

21 APR 1998
மாநகராட்சி மன்றம்
யாழ்ப்பாணம்

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யாழ்ப்பாணம்
இடைக்கல்பெற்றது
[17 APR 1998]

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GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Jaffna Diocese of The Church of South India

KOTTAM LEVEL SPORTS MEET

JAFFNA COLLEGE FARE WELL

Jaffna College fared well at the Chankanaikottam Sports meet held from 15 to 17 March 1998. The first day's meet was held at Bicknell Field, Jaffna College and the 2nd & 3rd day's meet was held at Victoria College, Chulipuram. The Chief Guest was Mr. V. Rasiyah, Deputy Director of Education, Jaffna Zone II. The Guest of Honour was Mr. A. Thatparanathan, Uduvil Kottam Deputy Director of Education, Mr. V. Ganeshalingam, Deputy Director, Chankanaikottam presided.

The final Day's meet started with March-past by Schools, hoisting of School Flags by respective principals and lighting of the Olympic torch. During the Interval drill display was done by students of Victoria College and Honnalai Varatharaja Perumal School. Students of Jaffna College performed Gymnastics which was very much appreciated by all present.

Jaffna College emerged the Relay Champions and most of the individual championships were won by students of Jaffna College.

Under 19 Boys R. Kugan
Under 17 Boys S. Sthees
Under 19 Girls J. Roshani
Under 15 Girls V. Sivagini

The Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Jaffna Diocese of the Church of South India, which was postponed due to the death of Former Bishop The Rt. Rev. Dr. D. J. Ambalavanar, was held solemnly on February 28th 1998.

The main event of the celebrations was a praise service conducted by the Bishop The Rt. Rev. Dr. S. Jebanesan. The Bishop who preached at the Service traced a brief history of the Church Union and stressed the importance of wider ecumenism with all the Churches in Sri Lanka.

In his sermon the Bishop cited an experience of Late Bishop S. V. Azariah, Anglican Bishop of Dornakkal and a pioneer member of Church Union. When Bishop Azariah preached among the Tribals of Hills, the tribal chief responded by saying, "that they are willing to accept Christ, but they do not want to become christians, because the unity among them will be broken and his people will be divided along the lines of denominations they belong to." So Bishop Azariah stressed the need for the establishment of a United Church in India, at the Lambeth Conference of Anglican Church.

The United Church has grown numerically and spiritually during the past 50 years, and has become a truly Church of the ordinary People.

The praise Service was followed with a Holy Eucharistic Service celebrated by the Bishop.

After the service, a variety entertainment programme was held in the Ottley Hall of Jaffna College. Students of Jaffna College and Uduvil Girls' College took part in the Programme.

The celebrations ended with a fellowship lunch.

This was a function of the Church where people attended in very large numbers after many years.

We thank God for the wonderful Fifty years God gave us. We pray that God will give us many more years to serve Christ and People.

Board Of Directors Of Jaffna College

The Annual General Meeting of the Board of Directors of Jaffna College was conducted on Thursday the 12th March, 1998, two new members were elected to represent the General Community. They are Rev. S. S. Karunairaj, Chairman of the North-East Synod of the Methodist Church Mr C Arumai

nayagam, Senior Labour Officer, Jaffna The following were elected Office bearers:-
Chairman- Rt Rev Dr S Jebanesan
Vice Chairman- Dr D Ambalavanar
Secretary- Dr (Miss) C V Selliah
Treasurer- Mr V Mithira Ranjan
Manager- Mr C Jeyaratnam

Jaffna University Council

Members of the Council for Various Bodies of the University elected on 31-01-98
For Selection Boards for the year 1998 Faculty of Arts and Library

Mr. A. Somasundarampillai
Bishop. S. Jebanesan

Faculty of Science

Mr R. Sundaralingam
Rev Fr. Justin Gnanapiragasam

Faculty of Medicine

Dr. S. Sivanandarajah
Mr. S. Sribaskaran

Faculty of Agriculture

Mr. C. Jeyaratnam
Mr. K. Thevasigamany

Dept. of Siddha Medicine

Mrs M. Thiruchitrampalam
Dr. S. Sivanandarajah

Planning and Development Committee

Mr. S. Sribaskaran
Mr. A. Somasundarampillai

Project Monitoring Committee

Mr. K. Thevasigamany
Mr. A. Somasundarampillai

Board of Discipline:

