



# ORU PAANAI

CHARITY FEEDING THE HUNGRY IN SRI LANKA

PRESENTS

## A MUSICAL EVENING

by Star Vijay SUPER SINGER fame

**MR R. P. SHRAVAN**

IN AID OF ORU PAANAI



**SATURDAY 22 JUNE 2019 AT 6.00PM**

(doors open at 5.30pm)

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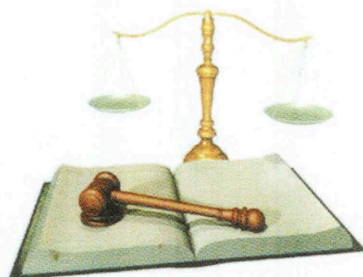
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# ORU PAANAI



Oru Paanai, a charity registered in the UK and Sri Lanka, was launched in 2008, in response to an appeal for assistance from the head teachers of schools in the war torn northeast of Sri Lanka, to help in the provision of a mid day meal for malnourished children in their schools. The funds raised by Oru Paanai (OP), mainly in the UK and Sri Lanka, and to a lesser extent in Australia, Canada and the USA, have supplemented the monies provided by the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) to achieve the aim of providing a nutritious and tasty meal, to some 45,000 children living in the worst affected areas in the northeast. The provision of these meals has resulted in improving the nutritional standards of these children as well as enhancing school attendance and performance in the standards of education. OP also extended support to remedial classes, mainly in the east, as well as in the construction of wells in the Wanni.

In December 2017, the WFP decided to end its involvement in this venture and the GoSL stepped in to take over the feeding programme in the schools. As there was still an unmet need for help in rebuilding the northeast, OP decided to continue its programme of assistance by changing its focus.



To this end, OP is now engaged in 2 main programs.

- The first of these is a project to provide for the destitute elderly in the north, who are unable to obtain assistance from the government for a variety of reasons. We run 7 Annathanam Centres, which provide a cooked meal on a fortnightly basis, and distribute dry rations to last a fortnight. These Annathanams are held fortnightly





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in each of these Centres and are attended by 30 – 50 recipients. These Annathanams also provide an opportunity for the participants to exchange stories and provide each other with company, which they enjoy hugely. They have been greatly appreciated by social groups living in these areas.

- The second main activity of OP is the provision of Sathu Maa (a cereal based nutritional supplement) in selected areas in the north, where childhood malnutrition is a major problem. By continuing this project, OP remains involved in feeding hungry children, its initial objective at inception.

In addition to running these 2 projects, OP will continue to support its other objectives :

- Supporting the remedial classes in maths and science in the east, in conjunction with OP Batticaloa
- Help the Nufield School for the Deaf and Blind in Kaithady, by providing hearing aids and conducting camps to identify the causes of hearing loss in children and fitting hearing aids when indicated
- OP will support construction of wells in the Wannu, finances permitting, which are a dire necessity in a drought stricken region
- OP will support the conducting of classes in English , in partnership with other agencies to enable the children to become employable outside the tamil speaking regions.

In the past 10 years, OP has become one of several established charities helping in the rebuilding the northeast. We have earned a reputation of being proficient at fund raising, and operating with minimal overheads, thus ensuring that all the monies raised are spent helping the most needy.

We hope, with your assistance, we can continue to meet these worthy objectives.

*Oru Paanai - a charity feeding the hungry in Sri Lanka*  
Charity no: 1136376





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# MURALITHARAN ANUSHADEVI

Anushadevi has been variously described as the OP Project Manager, OP Coordinator or OP Jaffna Representative in our past Newsletters.

In essence, she is the one person who has kept the wheels of Oru Paanai rolling in Jaffna, from its inception in 2008. When the OP midday meal program was in full swing, she worked with the local directors of education to identify the schools which were in need, and then ensured that these schools were provided with the necessary funds each month.



The accounts that the schools kept were scrutinised regularly by Anusha, and submitted to the local auditors in Jaffna. When OP changed direction in 2018 with the launch of the Annathanam program, once again it was Anusha who worked with the local social services to choose the most deserving elderly, and then mapped out the program in multiple locations, ordered the provisions and arranged for the transport of food to the centres.

In brief, she has been the linchpin in OP's operations, and her local knowledge, coupled with her genuine concern for the less privileged, has been invaluable in conducting OP's charitable work in northeast Sri Lanka.

**The OP trustees wish to place on record our gratitude to Anushadevi for her dedication and tireless efforts to help the most needy living in northeast Sri Lanka.**



# R. P. SHRAVAN

R.P. Shravan, a budding Carnatic Vocalist and playback singer of **Sony TV INDIAN IDOL** fame and **Star Vijay SUPER SINGER** fame, hails from Chennai. He has been learning Carnatic vocal from a young age of 4 from **Sangeet Natak Akademi** Awardee Sri.Srimushnam V. Raja Rao and Smt.Padma Sandilyan. He is presently undergoing Advanced training under the eminent guru-Sri.Delhi P.Sunder Rajan.



His inspiration to take to Carnatic music, came from his mom who is an amateur violinist, his maternal grandmother and his elder sister. Being groomed rigorously and extensively by scholarly gurus, Shravan reached the concert platform at a tender age of 12. During his 8th std in **Padma Seshadri Bala Bhavan** T.Nagar, he enrolled himself for Star Vijay's Super Singer. With wonderful support and motivation from the judges, Shravan honed his singing skills in cine music and soared in popularity and became a household name.

He clinched the Runners up title and several other titles like: “**Versatile King**”, “**Star of the Series**”, “**Most Outstanding performer**” for his meritorious and praiseworthy performances on Super Singer, spanning over a period of 8 years (2009-2017) and was also awarded a stylish **Ford Figo Car**. Shravan thus started to diversify his musical abilities and successfully embark on a journey as a professional musician, performing shows, gigs, programs and concerts.

