

News and Articles in
Tamil and English
Please send them to:

THE EDITOR,

'The Morning Star,
Diocesan office,
Vaddukoddai.

THE MORNING STAR

Registered as a Newspaper at the General Post Office, Sri Lanka
under No. Q / J / 104 / News / 89
Established: 1841 A Christian Weekly Published Every Friday
Vol: 155 Jaffna, Friday 25. March 1994 No: 07
RIGHTOUSNESS EXALTETH A NATION BUT SIN IS A REPROACH TO ANY PEOPLE

Subscript' O..

Island : Rs. 100

For Advertisements

Apply to:

THE MANAGER

'The Morning Star,
Diocesan office,
Vaddukoddai

Special Diocesan Council

There will be a special meeting of the Council of the Jaffna Diocese of the Church of South India on Saturday, 7th May, 1994 at Vaddukoddai. This Council is summoned to ratify and incorporate all the amendment of the Constitution that had been passed by the Council since publication of the Constitution in 1979. The constitution published in 1979 incorporated all amendments up to the end of the Diocesan Council of 1979.

*

Harriet Winslow Day

9th of April is the Harriet Winslow Day. Mrs. Harriet Wadsworth Winslow was the founder of the Uduvil Girls' College. There will be a play depicting the life and work of Mrs. Winslow at Uduvil Girls' College on Saturday, 9th April, 1994 at 3.30 p.m.

*

Competition in Lyric Composition

The Music Committee of the Jaffna Diocese of the Church of South India is conducting a competition in lyric writing. This competition is open to all. The first prize is Rs. 2,500/-, second prize Rs. 1,500/- and third prize Rs. 1,000/-. The Music Committee has also announced several consolation prizes. The poets are asked to send their lyrics before Tuesday, 31st May, 1994 to the Convener, Music Committee, Jaffna Diocese of the Church of South India, Vaddukoddai.

*

Evangelistic Festival

The Evangelistic Festival of the Jaffna Diocese of the Church of South India will be held on the 18th of June 1994 at Christa Seva Ashram, Maruthanamadam. It will be a full day programme.

*

Clergy Transfer

The Executive Committee of the Jaffna Diocese of the Church of South India which met on the 18th March 1994 decided to make the following transfers as from the 1st of May, 1994

Colombo Assistant: Mr. K. S. Joseph
Samathanapuram & Konavil: Mr. G. D. Mynaselvan
Kudathanalai:
Usan;

Mr. N. T. Jeyanesan

Rev Benjamin Jeyarajah

Deans Elected

Last week elections were conducted for the posts of Deans in three important faculties of the University of Jaffna. The following were elected.

Dean of the Faculty of ARTS:

PROF P Balasundarampillai

Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture

A. Navaratnarajah Dean of

the Faculty of science Prof S Maheswaran(uncontested)

Re dedication of the Chavakachcheri Church

Readers are aware of how the above Church was bombed and badly damaged on December 30th, 1993. This Church was completely renovated and re-dedicated on Sunday the 13th March at a service of Holy Communion. The celebrant was the Rt. Rev. D. J. Ambalavanar while the Rt. Rev. Dr. S Jebanesan gave the message.

Bishop Jebanesan in his message said how the Jews rejoiced at the ceremony of Hanukkah which was the celebration of the dedication of the Temple of Jerusalem after its restoration and so this service was Hanukkah for the congregation of Chavakachcheri. He reminded them of the history of that Church from the time Dr. John Scudder in 1834, other missionaries and our own pastors who served there. He also said how in 1957 an extension was completed and the building as it is today was dedicated. He read extracts from the pamphlet that was put out on that occasion by Rev. A. C. Thambiyarajah a poem written by the late Mr. K. P. Muttiah tracing the history and commanding all those who served. few words of late Rev. E K. Yesuthason who loved his mother church and worked there.