All four Deans - The Dean concerned will preside

Bishop S. Jebanesan
Mrs M. Thiruchitrampalam

Mr. K. Thevasigamany

Mr. A. Somasundarampillai

Mr. T. Kugathasan Reappointed:

Mr T Kugathasan M Sc. Principal of Jaffna College Institute of Agriculture whose term ended in March 1998 had been re-appointed to serve as Principal for another year.

EMPOWERING THE WOMEN

March 8th was International Women's day and this years theme was, "POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT FOR WOMEN". Many may ask "why should we talk of empowering the women? They are already in power: there are many professionals among women and a few women are heads of states". Placing a few women in positions within a patriarchal system doesn't mean that women are given equal status.

There are many who think that women are created to serve men and that their place is in the kitchen. They also think that women's liberation is a fad and that women are trying to over-ride men. It is this attitude that should change.

In 1993, U. S. Justice Department released a study that found, "two and a half million of the nation's 107 million women were raped, robbed, or assaulted, or suffered a threat or an attempt of such crimes". Then on February 4, 1994, the New York Times reported on the abuse of women across the world, and Timothy Wirth the State Department Counselor was quoted as observing "There is rampant discrimination against women and physical abuse is just the most obvious one." (Wijk - Bos)

Feminism then is the quest for human dignity among women. The very existence of women is at stake today. Women are not safe on street, nor are they safe in schools, colleges or work places. They are not even safe at their own homes. Statistics reveal that even in a country like United States one in every four girls are either raped, molested or are battered. There were cases where women were raped by their own husbands and girls by their fathers. These women cry in silence for deliverance. Women do not even enjoy the rights of slaves. They are simply possessions of men to be the objects of Pleasure.

Chea Villanueva, in her poem "Factory Girls" says that free trade zones provide freedom for business but less freedom for women incarcerated inside



the barbed wire Labour Camps. These women are often told to lay down or lay off (Making waves). Feminism therefore, is the voice that cries in the wilderness for the deliverance of women from all patriarchal oppressions.

Even within the Church there is oppression. Letty Russell in Human Liberation states that in spite of Jesus, the Church has too long supported the idea that non-white, non-westerners and non-males are slightly less than human.

Elizabeth Schussler Fiorenza in her book, "In Memory of Her" claims that the name of the faithful disciple the woman who anointed Jesus during Jesus last days on earth was erased or virtually forgotten because she was a woman.

Women shall be empowered to challenge patriarchy. Johanna W. H. Van Wijk - Bos states many women and men are more ready than ever to challenge Patriarchy and injustices it creates. Is the church willing to sound a voice of protest against dehumanizing and destructive arrangements? Rosemary Ruether claims, that the hope of overcoming oppression can only begin when women become freed and empowered to critique the women's experience as an unjustified assault upon their beings.

Jurgen Moltmen claims, that patriarchy is an old, widespread male ruling order and that it did not come into the world through Christianity, but was taken over

by men at a very old stage of the church and used to advance patriarchy. As a result liberating potential of Christianity was paralyzed. This was detected in other contexts by theologians of hope, liberation theologians and political theologians. It has now been shown up completely by feminist theology. So the liberation of women, and subsequently also of men, from patriarchy is connected with a rediscovery of the freedom of Jesus and a new experience of the energies of the spirit.

Women's quest for empowerment can be seen even in the days of Jesus. These women who thirsted after freedom were, liberated and empowered by the Christ.

Elizabeth Moltmann Wende claims, that church history begins with a small group of women setting out to perform a last loving service for their dead friend Jesus. These women were showing their support for a traitor to the state and were doing what they thought to be right against all reason and against all hope. What they did is the quality of life; they loved a life which had been given up, and never gave up what was dead. It was their courage and devotion to Christ that empowered them and Christ empowered them as Christ liberated them.

