

சுதந்திரப் போராட்டம்
 வாழ்வுப் போராட்டம்
 மனித உரிமைப் போராட்டம்.

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RIGHTEOUSNESS EXALTETH A NATION BUT SIN IS A REPROACH TO ANY PEOPLE

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S. J. V. CHELVANAYAGAM MAN OF PROPHECY AND COMMITMENT

'Thanthai' Chelva's One-hundredth Birth Anniversary was observed on 1998 03 - 31.

Thanthai (Father) Chelva was a man who dedicated his life for the Tamil Cause. He worked for the deliverance of Tamils in Sri Lanka with unceasing commitment. Even though two decades have passed since his death, the desire for liberation still runs in the veins of Tamils.

Thanthai Chelva was born into a Christian family in Tellipalai, a place where the pioneering American Missionaries worked first. He had his secondary education at St Johns' College and was Committed to Christian Principles.



A lawyer by profession, he entered into politics because he felt that God had called him to be the leader of Tamil people. He showed to the world that a lawyer and a politician can be an honest, and straight forward and steadfast on one's policies.

Thanthai Chelva was a prophet Fifty years ago, when 10 lachs of estate workers of Indian Origin were de-franchised he vehemently opposed it and prophetically stated in the Parliament, "Today injustice

is done to Tamils of Indian origin. Tomorrow, when, language issue is raised, Ceylon Tamils also will face the same fate. Therefore, we all must unite and fight against this injustice done against Tamils of Indian Origin"

On June 5th 1956, "Sinhala only" bill was passed in the Parliament. Like Moses who opposed Pharaoh, he opposed the Sinhala leaders by staging a 'Satyagraha' (Sit in Strike) in the "Galle Face Green". Though he and his followers were assaulted, and violence was used against them, he never gave up his cry for parity.

As leader of Federal party, he proved himself to be a true leader of a nation. He was a leader without a parallel, like Moses was at his time. He was very firm in his belief that North East of Ceylon is the traditional land of Tamils; that there is a distinct Tamil race with its own language and culture, that they have the right for self-determination and the right to decide to rule on their own in future.

He also recognized the democratic, political and social rights of Tamil speaking Muslims. His desire was to get rid of all differences among Tamils - territorial difference, hierarchical caste system, and religious differences. He was fairly successful in his effort to bring all Tamil together

Like Moses he also entered into pacts with successive
 (Contd to Page 4.)

Jaffna University New Instructors

The Following Instructors Were Appointed For The Year 1998 - 1999

- Cricket : Mr R. Selvarajah
- Tennis : Mr. S. A. Gunaratnam
- Soccer : Mr. S Anthonipillai
- Chess : Mr. T. Arunakirinathan
- Karate : Mr A. R. Shaelindrakumar
- Thatchi : Mr. N. Perampalam
- Volley Ball : Mr. A F. Sebamalaimuththu

* * * * *

St. patricks' Wins One Day Match

Tenth, One Day limited over Cricket Match between Jaffna College and St. Patricks College was played at Bicknell field on Saturday 27th March, 1998. With this, the St. Patricks' Boys have clinched the Rajan Kadirgamar Trophy for the fifth consecutive year. Of the ten matches played, Jaffna College won five and St. Patrick's the other five.

Cricket matches could not be played in 1996 and 1997 due to the ethnic war.

Jaffna College which batted first were all out for 117 runs setting a target of 118 for St Patricks' College to win. St. Patrick's scored this for the loss of four wickets.

** * * * **

The Following Awards Were Made

1. Best Batsman : J. Hari Newton of Jaffna College
2. Best Bowler : Jude Angelo of St. Patrick's College
3. Best Fielder : T. Jeyaragavan of St. Patrick's College
4. Best Partnership : T. Hari Newton & M. Pranavaruban of Jaffna College. They set a new 4th wicket partnership
5. Special Award : 1. P. Partheepan of St. Patrick's College
2. M. Vasanthakumar of Jaffna College
6. Best All Rounder : Jude Angelo of St. Patrick's College
7. Man Of The Match ; Jude Angelo of St. Patrick's College
8. Winning Team; A Kadirgamar Trophy: St Patricks College

Special award was made to S. Ninintharuban of Jaffna College for staying at the crease for 3 hrs & 45 minutes - A Record in all Island Schools "Big Matches"

El Nino Effect Gang Fight In Vaddukodai

Meteorologists say that the present unusual climatic condition is due to 'EL NINO' effect which affects the climatic conditions.