The service was followed by a fellowship breakfast in the Parish Hall. The congregation then felicitated Bishop and Mrs. Jebanesan and bade farewell to Rev. & Mrs. S. P. Jeyasingham. They were garlanded by the parish and children of the Girls' Home. Brother Lawrence the present Pastor spoke a few words in welcome. Mr. A. R. Raji then spoke and made a presentation to Bishop Jebanesan. Then Mrs. Mala Thevskumar and children of the Girls' Home sang. Speeches of appreciation

(Continued to page 4)

A LOVING TRIBUTE

Mr. Raymond Muthiah

While the night was slipping away from the spell of darkness to the glorious light of day on 3rd Dec. 93 Raymond left us to see the dawn bursting in glory on eternal shores. No cry of despair broke the night, as silently as the winged his way to meet his Creator in silent acceptance of the call of his Beloved. He stepped from mortality to immortality on his Birthday having behind his eternal flame to burn on through the years to come.

I had the privilege of getting to know Raymond in the year 1976 when I was Executive Engineer Pallai Division & Raymond was the Executive Engineer Jaffna Division. He was a brilliant Engineer with lot of horse sense that helped him to take quick decision with great success. Apart from being gifted with a pleasing disposition and genial personality he was liked by even his most difficult superior while being popular with his colleagues & subordinates. I have never seen Raymond losing his temper. He was gentle in mannerism and firm in conviction.

He has left an indelible imprint on the lives of all those who came in contact with him. When pain racked his body he was restless yet he went on casting his benevolent reliance until he burnt himself out in the service of others. It is the irresistible charm of his simplicity that attracts all to him. He was always approachable & eager to know and understand the problem of all those who came to him for help & guidance.

The flickering little flame of his lamp is a blazing furnace now, getting its light & warmth from the very Source of Light. "As one lamp lights another nobility enkindleth nobility" and so Raymond will move on - as the instrument of the Almighty to spread His Light & Love to all who came in contact with him.

(Continued to page 4)

A NOTE TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS

Inland Subscribers are kindly requested to send their annual subscription of Rs 100/- to the Manager before the end of April 1994.

Please notify if there is a change in your address

Manager

The Morning Star

Diocese Office, Vaddukoddai.

25 - 03 - 1994

EDITORIAL

The Retirement of The Vice Chancellor

The retirement of Prof A. Thurairajah from the post of Vice Chancellor of the University of Jaffna is a big blow to the entire Tamil Community of Sri-Lanka. Ill health has compelled him to retire from his office and change his residence to Colombo. He has accepted the post of Vice Chancellor of the Open University.

Professor Thurairajah assumed office as the Vice Chancellor of the University of Jaffna about six years ago. Prior to this he was the Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Peradeniya. When he realized his services were required in his troubled home-land he gave up his comfortable life in the hill Capital and took residence in Jaffna. At the time he came to Jaffna, the Indian Peace Keeping Force was controlling the North-East Province and there was intermittent clashes between the I.P.K.F. and Tamil Militants. There was also a feeling of uncertainty about the future of the University of Jaffna. His friends discouraged him from going to the North. But in 1988 he came to Jaffna and took charge of the University.

Many factors compelled him to take this step. He loved his land; He loved his people. He was keen to improve the academic standard of the University. He was driven by the desire to impart scientific knowledge among his people. He felt that if the kids of Jaffna are given a sound knowledge in Science the economy of the land would improve. He gave his support and encouragement to all the research organizations and Technical Institutes in Jaffna.

During the tenure of his office he saw the Tamil people undergoing great hardships. Many eminent scholars and technically qualified persons migrated to affluent countries. It had become very difficult to find suitable lecturers to handle science subjects, especially in the department of Botany. His dream of establishing an Engineering Faculty did not materialize. The Medical Faculty suffered much loss because of the death of qualified lecturers.

The government's attitude towards admission to this University and financial allocation was far from satisfactory. Prof. Thurairajah's endurance, perseverance and ability helped him to steer the University through this difficult period.

Professor Thurairajah was an efficient administrator. There might have been resentment from some quarters because of his strict discipline. But he liked neither flattery nor cheap popularity. He cherished integrity, in administration, appointment and promotion. He established strong links with some of the finest Universities of the west and infused modern thinking and scientific methodology in the University.