The women who stepped out in faith into the darkness against all odds have turned to God and Bible and are searching

for a new paradigm within the Christian community. Many who are looking for a new egalitarian paradigm where each person becomes an authentic human in a new community, have found themselves being empowered as they learn the attitudes of Christ towards women.

Inn Sook Lee in her book "Korean - American women toward self - realization" states, "many scholars believe that Jesus, attitude toward the women of the time, and choosing them to reveal his identity and to carry out one of the most important messages in his ministry of his servanthood was his deliberate choice to free women from their oppression and subordinate status. He revealed his messiahship to "the woman at the well" he revealed himself being the resurrection and the life "and being" Son of God to Martha of Bethany and called Mary of Magda to spread the news of his resurrection; one of the most important events in Christian belief."

Women who have searched the Scripture were able to see a paradigm shift during the New Testament times. Both men and women were liberated from patriarchy; there was power sharing between women and men, and Christians started to think of a new egalitarian society where there is neither male nor female. Women who are empowered are demanding for a change in patriarchal system. Johanna W-H-Van Wijk - Bos, warns that changing patriarchy does not mean allowing women entrance into structures as they are, giving access to power within patriarchal setup while leaving this setup unchanged. So they demand restoration of a new egalitarian setup of equal power sharing which existed in the church at its infancy.

Because of feminist interpretation of the scriptures, many women are again on the way towards discovering life, (Contd to page 3)

உதயதாரகை

அன்னையர் தினம்

மார்ச் மாதம் 15ம் திகதி ஞாயிறு அன்னையர் தினமாக அனுஷ்டிக்கப்பட்டது. அன்று நமது தேவாலயங்களில் அன்னையரைப் பற்றிப் பேசினர், அன்னையர்க்கு மலர்ச்செண்டு வழங்கினர் அன்னையரின் விசுவாசத்தை எடுத்து விளக்கினர்.

நமது திருச்சபையின் வரலாற்றிலே அன்னையர் ஆற்றிய பணி மகத்தானது! சென்ற நூற்றாண்டின் முற்பகுதியிலேயாழ்ப்பாணம் வந்து பணியாற்றிய அமெரிக்க மாதர் உடல் போல் உள்ளமும் வெண்மையர் யாழ்வந்த அமெரிக்க மாதரே முதன் முதலாக வெள்ளையரல்லாத பெண்களுக்குக் கற்பித்த வெள்ளைக்காரப் பெண்கள் என்று ஆய்வாளர் கூறுகின்றனர்.

ஆதித்திருச்சபையிலும் அன்னையரின் விசுவாசமே திருச்சபையைக் கட்டியெழுப்பிய தென்பது மறுக்க முடியாத உண்மையாகும். பவுல் அடிகளார் தீமோத்தேயுவுக்கு எழுதிய இரண்டாம் நிருபத்தில் 'அந்த விசுவாசம் முந்தி உள் பாட்டியாகிய லோவிசாளுக்குள்ளும் உள் தாயாகிய ஜனிக்கேயாளுக்குள்ளும் நிலைத்திருந்தது. அது உனக்குள்ளும் நிலைத்திருக்கிறதென்று நிச்சயித்திருக்கின்றேன் என்று குறிப்பிட்டுள்ளார்.

பரம்பரையாக நமது விசுவாசம் வளர்ந்து வந்திருக்கின்றது. அன்னையரின் விசுவாசமே எமது திருச்சபையில் இழையோடியிக்கின்றது. நமது அன்னையர் விசுவாசத்தில் நம்மை வழிநடத்தியது மட்டுமன்றி தமது மகத்தான தியாகத்தினாலும் கிறிஸ்தவ குடும்பங்களின் ஒற்றுமையையும் ஒழுக்கத்தையும் பேணிக்காத்துள்ளனர்.

'கடவுளால் எங்குமிருக்க முடியவில்லை எனவே அவர் தாய்மாரைப்படைத்தார்' என்பது ஒரு யூதப்பழமொழி இதனையே தமிழ்நூல் வல்லுனர்கள் 'தாயிற் சிறந்தொரு கோயிலுமில்லை' என்று கூறினார்கள். ஆபிரகாம் விங்கன் என்ற மகான் 'நான் இன்றுள்ளநிலைக்கும் இனி அடையப்போகின்ற நிலைக்கும் என் அருமைத்தாய் அந்தப் புண்ணியவதிதான் காரணம்' என்று குறிப்பிட்டுள்ளார்.

