

**JAFFNA COLLEGE**  
**MISCELLANY**

**ALLEN ABRAHAM-HALLEY'S COMET  
NUMBER**

**1985**





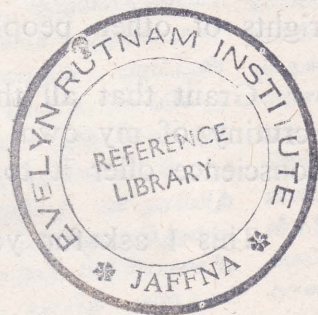
# **JAFFNA COLLEGE MISCELLANY**

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**Editor: Mr. S. Jebanesan**

**Manager: Mr. A. Jeyarajan**



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1985

## Help me to be the Servant of Goodness

O God, you gave me the gift and the responsibility of using words. Help me in all my writing and my speaking to be the servant of goodness, of beauty and of truth. Help me never to write or to say anything which would injure another's innocence or take another's faith away.

Help me never to write or say anything which would make that which is wrong more attractive, or which would soil the mind of anyone who reads or hears it.

Help me never to pander to that which is low, never to seek popularity at the expense of truth, never to be more concerned with sensations than with facts, and always to respect the feelings and the rights of other people.

Grant that all that I write or say be such that it can stand the scrutiny of my own conscience, and such that I could with a clear conscience offer it to you.

This I ask for your love's sake. AMEN.

**William Barclay**



## Back to the Bullock Cart Age



Some twenty years ago some of us who were then old enough to recall the still earlier era were thinking with nostalgia of the loss we had sustained in the passing away of the bullock cart from the local scene. We would set out from Chavakachcheri at six in the morning after a pretty hearty meal. Jostling into each other we would chatter, tell stories, crack jokes at the expense of one another or at our own till through sheer weariness bullocks had to stop for the acquisition of fresh vigour by the absorption of sufficient bran fodder and water. Our journey would be punctuated by such an exercise till we reached Vaddukoddai by 12 noon.

In retrospect we would utter to ourselves.

“Oh for those wild and wonderful days and how we wish we had them again”

Dear Readers ! “Your dreams have come true not because of any of a wish of your own but because of the poor supply of petrol in the troubled Peninsula.

— *Primary School Children of Jaffna College and the Bullock Carts that bring them to school.*



## JAFFNA COLLEGE BOARD OF DIRECTORS — 1985



**Seated (L. — R.):** Mr. S. S. Selvadurai (Treasurer), Rt. Rev. Dr. S. Kulandran, Mr. S. Rajanayagam, Mr. J. M. Sabaratnam (Chairman), Rt. Rev. D. J. Ambalavanar, Mr. A. Kadirgamar (Principal) and Miss C. V. Selliah.

**Standing (L.—R.):** Mr. K. Gunaratnam, Rev. D. R. Ampalavanar, Mr. K. Pooranampillai, Dr. D. C. Ambalavanar (Secretary), Dr. W. D. Joshua and Mr. Leslie Bartlett.

**Absent :** Mr. A. C. Canagarajah (Vice - Chairman)



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## Editorial Notes

The year under review has been one of intense emotion and tragedies which makes one feel about the ineffectiveness of human minds and institutions to sustain humanitarian standards in the conduct of public affairs. Due to the constraints on the expression of opinion we refrain from expressing our view on those matters. No longer do we continue to believe that such views would evoke responses from those who wield power and influence in the land. We are only too aware that such conduct on our part is immoral and irresponsible. But in this state of helplessness we could only appeal to providence for relief.

A major casualty of recent developments in this country and particularly in this part of the Island is a fall in the standards of education and educational values.

There was a time in the modern era when the peninsula gave the lead on matters of secondary and professional education. Now it is a thing of the past and the irony of fate is that the state of education here is one of confusion, disorder and degeneration—a state which has resulted from the combined effect of serious flaws in state Educational policy. The adoption of new criteria for the selection of candidates for professional education and recruitment to public services have contributed to a general apathy towards education, discipline and led to increasing frustration.

Although the successive Sri Lankan Governments since independence have paid great attention to education and accepted free education as a means of social emancipation and progress yet there has been a disequilibrium in the manner in which the benefits of education have been allowed to be reaped.

It is distressing to realize that there has been no review of national educational policy on scientific lines and sound educational principles. In order to redress the imbalances in the general advancement of education in the country as a whole, medium-wise standardization and district quotas have been adopted as short cuts to circumvent some of the principal problems in education. These have had the adverse effects of introducing an element of populism and what



is even worse alienating further the two main communities in the Island. The principle of equality of opportunity and free and open competition should be accepted as the cardinal principle of national educational policies as this alone could redress regional imbalances and create an atmosphere of mutual confidence which is vital for national reconciliation and integration.

Jaffna had developed a system of modern education through the agencies of Protestant missions and the enterprise of other religious denominations. Education was the enterprise in which the Northern Tamil co-ordinated his resources, cultivated this tradition of co-operative endeavour and a spirit of dedicated service. The attainments through education were so enormous and so evident that they need not be recapitulated here. But at present the picture appears to be a dismal one in the background of past achievement. The facilities provided are comparatively poor. The quality of teachers has fast declined. There is a general lack of discipline everywhere within the school premises, and the school administration, parents and the discerning local elite seem to be helpless in respect of all these developments. A continuation of this state of affairs will be productive of total chaos. The crying need of the hour is to make a reappraisal of this situation. Any nation or society which does not periodically review the basic assumptions underlying its institutions and administration cannot progress and survive. It may also be emphasized that the principle of education through the national languages be meaningfully reviewed. While improving the facilities in every possible way for implanting modern and scientific knowledge through the medium of national languages adequate steps should be taken to enable school children and those in the higher centres of learning to acquire a working knowledge of the English Language which in our own regional context provides the key to modernization. For the maintenance of a free democratic society to which we remain committed such a scheme of education is of vital importance.

#### **In Memoriam :**

This issue carries a lengthy article on Mr. I. P. Thurairatnam who was an important member of the Christian community for many years. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the college for nearly fifty years. We trust this article will clearly show



what we have lost by the disappearance of this acute, incisive and brilliant person. Though most of his life was spent as Principal of a sister school he was also at the same time identified with this College and was somehow looked upon as closely associated with us as with his own college.

Compared with Mr. I. P. Thuraiatnam, Mr. C. E. Anandarajan the late Principal of St. Johns College was not as much part of this College. But through family connection and early education he is entitled to our attention. Apart from this, such an endearing and popular figure as he deserves attention on our part. His chief ability was to be a strong and effective administrator without losing his popularity; a genial figure, smiling countenance, engaging conversationalist will continue to be missed for a long while to come. In his case also we hope to publish an article.

#### **Farewell :**

We regret in this issue to bid farewell to Mr W. N. Thevakadacham who was connected with this College for 36 years, during the last three years of which he was supervisor of the Primary school. Under him the Primary school made much progress. We wish him long life and continued health in his retirement.

Mr. A. M. Brodie who served us as a teacher of English for 31 years and as Manager of the Miscellany for thirteen years also decided to retire at the end of the first term. We wish him and his daughter Sharmalene a pleasant stay in U. K. Last year we also said good bye to Mr. N. S. Ratnasingam who served as our librarian in a very important period in the development of the Daniel Poor Library. We wish these teachers comfort and happiness in their retirement.

#### **Congratulations:**

We are happy to welcome into the administration of the College Mrs. L. B. Thambyrajah usually called Pushparanee Teacher. In August 1985 she took up duties as supervisor of the primary school in place of Mr. W. N. Thevakadacham. She is a grand-daughter of Mr. S. S. Sanders who was for a long time in charge of the finances of the college and the daughter of Mr. A. R. Abraham who was on the staff of our Middle School. We are sure she will make good in her position and maintain the tradition of the family's services to the college.



### Allen Abraham Supplement

Our readers will be happy that in this year of Halley's Comet we are publishing an Allen Abraham Supplement to the Miscellany. We are thankful to those who have contributed articles to this section. Prof. C. J. Eliezer of the La-Trobe University Australia deserves our special thanks. Allen Abraham is said to have combined in himself "the brilliancy of a student, the ability of a teacher, the love and care of a fond parent, the thoroughness and punctuality of a well-disciplined life, the nobility and great heartedness of a generous nature, the upright character and saintly conduct of a perfect Christian Gentleman".

### அலன் ஆபிரகாம் மலர்

யாழ்ப்பாணக் கல்லூரியின் 1985ஆம் ஆண்டுச் சஞ்சிகையை அலன் ஆபிரகாம் மலராக வெளியிடுவதற்கு பெருமிதமடைகின்றோம். 1910ஆம் ஆண்டு தோன்றிய ஹலி வால்வெள்ளியைப்பற்றிச் சரியான கணிப்பீடு செய்து உலகப் புகழ்பெற்ற இம் மாமேதை நமது கல்லூரியிலே 1891ஆம் ஆண்டு கணித ஆசிரியராகப் பணியாற்றவந்தார். ஆராய்ச்சி வேட்கை, மாணவர்பால் பேரன்பு, கடின உழைப்பு, இயேசுபிரான் மீது அளவற்ற பக்தி என்பன அலன் ஆபிரகாமிடம் காணப்பட்ட பண்புகள். வானியல் வேத்தவை (Royal Astronomical Society) இவரைத் தனது அங்கத்தவராகச் சேர்த்துப் பெருமைப் பட்டது.

1985ஆம் ஆண்டு ஹலி வால்வெள்ளி மீண்டும் பூமிக்கு அண்மையில் வந்தது. அதனைப் பற்றிய ஆய்வுகள், சொற்பொழிவுகள், கருத்தரங்குகள் என்பன மாமேதை அலன் ஆபிரகாமை நம் அகக்கண் முன்னே நிறுத்தின. நமது கல்லூரியின் வளர்ச்சிக்காகத் தமது உடல், பொருள், ஆவி அனைத்தையும் அர்ப்பணித்த இப்பெரியார் 1922ஆம் ஆண்டு இவ்வுலக வாழ்வை நீத்தார்.

அன்னாரின் வாழ்க்கை வரலாறு, பக்தித்திறன், ஆராய்ச்சித்திறன் என்பனவற்றைப் பற்றிக் கட்டுரைகளை வெளியிட இருக்கின்றோம். அலன் ஆபிரகாம் எழுதி இதுவரை அச்சிடப்படாத சில முக்கியமான கட்டுரைகளையும் பிரசுரிக்கவிருக்கின்றோம். இக் கட்டுரைகளைத் தந்துதவியவர் மேதை அலன் அவர்களின் கனிஷ்ட புதல்வன் ஆ. அருளையா அவர்கள். அவருக்கு நாம் பெரிதுங் கடமைப்பட்டுள்ளோம்.

அலன் அவர்களைப்பற்றிக் கட்டுரைகளை எழுத முன்வந்த பேராசிரியர் ஜெயரத்தினம் எலியேசர், திரு. இ. கதிர்காமர், திரு. து. விசுவநாதன் ஆகியோருக்கு எமது நன்றி என்றும் உரித்தாகுக.

அலன் ஆபிரகாம் பாடிப் பரவிய, துதிமிகு மதிய சுருண சம்பூரண தூய தேவனே எமது குற்றங்களைப் பொறுத்து எமது முயற்சியை ஆசீர்வதிப்பாராக.



# JAFFNA COLLEGE

## PRIZE GIVING — 1985

### CHIEF GUESTS

**Professor K. Sivathamby, M. A., Ph. D.**

*(Professor of Tamil and Head of the Dept. of Fine Arts.  
University of Jaffna)*

AND

**Mrs. Rubavathy Sivathamby**

### PROGRAMME

- Chairman : — Principal
- Hymn : — 'The Hymn for Ceylon'
- Prayer : — Rev. C. T. Roberts
- Welcome : — Primary School  
— Mas. M. Baskaran  
(Junior Secondary School)
- The Principal's Report — A. Kadirgamar Esq.,
- Song : — Tamil Choir
- Address : — Professor K. Sivathamby
- Narration : — Sennior Secondary School
- Prize Distribution — Mrs. Rubavathy Sivathamby
- Vote of Thanks — Mas. G. J. Gunathilagan  
(President School Council)

**Mrs. Shanthakumari Vignarajah**

College Song.



# Prize Giving—1985

## PRAYER

Rev. Christo T. Roberts

Almighty and everliving God ! We come to you with praise and thanks for the blessings you have given to us over the past years. O eternal Spirit. We remember with thankful hearts the inspiration and the vision you bestowed upon your servants through whom we were brought into light from darkness and into knowledge from ignorance.

O Lord, the Liberator ! We come to you also with our humble petitions at this crucial and critical moments of our peoples history. As fear, suspicion, hatred, militarization, violence, death, destruction and brutalizing of human life threaten us with continuing conflict and misery, be our counsel and our strength. Be with all those who strive for justice, peace and freedom for our people in this country. We pray for those who are holding positions of responsibility and are working for a lasting solution for the ethnic issue in this country.

Create in us a sense of belonging and deep longing for unity and peace. Teach us O Lord to see new ways to advance towards unity and peace. Empower us to break down walls that have separated us from others. We also pray that you strengthen us to take part in your Mission to build up just and loving communities and so bringing all humankind into the fellowship of your kingdom.

Take us O Lord from dryness to freshness of spirit. The spirit of the lotus, from emptiness to fullness from rocky stubbornness to a soft heart, from selfishness to selflessness. O God of life, lead us from the works of war and death to those of peace and life. Lead us from darkness to light ; Give us the vision to work for a better society and to bring about the transformation of the world of men and women and thereby transform ourselves.

Be with us. O Lord as we conduct the Prize Giving of this noble institution. Bless the prize-winners who have laboured to win these prizes, bless other students, the members of the staff and the administrators of this institution. Guide the spirit of all those who are participating in this day's proceedings. Let the message of the chief guest inspire the students, teachers and the alumni to go into this fragmented world with hope for even more dedicated service and greater social concern.

Let the light that shone around your Son illumine the hearts of all those present here today. We ask you all this in the name of our Lord and Liberator Jesus Christ. Amen.



PRIZE GIVING — 1985



The Chief Guest Prof. K. Sivathamby delivers  
the Prize Day Address.

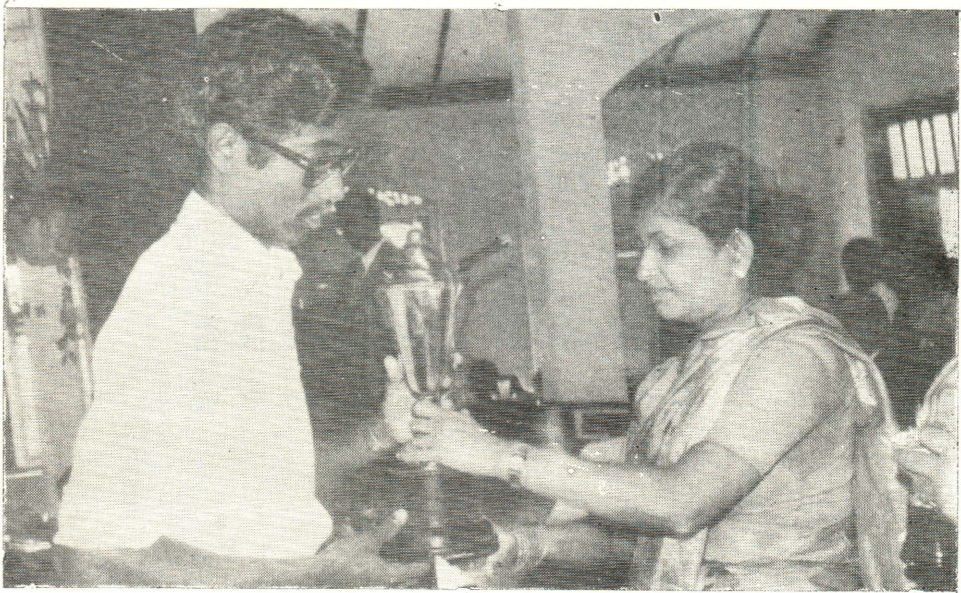


PRIZE GIVING — 1985



A section of those seated on the stage

SENIOR ALL - ROUND SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR — 1984



J. G. Jesurajah, Receiving the Cup from Mrs. R. Sivathamby



## Principal's Report — 1985

*Profesor and Mrs. Sivathamby, our Bishops, Chairman and members of the Board of Directors. Parents, Alumni and Friends:*

We at Jaffna College extend to all of you a hearty welcome to our Annual Prize-Giving once again. In spite of all our travails, we hold this function not in a mood of celebration, but as an essential part of our educational process conducted without interruption through out our entire living memory. We therefore, appreciate very much your presence here and thank you for your participation and encouragement.

Professor and Mrs. Sivathamby, this is not your first visit to us and you have encouraged us by your patronage on other occasions but we welcome and honour you today in a special way to our most important function with much pleasure.

Professor Sivathamby, you are a don of distinction in a field of studies and interests which is our very lifeblood as a distinct people with a language, culture and civilisation of our own. From your schooling at Vigneswara College, Karaveddi and later Zahira College, Colombo you proceeded to the University of Ceylon and obtained your graduate and post-graduate qualifications. You then had a brief stint at teaching at Zahira College and later served as a simultaneous interpreter in the House of Representatives. With your strong motivation for serious study and research you then proceeded to England and obtained the doctorate

from the University of Birmingham, specialising in Drama in Ancient Tamil Society. You then went through the whole gamut as a university teacher-assistant lecturer, lecturer, senior lecturer and associate professor at the University campuses of Vidyodaya and Jaffna and now hold the prestigious chair of Professor of Tamil and Head of the Department of Fine Arts in the University of Jaffna. Your commitment and devotion to the academic has been recognised by scholars in many universities particularly in South India. You have brought a freshness and dynamism to the study of Tamil Literature and Culture through your areas of specialisation—namely the literary and social history of the Tamils; culture and communication among Tamils with special reference to the performing Arts, the theatre and the film; and sociological criticism of literature.

You have a very impressive and extensive record of publications and research articles in your field of studies and have been invited to lecture in several universities and academic institutes abroad including a Senior Visiting Fellowship at the Centre of South Asian Studies at the University of Cambridge. With your knowledge and experience you have contributed much to curriculum development, glossary making, broadcasting and book development in Tamil language, literature and associated areas of interest. As a university don you have not been tempted to follow the beaten track of taking shelter in the sanctuary of the 'ivory tower', but have been willing to face many challenging human situations.



on the plains—the grass roots of our society and culture, throwing your weight about not only intellectually and culturally, but physically as well, in our less academic pursuits as a people! We admire this willingness of yours to break out of the luxury of the protected academic shell.

We admire your achievements and appreciate your friendship to us at Jaffna College. You have a very remarkable knowledge and understanding of our special history and purpose as an educational institution borne out of the American Ceylon Mission. Your constructive and incisive criticisms have been accepted in the best of spirits and they have been most invaluable and relevant to us to re-evaluate our own existence and purpose. We therefore, look forward eagerly to your special message to us today.

We also extend a special welcome to Mrs. Rubavathy Sivathamby today. It is only someone with extremely fine skills in the performing arts who could capture the imagination and entice the critical attention of a professor of fine arts! Mrs. Sivathamby, with your training at Uduvil under the adorable Principal, Miss Hudson Paramasamy you must have scored very high in the estimation of the don. We therefore, invite you to our stage today to perform the very gracious and fine art of distributing the prizes to our students. It will be a performance remembered by them for a long time.

Thank you very much Professor and Mrs. Sivathamby.

#### In Memoriam

I regret to record the death of Mr. I. P. Thuraiaratnam who was at the time of his death the most senior director on the Board of Directors of the college. As a student, teacher, and physical director at Jaffna College Mr. Thuraiaratnam contributed a magnificent share to the progress of the institution. Even after leaving Jaffna College and taking on the Principalship of Union College which he fashioned, he remained the most consistent member on the Board of Directors, and later a founder member on the Council of the Jaffna College Technical and Agricultural Institute. He also served for a period as Vice-Chairman of the Board, Manager of the College and Chairman of the Jaffna College Technical and Agricultural Institute Council. He was the doyen layman of the American Ceylon Mission and later the SIUC and the CSI., and contributed much to the deliberations of the Diocesan Councils here and the Synods in South India. He belonged to that unique trio that brought much pride to Jaffna College—Sri Skandarajah, Selliah and Thuraiaratnam. We shall remember Mr. Thuraiaratnam with much gratitude and praise. A few days before his peaceful death he challenged me with the question, "Can you produce such a formidable trio?" It was a difficult challenge! Bicknell takes the credit.

The tragic and unexpected death of Mr. C. E. Anandarajan, Principal of St. John's College has been mourned deeply not only by St. John's College but by a large community of educationists and friends here and abroad. Mr. Anandarajan



was an old student of Jaffna College having started his schooling here and he belonged to the very well-known Williams family very closely associated with the College and the Church. His contribution to St. John's College as teacher and Principal has been acclaimed as one of great success and one of distinct achievement. Mr. Anandarajan's unfailing presence and encouragement at all the important functions at Jaffna College is remembered with much gratitude. We shall miss him very much indeed. We wish to convey to St. John's College and his family our deepest sympathies.

#### Staff

At the moment there are sixty-three members on the academic Staff—46 in the Secondary School and 17 in the Primary School. There are 11 members on the non-academic staff. Of the 63 on the academic staff 39 are graduates 17 of them holding post-graduate qualifications. There are 21 trained or specialist teachers and three teachers with Advanced Level qualifications to be trained in due course. There are 16 jubilarians on the present staff, many having served the college for thirty years or more. Of the 63 members on the academic staff 35 are men and 28 women.

Miss J. J. Thanabalasingham who was on study leave returned to us after completing her B. Sc. degree at the Madras University as a student of Women's Christian College, Madras.

We welcome the following new teachers who joined the college this year—Mrs. K. Navaratnarajah and Mr. K. S. Thissairasa with trained teachers quali-

fications ; Mr. A. A. Paul, B. Sc. (Special) Chemistry of the Ceylon University ; Miss H. A. Thambinayagam and Mr. A. D. Athisayathan with A/L qualifications and Miss E. P. Kadirgamar with Western music qualifications. Five of these are alumni and we wish all of them a happy and useful period of service here.

The following teachers are on study leave. Messrs. N. A. Vimalendran and K. Thangarajah are on one year's leave to do their Diploma in Education at the University of Jaffna.

Mr. G. Rajanayagam goes abroad this term for a year's study at the Princeton Theological Seminary, U. S. A. for the Master's degree in Christian Education. Mr. Rajanayagam is head of the department of religious work, and has been the Secretary of the Cathedral Church, Vaddukoddai, and has served for the last two years as lay-pastor of the church as well. He has supervised and organised all the religious activities in the college. This year he participated in two international conferences of Asia one in Seoul, South Korea and the other in Okinawa, Japan. Besides being a teacher of English, Tamil and Religion he has also been one of our coaches in soccer. We congratulate and wish him a fruitful period of study in U. S. A., and expect an even greater contribution to the college and the Christian community on his return.

The following teachers retired during the course of the year :

Mr. S. A. Paulraj leaves us after 34 years of service. He was a very efficient and conscientious teacher in the



Primary School, his subjects being Tamil, Arithmetic, Social Studies and Religion. He was considered a very successful teacher and helped to lay the foundations to many a good student. I had the privilege of being tutored by him when I started life at Jaffna College. He played a very important part in the Primary School sports meets, concerts and a number of celebrations associated with the Primary School. He was a very loyal teacher and we will always look upon his contribution to the college with much gratitude. We wish him well in his retirement. He is now serving as a warden of the Levi Spaulding Boys' Home at Vaddukoddai.

Mr. P. A. Amirthanathan served the institution for 25 years and mention of his contributions had been made at the last Prize-Giving when reference was made to him as a jubilarian. I need not repeat the remarks made in appreciation of his services earlier, I want to endorse all that I said about his contribution as a versatile artist in the last report and thank and wish him well in his retirement.

Mrs. S. N. Kanagaratnam served the college as a Primary School teacher for a period of 31 years. She was a Tamil trained teacher and was very successful, particularly with the smaller children. Being a very loyal and efficient teacher she contributed much to all the colourful activities of the Primary School particularly the sports, cultural and literary activities. I want to thank her and wish her well in her retirement.

Mr. A. M. Brodie retired after a service of 31 years. As a student and teacher he played a very active role in

the college. He was an all-round sportsman and captained the 1st XI soccer, cricket and the athletic teams as a student. He was also President of the School Council. He was a specialist teacher of English Language and obtained a post graduate qualification at the University of Sydney in the Teaching of English as a Second Language and was Head of the English Department. He was President of the Y. M. C. A., House Master, Patron of the Brotherhood, a warden, the Alumni Relations Officer and Manager of the Miscellany. His contacts with alumni was wide-ranging and he was able to build up the life membership of the Alumni Association very much during his period of office. The Miscellany too was very well managed and won the admiration of the students, teachers, the alumni, the parents and the general public. Besides all these he also served for a period as Secretary of the Cathedral Church Vaddukoddai and helped the Christian community here. I want to place on record our deep appreciation. Jaffna College will ever remain grateful for his services and we thank and wish him well in his retirement. He is now of great help to the college in enlisting alumni support in U. K.

Mr. W. N. Thevakadacham served on the staff as a Primary School teacher for 36 years. He was supervisor of the Primary School for the last  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years. During his period of service he was the most versatile teacher in the Primary School department, being the chief organiser of all its colourful and enjoyable celebrations, the chief of which was the Primary School sports meet. As super-



visor he was able to further strengthen all the sports, cultural, religious and literary activities of the Primary School. He was a very outstanding layman of the Jaffna Diocese and a well-known social worker taking active leadership roles in the St. John's Ambulance, the Y. M. C. A., the CNAPT, the village committees and the Lions Clubs. He was selected to read a paper at an international conference on the prevention of tuberculosis in Moscow a few years ago. He brought much honour and prestige to the institution as a teacher with his sincere social concerns. We wish to thank him for all the services he rendered the college and community and wish him a useful period of retirement. We know his services will be much sought after by several service organisations now.

Mr. M. Ariaratnam, the office peon retired after more than forty years of service in the college. He and his family have been associated with the college probably from its very inception. Ariaratnam carried out his duties most efficiently and was a very loveable landmark in the life of the institution. We shall miss him much. He still looks very young and able, and we thank and wish him well in his period of retirement.

Mr. N. Nirmalan, our Chemistry teacher resigned to take up a government job. The usual farewell functions were held for him by the staff and students. He was known as a very painstaking and efficient teacher of Chemistry and we thank and wish him well in his new sphere of work and activity.

Mr. P. G. Gnanaseelan, our Chemistry teacher for the London A/L classes left

us during the course of the year. We thank him for the services rendered to the English medium classes.

Mr. K. Ponnudurai our carpentry teacher left us for employment abroad; Miss S. Jesudasan who was on study leave had to leave the country to join her parents in India; Mr. A. Gunendra, our library assistant left us to go abroad and Mr. V. Pathmanathan who was on study leave also decided to stay back in India.

Miss S. Brodie, a western music teacher in the school had to resign on her going abroad to get married. We thank, congratulate and wish her well in her new role abroad.

Mr. M. Jeyaranjan, laboratory assistant in the physics department had to resign to go abroad. We wish to thank him for the services rendered.

We want to welcome Mrs. L. B. Thambyrajah as the new supervisor of the Primary School. She is an old student of the college and belongs to the third generation in her family serving the institution, namely Mr. S. S. Sanders (grandfather) and Mr. A. R. Abraham (father). She has Tamil and English trained qualifications. She has thirty years of teaching experience and has completed twenty-five years at Jaffna College and joins the large band of jubilarians this year. She has contributed much to the teaching of English in the Primary School and to all activities associated with English and Western Music. We congratulate her as a jubilarian and on her new appointment as supervisor of



the Primary School, and expect a great contribution from her in the future too.

Mrs. A. Balasingam, a teacher in the Primary School has completed twenty-five years of service. She is a Tamil trained teacher and has been successful with the smaller children in the Primary School. She took her share of work in the sports and cultural activities of the Primary School, and has been a loyal and pleasant teacher. We want to congratulate her and wish her well.

Mr. V. Selvaratnam also completes 25 years of service in the college. He was an old student of the college and has been a dedicated teacher of Mathematics and Science, particularly Physics. He is one of the best read teachers on the staff and has a wide range of interest particularly in religion, music, sports current affairs, and philosophy and these interests have been evident in the discussions, at staff meetings. He is a very keen sportsman and has taken much trouble to encourage and coach students particularly in Tennis, Badminton, Hockey and Basketball. His very sincere concern for his fellow teachers had been evident in the way in which he had initiated and worked out schemes to help the families of teachers who died in harness. We are deeply grateful to him for all his services and congratulate and wish him well.

Mr. W. D. Kulathungam also completes his 25th year this year. He had his entire education from primary, to the B. Sc. London here at Jaffna College and has the Diploma in Education from the Sri Lanka University. He has been the senior teacher of Botany and Geography

and he has been a very keen house master, and a very considerate warden. No college or church function is complete without the decor and floral arrangement by his hands. Generations of students have been initiated into aesthetics by his skill and talents. I depend very much on him for the planning and upkeep of the college gardens. He maintained a very cordial relationship with the community, quiet and unassuming, and has been a great strength to the college community. We congratulate, wish him, and expect a greater contribution from him in the future.

I am glad to make the observation that with effect from 1-1-1982 teachers in private schools have been sanctioned payment of pensions calculated on the basis of their consolidated salary scale in lieu of the earlier practice of permitting pensions on their hypothetical scale. We are hopeful that in the very near future all our teachers will be eligible for commuted pensions, as well as enhanced Widows and Orphans pensions as paid to Government school teachers.

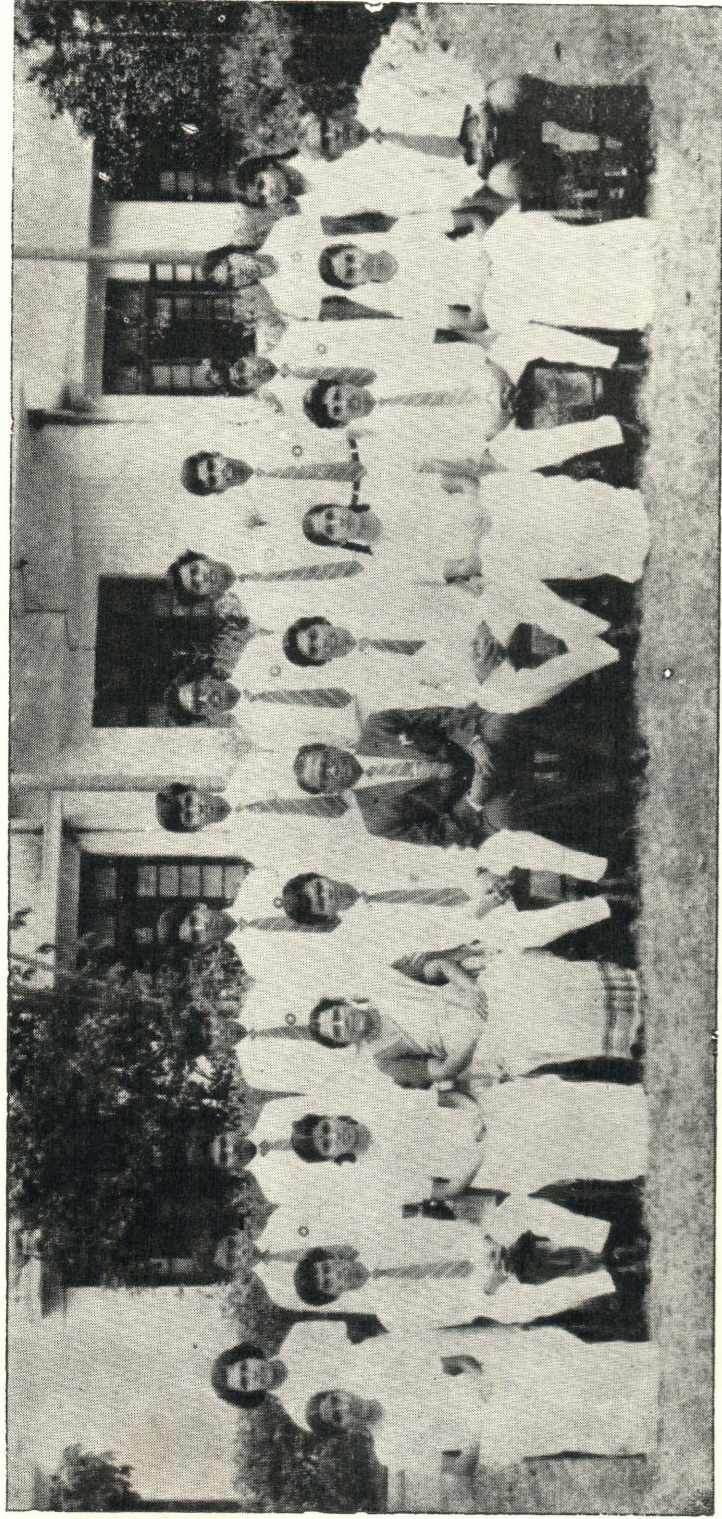
We want to express our gratitude to the Ministry of Education, and to the N. P. T. A. (Private Schools) where the President, Mr. T. Visuvanathan and Secretary, Mr. S. Panchalingam have worked very hard during these years to make the views of the private School teachers heard in such matters.

#### On Roll

We have on roll 1,278 — of which 480 are in the primary School, 777 in the Secondary School and 21 in the London A/L classes.



# SCHOOL COUNCIL — 1985

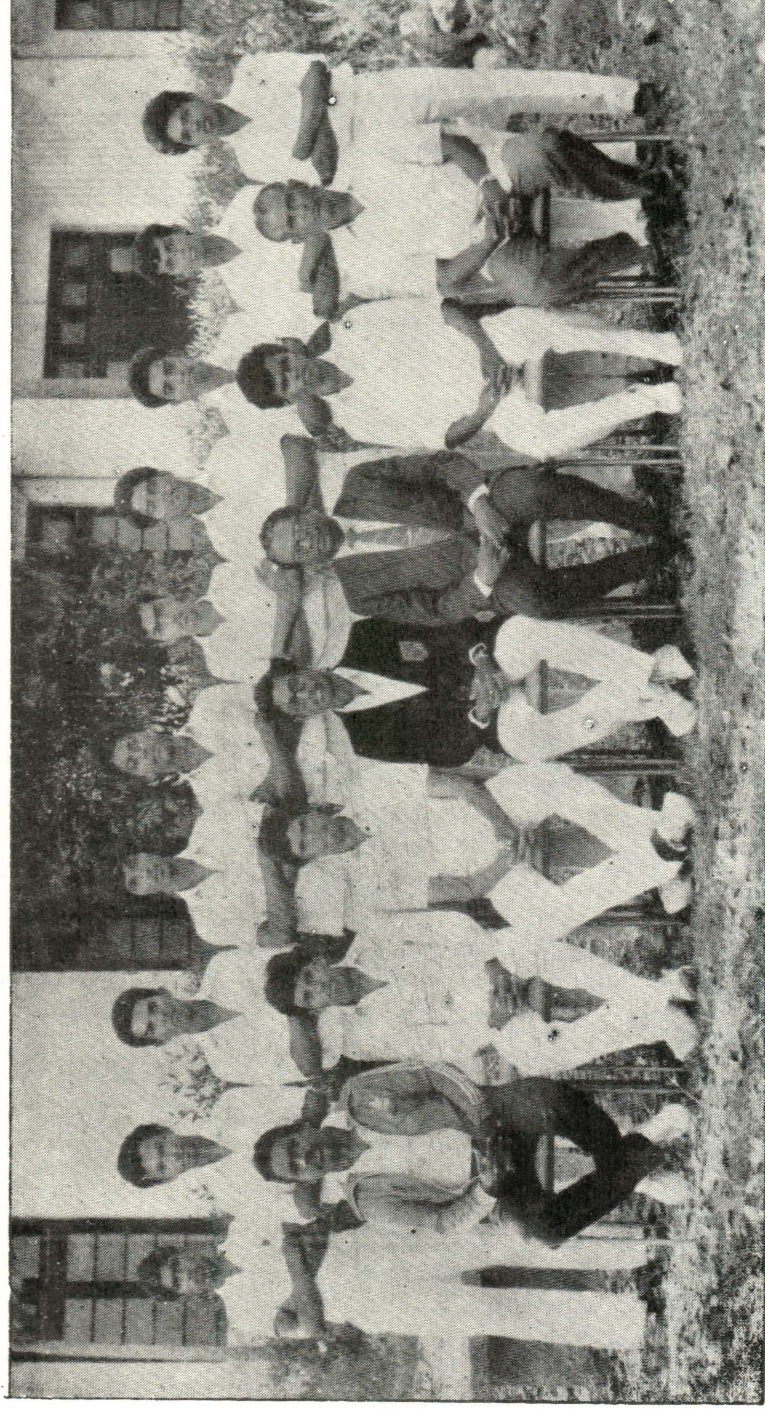


**Standing L. — R. :** K. Shanthi, S. Sivatharan, G. J. J. Gunaratnam, N. Nithiarajan, J. Anton Rajakariar, G. Sekaran,  
J. G. Jesurajah, M. Baskaran, P. Benjamin, S. Janarthan, S. Sharmini, S. Komala.

**Seated L. — R. :** S. Suntharavathany, J. Aron, A. Marinavathany, Miss. M. S. Elias (Supervisor Middle School),  
G. J. Gunathilingan, The Principal, M. Paramalingam (President), S. Dushiyany, J. Ranjan,  
T. Sathiaselvy, Mr. T. Anandaratham (Faculty Advisor).



# CRICKET TEAM — 1985



**Standing (L. — R.) :** S. Kanagasundaran, S. Krishnakumar, R. Muresh, T. N. Huxley, S. Premaruban,  
G. Ragavan, J. Anton Rajakarier, T. Jesura, T. Aron, S. Noble Surendran.

**Seated (L. — R.) :** Mr. M. D. Thambirajah (Coach), S. Augustine, M. Balachandran, J. G. Jesurajah (Captain),  
The Principal, G. J. Gunathilagan (Vice-Captain), Mr. T. Anandaratnam (Physical Director).



## Admissions

140 new students were admitted this year 89 to the Primary School and 51 to the Secondary School.

## English Medium Classes :

A number of students enrolled in the London Advanced Level and Ordinary Level classes had to leave abruptly due to the unsettled conditions here. A few students remained with us to take the final examination in June, 1985 and two of them have done extremely well. S. Surendran obtained a distinction in Pure Mathematics and S. Visayendran obtained distinctions in Pure Mathematics and Further Mathematics. We are expecting the enrolments to increase during the course of this term.

## Examination Results :

### G. C. E. Advanced Level Examination—August 1984 :

80 sat for the examination ; 27 passed in four subjects and 18 passed in three subjects. 29 qualified for admission to Universities, and 14 were finally admitted to the University—Biological Science—2; Physical Science—3; Engineering—4; Arts—4; and Commerce—1. Of these students S. Nesanther and M. M. Manimaran have obtained Russian Government Scholarships and have already proceeded to Moscow for courses in medicine and engineering respectively, K. Rajendran has obtained a scholarship for engineering in South India. A notable achievement of our Arts students was that all three presented for English Literature at the G. C. E. A/L examination obtained

very creditable passes—namely A, B & C, and Premini Jeevanantham's distinction in English can be claimed as a record for a Jaffna student at the Advanced Level.

11 of our students with Advanced Level qualifications were granted Diocesan scholarships this year to do their degrees in colleges and universities in South India. I am happy to announce that through the last five years forty of our students have found Diocesan scholarships to complete their education in universities in India. We are grateful to the Bishop of the Diocese for extending these scholarships to our students.

### G. C. E. Ordinary Level Examination—December, 1984

116 sat for the examination ; 95 passed in five or more subjects and 82 qualified for the Advanced Level classes. The percentage of passes in almost all the subjects were very high and the results have been most satisfactory.

## Curriculum

Some of the courses of studies and subjects have been reorganised with new Heads of Departments. Mr. S. Balachandran has been appointed Head of the Mathematics Department, Mr. A. Rajasingam, the Vice-Principal was in charge of this department for more than twenty years. Mr. W. D. Kulathungam has been appointed Head of the Biology Department and Mr. N. A. Vimalendran as Head of the Computer Science Department which is a new department. Miss S. P. Gulasingam who is the Head of the Aesthetics and Pre-vocational studies



for girls will also now take charge of the Science section from G. C. E. Ordinary Level downwards. Mr. M. Thatparanathan has been appointed as the Head of the Social Studies department of which Mr. Anandaratnam was head for several years. Mr. T. Anandaratnam is now the Physical Director and in charge of the sports department. Mr. G. Rajanayagam is appointed Head of the Religious Work Department and Miss S. S. Selvadurai the Head of the English Department in place of Mr. A. M. Brodie.

We have been providing courses in Data Processing and Computer Programming through our Computer Science Department for school leavers and Advanced Level students in the college as from 1983. 21 students were given certificates in the 1983 batch and 11 students in the 1984 batch. We now conduct the course for Grade XI and XII students with the syllabus prepared by the Department of Education. We have now the following computers in the lab, a Commodore 64, and we are in the process of installing and using a sophisticated computer of the California Computer Systems with CPM and Oasis Operating Systems. We also have to air-condition the Computer Science room soon. The Computer Science Department is also helping the Library with card preparation and card cataloguing. My thanks are due to Mr. Noel Vimalendran, the Head of the Department who continues

to help even though he is on leave to complete his Diploma in Education.

We are in the process of planning out a course for school leavers and Advanced Level students for the National Certificate in English. We want to select the students in the A/L classes who have a special aptitude for English for this purpose. We have highly qualified teachers to carry out this programme.

### School Activities :

#### Sports : Cricket :

The First XI Cricket team under the captaincy of M. Paramalingam had a very successful season remaining unbeaten. Of the seven matches played it won one and drew the rest. The Under 17 Cricket team captained by S. Augustine participated in the Cricket tournament organised by the Jaffna Schools Cricket Association and played four matches winning two and losing two. The Under 15 Cricket team captained by N. Nithiarajan played four matches, winning two, losing one and the other was a no-decision match.

#### Athletics

Our Annual Inter-House Athletic Meet was held on July 7th with Mr & Mrs. R. A. Retchakan as the chief guests. The following obtained individual championships -

Post Senior Boys

— G. J. Gunaratnam &  
M. Paramalingam

— Hastings House

Senior Boys

— G. J. Jesurajah

— Abraham House

Under 17 boys

— R. Rajkumar

— Hitchcock House

Under 16 boys

— R. Pratheepan

— Hastings House



Under 14 boys	— J. Shiyamsunder	— Brown House
Under 13 boys	— R. Ratchagan	— Hastings House
Under 12 boys	— R. Charles	— Hitchcock House
Senior Girls	— A. Marina Vathany	— Hastings House
Inter Girls	— V. Malini	— Abraham House
Under 14 Girls	— K. Naveena	— Abraham House
Under 13 Girls	— R. Rajini	— Hastings House
Relay Champions	— Hastings House	
Tug-of-war Champions	— Hitchcock House	

The Hastings House won the Inter - House Championship. The following new ground records were created at the meet :

A. Marina Vathany	— Senior Girls	— 400 Metres	— 69. 9 secs
G. J. Jesurajah	— Senior Boys	— 500 Metres	— 17 min 54 secs
K. Pratheepan	— Under 16 boys	— Long Jump	— 18' 8''
R. Sothilingam	— Under 16 boys	— 100 M. Hurdles	— 18. 7 Secs

The Athletic Team was captained by Mas. G. J. Jesurajah.

#### Cross Country Festival :

The Cross Country Festival which is usually very well organised and a very popular event could not be held for obvious reasons.

#### Tennis :

The students Tennis Club remains very active with a fairly good enrolment and several players have now reached a good standard in the game and we can present a very formidable school team.

#### Hockey :

The First XI Hockey team was captained by R. Ratnarajah and the team participated in a tournament organised by the Ministry of Sports and emerged runners-up. The Under 17 team captained by R. Muresh was able to play only one match.

#### Netball :

Under 15, 17 & 19 teams participated in the circuit tournaments and the Under 17 and 19 teams participated in the Inter-School tournaments conducted by the Education Department. The Under 19 team under the captaincy of S. Dushiyanthi reached the semi-final stage in the tournament. The Under 17 team was captained by A. Sutharshini.

#### Basketball :

The college team participated in the tournament organised by the Jaffna Y. M. C. A.

#### Soccer :

The First XI Soccer team under the captaincy of R. Ratnarajah had a fairly successful season this year. The team played four matches, won two, drew one and lost the other. The under



17 team under the captaincy of S. Ragu-ram played four matches and lost the matches. The Under 15 team with S. Vijeyakumar played four matches, won one, drew one and lost two.

#### **Badminton :**

A very large number of students play this game now. They are being coached efficiently. A hall is now being used for this purpose. We are grateful to Mr. Solomon of the Jaffna Y. M. C. A. for his efficient services.

#### **Table Tennis :**

There are plenty of facilities for this game and a large number of students are playing table tennis, and these facilities are mostly available in the hostels.