Prof. Thurairajah, believed strongly in the dictum of Thomas Jefferson that Education is the only avenue to all kinds of progress. While thanking Professor Thurairajah for all what he did to Jaffna, the Morning Star wishes him success in his new position and long life.

OBITUARY

Mr. S. S. Thuraisingam

Mr. S. S. Thuraisingam a former Principal of Atchuveley Christian College passed away peacefully in Ontario, Canada on the 19th March 1994. Mr. Thuraisingam was the father of Suthanthira, who was a worker in our Diocese for some time. The funeral took place in Canada on the 20th March.

Rededication

(Continued from page 1) about Rev. & Mrs. Jayasingham's pastoral care and work were made by Mr. P. S. Gnanaseelan and Mrs. Thirukumar. The Secretary of the Church Mr. S. V. Vytilingam gave a vote of thanks and made a presentation to the Jayasinghams.

At the function were also present Mr. I. Balasubramaniam of the Staff J. C. I. T and the

COLOMBO CHURCH NEWS: University Council says

Called to Rest

Name of Deceased: Mrs Cecily Sornamalar Ariyaratnam Date of Death: 28-11-1993 Funeral Service: A. F. Raymond Funeral Parlour Burial at General Cemetery, Kanatte Funeral Service conducted by Rev. S. Jeyanesan

Good-bye to Vice Chancellor

The Council of the University of Jaffna accorded a farewell lunch to the retiring Vice-Chancellor Prof. A. Thurairajah at Hotel Gnanams on Thursday the 24th March. The function was presided over by Prof K. Kunaratnam the acting Vice-Chancellor. Bishop S. Jebanesan a senior member of the council paid a glowing tribute to the retiring Vice-Chancellor. He said that Prof. Thurairajah had genuine interest in the economic development and scientific advancement of the Tamil Community. He was a very courageous person who came of Jaffna in 1988 from the University of Peradeniya, when the situation appeared to be rather bleak here. Prof. Thurairajah was an able administrator who ran the University efficiently during this difficult period of internal conflict in Sri Lanka. Prof. Thurairajah in his reply thanked the council members for their co-operation and assured them that he would continue to work for the development of the Jaffna University.

Jaffna College

(Continued from page 1)

College (Year I): Second K. Sarangan of Ponnalai, Varatharajah Perumal Vidyayala (Year II), Third K. Sivasuganthan of Jaffna College (Year II); and Fourth R. Saravanan of Jaffna College (Year II).

For years three and four the winners were: First, Sinthuja Ganeshalingam of Jaffna College (Year III); Second, Seethuran Sithamparanathan of Jaffna College (Year IV); Third, S. Sugani also of Jaffna College (Year IV); and Fourth, Thayananthan Narmatha, likewise Jaffna College (Year III).

Years five and six produced as First Prize, R. Senthuran of Moolai Saivapiragasa Vidyayala (Year VI); Second Prize, A. Geethananthan of Jaffna College (Year VI); Third, A. Krishnamoorthy of Ponnalai Varatharaja Permal Vidyayala (Year VI); and Fourth Prize, V. Sivajini of Jaffna College (Year V).

The Lions Club is indebted to the teachers and parents and judges who helped to make the day a success. The Prizes and the certificates will be distributed at the beginning of the new school term. Dr. R.G. Porter and Mr. P. L. Maasilpillai were project coordinators.

A Loving Tribute.....

(Continued from page 1)

We will remember him as a man of faith & love, as one whom we were privileged to know whose shadow passed over us, testifying the quality of life that has enriched our own. There is no doubt that the Angels of God would have escorted him into Paradise.

— Jayaweerasingham

workmen who helped to restore the Church. Their help and work were appreciated and commended.

Dear Readers

Please let us know by letter or post card before end of April 1994, if you are receiving the "Morning Star." We are updating our mailing list.

Manager

In Memoriam



In loving Memory of

Eliyathambiy David Rasaratnam

Called to rest
on 28-04-1993

In Gods care you
rest above.

In our heart
you dwell with love

Fondly remembered
and sadly missed
by your
LOVED ONES