அன்னையர் உயிரோடு இருக்கின்ற காலத்தில் அவர்களைக்கனம் பண்ணுவோமாக அவர்கள் திரைக்கு அப்பாற் சென்றபின் வருந்துவதற்குப் பயனில்லை இதனையே W. D. Howells என்பார் பின்வருமாறு எடுத்துரைத்தார்.

தாயாரின் அன்பையும் தியாகத்தையும் காலங்கடந்த பின்னர்தான் ஒருவன் உணர்கின்றான். ஆனால் அந்தக்கட்டத்தில் அந்த உணர்ச்சிகளை சொல்லிவிட அவள் தான் இருக்கமாட்டாள்.

Certificate Awarding Ceremony

Certificate awarding ceremony of St. John's sewing Training center Jeyapuram was held on 30.01.98 at 1.30 pm

Rev. D. Paul Suresh the Pastor in charge presided at the function. Mr. R. Ravindran A. G. A. Poonagari was the chief Guest. Mr. S. Ratnavel J. D. C. S. I Project Director Vanni Area was the special Guest and Mrs. S. Muruganathan President, Working Women Development Society was the Guest of Honour.

EMPOWERING

(Contd. from Page 2)

raising the dead to life again, understanding Jesus as the one who he once was for them. Their desire to get out of patriarchy has alarmed men. Men who raise this alarm are those who fear that their positions in the church and in society are at jeopardy. However, a Elizabeth Moltmann-wend states, "what women want is a new society in which the powerful begin to listen to the powerless, in which the powerless have possibilities of expressing and organizing themselves. They want a society in which power is shared round and in which people learn to renounce power - for the sake of Justice".

Jurgen Moltmann warns us that patriarchy cheats us of the happiness of true life and it has halved the male. Men should therefore listen to the cry of women and should try to free themselves from the clutches of patriarchy. As long as half of church's population is oppressed, the church cannot voice for the oppressed and the powerless.

Let us therefore, join hands with those women who quest for empowerment. When there is mutual empowerment - men empowering women and women empowering men - Christ will empower the whole church. As a result, at the end, the entire human kind will be empowered by Christ to liberate humankind from all forms of oppression. (Contd to page 4)

New Director - C.C.F.C Projects

The Rev. A. A. Paul has been appointed Director of Diocesan C. C. F. C. Projects as from 3rd March, 1998. Rev. A. A. Paul is Vice Principal, Jaffna College and Circuit Pastor of Karainagar, and Moolai Churches.

Ordination Service

The ordination Service of Rev. J. B. Thevaarudchelvam - Deacon Nunavil Church took place at the Cathedral Church, Vaddukodai on 26th February, 1998

The Preacher at this service was the Rev. S. Jebamohan, Priest, St. James Church, Nallur. Litany was sung by the Rev. P. J. Sooriyakumar.

The Revs. P. R. Navendra-anugoolan and S. C. Arnold presented the candidate to the Bishop. The Revs. P. R. Navendra-anugoolan, V. Rajkumar, A. Jeyakumaran, A. A. Paul, S. I. Anandarajan, T. E. Ashokkumar laid hands on the head of the ordinand along with the Bishop.

The Holy Eucharistic Service was then conducted by the Bishop assisted by the Rev. A. Jeyakumaran the Revs. E. P. Solomons, A. A. Paul, S. Jebamohan and the newly ordained presbyter, the Rev. J. B. Thevaarudchelvam.

51ST ANNUAL SESSIONS OF J. D. C. S. I.

The 51st Annual Sessions of Jaffna Diocese of the Church South India were held on 26th and 27th February 1998. The Sessions started with Holy Eucharistic and Ordination Service conducted by the Bishop. The Sessions were held at the Ottley Hall, Jaffna College. The Bishop presided through the entire Sessions.

