled clothes. She was taking her two sons to doctor and they were walking. When Nazir offered to help, she declined saying that would create problems for her at home front and requested to drive away, as if he had not met her.

On June 9, 1969 she was reported to have died due to some stomach ailments and hurriedly buried in Bharananganam, her native place.

Kumari's films are also known for their melodious songs. Since she was not a trained dancer, she never danced in any of her movies, like today's heroines. In all she acted in more than 50 films.

Kumari never told anyone about her private life and that remained behind curtain. A few years later Prem Nazir inaugurated a mini stadium in Bharananganam built in her memory.

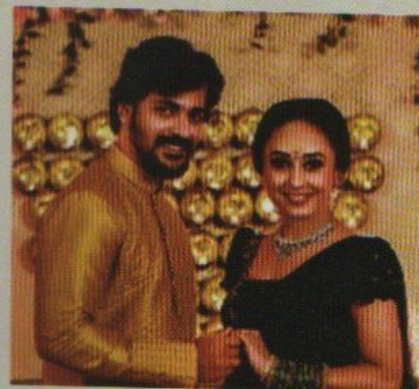
A life lived simple in privacy and died in secrecy at a young age!



with Ambika, Sathyan in Mutiyanaaya Puthran.

Actress Pearle Maaney marries Sreenish

Presenter and actress Pearle Maaney married serial actor Sreenish in Ammu Auditorium of Ayyappan Kavu, Karakkurissi of Palakkad. They got married as per Christian tradition on May 5 at Ernakulam and later as per Hindu tradition on May 8. Sreenish is the son of Pariyathu Aravindan and Cherukkara Lakshmikumari. Pearle is daughter of Dr Maaney Paul and Molly Maaney of Kochi.





Kerala in Mumbai

LINKING MUMBAI MALAYALEES

Email: keralainmumbai@gmail.com

Website: keralaimumbai.com

— 98201 10509 —