Special efforts have been made for coaching students in indoor games, particularly Badminton and Table Tennis, and also popularising chess. Under the present situation movements outside the college have been restricted and these games are encouraged so that students may spend their time within the college campus. The response has been good. This is a healthy sign and we are capitalising on this new interest in games. My thanks are due to Mr. V. Selvaratnam for taking a keen interest and much time in this aspect of sports and particularly for the personal guidance and counselling given to students through these activities.

Several staff members help us out with coaching, and my thanks are due to Messrs. T. Nithiaratnam, A. Jeya-

rajan, M. D. Thambirajah, G. Rajanayagam, V. Selvaratnam, N. A. Vimalendran, R. Kanagaratnam, Misses S. P. Gulasingam, S. S. Selvadurai, B. Anton and to the Physical Director Mr. T. Anandaratnam for another very active year in sports.

The Bicknell field has been extended with an additional piece of land purchased from the neighbourhood.

#### **Religious Activities :**

Religious activities continue to take pride of place in our school activities. The morning chapel services are conducted regularly by teachers and students. We had to curtail the staff prayers briefly due to the change in the school time-table. The Student Christian Movement meets every Tuesday mornings and very often there are guest speakers to take the services or to lead discussions. The Sunday evening vesper services are conducted in the Cathedral Church organised by the college and the services are conducted both in Tamil and English. The choir helps with special items. The Christian boarders have formed a fellowship to strengthen the activities of the hostels, and they meet regularly for worship, discussions and fellowship. Our teachers take a very active part in all these activities. Besides their help in the college religious activities they also take a very active part in the church activities, national and international Christian programmes—such as the Christian Teachers Guild, the National Christian Council, the student Christian Movement, the Christian Conference of Asia and the World Council of Churches. My



thanks to Messrs. G. Rajanayagam, S. Jebanesan & G. Nadarajah, and Mrs. S. Jebanesan. Mrs. J. Ratnasabapathy and Miss S. P. Gulasingham.

#### Y. M. C. A. :

The Y. M. C. A. completed hundred years of service in the College and the nation last year. Due to the prevailing unsettled conditions in the country we have still not been able to carry out any significant event to commemorate this notable milestone. We have some funds to initiate a Centenary Building Programme to bring the physical presence of the Y. M. C. A. back into the college campus as before. Through the help of the Nordic Children's Fund, the Y. M. C. A. is able to look after some of the needs of thirty-two children in the neighbourhood. The Y. M. C. A. is also hoping to conduct a Nursery School coupled with a Day Care Centre for children in the Araly area through a Norwegian Youth Action Programme. A centenary sports festival was held in Badminton and Tennis.

A flash back on the history of the College Y. M. C. A. may be worthy of recollection. Dr. John R. Mott, one of the most outstanding Christian statesman, if not the most outstanding Christian statesman in this century visited Ceylon in 1895. In one of his several volumes he records his visit to Jaffna College, I quote :

"We proceeded at once to the Jaffna Peninsula, extreme northern part of the island, where we were to hold the first of a long series

of conferences which it is proposed to hold throughout the East. A few days were spent visiting the various schools and colleges to secure suitable delegations as well as to become acquainted with the workers and the needs of the field. Our conference was held at Jaffna College, Batticotta, December 11—13. It was a most appropriate place. It is the center of the student field of North Ceylon. More important still, here, as is well known, the first college Association in the mission field was planted. Not only is this the oldest of the foreign Associations, but so far as my observation has extended it is the best. In fact, I know of no Association in America or Britain which is today doing a better allround work or a deeper work.

It is a question whether Dr. Frank K. Sanders of Yale, among all the services which he has rendered the cause of Christ, ever did a work of more far-reaching influence than in laying so securely the foundations of this Association while he was a teacher in Jaffna College. It was also the wise action on his part which united the Associations of this section in what is known as the North Ceylon Union of Young Men's Christian Associations. Our conference was held under the auspices of this Union. There were in attendance over 400 delegates. About 300 came from the eight Christian colleges and schools of the Peninsula, In fact, these institu-



tions suspended their exercises during the conference in order that their students might attend. All the Principals and a large number of the masters came to the sessions. I invited the headmaster of the Hindu College to come with his advanced students. To our surprise, he came over one day with nearly forty young men. In addition to the student delegates, there were present the leaders of eleven village Associations. All but two or three of the nearly thirty missionaries of the three societies at work in North Ceylon attended the conference; also twenty or more of the native pastors and catechists. Nearly all the addresses were given in both English and Tamil. The range of topics would remind one of the college conferences of the West. There was a deep and growing interest from the beginning to the close. It was an inspiration to look into the attentive faces of this body of young men, and to hear their fervent prayers and hearty singing especially of the Tamil lyrics."

He also refers to the spirit of God as a wonderful presence at the conference and the many acts of commitment by staff and students in Jaffna, particularly Jaffna College for the Christian cause and also committing themselves for regular Bible study and prayer. It is well known that the influence of this conference had a lasting effect on the Jaffna College Y. M. C. A. for several decades to follow. The message still rings clear for the revival and the forging ahead of an

association which is now hundred years old. At the time of Dr. Mott's visit it was only eleven years old and what a dynamic and historically significant movement it was. We certainly have something worthy to look back to and to gain strength from and the inspiration to look forward too.

### Choirs

Both the Tamil and English choirs have been meeting regularly and have been helping out with all the religious activities in the school and the church. Our children have always helped with the Sunday School activities and have been consistently winning prizes in the Diocesan singing competitions and at the children's rallies. The college choir obtained first places in unison, three and four parts singing at the competition organised by the Department of Education. Several students won places for individual items.

### Western Music

The Western Music programme has been further strengthened by an orchestra and by several boys and girls taking to the playing of a variety of musical instruments. The college orchestra helped with all the college functions and has also helped the Diocesan, Church and other organisations with its musical contributions. My thanks are due to Miss S. S. Selvadurai, Mrs. V. Jebanesan and Dr. R. Porter for all their efforts.

### Literary Associations :

The Lyceum, Forum, Brotherhood, Commerce Union and the Academy have been meeting regularly, The annual socials



and dinners could not be held because no afternoon or night functions were possible. However, the students and teachers carried out their normal activities within the time-table. The Tamil Manrum was however more active and they brought out their hand written journal, "Tamil Aruvi" and also conducted a "Kalai Villa" with much enthusiasm. The Commerce Union, however, was able to conduct its annual social.

Many of our students obtained places in oratorical and essay contests organised by the Department of Education and other associations. A notable achievement was the first place obtained by S. Sarvananther in the All-Island Tamil Elocution contest for the senior group organised by the Department of Education. My thanks are due to all the staff advisers—Messrs. T. Anandaratnam, S. Jebanesan, N. Thatparananthan, G. Rajanayagam, K. Thangarajah and Mrs. S. Kesavarajan.

#### **Publications**

We now have a very impressive collection of publications for the use of the college and for other scholars and well-wishers. All the books are available for sale.

#### **Miscellany**

The Miscellany has been published regularly and the publication is commended highly by many for its good quality, and my thanks are due to the Editor, Mr. S. Jebanesan and Manger, Mr. A. M. Brodie. Mr. A. Jeyarajan has now been appointed Manager in place of Mr. Brodie who has now retired. My thanks

are due to Mr. Brodie for a splendid piece of work.

#### **Young Idea**

The student journal of the college 'Young Idea' has also been published regularly. Mr. T. Anandaratnam carried out this work for several years for the English section, and his place is now taken over by Miss S. S. Selvadurai. Mr. S. Jebanesan remains the Adviser for the Tamil Section. My thanks are due to all of them, specially to the outgoing adviser, Mr. Anandaratnam, and to the English editor Miss S. Anusha and the Tamil editor, Mas. W. Wignaraj.

#### **Daniel Poor Library**

There are 32,000 books in the Library at present, and this is 3,000 more than what was reported at the last Prize-Giving. These additions were possible by our own purchases, gifts and by books returned to us by the Jaffna University. We thank Messrs. T. Venayagamoorthy and S. Govindarajan for the gifts of books from their own private collections. Reclassification and cataloguing of books have been taking place at a very rapid pace. With the help of the computer science department and some volunteers we hope to complete the work within the next few months. My thanks are due to the Librarian, Mr. N. S. Ratnasingham and to his staff for expediting this work.

Two photographs were unveiled in the Daniel Poor Library during the course of this year—Mr. S. V. Balasingham's photograph on 8th September and Mr. K. A. Selliah's photograph on 6th October, both by the Rt. Rev. S. Kulandran.



### Scouts, Guides and Little Friends

The Scouts have been very active this year. The Scout Movement has been strengthened, and several activities carried out inspite of the difficult conditions for any such activity. The Guides and Little Friends have also had some activities. My thanks are due to Messrs. A. Jeyarajan and K. S. Thissairasa, and Miss M. S. Elias and Mrs. D. I. Ganesan.

### School Council

The School Council as usual conducted all its functions. Mas. M. Paramalingam was president through the year. The School Council had to deal with many complex situations under the present conditions and they carried out their duties with tact and efficiency. I want to thank the President and members of the School Council and the adviser Mr. T. Anandaratnam for maintaining student discipline and helping out to organise all the college functions through another very trying period.

### Hostels

As usual we have had a hundred students on the average in the hostels, and they have maintained their status as a very active and successful group in the campus in studies, sports, religious and social activities. The Boarders Day was celebrated without a chief guest this time. There have been slight changes in the supervision of the hostels. Mr. A. I. Sinniah is now the Warden of Sanders Hostel earlier having been the warden of the Chelliah Hostel. Mr. M. D. Thambi-rajah is now the warden of the Chelliah Hostel. with Mr. A. D.

Athisayathan as sub-warden. I wish to thank Mr. R. Kanagaratnam for the several years he served as warden of the Sanders Hostel. In many ways he was an ideal warden with his very pleasant and fatherly ways. He was able to shape the character, of many a young student. My thanks are due to him for a worthy piece of work, well done throughout these years. I am happy that he still resides in the college campus in one of the college flats. My thanks are due to all the wardens, the librarian, library monitors and other supervisors ; to Mr. V. Ganesharatnam for catering and Mr. R. Rajaratnam for security arrangements.

I also want to record here the unveiling of two photographs in the hostels. The photograph of Rev. S. W. Howland was unveiled in the Howland Hall by Miss M. S. Elias, the Warden ; and Rev. S. K. Bunker's photograph was unveiled in the Bunker Hall by the warden, Mr. W. D. Kulathungam. A pleasant function followed the unveiling of these two photographs.

### Guest House :

The Guest House that was partially built and abandoned in 1974 with the acquisition of the college buildings by the Jaffna University is now being completed. My thanks are to the Trustees for the necessary funds and to the Director Technical Institute, the Buildings Advisory Committee and the Chairman of the Technical and Agricultural Institute for all the help with plans and supervision of the construction.



## SOCCER TEAM — 1985



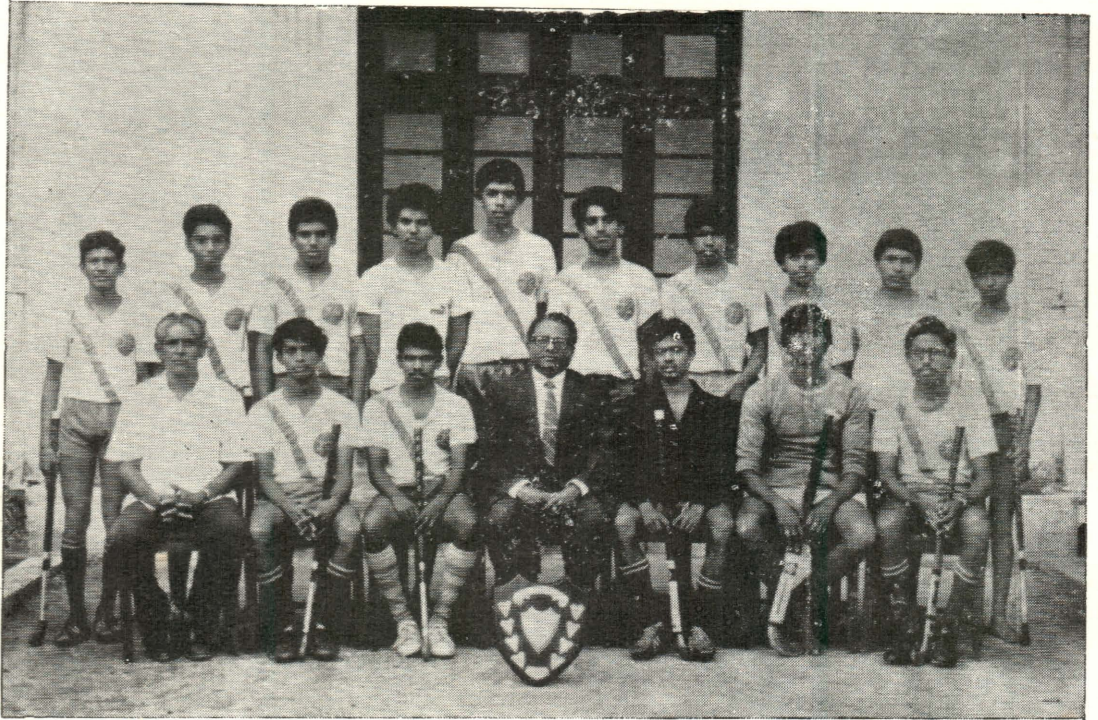
**Standing L. — R. :** V. Pathmathaneswaran, S. Ramesh, R. Muresh, R. Selvarajah, R. W. Kulendran, T. N. Huxley, J. C. A. Ratnarajah, T. Jesura. and S. Kanagasundram

**Seated L. — R. :** Mr. T. Anandaratnam (Physical Director), S. Augustine, J. Aron (Vice-Captain), The Principal, J. G. Jesurajah (Captain). J. Ranjan and Mr. M. D. Thambirajah (Coach).

**Seated on the Ground L.—R.** R. Roy Jevananthan and S. Kalamohan



## HOCKEY TEAM — 1985



**Standing L. — R. :** V. Pathmathaneswaran, T. Jesura, S. Augustine, R. Muresh, R. W. Kulendran, J. Anton Rajakariar, P. Sayanthakumar, K. E. Pretheepan, S. Ramesh and P. Thevananthan.

**Seated L. — R. :** Mr. T. Anandaratanam (Physical Director and Coach), J. Aron, G. J. Gunaratnam (Vice-Captain), The Principal, J. Ranjan (Captain), M. Paramalingam and J. G. Jesurajah.



### **Christian Children's Fund of Canada :**

With the help of the funds from the Christian Children's Fund of Canada through the auspices of the Jaffna Diocese of the Church of South India we have been able to look after a large number of needy students many of them being accommodated in the hostels. We have also been able to help students with some of the facilities that they need to perform better in sports and studies and have also been able to help some students with their health problems. A very efficient committee looks after the needs of these students and my thanks are due to Miss M. S. Elias, Mr. N. A. Vimalendran, and to the Accountant Mr. L. B. Thambyrajah for the careful stewardship of the funds. My thanks are also due to Mr. Peter Harris, the Director in Canada for his frequent visits, help and guidance in carrying out the purposes of the fund.

### **Kilinochchi Project:**

The Board of Directors in consultation with the Board of Trustees are planning out a suitable project in the Paranthan area for the extension of the educational services of Jaffna College to needy students in that area. I will be able to give you a more detailed report next year.

### **School Development Society**

We have a committee elected, but we have not been able to meet as regularly as we would have liked to. I am grateful to the Secretary, Mr. N. Kugarajah for all his help in the affairs of the society. The parents as usual

have been very co-operative in the affairs and progress of the institution.

### **Primary School**

The morning worship services are held separately for the lower primary classes and upper primary classes. The Senior S. C. M. students and teachers help in these services. The Primary School Council functions very efficiently with Mas. K. Tharmendran as its president. The hand-written school magazine called "Children's Feast" was produced in Tamil and English. 15 drawings of our students were sent to the Shankar International Children's Art Competition in India by the efforts of our Art Teacher Mrs. I. C. Patrick. Mas. P. Sureshkumar was granted the Navodhaya Scholarship for the year 1984. The World Environment Day was celebrated by the Primary School. Meetings of parents and teachers were organised regularly to discuss student problems. The Annual Inter-House Athletic Meet was organised in the usual colourful way under the patronage of Dr. C. Gnananandha, Consultant E. N. T. Surgeon, General Hospital, Jaffna, an alumnus and Mrs. Gnananandha. The Gandhi Day was celebrated as usual. The English Day was conducted and prizes were given for a variety of activities in English. Mas. S. Thulasidas was awarded first prize for reading at circuit level and a third prize was awarded to the Primary Division for the Baratha Natya Group at District Level. The Tamil Thinam was also conducted with prizes given to a very wide range of activities. Rhetoricals are held regularly for all classes every week. A Primary School Library has been organised to encourage the reading habit in the smaller children too.



### **Welfare Association**

I wish to thank Mr. N. S. Ratnasingham and the Welfare Assistant, Mr. S. C. Karunendran for all the efforts to collect the annual budgetted sums from parents.

### **Scholarships and Donations to Prize Funds**

I am happy to report that contributions to prizes, scholarships and endowments continue to come in regularly. We are grateful to Mr. & Mrs. S. K. Gnana-muttu for converting their annual contribution to the All-Rounder's prize with an endowment of Rs. 15,000/- to provide a Gold Medal annually for this prestigious prize. We are also grateful to Mrs. R. Appadurai and children for endowing a scholarship with a capital of Rs. 5,000/- in the name of the late Mr. Navam Appadurai. The total endowment for prizes and scholarships is about Rs. 500,000/- now. My target within the next three years is a million rupees. Alumni, friends and well wishers please note.

We are in the process of formulating a scheme to award prizes for the following achievements leadership, creativity, and social concerns. Though assessment for such prizes are bound to be subjective, we are trying to outline a scheme that would make our selections as objective as possible. We are initiating some of these prizes this year.

### **Alumni Association**

The parent Alumni Association has been meeting very regularly, and we are happy to note that the life membership has been increased. The report in the Miscellany regarding alumni activities

and life membership has been fairly exhaustive and we have more than 525 life members now. The Executive Committee of the Colombo Branch was able to meet to organise the programme for the year. The parent association has established a sports fund. We have already received a capital sum of Rs. 10,000/- from donors from here and abroad to develop the sports activities. The Old Golds team had a very successful season at the Hockey and Basketball tournaments organised by various clubs in Jaffna and emerged champions in Hockey.

My thanks are due to the retiring Alumni Relations Officer, Mr. A. M. Brodie. The Board of Directors has appointed Mr. S. J. Manickam to succeed Mr. Brodie. The Alumni in London meet regularly and have now formed themselves into an organised association.

The Principal and Mrs. Kadirgamar were given an opportunity to visit alumni in Malaysia and Singapore. There were two meetings organised over dinner—one in Petaling Jaya, West Malaysia and the other in Singapore. More than a hundred old students were contacted and they enjoyed the opportunity of meeting together as alumni. A register of names and addresses is now being maintained. Mr. S. Rathi Chandran and Dr. S. Durai Raja Singam are in charge of the Malaysian group and Mr. Gnana-chandran is in charge of the Singapore group. It was certainly a joy and pride to see our alumni very well settled and holding some of the very prestigious positions in these two countries. I was able to leave back two video films on the life of the college. We look forward



to a very encouraging support from the alumni in these two countries, and I want to thank the Board of Directors and the Board of Trustees for the opportunity given to us to visit Malaysia and Singapore. The Principal also made use of this opportunity to visit several educational institutions in these two countries. Some of the institutions visited were : THE MARA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, Kuala Lumpur ; THE PETALING JAYA COMMUNITY COLLEGE ; THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE and the REGIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE CENTRE in Singapore. We were also invited as guests to the opening sessions of the Methodist Conference in Malaysia and Singapore.

#### **Board of Directors**

We welcome into the Board the following new members—Dr. W. D. Joshua as Diocesan representative ; Mr. K. Pooranampillai and Dr. D. C. Ambalavanar as nominees of the Board. Bishop Kulandran returns to us after his sabbatical as Diocesan representative. Mr. J. M. Sabaratnam continues to serve as Chairman of the Board and I made mention in my last year's report of his being invited to a special meeting of the Trustees in U. S. A. We are happy to note that this meeting of the Chairman with the Board of Trustees has further strengthened our bonds with the Trustees. Dr. Dayalan Ambalavanar serves as Secretary and Mr. S. S. Selvadurai as Treasurer. The Chairman also serves as the Manager of the college, I want to thank the Chairman and Manager, the Treasurer, Secretary and members of the Executive Committee and all the members of the Executive Committee and all the

members of the Board for another year of guidance in the affairs of the College.

#### **Board of Trustees**

I am happy to announce that Rev. Dr. Telfer Mook has been elected the new Chairman of the Board of Trustees succeeding Mr. Carl Holdridge who retires from that position. I also want to place on record my thanks to Mr. Carl Holdridge who served as chairman and also as treasurer for a very long period. He has also visited us on two occasions and remains one of our very good friends. Rev. Eric Gass takes over as Secretary of the Board of Trustees and we look forward to his closer association with us. We have known him for several years and we know that he will understand all our problems with much concern and a historical perspective. Mr. Richard Edmunds continues to be the Treasurer. We are also happy to note another familiar name on the Board of Trustees, that of Dr. Robert Harrison, the son of our former missionary, Dr. M. H. Harrison. We are also honoured by the Presence on the Board of Trustees of Dr. Ralph Tuller, the Chairman of the United Church Board for World Ministries. Mr. Tuller was good enough to visit us, but was unable to get to Jaffna, and Mr. J. M. Sabaratnam the Chairman of the Board went to Colombo to meet him. We are also happy to record again the visit of M. C. B. Bavinck. Rev. Eric Gass tried to visit us but could get up to Kilinochchi only. We remain grateful to the Trustees for all their careful stewardship of funds and more for their warm friendship and guidance. They have met almost all our requests with great sympathy and understanding.



### **Jaffna College Technical & Agricultural Institute**

I have great pleasure in reporting that the Technical & Agricultural Institute and Farm have been further strengthened and are continuing to perform well and of much service by providing further training to the youth of this land. Our sincere thanks to Mr. M. C. Pillainayagam, the Director of the Technical Institute and Mr. C. Jeyaratnam, the Principal of the Farm, and we wish them and their staff well in all their plans for the future.

### **Visitors**

Several visitors from abroad have been trying to visit us but many of them could not make it beyond Kilinochchi. However, two of them made it up to Jaffna and one was Rev. Ulrich Becker of the Education Department of the World Council of Churches and the other Rev. (Miss) Edith Wolfe from Hawaii and a representative of the U C B W M. We hope the conditions of travel would improve soon and we could have our usual stream of visitors from abroad not only to have a first hand knowledge of the institution, but also to renew old friendships.

### **Cleveland Trees**

We have another very pleasant landmark in our history to be recorded here. It is the centenary of some of the trees in the campus referred to as the "Cleveland Trees". On November 4th 1884 when Grover Cleveland was elected president of the U. S. A., his brother-in-law, Rev. E. P. Hastings was the Principal of Jaffna College, Mrs. Anne Hastings being the sister of Pre-

sident Cleveland. It was certainly a very significant event not only to the Hastings family here, but to Jaffna College, to the missionaries, and to the entire Jaffna community. The event was duly celebrated and as part of the celebrations twelve mahogany trees were planted in the campus. Seven of these majestic trees still remain with us and are affectionately called the "Cleveland Trees." It is also relevant to note that our records show that President Cleveland also made donations to the college directly.

I have come to the conclusion of another year's report and by the grace of God my 17th on record. I am tempted to make the usual and traditional pronouncements on matters educational, but refrain from doing so. The problems that confront us are so overwhelming and demands all our experience and energies and yet I would like to emulate the poise for such situations as suggested by the author Joan Puls of the very relevant book, a spirituality for our times, entitled "Every bush is burning".

"Recently I saw the film 'TESTAMENT' a depiction of the aftermath of nuclear war as it affects a single family. My reaction to the film was curious. I felt no particular fear or urgency to act. I merely wanted to drive home carefully, to note the sinking sun, so invite my community to pray with me. Perhaps our first and repeated resolution must be : to be of all things more careful, to handle life and its precious moments more gently."

The moral of the mild admonition in this quotation for us is quite clear.



We would like to go about our routine work in school without undue interruptions; to be free to unite in prayer; to relish all our daily activities the precious moments of our lives and specially those of our students with a quiet, firm confidence. For it is in these common things of life that our Lord meets us and these common everyday happenings of life are also ablaze with God's presence. They are the burning bushes of our lives. Let us therefore, resolve to be of all things, more careful about our simple ordinary day to day affairs and to handle life and its precious moments more gently without fear and anxiety. So help us Lord.

### Thanks

I want to place on record my gratitude to all the members of the staff—academic, clerical, minor and to

the students for another year of useful work in the cause of education in the college through another unusually strenuous year in the history of this institution.

A special word of thanks to the Vice-Principal, Mr. A. Rajasingam; the supervisor of the Junior Secondary School, Miss M. S. Elias; the supervisor of the Primary School, Mr. W. N. Thevakadadcham; Mr. T. Anandarathnam and Mr. T. Visuvanathan; the chief clerk, Mr. G. Jeyasingham; the accountant, Mr. L. B. Thambyrajah and private secretary, Mrs. N. A. Vimalendran.

Our gratitude and praise to God for all the protection given to us through another year and we look forward to His guidance and protection in the coming year.



*“Educate men without religion, and  
you make them but clever devils.”*

— Wellington



## Prize Day Address

Karthigesu Sivathamby, M. A., Ph. D.

Chief Guest

Mr. Principal, members of the staff, students, distinguished guests :

There are a few moments in any one's life in which the occasion overwhelms the person, and I consider this moment and occasion as one such in my life.

I consider it a great privilege to be called upon to deliver the prize-day address at Jaffna College, Vaddukoddai, a college in Jaffna, which has always been more than a college, in fact for sometime it was officially a part of the University in Jaffna.

Mr. Principal & members of the staff, let me thank you all for inviting me and my wife to be among you on the occasion of your 113th annual stock-taking as Jaffna College per se, but really the 163rd year of existence since the establishment of the Batticotta Seminary.

I must confess that my association with your college has largely been as part of my academic interest in the social history of Jaffna Tamils, particularly regarding the question of the 'formation' of the Jaffna ethos, in terms of its sound—educational, aptitudes and orientations.

I have, since my University days, had the privilege of knowing some products of Jaffna College ranging from bubbling extroverts to pensive introverts and had found in them, inspite of their inescapable human variations, a certain sense of

solidness of character and a breath of vision. More recently of course, I have been able to be close to men from Jaffna College, and had been able to understand more 'closely' what makes Jaffna College really tick—how the institution fosters a sense of commitment and concern.

However, besides the academic observations I was able to make as a student and researcher, I have also been able to know about the 'affectational' side of Jaffna College through my wife, who, as an old girl of Uduvil Girls College, the sister-college of Jaffna College, must be knowing some of the chivalrous aspects of the Jaffna College culture.

We are both thankful to you for your invitation.

Mr. Principal, Friends,

Before I get on to comment on some urgent matters of the time—a facility afforded to any prize day speaker—let me remind you of some of the important factors that have contributed to the pre-eminence of Jaffna College, not only in the history of Jaffna, but in the history of the Tamils of this country and of this country itself.

Firstly, and more primarily, Jaffna College, along with a few other schools in Jaffna, was a symbol of what Jaffna could offer, and did offer, educationally to entire Sri Lanka. That was why it could attract some Sinhalese students.



Thus Jaffna College has a significant place in the formation of, what I would call, the higher educational ethos of the Sri Lankan students.

If that was its significance to the non-Tamil Sri Lankans, to the Tamils of Sri Lanka its importance lies in that it has been our first attempt at Higher Education. And this record places it among some of the leading educational institutions of India.

But the significance of Jaffna College in the social history of the Tamils lies in certain aspect, which no doubt, came through the role it played in the education of the community, but is really extra-educational and is truly societal, in that it refers to the characteristics of a society as a whole, and that is, inspite of the limited number of students it has had (seen in relation to the numbers at the other schools). Jaffna College, by the type of education it introduced and imparted, by the type of environment it created for imparting it, and by the social and cultural influence those students could exert, was one of the centres of modernization of the Sri Lankan Tamil society, definitely the most important intellectual centre. One might agree or disagree with the type of intellectualism ethos that exuded out of it but no one can deny that certain type of intellectualism flowed out of it and that had contributed to the social dynamics of the Tamils.

There is yet another dimension to Jaffna College, which I am afraid, quite often goes unsaid but not untapped; and that is Jaffna College, as an institu-

tion of the Church of South India, provides a vital educational and socio-cultural continuum with the leading educational institutions of India—Vellore Medical College, Women's Christian College and Madras Christian College.

But to my mind, the most important of all the historical facts relating to Jaffna College, is that it has been the cradle of the first Tamil Youth Movement in Sri Lanka, which in the early 1920s demanded an equal and egalitarian Free Ceylon, Handy Perinbanayagam said, "In the 1920s the movement in India had a tremendous effect upon the youth of Jaffna. Probably because of the comparative freedom that prevailed at Vaddukoddai, this impact was more acute at Jaffna College". And this led, as Silan Kadirgamar correctly observes, to the emergence then of a generation of youth at Jaffna who though they have not heard of Karl Marx or historical materialism or the dictatorship of the proletariat ..... believed that their elders had failed and that the key to the future was in their hands. They were brimming with confidence that the caste-bound feudalistic society enslaved by the British Raj could be redeemed and restricted by organising themselves....." (S.Kadirgamar—Handy Perinpanayagam—A Memorial Volume, Jaffna 1980—pp. 3—4)

In the history of the Tamil community and of the country this movement has had a tremendous impact. By its idealism and by its failure it showed to Sri Lanka what to strive for. The failure to take note of its lessons has brought in the second Tamil youth movement in this country with all its complexities.



As a student of the social history of the Tamils, I consider it my duty to know more and to know deeply of the liberal traditions that constitute Jaffna College which made it possible in 1920 the birth of a movement, years ahead of its times.

## II

Mr. Principal, Students & Friends,

And that brings me to the problem I wish to comment upon; something urgent and, something, which is perhaps done most legitimately in Jaffna College itself, the home of the liberal traditions in Jaffna.

Friends,

In a way, it would be most unrealistic, if we do not refer to it. I would even consider it as something unbecoming of all of us who have got to do something with education and therefore of the future of the community if we do not pause to think. I refer to the crisis that has enveloped all of us and is changing the pattern of our lives.

The ethnic crisis that this country is facing is the worst of the crisis that has confronted it in its recent history. This has been precipitated by groups of young Tamils, who, as Silan Kadirgamar said in reference to the first youth movement believe "that their elders had failed and that the key to the future (is) in their hands."

The current movement is second only in a chronological sense. It has certain aspects which distinguish it

sharply from the first one—in the ideologies these youths are exposed, in the methods they have adopted and in the regional and the international impact this movement has created.

The dialectics of the crisis is seen in what these youth do in relation to the state forces.

There has been a constant extension of the "theatres" of war, and it has become essential for another country in the region to involve itself to contain the crisis, and if possible, to solve the problem.

As I had referred to in another place, "what had started as a problem of the language of the government gazette of attacks on suruttu kades and tosaikades, and of the media of instruction and of marks to enter the University, has now become a problem of geopolitics".

The youth involvement in this crisis was brought about at the time it had "an examination orientation" (There have been differing orientations at different times; earlier it was the "language-problem" later it was a problem of standardization and district quotas, now it is one of traditional homeland). At that time in early seventies—students from senior secondary schools were kept out of the University on the assumption that there should be a demographic balance maintained also at centre of learning. This was an attempt to solve problems of employment by restricting education at crucial points. A political question was being decided at the school level.



## NET BALL TEAM — 1985



Standing L. —R. : V. Pathmaarulvathana, A. Sutharshini, K. Kallavally,  
V. Malini, T. Jennifer Pathmini, D. Keshini.

Seated L.—R. : T. Anandaratnam (Physical Director), S. Dushiyanthy,  
The Principal, S. Suntharavathany (Captain), R. Sharmini  
(Vice-Captain), Miss. S. Selvadurai (Coach).



## THE COLLEGE BAND — 1985



**First Row (L.—R.):** S. Sivatharan (Melodica), Anusha S. P. (Trumpet), D. Jenifer-Pathmini (Cymbal), A. Sudharshini (Bass Drum), Krishanthan S. P. (Side Drum), R. Umaiyal (Melodica), S. Umesh (Side Drum), Nirmalene J. (Recorder), Kishani R. (Melodica), Shirela T. (Recorder).

**Second Row (L.—R.):** Mrs. V. Jebanesan (Teacher - in - Charge), A. Ravishanker (Side Drum), Dayalini M. (Tenor Drum), D. Keshini (Accordian), Vinitha S. P. (Accordian), Sharmini R. (Accordian), The Principal, Naveena K. (Accordian), Vasanthi R. (Accordian), Rajini R. (Accordian), A. Nimalda (Tenor Drum), Sarvananthar V. S. (Side Drum), Miss P. Kadirgamar (Asst. Teacher).



And the result was the pre-university school children was politicized, much beyond the expectation of many of the educationists who opposed standardization.

Today the struggle has metamorphosed itself into what is called a "liberation struggle."

The struggle is seen and is being felt at two levels. At one level, and that is the level at which international and regional concern has been expressed, it is one of defining the relationship of the Sri Lankan Tamils, with the Sinhalese in the power - structure of the country.

That is politics and that area is governed by laws and enactments. Let us not go into it.

But at another level, this is a problem which has everything to do with the working of our own society, its structuring, its orientations, and the changes in those.

Let us not mistake it, we are witnessing events and manifestations which indicate a change in the traditional pattern of our social organization.

Primarily it is turning out to be a revolt against the traditional mode of socialization of children and youth. We as a society used to plan out for our young ones almost everything from their infancy to the point of time they get their own first child. We decide on their education, what they should study, what profession they should take up, whom they should marry, how much of dowry they should get, where they should

live and even how they should bring up their own children.

We were able to do all these on the assumption that we could, if they follow our norms, guarantee them a life of security. We are no more able to guarantee to our younger generation anything relating to their future—we are unable to guarantee them a place in the University, a job in a field they like, not even their lives. That is why they are going away from us. They reject our sense of values, for they do not ensure them of anything in society. And it looks that they do seem to reject the entire social system of which they are products.

Thus there is a snapping of the ties, a tearing of the bonds.

There is also another important change taking place in relation to the social equation which have been regarding the ratio of educational achievement to the quantum of money earned. The proliferating confusions in the field of education, the effort on the part of the government to control employment by monitoring education and the avenues for it and the opening up of avenues where sheer physical labour is enough to ensure a handsome salary, much better than what could accrue from an employment in the professions, have created a major change in social norms.

Besides these, there is also another change. In a traditional society age matters, for experience comes through age—the more aged one is the more experienced he is and therefore, he should



be listened to. But now social experiences are sudden and new that age has nothing to do with it. In fact the elders have been spared of many of the experiences which the young now undergo and / or are threatened with, merely because they are young.

The ensuing gap is something more than a generation gap. It is a gap in social experiences, a gap in social relations.

All these are being telescoped into a society which has not been confronted with such problems of conflict for some-time, I would say, at least for the last two to three hundred years.

Please permit me at this point to attempt to describe our society—the Sri Lankan Tamil society, especially the Jaffna Tamil society—in terms of social history.

Our history, especially in the North, has had the longest history of colonialism in Sri Lanka (barring the area that falls under the the old kingdom of Kotte); We had been under the Portuguese, the Dutch and the British. We have been a 'Colonialist' society. i.e., we had learned to accept each and every 'colonialism' and had planned out our lives in such a way that we make the best use of that system without offending it too much (we had tried to oppose the Portuguese but not with much success).

Besides this colonialist character, we are also a hierarchial society—the hierarchy being imposed by the caste system. Not only do we have castes,

but also a system (I would like to emphasize this) in which castes play a role in social relationship. It is not the presence of the castes that bothers so much as the system based on caste.

Over the years we have been trying out a social equation in which colonialism and caste could co-exist. Accommodating some of the peripheral mobilities upwards and downwards. We are trying to maintain intact the core of the system. We are trying to get the benefits of the incoming western system and work it out in such a way that the traditional hierarchy was in a basic sense maintained. The great Arumuga Navalar initiated us into this whole process of maintaining a clear balance of colonialism and traditional hierarchy. (He found the colonial administration more endearing than the Christian padres) English education within a Hindu frame work, (at the outset this meant no English education for the depressed castes) was able to achieve this caste - colonialism balance. The political heir to this cultural practice was Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan. He went to the extent of opposing adult franchise and even common dining in the hostel at a teachers' training college. He did not want the new 'inputs' to upset the old balance, the aim was to handle the input in a manner it would not disrupt the existing order; in fact, quite often the new input was used to strengthen the existing social order (a close perusal at the social position of those who contested and won the various elections till recent times would reveal some interesting facts about the pattern of social control in in Jaffna Tamil society).



What does this mean in empirical terms? It means the continuity of the caste system, the continuity of a system of social manipulation and control.

And now, this system has snapped, or to be exact, is snapping. I do not want to go into historical factors that have brought about this snap-up. What I do want to emphasize is that it is snapping. When those 'external forces' that helped to keep this system up are changing or have changed, the internal dynamics of this society has also changed. It now goes for an ethnic identity which would be devoid of the traditional bonds of social control.

What is important to my line of argument is the snap-up and the point at which the snapping is taking place. The snapping up is taking place at the most susceptible point in this social organization—the youth. A cumulative impact of economic, social, political and educational factors have contributed to this.

The generation of youth which had to face insecurity from outside in consisting from inside has now brought it out on the streets. Timbu. is a historical land mark, for it was there their indispensability was acknowledged in international terms by forces which either ignored or indicted them.

This is a crucial moment in our history. It is the duty of all those who have been trained to and expected to think of the future—educationists and other intellectuals—to come to grapple with this problem.

I would think that we have come to a stage in which we have to see

how the Sir Lankan Tamil society is prepared to change itself. If someone were to think that a solution to the problem of Sinhala-Tamil relations within this country, will automatically leave us back at the point of time the current ethnic conflagration started (whether 1956, or 1978 or 1983), I think, he would be sadly mistaken. The question today, is how much are we going to change and not one of whether we want to change or not.

It is at this point that I feel that there is more to it than meets the eye. While it is true that there has come up another generation of young men, very much like the idealist youths of the 1920s, with a swelling of their numbers by subsequent recruits, there is also a social group that want to run away from all these. Again some of them would like to make use of this situation to further their individual prospects—the continuity of a social feature noted earlier.

I refer here to the mass exodus to the western countries like West Germany, France, Sweden and others, and to the large number of self exiles (I am not referring here to the refugees proper) to India. The former group is more interesting. Among most of them one could see the transformation of what is given as 'dole' becoming dowry capital here. The position of the self exiles is also important. The argument very often given by them is that they are going for the schooling of their children. With the sharp rise in educational expenses in England and America, these people have mostly gone to India. Little of them realise that pre-university education in India,



differs much from the one obtains in Sri Lanka that in the case of a child who opts to study there at the primary level has to finish its degree to get absorbed back into the Sri Lankan educational system. This could create problems in employment opportunities too. To me it looks like migration without being aware of it.

Evidently these are all people who do not either understand the change or want it. Such migrations consciously and unconsciously raised a vital question—for whose benefits is the ethnic struggle fought out?

Given the realities of our existence I would say those who are staying on, or to be exact those who are going to stay on, are those who are not in a position to migrate to any other place; those who could be going or have already gone.

The most disturbing of all these migrations is the flight of the professionals. At one stage the flight was prompted by such factors as ethnic discrimination. And it was that type of professionals who constitute the bulk of the expatriates who help to internationalise the Sri Lankan Tamil question.

But we now see the beginnings of a flight of professionals who find it difficult to continue to work. This is a new phenomenon which should cause great concern. This, I wish to repeat, is a crucial moment in the history of the ethnic struggle in Sri Lanka and of the Tamils here.

It is important that at least now the intellectuals in this community take

up the question of charting out the possible and the probable scenarios.

It should be admitted that the Sri Lankan Tamil community has been denied the benefit of a truly intellectual discussion objective and forthright, of their problems. In our anxiety to produce professionals we have not been able to produce enough amount of intellectuals, especially in the field of social sciences. Even the few we have preferred to be expatriates. The problem with many of the expatriates is that their sense of past grievances far outstrips their present knowledge of the changing realities in Sri Lanka.

I think it is primarily a problem for those who are here.

Mr. Principal, Friends,

It is at this point of time that the role of an institution like Jaffna College becomes important.

Your experiment in teacher-student relationship, in bringing out that creativity of the students, in widening the dimensions of learning by teaching industrial skills, all, become meaningful.

Friends,

I do accept that I have not indicated what the answers are to the problems I have mentioned. I genuinely think that we are a bit early for going into the answers. The need of the hour, in intellectual terms, is to formulate the question correctly. First let us have correct questions, for only correct questions can have correct answers; incorrect questions always lead to incorrect answers. And let us also, not forget that the answer always lurks within the question.

Thank you.