The reports of all Boards and Committees of the Diocese were presented and accepted by the council. In addition brief account of 26th CSI Synod held from 13-17th January 1998 was given by the Rev. A. A. Paul and Mr. G. Rajanayagam. Mr. G. Rajanayagam presented an account of Trustees of Jaffna College Funds meeting held in

Annual Olivila Fastivila of Lights

The Annual Olivila - Festival of Lights - a variety entertainment to celebrate the Birth of Christ as the light of the world - was held by Kalmadukulam Sunday School and Day Care Centre on 27th Dec '97 at 10.00 a.m. The function started with a prayer offered by the Rev. J. Gnanapragasam, Circuit pastor. public Meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Rev. V. Pathmathayalan, pastor-in charge after the variety entertainment. The Chief Guest The Rev. J. Gnanapragasam and the Principals of the area Mess. S. Suppiah, A. Perinpanayagam, K. Selvathevan and A. Arulthasan addressed the meeting. The function came to a close with Prize Giving followed by vote of thanks proposed by Day Care Centre Tercher A. Arulranjini.

Opening Of A First Aid Centre

Opening of a new centre for St. John's Ambulance and certificate Award Ceremony was held at Visuvamadu on December 26, 1997. Dr. S. Sivamohan D.M.O. Mullaitivu District was the Chief Guest and Rev. John S. Selvam was the Guest of Honour.

CEMENT FACTORY TO COMMENCE PRODUCTION

E.P.D.P circles expressed hope that the K.K.S. Cement factory will commence work in another two months

CERATOCYSTIS PARDOXA HITS COCONUT PALMS

Jaffna coconut palms are attacked by dreadful fungus called CERATOCYSTIS PARDOXA. This has affected the yield in the peninsula. A coconut sold for Rs.18/= in Jaffna

November 1997. The Bishop reported about Bishop Ambalavanar Memorial Boys Hostel and to be set up in Colombo. The election of office bearers members of various boards and committees of the Diocese took place. The Sessions ended with the worship Service conducted by the Bishop.

The Spirit Of Prayer



Prayer can transform everything. Pray and have faith. Then you will experience the miracles of God. It will become a living force to withstand the attacks of enemies EPHESIANS 6 tells us that we must put on the armour of God to come through a Victory miracle. In verse 18 that the seventh piece of God's armour is "Praying always with all Prayer and supplication in the SPIRIT" The Holy Spirit is the one who helps us to pray when we don't even know what to pray (Roman 8:26) Jesus said in John 7 that out of your belly shall flow rivers of living waters which is talking about the Spirit (the Holy Ghost). It comes right up out of our "belly area"-our inner Man. You can't see it with the microscope, you can't feel it with your hand but it is one of the most powerful forces you have against Satan.

The spirit of Prayer, this great force of God is delivering us and setting free. There are obstacles to prayers. For instance we misuse the gift of forgiveness by not forgiving others. When God does not answer us, we should ask whether we have put up an obstacle to prayers. It is through confession and repentance we will experience that the way will be clear and our prayers can rise up to God

S. S. Satkunasingam
(Retired Ass.t Engineer)
Secretary JDCSI,
Chavakachcheri.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE

At a praise Service at Uduppiddy on Sunday the 15th March 1998 8 persons were admitted in the Full Fellowship of the C. S. I. Church. Their names are as follow:-

- 1 Markandu Andrew Balachandran,
- 2 Balachandran Esther Sivajogan,
- 3 Rajeswaran Ruth Vanmathy,
- 4 Rajeswaran Roy Athavan,
- 5 Thevarajah Pricilla Piraveena,
- 6 Muthukumarasamy Ruth Ruba-veni,
- 7 Vijayathanan Noel Vijayaruban
- 8 Jeyaram James Jeyakumar

Thanks Giving Service
Rev. A. C. Thambirajah

A thanks giving service in remembrance of life and work of late Rev. A. C. Thambirajah, on November 1st, 1997, the 15th Death Anniversary at at 4.30 P.M. The service conducted by Rev. John S. Selvam was attended by inmates of Navajeevanam and friends

Empowerment
(Contd. from page 3)