Due to this effect drought prevails in Sri Lanka. If the present high temperature and heat condition doesn't improve water supply to Colombo City will be affected - claim Water Supply and Drainage Board.

The effect of El Nino is mainly due to indiscriminate felling of trees, use of excess fuel, burning of organic matter and all other factors which affect the ozone layer. El Nino effect is not only a scientific problem and of social concern, but also of theological concern.

When God created human-kind God gave human-kind the responsibility of preserving God's creation and making the best use of all resources God did not create humankind to plunder and destroy God given resources. However, humankind instead of preserving and tending the earth has started to rape its resources.

Once a Geologist said. 'Nature recedes where man (sic) exploits. Humankind should therefore, change the attitude towards nature, otherwise we will very soon lose all resources of the earth. More than that, the temperature will increase causing deaths due to heat waves and the whole earth will become an oven where entire creation will be baked alive.

The sea levels will rise up submerging many Islands and entire creation will be plagued with newer diseases.

People should be warned that this earth is heading towards destruction. It is our duty to preserve this earth which God created. If human-kind behaves irresponsibly very soon we will be held responsible for its destruction.

Let us therefore, warn humankind of the imminent danger we are in.

Gang fight erupted between two clans in Vaddukodai because of an alleged theft by an insane man in a house of a different caste. The fight started at Muthalikkovilady and exploded into a big fight at Sankarathai later.

Many were injured at the fight that took place near Sangarathai Junction on Saturday the 15th March.

About 75 persons started to attack all those who passed by the junction with swords knives and chains. Ten seriously injured persons were admitted to Jaffna Teaching Hospital for treatment.

The armed forces who rushed to the scene brought the situation under control. Twenty men who were believed to be instrumental for the fight were arrested and handed over to Chunnakam Police. Courtesy:- 'Uthayan' News daily.

81 Thousand Houses Damaged in Jaffna - an Estimate

German Technical Co-operation in its report on Jaffna Rehabilitation has stated that 81 thousand houses within Jaffna Peninsula are estimated to have been damaged during the war.

The G T Z will meet the cost of repairs and supply materials for 1000 houses. To start with, Houses in Valigamam North, Valigamam East and Nallur area will be repaired under this project. Houses of women who lost their husbands during the war, will be repaired on preferential basis.

Shortage of Sugar

There is a big shortage of sugar in Jaffna. Many shop-owners are having a field day by selling sugar at exorbitant prices.

Ordinary folks who are unable to express their feelings about this black marketeering are grudging within themselves

Kerosine in Plenty

Kerosine which was in short supply is now available freely. Kerosine is now sold to the public through co-operative outlets and at petrol sheds at controlled price.

Those who hoarded and sold kerosine at exorbitant prices are now wondering.

Still on Kerosine

Petrol is now available in Jaffna, although the sheds run out of stock occasionally.

Many who were running their cars and motor cycles on kerosine during the fuel embargo are still, continuing to do so. Some of course mix kerosine with petrol.

They think that it is cheaper to run on kerosine than to buy petrol at Rs 77/= a litre. How about the wear and tear? A mind for ECONOMY?

OBITUARY

Death occurred in Vaddukodai on 7th March 1998 of Chelliah John, husband of Sountharamani, loving father of Rita, Surebi and Sobers. The funeral took place on 12th March, 1998. The Rev. A. A. Paul assisted by R v S Thevaran conducted the funeral service. Mr D. S. Solomon Secretary, Cathedral Church and teacher of Jaffna College paid a tribute.

Late Mr John was an old boy of Jaffna College. Later he joined the Department of Agriculture and retired as Agricultural Officer.

After retirement he worked at Mahawel Scheme as a Research Officer, specializing in cultivation of grapes.

Circuit Arrangements

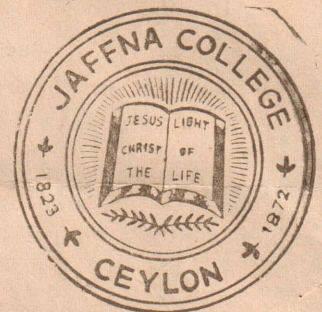
The Ex - Co of the Diocese made the following changes in the circuit arrangement which comes in to force from 1st March, 1998.

The Rev. T. Thevanesan - Circuit pastor, Chankani

The Rev. Anthony A. Paul - Circuit pastor, Moolai & Karainagar.