# Prize List — 1984

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

### INTEGRATED SUBJECTS

#### Kindergarten

- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Kokulan G.        | 16. Sutharshana M.       |
| 2. Thevatharshani G. | 17. Tharani S.           |
| 3. Shankar S.        | 18. Priya G.             |
| 4. Pragalathan P.    | 19. Nanthini M.          |
| 5. Baheerathan N.    | 20. Sivaneetha R.        |
| 6. Braine Manesh V.  | 21. Rathai K.            |
| 7. Shobanraj J.      | 22. Dilani J.            |
| 8. Ramanan K.        | 23. Sathiyalogini S.     |
| 9. Jeyakumar V.      | 24. Dilanthi Sharvini G. |
| 10. Jeyarajan J.     | 25. Nilani S.            |
| 11. Balamayuran S.   | 26. Vanikala S.          |
| 12. Prashanth S.     | 27. Sumathy T.           |
| 13. Krishnapriya N.  | 28. Thanuja B.           |
| 14. Sharmila T.      | 29. Chitralekah T.       |
| 15. Suganthini T.    | 39. Sumithra K.          |

#### Grade I

- |                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Rabeendranath T. | 6. Vanathy Y.   |
| 2. Mayooraan S.     | 7. Kavitha S.   |
| 3. Kugaparan N.     | 8. Suhanya N.   |
| 4. Kapilan S.       | 9. Suba P.      |
| 5. Dushyanthi M.    | 10. Nanthini V. |

#### Grade 2

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. Shehan L.       | 8. Lakshani K.   |
| 2. Sriharan S.     | 9. Dilini R.     |
| 3. Shanthikumar G. | 10. Nimalini K.  |
| 4. Jananthan S.    | 11. Sharmini S.  |
| 5. Subajini G.     | 12. Rohini M.    |
| 6. Niruja S.       | 13. Banumathy P. |
| 7. Kavitha R.      | 14. Rajani M.    |



**Grade 3**

1.	Sanjeyan	S.	<b>Mr. J. N. Appadurai Memorial Prize</b>		
			General Proficiency		
			Arithmetic	1st	Prize
			English	1st	Prize
			Env. Studies	1st	Prize
			English Singing	2nd	Prize
			Hand Work	3rd	Prize
2.	Anjelina	K.	<b>Dr. J. T. Amarasingham Memorial Prize</b>		
			General Proficiency		
			English	1st	Prize
			Christianity	1st	Prize
			Tamil Singing	1st	Prize
			Tamil Writing	3rd	Prize
3.	Prabaharan	T.	<b>Mr. J. C. Amarasingham Memorial Prize</b>		
			General Proficiency		
			Drawing	1st	Prize
			Hand Work	1st	Prize
			Tamil	2nd	Prize
			Hinduism	3rd	Prize
4.	Kirupalar	M.	<b>Mr. A. C. Ampalam Memorial Prize</b>		
			General Proficiency		
			Arithmetic	1st	Prize
			English	2nd	Prize
			Tamil	2nd	Prize
			Env. Studies	3rd	Prize
5.	Ajith	S.	General Proficiency		
			Hinduism	2nd	Prize
			Env. Studies	2nd	Prize
			Tamil Spelling	2nd	Prize
			Arithmetic	3rd	Prize
6.	Sivatharshini	P.	General Proficiency		
			Tamil	1st	Prize
			Hinduism	1st	Prize
			English Writing	3rd	Prize
7.	Thayalan	K.	General Proficiency		
			Env. Studies	2nd	Prize
			Arithmetic	3rd	Prize



8.	Surendran S.	General Proficiency	
		English	3rd Prize
		Tamil	3rd Prize
9.	Devaki S.	General Proficiency	
		English	2nd Prize
		Tamil Writing	2nd Prize
10.	Muhunthan N.	General Proficiency	
		Drawing	3rd Prize
11.	Thiriambahi S.	General Proficiency	
		Tamil Spelling	3rd Prize
12.	Bavani S.	Tamil	2nd Prize
		Dance	2nd Prize
13.	Mohanavarathan S.	English Writing	2nd Prize
		Tamil Writing	2nd Prize
14.	Paran S.	Hinduism	1st Prize
		Tamil Singing	3rd Prize
15.	Sureshini A.	English Writing	1st Prize
		Dance	3rd Prize
16.	Shiyamala B.	Dance	1st Prize
17.	Sivakumar S.	Tamil Spelling	1st Prize
18.	Christiana S.	Christianity	2nd Prize
19.	Prashanth A.	Hand Work	2nd Prize
20.	Paraneetharan P.	Drawing	2nd Prize
21.	Hamsa D.	Tamil Singing	2nd Prize
22.	M. H. Cassiere	English Singing	2nd Prize
23.	Melvin Sureshkumar D.	Christianity	3rd Prize
24.	Kavitha N.	English	3rd Prize
25.	Kantharuban K.	General Proficiency	
26.	Senthan S.	General Proficiency	
27.	Vijitharan S.	General Proficiency	
28.	Rammohan N.	General Proficiency	

**Grade 4**

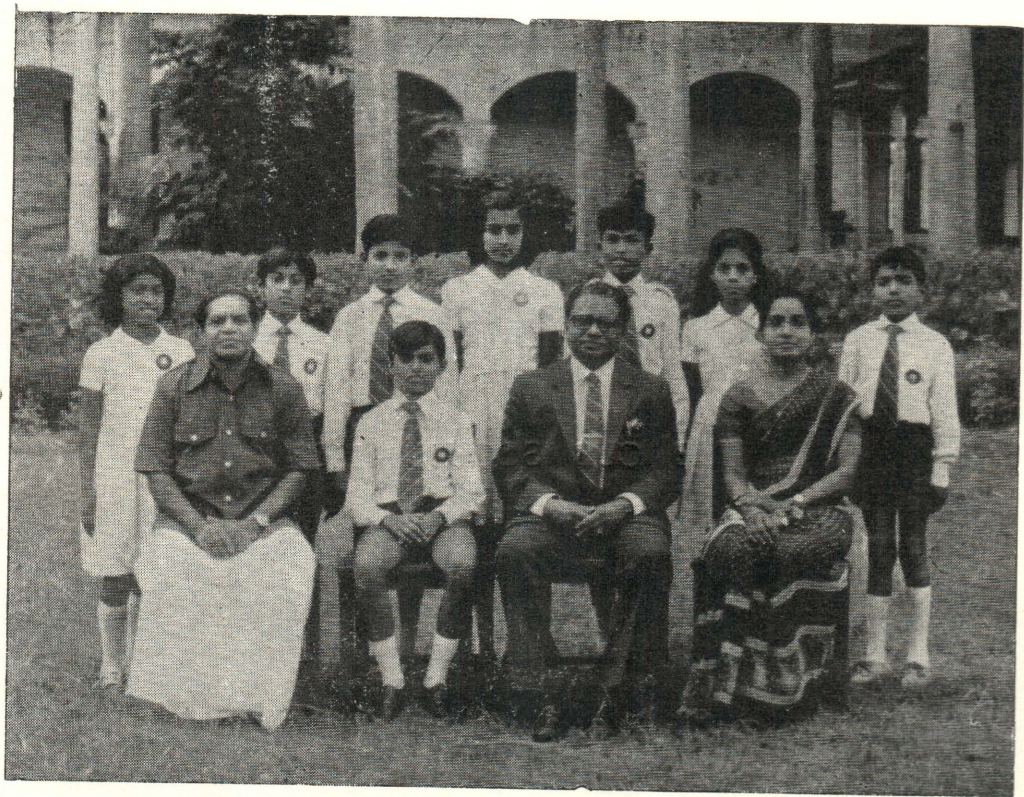
1.	Thayatharan W.	<b>Mr. P. W. Ariaratnam Memorial Prize</b>	
		General Proficiency	
		Arithmetic	1st Prize
		Hand work	1st Prize



	English Spelling	1st Prize
	Tamil	2nd Prize
	Tamil Writing	2nd Prize
	English Writing	2nd Prize
	English	3rd Prize
2. Cassiere M. N.	<b>Mr. R. C. S. Cooke Memorial Prize</b>	
	General Proficiency	
	English	1st Prize
	English Spelling	1st Prize
	Drawing	1st Prize
	Christianity	2nd Prize
	Hand work	2nd Prize
3. Thivaharan M.	<b>Mr. S. R. Beadle Memorial Prize</b>	
	General Proficiency	
	Tamil	1st Prize
	Arithmetic	2nd Prize
	Env. Studies	2nd Prize
	Tamil Writing	3rd Prize
	Hand Work	3rd Prize
4. Devamanohari M-	General Proficiency	
	Tamil Writing	1st Prize
	English Spelling	1st Prize
	Hinduism	2nd Prize
	Tamil	3rd Prize
5. Rajeskannan N.	General Proficiency	
	Env. Studies	1st Prize
	Hinduism	3rd Prize
	Tamil Spelling	3rd Prize
6. Ainkaran S.	General Proficiency	
	Tamil Spelling	2nd Prize
	English Writing	3rd Prize
7. Veerasuthan R.	General Proficiency	
	Hand Work	3rd Prize
	Tamil Singing	3rd Prize
8. Sutharshini P.	General Proficiency	
	Hinduism	1st Prize
9. Prabahar T.	General Proficiency	
	Drawing	2nd Prize



THE PRIMARY SCHOOL — STUDENT'S COUNCIL

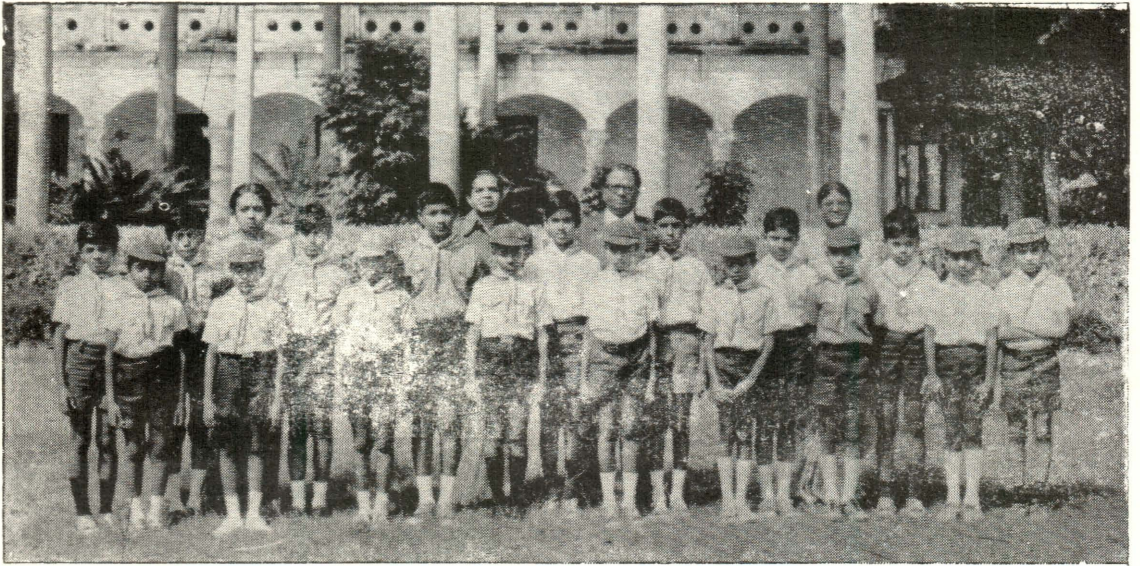




THE PRIMARY SCHOOL CHOIR



THE CUB SCOUTS — 1985





10. Vinothini R.	Tamil Singing	2nd Prize
	English	2nd Prize
11. Devadharshini G.	English Singing	2nd Prize
	Christianity	3rd Prize
12. Tharshini R.	Tamil Singing	1st Prize
13. Devadharshini D.	English Singing	1st Prize
14. Nirmaline J	Christianity	1st Prize
15. Mahindan V.	Drawing	1st Prize
16. Vigna V.	English Writing	1st Prize
17. Shankar P.	English Singing	2nd Prize
18. Indradevi P.	Env. Studies	3rd Prize
19. Sivakumar K.	Tamil	3rd Prize
20. Sharmalai R.	Arithmetic	3rd Prize

#### Grade 5

1. Sureshkumar P.	<b>Mr. C. C. Kanapathipillai Memorial Prize</b>	
	General Proficiency	
	Arithmetic	1st Prize
	Tamil	1st Prize
	Env. Studies	1st Prize
	Hinduism	3rd Prize
	English	3rd Prize
2. M. M. Cassiere	<b>Mr. J. A. Selvadurai Memorial Prize</b>	
	General Proficiency	
	English	1st Prize
	English Spelling	2nd Prize
	Drawing	2nd Prize
	English Singing	3rd Prize
	Christianity	3rd Prize
3. Tharmendran K.	<b>Mr. K. Edward Memorial Prize</b>	
	General Proficiency	
	Religion	1st Prize
	Env. Studies	1st Prize
	Tamil Spelling	2nd Prize
	Tamil	3rd Prize
4. Shirela T.	General Proficiency	
	Tamil Singing	1st Prize



	English Singing	2nd Prize
	English	2nd Prize
5. Umaganesh K.	General Proficiency	
	English Writing	1st Prize
	English Spelling	2nd Prize
	Arithmetic	3rd Prize
6. Devada P.	General Proficiency	
	English Singing	1st Prize
	Tamil Singing	2nd Prize
7. Anusha S.	General Proficiency	
	Drawing	1st Prize
	Tamil	2nd Prize
8. Janaki G.	General Proficiency	
	Dance	1st prize
	Tamil Singing	3rd Prize
9. Selvathy S.	General Proficiency	
	Tamil Writing	1st Prize
	Tamil	3rd Prize
10. Thulasidas S.	General Proficiency	
	Arithmetic	2nd Prize
	Dance	2nd Prize
11. Selvajit B.	General Proficiency	
	Arithmetic	1st Prize
12. Arukshan R.	General Proficiency	
	Christianity	2nd Prize
13. Suhanya S.	General Proficiency	
	Tamil Spelling	1st Prize
14. Mohanadas V.	General Proficiency	
	Hinduism	1st Prize
15. Thiripurasundari K.	General Proficiency	
	English Writing	2nd Prize
16. Koneshkumar D.	General Proficiency	
	Env. Studies	3rd Prize
17. Uththamaseelan K.	Christianity	1st Prize
	Drawing	1st Prize
18. Jeyanthi G.	Hand Work	2nd Prize
	Tamil Writing	3rd Prize



19.	Selvendra K.	Hand Work	1st Prize
20.	Kulathungar K.	English Spelling	1st Prize
21.	Tharshini T.	Tamil Writing	2nd Prize
22.	Muraleetharan T.	Tamil Spelling	3rd Prize
23.	Sivaruby S.	Hand Work	3rd Prize
24.	Diana R.	Dance	3rd Prize
25.	Sabananthan P.	General Proficiency	
26.	Arivalagan R.	General Proficiency	
27.	Manjula V.	General Proficiency	
28.	Gananathan A.	General Proficiency	
29.	Kumaran S. M.	General Proficiency	
30.	Gunageetha P.	General Proficiency	
31.	Sathiyavarni K.	General Proficiency	
32.	ChristeenKamala H.	General Proficiency	

### Special

Best Academic Performance in Grade 5 SURESHKUMAR P.

## JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

### Grade 6

1.	Janarthanan S.	<b>Mr. K. Kanagaratnam Mem. Prize</b>	
		General Proficiency	
		English	1st Prize
		English spelling	1st Prize
		Hinduism	1st Prize
		Health Education	1st Prize
		Agriculture	1st Prize
		Tamil language	2nd Prize
		Social studies	2nd Prize
2.	Mathanamohan B.	<b>Rev. and Mrs. R. C. P. Welch Memorial Prize</b>	
		General Proficiency	
		Tamil	1st Prize
		Social studies	1st Prize
		Health Education	1st Prize
		Art	2nd Prize
3.	Mathitharan W.	<b>Mrs. Thiraviyam Caroline Jeyarajah Mem. Prize</b>	
		General Proficiency	
		Science	1st Prize



	Claywork	1st Prize
	Mathematics	2nd Prize
	Hinduism	2nd Prize
	English	2nd Prize
4. Muralithas P.	<b>Mrs. S. Thiagarajah Memorial Prize</b>	
	General Proficiency	
	Mathematics	1st Prize
	Health Education	1st Prize
	Carnatic Music	2nd Prize
	English Handwriting	2nd Prize
5. Thayalan S.	<b>Rev &amp; Mrs. G. D. Thomas Memorial Prize</b>	
	General Proficiency	
	Hinduism	1st Prize
	English handwriting	1st Prize
	English language	2nd Prize
	Science	2nd Prize
	Social studies	2nd Prize
6. Sutharshan M.	Christianity	1st Prize
	Art	1st Prize
7. Umagajendran Y.	<b>Rev. V. M. John Memorial Prize</b>	
	General Proficiency	
	Tamil	2nd Prize
8. Sanjeeva N.	Woodwork	1st Prize
9. Naveendran S.	Christianity	2nd Prize
10. Kesavan S.	Science	2nd Prize
	Tamil Essay	2nd Prize
	Tamil speech	1st Prize
11. Hariharan P.	Art	2nd Prize
12. Thayalan V.	General Proficiency	
13. Mayoaran V.	General Proficiency	
14. Ramanan V.	<b>Mrs. Marjorie Jevasingham Memorial Prize</b>	
	General Proficiency	
	Tamil Essay	1st Prize
	English Spelling	2nd Prize
	Carnatic Music	1st Prize
15. Thevadas P.	Tamil Speech	2nd Prize



16. Rathika S.	General Proficiency	
	Home Science	1st Prize
17. Mathini S.	Carnatic Music	1st Prize
18. Premini N.	Western Music	1st Prize
19. Krishnaverny K.	Hinduism	2nd Prize
20. Shanthi K.	English Recitation	1st Prize
21. Rukshini M.	English Recitation	1st Prize

**Grade 7**

1. Sujaharan K.

**K. Satchithananthan Memorial Prize**

Namasivayam Mem. Special Prize for Tamil

General Proficiency

Tamil Language 1st Prize

Mathematics 1st Prize

Social Studies 1st Prize

Health Education 1st Prize

Hinduism 1st Prize

Agriculture 1st Prize

Science 2nd Prize

2. Sivatharan S.

**Mr. & Mrs. G. N. C. Ponnambalam Mem. Prize**

General Proficiency

Tamil Essay 1st Prize

Science 1st Prize

Social studies 2nd Prize

Health Education 2nd Prize

3. Lakshminarayanan G.

**Mrs. A. Sinnathamby Memorial Prize**

General Proficiency

Science 2nd Prize

Mathematics 2nd Prize

Health Education 2nd Prize

4. Gopikrishna M.

**Mrs. Thavaratnam Nadarajah Mem. Prize**

General Proficiency

English Spelling 1st Prize

Tamil Essay 2nd Prize

Science 2nd Prize



5.	Naguleswaran S.	<b>S. Theivendrampillai Memorial Prize</b>	
		General Proficiency	
		Tamil Language	2nd Prize
		Hinduism	2nd Prize
6.	Kannathas K.	<b>S. Ariathurai Memorial Prize</b>	
		General Proficiency	
		English	2nd Prize
7.	Premananthan A.	Christianity	2nd Prize
8.	Vasanthakumar K.	General Proficiency	
9.	Gunaseelan S. P.	Christianity	1st Prize
		Carnatic Music	2nd Prize
		English Spelling	2nd Prize
10.	Gnanavalagan S.	General Proficiency	
11.	Valluvan P.	Hinduism	1st Prize
12.	Sivasuthan P.	Art	1st Prize
13.	Aravinthan A.	English Language	1st Prize
		English Spelling	2nd Prize
14.	Giritharan P.	Clay Work	1st Prize
15.	Appadurai K.	Clay Work	1st Prize
16.	Joy Harriston S.	Wood Work	1st Prize
17.	Selvendran G.	Tamil Speech	2nd Prize
18.	Emil Neethirajah	English Handwriting	2nd Prize
19.	Rajini R.	General Proficiency	
		Western Music	2nd Prize
20.	Sivajothy N.	General Proficiency	
		Home Science	1st Prize
21.	Sunitha S.	General Proficiency	
		Western Music	2nd Prize
22.	Komala S.	Carnatic Music	1st Prize
23.	Shobana S.	English Recitation	1st Prize
24.	Subothini D.	English Recitation	2nd Prize
25.	Kalasakthy S.	Tamil Speech	1st Prize
26.	Yamuna S.	English Spelling	2nd Prize
27.	Geethanjali W.	Tamil Short Story	Juniors
28.	Sujatha P.	English Handwriting	1st Prize



**Grade 8**

**1. Kulasingam R.**

**Louis Ponniah Memorial. Prize**

**P. E. Rajaratnam Mem. Prize For the  
Best Academic Student in Grade 8**

**E. W. Ariyanayagam Memorial Special Prize  
For Social Studies**

General Proficiency	
Tamil Language	1st Prize
Mathematics	1st Prize
Social Studies	1st Prize
Science	1st Prize
Health Education	1st Prize
Ceramics	1st Prize
English	2nd Prize
Art	2nd Prize
General Knowledge	2nd Prize

**2. Manoharan L.**

**Thomas Rajadurai Mem. Prize**

**Minnie Hastings Memorial Special Prize  
for English**

General Proficiency	
Tamil	1st Prize
English	1st Prize
English Spelling	1st Prize
Social Studies	1st Prize
Mathematics	1st Prize
Science	2nd Prize
Hinduism	2nd Prize
Woodwork	2nd Prize
Health Education	1st Prize

**3. Senthan R.**

**A. Thurairatnam Mem. Prize**

General Proficiency	
Science	1st Prize
Hinduism	1st Prize



	Woodwork	1st Prize
	Tamil	2nd Prize
	Health	2nd Prize
4. Swaran S. P.	<b>R. Kanagasooriam Mem. Prize</b>	
	<b>Rev. S. K. Bunker Memorial Special Prize for Christianity</b>	
	General Proficiency	
	Western Music	1st Prize
	Christianity	1st Prize
	Social Studies	2nd Prize
5. Daniel M.	<b>Rev. S. K. Bunker Memorial Special Prize for Christianity</b>	
	Christianity	1st Prize
	Art	1st Prize
6. Sooriyakumar K.	Agriculture	1st Prize
7. Thirukumaran S.	Ceramics	2nd Prize
8. Bramananther S.	Tamil Speech	1st Prize
	Carnatic Music	2nd Prize
	Tamil Short Story	2nd Prize
9. Shanker T.	General Proficiency	
	Tamil Speech	2nd Prize
	English Spelling	2nd Prize
10. Kulanayagam K. C.	Tamil Essay	1st Prize
11. Sairam V.	English handwriting	2nd Prize
12. Sivalogini M.	<b>N. R. Manickavasagar Memorial Prize</b>	
	General Proficiency	
	Home Science	1st Prize
	Carnatic Music	1st Prize
13. Tharshini M.	Carnatic Music	2nd Prize
14. Mallika T.	English handwriting	1st Prize
	Tamil essay	2nd Prize
15. Vasanthi R.	English Recitation	1st Prize



## SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

### Grade 9

1. Thanenjayan S.	<b>P. W. Ariaratnam Memorial Prize.</b> <b>Mrs. Sornam Naganather Memorial Prize for Tamil</b> General Proficiency Tamil Social Studies Hinduism Science	1st Prize 1st Prize 1st Prize 2nd Prize
2. Nithiarajan N.	<b>Rev. K. S. Jeyasingham Memorial Prize</b> General Proficiency Agriculture Health Education	1st Prize 1st Prize
3. Kulasathiyam K.	General Proficiency Commerce	1st Prize
4. Sripathy B.	<b>R. A. Naganather Memorial Sp. Prize for Mathematics</b> Mathematics Wood Work	1st Prize 1st Prize
5. Shankar G.	English Language English Spelling	1st Prize 2nd Prize
6. Jeevananthan R.	Art	1st Prize
7. Raveendran T.	Art Clay Work	1st Prize 1st Prize
8. Satchithanathan K.	Clay Work	1st Prize
9. Skandakumar B.	Hinduism	2nd Prize
10. Umesh S.	Art	2nd Prize
11. Peter Vincent K.	Wood Work	2nd Prize
12. Nadeshathasan N.	Clay Work	2nd Prize
13. Thiruparankirinathan S.	Carnatic Music	1st Prize
14. Kuganeswaran	Tamil Essay	1st Prize
15. Bavani K.	<b>V. Nalliah Memorial Prize</b> General Proficiency English Spelling Tamil Essay Mathematics English Language	1st Prize 2nd Prize 2nd Prize 2nd Prize



16.	Jesmy K.	<b>Dr. William Jameson Memorial Prize</b>	
		General Proficiency	
		Home Science	1st Prize
		Tamil	2nd Prize
		Health	2nd Prize
		Christianity	2nd Prize
17.	Sharmini S.	<b>Mrs. Grace Satkunam Anketell Ratnesar Memorial Prize</b>	
		General Proficiency	
		Hinduism	1st Prize
		Science	1st Prize
		Social Studies	2nd Prize
		Home Science	2nd Prize
18.	Mohana N.	English Handwriting	1st Prize
19.	Sivanayaki K.	General Proficiency	
20.	Gowsaladevy M.	Carnatic Music	1st Prize
21.	Evelyn J.	Tamil	1st Prize
22.	Chrishanth D.	<b>A. S. Ponnampalam Special Memorial Prize for English</b>	
		English Language	1st Prize
23.	Kalayini M.	<b>C. B. Bavinck Special Prize for Christianity</b>	
		Christianity	1st Prize
		Carnatic Music	2nd Prize
24.	Sekaram G.	General Proficiency	
		Tamil Speech	2nd Prize
		English Spelling	2nd Prize
25.	Sriharan S.	General Proficiency	
		English Handwriting	2nd Prize
26.	Thevananth J.	Tamil Speech	1st Prize
27.	Karmini R.	English Recitation	2nd Prize
28.	Prince Jeyadeva J.	General Knowledge	2nd Prize



**Grade X**

29. Noble Surendran S.

**Charles S. Ratnesar Memorial Prize**

General Proficiency

Christianity 1st Prize

Health 1st Prize

Tamil 2nd Prize

Science 2nd Prize

Social Studies 2nd Prize

Agriculture 2nd Prize

G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Tamil

Mathematics

Christianity

Agriculture

30. Sayanthakumar P.

**S. S. Sanders Memorial Prize**

General Proficiency

Agriculture 1st Prize

Health 2nd Prize

Commerce 2nd Prize

G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — English

Commerce

Mathematics

Agriculture

31. Sarvananther S.

**Stephen Balachandran Memorial Prize**

General Proficiency

Social Studies 1st Prize

General Knowledge 1st Prize

English 2nd Prize

Tamil Essay 2nd Prize

English Spelling 2nd Prize

G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Tamil

English

Commerce

Social Studies

Mathematics

Health



- |                              |   |                                     |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 32. Eswaranathan             | <b>S. T. Jeevaratnam Memorial Prize</b><br>General Proficiency<br>General Science<br>Wood Work<br>G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Tamil<br>Commerce<br>Mathematics<br>Science          | 1st Prize<br>1st Prize              |
| 33. Vijeyamunhunthan V.      | <b>Rev. J. W. A. Kadirgamar Memorial Prize</b><br>General Proficiency<br>G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Tamil<br>Mathematics<br>Agriculture<br>Science                                |                                     |
| 34. Sivanesan N.             | Mathematics<br>G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — English   | 2nd Prize                           |
| 35. Prabakaran M.            | Tamil<br>G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Mathematics<br>Saivism  | 1st Prize                           |
| 36. Sugirthananthan E. J. T. | Christianity<br>G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Mathematics<br>Christianity  | 2nd Prize                           |
| 37. Senthilnathan K.         | <b>Edson Lockwood Special Memorial Prize<br/>For Art</b><br>Art   | 1st Prize                           |
| 38. Sureshkanthan S.         | Ceramics  | 1st Prize                           |
| 39. Pradeep A.               | Ceramics  | 2nd Prize                           |
| 40. Colin Ranjithkumar A.    | Wood Work   | 2nd Prize                           |
| 41. Reginald T.              | <b>Edson Lockwood Special Memorial Prize<br/>For Art</b><br>Art   | 1st Prize                           |
| 42. Kamalini V.              | <b>Justice P. Sriskandarajah and Kanmany<br/>Sriskandarajah Memorial Prize</b><br>General Proficiency<br>Hinduism<br>Health<br>Home Science<br>G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Saivism | 1st Prize<br>2nd Prize<br>2nd Prize |



43. Keshini D.

**J. V. Chelliah Memorial Prize**

**Edson Lookwood Special Memorial Prize**

**For Carnatic Music**

**General Proficiency**

English

1st Prize

Carnatic Music

1st Prize

English Recitation

1st Prize

English spelling

1st Prize

Tamil Essay

1st Prize

G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Tamil

English

Mathematics

Saivaism

44. Vanitha P.

**V. Shanmuganathan Memorial Prize**

**General Proficiency**

Mathematics

1st Prize

Commerce

1st Prize

G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Mathematics

Saivaism

45. Rubavathani K.

**V. V. Kandiah Memorial Prize**

**General Proficiency**

Science

1st Prize

Carnatic Music

2nd Prize

G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Mathematics

Saivaism

46. Damayanthi U.

**V. Mahendran Memorial Prize**

**General Proficiency**

Home Science

1st Prize

G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Saivaism

47. Gnaneswary B.

**A. Thillaiampalam Memorial Prize**

**General Proficiency**

G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Saivaism

Tamil

48. Grace Thevamalar

**Prof. Reggie Appadurai Memorial Prize**

English

1st Prize

Christianity

1st Prize

G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Tamil

English



49.	Gamini T.	Christianity	2nd Prize
		English Handwriting	2nd Prize
50.	Sorupa N.	Saivism	2nd Prize
		G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Saivism	
51.	Sugirthini T.	Carnatic Music	2nd Prize
		G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Saivism	
52.	Vinitha S. P.	<b>Edson C. Lockwood Special Memorial Prize for Western Music</b>	
		Western Music	1st Prize
		English handwriting	2nd Prize
53.	Sujathini G. E.	G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Mathematics	
54.	Chenthuran N.	G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Tamil	
		Mathematics	
55.	Jeyarajah T.	G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Mathematics	
56.	Kandeeapan P.	G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Saivism	
57.	Mathitharan K.	G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Saivism	
58.	Premaruban S.	G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Mathematics & Agriculture	
59.	Ravindran M.	G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Agriculture	
60.	Sakthivel V.	G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Commerce	
61.	Sivanathan S.	G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Mathematics	
62.	Sivakumar T.	G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Mathematics	
63.	Swaminathan G. S.	G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Mathematics	
64.	Damayanathi S.	G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Mathematics & Saivism	
65.	Nalini V.	G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Saivism	
66.	Priyadharshini D. A.	G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Mathematics	
67.	Pathma Arulvathana V.	G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Mathematics	
68.	Sutharshini A.	G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Saivism	
69.	Sooriyahari G.	G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Saivism	
70.	Swarnalatha S.	G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Saivism	
71.	Vasuki R.	G. C. E. O/L Dists. in — Mathematics & Saivism	

#### Lr. Science XI

72.	Vijeya R.	<b>Mr. &amp; Mrs. P. E. Rajaratnam Mem. Prize</b>	
		<b>Emso Ltd. Special Prize for Science</b>	
		General Proficiency	
		Botany	1st Prize
		Physics	1st Prize



- |                         |  |                        |
|-------------------------|--|------------------------|
| 73. Nirainithy S.       | General Proficiency<br>Chemistry   | 1st Prize              |
| 74. Benjamin P.         | <b>C. Thuraijasingham Special Memorial Prize<br/>For General Knowledge</b><br>General Proficiency<br>General Knowledge<br>Botany | 1st Prize<br>2nd Prize |
| 75. Anton Rajakariar J. | <b>Messrs Kulanayagam and Rajanayagam Ratnesar<br/>Memorial Prize</b><br>General Proficiency<br>Zoology<br>Physics               | 1st Prize<br>2nd Prize |
| 76. Suntharavathany S.  | <b>C. O. Elias Memorial Prize</b><br>General Proficiency<br>Pure Mathematics<br>Applied Mathematics                              | 1st Prize<br>2nd Prize |
| 77. Suganthi S.         | <b>Hudson Paramasamy Memorial Prize</b><br>General Proficiency<br>Chemistry<br>Tamil Essay                                       | 2nd Prize<br>2nd Prize |
| 78. Kulendran K.        | <b>S. Kulasingam Memorial Prize</b><br>General Proficiency<br>Applied Mathematics  | 1st Prize              |
| 79. Vathanan V.         | <b>R. O. Buell Memorial Prize</b><br>General Proficiency<br>Botany<br>Zoology  | 2nd Prize<br>2nd Prize |
| 80. Sathiaselvy T.      | Tamil Essay  | 1st Prize              |
| 81. Baskaran A.         | Pure Mathematics   | 2nd Prize              |
| 82. Piratheepan K.      | General Proficiency  |                        |
| 83. Kalaichelvi A.      | General Proficiency  |                        |
| 84. Priyatharshini V.   | <b>J. Selvarajasingham Memorial Prize</b><br>General Proficiency<br>English Elocution  |                        |
| 85. Kalavally K.        | General Proficiency  |                        |
| 86. Indirane S.         | General Proficiency  |                        |
| 87. Krishnavally K.     | General Proficiency<br>Physics   | 2nd Prize              |



**Lower XI Arts - Commerce**

88. Augustine S.

**Allen Abraham Memorial Prize**

General Proficiency

Commerce 1st Prize

Economics 1st Prize

Accounts 1st Prize

89. Dayalini M.

**Isaac Arulampalam Memorial Prize**

General Proficiency

Tamil 1st Prize

Carnatic Music 1st Prize

Christianity 1st Prize

English Elocution 2nd Prize

90. Yasothara G.

**Mrs. Thevanesan Wadsworth Mem. Prize**

General Proficiency

Logic 1st Prize

Hindu Culture 1st Prize

Commerce 2nd Prize

91. Pathmathaneswaran V.

**K. E. Mathiapparanam Special Memorial Prize  
for Tamil Short Story**

General Proficiency

Christianity 1st Prize

Tamil Speech 2nd Prize

92. Rajkumar G.

General Proficiency

Commerce 2nd Prize

93. Jeyasiri T.

Carnatic Music 2nd Prize

94. Sashila T.

Hindu Culture 2nd Prize

95. Sarojinidevi T.

**T. Ratnasabapathy Memorial Prize**

General Proficiency

Pure Mathematics 1st Prize

Economics 2nd Prize

**Grade XI Science**

96. Gunathilagan G. J.

**V. Thillainathan Special Memorial Prize for  
Chemistry**

General Proficiency

Botany 1st Prize

Physics 1st Prize

Chemistry 1st Prize

Zoology 1st Prize



97. Krishanthan S. P. **R. O. D. Asbury Memorial Prize**  
General Proficiency  
Botany 2nd Prize
98. Shanthini A. S. **E. R. Thambyapillai Memorial Prize**  
General Proficiency  
Tamil Elocution 1st Prize  
Botany 2nd Prize  
Zoology 2nd Prize
99. Vasuki S. Tamil Elocution 2nd Prize

**Grade XI Arts/Commerce**

100. Pancharine V. **Lyman Kulathungam Special Memorial Prize for English**  
English Language 1st Prize  
Commerce 1st Prize  
Economics 1st Prize
101. Gunaratnam G. J. Economics 2nd Prize
102. Navukarasi V. **E. S. Sittampalam Special Memorial Prize for the Best Biology Student**  
**T. J. Koshy Prize for Botany**  
General Proficiency  
Chemistry 1st Prize  
Botany 1st Prize  
Zoology 1st Prize
103. Nirmala T. **P. E. Rajaratnam Special Memorial Prize for the Best Physics Student**  
General Proficiency  
Physics 1st Prize  
Pure Mathematics 1st Prize
104. Manimaran M. **W. H. T. Bartlett Scholarship for the Best Physical Science Student Entering the University.**  
**D. S. Sanders Special Memorial Prize for the Best Mathematics Student.**  
**A. C. Sunderampillai Special Memorial Prize for The Best Science Student.**  
Applied Mathematics 1st Prize  
Pure Mathematics 1st Prize



105. Kulachelvi K. Dr. & Mrs. Rajanayagam Sp. Memorial Prize  
for the Best Chemistry Student  
Chemistry 1st Prize
106. Pathmini K. W. S. Ratnavale Scholarship for the  
Best Biological Student entering the University  
G. C. E. A/L Dists. in — Botany
107. Loroy J. J. C. G. C. E. A/L Dists. in — Applied Mathematics  
Physics
108. Baladevan K. P. T. John Scholarship for the Best  
Physics Student Entering the  
University.

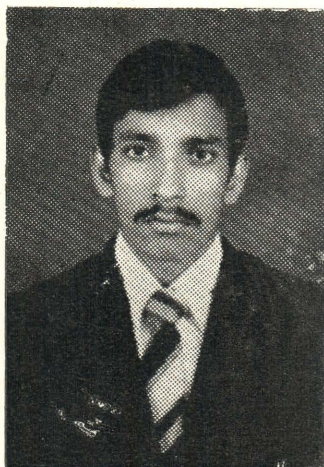
**Grade XII Arts & Commerce**

109. Sivakalai N. Navam Appadurai Sp. Memorial Prize  
for the Best Economics Student  
entering the University.  
General Proficiency  
Economics 1st Prize  
Accounts 1st Prize  
Commerce 1st Prize  
Logic 1st Prize
110. Jeyamalar T. Major V. G. George Memorial Prize  
Tamil 1st Prize  
Carnatic Music 1st Prize  
Hindu Civilization 1st Prize
111. Christerine V. S. V. Balasingham Sp. Memorial Prize  
for the Best Arts Student.  
General Proficiency  
English 1st Prize  
Home Economics 1st Prize  
Western Music 1st Prize  
Christianity 1st Prize
112. Paheerathy A. Hindu Civilization 2nd Prize
113. Premini J. English 2nd Prize  
G. C. E. A/L Dists. in — English



## CONGRATULATIONS

WINNER OF W. H. T. BARTLETT  
Scholarship for the Best  
Physical Science Student entering  
the University of Sri Lanka—1984.



K. Balathevan

WINNER OF W. S. RATNAVALE  
Scholarship for the best  
Biological Science Student enter-  
ing the University of Sri Lanka-  
1984



K. Pathmini

WINNER OF THE S. V. BALASINGHAM  
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP — 1984



V. S. Sarvananthar



JOINT ALL ROUND SPORTSMAN AND CRICKETER OF THE YEAR



Mas. M. Paramalingam



Mas. R. Ratnarajah



**London Advanced Level**

114. Surendran S. Dists. in A. E. B. Exam, Pure Maths.  
 115. Vijendran S. Dists in A. E. B. Exam. Pure Mathematics  
 Further Maths.

Creativity Award for 1984 — S. Nesananother

**SPORTS AWARD — 1984**

1. D. Balashankar — Special Batting Prize  
 2. R. Ratnarajah — Special Batting Prize  
 Mr. M. Kantharatnam Memorial Challenge Cup for  
 Best Batsman.  
 Cricket Colours  
 3. M. Paramalingam — Special Bowling Prize  
 Dr. G. Chelvadoray Memorial Challenge Cup for the  
 Best Bowler  
 Cricket Colours  
 4. M. Paramalingam }  
 R. Ratnarajah } Joint Cricketers of the year  
 5. M. Paramalingam }  
 R. Ratnarajah } James Aruliah Rajasingham Sanders Memorial Prize  
 for Best Fieldsmen of the year.  
 6. J. G. Jesurajah Junior All-Round Sportsman of the year.  
 7. M. Paramalingam }  
 R. Ratnarajah } Joint Senior All Round Sportsman



# JAFFNA COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZE FUNDS MEMORIAL PRIZES & SCHOLARSHIPS 1984

## All Rounder's Prizes

(Endowment towards Gold Medal—Rs. 15,000/-)

Mr. & Mrs. S. K. Gnanamuttu      In memory of Mr. Gnanamuttu's parents  
Mr. & Mrs. R. A. Gnanamuttu

(Endowments of Rs. 1,000/- and over)

### Arts Prize

Mrs. E. S. Balasingham      In memory of her husband Mr. S. V. Balasingham

### Science Prizes

Dr. S. Rasalingam      In memory of his father Mr. E. Sittampalam

The late Mrs. A. C. Sundaram-      In memory of her husband Mr. A. C. Sundaram-  
pillai      pillai

EMSO Ltd., Colombo      Special Science Prize

### English Prizes

Dr. S. Durai Raja Singam      In memory of his teacher Minnie Hastings Harrison

Mrs. A. S. Ponnampalam      In memory of her husband Mr. A. S. Ponnampalam

Mrs. E. D. Kulathungam      In memory of her husband Mr. Lyman S. Kulathungam

### Chemistry Prizes

Mr. James Rajanayagam and      In memory of their parents Dr. and Mrs. S. Raja-  
Mrs. Florence Subramaniam      nayagam

Dr. T. Sivakumaran      In memory of his father Mr. V. Thillainathan

### Mathematics Prizes

Mrs. D. S. Sanders and      In memory of Mr. D. S. Sanders (Sr.)

Prof. and Mrs. D. S. Sanders Jr.

The late Mr. M. A. Rajah      In memory of Mr. R. A. Naganather

Mr. V. Thavaratnam      In memory of his father Mr. A. T. Vaithilingam

### Tamil Prizes

The late Mr. M. A. Rajah      In memory of Mrs. Sornam Naganather

Mrs. Rosabella      In memory of her husband

P. Mathiapparanam      Mr. K. E. Mathiapparanam



**Social Studies Prize**

Dr. S. Durai Raja Singham In memory of Mr. E. W. Aryanayakam

**Physics Prize**

The Rajaratnam Children In memory of their parents Mr. & Mrs. P. E. Rajaratnam

**Christianity Prizes**

Mr. & Mrs. T. S. Oppenheim, In memory of Rev. Dr. S. K. Bunker  
Mrs. Ruth C. Bunker and  
Mr. Richard Edmunds

**General Knowledge Prize**

Dr. (Mrs.) Chandra Sethurajan In memory of her father Mr. C. Thurai Rajasingam

**Aesthetics Prizes**

The late Mrs. E. C. Lockwood In memory of her husband Mr. Edson C. Lockwood

**Best Academic Performance in Grade 8**

The Rajaratnam Children In memory of their parents Mr. & Mrs. P. E. Rajaratnam

**Best Academic Performance in Grade 5**

Mr. Lloyd R. Devarajah In memory of his father Ponnambalam Edward Rajaratnam

**Sports Prizes**

Dr. N. Ethirveerasingham In memory of his grandmother Sinnapillai Chelliah  
and his brother N. Pararajasingam

Mr. & Mrs. V. K. Kandiah In memory of their son Jacob Ranjan

**MEMORIAL SPORTS TROPHIES**

Mr. Kantharatnam Memorial Challenge Cup for the Best Batsman presented by  
Mrs. M. Kantharatnam

Dr. G. Chelvadorai Memorial Challenge Cup for the Best Bowler presented by  
Mrs. Chevadorai and children.

Mr. James Aruliah Rajasingham Sanders Challenge Cup for the Best Fieldsman  
presented by Mrs. Joselyn Sugirtham Sanders.



## ENDOWMENTS TOWARDS SPECIAL MEMORIAL PRIZES

(Rs. 1000/- and over)

In Memory of	Donated by
Dr. R. C. Hastings	The College
Rev. S. W. Howland	"
Rev. G. G. Brown	"
Rev. John Bicknell	"
Mr. Robert Breckenridge	"
Mr. S. W. Strong	"
Mr. Hudson Paramasamy	"
Mr. Vythilingam Mudaliyar	"
Mr. Driberg	"
Mr. Sathasivam	"
Rev. W. E. Hitchcock	"
Mr. William Twynam	"
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Mr. Justice P. SriSkandarajah and	
Mrs. Kanmany SriSkandarajah	Their children
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Mrs. Thavaratnam Nadarajah	Her husband Mr. S. Nadarajah
Mr. E. R. Thambyahpillay	His son Prof. George Thambyahpillay
Mr. Charles S. Ratnesar	His son the late Dr. S. W. C. Ratnesar
Messrs Kunanayagam & Raja-	
nayagam Ratnesar	Their brother, the late Dr. S. W. C. Ratnesar
Mr. S. Ariathurai	His wife Mrs. R. Ariathurai
Mr. K. Edward	His son Mr. Edward Selvadas
Mr. & Mrs. J. N. Appadurai	Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Appadurai
Mr. K. Arulampalam	His son Dr. A. Arulampalam
Dr. J. T. Amarasingham	His daughter, Mrs. Nividita Arulampalam
Mr. J. V. Chelliah	His grand daughter Dr. (Mrs.) A. C. Canagarajah
Mr. Louis S. Ponniah	His son Mr. P. J. Thambiratnam
Mr. S. Theivendrampillai	His wife and children
Rev. G. D. Thomas	His son Dr. T. Chelvarajah
Mr. A. Thurairatnam	His children
Mr. K. V. George	His son the late Major V. G. George
Mrs. Grace Satkunam	Her son



Anketell Ratnesar	Dr. Rajendra Ratnesar
Mr. A. Mahendran	His children
Dr. A. E. Duraisamy	Dr. K. E. Chandrapal
Major V. G. George	Mr. R. J. Thurairajah & Family
Mr. C. C. Kanapathipillai	His daughter, Dr. (Mrs.) D. J. Ambalavanar
Mr. C. Nalliah	His son Mr. N. Ramachandran
Dr. William Jameson	His daughter Mrs. Gladys Jameson Hvamb
Mr. & Mrs. G. N. C. Ponnambalam	Mr. & Mrs. H. N. Ponnambalam
Mr. A. Ambalavanar and	} Their brother
Mr. A. Kumarasamy	
Mr. A. Chellappah	Mr. & Mrs. S. R. Chellappah
Mr. M. Vallipuram	Mr. & Mrs. A. Thiagambaralingam
Mr. T. K. Curtis	His daughter Mrs. G. J. Gunanayagam
Mr. S. P. Rajaratnam	His son Mr. R. K. Rajasenan
Mr. K. Arumugam	His son Mr. A. Gunanayagam
Mr. E. C. Jesudasan	His wife and children
Dr. & Mrs. P. Varatharajah	Their children
Mr. V. Chelvadurai	His wife and children
Mr. C. O. Elias	His grand daughter M. Premeela
Mr. K. A. George	His student Mr. R. A. Retchakan
Mrs. Annammah Sinnathamby	Her son Mr. Sam Jeyadeva
Mr. S. S. Sanders	His son the late Mr. J. A. R. Sanders
Mr. Allen Abraham	His son Mr. A. Aruliah
Mr. R. Namasivayam	His son Mr. Dayananda Namasivayam
Mrs. Thevanesam Wadsworth	Her husband Mr. D. T. Wadsworth
Mr. Issac Arulampalam	His son Rev. S. S. Arulampalam
Mr. P. W. Ariaratnam	His wife Mrs. P. W. Ariaratnam
Mr. R. O. Buell	Y. M. C. A. of Colombo
Mr. A. Thilliampalam	His son Mr. A. Sivayogapathy
Mr. A. Shanmuganathan	His sister and brother-in-law Mr. & Mrs. S. Veeravagu
Mr. T. Ratnasabapathy	His son Mr. R. Jeganathan
Mr. V. V. Kandiah	His daughter Miss T. Kandiah
Mr. E. J. Niles	College Endowment
Mr. S. A. Visuvalingam	College Endowment
Mr. K. Satchithananthan	College Endowment
Mr. A. M. Brodie	His children
Rev. J. W. A. Kadirgamar	His son Rev. Nesan Kadirgamar
Rev. & Mrs. V. M. John	The John family
Mr. K. Kanagaratnam	His Children



Mr. K. Namasivayam	His son Mr. Sivagunananthan
Mr. C. E. Anandarajan	His nephew Mr. K. C. Kadirgamar
Mr. J. A. Selvadurai	His wife Mrs. L. T. Selvadurai
Mr. & Mrs. J. S. Ambalam	His son Mr. A. Gunanayagam
Mr. A. Ponnudurai	His son-in-law and daughter Dr. & Dr. (Mrs.) A. R. Ganeshamoorthy
Mr. Samuel Arumugam Thambi-muttu	His son Mr. T. Thalayasigham
Mr. James Aruliah Rajasingham Sanders	His wife Mrs. Joselyn Sugirtham Sanders
Mr. A. T. Vethaparanam	His son Mr. V. Anandarajan
Mr. J. C. Amarasingam	His son Dr. J. L. Amarasingam
Miss Ariam Hudson Paramasamy	The Bookwalter Family
Mr. Stephen Balachandran	The Jaffna College Round Table
Mr. J. Selvarajasingham	The Jaffna College Round Table

## Other Memorial Prizes

### (Annual Contributions)

In Memory of	Donated by
Mr. R. C. S. Cooke	His wife Mrs. R. C. S. Cooke
Mr. S. T. Jeevaratnam	His son Dr. K. Jeevaratnam
Mrs. Majorie Jeyasingam	Her brother Prof. E. R. Appadurai
Mr. R. Kanagasoorium	His son Dr. J. M. N. Kanagasoorium
Mr. S. Kulasingam	His children
Mr. Nathan Rajamuttiah	His daughter Mr. J. G. Varnan
Manikkavasagam	His sister Miss H. R. Thomas
Mr. Thomas Rajadurai	His daughter Mrs. Thavamalar Joseph
Mr. B. K. Somasundaram	Their son the late Rev. K. S. Jeyasingam
Rev. & Mrs. J. K. Sinnathamby	Their children
Mr. & Mrs. E. J. Jeyarajah	His wife Mrs. P. Thiagarajah
Mr. S. Thiagarajah	Their daughter Mrs. Rancee Kulanayagam
Rev. & Mrs. R. C. P. Welch	His wife Mrs. L. A. Williams
Mr. L. S. Williams	His sister Miss Ruby Appadurai
Prof. Reggie Appadurai	His daughter Mrs. Lalitha Atputharajah
Rev. K. S. Jeyasingam	



## Memorial Scholarships

(Rs. 1,000 and over)

Scholarships	Endowed by
Elwood	Permanent endowment fund
Green	" " "
Twynam	" " "
Marquand	" " "
Barlett Hensman	" " "
Subramaniam Valliammai	" " "
S. V. Balasingam	The Jaffna College Round Table

(Rs. 5,000/- and over)

Rockwood	Permanent endowment fund
Birch	" " "
W. H. Thambyrajah Bartlett	The late Mr. W. Thambyrajah Bartlett and his daughter Mrs. A. S. Ponnambalam
Velupillai Sabaratnam	His sister the late Mrs. E. Thambirajah
R. N. Asirvatham	The late Mr. R. N. Asirvatham
A. S. Ponnambalam	His wife Mrs. A. S. Ponnambalam
Navam Appadurai	His wife Mrs. Robina Appadurai and Children

(Rs. 10,000/- and over)

Pastor W. R. Sussbach	The late Rev. W. R. Sussbach
Dr. W. S. Ratnavale	His son Dr. W. D. Ratnavale
Dr. K. Sithamparapillai	His grandson Mr. S. Kulasingam
Thangammah & Swaminather	Their children, Rajasingam, Ethir
Nagalingam	Veerasingam, Parameshwari and Segarajasingam
P. Thomas John	His son Dr. Joseph John

(Rs. 15,000/- and over)

Dr. K. Jeyaratnam Thambapillai	Thambapillai Trust Fund
K. A. George	His student Dr. K. Poologasundram
K. C. Thurairatnam	His wife Mrs. E. Thurairatnam & children



(Rs. 20,000/- and over)

Mr. & Mrs. Edson C. Lockwood    The Lockwoods

(Rs. 30,000/- and over)

## Scotch

### Permanent endowment fund

## Hastings

The Hastings Family also heavily endowed with the Trustees in U. S. A.)

