



CREATING CONFLICTS!

Nothing can be more ironical than subversive activities in the name of religion to be allowed to take place while leaders of the different Faiths frequently meet in conferences professing to advance the cause of toleration and goodwill.

Double-standards in life can be the most dangerous practice in a country where religions have established a tradition of religiousness. What doth it profiteth a man if he should lose his soul and gain everything else.

The world is large enough to accommodate any number of Faiths which in the first instance teach humanity the sacred truth that there is a God by whatever Name He is worshipped.

In Sri Lanka, should it be said that there cannot be the slightest difficulty for one to practise one's religion without in any way causing inconvenience to others. Buddhists Hindus, Muslims and Christians in their order of numerical strength need not have any misgivings unless it be that there are miscreants who do not understand the significance of spiritual life and create conflicts.

In this context of a happy tradition of religious toleration, it is regrettable that at the sacred spot that is the Ancient Shrine of Thiruketheeswaram, attempts are being mischievously made by certain elements to upset the common understanding between the different Religious Orders there, namely the Saivites and the Catholics.

The events of twenty years ago that led to a stir at this very spot had eventually ended in a harmonious trend. The provocative activities of a few misguided persons to cause a Church to be established at the very entrance of the road leading to Thirukethees-

waram came to a standstill with Sri Kanthiab Vaithianatha the dynamic personality that presided over the functions of the Thiruketheeswaram Restoration Society, in a clear and convincing manner explained in his famous Thiruketheeswaram Papers that the sacredness of the surroundings of any shrine should not be violated and that the Thiruketheeswaram Premises should not be encroached upon by other Denominational Bodies.

It was not a truce; a conclusive understanding it was. Years have happily passed by.

However, notwithstanding the harmonious solving of a problem that threatened to assume dangerous proportions, there seems, to be a re-kindling of the same fire of fanatical outbursts just now. How far this re-agitation has the approval of higher authorities, we do not know.

Let us be true to ourselves; we the inheritors of the rich traditions of the different religious denominations that adorn this historic Isle cannot afford to be otherwise.

Any number of Viharas Temples, Churches and Mosques can be established; but let not one covet the precincts of any other place of worship.

Thiruketheeswaram has been hallowed by the passage of time. Not a single Catholic will refute the fact that Christianity could not have been embraced in this country before it had been founded. Nor can the truth of Catholicism having been introduced by the Portuguese invaders be denied. Still less can it be disputed that the ancient shrine of Tiruketheeswaram was destroyed by the invaders.

No historian, nor any chronicler can say anything to the contrary.

Tiruketheeswaram has a history of several centuries. Mathodam cannot be disfigured. The pure waters of the sacred Palavi gift the Holy Premises and point out geographical descriptions of the Sacred Area that is Tiruketheeswaram.

Let us all learn to live in peace in the name of our religions. Let not one interfere with the other in the practice of one's Faith.

Distinguished Career REACHES DESTINATION

Shri M. Sri Kantha Passes Away

A guiding star in the religious, cultural, educational and administrative firmament has disappeared. Gifted with natural capabilities of a great capacity for work, Sri Mylvaganam Sri Kantha joined the Ceylon Civil Service as a young graduate and rapidly rose in the ladder of administrative service holding several posts of responsibility, among others, as A. G. A., Jaffna G. A.; Northern Province and Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Lands, Irrigation and Power.

His fervour for the development of the agricultural and irrigation prospects of this country was such that the entire Killinochchi, Paranthan, Poonakari, Mullaitivu areas were able to re-establish their ancient glory as granaries of the North.

The confidence with which he piloted all popular schemes had been due to his sitting at the feet of Yogar Swamigal along with his renowned father. There had been a religious back-ground all throughout his life.

The Siva Thondan Nilayam that was established by Swamigal found in Sri Sri Kantha a devoted disciple.

The reconstruction of the ancient Nagaboosai Amman Temple in the Islet of Nizhativu and the consecration of Pillaiyar Temple at Mulangavil are among the several religious activities of this great organizer.

The Sri Arumuga Navalar Sabha stands as a standing testimony to the devotional service Sri Sri Kantha had done for the preservation of the priceless works of the Great Navalar.

The Parameswara Board of Directors had in Sri Sri Kantha an enthusiastic Treasurer, to make the Trust worthy of the founder's aspirations.

As Founder of the Ceylon Sekilar Manram Sri Kantha made it possible for the study of Saiva Literature in its true perspective.

As an educationist he was appropriately appointed as member of the University Council of Jaffna.

Here is a life worthy of remembrance and emulation; a whole life-time that was spent in lofty thinking and noble deeds.

The country has lost a great Social and religious worker.

The Jaffna Co-operative Stores Ltd.

420, Hospital Road : : Jaffna.

WHEREAS the legal Heirs of the late Mr. Muthukumar Vaithilingam of 'Sabarmathy' Alady, Karainagar have applied to the Directors of the above-named Company for the issue of a Duplicate Certificate in respect of One (1) Ordinary Share, numbered: 358, registered in the name of late Mr. Muthukumar Vaithilingam, the originals of which is represented to have been destroyed, lost or misplaced; NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT if within two weeks here of no claim is made to or no objection lodged with the undersigned, the Directors will proceed to deal with the application for Duplicate Certificate the originals of which will be deemed to have been cancelled.

420, Hospital Road,
JAFFNA.

G. SRI MANOHARAN,
22nd, January. 1982. (16) Secretary

Mavai Atheneam
Greets Sivaya
Subramuniya Swami

Extracts from the address presented to the Holy Swamiji by Maharaja Sri S. D. Shanmuganatha Kurukkal Managing High Priest of Mavai Atheneam)

The Brahmin Devotees who in the glorious past consecrated this Ancient Shrine - Mavai Atheneam had also made provisions for the regular performances of Yagyas, Prayers and Charitable Acts. We of the present generation by virtue of our ancient heritage that is traceable to the Kasipa Rishi Gotra and by reason of the spiritual guidance of the teachings of Yajur-Vedha along with our strict adherence to the Bodhayana Sutras that constitute our life-potential, notwithstanding the pressures exerted by the agents of modernism, materialism and barbarism, are able to survive because of our Dharmic pursuits and adherence to the Upanishadic principles—'Sathiyam Vatha' - "Dharmam Chara"

O! Swamiji, Disciples: Your Spiritual Service is not of the ordinary; it is fertile and fruitful. There are many aspects that await realization. Saiva Siddhantha has neither beginning nor end. And so is the Saiva World, Thou, thyself art so.

(To be continued)

வான்முகில் வழாது பெய்க் கலிவளர்க் கர்க்க மன்னன் கோவமுறை யாக செய்த குறைவில் அபிரக்கி வழக் கூறுமுறை யாகுக் கொங்க நீற்றும் வெள்ளி முடு மேஜாவுகளின் கால்வதி விளங்குக் கூலக் குளவாரம்.

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