Ecumenical Service

JCU conducted a Communion Service on Sunday the 15th March, 1998 at the Methodist Church (Trimmer Hall, Jaffna). The Service was led by Rev. S. S. Karunairaj, chairman, North-East synod of the Methodist Church assisted by the Rev. S. P. Nesakumar, Rural Dean Jaffna of the Church of Ceylon. The Rt. Rev. Dr. S. Jebanesan preach the Sermon.



JAFFNA COLLEGE NET BALL TEAM

Jaffna College Netball Teams participated at the Chankanai Kottam tournament

Under 15 Teams emerged Champions.

Under 19 Teams came runners up.

Under 17 Team came third Under 15 and Under 19 teams are selected to compete at Zonal level (District) tournament

150th Anniversary Celebration of Uduppiddy Church

The members of the Uduppiddy Church celebrated their 150th Anniversary on Sunday the 15th March, 1998. There was a Holy Communion Service at 8 30 A. M. The Bishop, The Rev. T. Thevanesan, The Rev. S. I. Anandarajan and the priest The Rev. T. H. Vasanthakumar participated. Public meeting took place in the main hall of Girls' Boarding School. Many distinguished people including the Commanding officer Vadamaradchy, Brigadier Wijearatne spoke. Mr. Lindon B. Thevarajah proposed a vote of thanks. The meeting was followed by a fellowship lunch. The members of the Uduppiddy Church also published a souvenir to mark the occasion.

உதயதாரகை

மரணமில்லாப்

பெருவாழ்வு

இயேசுவின் உயிர்த்தெழுதல் பெருநிகழ்ச்சி- அவர் நேசரின் வாழ்விலும் வரும் நிகழ்ச்சி என்று கவிஞர் பாடியுள்ளார்.

அப்போஸ்தலனாகிய பவுல் ரோமருக்கு எழுதிய நிருபத்தில் கிறிஸ்து நமக்கு பாவத்திலிருந்து, நியாயப்பிரமாணத்திலிருந்து, மரணத்திலிருந்து விடுதலையைக் கொண்டு வந்தார் என்று விளக்கியுள்ளார்.

கிறிஸ்து வருகையினால் நாம் மரணபயம் நீங்கினோம், பவுல் அப்போஸ்தலனுக்கு இந்தத் தெளிவு இருந்தது. அதனாலே தான் "கிறிஸ்து எனக்கு ஜீவன் மரணம் எனக்கு ஆதாயம்" என்று தமக்கு மீவும் அன்பான சபையாகிய பிலிப்பியருக்கு எழுதினார்.

இயேசு உயிர்த்தெழுதல் சீடர்களுக்கு நமக்கெயளித்தது. இயேசுவின் சிலுவை மரணத்திற்குப் பின் ஒதுங்கியும் ஒதுக்கப்படும் இருந்த சீடர்கள், உயிர்த்தெழுந்த ஆண்டவரைக் கண்டபின் மகாவீர தியாகிகள் ஆகினார்கள். அரசர்களுக்கு முன்னே அஞ்சாமற் பேசினார்கள். மரணத்தைத் துச்சமாகக் கருதி ஆற்றையும் கடவையுங்கடந்து கிறிஸ்துவின் நற்செய்தியை எடுத்தக் கூறினார்கள். நமது வாழ்வு இத்தடன் முடிந்து விடவில்லை என்றதெளிவு அவர்களுக்கு இருந்தது.

இயேசு மரித்தபின்னர் மரணம் அவரை விழுங்கிவிட்டது நாம் எமது பரம்பரைத்தொழிலுக்குத் திரும்புவோர் என்று சீடர்கள் எண்ணினார்கள். 1815 ஆம் ஆண்டு 'வாட்டர்லூ' என்ற பெரும்போர் பிரான்சிற்கும் இங்கிலாந்திற்கும் இடையே ஏற்பட்டது வெலிங்டன் பிரபு, இங்கிலாந்துப்படைகளுக்கு தலைமை தாங்கி யுத்தத்தை நடத்திக் கொண்டிருந்தார் நெப்போலியன் பிரெஞ்சுத்தளபதி. போர் உக்கிரமடைந்த கட்டத்தில் போர் முனையிலிருந்து இங்கிலாந்துக்கு ஒரு தந்தி வந்தது. அதன் செய்தி Wellington Defeated அதன் பொருள் வெலிங்டன் தோற்கடிக்கப்பட்டு விட்டார் என்பதாகும். ஆங்கிலேயர் சோகத்தில் முழுகினர் காலநிலை சீராக இல்லாததால் செய்தி முற்றாக வரவில்லை மீண்டும் செய்தி போர் முனையிலிருந்து "Wellington defeated Napoleon" என்பதே அச்செய்தியாகும் "வெலிங்டன் நெப்போலியனைத் தோற்கடித்துவிட்டார்" என்பது அதன் பொருள் ஆங்கிலேயர் மகிழ்ச்சியாரவாரம் செய்தனர்.