### Endowments to other Scholarships and Prizes

(Rs. 1,000/- and over)

Theodore and Helen Oppenheim — Endowed by Mr. & Mrs. T. S. Oppenheim

Mr. K. Selvarajah Scholarship — Endowed by Mr. K. Selvarajah

Mr. P. A. A. Vale Scholarship — Endowed by Mr. P. A. A. Vale

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Scholarship — Endowed by Mr. & Mrs. G. Anthonipillai

Theodore and Helen Oppenheim — Endowed by his friend

Prize for English — Mr. M. A. Veluppillai

Mr. T. J. Koshy Prize for Botany — Endowed by Dr. (Mrs.) Sarammah Verghese

Mr. C. B. Bavinck Prize for  
Christianity — Endowed by Mr. R. S. Chandrarajan

(Rs. 5,000/-)

Lions Club Scholarship — Lions Club of Vaddukoddai

## Sports Prizes

**"The Gold"** — A tribute to our past sportsmen presented by the College

**Challenge Cup** — Donated by Mr. R. J. Jeyaratnam to the winner of the Cross Country Race (Senior Group)

**Man of the Match — Battle of the Golds — by Peoples Bank, Sri Lanka**

(Rs. 1,000/- and over)

**Endowments** — Mr. & Mrs. S. Shanmuga

— Mr. A. Karunanithy

— Mr. Noel Rajaratnam



## Endowments to General Prize Fund

(Rs. 1,000/- and Over)

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Mr. Wesley Muthiah  
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Mr. S. N. Vinayagamoorthy  
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Mr. Kenneth J. Somanader  
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Dr. P. Ratnasabapathy  
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Mr. K. Kanagarajah  
Dr. K. Kugathasan  
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Dr. (Miss) C. A. Ariaratnam  
Mr. C. Chakradaran

## Other Prize Donors (Annual Contribution)

Mr. J. M. Sabaratnam  
Mr. A. C. Nadarajah  
Mr. E. Muthuthamby  
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Dr. S. Nagaratnam  
Dr. & Dr. Mrs. V. Nithiyanandan  
Mr. M. K. Sellarajah  
Prof. S. Arasaratnam

M. M. Sabanathan  
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Mr. T. Thalayasingham  
Dr. (Mrs.) V. Gnanapavan  
Mr. S. R. Kumaresan  
Mr. K. Wijeyanayagam  
Mr. S. M. Kamaldeen  
Mr. S. I. Nithiaraj



# Report Of The Junior Secondary School

The division of the school into Primary, Junior Secondary and Senior sections came into effect in 1983. Years 7, 8 & 9 form the Junior Secondary section. There are three divisions in each year and we have a total of about 340 students in all. We do not function as a separate entity. For, we work in collaboration with the Senior Secondary School in all the Academic and extra curricular activities. However, an amendment to the constitution of the Senior Secondary School Student Council has been made to give recognition to this section of the School. Provision has been made for five councillors to represent these classes.

Baskaran M.	Year 9 A
Sivatharan S.	Year 9 C
Komala S.	Year 9 B
Janarthan S.	Year 8 B
Shanthi K.	Year 8 B

Baskaran delivered the welcome speech at the College Prize-Giving.

We have completed a year of activity. Our children have shown their talents in many fields. The results of the English Day Competitions at the District level is very encouraging. The year 7 students deserve special mention and have to be congratulated for securing places in every section of the competition.

Action song — “Moking Bird Hill”  
— 1st Place

Playlet — “Bar the Door” — 1st Place

English composition — Marsha C.  
— 1st Place

Devada P.  
— 2nd Place

Reading Aloud — Devada P.  
— 3rd Place

Recitation — Devada P. — 3rd Place

Choral Recitation — Year 7 — 3rd Place

Spelling & Handwriting — Year 7  
— 3rd Place

At the college English Day Programme we staged ‘Joseph the Dreamer’. We are happy that we were able to get nearly fifty students to participate in this musical programme. We are thankful to the English Department for its untiring efforts that brings it a joy and satisfaction in seeing the young perform.

Much interest has been shown in the Tamil Department too. Komala Satchithananthan was placed 1st in the Singing competition while Subashini N., came out 2nd at the circuit level competition. It has been a long time since we saw anything on the stage from Tamil classics. At a Wednesday assembly two scenes from Ramayanam were staged.

Gitanjeli S. of year 9 B played the role of Manterai (Kooni) Suneta J, of year 8 A characterised Kaikeyi and Ramanan S. of 8 C acted as Dasarathan.

We thank Brahmanandar S. of Year 10 for having played the part of



Rama going to the forest. The Ramayana scenes were depicted so well by the students. They entered into the spirit of the play and enjoyed performing it to their own satisfaction and to the delight of the audience.

Our Junior choir numbering twenty-five under the direction of Dr. Porter participated in the college Christmas Vesper service. Some of the students are also members of the Tamil choir. Our thanks are due to Dr. Porter and Mrs. J. Ratnasabapathy for training these young voices.

Lyceum is the literary association of Year 9 classes. Their programme is varied. Training is given at weekly meetings in speaking, debating, singing and acting. The year-end social was a grand success. The children enjoyed the

evening with their teachers at the social get-together.

Sports activities, scouting and guiding are carried on as usual.

It is a pleasure and a privilege to work with the young. They are enthusiastic and look forward to opportunities to build up their talents. While thanking all the teachers for their effort and guidance I look forward to greater achievements in the years ahead.

Finally I owe my deep gratitude to the Principal, Vice-Principal and the office staff for all the encouragement and help to carry on my duties.

M. S. Elias  
Supervisor-Jr. Sec. Sch.

### SUCCESS

*Nothing succeeds so well as success.*

— Talleyrand

*The surest way not to fail is to determine to succeed.*

— Sheridan

*To become an able and successful man in any profession three things are necessary nature, study and practice. Not what men do worthily, but what they do successfully is what history makes haste to record.*

— H. W. Beecher



## Primary School Report

I take pleasure in presenting the report for the year 1985. Amidst great difficulties we were able to carry on our Academic work and the extra curricular activities with great success. We thank our Creator for having enabled us to work better and harder inspite of the problems around us.

We started off the year in a quiet tone without many activities. There was always a fear that something dreadful was going to befall. Hence we limited all the activities to a minimum.

The number of students on roll in our Primary Section is 460. There are about 278 boys and 182 girls. Our Primary School Students Council was very active this year. They carried their duties very efficiently by maintaining discipline and order during school hours as well as during the lunch hour and at various occasions. The Faculty advisor of the Primary School Students Council Mrs. L. B. Thambyrajah advised and guided them from time to time. The following are the Councillors;

T. Prabahar	— President
W. Thayatharan	— Vice President
S. Aingkaran	— Councillor
R. Selvachandran	— „
M. Thivaharan	— „
P. Uthayakumar	— „
P. Sudharshini	— „
M. Thevamanohari	— „
C. Natasha	— „

The most senior teacher namely Mrs. S. Kanagaratnam retired at the end of first term. She served the College for about 30 years. She contributed much to our school work and she was well known as the Kindergarten teacher. Till the end of her retirement she was very active. From the time she joined our staff she was the house mistress of the Hastings House. She took a keen interest in sports and trained the children well. Her plays and dances for the Annual concert were appreciated by all.

Second term was a busy term with the Inter House Athletic Meet which was held on 16th July 1985 at 1-30 p. m. in the Bicknell Field with Mr. C. B. Bavinck as our chief guest. We were doubly happy to have him as he was our former Supervisor of the Junior School. The Children were thrilled to listen to him as he spoke in Tamil which he didn't forget after many years of being away in his native land Holland. He himself distributed the prizes and satisfied the winners. Abraham house emerged champions with 3 points lead over Hastings. The Inter House relay shield was won by Brown House obtaining 88 points. The Individual Champions were:

Arulkumaran T.	Under 10	Hastings
Sharmini S.	Under 10	Hastings
Kanthan S.	Under 11	Brown
Thevatharshini G.	Under 11	Hitchcock
Nixon F.	Over 11	Abraham
Dorris R.	Over 11	Abraham



I wish to thank our secretary Mr. A. Jeyarajan for organising the meet at such notice as Mr. C. B. Bavinck had to leave Colombo the following day. Our physical director Mr. T. Anandaratnam is always there to give a helping hand. We thank him most sincerely. The following are the names of the various House Masters, Mistresses and Captains.

**Abraham House**

*House Master* : Mr. S. Kanagasabapathy  
*House Mistress*: Miss E. P. Kadirgamar  
*House Captain (Boys)*: Mas. F. Nixon  
*House Captain (Girls)*: Miss M. N. Cassiere

**Brown House**

*House Mistress* : Mrs. M. Raviraj  
Mrs. K. Navaratnarajah  
*House Captain (Boys)* : Mas. S. Kanthan  
*House Captain (Girls)*: Miss S. Sharmini

**Hastings House**

Mr. K. S. Tissarajah  
Miss G. V. Rajendra  
Mas. W. Thayatharan  
Miss A. Thanuja

**Hitchcock House**

Mrs. E. P. Pushparajah  
Mrs. D. I. Ganesan  
Mas. P. Uthayakumar  
Miss K. Janani

Our Year 6 students appeared for the Navodaya Scholarship exam which was held on the 13th of July 1985. We are proud to record that four of our students obtained the Scholarships namely Rajeskannan. S, Thivaharan. M, Thayatharan. W, and Shanthini. S.

Mr. W. N. Thevakadadcham who was the Primary School Supervisor from June 1982 retired at the end of the Second term. He was the House master of the Brown House for several years. He was the Commissioner of Scouts and was in charge of the Cubs pack. He contributed much to the life of the work of the Primary School. His keen interest in the Tamil Language enabled many a child to memorise verses on 'Athisoodi' 'Kondraiventhan', 'Vettivetkai' and so on. He was an ardent C. N. A. P. T. worker and read a paper in Moscow in the year 1962. The Primary School staff and

students accorded a farewell to him on the 2nd of August 1985. We wish him and his family many more years of happy healthy retired life.

Mrs. L. B. Thambyrajah was appointed the Supervisor of the Primary School from the first of August 1985. The appointment was first announced by our principal Mr. A. Kadirgamar at the Primary School Athletic Meet. He thanked Mr. W. N. Thevakadadcham for his valuable services and welcomed the new supervisor.

The third term was a very active term keeping all the teachers and students on their feet right from the beginning. Mrs. L. B. Thambyrajah the new supervisor met the staff for the first time after her appointment on Wednesday 11th of Sept 1985 in the Primary School Staff Room and gave the programme for the third term.



This time our prize-giving was held in the Ottley Hall on the 19th of Sept. 1985 and our chief guest was Prof. K. Sivathamby. The Best Academic Performance student of our Primary School was Mas. S. Sureshkumar. He also obtained the Navodhaya Scholarship.

The staff and students had to work hard for the Primary School English Day which was held on the 17th of Oct. 1985. The parents were good enough to come in large numbers to see and encourage their own children. It was an hours programme and about

200 children participated on that day. The items consisted of Individual Poems, solos, choral recitation and action songs. The welcome speech was given by the Primary School Student Council President Mas. T. Prabahar and the vote of thanks was proposed by Mas. S. Aingkaran another councillor. The programme came to an end by singing of the College Song.

The Circuit Competitions for the English Day was held on the 25th of Oct. 1985 at Pandaterruppu girls School and we are proud to record that we got first places in almost all the items that we participated.

Year 4 recitation	— Lakshani K.	1st
Year 4 reading aloud	— Shehan L.	1st
	Lakshani K.	2nd
Year 4 Nursery Rhymes	— Group	1st
Year 5 recitation	— Sureshini A.	1st
	— Thiriambahi S.	1st
Year 5 reading aloud	— Sureshini A.	2nd
Year 5 spelling	— Group	1st
Year 5 action Song	— Group	1st
Year 6 recitation	— Devadharshini G.	1st
Year 6 reading aloud	— Natasha C.	1st
	— Shankar P.	2nd
Year 6 spelling	— Group	1st
Year 6 handwriting	— Group	1st
Year 6 choral recitation	— Group	1st
Year 6 action song	— Group	1st

The District Level Competitions was held on the 9th of Nov. 1985. The following are the results of these competitions:

Year 4 recitation	— Lakshani K.	1st
Year 4 Nursery Rhymes	— Group	3rd
Year 5 recitation	— Sureshini A.	2nd



Year 5	spelling	— Group	2nd
Year 6	reading	— Natasha C.	3rd
Year 6	handwriting	— Group	1st
Year 6	action song	— Group	2nd
Year 6	choral recitation	— Group	1st

As soon as the English Day was over the Mid-Term Tests were conducted and then by the end of October the staff had to train various items for Tamil Thinam which was held on the 1st Nov. 1985. Parents gathered in large numbers inspite of the heavy rain that day. The items consisted of koladadam, story telling, dances and plays.

The meeting of the cubs and little friends are held on Thursdays during the 9th period. There are about 34 cubs in our pack. The boys are divided into 6 groups. They have games, sing songs and other activities during that time. The first enrolment was held on the 29th Oct. and 10 cubs got enrolled on the 5th of Nov. There are about 30 little friends in our 13th Jaffna. Activities of the Little Friends include games and making useful articles, like bags, baby frocks, clothes etc. They hope to get entrolled by next term.

The Christmas programme conducted by the Primary School was held in the Cathedral Church, Vaddukodai at 5 p. m. on the 17th of Nov. 1985. The programme was "Christmas is for Giving". The young choristers went in a procession to their choir seats with candles in their hands singing 'O Come All Ye Faithful'. There was a stage depicting

the manger scene and the shepherds entered from a side door and the three wise-men came from the rear end of the church singing "We Three Kings". The messages were also given by the Primary School Students. They represented the Lad (giving the 5 loaves and fishes) Widow (giving the 2 least coins) Man (giving the colt) Fisherman (giving the boat) A Junior girl (wishing she would have given something) Minister (A boy consoling the little girl) The service came to an end with the Bishop D. J. Ambalavanar's Benediction followed by the Hymn Silent Night sung by 3 Junior girls. The programme was a colourful and a meaningful one to our little children.

I take this opportunity to thank our Principal Mr. A. Kadirgamar for his valuable advice and guidance given to me from time to time and helping me to carry out the new office with so much of ease. I also thank our vice-principal for stepping in and helping me out wherever the occasion arises. Last but not least I thank the Primary School Staff for their whole hearted co-operation thereby making this year a very successful one.

**L. B. Thambyrajah**  
Supervisor Primary School



## Examination Results

**G. C. E. (Ordinary Level) December — 1984**

**Students successful in five or more subjects**

Amalathas M.  
Anton Rajakumar R.  
Chenthuran N.  
Christy Suresh G.  
Colin Ranjithkumar A.  
Edward Mathisuthan M.  
Eswaramaniam S.  
Giritharan V.  
Gowritharan  
Harichandra T.  
Jeyaranjan S.  
Jeganathan M.  
Jeyaraja T.  
Johnson B.  
Johnson S.  
Kandeepan P.  
Krishnakumar S.  
Kugathas M.  
Kuganesan S.  
Kunachelvan K.  
Krishnalingam M.  
Lingeswaran K.  
Mathitharan K.  
Melson Chandrakumar R.  
Muresh R.  
Murugananthan S.  
Nagalingam K.  
Newman Huxley T.  
Noble Surendran S.  
Pradeep Anura Dharshana A.  
Pradeepan R.  
Paramsothy S.

Prabaharan M.  
Premaruban S.  
Rajewaran T.  
Raymond Thevasuthan A.  
Ram Sunthar T.  
Ramesh K.  
Ratnarajah J. C. A.  
Ravintheran M.  
Reginold Ansugapalan T.  
Sakthivel V.  
Sarvananther S.  
Sayanthagumar P.  
Selvakumar R.  
Senthilnathan N.  
Sivanesan N.  
Sivanathan S.  
Sivarajan S.  
Sivakumar T.  
Sritharan T.  
Srikanthan V.  
Sritharan S.  
Sritharan T.  
Suhendran S. S.  
Suresh G.  
Sureshkantha S.  
Sutharsan P.  
Swaminathan G. S.  
Thirunathan R.  
Uthayaseelan K.  
Vijayamugunthan V.  
Sugirthananthan E. J. T.  
Damayanthi S.



Damayanthi U.  
Grace Thevamalar A.  
Gnaneswary B.  
Gamini T.  
Jeyahary P.  
Keshini Sivapriya D.  
Kirija T.  
Kamilini V.  
Malini V.  
Priyadharshini D. A.  
Pathmaarulvathana V.  
Rubavathany K.  
Sutharshani A.  
Sharon G.  
Sujathini G.

Santhanadevi N.  
Sorupa N.  
Sasikala R.  
Sivarathi S.  
Sugirthavany S.  
Swarnalatha S.  
Sugirthini T.  
Vanisiri N.  
Vanitha P. S.  
Vasuki R.  
Balachandran M.  
Gajendiran M.  
Mukunthan V.  
Kesavan M.

**G. E. C. Advanced Level — August 1985**

**Students successful in three or four subjects**

Gunathilagan G. J.  
Krishanthan P. S.  
Nirmalan G. R.  
Anandaratnam S.  
Sivakumar S.  
Sivayogalingam T.  
Vijeyananthan V.  
Paramalingam M.  
Raveendran M.  
Marina Alice A. J.  
Shanthini S.  
Suthahari S.  
Valarmathy T.

Vasuki S.  
Dhayah V.  
Kulachelvy K.  
Navukarasy V.  
Rajani Y.  
Tharumaeaswary T.  
Thangarani P.  
Shanthi S.  
Nithiasakthi S.  
Paheerathy K.  
Latha Jayawanti S.  
Lalitha T.  
Pancherine Gunashni V.



## Physical Director's Notes

### Cricket :

The Cricket Team led by J. C. Jesurajah did fairly well this year. Due to the tense situation that prevailed in Jaffna, we could play only three inter-college matches. Result of the matches are as follows :

vs : Jaffna Central College	— Draw
vs : St. John's College	— Lost
vs : St. Patrick's College	— Won
(Limited Over match)	

The Under 17 team was captained by T. Huxley and all the four matches played by the team ended in draw.

The Under 15 team under the captaincy of G. Luxmananarayanan played four matches, of which it drew one and lost the others.

Coaches :	First Team	} — Mr. M. D. Thambirajah
	Third Team	
	Second Team	— Mr. A. Jeyarajan

### Track and Field Sports :

The Annual Primary Department Inter-House Athletic Meet was held on July 16th under the distinguished Patronage of Mr. C. B. Bavinck former Supervisor of the Junior School of the College. The Meet started with March Past of the four Houses with the Chief Guest taking the Salute. Keen Competition prevailed among the Houses and Abraham House annexed the championship.

### Ranking of the Houses:

Abraham House	— 381 points
Hastings House	— 378 „
Brown House	— 366 „
Hitchcock House	— 362 „
Relay Champions	— Brown House

### Individual Champions:

Boys Over 11	— F. Nixon (Abraham House)
Boys Under 11	— S. Kanthan (Brown House)
Boys Under 10	— J. Arulkumaran (Hastings House)
Girls Over 11	— R. Dorris Dharshini (Abraham House)
Girls Under 11	— G. Devaharshini (Hitchcock House)
Girls Under 10	— S. Sharmini (Hastings House)



# SENIOR SCHOOL SPORTS MEET — 1985



The Chief Guest Mr. R. Kanaganayagam declares the meet open.



Mrs. R. Kanaganayagam giving away the trophies.

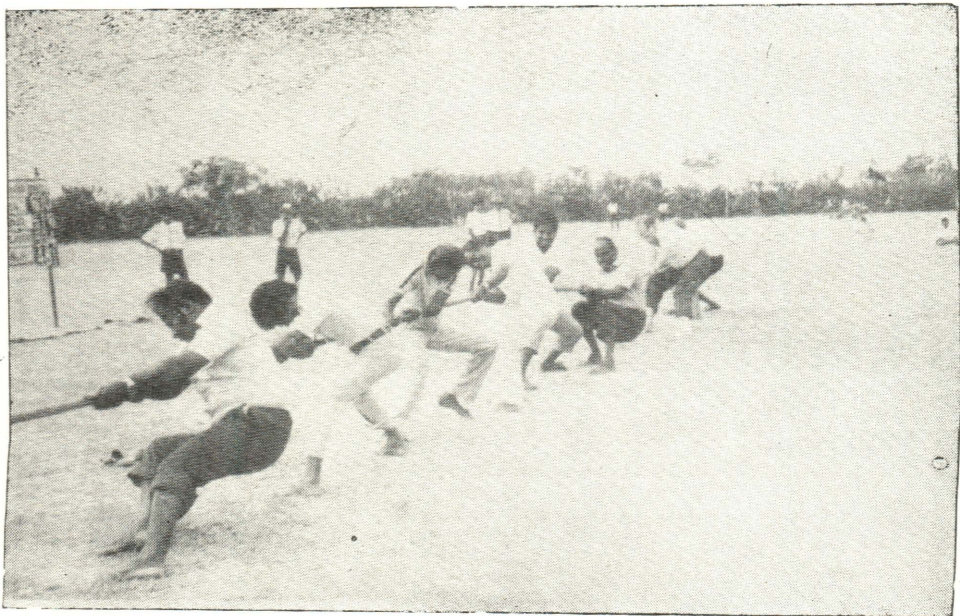


Officers of Jaffna College with two former Primary School Heads  
PRIMARY SCHOOL SPORTS MEET—1985



(L.—R.): Mr. A. Kadingamar (Principal), Mr. A. Rajasingham (Vice-Principal), Miss M. S. Elias (Supervisor Middle School), Mr. W. N. Thevakadacham, Mr. C. B. Bavinck and Mrs. L. B. Thambirajah (Supervisor, Primary School).

SENIOR SCHOOL SPORTS MEET — 1985



TUG OF WAR — Staff Vs Old boys.



### Senior School Meet:

The Annual Inter-House Athletic Meet of the Senior School was held on July 19th under the distinguished Patronage of Mr. R. Kanaganayagam Superintending Engineer, Jaffna and Mrs. Kanaganayagam. The meet as usual created a great deal of enthusiasm and the competition reached a good standard. Hastings House annexed the Championship. Our thanks are due to the House Masters and Mistresses, House Captains and Old Boys who helped us to run the Meet successfully. The results of the Meet were as follows :

### Ranking of Houses :

Hastings House	— 736 Points
Hitchcock House	— 603 Points
Abraham House	— 579 Points
Brown House	— 548 Points

### Individual Champions :

Post Seniors	Joint Champions :	M. Paramalingam	Hastings House
		R. Selvarajah	Abraham House
Seniors	Champions :	J. G. Jesurajah	Abraham House
		S. Augustine	Hastings House
Under 17	Champions :	T. Raveendran	Abraham House
		R. Pratheepan	Hastings House
Under 16	Champions :	R. Sothilingham	Hitchcock House
		M. Balamayooran	Abraham House
Under 13	Champion :	S. Senthilkumaran	Abraham House
Under 12	Champion :	P. Sathiascelan	Brown House
Senior Girls	Champion :	A. Marinavathany	Hastings House
Junior Girls	Champion :	K. Naveena	Abraham House
Under 14 Girls	Champion :	R. Cynthia	Brown House
Under 13 Girls	Champion :	T. Shirela	Brown House

### Records :

The following records were established at the meet.

J. G. Jesurajah	Senior boys	1500 M — 4 min. 29.8 sec.
R. Sothilingham	Under 16 boys	100 M — 12.4 secs.
		200 M — 15.6 secs.
		400 M — 57.8 secs.

A Dual Meet was conducted this year with St. John's College. We fared well in track events. R. Sothilingham did extremely well in 100 Meters, 200 Meters and Long Jump in the Under 16 group.

The cross Country festival was not held this year

Athletic Coach : Mr. T. Anandaratnam



### Hockey :

We could not play any inter-college match this year due to the untimely death of Mr. C. E. Anandarajan. The team took part in the tournament conducted by the Ministry of Sports and became champions. We have planned to play two matches early next year to make up for the lack of games this year. J. Ranjan was elected captain.

Coach : Mr. T. Anandaratnam

### Soccer :

The first team led by J. G. Jesurajah had a fairly successful season this year. The first team played four inter-college matches and a few club matches. Results of the School Matches :

VS : St. Hentry's College — Draw (1—1)

VS : St. John's College — Lost (0—1)

VS : Skandawarodaya College — Won (5—2)

VS : St. Patrick's College — Lost (0—1)

The Second Team led by A. Sureshkumar played four matches of which it drew one and lost the others.

The under 15 team under the captaincy of G. Luxmananarayanan played four matches of which it won two and lost two.

Coaches: First Team — Mr. M. D. Thambirajah

Second Team — Mr. T. Nithiaratnam

Third Team — Mr. A. Jeyarajan

### Netball :

The College netball team was captained by S. Suntharavathany. The team participated in the Tournament conducted by the Department of Education. The First team went up to quarter final stage. The Under 17 team Under the captaincy of G. Bavani went up to the Semifinal stage and the Under 15 team under the captaincy of A. D. Subothini went up to the quarter final stage.

Coaches: First team — Miss S. S. Selvadurai

Second team — Miss S. P. Gulasingam

Third team — Miss B. Anton

### Badminton :

The Badminton Team played matches with the University of Jaffna and the Jaffna College Technical Institute. In the match with the University we won only one and lost the other four. In the matches with Jaffna College Technical Institute we won three matches and lost one.

Master in charge : Mr. V. Selvaratnam



**Basket Ball:**

Basket Ball has been revived and the College team under the captaincy of R. Muresh played the Trimmers Sports Club and St. John's College and lost the both Matches.

The under 17 team under the captaincy of R. Jeevanathan played with St. John's College and lost narrowly.

Master in Charge ; Mr. V. Selvaratnam

**Tennis:**

A Student's Tennis club with Mr. N. A. Vimalendran in charge, has been formed. This club operates under the Sports Committee.

Office bearers of the Club are :

President: R. Muresh

Secretary : G. J. Gunaratnam

Treasurer: J. G. Jesurajah

Committee Members : A. T. Jesurah

D. Keshini

R. Kajani

The College team played three singles and two doubles matches of which it won two singles and both the doubles.

In the Student's Tennis Club tournament the following were the results:

Singles: Boys Champion — A. T. Jesurah

Runner up — J. Aron

Girls Champion — R. Kajani

Runner up — D. Keshini

Master in Charge: Mr. N. A. Vimalendran

**Table Tennis:**

There is a great deal of enthusiasm in Table-tennis. Three tables have been provided and we hope that in the years to come we could reach a high standard in this game.

Master in Charge Mr. V. Selvaratnam

Finally I must thank all the coaches of the various games for their efforts and co-operation extended to me.

T. Anandaratnam  
Physical Director



# Jaffna College Technical Institute

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT — 1985

Distinguished Chief Guests, Chairman, members of the council, Members of the Jaffna College Board, Alumni, parents and friends, we at Jaffna College Technical Institute, extend to all of you a cordial welcome to our annual event, the Tenth Institute Day celebration. The ninth Institute Day function was scheduled to be held in September 84, but was postponed several times due to unsafe and unhappy situation prevailed in this country and finally got cancelled. To-day, we hope very much that you will welcome this time of your fellowship with us, reviewing our work done, progress made and successful achievements during the year 84/85.

I have great pleasure in welcoming Dr. Mohandas and we are happy to have you a brilliant technologist of your calibre as our Chief Guest today, at this time you are fully involved in the development of our natural resources — the symbol of north — the Palmyrah. It is more appropriate to have you, a dedicated gentleman who had early education at a school, small and unheard of, at that time — Stanley College and having started your career as technician, through hard work and sheer determination you continued your education while working as a technician and obtained an Honours Degree in Chemistry from University of Sri Lanka, Colombo. Your thirst for knowledge and high aspiration in your vocation as a Chemist enabled you to obtain a scholarship to do a doctoral programme at the University of Adelaide in South

Australia and become a full-fledged scientist with Ph. D award in Biochemistry.

Your image as a technician who rose up to high esteem position as a scientist, has to be maintained and set high before the younger generation, both our technician students and technical teachers as a worthy example to be followed in their career.

As scientist and a Senior Executive of the Coconut Research Institute, you endeavoured to establish and administrate a new division, the Coconut Processing Research at C R I Lunuwila and a centre for Coconut Processing Research and Development at Nattandiya. While you were involved in the development of the palm of Sri Lanka, the palm of the north attracted you and we are fortunate to have your services as the General Manager of the Palmyrah Development Board.

We are very thankful to you and your wife for your kind gesture in making yourself available to us for this function. Your presence here today is a sure sign of encouragement to our students to admire your aspirations and listen to your advice.

Our warm welcome to you Mrs. Pushparani Mohandas to this function. You are an energetic and magnetic wife behind all the successes of your husband to become a scientist and indulge him-



self to the dedicated cause in his service. We are happy to have you today and I thank you for your gracious acceptance to give away the awards and prizes to our passing out graduates.

### **The Management Council**

The general governing, policy making and counselling of this institute have been vested in the Jaffna College Technical and Agricultural Institute Council. It is an autonomous body functioning under its own constitution established in 1973 and sprung up as the great grand child of the Jaffna College established in 1823. This Council is constituted by eminent personnel in the field of education, agriculture, business and engineering. There have been some changes in the Council.

Mr. S. S. Selladurai resumed his duties as the Treasurer of the Jaffna College Board and was appointed as the Treasurer to serve this Council.

Mr. C. L. Devasahayam, Principal of the Agricultural Institute was replaced by Mr. C. Jeyaratnam B. Sc (Agric) M. Sc (Agric) and assumed duties on the 1st of August 1984. Mr. Jeyaratnam served the Department of Agriculture for 30 years and lately as the additional Deputy Director of Agricultural Extension (Northern province) before he retired from the Government Service and joined us. During the interim period from January to July 1984, I was requested by the Council to look after the Agricultural Institute at Maruthanadam and I hope, I did my best to straighten up this Institute in order. We welcome Mr. Jeyaratnam and looking forward to having his contributions for further development of this Institute.

Mr. M. Jeyabalan was the representative of the C. S. I. to the Council, retired from the membership on completion of its first period of three years of service in 1984. Though he was eligible for the re-election for a further period of three years, he could not accept the nomination as he took up an assignment abroad in Canada.

Mr. S. R. Arasasingham representative from the Agricultural field served for two years and relinquished his services in July 85 as he left abroad.

It was a great shock to all of us, that our founder member of this Council, Mr. I. P. Thurairatnam, retired Principal of Union College, one of the reputed scholar and devoted Christian member of the society departed from us suddenly.

At a time when he was enjoying his well-earned period of retirement after serving as a very brilliant and successful teacher and principal of the Union College, Tellipallai, he continued to associate himself with the Jaffna College his alma-mater and served the Board of Directors and the Special Committee in 1968 to investigate the feasibility of establishing this Technical Institute. From the inception of this Technical Institute in 1972 Mr. Thurairatnam served the Council and the Sub-Committees as member, Vice-Chairman and Chairman for 13 years until he departed from us. He was present at every meeting of the Council and served in the Buildings Advisory Committee and was very concerned with the development of this Institute. We can't forget the services rendered by Mr. Thurairatnam to this Institute, and to our



community at large. His Counselling and his attitude to help every one who approached him. His image with admirable personality and character will remain with us.

Dr. W. D. Joshua was nominated by the Jaffna College Board as one of the representative to serve the Council.

Mr. L. S. C. Canagasingham was nominated by the C. S. I. as its re-

Mr. M. G. Pillainayagam

Mr. C. Jeyaratnam

Mr. A. Kadirgamar

**Nominated by the Board :**

Rt. Rev. D. J. Ambalavanar

Mr. J. M. Sabaratnam

Mr. S. S. Selladurai

Dr. W. D. Joshua

**Nominated by the Churches :**

Mr. A. C. Canagarajah

Dr. J. P. C. Phillips

Mr. L. S. C. Canagasingham

Mr. R. R. Blanchard

presentative to the Council with effect from February 1984.

Mr. T. Kirubaithilakan, was also nominated by the Council to serve as a member in place of Mr. Arasasingham.

We welcome all the new members and thank them for their advice and guidance given to us. The Council is now constituted as follows :

— Director

— Principal of Agricultural Institute

— Principal of Jaffna College

Secretary — Council

— Vice Chairman

— Treasurer

— (Chairman) Diocese of Colombo

— Roman Catholic

— C. S. I.

— Methodist

**Nominated by the Council to represent Industry, Agriculture & Engineering**

Mr. S. Rajanayagam

Prof. A. Thurairajah

Mr. S. M. V. Tissainayagam

Mr. T. Kirubaithilakan

**Technical Education :**

The programme of technical education at this Institute was commenced in 1974 offering four different courses of two-year duration. 15 students were enrolled and seven of them completed the courses and received their awards at the first Institute Day held on 19th June 1976. The prime objective of this institution is to

help the school leavers and school drop-outs to continue their tertiary education in technical and vocational skills. During the past ten years we were involved in much experimentation and research to identify suitable engineering courses of study and the level of training to be offered to the students with varying academic standard seeking admission.



here. Academically qualified students do not remain with us, they gain admission to the Universities here or abroad, and use as a booster institute to prepare themselves in learning technical subjects in English medium and leave half way for higher seats of learning elsewhere. The remaining students who complete their education here are to be trained with sufficient academic standing to gain recognition by the prospective employers. The range of courses and curriculum cannot remain settled because with the rapidly changing situation, specially affecting the youths, we have to adjust and up-date our activities and facilities to

meet the need and expectations of the society we seek to serve.

### Courses of Study :

Now we are offering 11 different courses of studies to fullfill the hopes and aspirations of the students and their parents. The study programme we offer are in Engineering trade, relevant and useful to the school leavers. We are constantly monitoring the syllabi and up-date the practical exercises, project studies, field work etc. to meet the academic requirements for the Diploma and Certificates awarded by us.

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| (a) Professional Engineering Course | — Equivalent to Engineering Council Examination (London) — Part I |
| (b) Technician Diploma Course       | — equivalent to City and Guilds of London Institute               |
| Electronics and Telecommunication   | — 3 years   |
| Electrical Power Engineering        | — 2 years   |
| Mechanical Engineering              | — 2 years   |
| Building Technology and             |   |
| Quantity Surveying                  | — 2 years   |
| (c) Diploma in Computer Programming | — 1 year  |
| (d) Technician Certificate course   |   |
| Automobile Technology               | — 1½ years  |
| Air Conditioning and                |   |
| Refrigeration Technology            | — 1½ years  |
| (e) Craft Certificate Course        | — 1 year  |
| Foundry Practice                    |   |
| Welding Practice                    |   |
| Turners and Fitters                 |   |



All the courses are conducted in the English medium and adequate explanations are given in Tamil language.

### **Professional Engineering Course**

(Engineering Council Examination  
London - Part I)

The first batch of 50 students with a minimum qualification of two passes in G. C. E. (A. L.) including Mathematics and Physics were admitted in January 1983 to follow full-time study at professional engineering level. Seven subjects were taught as per syllabus of the Engineering Council Examination London Part I. Additional lessons in English, Engineering Drawing and Laboratory practicals were also included in this course programme. From this first batch 23 students continued their studies during 1984, but only 14 of them were able to complete the full course and sat our Institute's examination held in April 84. 11 students were successful and awarded certificates today. They proceeded to Colombo under very trying conditions and sat the Engineering Council Examination held in May 84. At this London examination 3 candidates have passed in all six subjects, 6 have passed in five subjects and 3 in four subjects. Many of them have passed the referred subjects in the next attempt in May 85.

The second batch of 53 students were enrolled in January 1984. A large number of them abandoned their studies and left the Institute towards the end of the year. Only eight students remained to complete the course and sat the Institute examination held in April 85.

But 3 candidates have passed this examination. A large number of them appeared to have left the country.

The Examination Department of the Engineering Council (London) was approached to provide an additional examination centre in Jaffna. The authorities considered our request sympathetically but expressed their inability to help the large number of students appearing for their examinations, mainly due to unrest and unsafe situation prevailed in this part of the country.

The third batch was scheduled to commence in January 85, but when advertised twice only six students applied for admission and thus this course was not offered during this year 1985.

### **Technician Diploma Courses**

Among the four courses of study offered at technician Diploma level the Electronics and Telecommunication course is the most popular one followed by Building Technology and Quantity Surveying and Electrical Engineering Practice. School leavers who have passed six subjects at G. C. E. (O/L) examination with credit passes in Mathematics, Science and English were admitted to the Diploma courses. The curriculum were based on the respective syllabi of the City and Guilds of London Institute courses. All the students were persuaded to appear for the respective parts of the C and G (L. I.) Examinations held in Colombo by the Commissioner of Examination (as agent for Sri Lanka) while following their courses of study here at this Institute. Lessons in English language, and Engineering Drawing and adequate laboratory



practicals were included in the curriculum of all four courses and conducted in English medium. In the course lessons the principles and application of respective Science and technology in the relevant engineering field were taught and the students are persuaded to apply their knowledge on practical problems, to develop their practical skills and become technicians of high quality.

### Technician Certificate Courses

The Automobile Engineering Course at Diploma level (3 years duration) was offered from the inception of this Institute, but it became unpopular and not a single student was successful at the 1984 examination. Hence it was modified as 1½ year Technical Certificate Course, and more practical lessons were included. In addition, lessons and practical exercises in Auto electrical applications were also included in the curriculum. This arrangement became attractive and we enrolled 27 students in May 1984. But also, 17 students ran away from this country and now only 10 students are continuing their last and final month and will complete the course in October 1985.

A course of study in Air Conditioning and refrigeration technology was commenced in May 1983. The duration of course was 1½ years and the first batch of 5 students passed out in August 1984. There were 15 students enrolled in May 1984 and 10 of them left during this reporting period and the balance 5 students will complete their courses in October '85. This course is now modified as one year intensive practical course and the third batch will be enrolled in January 1985. Generally students with six passes at G. C. E. (O/L) are admitted to these Technician Certificate courses.

### Craft Courses and Production Programme

We continued to offer the three craft courses of one year duration in Foundry Practice, Welding Practice and Turners and Fitters. In these production engineering courses adequate practical training are included in the curriculum. Generally the school leavers who have studied up to G. C. E. (O/L) but have failed to secure six-passes to continue technician education are admitted to the Craft courses. These students are given on-the-job training in the production programme undertaken by the staff of these departments, Steel grills, railings, roof trusses, book shelves, flower stands, hostel furniture etc were fabricated at the Welding workshop. Water pumps, couplings, hinges, nipples etc were fabricated in the Foundry workshop and machined by Turners and Fitters students in the Machine shop. Items produced by these craft students are of acceptable standard and those who complete these courses of studies readily find employment as semiskilled workmen in the industries.

### Staff

Establishing and running a private Technical Institution like ours providing tertiary education to the school leavers who are generally not academically well qualified to enter state run technical colleges and educating them to achieve a reasonably high standard is not an easy task today. The development of such non-governmental institutions largely depend on the quality of educational programmes offered, the skill and motivation of the teaching staff and the co-operation among the staff & students.

Due to the uncertain situation prevailing in this part of the Country a large number of staff also left us seeking good pastures elsewhere and abroad.



1. Mr. M. Chinniah — Lecturer in English left in March 1984
2. Mr. S. Chandramohan — Lecturer in Building Construction left in October' 84
3. Mrs. R. Sivaloganathan — Lecturer in Electrical Engineering left in January 1985
4. Mr. S. K. Xavier — Lecturer in Mechanical Engineering left in March 85
5. Mr. M. Constantine — Lecturer in Mechanical Engineering left in March 85
6. Mr. S. Kanagasabai — Visiting Lecturer left in April 85
7. Mr. C. Durairajah — Special Instructor in Quantity Surveying — left in May 1985
8. Mr. M. Mahendran — Visiting Lecturer in Computer Programming left in May 1985
9. Mr. M. C. R. Perinpanayagam — Instructor left in May 1985
10. Miss A. Thambiayah — Special Instructor left in June 1985
11. Mr. S. Purushothaman — Instructor left in August 1985
12. Mr. S. Thavathurai — Instructor left in December 1984
13. Miss M. K. Lawrence — Typist left in December 1984.

The following new staff members were appointed on contract for one year at the first instance.

1. Mr. E. M. Jebarajah B. Sc. Eng. — Lecturer Electrical Engineering
2. Mr. Anton Rajaselvam B. Sc. Eng. — Lecturer Electronics „
3. Mr. I. Balasubramaniam B. Sc. Eng. — Lecturer Civil & Quant. Surveying
4. Mrs. M. Rasaratnam M. Sc. Arch. — Visiting Lecturer „ Draughts
5. Mr. N. Nitkunam N. D. T. — Instructor Engineering Drawing
6. Mr. S. B. Dhivakaran Dip. Com. — Instructor Comp. Programming
7. Miss V. Muthukumaru „ — „ „
8. Mr. S. Vanadeva B. Sc., C. E. I. Pt. I — Instructor Electronics
9. Mr. N. M. Jeyakumar C & G (LT) — Visiting Instructor in Quant. Surveying
10. Mr. A. Thavagnanathas B. Sc. Eng. — Visiting Instructor in Surveying
11. Mr. S. Vivekanandan C & G (LT) — „ in Electronics



A large number of experienced staff members leaving us and new inexperienced staff joining the Institute indicate that we are not only providing technical training to the school leavers, the students, but also helping the technically qualified personnel to gain some teaching experience at this Institute, perhaps for the betterment of their future.

Attempts were made by seeking admission in Technical Teachers Training

Institutes in India to train our staff members (Instructors), but were not successful yet.

Senior lecturers were appointed as Course Co-ordinators and student Counsellors to advice and guide the students in their academic career and Vocation as well as in their social, cultural and union activities.

### Staff 1985

#### Director

Mr. M. G. Pillainayagam

— B. Sc. (Eng.), M. Sc. Ag. Eng., M. I. Mech. E.,  
A. M. I. E. (S. L.), C. Eng., A. M. I. E. E.

#### Lecturers

Mr. N. Thangarajah

— B. Sc. Eng. (Hon.), Dip. Com. Prog.

Mr. S. A. P. Thurairatnam

— B. Sc. Eng. (Hon.), M. I. E (S. L.), C. Eng.

Mr. I. Balasubramanian

— N. D. T., B. Sc. Eng.