He has performed more than **1200 concerts** and has toured several countries including Australia, UK, Dubai, Kuwait, Qatar, Sweden, Canada, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, and Japan.

In 2016, **Bharat Kalachar** honoured Shravan with the prestigious award “**YUVA KALA BHARATHI**” and “**GANDHARVA GANA SUNDARAM**”, instituted by Bharathanjali Trust.

He had the privilege of performing with Sri. **SHANKAR MAHADEVAN**, on emerging as the Grand Winner of the Global Thyagaraja Contest organised by his Academy.

Shravan also shines in his studies. He was the top student in his school at the **CBSE Class XII Board examinations** securing 96.4 %. He graduated in B



com from **Loyola College** and recently **completed** his **CA (Inter)** examinations and is presently undergoing articleship training under a reputed firm in Chennai to become a chartered accountant.

With the aim to expand his talents across the Nation, he participated in **INDIAN IDOL 9**, a famous singing reality show. In order to participate in this he learnt Hindi and his classical performance of **"KETKI GULAAB JUHI"** in Raag Basant Bahar won standing ovations from the judges and was awarded the Golden Mic and Best performer Trophy.

This year, Shravan was adjudged as the **"BEST MALE VOCALIST"** in the Carnatic Vocal category by the prestigious **MUSIC ACADEMY**, Chennai.

A central government scholarship scholar for carnatic music from the age of 11 was the recipient of many awards including:

### AWARDS

1. **YUVA KALA BHARATI** - from Bharat Kalachar
2. **GANDHARVA GANA SUNDARAM** - from Bharatanjali Trust
3. **MADURAI MANI IYER BEST CONCERT AWARD** - from Sri.Krishna Gana Sabha
4. **ASRTO ROOTS OF INDIA AWARD** - Young Achiever in Music
5. **SANGEETHA KALA JYOTHI** - from **TORONTO Varasiddhi Vinayagar Kovil**
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## REMEMBERING YOUR DEAR DEPARTED RELATIVES .....

Ever since the launch of the Oru Paanai Annathanam programme in June 2018, we have been regularly receiving requests from UK resident wellwishers to accept offers of sponsorship of the cost of a day's annathanam in one of the seven centres where OP currently runs this project. On each Annathanam day, up to 50 destitute elderly, who had been selected in conjunction with local social services, are provided a cooked meal, and then given dry rations to last four weeks. The Annathanams are held once in four weeks in each of the seven centres, which are in the Jaffna peninsula as well as the Wannai. Oru Paanai gratefully accepted the offers of sponsorship, as it gives the donors a meaningful way to remember their departed parents, siblings or other close relatives while helping OP with its funding problems. When we receive such sponsorship, a photograph of the departed relative is displayed along with a few biographical details, and devotional songs sung. The donors are usually sent photographs or videos of the event, which is much appreciated by them.

Oru Paanai would like to take this opportunity to invite anyone interested in sponsoring Annathanams at any centre of their choice to mark the anniversaries of their relatives' passing, anthieshtys, thivashams or even their own special birthdays. The cost of providing a meal for 50 recipients is about £60, and if special items like poppadums, payasam, vadaai are to be added, it will cost slightly more. Those wishing to spend a little more, could pay for the provision of dry rations for four weeks as well in that same centre, the cost of which is in the region of £400 for the 50 recipients.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor to our Annathanam in whatever way you choose, Oru Paanai would be delighted to make the arrangements.

### Contact details:

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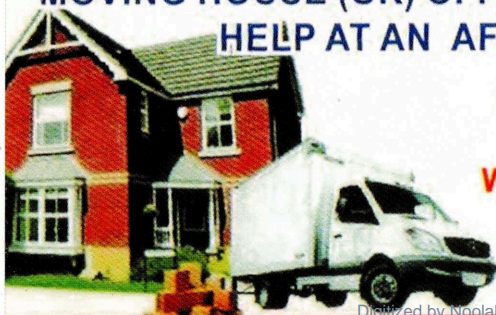
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On behalf of the trustees  
R.Swaminathan, Chairman  
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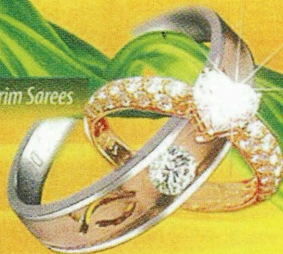
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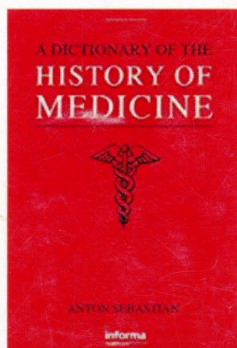
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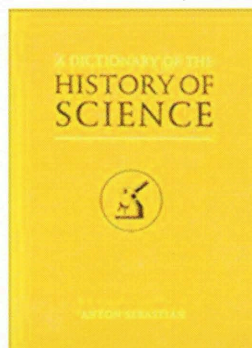
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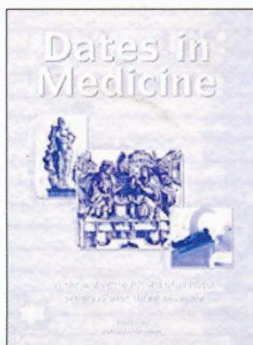
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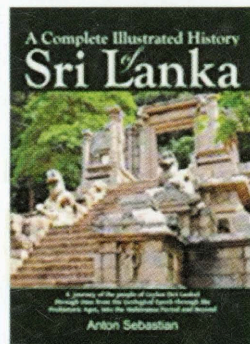


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