இதுதான் கிறிஸ்து நமக்குத் தந்த வெற்றி இனி நமக்கு மரணமில்லாப் பெருவாழ்வு.

EASTER

'Christ is risen' was the message that was given to a few women on the first Easter morn.

These women went to the tomb where Jesus' body was laid, in order to give him a last loving service. They left for the Garden of Gethsemane when it was still dark. It was the hour when people would not venture out. It was the time when soldiers of the occupying army were sprawling.

There was danger outside. Perhaps, the men of Chief Priest were on the lookout for the associates of the national traitor. These women were vulnerable at the hands of occupying army and other men. In a patriarchal society in which they lived, women had no place and so, could have been raped, molested or arrested on false charge of adultery.

The men who were friends and disciples of Jesus are now hiding behind closed doors. They have buried all their hopes under the blankets, with which they have covered themselves. These men were trying to bury any sign of their association with the man who was killed for treason. When men were trying to sever all ties with their dead master, a few frail women stepped out into the darkness boldly. They had no hope; they had buried their only hope three days ago. Yet, they could not forget their dead.

These women were acting on love. They were following their master from Galilee to Jerusalem. They were witnessing in silence to all what was happening to their dear friend. They were in pain as they were looking at the cross on which their saviour was hanging. They followed Joseph of Arimathea and noted where their hope was buried.

Also on this Easter morn they are at the place where their hope was buried. They

HOPPE



didn't expect to see a risen Christ where they buried him. All they wanted to do was to show their love to their dead friend. No matter what happens they wanted to be with their dead friend.

What these women did was an act of protest. They knew that their friend was innocent. They knew that the leaders of the nation were evil and that they were very powerful. There was nothing that these women could do to stop the murder of one who always did good to the community.

They have now resolved to show their protest in the only way which they thought was proper - to be at the tomb of their dead leader. Let those who killed our leader arrest and kill us also.

Let us be the first martyrs of the resistance movement

which we are to start was, perhaps, their attitude. Whether others will follow us or not let us start this movement they resolved. Nobody is going to turn the stone; we must do it ourselves. So let us go forward - they told each other as they approached the tomb.

These women, who set-out in the darkness of lost hope were greeted by two men who said "Jesus is risen" "Why are you searching him among the dead, for, he is risen; go and proclaim this good news to his friends". Martha believed in Jesus and her brother was raised to life again as a reward for her faith.

These women were willing to sacrifice their lives for their beloved friend, and their saviour was raised again as a reward. Dead hopes are brought back to life when we prepare to lay down our lives for the sake of God and people.

New Student at Christian Theological Seminary:

Two new students will be joining at Christian Theological Seminary, Maruthanarmandan, at the next academic year. They are Mr. Stephenraj who completed a degree course at the University of Jaffna and Miss. Priya Shamini from Urani, Batticaloa.

S. J. V....

(Contd. from page 1)

Sinhala Governments - Banda Chelva pact in 1957 with Late S. W. R. D. Bandaranayahe. and again in 1965 Dudley Senanayake Chelvanayagam pact. Like Moses, he also realized that pacts can be torn at any moment. He realized that Sinhalese will never agree for a democratic Federal form of Government, but will always insist on a unitary form of state. Therefore, like Moses he opted for a division which will result in the formation of a new nation. - Tamil Ealam.

His desire, however was co-existence of two nations within one federal state but the intransigence of Sinhala Governments forced him to opt for separation.

Tamils of Jaffna commemorated Thanthai Chelva birth centenary on March 31st. A meeting was organized near 'Thanthai Chelva Memorial'. Another commemoration meeting was organised in Vavuniya.

A memorial service for life of work of S. J. V. Chelvanayagam was held at St Johns' Church Chundikuli on 15-03-98 and again on 4-4-98 at Uduvil, C. S. I. Church by the members of Tellippalai Church.