Mr. E. M. Jebarajah

— B. Sc. Eng.

Mr. S. A. Rajaselvam

— B. Sc. Eng. (Hon.)

Mr. A. M. Spencer

— B. A. (Lond.), Dip. in Ed (Cey)

Mr. K. N. Y. Maurice

— M. I. I. M (U. K.), M. B. I. M. (U. K.) M. Inst.  
S. M. M. (U. K.), L. T. I (Manch)

#### Visiting Lecturers

Mrs. M. Rasaratnam

— B. Sc., M. Sc. (Arch.)

Mr. A. Thavegnanathan

— B. Sc. Eng.

#### Special Instructors

Mr. V. Satchithanathan

— B. Sc. (Phy.), M. I. M. I. (Lond.), M. I. E (Lond.)  
M. I. P (S. L)

Mr. S. Brihadiswaran

— C. E. I (Lond.) Pt. II., A. M. I. E. (Lond.)

Mr. S. B. Sabanayagam

— Tech. Dip. (Munich)

#### Instructors

Mr. S. R. Ratnagopal

— Tech. Dip., Dip. (Air Con. & Ref.)

Mr. M. Thayanathan

— Tech. Dip.

Mr. T. Selvendran

— „



Mr. P. Raveendran	— Tech. Cert.
Mr. P. Sritharan	— "
Mr. S. Nesarajah	— Tech. Dip
Mr. S. Vanadeva	— B. Sc., E. C. E (Lond) Pt. I
Mr. S. B. Dhivakaran	— Dip (Com. Prog.)
Miss V. Muthukumar	— "
Mr. N. Nitkunam	— N. D. T.

#### Visiting Instructors

Mr. S. Mahendrarajah	— Dip (A/c) & Ref.)
Mr. S. Vivekanandan	— Tech. Dip., C & G (L. T) (Telecom)
Mr. N. M. Jeyakumar	— C & G (L.T) (Q.S)
Mr. S. Sriskantharajah	— Dip (A/c & Ref.)

#### Administrative Staff

Mr. K. Thambiayah	— Accountant
Mrs. R. Rajenthiram	— Typist
Mr. N. Sivayogasundaram	— Clerk
Mr. C. Devanathan	— Clerk of Works
Mr. N. Satkunasivam	— Library Asst.
Miss S. Gunaratnam	— Typist

Mr. A. M. Spencer, Lecturer in English, had published our Institute's first text book 'An Advanced Course in English for Engineering and Technician Students' in January 1985. While congratulating and thanking Mr. Spencer, I wish all my staff will endeavour to prepare technical text books in due course more relevant to our course of study and suitable to the category of students who come here for training.

#### Students

##### Past Performance

At the beginning of the academic year (83/84), in May 83 we had 326 students on the roll. But at the final examination held in April 84 there were only 205 students, that was 64%. The dropout 36% was higher than the previous years.

Among the 52 candidates passed out in 84, 17 were awarded technician Diploma, 15 were awarded Technician Certificates and 30 students were given Craft Certificates 64 students failed the final examination and left. The balance 92 students were promoted to continue their studies during the next academic year.

When the next academic year commenced in May 84, we had a total of 360 students in this Institute admitting 258 new students. During this academic year, the two term examinations scheduled to be held in August and December were cancelled due to sudden provocations and Civil disturbances which occurred in the peninsula. Due to several reasons large number of students abandoned their studies and left the Institute even



at their final year of their course programme. The situation that prevailed in this part of the country was fearsome and it has terrorised the youths and students for their lives. Several parents were forced to prevent the students travelling long distances to continue their studies at this Institute. As such the student population at the beginning of the third term in January 85 was only 126, 35% of the number enrolled, but only 110 students remained and completed their academic

course in April 1985. Among them 37 students were successful and are receiving their Certificates today. 62 students were promoted to next year and eleven students failed the exam and left the Institute. Many students performed well at their final examinations and won prizes for best performances.

The enrolment for the current year 85/86 is as follows :

(a) Professional Engineering Course

(i) Engineering Council Examination part I — Nil

(b) Technician Diploma Course (3 years)

Course	1st Year	IInd year	IIIrd Year
Electronics and Telecommunication	36	16	14
Electrical Engineering	22	3	4
Mechanical Engineering	nil	2	4
Building and Quantity Surveying	20	10	4
Computer Programming (1 year)	15		

(c) Technician Certificate Course (1½ years)

Air Conditioning & Refrigeration technology	—	4
Automobile Technology	—	10

(d) Craft Certificate course (1 year)

Foundry Practice	10
Turners and Fitters	22
Welding Practice	10

The present student population is 206

### Prize Fund

This year we received only mere Rs. 300/- for the prize fund. We appeal once again to our old boys, friends and well-wishers for their kind contribution to this prize fund and encourage our students in their studies.

### Prize Awarded

I congratulate all the prize winners on their achievements.



**Prize Winners — 1984**

**Technician Diploma Courses :**

**Final year :**

Best Performance Prize ..... S. Kantharajah

A. S. Sangarapillai Memorial Prize — F. E. Constantine

**Second year :**

Nil

**First year :**

Best Performance Prize — Civil and Quantity. Surveying — R. Sivakumar and  
R. Mohan

Electronics and Telecom. — Miss R. Vasanthy

**Craft Courses :**

Nil

**Professional Engineering — Part I**

Best Performance Prize — Mr. C. Vasudevan

**Prize Winners — 1985**

**Technician Diploma Courses**

**Final year :**

Best Performance Prize and A. S. Sangarapillai Memorial Prize — A. Kugathasan

**Second year :**

Best Performance Prize — Miss R. Vasanthy

**First year:**

Best Performance Prize — Mechanical Engineering — B. Jeyaseelan

Electronics and Telecom. — Miss K. Mallikadevi

Civil and Quant. Surv. — Miss N. Manchula

Computer Programming — T. Thasarathan

**Craft Courses**

Best Performance Prize — Turners & Fitters — S. Ravendran

Welding Practice ..... S. Sivanesan

Foundry Practice — S. Ganesan



## **Facilities**

### **Buildings:**

The new buildings constructed recently are the gifts from the Government of Holland and this aid was granted through Interchurch Co-ordinating Committee for Development Projects of Netherlands. This Phase II programme is nearing completion. We are fortunate to receive this aid and very grateful to the people of Holland for their generous gift and Mr. S. Rajanayagam the former Director who worked out this aid for us.

The following buildings were completed in this project.

Asst. Director's Quarters	— June 1972
Hostel (one wing)	— June 1982
Staff quarters (three)	— January 1982
Administrative block	— October 1982
Auditorium	— November 1983
Library	— May 1985
Water tower	— On going, will be completed in October 1985

### **Library :**

The new library building was dedicated and opened by Rt. Rev. D. J. Ambalavanar Bishop of Jaffna Diocese C. S. I. on 20th May 1985. This library is the first of its kind—Technical library in the North, spacious enough to accommodate 20,000 volumes. But we have now only 2000 volumes. Our sincere thanks to all the donors who have voluntarily contributed books to our library. Our special thanks are due to the Trustees for sending 100 volumes of Technical course lessons from a leading training institute in United States and to the Asia Foundation for their continuous supply of books whenever our staff called on them

and the National Library Service Department—Colombo for donating us some text books, however we appeal to all wellwishers, to extend their kind help to us to fill this library with technical books and periodicals.

### **Hostel**

One wing of the hostel complex was constructed and eleven students were accommodated in this building. But several students from distant places, seeking admission at this Institute are requesting hostel accommodation in the campus. The student population was reduced last year, the Union common room was taken over and modified as dormitory to accommodate 10 more students providing them lodging facilities. But still we could not meet the demand from students for residence facilities. Hence the Assistant Director's quarters was also converted as a guest house accommodating three staff members and five more students. Therefore a fully equipped hostel for 40 students is an urgent necessity to the campus. At present the catering is done by the hostellers themselves employing a cook and using the facilities provided by the management.

### **Drawing Office**

Our Trustees, quickly responded to our request in providing an additional building to house the Drawing office for maximum of 40 students. This building is designed and constructed by our Building Technology department providing North light-roof the first of its kind in the North. The students of this department are working on this building as their project work, the students in the Welding department fabricated the roof truss, and



the students in the Electrical department will design and provide electrical illumination. We expect to complete this building by the end of October.

#### **Students Common Room**

Now the student population has increased to 200. In order to cultivate and build up a disciplined social life in the Campus, the Management Council was so considerate to provide an extension to the canteen building as a Students Common room. Now we have 20 girls students studying Computer Programming, Building Technology and Electronics. The new students Common room was designed and now being constructed by the Building Technology-Civil department and directly supervised by the staff and students under direct labour contract. This building will house separate Common rooms for boys and girls. This building work is also being considered as final year students project work.

#### **Tuckshop**

A tuckshop was housed in the canteen building supplying cool drinks, short eats, sweets, stationery and other medicine and cosmetics etc to the students and hostellers. In addition, from the canteen tea, shorteats and lunch could be purchased. Many students and staff are travelling long distances daily to this Institute can enjoy the services rendered at these welfare units.

#### **Research**

Our Institution is the largest technical training Institute in the North. There are eight engineers and ten technicians, teaching and training students in ten different engineering disciplines. It is an arduous task that our staff have to

do several search and research in preparing the course lessons of their subjects, laboratory exercises and field work, more applicable to the continuously updated curriculum. Mr. Kanagasabai and Mr. Purushothaman have introduced new methods of carrying out laboratory practicals in Electronics department and writing up the lab-log and coureswork reports. The lab reports submitted by the final year Electronics students were scrutinised and accepted by the Institution of Engineers Sri Lanka and granted recognition as acceptable at Diploma level. I thank these two members of staff who have done excellent work in this department, but now they are not with us.

Mr. S. Brihadiswaran has developed an UHF disc antenna to view satelite signals on T. V. screen, the project is now held up in need of a suitable television. He has further designed and fabricated a few mechanical models for laboratory exercises in the mechanics department. Mr. V. Satchithananthan also has developed a range of demonstration models, designed and fabricated by his students in the Engineering Science.

Mr. T. Selvendran has modified and modernised a motor cycle from the scraps in the automobile department. I have already reported the new developments and production work done by Messrs. S. A. P. Thuraiatnam, M. Thayanathan, P. Sri-tharan and P. Raveendran in the Production Department.

Mr. Sabanayagam and Mr. Mahendrarajah has developed several demonstration boards in the Electrical and Air Conditioning departments respectively. Mr. Thanga-



rajah is fully involved in developing programming techniques in the Computer Department.

In all I thank all the staff members and their assistants who are carrying out suitable research using locally available materials, design and construction of lab models etc which are more relevant to our courses of study and practical training. The new staff members who joined us recently are actively involved in setting up their course programmes and practical classes. The active contribution by the staff in such applied research with students participation, will encourage the students to develop the most needed habits of self thinking, reading and understanding on their own, and learning more appropriate skill.

### Equipment

Additional equipment to all the laboratories were supplied during this reporting period. Moulding sand testing equipment to Foundry. Mechanics laboratory equipments and teaching models, Computer and Measuring and testing Instruments and tools were supplied to the respective laboratories. It is very sad that undisciplined and anti-social elements have stolen several teaching aids, tools and instruments from the laboratories by staging two armed robberies. Now and in future we are looking forward to receive help and protection from our society youths who have benefited by this private Institute which is ready to serve the youngsters and school leavers to learn a vocational skill and to be on their own feet and earn their livelihood through self-employment. Our resources are very

limited and hence our students and staff are reminded to take care of the expensive instruments and equipment when using them in their practical works, and I thank them for their care and attention. The senior lecturers are appointed as sectional heads to supervise the inventory items in their respective sections.

### Industrial Training

Technical education coupled with on-the-job training in the industries will help the students to acquire appropriate and effective technical knowledge and skill and enable them to find employment in the industries soon after graduation. Attempts were made to arrange a Seminar cum discussion with industrialists and our staff to workout an Institute - Industry Liaison. But during the past two years the industrial sectors were very badly affected and few were closed down and others are struggling for survival. Unless the country returns to normalcy, it is very difficult to create an atmosphere among industrialists for effective participation in this programme.

### Sports

Mr. K. N. Y. Maurice was appointed as Sports Administrator and he has done excellent job in organising and conducting Sports programme at this Institute.

The games and athletic programme for the year 84/85 was drawn up but the continuous civil disturbances has affected the students life and no activity was possible. During the second term, as the tension eased foot-ball matches were played. The season started with some practice matches. The freshers vs seniors match followed by inter departmental



games. The students were able to show their skills in football and made use of the opportunities that were available. These matches helped the officials in picking the institute side, which proved to be a strong one.

It was arranged to play four matches against club teams before moving into playing schools, colleges, institutes and university. We were able to play three of them and won all three matches convincingly in grand style before the downpour of bullets which completely destroyed the immediate future of football. Messrs. T. Raveendran and V. Srikugan were Co-Captains.

The third term was not conducive for any type of games, as the institute was on one session programme. Only a few soft-ball cricket matches were played. The Sports monitor — T. Anpalagan did his best to see that the sports activities and recreation among the students were intensified by indoor games, such as badminton, table-tennis and volley ball and participated in tournaments conducted by Jaffna College and the Vaddukoddai YMCA.

Generally, the students were very co-operative in developing and preparing the playground, laying running-tracks and organising games and tournaments. Mr. Maurice had taken great pain in persuading the students to take active participation in sports and for the first time, the students are divided into three Halls—Red Yellow and Blue Halls — the colours on our Institute flag and inter-hall competitions in foot-ball cricket, volley-ball, badminton, table-tennis etc. are being conducted. Our first inaugural Sports meet will be held soon.

### Trophies

Many trade organisations were very pleased to donate trophies, Challenge cups and shields on their behalf to be given to the winners at the Sports-meet. We welcome their help and I thank all of them.

### Cups

M/s Shabra Unico Finance Ltd.

Mascons Ltd.

Sivan Malikai Ltd.

Shanmuga Agency

S. Sinnathurai and Brothers

S. Subramaniam and Co.

Mr. M. Muthuvetpillai (Retired Principal, Manipal Hindu College)

### Shields

Mr. S. T. Chari for Football Champions.

Milk White Volley-ball

Sivakanesan Stores

Arpico

Mr. K. C. Chandrabose

Mr. V. Jeyabalan

### Visitors

During the year 1984 we did not have the opportunity of receiving any distinguished visitors here at Vaddukoddai.

During this year we have had the pleasure of receiving the following visitors to the Institute ;

Mr. M. Biem Lap — head, Asia and Pacific Division of ICCO — Netherlands. Mr. C. V. Bavinck U. C. B. W. M.



I request the members of the public, the parents, the principals of the secondary schools and Industrialists to visit us periodically advise and encourage our students and staff and help us to serve you well.

### Thanks

I want to place on record my gratitude to all the members of the staff academic, clerical, minor and to the students for their co-operation extended to me and carrying out useful work during this very difficult year in our history.

I thank the members of the Council for their consideration and advise at all

times they helped me to take courageous steps in difficult situations.

To you, Ladies and gentlemen, I am very thankful for your kind presence today and patient hearing.

We thank God for His many mercies shown to us during our time of distress and pray for His continued guidance and protection in the years to come.

Thank you

M. George Pillainayagam  
Director

### TEACHING

*I am indebted to my father for living, but to my teacher for living well.*

— Alexander the Great

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*The true aim of everyone who aspires to be a teacher should be not to impart his own opinions but to kindle minds.*

— F. W. Robertson

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*Thoroughly to teach another is the best way to learn for yourself.*

— Tryon Edwards

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*The one exclusive sign of a thorough knowledge is the power of teaching*

— Aristotle



# **Jaffna College Technical Institute**

## **LIST OF GRADUATES — APRIL 1985**

### **(a) Technician Diploma in Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering**

**Second class Upper Division :** Mr. A. Kugathanan

**Second Class Lower Division:** Messrs. S. Mohanathanan  
T. Thirumagan

**Pass :** Messrs. T. Kandiah  
K. Ambikapalan  
T. Anpalagan  
S. Vallapai Ganeshan  
N. Ganeshathanan  
K. Kandasamy

### **(b) Technician Diploma in Electrical Power Engineering**

**Second Class Lower Division:** Mr. P. Uthaiyanathan

**Pass :** Messrs. V. Srikanth  
R. Gnanendran

### **(c) Technician Diploma in Mechanical Engineering**

**Second Class Lower Division :** Mr. J. J. Jeyaseelaran

**Pass:** Messrs. M. Raveendran  
N. Kesavan  
K. Kangatharan

### **(d) Technician Diploma in Computer Programming and Data Processing**

**Second Class Upper Division :** Mr. T. Thasaratnam

**Second Class Lower Division :** Miss T. Christabel Jeyanthi  
Messrs. A. Janakumar  
S. Sakthivel

**Pass:** Mr. M. Jeyandran

### **(e) Craft Certificate in Machine Shop Practice**

**Pass with Merit :** Messrs. S. Raveendran  
M. Karunainathan  
T. Sivasubramaniam  
A. Sivarajah

**Pass:** Messrs. A. Jogatharan  
V. Baskaran  
S. Premkumar



**(f) Craft Certificate in Welding Practice**

**Pass with Merit:** Mr. S. Sivanesan

**Pass :** Messrs. V. Maheswaran

A. Muruganathan

S. Ragavan

T. Sutheswaran

**(g) Craft Certificate in Foundry Practice**

**Pass with Merit:** B. Ganeshan

**Pass:** Messrs. S. Balaskanthan

H. S. Devashanthan

S. Sivapalan

**LIST OF GRADUATES — APRIL 1984**

**(a) Technician Diploma in Electronics Engineering**

**First Class Honours** : Messrs. S. Skantharajah  
F. E. Constantine

**Second Class Upper Division:** Mr. A. M. K. Pillay

**Second Class Lower Division:** Messrs. N. Senthilnathan  
R. C. A. E. Selvamohan  
M. Thevaraveendran

**Pass:** Messrs. P. Parameswaran

T. Suthaharan

T. Vijayaraj

S. Selvendran

B. Sathiendran

P. Uthayakumar

**(b) Technician Diploma in Electrical Power Engineering**

**Second Class Lower Division:** Messrs. T. Nagathas  
N. Ravishankar  
K. Kirupanathan

**Pass:** Mr. S. Balasubramanian

**(c) Technician Diploma in Mechanical Engineering**

**Pass:** Mr. P. Jeyakumar



**(d) Craft Certificate in Turners and Fitters**

Pass: Messrs. T. Ahilakumaran  
K. Balakumar  
R. Mathivanan  
N. Nirmalarajah  
P. Rajiharan  
N. Sashikaran  
P. Sivakumar  
V. Sivarajah  
S. Suseetharan  
K. Vijayathas  
S. Vijayakumar  
N. Thavaneswaran  
N. Theenathayalan

**(e) Craft Certificate in Foundry Practice**

Pass: Messrs. R. Christy  
Francis Felican  
E. Kupenthiran  
R. Somasekaran  
R. Kodeeswaran

**(f) Craft Certificate in Welding Practice—October 1983**

Pass: Messrs. S. Dhuvaharan  
S. Gnanasekaran  
R. P. Jeyakumar  
S. Leninraj  
N. N. Ranjan  
K. Singarajan  
S. Sriruban  
N. Suthaharan  
G. Thiruloganathan

**(g) Craft Certificate in Advanced Welding Practice**

Pass : Messrs. K. Singarasa  
S. Sriruban  
N. Suthaharan



**(h) Technician Certificate in Air Conditioning & Refrigeration — August 1984**

Pass :                      Messrs. P. Jeyamohan  
   S. Jeyaparan  
   T. Manoharathasan  
   R. Nimalaratnam  
   S. Sivanesan

**PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING PART I**

(Engineering Council Examination London)

**May 1984**

**First Class :**      Mr. C. Vasudevan

Pass :                      Messrs. V. R. Chandrakumara  
   J. A. D. Jegatheesan  
   K. Kanagaratnam  
                                 Miss Jeyasiri Kanagaratnam  
                                 Messrs. S. Kalaraj  
   R. Suresan  
                                 Miss Vasugy Seevaratnam  
                                 Messrs. P. O. Yogarajah  
   R. Muthukumaran

**May 1985**

**Second Class Upper :**                      Mr. S. Manokaran  
Pass :                      Messrs. Mahendran  
   S. Sathananthan

**Student Union**

The Student Union of this Technical Institute is under the control of the staff and management. Messrs. M. M. Spencer, M. Thangarajah, M. Constantine and M. Thayananthan were appointed as staff Advisory Committee to advise and guide the Union members and Mr. Thangarajah acted as Vice-Patron.



The following students held office during this period :

President :	R. Rathamanalan	— left in October 1984
	T. Raveendran	— from October to April 1985
Secretary :	T. Kandiah	
Treasurer :	J. Jayaseelarajah	
Editor :	N. Kuruparan	
Sports monitor :	S. Rangith	— left in October 1984
	S. Anpalagan	— from October 1984
Fine Arts Secretary :	P. Rasikumar	— left in October 1984
	S. Vallapaiganeshan	— from October 1984

The union organised and conducted several debates and elocution contests. The most welcome debate was on "Women's Education". During Saraswathi Pooja festival, the students celebrated their 'Aautha Pooja' day for their safety and blessing, since all are learning their vocational skill using tools, machines and instruments. Mr. M. Sinnathamby — teacher from Victoria College was the Chief Speaker on this day. The Annual Christmas lunch programme was arranged and cancelled as the peninsula was under full day curfew for several days in December.



### OUR HEROES

*Here's a hand to the boy who has courage  
To do what he knows to be right;  
When he falls in the way of temptation  
He has a hard battle to fight.  
Who strives against self and his comrades,  
Will find a most powerful foe;  
All honour to him if he conquers,  
A cheer for the boy who says "No."*

— Phoebe Cary



# Jaffna College Agricultural Institute

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT FOR THE ACADEMIC YEARS 1983—84 & 1984—85

I take pleasure in presenting my report for the Agricultural Institute for the academic years 1983—84 & 1984—85. I took over as Principal on the 1st of September 1984 from Mr. M. G. Pillainayagam who has been managing the affairs of the Institute in addition to his duties as Director of the Technical Institute from January to August 1984.

It was during 1984 there was a severe financial and management crisis and the future of the Institute was at stake. Mr. Pillainayagam, by his untiring and dedicated service has brought about the re-generation of the Institute during the eight months he was in charge.

On being appointed Principal I was requested by the Standing Committee of the Council to run the Institute as a viable and useful Project ; To achieve this I have to decide on :

1. The scale of the farm, ie. the magnitude of the various enterprises.
2. Staff and Labour adjustments and
3. The nature of the Training Programs to be conducted.

Before I could make any changes, I had to bear in mind the objectives of establishing the Institute. The two main objectives are :-

1. To train the educated unemployed youth in modern Scientific Agriculture so that they could be self-employed in Agriculture.

2. To be of some assistance to the Farming community.

To achieve these objectives the Institute was divided into two sections—The farm and school. The farm is to serve as an effective teaching aid but the farm has to be so organized and managed so that there is no loss. The past records revealed that while certain enterprises had been run at a profit, yet there were others being run at a loss and the over all picture was that of losses right throughout.

One important factor for these losses was that our farm at Maruthanamadam is situated among several other small, medium, and large commercial farms in Poultry, Dairy, Crop production and even as regards Plant supply nurseries. They are, all over Uduvil, Maruthanamadam, Inuvil, Urumpirai, Chunnakam etc. Thus there is a big competition for the sale of our farm products at a reasonable price, right throughout the year. To overcome this, attempts made to increase the magnitude of the enterprises and thus to make profit have unfortunately ended in greater losses. For instance, when eggs were taken to the Jaffna market for sale, they fetched 20% less than what we got at the farm.

Again, even now, the wages we pay to our labourers are higher than what is paid at the Government Farms and much more than the Private Com-



mercial Farms. Taking all these limitation factors into consideration we have set the magnitude of our enterprises so that all farm products could be sold at the farm or close to the farm.

The second factor was the wage bill. We made certain reductions and we have only four in the academic staff.

**The Training Program :** There too we made changes. Prior to 1984 we had two types of training programme—one of 3 months duration and the other of one year, termed the Junior and Senior Certificates in Agriculture.

But as the District Training centres run by the Dept. of Agriculture in each District conduct a four months training in General Agriculture, we have abandoned our Junior Certificate course and now have only the one year training program leading to the award of a Diploma in Agriculture.

The curriculum is revised and the following subjects are taught:-

1. Principles of Agriculture
2. Crop Production
3. Animal Husbandry
4. Horticulture
5. Farm Management
6. Farm Machinery (For Boys)
7. Home Science (For Girls)
8. English

Field practical work lasts three hours and lectures are given for two hours daily. The students are given ample opportunity to learn various skills in the different enterprises. In poultry, there will be birds from day old to

point of lay and from point of lay to culling stage. Techniques like Fowl-pox Vaccination, Ranikhet Innoculation Worming, Feeding etc. are all taught during the one year.

Similarly in Dairying—Milking, Feeding, Worming, Care of Pregnant cows, form part of the practical work.

As regards crops, the cropping system is such that all important crop grown in Jaffna and adjacent districts are being grown. Potatoes, Tobacco, Red & Bombay Onions, Pulses. Groundnut, Local & Exotic Vegetables, Dioscoreas, Manioc and other Yams are all cultivated.

**Paddy :**—Earlier the students were expected to come to the Technical Institute Paddy Fields at Vaddukoddai for their Paddy Practicals. As this was too far and never undertaken, we have now established a Paddy Plot in our farm where rainfed & irrigated paddy will be grown.

#### SITUATION AS AT PRESENT

Managing the farm section as outlined earlier, the farm is now running without a loss up to end of August and we are confident it will continue to be so, at the year end too. I must admit it is the Gross Margin we are speaking of and not the FARM PROFIT as such. The difference being, for Gross Margin we do not take into account the fixed costs like Rent, Depreciation on Buildings, and Machinery but all Variable Costs are taken into account.

29 Students were admitted at the beginning for the one year training and we have now 16 of them. The new batch will be taken in October.



**Student's Tour :—** The present batch of students was taken on a study tour of Govt. Farms, Research and Training Centres of Paranthan and Kilinochchi for two days.

**Special Programs :—** The Institute is privileged to have two students from the Hardy Institute at Amparai for four months for a special training. At the request of the Uduvil Y. M. C. A. a two day training in General Agriculture & Poultry keeping has been conducted for 15 members.

**OUR FRIENDS :—** Mr. Sam Williams, who was at the Institute for about 8 months a long time back, and now residing in the United States of America, is in constant contact with us. He regularly supplies Magazines, periodicals and seed materials. The alfalfa seeds he sent came up well and the poultry is fed with regular cuttings of alfalfa. He has also sent Melons, Maize etc, and are all laid down in our plots. We are very happy that though from very far, and at this age he is of great assistance to us. We wish to have many more friends like him.

**THE FUTURE :—** Let me say a few words about our future program. It is our fervant desire to make the farm a model one with an integrated farming of crop and animal husbandry. The conversion of crop and animal refuse to compost and there by reducing the application of fertilizers will pave the way to semiorganic farming. The Bio-Gas plant which we are putting up will help us to reduce our electricity bill and also to provide artificial light to stimulate egg production.

It is a pity that the Farm does not have a good orchard. We intend

to do so this year by planting Sapodilla Jambu, Bread Fruit, Avacado, all Anona, Varieties, Oranges etc,

The vegetable nursery will be established right throughout the year, so that requirement of seedlings for the Home Gardens could be met.

We have also taken steps to supply Hatching eggs from the farm. There is a very good demand for it and we hope to supply them from April next year,

During 1984 the new classroom and office building was completed. The Hostel with the help of the Trustee Funds are expected to commence work this year.

The Home Economics section will be expanded so that students could learn more of handicraft and Dress making.

I must mention here that all these improvements are effected due to the hard and dedicated service of the Farm Manager Mr. T. Vigneswaran for the farm section, and Mr. Kandasamy, the Instructor for the school section.

Before I conclude I wish to appeal to all of you to visit us whenever you have the spare time with the purpose of advising us to make further improvements. No doubt you could always take away with you (of course on payment) some planting materials to plant in your compound.

Finally I wish to thank the members of the Council and the Standing Committee for the advice and guidance and the Staff and Students for their co-operation to run the Institute to this much satisfaction.

Thank You

C. Jayaratnam  
Principal



## LIST OF RECIPIENTS OF THE CERTIFICATES

### Junior Certificates awarded to the following:

(28-11-83 — 06-04-84)

#### A

1. Vasunthara Subramaniam
2. Namasivayam Srikanthan
3. Velnayagam Thirukodeeswaran
4. Kulamakal Sivagnanam
5. Thanaluxmy Nagamathy
6. Thambikuddy Gunaratnam
7. Nagalingam Ravikumar
8. Rasaratnam Anton Amalrajah
9. Rasathy Kanagaratnam
10. Yogeswaryammal Kandiah
11. Pathumanithy Rajendra

(25-04-84 — 24-08-84)

#### B

1. Ushayini Sanmugarajah
2. Ponniah Anantharuban
3. Iyadurai Ganeswaran
4. Kugapiriyai Ramanathan
5. Kanthar Amirthalingam
6. Sinnavar Thevarajah

### Senior Certificates awarded to the following :

1. Vasunthara Subramaniam
2. Menaka Krishnapillai
3. Pathumanithy Rajendra
4. Muthuthamby Navasuthan
5. Bavany Ramalingam
6. Sobana Ponniah
7. Thambikuddy Gunaratnam
8. Sothimalar Kandiah
9. Thilakarany Kumarasamy
10. Velauthapillai Sribalan



# The Christian Institute for the Study of Religion and Society

S. Jebanesan  
(Member Standing Committee)

The Christian Institute for the Study of Religion and Society of Jaffna is parallel to many similar societies founded under the auspices of the World Council of Churches. There are many such study centres in India. In Sri-Lanka there are two Institutes. The one in the South is devoted chiefly to the study of Buddhism. Ours was founded in 1959. It is expected to run in conjunction with the Ashram and it is housed on the Ashram premises.

Whatever else our circumstances have been in the past we have not been very fortunate in the matter of Directors. The first two appointed died within a year. The one who succeeded them went on a scholarship to America and never returned. So in this matter we were living hand to mouth. Our well wishers must be very happy that recently we have been able to acquire a new Director who will stay with us for sometime. This is Mr. W. N. S. Samuel former principal of Hartley College. Since he is not a Pro-

fessional Theologian we have appointed a committee to advise him on Theological matters.

We could not in the recent past indulge in the practice of holding seminars. Instead we have taken up the Publication of books. One of the notable ventures was the undertaking to publish the writings of Bishop Kulandran. This ought to appear in Five Volumes in the coming months. One volume was ready and was released in February 1986. At this meeting a Festschrift prepared by the friends and admirers of Bishop Kulandran was released.

Among the minor Publications undertaken for translation are "The Why Not Series" of Dr. D. T. Niles and "The Lenten Studies" published by the British Council of Churches. The library of the Institute is being reorganized. We have prepared a revised list of books owned by us. It is now open for more hours for the use of Theology students and the Public.

In 1985 the board of the C. I. S. R. S. consisted of the following:

<b>Chairman:</b>	Rt. Rev. D. J. Ambalavanar
<b>Director:</b>	Mr. A. Kadirgamar—Upto Nov. 1985
	Mr. W. N. S. Samuel—From Nov. 1985
	Rev. Sam Alfred
	Ven. S. D. Horshington
	Mr. S. Jebanesan
	Rt. Rev. Dr. S. Kulandran
	Rev. H. R. S. Jeyachandran
	Rev. Dr. Donald Canagaratnam
	Rev. D. R. Ampalavanar
	Mr. S. S. Sellathurai
	Mr. J. S. Anantham
	Rev. Sis Malar Chinniah
	Miss C. V. Selliah



# The Phenomenon of I. P. Thuraiatnam

Rt. Rev. S. Kulandran

Mr. I. P. Thuraiatnam, who died on the 20th of April, 1985, was a great man, in our community and loomed large in our eyes for nearly 30 years. It is desirable, therefore, to examine the reasons which made him create the impression that he did.

A stranger seeing him come into a meeting, neat and trim, dressed in a white dhoti, sherwani and shawl would have noticed a natty figure, with no pretensions of airs about him, coming and taking his seat among the others, like an ordinary member. There were no pretensions about him, he did not look round to see whether he had a gallery to play to, and with no pomp about him. What would, however, have struck the stranger would have been the look of perfect self-assurance on his face and in his bearing; and an indication that he could look after himself quite well.

If he intervened in a debate on any subject, he would seldom rise to heights of any eloquence; there were no fire-works. He seldom went into a passion on any subject. It seemed that he did not attempt to persuade. He merely explained. He merely opened up the matter and let others see what there was: as far as he was concerned, it was as if he was proving a theorem of Euclid. When once he had explained the matter, it seemed that there was no other side to it. The opposition was left without a leg to stand on. Those who came with a determin-

ation to oppose would find themselves helpless as against the "Q. E. D." with which he had concluded his speech.

Those who were not strangers and had been long members in the assembly would have had the experience of Thuraiatnam's work on Reports. In the old days, when we had no professional auditors we woke up to a financial irregularity long after it had been committed, sometimes months after, and our invariable practice was to appoint a one man Commission of Thuraiatnam to go into it. Documents would be hard to get, the people concerned, if they had been in the wrong, would be very elusive. But Thuraiatnam was not to be put off. Day by day he would go after the documents and the persons. If I had been the guilty party, I would not have dreaded any one more. If I had been innocent, I would not have welcomed anyone's intervention more. Day in and day out he would sort the facts and figures and when the report was drawn up, it was clear how the argument had proceeded from point to point with inexorable logic and pointed to an inevitable conclusion.

In our life as a Diocese we had also naturally to undertake many projects, earlier smaller, later bigger; if asked to undertake any such extra duty he would be very reluctant. But if once he undertook it, he would strain every nerve and bend all energy to accomplish it.



The general plan was first thought out and the details put in their place after.

The biggest project he undertook was the creation of Union College. He was sent there in 1935 and was faced with an English Elementary School and a Bilingual School. The difficulty he had to face both externally and internally was very heavy. Externally the Bilingual School refused to come into the set-up. Internally, his own Manager was against the project and was doing everything to thwart the plan.

Thuraiaratnam did everything possible to out-smart his superior, and in the end he built up Union College into a first rate Secondary School: so much so that when the Principal of a neighbouring Secondary School was asked how it managed things. He said "I first see what Jaffna College is doing and then I see What Union College is doing and follow suit." He felt that little extra study would make him a better Principal and off he went and got his M. A. in Education in Columbia University. Money was needed for the expansion of the College and he undertook a trip to Malaya for that purpose.

Speaking at our Diocesan Council recently, Mr. C. E. Rajasingham, for a long time Vice-Principal at Union College described how Thuraiaratnam ran the place as a self-contained institution in every respect and managed to look after the administration, upkeep and studies there. Once a relative of mine performed the feat of failing his exam in Mathematics, whatever device was tried. The mother took him to Thuraiaratnam

who put him through the subject without much difficulty. His method of teaching was to let the student feel, as if he were tackling the problem for the first time since the world began.

Another evidence of Thuraiaratnam's careful planning and faultless execution is the Tellippalai grave-yard as it is. Some years ago, a motion was brought into our Diocesan Council that every Church should have a grave yard Commissioner and over them all, there should be a Diocesan Commissioner. As a result there has been a marked improvement in our grave yards. But it has to be admitted that the state of most of our grave yards still leaves much to be desired. In contrast the Tellippalai grave yard presents a picture of perfectly well-planned arrangement and systematic looking after. I do not think Kannatte can beat it except in regard to size.

His home itself is a good example of planning and upkeep—demonstrating in very aspect a keen eye and unceasing supervision. It may be said whatever he undertook he did well; planned it carefully overlooked no detail, and saw to it that the execution was faultless

Right through life there was driving force behind all his activities. what was it? It might be said it was a sense of duty But what is Duty? R. L. Stevenson has rightly said that when we are engaged in doing some work with due care, we must also inquire whether it is our work. Duty is not something that has been assigned to us. Many prisoners in the Nuremberg War Trials gave the excuse for the crimes they committed because they had been asked to do them. Duty



is a dictate of Conscience. William Words, worth calls it the stern daughter of the voice of God. In an article which I wrote in 1948 when Thurai-ratnam was leaving for Columbia, I said that Thurai-ratnam's driving force was an attempt to keep truth with his conscience. Duty is something which you feel that you have no alternative to doing.

Was all his life on the exalted plane of meetings, projects and plans? Surely he would have met and mingled with others in private life. Had he no friends and companions? He had many companions; he had no friends in later life. He had a friend in early life but that friendship faded with his undergraduate life. Companions he had in plenty; some nearer and some not so near. The closest companion he had in recent times was S. Nadesan, Q. C. But even in regard to all companions, there was a invisible circle around him. There was a certain suggestion of hauteur which however slight never left him.

What was the reason for this? This was the inevitable mark left on any self-made man; a self-made man feels that by his own efforts he has conquered and come to the top. And everybody who knows Thurai-ratnam's private life would know how, left as a fatherless child early in life, he had to make it to the top the hard way and the marks of it remained indelible.

Those who had the privilege of being invited to his house would have found an extremely charming host. He would show his well-laid gardens his library and his all-pervasive electrical gadgets and would tell you how all the

electrical gadgets were manipulated by him. A stress on the self, however slight, could not be escaped. This is a price that a self-made man, however great his achievement, pays.

Even on the lighter side his jokes were not of the hilarious sort that made people laugh uproarously. It was as if he held himself in reserve. His jokes were not humour, they were wit, clean and polished, which could bear repetition.

But it would be untrue, unfair and unjust to leave at this. Underneath the structure that the public saw was a nature tender, sentimental and affectionate. Partly perhaps on purpose, partly through long habit and practice he had managed to build the part, he played in life over this.

Long ago, as early as 1928, I had been teaching at Jaffna College. I left for Serampore to study theology and was coming back on my long vacation in April 1929. One year away in India was a big thing in those days. Thurai-ratnam had got married the day before I arrived. The train stopped at Chavakachcheri at 6 a. m. Thurai-ratnam left his bridal chamber and came to see me at the station. This kind of behaviour was different from the "sterner stuff" that people were accustomed to.

In 1971 I was for sometime after retirement in charge of the Tellippalai Church for a short while and during Christmas season happened to fall ill. I could not have had more devoted nursing than he exercised. At Christmas I think I had to conduct Communion Servi ce.



Though it was my duty, I did not feel quite equal to the task. So I asked him to stand behind me when I was serving the elements. At Tellippalai everyone knows that there is a chasm between the railings and the chancel; and all the time I was serving there he was supplying me with the elements when I ran out of them.

I think it was round about 1969 in my administrative capacity I had to do something and to do it quick. At the Executive Committee three days later I explained the matter and asked for endorsement. For a clear half an hour I was subjected by him to the most withering invective, I have experienced in my life. The Executive Committee of course fully endorsed my action. When I went home Thuraiaratnam descended

on me and expatiated that I had done the right thing in the right manner and could not have done anything else. In the Committee he felt he had a part to play against my action and this was his way of apologizing.

So that below the superstructure of Thuraiaratnam that the people saw in public, there was another Thuraiaratnam almost tender and kindly; but training and the hardships of life had taught him to lead the life he led.

On the whole, in Thuraiaratnam we have lost a high-minded, utterly honourable and fully dedicated person who never stooped to anything low, efficient and hardworking beyond all expectations. In parting with him I pay him my tribute.



#### FOUR HUNDRED EPIGRAMS

*From the standpoint of cost to you it doesn't make much difference whether you give or lend someone \$10.*

*Indigestion is a term synonymous with wealth.*

*Money is the only perfect linguist. It speaks all languages.*

*Many a woman's hat look like a forced landing of a Blue Plate luncheon or the Chef's Special Tossed Salad.*

*Diplomacy is the mother of invention.*

*To make good a person has to be good.*

*The big idea in golf is not to stand too close to the ball after you have hit it.*

*A friend is a person who will share your lot with you without asking the size of it.*



## Mr. C. E. Anandarajan

Mr. C. E. Anandarajan who passed in very untoward circumstances last year was both an old-boy of this college and the Principal of the other Christian Secondary School in Jaffna. For these two reasons he deserves a notice in our Miscellany.

After a career at Madras Christian College he joined the staff of St. Johns College, became Vice-Principal and eventually when Mr. K. Pooranampillai retired in 1975 became Principal. It is perhaps no exaggeration to say that he was the most popular Secondary School Principal in Jaffna during his tenure of office. While a strict disciplinarian and stickler to discipline he was very kind hearted

and that evidently accounted for the affection in which he was held. He was an extrovert and optimistic by nature, always looking at the better side of things and always full of hope in the darkest days of trouble. Above all he was a man of courage willing to take risks. That is what finally brought him into trouble. But this need not detract from the fact that courage is one of the supreme qualities of life. Because of this he did things which other people did not venture to do. It is true to say that in his time St. Johns was a shining light and set an example to all schools in the Peninsula. We all regret his untimely passing which was one of the tragedies of our time.

### JAFFNA—COLLEGE

#### The first Board of Directors

##### Foreign Residents

- W. C. Twynam. Esq., C. M. G. Government Agent, Northern Province.  
Rev. E. P. Hastings, D. D. M. A., American Missionary, Principal Jaffna College.  
Rev. W. W. Howland, M. A., American Missionary.  
Rev. R. C. Hastings, M. A., American Missionary.  
Rev. E. M. Griffith, M. A., Church Missionary.  
Rev. W. R. Winston, Wesleyan Missionary, Chairman Northern Ceylon, District,

##### Native Residents

- C. W. Cathiravalu Pillai, Esq., Magistrate.  
R. Breckenbridge, Esq., Sub-Inspector of Schools.  
Rev. E. Champion, Native Pastor, Church Mission.  
Rev. B. H. Rice, Native Pastor, American Mission.  
J. R. Arnold, Esq., Joint Editor, **Morning Star**.  
Rev. T. P. Hunt, Native Pastor American Mission.  
T. C. Changara Pillai, Esq., Proctor, Supreme Court.  
T. M. Tambu, Esq., Proctor, Supreme Court.  
L. S. Strong, Esq., Medical Practitioner.  
Wm. Paul, Esq., Dispenser, Friend-in-Need Hospital.  
J. P. Cooke, Esq., Head Master, Batticotta High School.



## Jubilarians — 1986

### MR. W. D. KULATHUNGAM

We are glad to take this opportunity of congratulating Mr. W. D. Kulathungam on his attainment of Jublarianship. He is the second son of Mr. L. S. Kulathungam one of the most revered and beloved teachers of the last generation. But certainly Mr. W. D. Kulathungam need not stand on his fathers merits. He is fully entitled on his own rights to high distinctions. He had his entire education at Jaffna College and passed his B. Sc. (London) examination at an early age. His chief subject of interest which he not merely teaches but also loves in Botany. While Zoology requires life is the wilds, Botany is a subject entirely practicable within the bounds of our natural life.. Mr. W. D. Kulathungam

not merely takes an academic interest in the lives of trees. We believe he is some what devoted to them. On the whole he is one of the rare individuals in Jaffna who is given to cultivating an aesthetic side of life. Obviously a person of this kind who is in living sympathy with the objects about which he teaches will be a successful teacher of the subject concerning them.

It is needless to say that a person like this will be noted for mildness and gentleness of character.

It is fortunate that he has got a suitable help-mate who sympathizes with him in his undemonstrative life among the natural surrounding of his existence.

### வி. செல்வரத்தினம்

யாழ்ப்பாணக் கல்லூரியில் இருபத்தைந்து வருட சேவையைப் பூர்த்தி செய்துள்ள திரு. வி. செல்வரத்தினம், ஒரு பல் துறை விற்பன்னர். “எத்தனைகோடி இன்பம் வைத்தாய் இறைவா!” என்றார் பாரதியார். “The world is so full of different things that we all must be happy as kings” என்பது ஆங்கிலக்கூற்று. ஆங்கில இலக்கியம், விளையாட்டு, கர்நாடகஇசை, நடனம், பொறியியல், நீச்சல், தத்துவம், சமயம் போன்ற பலவற்றை ஆர்வத்துடன் நுகர்பவர் செல்வரத்தினம். யாழ்ப்பாணக் கல்லூரியிற் கற்று இலண்டன் B.Sc. பட்டதாரியாகி, பின்னர் ஒரு என்ஜினியராகவும் வளர்ந்துள்ள “செல்வா” கொண்ட கொள்கைகளில் உறுதியானவர். அணியும் ஆடை போல் உள்ளமும் வெண்மையர்.

யாழ்ப்பாணக் கல்லூரிமீது உண்மை யான அன்பு பூண்டு வேறு எந்த இடத்தையும் எட்டிப் பாராது உழைத்துவருபவர். தமக்கு உண்மை என்று பட்டதை எத்தகைய எதிர்ப்பு வந்தாலும் தயங்காது கூறிவிடுவார்.

“உள்ளத்தாற் பொய்யா தொழுகின் உலகத்தார் உள்ளத்துள் எல்லாம் உள்ள்.”