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1. Chea Villanueva "Factory Girls" in "Making Waves" ed - Asian Women United of California Beacon press Boston 1989
2. Inn Sook Lee, "Korean - American Women: Toward Self - realization". The assn of Korean Christian Scholars in North America 1985
3. Elizabeth Schussler Fiorenza, 'In Memory of Her'. A Feminist Theological Reconstruction of Christain Origins. Cross Road, NY 1983
4. Elizabeth Moltmann - Wendel and Jurgen Moltmann, 'God: His and Hers' Crossroad NY 1991
5. Johanna W. H. Van Wijk - Bos, "Reimagining God: The case for scriptural Diversity" Westminster - John Knox Press Louisville, Kentucky 1991

A. A. Paul

Battle of the Golds

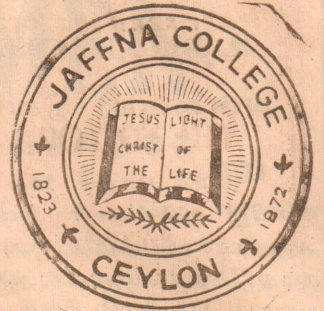
81st year of Battle of the Golds, between St. Patrick's College and Jaffna College was played on 20th and 21st March 1998 at Bishop Theogupillai Stadium, St. Patrick's College.

St Patricks' College 1st XI which batted first scored a formidable 231 for 8 in the first innings. Jaffna College were bowled out for 137 runs. Special mention should be made of S. Ninintharuban, a young promising Cricketer for Jaffna College, who opened the batting for Jaffna College, for sticking to the crease for 4 hrs when all the other wicket^s were falling. His patient batting, and sensible play by the last pair G. Pragash and S. Senthooran who scored a Partnership of 27 runs averted Jaffna College from a follow on

St. Patricks' College in the 2nd Innings scored 43 for 1 and Jaffna College replied with 50 for 4 at close of play. The Battle of the Golds thus ended in a draw.

The following awards were distributed.

1. Best Batsman Challenge cup awarded by Jaffna College Alumini Association - T. Jeyaragavan of S. P. C.
2. Runner up - Challenge Cup awarded by Mr B. L. Mohanakumar of Jaffna College - S. Sanjeevan S.P.C.
3. Best Bowler - Rajmohan Challenge Cup awarded by Mr M Kirubakaran - J. Bennet Roston S. P. C.
4. Runner up - Challenge Cup awarded by S. P. C. - G. Ranjith Thevarajan S. P. C.
5. Best Fielder Father. John Francis Challenge Cup awarded by Principal Jaffna College - T. Hari Newton Jaffna College
6. Best Allrounder - P. Thiagarajah Challenge Cup awarded by Mr. T. Jeyanathan - G. Ranjith Thevarajan S. P. C.
7. Man of the Match - Challenge Cup by OBA: SPC T Jeyaragavan SPC



JAFFNA COLLEGE
175th
ANNIVERSARY

Jaffna College will be celebrating 175th Year of the founding of Batticata Seminary, the forerunner of Jaffna College from 22nd to 27th June 1999.

Battikota Seminary was established on 22nd July 1823 with the admission of thirty students. The Rev. Dr Daniel Poor whose birth date falls on 22/6 was the first Princial. The Seminary was closed in 1853 and in its place a high school was run. On 3rd July 1872 Jaffna College was established and the high school merged with it.

The main events in the programme will be praise Service, Prize Civing, Public function, Exhibition for 21st Century Education and Sports tournament organised by the Alumni Association.

The College requests all alumni / ae, students, Staff, Parents and well wishers to keep these date free and pray for the College celebrations.

8. Special Awards - G. Pragash of Jaffna College and A. Jude Angelo of S P C
9. Best Partnership - S Sanjeevan and T Jeyaragavan

Each of the Best Batsman, Best Fielder, All rounder and Man of the match was given a cach Prize of Rs 1,000/- by Dr Regi Soloman Proprietor, Lavania Dental optical Service

The Big Match between Jaffna Central College and St. John's College Played on the same days at Jaffna Central College Grounds also ended in a draw.