At this service conducted by the Rev. V. Rajkumar, of Uduvil Church, the Rev. D. R. Ambalavanar, Dean C. T. S. Chunnakam and Mr. M. Jude Sutharsan, Worker in Charge of Araly Church, paid tributes to the Late Leader. The Sermon was preached by Rev. V. Rajkumar.

Considerable Delay in Granting Permission To Leave Jaffna

B. B. C on its Tamil Service on 27th March Thamilosai stated that according to a Tamil Journalist in Jaffna many who applied five months ago, to visit their close relatives outside of Jaffna are still awaiting for a reply.

There is a considerable delay in the processing applications. In many cases it takes more than five months to process. Only those who go to Colombo on official purposes, for weddings of close relations and for higher educational purposes are granted permission to travel to Colombo. Virtually empty planes fly from Jaffna said the journalist.

The Civil authorities in Jaffna are unable to do anything on this matter, as granting of permission lies in the hands of Civil Affairs Officer of the Armed Forces, the journalist said further.

Will those concerned do something to make travel easier for people in Jaffna. Families are separated and scattered because of the war and naturally, people would like to see their dear ones at least once in a way.

*

Director of Education Died

Mr. S. Ratnarajah Director of Education Jaffna, Zone I died in India on 30th March. He was seriously ill for a few months and was 56 years old at the time of his death. His body was flown to Colombo on Wednesday 01-04-1998 and then brought to Jaffna the following day where it was laid in state. Last rights were performed at Velanai his birth place.

Directors, Principals, Teachers and students of Zones II and friends gathered in large numbers to pay their lost respects.

Late Mr. Ratnarajah was an old boy of Jaffna College, Undergraduate Department.

O Young and Fearless Prophet

S. Ralph Harlow

Tune: 'Aurelia'

1

O young and fearless Prophet of ancient Galilee;
Thy life is still a summons to serve humanity,
To make our thoughts and actions less prone to please the crowd
To stand with humble courage for Truth with hearts uncowed.

2

We marvel at the purpose that held Thee to Thy course
While over on the hilltop before Thee loomed the cross;
Thy steadfast face set forward where love and duty shone
While we betray so quickly and leave Thee there alone.

3

O help us stand unswerving against war's bloody way
Where hate and falsehood hold back Christ's holy sway
Fobid false love of country, that blinds us to His call
Who lifts above the nation the brotherhood of all.

4

Create in us the splendor that dawns when hearts are kind,
That knows not race nor station as boundaries of the mind;
That learns to value beauty, in heart, or brain, or soul,
And longs to bind God's children into one perfect whole.

5

Stir up in us a protest against the greed of wealth,
While men go starved and hungry who plead for work and health
Whose wives and little children cry out for lack of bread,
Who spend their years o'er-weighted beneath a gloomy dread.

6

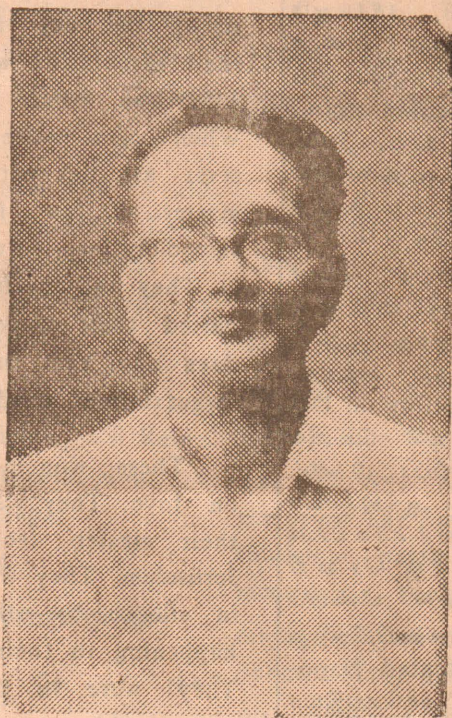
O young and fearless Prophrt we need Thy presence here.
Amid our pride and glory to see Thy face appear;
Once more to hear Thy challenge above our noisy day.
Again to lead us forward along God's holy way.

Amen.

Taken from 'Jaffna College Miscellany' March 1939

Fondly Remembered

William Gnanasigamany Annappa



Born in Christ: 18-07-1918

Called to Glory: 09-04-1990

"Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth,
the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be
bond or free"

Ephesians 6:8