திரு. செல்வரத்தினம் பௌதிகம், கணிதம் முதலிய பாடங்களைக் கடந்த 25 வரு

டங்களாகக் கற்பித்துவருகிறார். யாழ்ப்பாணக் கல்லூரி ஆசிரியன் என்ற ஸ்திதியில் பெருமையும் மகிழ்ச்சியும் அடைவார். யாழ்ப்பாணக் கல்லூரியின் விளையாட்டுத் துறையில் அளவற்ற ஈடுபாடு கொண்டு உழைத்துவருகின்றார். Hockey, Basket-ball Tennis என்பன இவர் வளர்க்கும் இயல்கள். 1974ஆம் ஆண்டிலே கல்லூரி மிக நெருக்கடி யான சூழலைச் சந்தித்தபோது ஆசிரியர் சங்கத் தலைவராக இருந்து கல்லூரியின் இடுக்கண் களைய முயன்றார்.

செல்வா மாணவர்களுக்கு மட்டுமன்றி உடன் ஊழியர்க்கும் இனியவர். ஆசிரியர் ஒருவர் இறந்துவிட்டால் உடனடியாக நிவாரண நிதியைச் சேர்க்கும் பணியில் இறங்குபவர் செல்வாதான். உடன் ஆசிரியர்களுக்கு நண்பனாய், மந்திரியாய், நல்லாசிரியனுமாய் வாழ்ந்துவருகிறார்,

வி. செல்வரத்தினம் சுப்பிரமணிய பாரதியார் மீது பைத்தியம் கொண்டவர். நண்பர் செல்வாவை நினைக்கும் பொழுது “எங்கிருந்தோ வந்தான் கண்ணன் இங்கிலை யான்பெறவே என்னதவம் செய்துவிட்டேன்”

என்ற அடிகளே மனதிற்கு வருகின்றன.

S. J.



## திருமதி L. B. தம்பிராஜா

இன்று வெள்ளிவிழாக் காணும் ஆசிரியை திருமதி L. B. தம்பிராஜா இக் கல்லூரிக்கும் எமக்கும் புதியவரல்ல. இவரின் தந்தையும் இங்கு ஓர் ஆசிரியராகக் கடமையாற்றியவர். அவரின் வழிவந்த இவர் இக் கல்லூரியிலேயே கல்விகற்று இங்கு ஆசிரியராகக் கடமையாற்றும் வாய்ப்பிளையும் பெற்றவர். இதில் அவருக்கும் எமக்கும் கூடப் பெருமை.

கல்லூரி நாட்களிலும் திருமதி தம்பிராஜா அவர்கள் மிகவும் சுறுசுறுப்புள்ள ஒரு மாணவியாகவே காணப்பட்டார். அவர் நடைபயிலே ஒரு சுறுசுறுப்பிருந்ததை நாமெல்லாரும் காணக்கூடியதாக இருந்தது. இவரின் சிநேகிதர் இவரின் புஷ்பராணி என்னும் பெயரினைச் சுருக்கி “புஷ்” என்று அழைப்பதுண்டு. அந்தப் பெயருக்கேற்ப அவரிடத்திலும் ஒரு “Push” இருப்பதை நாமெல்லாரும் காணக்கூடியதாக இருக்கின்றது.

இவர் தமது கல்லூரி வாழ்க்கையை முடித்து ஆசிரியராகக் கடமை ஏற்றுப் பயிற்சிக் கலாசாலை சென்று பயிற்றப்பட்டு வந்தார். இவர் மாணவர்களுக்கு ஆங்கில பாடத்தைக் கற்பித்து வருகின்றார். கல்லூரியில் மட்டுமல்லாது ஓய்வு நேரங்களிலுங்கூட மாணவர்கட்கு ஆங்கிலத்தில் “Elocution” வகுப்புகளை நடாத்தி அவர்களின் முன்னேற்றத்திற்காகப் பாடுபடுகின்றார். மாணவர்களின் விருப்பு வெறுப்புக்களை அறிந்து கல்விகற்பிக்கும் ஆற்றலும் இவருக்கு உண்டு. மாணவர்கள் விருப்புடன் கல்வி பயிலவேண்டும் என்பதற்காக அவர்களின் தன்மைகட்கேற்பக் கல்வி கற்பிப்பார்.

திருமதி தம்பிராஜாவிடம் கண்டது என்னவெனில், தனது மனதிற்கு எது சரி

எது பிழை என்று தோன்றுகிறதோ அதனை அப்படியே தயங்காது எடுத்துக்கூறும் சுபாவம். எந்த ஒரு காரியத்தையும் செய்வதில் பிற்போடும் வழக்கம் அவரிடம் இல்லை. “நாளை என்பதும் மறுநாள் என்பதும் இல்லை என்பதற்குச் சரி” என்னும் வாக்கியத்திற்கு இணங்கச் செயற்பட்டுவந்ததை நாம் காணக்கூடியதாக இருக்கின்றது. அவரின் சேவையில் அவருக்குத் தற்பொழுது கிடைத்திருக்கும் பதவி உயர்வு இதற்கு ஓர் எடுத்துக் காட்டாகும்.

இவர் மாணவர்களுடன் மட்டுமல்லாது தமது சக ஆசிரியர்களுடனும் நல்லமுறையில் பழகி அவர்களின் ஒத்துழைப்பைப் பெற்றுச் சேவைஆற்றும் ஆற்றல் உடையவர். தான் செய்யும் எக் காரியத்தையும் “செய்வன திருந்தச்செய்” என்னும் வாக்கிற்கமையத் திறம்படச் செய்யவேண்டும் என்ற விருப்புடையவர். இப்படியான ஆசிரியர்கள் எமது மாணவர்களின் முன்னேற்றத்திற்கு இன்றியமையாதவர்கள்.

கல்லூரிக்கும் மாணவருக்கும் சேவை செய்வதோடு நின்றுவிடாது, தனது குடும்பத்திற்கும் தனது வயதுவந்த பெற்றோரைக் கவனிப்பதிலும் கண்ணுங்கருத்துமாக உள்ளார். ஓய்வு நேரங்களில் ஓடிச்சென்று பெற்றோரைப் பார்த்து அவர்களின் தேவைகளைப் பூர்த்திசெய்து வருவார். இவருக்கு இவரின் கணவரும் உறுதுணையாக உள்ளார். ஆகவே இப்படியான கடமை உணர்ச்சி சேவை மனப்பான்மை கொண்ட திருமதி தம்பிராஜா அவர்கள் இக் கல்லூரிக்கு இன்னும் பல்லாண்டு சிறந்த சேவைபுரிய இறைவனை வேண்டுகிறோம்.

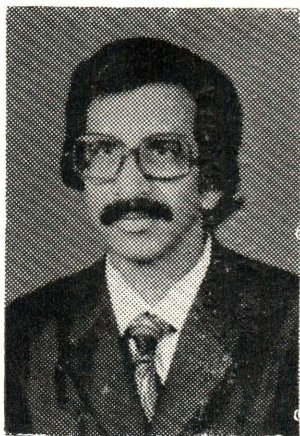
K. N.



## JUBILARIANS — 1985



Mrs. L. B. Thambyrajah  
Supervisor Primary School



Mr. W. T. Kulathungam



Mr. V. Selvaratnam



## THEY RETIRE



Mr. W. N. Thevakadacham  
Supervisor, Primary School



Mr. A. M. BRODIE, B. A. (Hons.)  
Manager, Miscellany



## Twentieth - Century Epic: Joseph and His Brothers

The Old Testament story of Joseph and his brothers is a perennial favourite, even having made it to Broadway not so long ago as **Joseph and his Technicolor Dreamcoat**. At Jaffna College the advanced middle - school English students have been working on another version from Canada. And therefore I would like to seize the opportunity to tell you about the presentation of the story in four volumes by the masterful twentieth - century German writer Thomas Mann.

Mann was working on the first novel, **The Tales of Jacob**, as Hitler was coming to power. The fourth, **Joseph the Provider**, was published in 1943, as the Second World War passed through its darkest hour. A story of exile, it is ironic that as the first novel appeared in 1933 Mann himself had to go into exile, in Switzerland and later in the United States. Furthermore, the tale is a legend of the Jews, a people living in dispersion among the Germans (as well as others) and a people who were so devastatingly persecuted by them just as Mann was working on these novels. One can see the novels, as Mann become more and more involved with them and also with anti-Nazi speeches and radio broadcasts, etc., as his form of protest, his form of **Wiedergutmachung**, that is, reparation, even while the world stood by and refused to believe or to act on what was told about Hitler's intentions—until it was too late.

And, finally, I can hereby acquaint you with a fascinating facet of my own

field of interest—German literature, and an example of it that is universal in its appeal, and also universal in its development in Mann's hands.

Thomas Mann has created an epic of this ancient tale, most laconically related in the book of **Genesis**. As Virgil created a Roman epic very nearly from whole cloth (and borrowed Greek motifs) in celebration of the worthy, if fictitious, origins of the Empire in his **Aeneid**, so Mann expands an ancient Hebrew story into an epic that celebrates not only the origins of Israel but also those of Christianity and Western civilization.

Which is not to say that Mann's *oeuvre* makes heavy reading. **Au contraire!** it is so filled with humor and irony that the years of Jacob's servitude for Rachel as well as those of Joseph's servitude under Potiphar and then under Pharaoh pass like lightning as one makes his way through the 1200 pages of the English translation (nearly 2000 in the original German). In order to achieve this miracle Mann draws not only on the rich Biblical tradition, but also on the traditions of the Near East and Egypt, as well as on those of German literature and western civilization in general, its ecclesiastical aspect in particular.

To begin at the end, at the opening of the fourth novel, Mann gives us a "Prelude in the Upper Circles," a title that alludes to the theatre (the imaginary theatre in which the drama is taking place)



but more so to the "Prologue in Heaven" with which Goethe's life work *Faust* commences, and which itself derives from the opening scene of the Old Testament book of *Job*. The discussion is of much the same nature—God's confidence in his creature, at the same time, his cool practical distance and difference from him. It is therefore a scene fraught with humor, irony, as well as pathos, touching as it does on man's condition as well as the religious and literary allusions that are such a delight to the reader. Here Mann makes the short statement, tongue somewhat in cheek, that plays on the catechisms of our Christian churches: "Man was a result of God's curiosity about himself."

Mann's own roots are not only literary but theatrical as well. He was enamoured of Richard Wagner, the epic German opera composer of the nineteenth century. The height of Mann's epic is the dramatic encounter of Joseph and Potiphar's wife, whom he calls Mut-em-enet. The impassioned love speeches of Mut-em-enet against Joseph's solicitous but adamant refusal of her charms, combined with the wickedly erotic encouragement of Dudu (Mut's confidante and keeper of the jewels and wardrobe), all evoke the powerfully and destructively passionate portrayal of illicit love that Wagner wrings from the music to the operatic version of *Tristan and Isolde*. Paradoxically the scene depicts the deepest depths of moral chaos to which Joseph (his father's and by implication, God's lamb) has unwillingly descended.

Mut's moment of vengeance takes on the emotional thunder of Brunhilde's

revenge on Siegfried in the *Nibelungenlied*, a powerful epic poem itself from the twelfth century, and equally powerful and more famous as a Wagner opera in four long parts. Before this fateful moment Mann, like the unknown author of the epic poem, sets a marvelously comic scene that relieves the tension by creating a real belly laugh for his audience. In the *Nibelungenlied* bear come into Siegfried's hunting camp, upsetting the cooking pots and frightening away the cooks, everyone stumbling over one another in high slapstick style, just before Siegfried is stabbed in the back. In *Joseph in Egypt* Mann has Mut-em-enet invite all her women friends to a party because she wrecklessly decides to tell them all the cause of her romantic indisposition. But her stroke of genius is to have Joseph himself appear as wine-server and to let them see for themselves the beauty of this young Hebrew with whom she has fallen hopelessly in love. Of course, at the same time that Joseph enters, all the ladies have begun to cut into the delicious fruit that has been laid before them, and for the very sight of Joseph, all of them forget themselves and simultaneously cut their fingers on the sharp fruit knives especially provided for this calculated purpose. Blood spouts, the golden apples are drenched in red, and "the party looked more like a hospital ward than anything else."

And we musn't leave out *Parzifal*, another of the renowned epic poems of 800 years ago, also glorified in opera by Richard Wagner, the saga of the naive and dedicated young man who chastely goes in search of the Holy Grail, a story paralleled by Joseph and his own



chaste dedication to his God, his father Jacob, and his people.

The breadth of Mann's application of his narrative to Biblical history and theology can be seen from two examples culled from a veritable cornucopia of instances. Potiphar's judgment of Joseph—eminently fair and appropriate—is comparable to that of Solomon's in determining to whom the disputed child belongs. Poetic justice also falls upon Dudu: because of his devious encouragement of Mut's infatuation, his tongue is to be cut out. Joseph is of course sent to a comfortable prison sentence where he also becomes an overseer for the prison warden.

Another of Mann's clever tricks is attributing famous Gospel phrasings to speakers far in advance of Christ's time. Ironic it is also when he has the dreaming Pharaoh who redeems Joseph from prison speculate on the nature of the god beyond and above the son-god whom he worships: he feels one ought not to say "my Father above," but "my Father **who art in heaven!**"

Many are the echoes of the Gospel story in Mann's epic. **Judah** offers his brother Joseph to the traders for thirty pieces of silver (instead of twenty) and gives him the **Judas** kiss as he takes the money. The brothers draw lots for the coat of many colours. Upon hearing of Joseph's supposed death, Jacob tears his robe as the veil in the temple is rent the moment Christ dies on the cross. Joseph is resurrected thrice! once from the pit into which his brothers

throw him, again from "Sheol" or out of slave status to high position in Potiphar's household, and most important, from prison into Pharaoh's court. Joseph is Jacob's lamb, even God's sacrificial lamb, and is once equated with the idea of atonement when Joseph feels guilt (innocently) for his supervisor's death in Potiphar's household: "Man bears God's guilt, he reflects, 'and it would be no more than right if one day God were to make up His mind to bear our guilt.'" When Joseph interprets the wine steward's dream and he is then actually released from prison, Joseph prophesies that the steward will forget him, in words echoing Christ's warning of Peter's denial. Finally, for Mai-Sachme, the prison warden to whom Joseph acts as assistant, Joseph is equated with the Messiah, for Joseph rescues him from a boring job (and place) and elevates him to a position as his assistant once he is made agricultural overseer for all of Egypt and "universal friend" to Pharaoh.

The epic is also developed in splendid scenes, redolent of the poetic epics of old, such as the Egyptian New year and its pageantry, its joy and inebriation, its processions, its historical and theological significance, but also as a backdrop to the ironic moment of both Potiphar's celebration upon his becoming the "unique friend" of Pharaoh and Joseph's fall from grace at the hands of Mut, the spurned wife of Potiphar. Or there is the climactic funeral procession, a truly royal progress, transporting Jacob's body in Egyptian splendour back to the land of Canaan for burial.



One of the most famous moments of Homer's epic *The Iliad* is the description of Achilles' shield, which in itself contains a complete microcosm of the known world of the Greeks. It has been especially hammered out in the heavens for Achilles' entry into the Battle of Troy by the blacksmith of the gods, Hephaestus. Mann makes similar use of the coat of many colours which is Jacob's gift to Rachel before it passes to Joseph, and he describes the many colourful scenes on it depicting the familiar gods of the region—Ishtar, Gilgamesh, Tammuz, and their earthly apparitions, as well as the pastoral life of this folk.

But Mann's very own technique, and his most astonishing success, is his ability to speak through the mouth of his characters, sometimes referred to as ventriloquism. Lively scenes are developed by delightful dialogue. None is more charming than the dialogue between Huia and Tuia, inventions of Mann's and the parents of Potiphar. In their garden-house dialogue the ancient pair call each other by a number of fond epithets while giving a disquisition on burial customs in ancient Egypt, all by way of their own reflections upon their probably imminent death. At the same time they give us illuminating information about Potiphar, how they sacrificed him to Pharaoh's service by having him castrated as a baby, and thus how guilty they feel about what is therefore his pseudo-marriage to Mut-em-enet, thus laying an unhappy foundation for the attraction Mut feels toward Joseph, a real man, as a completely unfulfilled wife.

And Mann brings to the tale the symbolism of the well, the place of

promise where Jacob first meets Rachel and the dried up well, where Joseph is cast "into the pit." It becomes the well-spring of the narrator's art. In its depths the narrator plumbs the stores of "forgotten" lore, uncovers the layers of by-gone history, and makes the reader appreciate the multitude of generations that have passed between us and the events of *Genesis* as well as the generations that were more than likely swallowed up in the telescoping of time in the Biblical version of the history of Israel. And the well is contrasted with the pit that bears the full significance of Joseph's descent into shame, exile, and worldly civilization as represented by Egypt.

While prattling on about the various sources Mann openly draws upon to enrich his narrative, I have not yet spoken of the structure of the epic, outside of its division into four chronologically consecutive novels. Holding this massive work together are several beautifully balanced parts, as a technique itself another echo of musical art like the Bach cantata, in turn an echo of the altar triptych (three parts) belonging to the very times the previously mentioned epic poems were written. Two deep and abiding loves flank the erotic passion of Potiphar's wife for Joseph—Jacob's devoted love of Rachel and Joseph's love of his father and his brothers. Jacob's journey to Laban and his long years of service for Rachel are balanced by Joseph's long journey into Egypt and his long years of service there before he sees his brethren again. Mann also makes much of a vertical balance—the two spheres of life, the divine and the mortal, sometimes the underworld as opposed to the world



of the living. Mann's development requires both, and a knowledge of both, if there is to be human progress. And Mann hints throughout the epic at the mythological parallels and sources of our Bible tales, at the same time giving the Joseph legend the flesh-and-blood appearance of real life. So that he tantalizes us with the reflection; "Who will say what Abram had been at first and where the stories are originally at home, whether above or below? They are the present of the revolving sphere, the unity of the dual, the image that revolves in the riddle of time."

That the stories live again for us, and this is in part what Mann means by the "revolving image," is in large measure due to Mann's sense of humor. He makes us laugh out loud wherever he can. for example when he describes Jacob's trick with Isaac when he "steals" the blessing Esau was to have, and then gloats at Laban's deception of Jacob when after Jacob and Rachel's wedding feast he brings the veiled bride to the darkened nuptial bedroom, giving Jacob Leah instead of his beloved Rachel: Mann describes how Jacob lovingly directs his bride to the bed where he is waiting in the dark. And, as an ironic commentary on our own times here and now in Jaffna, just while I was reading this passage, this very moment the power fails in Vaddukoddai and the lights go out! The trickery is of course passed on by Joseph to his brothers, when they come to Egypt to buy grain, and he pretends neither to know them nor to speak Hebrew. And then finally he tricks them into abject submission when he has young Benjamin "steal" his silver cup. Because

of Joseph's original dreams the reader has long wondered how Mann is going to make good Joseph's original humiliation at the hands of his brothers. And just when one is least expecting it, that is, when Joseph walks in to the audience hall to greet the arrested brethren cheerily and casually (as if he knew nothing about the "theft"), "They fall on their faces as if they had been mown down." Marvelous retribution!

There is also Mann's sense of the dramatic, when he moves the reader to tears at the moment Joseph forgives his brethren. After the brothers have been arrested for "stealing" the silver cup, Judah, out of sheer fright, breaks the oath of silence the brethren had sworn, and blurts out a full confession. Then the scene becomes plastic, almost theatrical, as a light at the far end of the hall strikes Joseph's face "and in it his tears glitter like jewels," and he stretches out his arms to them, making himself known. But my tears come as Benjamin now a 35-year-old adult, bounces up and down for joy, crying "I knew it! "I knew it!" The long journey, the suspense of the narrator's art, all has come to its emotion-packed climax, and the reader feels the catharsis of the Greek tragedy, at the same time he is reminded of the many carvings and sculptures of the crucified figure of Christ—"Behold the Lamb of God"—by the description of Joseph in that beam of light, and his glittering tears.

Part of the attractiveness of Mann's style is the frequent ironic reference to himself as narrator. One of the most important of these plays on that important



symbol the well, the spring. He says, "I have never tried to produce the illusion that I am the source of the history of Joseph." (And yet for much of this epic he is.) "Before it could be told, it happened, it sprang from the source from which all history springs and talks itself as it goes—it becomes conscious of itself and remembers how things actually were with it in the long-ago, so that it now both pours forth and speaks of itself as it pours." Not only is this irony, it is poetry, reminding the reader of one of Rainer Maria Rilke's better known poems in which a fountain in a garden is described in very similar terms.

And in case the reader should wonder why Mann so lovingly draws out the tale into four novels, he answers that question almost as if someone had asked it aloud, while still telling his story :... "his guides (those selling Joseph into Egypt), the Ishmaelites—who still gave themselves plenty of time, or rather after their old wont, troubled about time not at all, only taking care that their slow progress kept more or less the right direction—went with him," etc. And the reader has to laugh out loud. Just so! that's exactly what the storyteller is doing—taking his untroubled, his own sweet time.

But it isn't it fun? As Mann puts it when describing how Joseph charmed Pharaoh with his oral reading of ancient Egyptian writings, it was as if one were listening to music. For "in the great majority of these writings the interest lay very little in the matter or the story and very much in the charm of

style, the choiceness and elegance of the phrasing." But Mann is only fishing for compliments, tongue-in-cheek, of course. His subject matter is both interesting and elegant in style as well!

Other instances cause the reader to chuckle. After the conversational scene in which Pharach bestows on Joseph the amusing sounding title of "Vicc-God" (he himself being referred to as God), Mann makes another tongue-in-cheek apology: "This famous and yet almost unknown conversation...has now been re-established from beginning to end in all its turnings, winding, and conversational episodes." Of course it was unknown—until Mann made it up! Or there is the crucial moment when the narrator claims to have "lost his tongue" and therefore prefers "to draw over the scene a veil of delicacy and human feeling," that is, the scene where Potiphar's wife makes a grab at Joseph, who has just returned, slightly inebriated, from the New Year's celebrations in the city. But instead of giving us another conversation, he plays candid camera instead, photographing the moment, as it were, with a flash attachment: Joseph's "flesh stood up against his spirit and in the midst of his most fluent and eloquent speech he became an ass." Joseph flees, leaving his coat in Mut's clutching hand, while she cries "over and over again .... 'I have seen his strength!'" Instead of a delicate silence, Joseph is unveiled!

Aside from the charm, humor and elegance of Mann's narration, why should the Jacob and Joseph stories be of interest to us today? Not only that Mann pokes fun at recent history—comparing entry into fortress Egypt with immi-



## BASKET BALL TEAM — 1985



**Standing (L. — R.):** J. G. Jesurajah, R. W. Kulendran, A. Augustine and T. Jesura.

**Seated (L. — R.)** R. T. Anzugabalan, R. Muresh (Captain), The Principal, J. Aron and Mr. T. Anandaratanam (Physical Director).



## STUDENT TENNIS CLUB - 1985



**Third Row (L. — R.):** J. Anton Rajakariar, A. Chandrakumar, S. Krishnatheva, B. Sripathy, M. Paramalingam, R. W. Kulendran, T. N. Huxley, R. Nirmalan, J. Ranjan.

**Second Row (L.—R.):** J. Aron, T. Shirela, R. Sharmini, A. Marina Vathany, K. Naveena, R. Vasanthi, T. Jennifer Padmini, R. Kishani and N. Mathitharan.

**First Row (L.—R.):** Mr. T. Anandaratanam (Physical Director), J. G. Jesurajah, R. Kajani, G. J. Gunaratnam (Secretary), The Principal, R. Muresh (President), D. Keshini, T. Jesura, Mr. N. A. Vimalendran (Master-in-Charge).



gration formalities at New York, or that he praises Franklin Delano Roosevelt's saving New Deal programs by elaborating on Joseph's techniques as minister of agriculture as well as tax collector! We find in Mann's epic, in the face of Western civilization's darkest hour in this century, a life-affirming energy and power that lifts us above our rather commons thoughts of doom. Yet he shows us through this story the catastrophic effects of xenophobia as it prevailed among the orthodox Egyptians in their attitude toward other religions as well as other races. He shows us the suicidal effects of egocentricity in Joseph himself, and in the ethnocentricity of both the Egyptians and the

Babylonians, and, by clever allusion, of both the Germans and the British and Americans of this century.

I shall leave you with one last reflection of Joseph's, humorous yet serious applicable to both himself as an individual, as well as to us and our civilizations. Thinking over his life and his mistakes, he realizes, "what a young peacock I was in those days, a regular young cock of the walk, full of really vicious vanity and self-importance! It is a shame how long some people take to grow up. Even supposing I am grown up even now. Perhaps it takes you your whole life to grow up."



#### FOUR HUNDRED EPIGRAMS

*A reception is a crowd of bored people eating indigestible food and exchanging malicious gossip while they look in vain for the host to whom to express their appreciation,*

*Nothing makes a man hustle to get ahead like marriage and a family.*

*Humility is a quality only the great possess.*

*Life is the only thing a person possesses until he dies.*

*In booms the buyer gives the sales talk. In depressions the salesman does it.*

*No man is disillusioned like the one who reaches his goal.*

*A person who doesn't gossip is one who hasn't heard the rumor.*

*It's the head of a business who gets the headaches.*

*Everyone has fun at the fat man's expense.*

*When a man says he can't be flattered, he wants you to flatter him by agreeing with him.*

*Fashion is vanity in reality.*

*No man is educated, experienced, or wise who has not learned enough about some subject to know how little he knows.*

*Wars may come and wars may go, but a politician never forgets the new sources of revenue that are discovered.*



# Pre-Requisites for Obtaining Topclass Performances In Sports

M. David Thambirajah

In the field of sports, we speak of **sports training** and understand in general the preparation of sportsmen for attaining top class performances. Sports training in a narrow sense is the physical technico-tactical, intellectual, psychic and moral preparation of the sportsmen by physical exercises, i. e. by physical load.

Sports training is a specialized process of the physical perfection of man; the content of which is the planned preparation for top class performances in the event or discipline chosen, on the basis of education and training.

The pace of development of the capacity performance in sports is determined or influenced by a number of factors. Among those factors, training and competition loads play the leading part. With a good training economy (suitable training methods and training means, correct proportion of volume and intensity of load as well as of load and recovery, adjusting of load to the individual capacity performance) upon the pace of the increase in load. With a same talent for a sports event, those sportsmen will develop more quickly, who go for training more frequently, whose training volume and training intensity is higher.

High training and competition loads require high readiness for performance. Only that one will reach peak performance who fight for them with all his perso-

ality. Important pre-requisites for that are the interest in and enthusiasm for competitive sports and ; in particular, for the chosen discipline. The purposeful shaping of interests in sports is an important task of the coach. He will contribute to it by arranging a joyful training, by showing and telling the sportsmen his perspectives and by giving them experiences of success. Furthermore, the coach should create an enthusiastic, fighting group of sportsmen where the individual is feeling well, which helps him overcome difficulties and stimulates him to better performances.

Another important pre-requisite for successful training is a close personal confidence between coach and sportsmen being expressed by close personal contact.

While training is the main factor for the development of the capacity performance and the readiness for performance, numerous other factors influence the performance more or less. In the first place these factors have to be mentioned which concern the way of life. The efficient sportsman is asked to live a "sportsman's life". This requires an optimum diet harmonizing with the specific sporting activity, sufficient night's rest, avoidance of any luxury, food-



stuffs and narcotics (including nicotine, alcohol), a regular daily routine with a suitable distribution of work and classes, training and leisure time and regular hygiene. The effect of training will be increased the more consistently a sporting way of life is followed, it will decrease the more violations and inconsistency increase. Therefore the education of the sportsmen to fixed habits of living is one of the coach's main tasks which should not be neglected. The sportsman should realise that the sportsman should realise that the sporting way of life is no "sacrifice", but a pre-requisite for

an increased performance capacity, more stable health and higher life expectancy.

A remarkable influence on the performance striving and, thus, on the sports performance may have the parents, the teachers and educators in school and in vocational training, classmates and colleagues, friends and spouses and all the others with whom the sportsman has contact. Their interest in the sportsmans sporting activities, their help and support, their praise but also their blame, have a stimulating effect on the young sportsman. That is why coach and sportsman should try together to make parents, teachers and instructors their allies.



### WORDS OF WISDOM

*First you have to teach a child to talk; then you have to teach it to keep quiet.*

*It looks like eventually we will all make our living by collecting taxes from each other.*

*A radical is a person who feels he might get a little more if he howled a little louder.*

*The disgusted professor: "Class is dismissed. Please don't flap your ears as you pass out."*

*It's remarkable when you think that under the American system a man can have savings account and an automobile at the same time.*

*Intelligence tests may be a means of grading intelligence, but there is nothing that equals a grade crossing for effectiveness.*

*The genius of another world war will be the fellow who figures out how to run it on a cash instead of an accounts payable basis.*

*Classical music is music that threatens every other bar to develop a tune and then disappoints you.*



# The Round-Table

## Annual Report for the Year 1985 — 1986

President	:	Mr. T. Anandaratnam
Secretary & Treasurer	:	Mr. K. Sathasivam
Committee Members	:	Mr. G. Nadarajah Mr. S. A. P. Thurairatnam Mrs. S. Cassiere

The Round Table has completed another year with success. The unrest in the country has resulted in the changing of the time of our functions inspite of this condition. We have had our normal round of activities.

### Membership :

The present membership of the Round Table is eighty-five and we welcomed into our midst Mr. A. D. Athisayathan, Mr. S. Rajasergaram, Misstresses E. P. Kadirgamar and H. A. Thambinayagam. Mr. G. Rajanayagam left us to pursue higher studies in America. Mr. N. A. Vimalendran and K. Thangarajah have come back after completing the Post Graduate course in Education. Miss. J. Thanabalasingham has come back after successfully completing her degree in India

### Prize Giving :

We entertained the chief guests Prof. and Mrs. K. Sivathamby at the traditional Prize-Giving tea.

### Special General Meeting :

At the great request from some of our members a Special General Meeting was summoned to discuss the recommendations of the executive Committee of the Board of Directors salary scales of teachers.

### Jubilarians :

Mr. W. D. Kulathungam, Mrs. L. B. Thambirajah and Mrs. A. Balasingham who completed twenty-five years of devoted service at Jaffna College, were entertained at lunch. Mr. V. Selvaratnam also has completed twenty-five years of devoted service at Jaffna College. We congratulate them and wish them many more years of fruitful service.

### Wedding Bells :

Two of our members who were married towards the end of last year were felicitated at lunch. We wish them a happy married life.

### Farewells :

The Round Table entertained Mr. A. M. Brodie who retired, at a lunch. Miss. S. Brodie who resigned was also entertained at lunch we wish them well. Mrs. L. Jegathesan who left us to join her husband in Saudi Arabia was also entertained at lunch. Mr. K. Ponnudurai, Mr. A. Gunendra, Mr. M. Jeyaranjan, Mr. J. David and Mr. P. G. Gnanaseelan left us to go abroad. We wish them well.



Mr. W. N. Thevakadadcham and Mrs. S. N. Kanagaratnam retired from service this year we wish them a happy retired life.

**Memorial Prize and Donations :**

The S. V. Balasingham Memorial Prize for this year has not been decided as yet. The Round table contributed towards Memorial Prizes in the names of J. Selvarajasingham, Stephen Balachandran and K. Sachithananthan

**Death :**

We are very sorry to record the death of one of our past member

E. P. Thuraiaratnam who was closely connected with the College. We express our deepest sympathies to his sorrowing family.

**Conclusion :**

It is my duty to express my thanks to the president and members of the Committee for their co-operation and help, so willingly extended at all times during my term of office.

**K. Sathasivam,**  
Secretary Round Table

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## Staff Tennis Club — 1985

<b>President</b>	: Mr. V. Selvaratnam
<b>Secretary</b>	: Mr. G. Nadarajah
<b>Treasurer</b>	: Mr. S. C. Karunendran
<b>Committee Members</b>	: Mr. N. A. Vimalendran
	: Mr. S. A. P. Thuraiaratnam
	Mr. A. Ratnakumar

It is with great pleasure that I present the report for the year 1984—85. The activities of the Tennis Club this year have been moderate and I believe quite understandable.

For the major part of the year members living close by, have been turning up for tennis in the evenings regularly. So in a sense we have been active. The internal tournaments did help to sustain the interest of the members.

We have been able to maintain the courts extremely well, and our thanks are due to the college, and Mr. T. Anandararatnam has done a creditable job in meeting our equipment needs and in the supervision of the court maintenance.

A special word of thanks to the new Ground Boy Mr. Subramaniam. He takes a pride and joy in doing his job beautifully. A new pleasant feature in the history of the club.

We do wish to record the sad loss of —

(1) K. A. Selliah (2) I. P. Thuraiaratnam (3) Lyman Kulathungam. They are all members who had contributed to the game by their excellent skills, wit, knowledge and sportsmanship. The tradition of the club has, as a result, been enriched by their presence itself. Our sincere condolences to the members of their family.



We have 16 regular members and eight associate members. There is a great demand for membership and we do regret our inability to accommodate all with one court at our disposal. We hope things will brighten up and enable us to have more playing members.

For non-tennis playing members we have been able to provide facilities like Table Tennis, Carrom and chess. We would like to see more staff members take up to chess as there are a lot of students to learn the game.

**Members :**

Mr. A. Kadirgamar  
Mr. V. Selvaratnam  
Mr. G. Nadarajah  
Mr. S. C. Karunendran  
Mr. N. A. Vimalendran  
Mr. R. Kanagaratnam  
Mr. A. Jeyarajan  
Mr. N. Thatparanathan  
Mr. T. Anandaratnam  
Miss M. S. Elias  
Miss B. Anton  
Dr. R. Porter  
Mr. S. A. P. Thuraiaratnam  
Mr. M. S. Thivakaran  
Miss Kajani Rajendra  
Mr. E. S. Selvarajah

**Associate Members :**

Mr. Tony Ganeshan  
Mr. M. Shanmugaratnam  
Mr. R. Ramesh  
Mr. Robin Thambirajah  
Mr. A. Ratnakumar  
Mr. W. S. Alexander  
Rony Ratnarajah  
Mr. K. C. Kadirgamar.

**Tournaments**

We conducted two tournaments during the second term of 1984. We

had a friendly game with Vamadevas' Tennis Club. In the internal tournament Mr. S. A. P. Thuraiaratnam won the championship and Mr. M. Shanmugaratnam partnered by R Ramesh won the doubles championship.

During the current year we conducted the singles tournament. Mr. S. A. P. Thuraiaratnam won the championship for the second time. We regret to note that the main feature of the club "The Luther James Selvarajah Memorial Tennis Tournament" did not take place for the last four years., due to the prevailing situation in our country.

We organised a tournament, the main idea being to promote the game among the students many a student has been able to spend his time gainfully. It also served to spot the talent among the students, and give them valuable experience. The students have partnered staff members in the matches. We had to conduct the tournament in a very, limited way; yet we did many to go through it successfully, Mr. G. Nadarajah partnered by Mas. J. Aron won the doubles championship.

In conclusion it is my duty to express my sincere thanks to the Principal a keen player himself, for his untiring effort and help to keep the game going and make us happy. Two students are helping as regular pickers. I would like to thank the Principal, Mr. T. Anandaratnam and all the members of the club for their kind co-operation and participation in the activities of the club.

**G. Nadarajah**  
Secretary



## Audio visual Club Report—1985

This year our normal plan got disturbed due to the ethnic disturbances in the country by way of purchasing new articles as well as the security of the equipment. But, inspite of all I would say that the service rendered by the club was satisfactory.

My sincere thanks to Mr. N. Yoga-rajah for his dedicated service to the club along with his normal quota of work in school.

I sincerely hope that next year will be a peaceful year in order to carry out our programme more purposefully in the field of education.

It is my duty to thank the Principal Patrons of associations, the Physical Director and well wishers for their kind help and co-operation given to me to carry out my duties without much interruption.

N. A. Vimalendran

## The Scout Troop

It is with pleasure I submit the report of The Jaffna College Scout Troop. This year we have nearly 40 Scouts in the Troop. Troop meetings are held regularly every week on Tuesdays at 3-10 p. m.

We organized a two days camp from 11th April to 12th April 1985 at the College Quadrangle. 36 Scouts participated at the camp. We should thank the Asst. Dist. Comr. Mr. V. Gunaratnam; Asst. Dist. Commissioner, for Girl Guides Miss Elias and Mr. R. Porter who helped us at the Camp Fire.

Our Principal Mr. A. Kadirgamar declared open the Camp fire and spoke thus :

“ எமது கல்லூரியின் இராணிச் சாரணர்கள் பலர் தற்காலத்தில் மிக உயர்ந்த நிர்வாகிகளாகத் திகழ்கின்றனர். தென் இந்திய

திருச்சபை அத்தியட்சகர் அதி வண. D. J. அம்பலவாணர் அவர்களே இதற்கோர் சிறந்த எடுத்துக்காட்டாகவுள்ளார்.”  
(ஈழநாடு)

Scouts have helped in our Primary School Sports Meet on 17th July 1985, and also at the upper School Sports Meet held on 19th July.

At our College Annual Prize Day our scouts helped in many ways and also gave guard of honour to the chief guest, Professor Mr. K. Sivathamby while he was entering Ottley Hall. The Prize day report on scouting read by our principal says “The scouts have been very active this year. The Scout movement has been strengthened, and several activities carried out inspite of the difficult conditions for any such activity.”



Our scouts S. Umesh, S. Sivatharan, R. David, T. Jayaseelan, and K. Raguparan have attended a patrol Leaders training course held at St. James Parish Hall at Nallur from 28th to 29-9-85, sponsored by the Jaffna Scout Head Quarters.

A Chip-A-Job week was observed by our scouts by Patrols. They worked among their villages and collected money for the scout movement. M. Baskaran the P. L. of "Elephants" had done the best collection of Rs 331-00 with the assistance of his members. "Well done Elephants."

We regret that we were not able to participate at the Annual Camping at the OLD PARK on 26th and 27th October owing to some security reasons. But on the same days our scouts camped at the Brown Field with enthusiasm. Tents were laid well. All types of useful gadgets were made by them.

Regarding this R. Porter commended that. "It was a very impressive "Hootsitz" that boys scouts erected in Brown Field for the camp-out this year."

We had a very enjoyable camp fire also at this camping. Our College girl guides, College boarders and the children from Our Boys Home (Levi Spaulding) also participated and gave nice songs, 'villuphattu' plays and yells.

Also I am very proud and happy to say that one of our Troop Leader Mas. S. Manimaran got a scholarship in Medicine at the Moscow University in Russia. We wish him "Bravo".

I should take this opportunity to thank all those who helped us to make the year well. We thank our principal for all the encouragement given to our Scouts.

We wish to express our thanks to our Troop Leader Mas. S. Sarvananthan, the scout leader Mr. A. Jeyarajan and our group scout leader Mr. K. S. Thissarajah for all the time and energy they have devoted to Scouting.

Woof! Woof!! Woof!!!

The Scribe



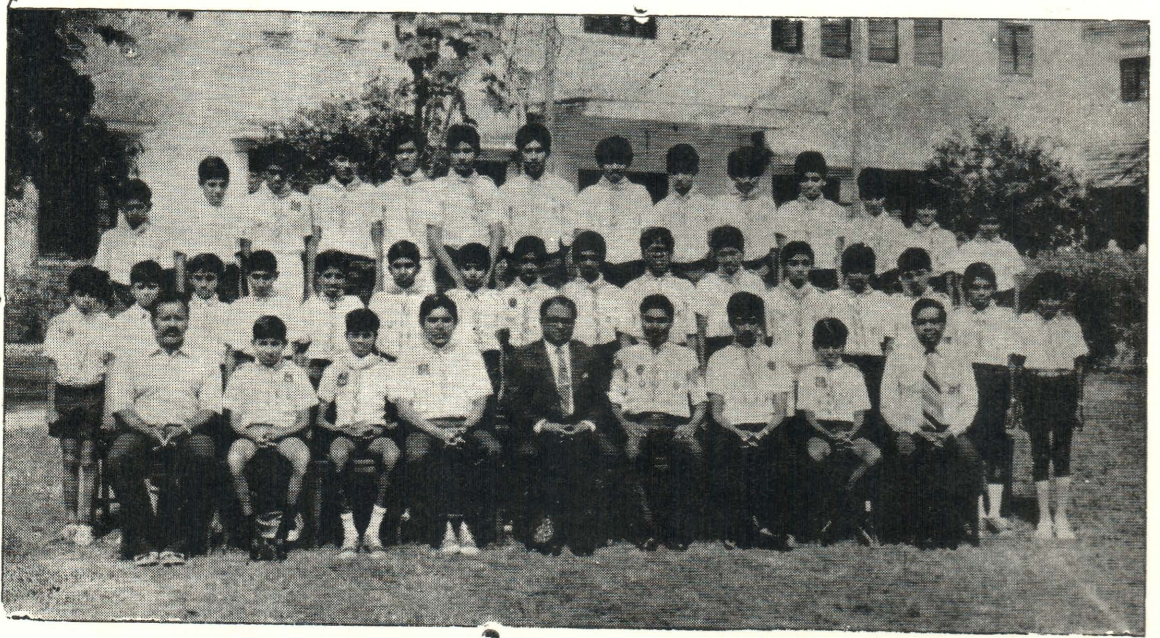
*It's remarkable how a man can stand up under it when his competitors have hard luck.*

*When you look for trouble, you don't need a search warrant.*

*Any government depending upon checks and balances will face trouble if it runs short on balances and long on checks.*

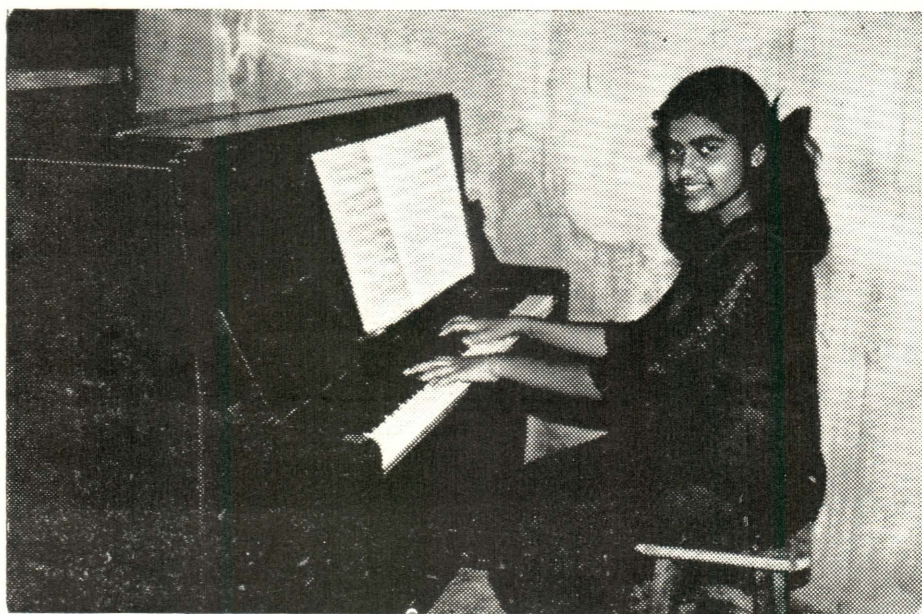


THE SCOUT TROOP - 1985





THE STUDENTS TENNIS CLUB — 1985



Miss Keshini Das L. T. C. L. (Piano) and Teachers Diploma in  
Western Music (Sri-Lanka)



# The Girl Guides Company (13th Jaffna)

A batch of very enthusiastic girls keen to revive the Guide Company of our College had an enjoyable week-end programme to live together. This helped us to learn the underlying principles of guiding and much from each other.

Though we are only 24 in number and just enrolled, we are an active lot. We are divided into four patrols with Miss J. J. Thanabalasingham and Miss R. A. Ariaratnam, as our captain and lieutenant respectively

Patrols	Leaders	Seconds
Shoe flower	Vijitha	Sivajothy N.
Lily	Naveena K.	Komala S.
Rose	Vasanthi R.	Rajini R.
Orchid	Vasuki I.	Marsha C.

We meet every week on Tuesdays after school. We are being trained in leadership, character building, health handicraft and other allied activities too.

We had two enrolment ceremonies. The first one was to enrol leaders and seconds. At the other ceremony the rest of us were enrolled. To both our parents and friends were invited. After the ceremonies, an enjoyable time was had by all.

Training for second class tests and badge work is what we are aiming at now. The world Girl Guide Movement is a source of inspiration to us and we feel happy and proud to be part of it. We are also looking forward to getting involved more and more with the community outside. We try to live up to our Motto "Be Prepared". We thank our Captain and lieutenant for the interest they are taking in us and for the help they have given us. We are also grateful to Miss S. Elias for the ready help rendered to us all along

**M. Marsha Cassiere**  
Secretary

## Science Union—1985

I have great pleasure in presenting the report of the Science Union for the year 1985. Due to unavoidable circumstances the union was able to hold regular meetings only during the latter part of the year. The following members were elected to the committee.

**President** : Vasuki Sivapackianathan  
**V. President** : A. R. Sritharan  
**Secretary** : Vijaya Ramachandra Sarma  
**Asst. Secretary** : J. Anton Rajakariar  
**Treasurer** : G. Ragavan  
**Asst. Treasurer** : W. Wimalan  
**Tamil Editor** : R. Balamurugan  
**English Editor** : P. Benjamin Yogachandran

The activities of our union prove useful for the growth of scientific knowledge of its members. As usual this year too we had planned varied activities

but we were able to complete only a few of them.

Our meetings are conducted on Tuesday afternoons. We have had the following programmes lectures by outside speakers. Do you know contests and discussions. Those who delivered lectures have greatly encouraged and strengthened our unit enriching us with their scientific experiences. We thank them for spending their time with us.

We hope to hold an exhibition of books pertaining to science and Technology, and also to prepare tutorials on our subjects.

Finally I would like to thank our patron, Mr. W. D. Kulathungam for his advice and guidance; and the members of the science union for their co-operation.

**Vijaya R.,** Secretary



## Student Christian Movement— 1985

1st term	2nd term	3rd term
<b>President :</b> P. Thevamithiran	P. Thevananthan	P. Thevamithiran
<b>Secretary :</b> R. Nirmalan	S. Noble Surendran	K. E. Pratheepan

I am happy to present the report of the S. C. M.. This year too our movement had planned many activities but was unable to implement due to the prevailing situation in our region.

During the year our members conducted regular classes for the students of the Levi Spaulding home, helping them in various subjects. A prayer ground was formed and its members met once a week during the first and the second term. Also our members took keen interest in the religious activities of the school. Many

guest speakers gave their time and discussed religious and Social topics at our weekly meetings. We are thankful to them.

We thank our Patron Miss. S. P. Gulasingam for her guidance and advice given to us throughout the year which helped us in promoting our activities.

I am sure our movement will grow in strength and faith in the Lord who guides us. May this blessing and guidance be with us now and for ever more.

**K. E. Pratheepan**  
Secretary,

## Jaffna College Young Men's Christian Association

<b>President :</b> Mr. S. Jebanesan
<b>Hony Secretary :</b> Mr. A. Jayarajan
<b>Hony Treasurer :</b> Mr. S. J. Manickam
<b>Chairman Development Committee :</b> Mr. N. A. Vimalendran

The Y. M. C. A. of Jaffna College has become very active owing to the Centenary Celebration scheduled to be conducted in 1986.

At the moment there are thirty nine full members and one hundred and ix student members. We are helping thirty needy children of Vaddukoddai and Thunaivi through the Nordic Fund. We have also given Rs 20,000/- to Vaddukoddai Church Nursery school. An Electronic class is conducted in the College.

We have plans to set up a nursery school at Araly for the benefit of the children of Araly Parish. Two families which were badly hit by the Ethnic Violence were given Rs. 1500/- each to start a new life at Vaddukoddai. We are in collaboration with Jaffna College trying to raise more funds to give relief to other affected families.

We are now anxiously looking forward for the Centenary Celebration which will begin next February.

**A. Jeyarajan**



# Boarders Christian Association 1985

**Patron:** Mr. G. Nadarajah

**1st term**

**2nd term**

**3rd term**

**President:**

R. Nirmalan

T. Joy Sugirthanathan

**Secretary:**

V. P. Thaneswaran

S. Augustine

**Treasurer:**

P. Thevamithiran

T. Newman Huxley

It is with very great pleasure that I present the report of the B. C. A for the year 1985. It has completed two years successfully. Though we couldn't meet during the first term due to the disturbed conditions in Jaffna we were able to conduct it well in the following two terms.

Meetings take place every Sunday at 7.00 P. M. We had sing songs, discussions, prayer meetings discussions on the Bible and other social issues. The visit of speakers from our staff have greatly encouraged and strengthened our unit, enriching us with their christian experiences.

We are proud to be the first batch to have combined Christmas Fiesta with the

Levi Spaulding Home, Vaddukoddai. This annual Christmas Fiesta will be held in the following years.

Finally we thank all the members for their co-operation and encouragement towards the functioning of this organization. We also thank our patron and the other staff members for their encouragement and help. Above all, we thank our almighty God for his guidance and strength he has given to us through this year.

I hope and pray that this association will function and do better work in the coming year.

**S. Augustine**  
Secretary

## School Council (September, 1984—August 1985)

**President** : M. Paramalingam

**Vice-President** : J. Aron

**Secretary** : T. Ketheeswaran

**Faculty Adviser** : Mr. T. Anandaratanam

In presenting the report of the School Council for the year 1985, I wish to record that there has not been much of a change in the normal duties from those of previous years. The Council is composed of twentythree members and we continue to supervise and maintain order and discipline during chapel time, college functions, sports meets and also supervise studies when the teachers are absent.

The School Council bade farewell to Mr. N. Nirmalan and Mrs. L. Jega-

theesan who left us after a stay of few years in our midst.

Our President proposed the tradition vote of thanks at the Prize-Giving.

We are thankful to the Principal and the Vice-Principal for the readiness with which they listened to us and for their advice and guidance. My thanks are also due to the Faculty Adviser and other members of the School Council for their co-operation.

**T. Ketheeswaran**  
Secretary



## Daniel Poor Library

The Library is a symbol of civilization. It has been so in the ancient, mediaeval and modern periods. Wherever centres of learning or civilisation flourished there has been a library system to collect and preserve details pertaining to the social life of the people, their thoughts and dreams, their scientific observations and discoveries, commercial dealings etc. Helipolis in Egypt, Alexandria in Greece, Baghdad of the Arab World, Sarasvathy Mahal of Tanjoree were some of the ancient centres of learning with renowned libraries. The library continued to be the reservoir of knowledge both in the developed and developing countries and is the central feature in any planned development. The functions of the library of today are varied and complex. New subjects, new publication, extended areas of study and research and the variety of readers have all increased in number. The library materials which include books, periodicals, documentation, archives etc have to be selected, classified, catalogued, circulated or kept for reference, preserved and presented for the use of the readers with least delay. In the midst of such increased work load the library staff has to be very courteous and helpful. The readers or visitors have to be received with a smile as is done by the receptionist. They have to be steered to the subject matter by the skill and merit which the staff should acquire or possess. A high degree of such expectation may not be required in small libraries, but these qualities together with administrative and organising abilities are very necessary to the staff in public

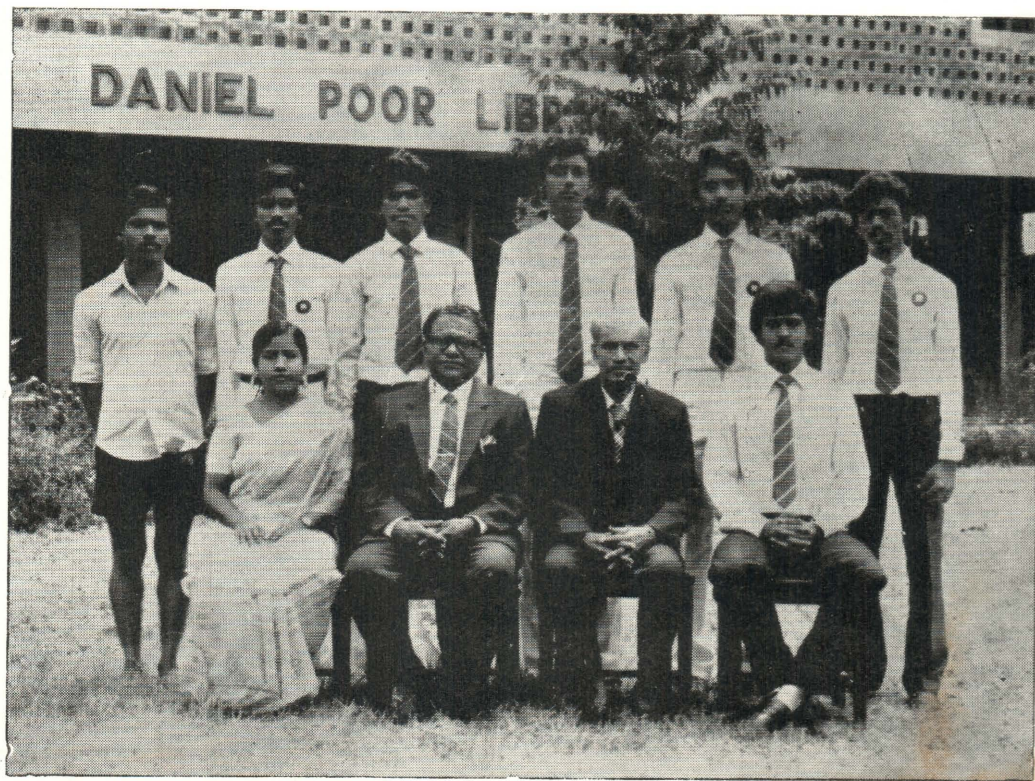
libraries, University libraries and college libraries.

Our Library of Jaffna College now known as Daniel Poor Library is not second to any university library or public library. It is housed in a separate three storeyed building specially planned and built for the purpose. It is majestic in appearance and is a source of pride to all connected with Jaffna College both in the past and in the present. It has a history and tradition that have to be preserved and remembered.

In the early 19th century records of Jaffna College mention has been made of a library room. It will therefore be correct to presume that the missionary educationists well aware of the importance of the library services in educational pursuits established the library as a part of the educational institution itself. The expansion of the library kept pace with the extension and progress of the school. In 1881 the library was enriched by the addition of ten volumes of Chambers Encyclopaedia which were specially shipped from England. This must have been a precious possession at that time and a record which no other College could equal. In 1908 Rev. R. P. Hastings purchased for the library about 125 expensive volumes which included twenty four volumes of the History of the World. In 1909 during the Principalship of Rev. G. G. Brown many changes were effected to the library. A Reading Room, a Stack room and a Reference room were arranged, and cataloguing begun under the direction of Mr. L. B. Fritts, M. A.



## THE LIBRARY STAFF — 1985

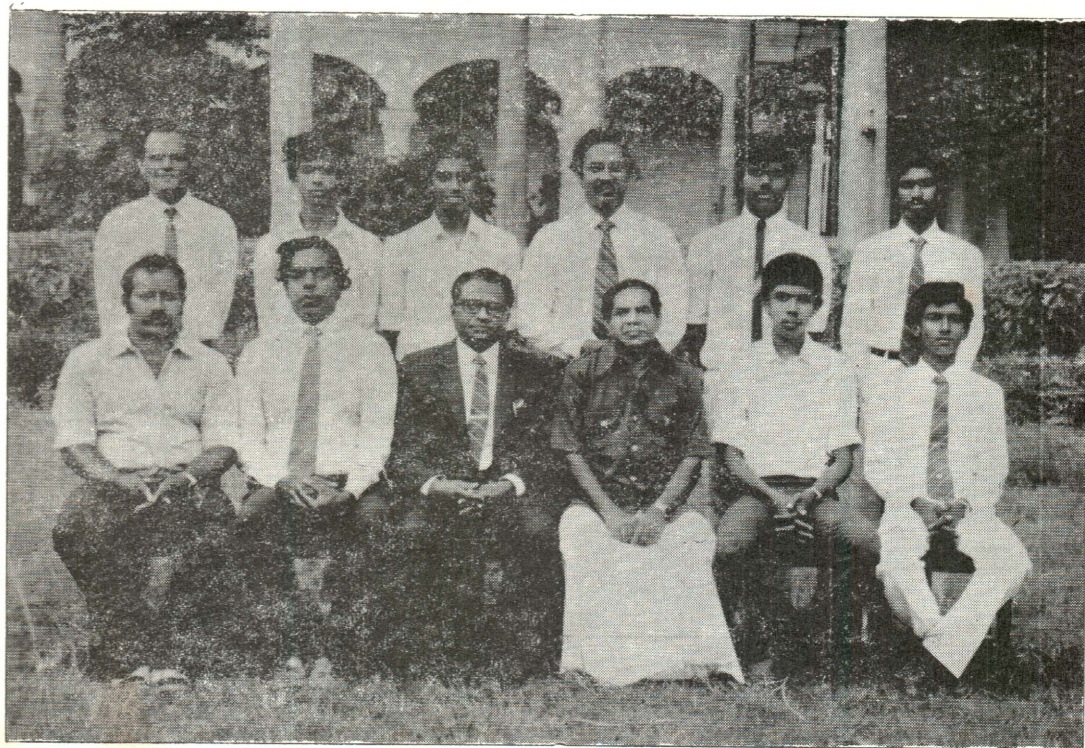


**Seated** (L.—R.) : Miss S. Benjamin (Library Asst.). The Principal, Mr. N. S. Ratnasingham (Librarian), Mr. U. Wijayanayagam (Library Asst.)

**Standing** (L.—R.) : S. Mahesan (Attendant), P. Benjamin (Library Monitor), P. Sayanthakumar (Library Monitor), R. Nirmalan (Library Monitor), A. Rajakariyar (Library Monitor), J. Ranjan (Library Monitor).



JAFFNA COLLEGE Y. M. C. A. COMMITTEE 1985 — 1986



**Seated (L.—R.):** A. Jeyarajan (Secretary), S. Jebanesan (President), The Principal, Mr. W. N. Thevakadadcham (President 1984-85), Walton Kulendran (Student President), N. Nirmalan (Student Secretary).

**Standing (L.—R.):** Mr. S. J. Manickam (Treasurer), T. Jeshura, Mr. N. A. Vimalendran (Chairman, Development Committee), P. Thevamithiran, P. Benjamin (Student Treasurer).



The cataloguing was completed by Dr. York who took over the responsibility from Mr. Fritts. Dr. York was followed by Mr. Cooke and Mr. K. Selliah took charge of the library in 1921. Mr. Selliah was a fulltime librarian with special training in library science. He was a strict disciplinarian and a man of principles who did his duty without fear and favour. He devoted himself fully to the growth and progress of the library. He built up the archives and rare book sections and increased the number of the volumes by thousands. Due to his untiring efforts the Jaffna College Library was reckoned as "the best school library in South East Asia". A separate wing installed as the undergraduate section in 1957 raised the status of the library much above that of a University library. When Mr. K. Selliah retired after 42 years of dedicated service Mr. R. S. Thambiah an Arts graduate and a qualified librarian was appointed in his place.

It was very unfortunate, that the government decided to build up the Jaffna University Library by acquiring the Jaffna College Library. When the Collegiate section was taken over by the government materials belonging to the library were transported to the Jaffna Campus. As a result of intense lobbying strong persuasion, legal action and political changes the wind began to blow in favour of Jaffna College. Though the library bulidings came to our possession there was difficulty in getting back all the books. Rt. Rev. S. Kulandran, as

Chairman of the Board of Directors, by his repeated requests and representations was able to get back about two thirds of the books and a promise for the return of the rest. Mr. S. J. Manikam who was in charge of the Library during the return of most of the books opted to be a full time teacher and I after my retirement as Principal Jaffna Central College was invited to take charge of the reorganization of the Daniel Poor Library.

Within the three year contract period we were able to increase the number of volumes to about thirty thousand, to access about fifteen thousand books returned by the University, to set up a reference section, perfect a display showcase for new arrivals, purchase a special glass almirah for preserving the Morning Star copies and about twelve additional shelves to accommodate the additional volumes and install a special circulation counter. As there were no index cards for the books arrangements were made to get down the recent edition of the DDC volumes from America. Cataloguing was begun in the middle part of 1985 soon after we received the DDC volumes. If not for the disruption of the work due to unforeseen circumstances, the cataloguing could have been completed by the end of 1985. About one third of the work still remains to be done. Though much has been done in the library there is much more to be done to make the library attractive and useful not only to the students but also for the general public.



I am thankful to the Board of Directors and the Principal for their guidance and co-operation given to me in reorganizing the library; to Miss S. Benjamin, the Assistant Librarian for the enthusiasm and devotion with which she worked for the improvement of the library; to Mr. Suresh Kanagagrajah, Mr. A. Ratnakumar, Mr. V. S. Neethithevan and Mr. Udishtran Wijeyanayagam who have functioned as assistants at various

periods; to the library monitors and to the library peon Mr. Mahesan who did their best to maintain the old traditions and make the library a happy and pleasant place for those who consider books as true friends, reading as the means of acquiring fullness and knowledge as the real power.

**N. S. Rathinasingham**  
Librarian

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## The Academy

### First Term

**President :** G. J. Gunaratnam

**Secretary :** A. Chithranjan

### Second Term

**J. Ranjan**

**S. Vasuki**

### Third Term

**R. Nirmalan**

**G. J. Gunaratnam**

It is my pleasant duty to present a brief account of the work of the Academy for the current year. Our activities were greatly affected during the first and second terms due to the closing of the school early, which was due to the disturbed conditions in Jaffna. We hope that our members will take a greater interest in the activities of our union.

Our regular programmes consisted of speeches, musical items and being addressed by some teachers. Still a great deal of time is taken for freshers' introduction.

We held our Annual Lunch on December 5th with Dr. and Dr. (Mrs.) Ganesamoorthy as chief Guests. 190 attended the lunch which was presided over by Master R. Nirmalan.

Finally we express our gratitude to Mr. T. Anandaratnam, our patron for his timely advice and the freedom he always gives us. I also thank the members of the Academy for their co-operation.

**G. J. Gunaratnam**  
Secretary



## Brotherhood—1985

**President :** R. Christopher Guru

**Secretary :** B. Sripathy

**Treasurer :** Miss K. Bavani

S. Ravindran

A. Nirupan

R. Sothilingham

Miss S. Sharmini

B. Sripathy

J. Thevananthan

P. Jeevananthan

The Brotherhood was formed in 1910 and the year under review is the 75th year. It is an important milestone in the history of this association, which has produced some outstanding men in different spheres. However, like the previous year, the political situation continued to remain tense, but eased somewhat during the third term, enabling us to celebrate our 75th year in a modest way. The brotherhood meets during the last period on Tuesdays, where we conduct debates, speeches, songs, poems, narrations, skits etc. both in Tamil and English.

During the third term, we conducted our inter-class football matches as part

of the celebrations, in which year 11 C emerged Champions. The 75th year celebrations culminated with the Brotherhood Social on November 9th. Our Principal and Mrs. Kadirgamar were the Chief Guests. Drama, Bharatha Natyam, Break Dance and Carnatic Music were some of the items performed at the Social which was well attended.

My thanks are due to the patron for his guidance, and the Executive Committee for the co-operation and hard work which made the celebrations a success.

R. Thevananthan  
Secretary

## Forum — 1985

### First Term

**President :** L. Manoharan

**Secretary :** T. Mallika

### Second Term

R. Kulasingam

R. Senthana

### Third Term

K. Kuhan

S. Bramananthar

All students of Year 10 are members of this association. Our meetings are held every Thursday in the last period in the Ottley Hall.

The programme for the meetings includes debates, speeches, songs, recitation and reports from Editors.

The Annual social was conducted during the third term. It was a grand function, games group singing, English drama and Tamil drama were some of the items at the social.

I want to thank our Forum patron Mr. G. Rajanayagam for his advice and guidance. He has gone abroad for his studies. Mr. S. J. Manickam took over Mr. Rajanayagam's place as patron in the third term.

In conclusion, I want to thank our Patron, Mr. S. J. Manickam for his advice and guidance to conduct the grand social and guiding us to stage a Tamil drama and English Drama.

S. Bramananthar,  
Secretary



# Lyceum

## 1st Term

President : T. Sivasuthan

Secretary: A. Ajithkumar

## 2nd Term

G. Sujakaran

S. Sivatharan

## 3rd Term

M. Baskaran

A. Aravinthan

It is my pleasant duty to present the report of the Lyceum for this year. The year under review has been a successful one. The students of Grade VIII are members of this association. Our weekly meetings are held every Tuesday. The main features of these meetings of the association has helped to develop the talents of students and encourage active participation in its activities, speeches, songs, recitations, debates and plays have been some of the main features of the programme at these meetings.

Our Annual Social was held on the 22nd of Novmber in the Ottley Hall. The Principal and Mrs. Kadirgamar were our chief guests at this occasion. The evening programme included games and an entertainment during which the students presented musical items and playlets.

I wish to thank our Patron Miss S. S. Selvadurai for her advice & guidance and for her whole-hearted co-operation.

A. Aravinthan  
Secretary

## தமிழ் மன்றம்

### தமிழ்மன்றத்தின் நிர்வாகிகள்

#### 2ஆம் தவணை

தலைவர்	; வே. பத்மதனேஸ்வரன்
உபதலைவர்	; பூ. பெஞ்சமின்
காரியதரிசி	; ச. அகஸ்ரீன்
தனாதிக்காரி	; ஜே. ஆரோன்
தமிழருவி ஆசிரியர்	; சி. வாசுகி
நாடகப் பொறுப்பாளர்	; எஸ். அருண்

#### 3ஆம் தவணை

தலைவர்	; பா. தேவமித்திரன்
உபதலைவர்	; ஜே. ஆரோன்
காரியதரிசி	; ச. அகஸ்ரீன்
தனாதிக்காரி	; இ. தபோதினி
தமிழருவி ஆசிரியர்	; வே. பத்மதனேஸ்வரன்
நாடகப் பொறுப்பாளர்	; ஜி. ஜே. யேசுராசா

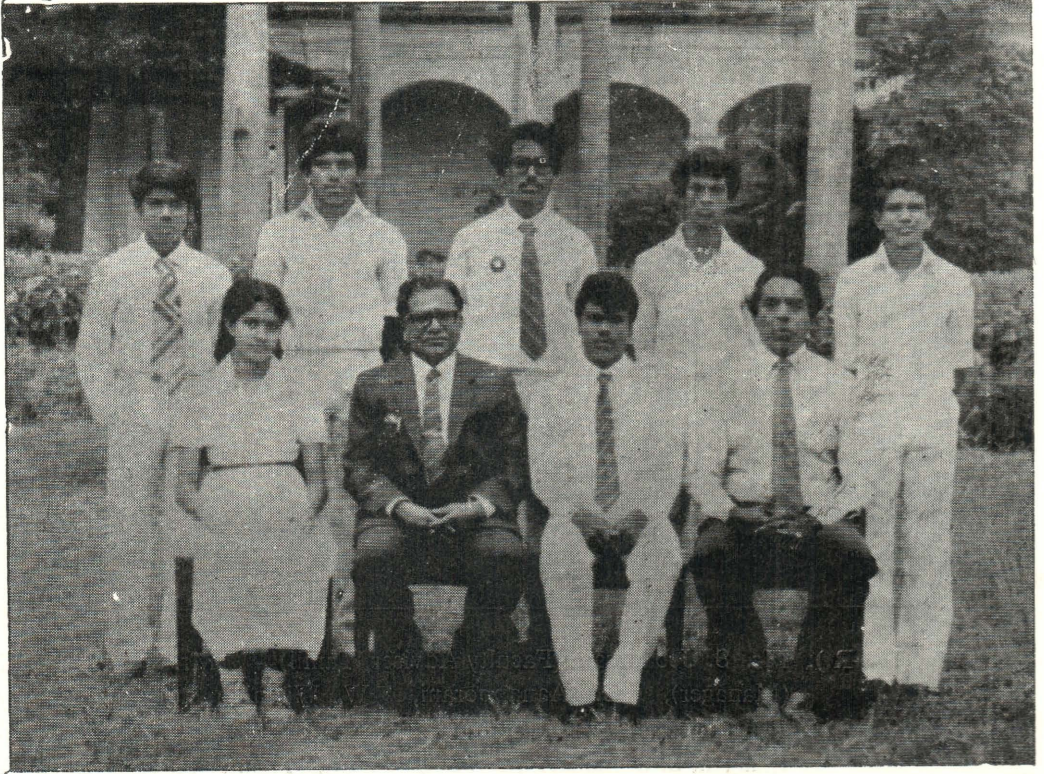
தமிழன் என்பதை மறக்காதே  
தாய்மொழிப் பெருமையைத் துறக்காதே  
'அமிழ்தம் தமிழ்மொழி' ஐயமில்லை;  
அகிலம் நுகர்ந்திடுச் செய்திடுவோம்.

என்ற இந்தப் பாடலைத் தம் வாழ்க்கையின் வரைவிலக்கணமாகக்கொண்டு வாழ்ந்து வந்த எத்தனையோ பெரியார்களை, நாம்

கண்டும், கேட்டும் அறிந்திருக்கிறோம். இவ்வாறே தமிழ்மொழிக்கு வளமுட்டி அதனை மேன்மேலும் வளர்ப்பது யாழ் கல்லூரி தமிழ் மன்றம் என்றால் அது மிகையாகாது. இம் மன்றத்தின் ஆண்டறிக்கையைத் தங்கள் முன் சமர்ப்பிப்பதில் பெரும் மகிழ்ச்சியுறுகிறேன்.



தமிழ் மன்றம்  
மன்றக் காப்பாளர்—1985

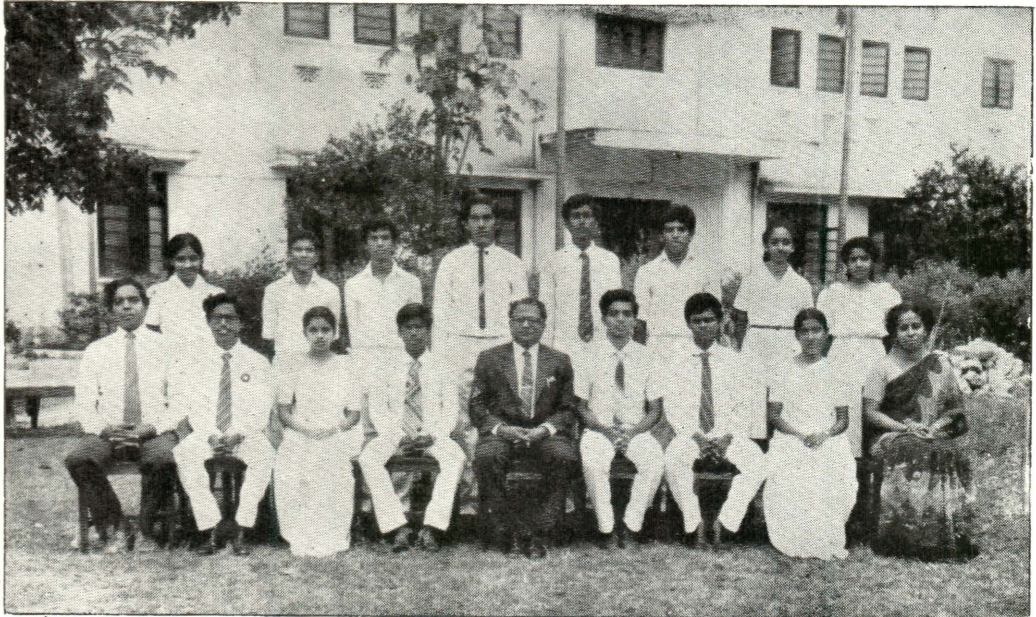


பின்வரிசை (இ.—வ.): டபிள்யு. விமலன், எஸ். அகஸ்ரின் (செயலாளர்),  
ஜே. ஜி. யேசுராசா (நாடகப் பொறுப்பாளர்), ஜே. ஆரோன்,  
வீ. பத்மதனேஸ்வரன் (பத்திராதிபர்).

முன்வரிசை (இ.—வ.): இ. தபோதினி (பொருளாளர்), அதிபர் அவர்கள்,  
எஸ். தேவமித்திரன் (தலைவர்), எஸ். ஜெபநேசன் (போஷகர்).



## YOUNG IDEA EDITORIAL BOARD



**Seated (L.—R.):** Mr. S. Jebanesan (Faculty Adviser, Tamil), Mr. J. G. Jesurajah (Manager), G. Aanapoorani, W. Wimalan (Tamil Editor), The Principal, S. P. Krishanthan, (English Editor), G. J. Gunathilagan, S. Suthahari, Miss S. Selvadurai (Faculty Adviser, English).

**Standing (L.—R.):** D. Keshini, V. Pathmathaneswaran, J. Aron, V. Sakthivel, R. Nirmalan, S. Augustine, A. Sudharshini, G. Bavany.



ஆயகலைகள் அனைத்தையும் வளர்த்தெடுக்கும் தமிழ்மன்றம் எம்மத்தியில் இருக்கும் கலைஞர்களுக்கு, அவர்கள் தம் கலையாற்றலை வளர்ப்பதற்கு அரிய பல தருணங்களைக் கொடுத்துவந்துள்ளது. இனிமேலும் எம்மன்றத்தின் சேவை தொடரும் என்பது தெளிவானது.

மேலும் நாம் மன்றத்தின் கடமைகளைச் செவ்வனே செய்வதற்குப் பல வகையிலும் உதவிய அதிபருக்கும், எங்கள் காரியங்களில் முன்னின்று உழைத்த எமது மன்றப் போஷகர், ஆசிரியர், திரு, எஸ். ஜெபநேசனுக்கும் நன்றிகூறுவது எமது பெரும் கடமையாகும். இவர்களின் பேராதரவுடன் நாம் மேலும் வளர்ந்துவருகின்றோம்.

சங்கத் தமிழின் பெருமை சொல்வது “முத்தமிழ்”. அந்த முத்தமிழிற்கு மெருகூட்ட ஓர் முத்தமிழ் விழாவொன்றை எமது மன்றம் நடத்தியது. செல்வன் பா. தேவமித்திரன் தலைமையில் நடைபெற்ற இவ்விழாவில், செல்வன் ச, அகஸ்ரீன் தயாரித்த “தாஜ்மகால்” என்ற தாஜ்மகால் சரித்திரம் சொல்லும் நாடகமும், யுதிஷ்டிரன் விஜய

நாயகம் ஆசிரியர் தயாரித்த கவிதை நய நாடகமும் மேடையேற்றப்பட்டுப் பலரது பாராட்டுதல்களைப் பெற்றன. மேலும் இதில் பல நடன நிகழ்ச்சிகளும், இசை நிகழ்ச்சிகளும் விழாவை நன்கு சிறப்பித்தன. இன்னமும் “தமிழ்நீரை” உள்ளங்களின் ஊற்றுகக்கொண்டு, கிளைபரப்பி ஓடுகின்றது தமிழருவி. எங்கள் கையெழுத்துப் பத்திரிகையான தமிழருவி இம்முறையும் வெளியிடப்பட்டது. இதன் ஆசிரியராக வே. பத்மதனேஸ்வரன் கடமையாற்றினார்.

இவ்வாறாகப் பல்வேறு வழிகளிலும் எமக்கு எம்மன்ற ரீதியாக ஒத்துழைத்த போஷகர், தமிழார்வம் கொண்ட ஆசிரியர், மாணவ, மாணவிகள் அனைவருக்கும் தமிழ்மன்றம் நன்றிகூறுகிறது. இன்னமும், தமிழ்மன்றம் தரம் குன்றாமல் தழைத்து வளர அனைவரும் ஒத்துழைப்பீர்கள் என்பது திண்ணம்.

வாழ்க நற்றமிழ்  
வாழ்க தமிழ்மொழி

ச. அகஸ்ரீன்  
காரியதரிசி

## Commerce Union—1985

President: G. J. Gunaratnan

Secretary: S. Augustine

Treasurer: Miss R. Sivakalai

The union, which meets after school had its activities very much restricted, due to the unsettled political situation in Jaffna. Except for our usual meetings, we were unable to invite any guest speakers, or arrange the year-end social.

Mr. Joseph David, our Economics teacher left us for further studies in Japan.

Mr. K. Thangarajah, our Patron is also away, following the post-graduate

Diploma in Education course at the university of Jaffna. We wish them success.

We thank Mr. N. Thatparanathan, our patron, for his guidance, and the Executive Committee for the co-operation throughout the year.

S. Augustine  
Secretary



## Abraham House — 1985

<b>House Masters</b>	: Mr. W. D. Kulathungam Mr. N. Thatparanathan
<b>House Mistresses</b>	: Mrs. N. Balasingam Mrs. S. D. Vairasinghe
<b>House Captains</b>	: J. Ranjan Sivakalai Narendran
<b>Vice - Captains</b>	: S. Noble Surendran Damayanthy Umapathy
<b>Athletic Captains</b>	: T. Jesura Kajani Rajendra
<b>Treasurer</b>	: S. Krishnananthan
<b>Hockey Captain</b>	: T. Harichandran
<b>Basketball Captain</b>	: T. Raveendran
<b>Netball Captain</b>	: S. Pathma Arulvathana

We are happy and proud to present the report of our House for this year. This year too there has been active participation by many of our members in the various activities of the college. Though we could not annex the house championship we annexed five individual championships. R. Selvarajah was joint Post Senior Champion; G. J. Jesurajah won the Under 19 championship — winning it for the second consecutive year; T. Raveendran was the joint Under 17 champion; M. Balamayuran won the under 14 championship and K. Raveendran won the Intermediate Girls Championship, and P. Sathiaselvan clinched the Under 12 championship. We congratulate heartily G. J. Jesurajah who set records in the 1,500 metres and 3000 metres events and also for winning the athletic colours and emerging as the Junior All-Round Sports

man of the year for 1984. We congratulate B. Panchaseelan, S. Noble Surendran and K. Shanti on being elected to the School Council, and N. Sivakalai and M. Jeyamalar on gaining admission to the University.

G. J. Jesurajah (captain), J. Ranjan, T. Jesura, R. Selvarajah and R. Muresh were members of the college soccer first team.

T. Harichandran, S. Noble Surendran and Ahilan were members of the soccer second team while D. Alvin, G. D. Mathialagan, A. Thiruneelakandan and T. Arulnesan were members of the soccer third team.

G. J. Jesurajah (captain), T. Jesura and R. Muresh played for the college Cricket first team, while S. Jeyaseelan,



Noble Surendran (Vice-captain), and T. Harichandran played for the Cricket. Second team, and T. Chandrapala, D. Alvin, T. Arulnesan, P. Valluvan were members of the Cricket team.

J. Ranjan (captain), G. J. Jesurajah and R. Muresh were members of the college Hockey first team and we congratulate J. Ranjan on being selected to the Jaffna School Hockey team.

R. Muresh, (captain), R. Ranjan, G. J. Jesurajah and T. Jesura were members of the college Basketball first team and Noble Surendran played for the second team.

J. Ranjan (Captain), T. Jesura, T. Muresh and R. Kajani were members of the college Table Tennis Team, and R. Muresh (Captain), T. Jesura, G. J. Jesurajah, J. Ranjan, R. Kajani, R. Vasanthi and K. R. Vasanthi and K. Naveena were member of the college Tennis team. R. Muresh was also the President of the college student Tennis Club.

J. Ranjan, R. Muresh, T. Jesura and G. J. Jesurajah found places in the college Badminton team.

It is noteworthy that the captain of all the above first teams were from our house and our hearty congratulations to them.

G. J. Jesurajah, S. Noble Surendran, T. Harichandran, B. Panchaseelan, T. Raveendran and M. Kuhathas participated in the Dual Athletic meet with St. John's College this year.

J. Ranjan was president of the Academy for the second term and vice-president of the commerce union and assistant secretary of the S. C. M. Krishanthan Spencer is English Editor of the Young Idea, and S. Suthahari is on the Tamil Editorial Board of the Young Idea.

We thank all those who co-operated with great enthusiasm to make a success of the athletic meet and the other activities. We also thank the House masters and House mistresses for all their help, guidance and encouragement.

In conclusion once again our congratulations to all those who won awards and held positions as office bearers and urge more of our members to take an active participation in the various activities of the college. Our thanks are due to all our members for their co-operation.

J. Ranjan  
N. Sivakalai  
Captains.

*I here may be a closer relationship between the unread and the Red than we think. The worst thing about the fellow in the end seat is that he got there before we did.*



## Hastings House—1985

House Masters :	Mr. K. Sathasivam Mr. A. A. Paul
House Mistresses:	Mrs. S. Kesavarajan Miss B. Anton
House captains :	Mas. G. J. Gunaratnam Miss A. Marinavathany
Athletic captains:	Mas. S. Augustine Miss K. Shyamala
Soccer captain :	P. Sayanthakumar
Hockey captain :	K. E. Pratheepan
Netball captain:	V. Seetha
Treasurer :	P. Thevamithiran

I am indeed proud to submit this report. This year has once again been a successful one to the 'Reds'.

The Inter-House Athletic meet was held on July 19th. Our success was due mainly to the post senior boys, the senior girls and Under 16 boys. M. Paramalingam, S. Augustine, and R. Pratheepan of our house became Post senior, senior and Under 16 champions respectively. A. Marinavathany became senior girls champion once again. The tug-of-war cup was also won by us. We annexed the Inter-House championship once again.

Some members of our house represented the college in the dual meets. S. Augustine was elected captain of the college athletic team.

Three of our members namely S. Augustine, P. Sayanthakumar and M. Balachandran represented the College Cricket team.

S. Augustine and J. C. Ratnarajah of our House represented the college in Soccer. The following members of the House represented the college in Hockey, S. Augustine, P. Sayanthakumar, M. Paramalingam and G. J. Gunaratnam.

Two of our members, V. S. Nesanther and M. Manimaran were selected to follow medicine, and engineering respectively in the U. S. S. R. M. Daheendran was admitted to the Engineering Faculty of Sri Lanka.

We congratulate M. Paramalingam G. J. Gunaratnam, P. Sayanthakumar, S. Augustine and S. Suntharavathany on being elected School Councillors this year.

M. Paramalingam was awarded Cricket colours and was Joint Cricketer of the year and Joint Senior All-Round sportsman of the year.

R. Nirmalan and G. J. Gunaratnam of our house were elected President and Secretary of the Academy for the third term.

We congratulate S. Suntharavathany, on being elected the netball captain.

I wish to thank Mr. M. Vettivel our former House Master for all the services he rendered to the House.

In conclusion I wish to thank our House Master K. Sathasivam and A. A. Paul, and House Mistresses Mrs. S. Kesavarajan and Miss B. Anton for their guidance and help given to us.

G. J. Gunaratnam  
A. Marina Vathany  
Captains



HASTINGS HOUSE      ATHLETIC CHAMPIONS — 1985





THE COLLEGE CHOIR — 1985





## Hitchcock House—1985

<b>House Masters</b>	:	Mr. V. Selvaratnam Mr. N. A. Vimalendran (On leave) Mr. K. Thangarajah (On leave) Mr. G. Nadarajah
<b>House Mistresses</b>	:	Mrs. I. Jeyakumar Mrs. L. Jegatheesan
<b>House Captains</b>	:	Mas. Aron Jeganathan Miss Sharmini Ratnarajah
<b>Vice-Captains</b>	:	Mas. V. Vijayananthan Miss A. Bavani
<b>Athletic Captains</b>	:	Mas. J. Anton Rajakarier Miss T. Jennifer Pathmini
<b>Football Captain</b>	:	Mas. S. Raguraman
<b>Hockey Captain</b>	:	Mas. P. Thevananthan
<b>Basketball Captain</b>	:	Mas. A. Mahesan
<b>Netball Captain</b>	:	Miss K. Kalavally
<b>Treasurer</b>	:	Mas. K. Kulendran

It is a pleasure for us to present the report of our house for the year 1985. This year was a very difficult year compared with the previous ones. But we are grateful to all our members for the unity and help rendered in sharing the responsibilities inspite of the student unrest in the North.

We congratulate the Under 16 champion Mas. R. Sothilingam. He broke the following records and created new ones for 1985. They are Under 16 100 Metres 12.4 sec; 200 Metres—57.8 sec. Our best wishes for him to perform better and create more records in the years to come.

Our members have also shown their unity and joint effort by taking the Relay Championship for this year.

We would like to record the span of involvement in the school by giving the schedule below :

### School Council :

Mas. Anton Rajakarier  
Mas. J. Aron  
Miss S. Sathiaselvy

### Soccer Team :

Thevananthan P. — 2nd Team  
Srinivasan K. — 3rd Team  
Aron J. — 1st Team

### Basketball Team :

Aron J.

### Hockey Team :

Thevananthan P.  
Anton Rajakarier J.  
Aron J.  
Ramesh R.



**Netball Team :**

Kalavally K. — 1st Team  
 Sharmini R. — 1st Team  
 Jennifer Padmini — 1st Team  
 Gamini T. — 2nd Team  
 Bavani G.  
 Damayanthi S.  
 Mohanambal S.  
 Jeyantha N.  
 Sutharshini A.

Baladevan — Peradeniya University  
 Engineering

We congratulate them on their success and wish them well in their future studies.

In conclusion we wish to record our thanks to the House Masters & Mistresses for their dedication and guidance to us in all our activities.

**University Entrance ;**

Rajendran K. — Peradeniya University  
 Engineering

Aron J.  
 Sharmini R.  
 House Captains

## Brown House—1985

**House Masters :** Mr. G. Rajanayagam  
 Mr. A. Thavachelvan  
 Mr. S. J. Manickam

**House Mistresses :** Mrs. G. Ragavan  
 Miss S. Dushyanthi

**Vice-Captains :** Mas. Walter Kulendran R  
 Miss D. Keshini

**Athletic Captains :** Mas. T. Huxley  
 Miss S. Vasuki

**Treasurer :** G. J. Gunathilagan

**Netball Captain :** Miss V. Puncharine

**Football Captain :** Mas. V. Pathmathaneswaran

**Hockey Captain :** Mas. V. Jeyaranjan

We are happy and proud to submit the report of our House this year. This year too has been one of the close competition and active participation.

We are very proud that Mas. G. J. Gunathilagan has been elected as the President of the School Council. Miss S. Dushyanthi and M. Dayaline were

elected as members of the School Council. In the field of athletics we are proud to say that our performance had been good. Miss Shirela T. received the Under 13 girls championship and Miss R. Cynathia received the Under 14 girls championship.

Jeevananathan and Sureskumar were captain and vice captain of the First



XI Soccer team and Second XI Soccer team respectively. T. Huxley, Walton Kulendran, V. Pathmathaneswaran, R. Kulasingham were also members of the team.

We are proud of J. Gunathilagan, Vice-Captain for first XI Cricket, Mas. T. Huxley captain of the Second XI Cricket team; Ragavan, Jeevananthan, Jeyaranjan, Kulasingam and Thavaniruban were the other members of the Cricket team.

V. Pathmathaneswaran, Walton Kulendran R. were members of the first XI Hockey team; Jeyaranjan, and S. Umesh were members of the First XI Basketball team; Jeevananthan was captain of the second XI Basketball team; T. Huxley, Joy Sugirthanathan, S. Umesh were the other members of the Basketball team. Walton Kulendran R. was Runner-up for the tennis; T. Huxley, T. Shirela, D. Keshini were the other members of the tennis team. T. Huxley was the Vice-Captain

of the Athletic team; Walton Kulendran R. Jeevananthan, Sivamohan, Raveendran, Collin A. Ragavan, Pathmathaneswaran were the other members of the Athletic team; Joy Sugirthanathan was Vice-President of the YMCA and T. Huxley Treasurer of the YMCA.

S. Dushyanthi was captain of the Netball team; Keshini D. Vasuki S. were members of the Senior Netball team; Suganthi T. Ajantha N. and Linda A. were members of the Inter team.

In conclusion we wish to thank the House Masters Messrs. G. Rajanayagam, A. Thavachelvam and S. J. Manickam and the House Mistresses, Miss S. D. Sittampalam and Miss S. Balasubramaniam for their help and guidance. Our thanks are also due to all the members for their co-operation.

G. Ragavan  
S. Dushyanthi  
(House Captains)

*The life of man: School tablet, aspirin tablet, stone tablet.*

*As a rule, government experiments end up with a "please remit" notice to the taxpayer.*

*The greatest undeveloped resources of any nation are its people.*

*Gambling is not only a means of getting money for nothing but also of getting nothing for your money.*

*All you have to do in business is to stand and watch the world go by—and, brother, it sure will.*

*There is no individual conceit greater than the idea that the world would be perfect if everyone were like us.*



# Howland Hall

## 1st Term

**President :** Prabalini Jeganathan

**Secretary :** Rajani Rajasingham

## 2n Term

**Shooty Thevaranee Rajaratnam** (May-June)

**Puncharine Visvalingham** (June-August)

**Shanthini Muthukumar**

## 3rd Term

**President :** Kalavally Kandasamy

**Secretary :** Jenifer Padmini Tharmarajasingham

The Year under review has been a pleasant and memorable one in spite of the prevailing conditions in the country. We were able to have all our varied activities which were all very colourful and exciting. We have experienced fellowship, love and understanding through them.

At the beginning of the year we were 23 in number. Most of us were in the G. C. E. A/L classes with some others following the London O/L and A/L classes. This number had not been static. For, some of the students left us during the course of the year while a few others joined us. For most part of the year the number has been around 17.

London A/L	2
G. C. E. A/L	12
Year 8	1
Tech. Institute	2

<b>Staff :</b>	Miss. S. Benjamin
	Miss. S. J. Jesudason
	Mrs. J. Ratnasabapathy
	Miss. R. Jesuthasan (Nursery School)
	Miss. V. Muthukumar (Tech. Institute)

It must be recorded here that we have a regular junior student of year 8 with us. It is to her credit that she has adjusted herself beautifully to the set up here and lives happily with her elder sisters.

Some have treated us to there histrionic talents. The principal, Mr. Kadirgamar, Mr. Jebanesan, Mrs. Vanar, Mrs. Ratnasabapathy, Miss. Muthukumar and Miss. R. Elias had been our guest speakers. Our thanks to them for their valuable contributions.

Our weekly meetings are held on Thursday evenings. The meetings have been very lively and beneficial to us. The students have exhibited their talents in debating, the art of speaking, and singing.

Almost all of us have contributed to the success of our year's programme by fully participating in the varied activities of the school.

S. C. M.

Mathiarasi T.

(Vice President 1st term)

Puncharine V.

Class rep.

Jennifer Padmini T. Asst. Secy. 3rd term



**B. C. A.**

Puncharine V.

Secy. 2nd term

Dayalini M.

Vice-president 3rd term

Sunetra J.

Asst. Treasurer 3rd term

Jennifer Padmini T.

Howland Hall Rep.

**Tamil Manram :** Thabothini R.

Treasurer 3rd term

**Commerce Union :** Puncharine V.

Class Rep. 3rd term

**Youth Fellowship :** (church) Mathiarasi T.

Howland Hall Rep. 1st term

**School Council :** Dushyanthi S.

Vice President. Gen. Councillor

Dayalini M.

Councillor Year 13

Sakunthala P.

Councillor LALU (Jan.—March)

**Net ball team :** Dushyanthy S.

(Captain)

Vasuki R.

Kalavalli K.

Pathmarulvathana V.

Jennifer Padmini T.

Sunitra J.

(3rd Team)

**Athletics**

Jennifer Padmini T.

(Athletic Cap. Hitchcock House.)

Dushyanthy S.

(Girls Capt. Brown House)

Kalavalli K.

(Net Ball Capt. Hitchcock House)

Pathmavathana V.

( „ „ „ Abraham House)

Puncharine V.

( „ „ „ Brown House)

Jennifer Padmini. T., Dayalini. M. Kalavalli. K., Dushyanthy. S. have all won prizes in the various sports events at the Annual Inter House Athletic Meet. The two sisters Subanthini. R. and Ranjini R. students of the J. C. Technical Institute have also won second places at their Athletic Meet.

The above mentioned are members of the choir too while Sunetra J. is a member of the Junior Choir. It is to the credit of the Hostel that all its 10 Christian students are members of the Tamil choir. They faithfully sing at the morning and evening services on Sunday in the church.

Ranjini. R cleared a distance of 62 feet in throwing the Discus and won the championship cup for throws.

**Prize Winners :** Dayalini M., Kalavalli K., Pathmarulavathana V., Gamini T. and Puncharine V.

**College Band :** Nimalda A.

Vasuki R.

Dayalini M.

Pathmarulvathana V.

Jennifer Padmini T.

We are proud to record the result of two of our students at the G. C. E. A<sub>7</sub>L Examination, held in 1984. Christerine V. and Premini J. gained admission to the



University. They deserve our congratulations for this excellent performance in English securing a B and A respectively. Both of them have opted to follow their university courses in India benefitting from the scholarship awarded by the J. D. C. S. I. Christerine V. is now following the B. A. English course at Womens' Christian College and Premini is following the B. A. Philosophy course at Madras Christian College, Tambaram. Our best wishes to them.

Sasi. K., Sobana. A., Sakunthala. P., Jeyanthini. S., Ahalmathy. A., Kumuthini. T and Jeyamalar, I left us during the course of the year. We wish them well.

The climax of the year's programme is the Boarder's Day celebrations. Thabothini. R was placed first in the talent contest for Bharatha Natyam. We won the much coveted prize for the Drama competition. We have the satisfaction that all students took part in the drama titled Thirugnanasambandamoorthy. Jennifer Padmini was awarded the prize for the best actress. She secured the 1st place in the fancy dress competition too for transforming herself into a post peon. Sunethra J. has proved her dramatic talents playing the role of Kaikeki in a scene from Ramayana staged by the Junior Secondary school students.

This year we have had the rare privilege of five resident staff members

living with us. Their presence means much to us. We owe our deep sense of gratitude to each one of them for their valuable contribution and guidance when in need. Thank you teachers for all that you do for us.

Our hostel is the envy of many. We remember with thanks and gratitude those who designed it as a beautiful and comfortable home for us students to live during our school days. We thank the works Manager Mr. V. Ganesharatnam and his staff who have toiled to make this hostel and its compound more beautiful with shady fruit trees, flowering shrubs and potted plants.

It is our duty to thank the management and the kitchen staff for looking into our physical needs to keep us fit and healthy. We will be failing in our duty if we do not make special mention of our hostel helper Thevarajan. He is always ready with a smile to serve us at all time.

Finally we are grateful to our warden Miss M. S. Elias for all the care, guidance and encouragement she gives us individually. We extend our thanks to the Principal and Vice-Principal for their continued interest, help and concern for us.

**Jennifer Padmini Tharmarajasingham,**  
Secretary.



# Bunker Hall Union

	1st Term	2nd Term	3rd Term
<b>President</b> :	U. S. Wijaynayagam	J. Aron	K. E. Pratheepan
<b>Secretary</b> :	B. Panchaseelan	J. Anton Rajakariar	V. Pathmathaneswaran
<b>Warden</b> :	Mr. W. D. Kulathungam		
<b>Sub-Warden</b> :	Mr. G. Nadarajah		

It is with great pride that I submit the annual report of the Bunker Hall Union for the year 1985. As it has been a very successful year inspite of the limitations both man made and natural. I refer to the unsettled situation and the natural calamities we had to experience in this part of the country.

The weekly meetings were held regularly and well attended on every Thursday of each week. Our debates, student speeches, song recitals. "Kavithai Arangu" (கவிதை அரங்கு) and such student programmes were very lively and useful. Addresses delivered by our guest speakers—Principal Mr. A. Kadirgamar, Mr. J. David and Mr. N. A. Vimalendran—both former sub-wardens, Prof. A. Karunanathan of the University of Jaffna, Dr. R. Porter of our English Department and Mr. S. Mahendran of our Sociology Department were very interesting and instructive. Our thanks are due to them for accepting our invitation.

As usual the freshers introduction was always lively. Such introductions were carefully planned not to reach the much discussed level of ragging in the country's institutions. We are happy to state that freshers introduction brought about good

understanding, promoted comradeship and helped students to adjust themselves.

We work as a team in all the college activities and especially in maintaining the Bunker Hall garden. The garden is now rich and beautiful.

The highlights of some of our activities were distribution of food parcels to the lepers in the segregated village of Kaattupulam in the Chulipuram area; organising the grand Christmas party which was attended by students of the other hostels, the boys from the Levi Spaulding home, Bishop Rt. Rev. D. J. Ambalavanar, Principal, Mrs. M. Kadirgamar, the staff living close to the College and organising the Boarders' Day dinner. We also published the Boarders annual supplement "Viduthich Chudar" (விடுதிச் சுடர்) which was also released ceremoniously by our principal.

Our congratulations are due to the following:

Mr. W. D. Kulathungam our senior warden for having completed twenty five years of fruitful service at this college. Our hostel had a special function to felicitate him on his Silver Jubilee. We wish him many more years of active service to his Alma mater.



## **SPORTS:**

### **Cricket :**

**1st Eleven :** S. Augustine, J. Aron, J. Anton Rajakariar, T. Huxley, P. Sayanthakumar and R. Muresh all from Bunker Hall and we can claim a big share for the historic victory over the St. Patrick's cricket team in the first 'Rajan Kadirgamar' challenge trophy limited overs game.

**2nd Eleven :** T. N. Huxley (captain), T. Joy, S. Terrence, T. Harichandran, R. Jeyaseelan.

### **Soccer :**

**1st Eleven :** J. Ranjan, J. Aron (vice captain), S. Augustine, T. N. Huxley, B. Panchaseelan, V. Pathmathaneswaran, S. Kanagasundaram.

**2nd Eleven :** P. Thevananthan (vice captain), P. Sayanthakumar, T. Joy, P. Kuhaneswaran, S. Terrence, T. Harichandran, S. Victor Rhinus.

### **Basket Ball :**

**1st Eleven :** J. Aron (vice captain), J. Rajan, S. Augustine, V. Pathmathaneswaran, A. Mahesan.

### **Hockey :**

**1st Eleven :** J. Ranjan (Captain), J. Aron, J. Anton Rajakariar, S. Augustine, V. Pathmathaneswaran, K. E. Pratheepan, P. Thevananthan, P. Sayanthakumar.

**Badminton:** T. Joy, J. Aron, J. Ranjan, J. Anton Rajakariar, K. E. Pratheepan

**Table Tennis:** K. E. Pratheepan, J. Aron, J. Anton Rajakariar, V. Pathmathaneswaran, S. Augustine, J. Ranjan.

### **Athletic Activities :**

S. Augustine — Under 19 champion, and J. Aron, J. Rajan, V. Pathmathaneswaran, J. Anton Rajakariar, B. Panchaseelan, K. Ganeshan, T. N. Huxley, T. Harichandran, R. Jeyaseelan, A. Mahesan, S. Amaran Tunard won places in the various events in the Inter House Athletic meet. The following members were elected to lead their houses for this year. They are :

J. Aron	Captain	Hitchcock House
J. Ranjan	Captain	Abraham House
J. Anton Rajakariar	Boys Athletic Captain	Hitchcock House
T. N. Huxley	Boys Athletic Captain	Brown House
S. Augustine	Boys Athletic Captain	Hastings House
P. Thevamithiran	Treasurer	Hastings House
P. Thevananthan	Hockey Captain	Hitchcock House
A. Mahesan	Basket Ball Captain	Hitchcock House
V. Pathmathaneswaran	Soccer Captain	Brown House
K. E. Pratheepan	Hockey Captain	Hastings House

S. Augustine and T. Huxley have been elected as captain and vice captain respectively for the College Athletic Team and many of our members took part and obtained certificates in the circuit Athletic Meet.



## RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES:

### Boarders Christian Association :

	1st Term	2nd Term	3rd Term
President :		R. Nirmalan	Joy Sugirthananthan
Secretary :		V. Pathmathaneswaran	S. Augustine
Asst. Secretary :		K. E. Pratheepan	
Treasurer :		T. N. Huxley	

### S. C. M.

	1st Term	2nd Term	3rd Term
President :	P. Thevamithiran	P. Thevamithiran	P. Thevamithiran
Vice President :			Joy. Sugirthananthan
Secretary :	R. Nirmalan		K. E. Pratheepan
Asst. Secretary :	Joy. Sugirthananthan		J. Ranjan
Treasurer :	T. N. Huxley	T. Harichandran	

### Y. M. C. A.

Student Secretary :	R. Nirmalan
Treasurer :	A. Joe Chitharanjan
Committee Members :	P. Thevamithiran
	J. Aron

### Youth Fellowship :

President :	R. Nirmalan
Bunker Hall Rep. :	J. Anton Rajakariar

### College Choir :

P. Thevamithiran, J. Aron, J. Ranjan, T. Huxley, S. Augustine, P. Benjamin  
V. Pathmathaneswaran, S. Terrence, R. Nirmalan.

### School Council :

I am proud to mention that this year four of our hostellers have been elected to the school council and I think it is a record. We congratulate them on their success. They are :

A. Aron (Treasurer), S. Augustine, J. Anton Rajakariar, P. Benjamin,  
B. Panchaseelan, and P. Sayanthakumar.

### Literary Association :

Academy :	1st Term	Secretary :	M. Manimaran
		Asst. Secretary :	A. Joe Chitharanjan
	2nd Term	President :	J. Ranjan
		Treasurer :	S. Augustine
		Class Rep. :	J. Aron



**3rd Term**      **President**      : R. Nirmalan  
                  **Vice-President** : P. Benjamin  
                  **Asst. Secy.**     : J. Ranjan  
                  **Treasurer**    : S. Augustine  
                  **Vice-President;** J. Aron

**Tamil Mandram :**

**2nd Term**      **President**      : V. Pathmathaneswaran  
                  **Secretary**     : S. Augustine

**3rd Term**      **President**      : P. Thevamithiran  
                  **Secretary**     : S. Augustine  
                  **Vice President** : J. Aron

“ Tamil Aruvi ”      Editor      : V. Pathmathaneswaran  
“ Viduthitch Chudar ” Editor      : V. Pathmathaneswaran

**Young Idea :**

**Asst. Tamil Editor** : V. Pathmathaneswaran  
**Manager**            : S. Augustine  
**Literary Section**   : J. Aron  
**Science Section**    : R. Nirmalan  
**Youth Section**     : M. Manimaran

**Brotherhood :**

**3rd Term Secretary** : J. Thevananthan

**Science Union :**

**Asst. Secy.**        : J. Anton Rajakariar  
**English Editor**   : V. P. Benjamin

We cordially welcome the bachelor staff members Mr. S. Mahendran, Mr. U. S. Vijeyanayagam, Mr. E. S. Selvarajah, and Mr. V. E. Jeyaseelan who have moved in as resident staff. We wish them a happy and pleasant hostel life.

Finally on my behalf and on behalf of the hostel I wish to thank the Principal for his concern and consideration for the members of the hostel, his approval and assistance to all our programmes and for his guidance. Our thanks are also due to our warden Mr. W. D. Kulathungam and sub-warden Mr. G.

Nadarajah for their counselling and help in all our activities. Dr. Robert Porter is doing his best to make life homely for us. We are invited in batches for dinner which we very much enjoy. We thank him for this generous act. We also thank the senior students and the resident staff for their help in our studies by giving free tuition.

May this hostel always be the mainstay to the progress of our dearest College.

Thank you

**V. Pathmathaneswaran**  
Secretary



# Chelliah Hostel

**President :** S. Basil  
**Secretary :** C. S. Wijeyanayagam

**Sub Warden :** Mr. A. D. Athisayathan  
**Warden :** Mr. M. David Thambirajah

**TOTAL STRENGTH : 26**

It gives me great pleasure to present the annual Report of our Hostel for this year. This year has been a memorable one for two reasons. (1) We had the privilege of organising the "Boarder's Day Celebrations" for this year and (2) The reception held at our Hostel in appreciating the excellent services rendered by our former warden Mr. R. Kanagaratnam. He had been a tower of strength to our Hostel giving fatherly advice and encouragement for the betterment of the hostellers' career in all fields of College activities

"Boarder's Day Celebration for 1985" was very carefully planned and executed in such a way that all appreciated the work done to the satisfaction of all. The planning done by our able Warden Mr. M. David Thambirajah assisted by Sub Warden Mr. A. D. Athisayathan and the very important co-operation rendered by our hostellers saw everything in connection with the Boarder's Day Celebration colourful and unforgettable. Two main attractions at this year's Boarders's Day Celebration were :

1. The Soccer match played by our hostellers with the Nuffield School for the Deaf and Blind.
2. The P. T. display by the hostellers of Chelliah and Sanders Hostels squad.

We are proud that our hostellers had done very well in the College activities this year. Whether it be education sports, cultural shows, scouting, College Choir or representation in Literary Associations our boys had a hand in all these activities. C. S. Wijeyanayagam, S. Basil, M. Sutharshan, V. Thevathas,

R. David, T. R. Arasamohan and T. V. S. Mathivanan, really brought credit to our Hostel in one or more fields.

We had regular Hostel Meetings on Thursdays the meeting went on very well with hostellers proving their talents in vocal, dramas, speeches, etc. At times their speeches and acting gave thought for the mind and sometimes they were meant to laugh.

On behalf of our hostellers, I want to place on record our sincere thanks and gratitude to our energetic Principal Mr. A. Kadirgamar for all the help and guidance given to us throughout the year. Our thanks are also due to the under-mentioned:-

1. Mr. W. N. Thevakadacham who graced the "Boarder's Day celebration" as Chief Guest.
2. Mr. R. Kanagaratnam, Ex. Warden, Chelliah Hostel.
3. Messrs J. S. David (Principal) and T. Samson of Nuffield School for co-operating with us in making the Soccer Match between our Hostellers and Nuffield School very colourful.
4. Mr. T. Anantharatnam, Physical Director, Jaffna College.
5. The Staff and the Office Staff.
6. The catering staff and Works Department for all help given to us and the very nice dinner, for the "Boarder's Day"

Our praise and thanks to God Almighty for all the courage, health, education and protection given to us this year, and we look forward to this guidance and protection in the coming year too.

**C. S. Wijeyanayagam**  
Secretary, Chelliah Hostel



## Sander's Hostel — 1985

	1st Term	2nd Term	3rd Term
President :	S. Sivaruban.	M. Deonas.	A. Aran
Secretary :	M. Deonas.	V. Mohanathas.	R. Sri Ganeshan.

It is with great pleasure that I present this Report of Sander's Hostel for this year. The total number is fifteen made up of student's of Grades 5 and 6. This is our first experience of Hostel life and we have come from different homes both within and outside the Jaffna Peninsula. The Supervision of the hostel is in the hands of a residential warden and his family. This arrangement has helped us to grow in the normal routine of a hostel life.

The day to day activities have all been carried out well and despite the unsettled conditions we were able to go through all the programmes as planned at the beginning of the year.

M. Deonas has done very well this year both in studies and Co-curricular activities. He was placed first at the Inter-school Spelling contests organised at the Circuit level and was a member of the group that won a place at the Jaffna district level in English. He was also awarded the second place at a Bible reading contest held in connection with the Youth Rally of the J. D. C. S. I. at Pandateruppu.

He played the role of a prisoner in a Play staged on English Day, and acted as a king in a play staged on Boarders' day of the college.

Jesusahayam did very well at the Sports meet and won first places in the Musical Cycle Race and horse riding. Aran, Sri Ranjan, and Joel became Champions in Table tennis, Badminton and Carrom held in connection with the Boarders' day celebrations. All of us enjoyed the Boarders day.

Union meetings and worship are held regularly. This year we also observed the Y. M. C. A. week of Prayer for Peace and Unity, and we were happy to participate at a Christmas programme along with our friends of the Levi Spaulding Boys home.

Our thanks are due to the Principal, Vice Principal, the Supervisors, our warden and Mrs. Sinniah, the Caterer and the Hostel Staff for the concern, care and guidance given us throughout the year.

R. Sriganeshan  
Secretary

26th November 1985.



## Mr. W. N. Thevakadadcham

It was a memorable morning in 1971, when we were young kids in the Grade Six classes. It was marked with joy and thrill as we were peeping inside the staff room to have a look at our beloved 'master' on his return from U. S. S. R. after representing our country in an International conference on the prevention of Tuberculosis. His magnetic voice was all out in the air. Later he rushed out of the staff room to greet us and affectionately hug saying 'gunda'.

We were astonished to see the photographs of our master in the national costume addressing an international conference of eightyseven countries in Moscow. Now we are equally astonished and look at him with awe when we find the same youth, energy and enthusiasm in our master, even after his three decades and eight years of teaching.

It is only a fact that he hail from a family of teachers. But his overwhelming qualities of an ideal teacher are 'inborn'. He began his career as a trained teacher with Arts certificate and rose upto capacities of the Principal of primary school for three years and acting supervisor of Junior school.

Jaffna college sports-meets are not only enjoyed by the students and teachers or the parents and alumni alone. But the community around the college at large assemble in this occasion, which is always well organised and colourful. Our master has been the sports secretary of primary school for fourteen years and

the Brown house will ever remember him as their house master for fifteen years.

Be it a college sports meet or an exhibition, if you hear an appealing metallic voice making announcements with humour and wit which makes you stop for a while, you can be sure that our Thevakadadcham master is over the microphone.

His skillful art of public speaking, pleasing and endearing personality, the spirit of service and above all the love and care he has for the people around him, in the college, church and the village are the investments for his blossoming into a leader and an active participant in many spheres.

While being a member of the Jaffna College faculty he had the privilege of being the Y. M. C. A. President in its centenary year 1981 and President of Round Table. He was the division secretary of the St. John Ambulance association and organised first aid classes and had been an inspiration for many to start the same in other colleges too. He impressed ourselves and many doctors by his ability as a lay lecturer to identify various first aid knots even from a distance and correct them.

Farewell function for our master was going on in the college. Our master was seated in the dais with his garland and has been the centre of attraction. Suddenly he rushed down from the dais for everyone's wonder for a moment.



Yes, he was on his first aid to a fainting student in the college band.

The scouts motto "Be Prepared" is his life motto. His contributions to the field of scouting in general and cub-scouting in specific are innumerable to list. He is the first person to obtain wood badge from Jaffna College and has been the assistant leader trainer and cub scout master.

He started as a troop leader in 1945 and in the late nineteen sixties became the Assistant District commissioner (cubs). He has associated himself with the golden and diamond jubilee of scouting in Ceylon and successfully organised the Cub-Golden Jubilee in 1966. Scouters were always 'prepared' to do something new and interesting from our master in the get togethers, rallies, training camps efficiently organised by him. He has given radio programmes conducted quiz competitions so that the message of scouting shall reach a wider audience. During Jaffna district golden jubilee in 1966, he jointly edited the 'Souvenir' and contributed much to the success of jubilee exhibition.

He visited the Baden Powell house during its 10th anniversary in 1971 and the Scouts International centre in London Gilwell Park and the world training centre all in the United Kingdom in order to share the information with the Ceylon Scouts.

He won the long services decoration in 1965 and certificate of merit in scouting in 1967. Sir Charles Maclean, chief scout of the commonwealth commended his services and signed in his log book.

It is for three decades that the Valikamam West branch of the Ceylon National Association for the prevention of Tuberculosis has been utilising his remarkable services as its Hony. Secretary and it was in July 1971 he presented a paper on "Community participation in the T. B. work" in the 21st International T. B. conference held in Moscow, representing Ceylon.

It is a great accomplishment we shall take pride of our masters association and active involvement in six international movements—Scouting, St John Ambulance Association, Y. M. C. A., T. B. work, Co-operative movement and the Lions International. True to his growth in every activity he undertakes in the Lions International he had served as Tamer, Tail Twister, Vice President and President of the Lions club of Vaddukottai.

His commitment to International movements have never been an excuse for him to forget the community and the church he belongs. He is a member of the Navaly J. D. C. S. I and has been its Secretary and delegate to the Diocesan Council. He edited the church Souvenir "திருச்சபைத்தீபம்" and the 125th anniversary special Souvenir of the Church.

He has been the vice-president and treasurer of Navaly Y. M. C. A. and presently its Director of Youth work.

He was also one of the camp directors of annual all-ceylon Y. M. C. A. boys camps sponsored by the national



council of Y. M. C. A. s of Sri Lanka and many youth camps. The 24th all-Ceylon Y. M. C. A. boys camp 1982 held in YTC Paranthan marked a Grand success with his able directorship.

In his village Thevakadacham master has been guiding in all its growth and development. At present he is the Chairman of the committee for the rehabilitation of poverty stricken, President of Navaly South Rural Development Society, Primary Health Centre Committee, Vice President of Navaly peace Committee, and member of Navaly Citizens Committee

and Navaly St Peters. R. C. School Development Society. Formerly he had held the Secretaryship of Navaly south Community Centre and Navaly Union Club Rural Development Society.

Being a teacher, social worker and a pious member of the Church our masters accomplishments are unique. He belongs to the galaxy of illustrious Jubilarians of our College Home whose lives are lesson for us to learn and ever cherish in our memory.

S. Thevananthar



## Miss Sharmalene Brodie

Miss Sharmalene Brodie was with us as student and teacher from 1976 to 1985. She was an outstanding student and also excelled in sports activities.

She played in the college Net-ball Team and later helped the coach. She excelled in Western music and was our teacher. She helped the English and Tamil choirs with great enthusiasm.

We were saddened by her departure but gladdened by the knowledge that she was settling down to marriage and home. We wish her all success.

Vinitha P. Spence.



# நூல்நிலைய அதிபர் திரு. N. S. இரத்தினசிங்கம்

B. A. (Lond.) (Post Graduate Trained)

1983ஆம் ஆண்டின் ஆரம்பத்தில் நூலகப் பதவியில் ஏற்பட்ட வெற்றிடத்தை அடுத்து அப்பதவிக்காக கல்லூரியினர் திரு. என். எஸ். இரத்தினசிங்கம் அவர்களைக் கேட்டபோது, தான் கற்ற கல்லூரியில் சேவை செய்து உவப்புடன் ஒத்துக்கொண்டார். அவ் வாண்டிலிருந்து 1985ஆம் ஆண்டு முடியும் வரை அவர் அப்பதவியை வகித்தார்.

அவருடைய பதவிக்காலத்திலே அவருடன் பழகிய பலரும் அவரைப்பற்றி நன்கு அறிவார்கள், அவர் தன்னுடைய கடமையிலும் பொது வாழ்விலும் இறைவனுக்குச் சாட்சியாக வாழ்பவர். இங்கும் எல்லாம்வல்ல இறைவனின் ஒளியைப் பிரதிபலித்தார். தனக்குக்கீழ் வேலை செய்பவரிடத்திலும் தன்னிடம் பழகுவரிடத்திலும் அதிக அன்பைக் காட்டினார். அவரிடம் குறிப்பிட்ட ஒரு சிறந்த பண்பு என்று தனியே ஒன்றை நாம் காண முடியாது. ஏனெனில் அவரிடம் காணும் அனைத்துபண்புகளும் மிகவும் உயர்ந்தவையே! எத்துணை பாரிய கவலைகள் இவரை வந்து அணுகினாலும் சிரித்த முகத்துடன் இருப்பதைக் காணும்போது அவரைப் பார்க்கும் அனைவருக்கும் அதிக ஆறுதலாய் இருக்கும். அவர் ஒரு சிறந்த நிர்வாகி. மிகுந்த துணிச்சலுடனும், நுட்பத்துடனும் (tactful) நிர்வகிக்கும் முறைகளைக் கையாள்வார்.

ஒரு நூலகராயிருந்த போதும் எம்முடன் சமானமாக ஒரு நண்பனாக பல வேளைகளில் ஒரு தந்தையாகப் பழகினார். எதையும் ஒளிவு மறைவு இன்றிப் பேசுவார். உண்மை பேசி உத்தமனாக வாழ் என்ற வாக்கிற்கிணங்க எப்போதும் உண்மையே பேசினார். பலதரப்பட்ட வயதினரையும் நன்கு புரிந்து கொள்ளும் ஆற்றலுடையவராய் இருந்தார். அனைவரையும் தட்டிக்கொடுத்து வேலைவாங்க

குவார். திரு. என். எஸ். இரத்தினசிங்கம் உண்மையிலேயே ஒரு சிங்கம். அதேவேளை இரத்தினம் போன்ற பெறுமதி வாய்ந்தவர். ஆனால் அவரிடத்தில் பெருமை இல்லை. அவரிடம் கடமை, கண்ணியம், கட்டுப்பாடு என்பவையே மேலோங்கி நின்றன. அவர் தன்னுடைய கடமைக்கு எதிராக எவ்வளவு இடையூறு வந்தாலும் அஞ்சமாட்டார். கடமையில் சிறிதேனும் பிசகாமல் பக்கஞ்சாராமல் நீதியை நிலை நாட்டினார். கர்த்தர் வீட்டைக் கட்டாராகில் அதைக் கட்டுகிறவனின் பிரயாசம் விருதா. இவருடைய பிரயாசங்கள் எதுவும் விருதாவாகப் போனதில்லை. ஏனெனில் அனைத்திலும் இவர் தேவனையே முன்வைத்துச் செயற்படுவர். தேவபக்தி அதிகமுள்ளவர். தன்னுடைய காரியங்களில் வாஞ்சையாகச் செயற்படுவார்.

இவர் தன்னுடைய பொது வாழ்க்கையிலே மக்கள் சேவையே மகேசன் சேவை என வாழ்பவர். கஷ்டப்படும் மக்களுக்குக் கைகொடுத்து உதவுபவர். அவருடைய இரக்க சிந்தை அதற்கு மேலான இறைபக்தி அவரை இப்படிச் செயற்பட வைக்கிறது. அவர் சென்ற இடம் எங்கும் இறைபுகழைப் பிரஸ்தாபப்படுத்தினார். அதனால் மாண்பு பல பெற்றார், பெறுகின்றார். இப்படிப்பட்ட ஒரு இரத்தினசிங்கம் அவர்களுடன் பழகக் கடமையாற்றக் கிடைத்த அரிய சந்தர்ப்பத்திற்காக நான் அதிக மகிழ்ச்சியடைகிறேன். அவர் இனிவரும் காலங்களிலும் இறைவழி நடத்தலுடன் சிறந்த சேவைகளைச் செய்ய ஆண்டவர் தாமே அவரை வழிநடத்தி நீண்ட ஆயுளை அவருக்கு அளிக்க வேண்டுமென வேண்டுகிறேன்.

செல்வி எஸ். பென்ஜமின்  
நூலக உதவியாளர்.



## Mr. A. M. Brodie

We must also take note of one of our veterans in this number viz. Mr. A. M. Brodie for two reasons. For one thing he was connected with this College in various capacities for over forty years President of Student Council, Captain of the cricket team, Head of the English Department, Cricket and Foot ball coach, Hostel Warden, and acting supervisor of the Junior Secondary school.

For another thing, he was the manager of the Jaffna College Miscellany for thirteen years. Which arduous duty the difficulties of which many people are not aware - to the general satisfaction of everybody - the method of finding out whether the affairs of the miscellany are going on smoothly is not to note anything special about its production.

We may also add that he was an important figure in the Church having been the Secretary of the Vaddukoddai Church for three years. His daughter helped us with the organ.

The Brodie family has established quite a tradition at Jaffna College—Mr. A. M. Brodie (Senior) having served us for over twentyfive years a generation ago. He was noted teacher of English in his time and was particularly strong on nineteenth century English literary biographies.

The son we are considering has left for U. K. nominally on retirement but

one is not sure. What his retirement is going to be like.

We wish Mr. A. M. Brodie and the family all that they desire and hope for in the U. K.

**Sentiments of the Round Table expressed by Mr. G. Rajanayagam at the farewell accorded to the Brodie family on 28-3-1985.**

Mr. A. M. Brodie served Jaffna College for thirtyone years. He was a good sportsman and was President of the School Council while he was a student at Jaffna College. He served as Head of the English Department President of the Y. M. C. A. Cricket and Foot-Ball Coach Manager of the Miscellany, Hostel Warden and Acting Supervisor of the Junior Secondary School. He was the secretary of the Vaddukoddai Church and contributed much to parish work. He obtained his post-graduate dipoloma in the Teaching of English as a second language at the University of Sydney. He was a student disciplinarian and a thorough gentleman in outlook.

Sharmalene Brodie is a born artist. She is equally good in vocal music and Pianoforte. Her simple and unassuming ways won the hearts of many. She helped the Church Choir and the College Choir.



## Jaffna College Staff — 1985

Mr. A. Kadirgamar (Principal)	— B. Sc., M. A. (Sc. Ed.), Cert. Adv. Religious Studies.
Mr. A. Rajasingham (Vice-Principal)	— B. Sc., Dip. Ed.
Miss M. S. Elias (Supervisor, Junior Secondary School)	— B. A. 2nd Class
Mr. W. N. Thevakadadcham (Retired on 28-7-85)	— First Class Tamil Trained
Mrs. L. B. Thambyrajah (Supervisor, Primary School)	— First Class Tamil Trained, English Special Teachers' Trained
Mr. T. Visuvanathan	— B. Sc., Dip. Ed.
Mr. T. Anandarathnam	— B. A., Dip. Ed. (Merit)
Mr. R. Kanagarathnam	— B. Sc. (Part I), English Special Teachers' Trained.
Mr. S. Kanagasabapathy	— Teachers' Trained Certificate in Art and Handicraft
Mr. A. M. Brodie	— B. A. Hons., Dip. (T. E. F. L.)
Miss S. S. Selvadurai	— English Special Teachers' Trained, M. Ed. (T. E. F. L.)
Mr. A. I. Sinniah	— B. Sc. (Agric.), Dip. Ed.
Mrs. S. Kanagarathnam	— First Class Trained
Mrs. A. Balasingam	— First Class Trained
Mr. V. Selvarathnam	— B. Sc.
Mr. W. D. Kulathungam	— B. Sc., Dip. Ed.
Mr. S. Balachandran	— B. Sc., Dip. Ed.
Miss S. P. Gulasingham	— B. Sc., Dip. Ed.
Mrs. N. Balasingam	— B. Sc.
Miss S. D. Sittampalam	— B. Sc., Dip. Ed.
Mrs. S. Kesavarajan	— B. A.
Mr. G. Rajanayagam	— B. A., Dip. Ed. (T. E. S. L.)
Mrs. S. D. Virasinghe	— B. A.
Mr. S. Jebanesan	— B. A., Dip. Ed., M. A., M. A. (Phil), B. D.



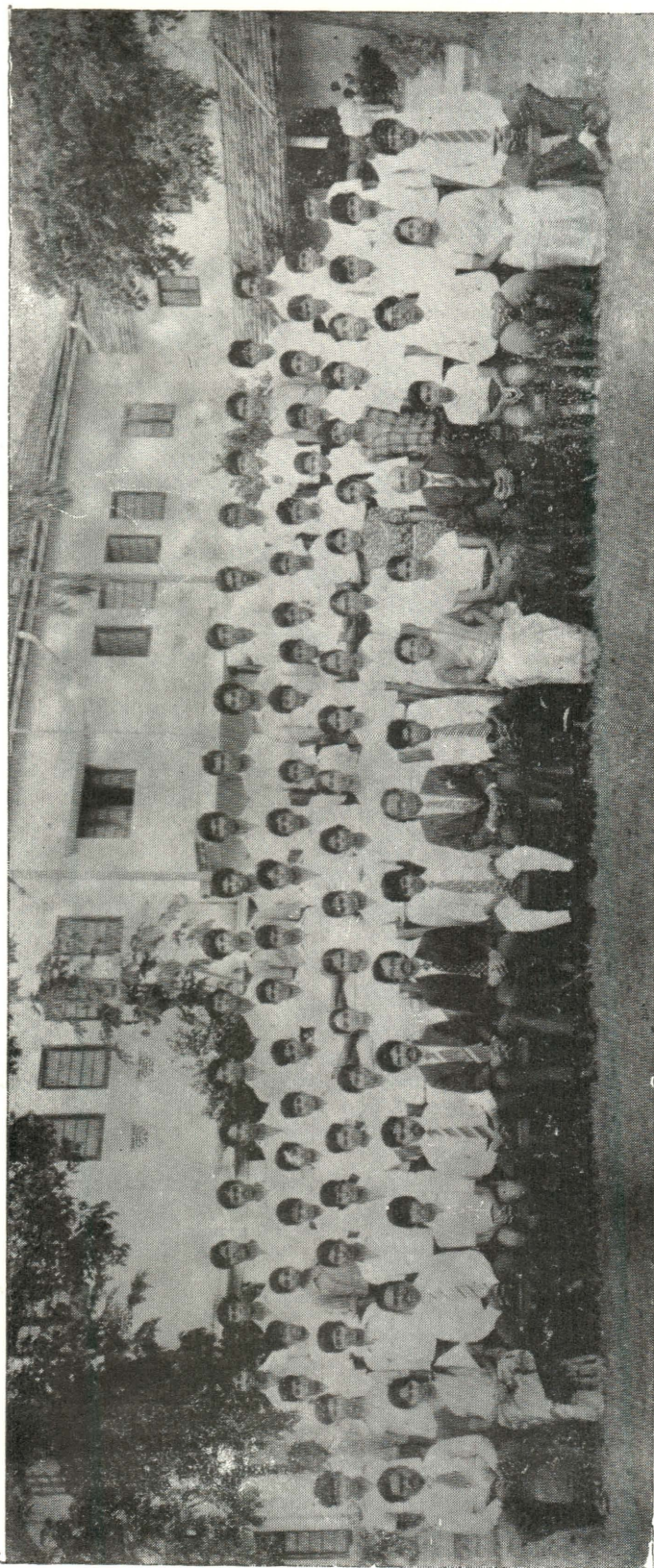
IAFFNA COLLEGE STAFF — 1985



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COLLEGE BOARDERS — 1985





Mr. N. Thatparanathan	— B. A. Special. Dip, Ed. (Merit)
Mrs. H. J. Ratnasabapathy	— Sangeetha Sironmany Kalakshetra, Diploma in Vocal Music
Mr. S. Manickam	— B. A. (Special)
Mr. N. A. Vimalendran	— B. Sc., Dip. Ed. (Merit)
Mr. A. Jeyarajan	— Physical Education Teachers Trained
Mrs. I. Jeyakumar	— B. Sc. Special
Mr. K. Thangarajah	— B. Sc. (P. F. T.) Special, Dip. Ed.
Mr. T. Nithiaratnam	— Diploma Certificate in Physical Education
Mr. M. Vettivel	— B. Sc., Dip. Ed.
Mrs. M. P. Devakumar	— General Teachers Trained
Mrs. E. V. Pushparajah	— G. C. E. (A. L.), Diploma in English
Mr. A. Thavachelvam	— B. Sc. Second Class (Lower Division)
Mr. S. R. Mohanarajah	— G. C. E. (A. L.) (on Study leave)
Miss B. Anton	— B. Sc.
Mr. G. Nadarajah	— B. A. (Econ.), B. Com.
Miss J. J. Thanabalasingam	— B. Sc.
Mr. K. Sathasivam	— B. Sc. (Development studies)
Mr. J. David	— B. Sc. Special Degree 2nd Class (Upper Division)
Miss L. Kandasamy	— B. Sc. Special Degree (2nd class)
Miss S. Brodie	— G. C. E. (O. L.), L. T. C. L. (Practical)
Mr. R. Kandiah	— M. A. (English) 2nd Class, Dip. Ed. (Ceylon) & Dip. in Teaching of English (Colombo)
Mr. R. K. Rajasenani	— B. Sc. Hons.
Mrs. E. T. Jeyarajan	— B. Sc. Nutrition
Mrs. R. A. Karunairanjan	— B. Sc.
Mrs. V. Jebanesan	— L. T. C. L. Final, (Royal College of Music)
Mrs. M. Raviraj	— Diploma in Bharatha Natyam 2nd Division N. C. O. M. S. Grade 3 (Vocal)
Miss V. Rajendram	— G. C. E. (A. L.)
Mr. R. Sriskandarajah	— B. Sc. (Hons.)
Mr. M. Sivagnanaratnam	— B. Sc., Dip, Ed.



Miss S. Balasubramaniam	— B. A. (Special)
Mrs. D. I. Ganesan	— G. C. E. (O. L.)
Mrs. I. C. Patrick	— G. C. E. (O. L.), Diploma in Art and painting.
Mr. M. D. Thambirajah	— Diploma in Physical Education.
Mrs. K. Navaratnarajah	— First Class Tamil Trained
Mr. K. S. Thissarajah	— First Class Tamil Trained
Mr. A. A. Paul	— B. Sc. (Special), C. Chem., M. I. Chem. C.
Mr. A. D. Athisayathan	— G. C. E. (A. L.)
Miss H. A. Thambinayagam	— G. C. E. (A. L.)
Miss E. P. Kadirgamar	— G. C. E. (O. L.) Teachers' Diploma in Western Music
Mr. S. Rajasekaram	— G. C. E. (A. L.)

## Non—Academic Staff

Mr. G. Jeyasingham	— Chief Clerk
Mr. R. D. Thanabalasingam	— Clerk of Works
Mr. V. Ganesharatnam	— Supervisor of Boarding
Mrs. A. Vimalendran	— Secretary to the Principal
Mr. R. Rajaratnam	— Security Officer
Mr. N. Yogarajah	— Laboratory Assistant
Miss S. Benjamin	— Library Assistant
Mr. N. S. Rātnasingam	— Librarian
Mr. L. B. Thambirajah	— Accountant
Miss S. J. Jesudasan	— Clerk Primary School
Mr. M. Jeyaranjan	— Laboratory Assistant
Mr. M. H. Cassiere	— Clerk, Senior School
Mr. S. C. Karunendran	— Treasurer's Assistant Board Office



## Alumni Section

# Jaffna College Alumni Association

## SECRETARY'S REPORT 1984 - 85

It is with mixed feelings that I submit the report of the J C A A for the period 8th Sept. 1984 to 14th Sept. 1985. It was a period full of tension and uncertainties with tightened curfews and increased violence. We are thankful to God that in the midst of all this risks and difficulties we were able to keep ourselves and the association alive. If not for these limiting factors we could have planned and achieved much more than what we really did.

During the period under review our life membership increased by about 5½%. We were able to enroll 29 life members and we consider that a creditable achievement as this is a period when most of our students young and old are going abroad and our membership here is in danger of dwindling. There are 556 life members on roll now.

Mr. A. M. Brodie the Alumni Relations Officer whose connections with our College runs to three generations left us in May 1985. He retired and went abroad and his service may not be available for a few more years. As an Alumnus and as A R O he has taken great interest in the Alumni and the Association. He took an active part in promoting the sports activities of the Alumni and was responsible for collecting a substantial sum of money to finance the sports activities of "The Old Golds". We take this opportunity to thank him for his interest in and contribution towards the welfare of our association.

This year we have made arrangements with the Board of Directors to deposit the Sports Fund as a separate account. If some more of our members contribute liberally towards this fund it would be possible to keep the capital safe and meet our annual sports expenses with the interest money.

As a farewell to Mr. A. M. Brodie the Old Golds played a cricket match on our grounds against the Old Patricians with Mr. A. M. Brodie as the Guest of Honour. The match was followed by a farewell lunch at the hostel.

We welcome the appointment of Mr. S. J. Manickam, as Alumni Relations Officer. He has been at this College since 1950 as student, librarian and teacher. His long connection and genuine interest are sure to contribute much towards our welfare and progress.

Our thanks are due to the Principal Mr. A. Kadirgamar for his guidance help and co-operation in all our activities; to Mr. M. A. Veluppillai one of our Vice Presidents who acted for the Secretary in his absence for about three months and to all other members of the committee who by their presence and deliberations did their best towards the smooth and efficient functioning of the J. C. A. A.

N. S. Ratnasingam  
Hony. Secy



## Executive Committee of the Jaffna Branch 1984-85

<b>President:</b>	Mr. V. K. Kandiah
<b>Vice President:</b>	Mr. M. A. Veluppillai
	Mr. R. Jeganathan
	Dr. K. Sathasivampillai
	Mr. A. I. Sinniah
<b>Secretary:</b>	Mr. N. S. Ratnasingham
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Mr. T. Anandaratanam
<b>Committee :</b>	Miss M. S. Elias
	Mr. K. Gunaratnam
	Mr. Katpagan Kadirgamar
	Rev. S. Manopavan
	Mr. P. Palasundarampillai
	Mr. A. Rajasingam
	Mr. K. Ratnavele
	Mr. M. Shanmugaratnam
	Mr. N. Sivagnanam
	Rev. Sam Thampoe
	Mr. N. A. Vimalendran
<b>Ex. Officio Members:</b>	The Principal
	The Alumni Relations Officer
<b>Auditors:</b>	Mr. T. Pathmanathan
	Mr. Anton Ganesan

## Jaffna College Alumni Association

List of Life members accepted upto 31-12-1985. (This list is a continuation of the list published in the last year's Miscellany).

528	Anandaratanam	Miss N.	534	Kathiravetpillai	Miss S.
529	Anton	Miss B.	535	Kumarasamy	Mr. K.
530	Ariaratnam	Miss R. A.	536	Kumaravel	Mr. T.
531	David	Mr. J. S.	537	Lambotharan	Mr. R.
532	Jesudasan	Miss S. J.	538	Loroy	Mr. J. J. C.
533	Kumarendiran	Mr. C.	539	Neethithevan	Mr. V. S



JAFFNA COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
Executive Committee of the Jaffna Branch — 1985



**Standing (L. — R.):** Mr. P. A. Palasundarampillai, Mr. S. Jeyaweerasingham,  
Mr. W. N. Thevakadacham, Mr. N. A. Vimalendran,  
Miss S. Selvadurai, Mrs. S. Kesavarajan, Mrs. S. Rajamohan and  
Mr. M. A. Veluppillai.

**Seated (L. — R.):** Mr. S. J. Manickam (Alumni Relations Officer), Mr. K. Gunaratnam (Alumni Representative on the Board of Directors),  
The Principal, Mr. N. Sivagnanam (President), Mr. A. Rajasingham (Vice Principal), Mr. N. S. Ratnasingham (Secretary),  
Rev. S. Tampoe and Miss C. V. Selliah.



## THE STAFF TENNIS CLUB — 1985



**Standing (L.—R.):** A. P. Thurairatnam, M. D. Thambirajah, K. C. Kadirgamar,  
S. Jebanesan, N. A. Vimalendran, A. Jeyarajan, Mrs. B. Suresh.

**Seated (L.—R.):** Miss M. S. Elias, The Principal, Mr. V. Selvaratnam (President),  
Mr. G. Nadarajah (Secretary), Mr. R. Kanagaratnam.

**Absent :** Mr. S. C. Karunendran (Treasurer).



540	Navaratnarajah	Mrs. K.	551	Sivachelvan	Dr. N.
541	Pathmanathan	Mr. T.	552	Sivarajah	Mr. N.
542	Ratnasabapathy	Dr. P.	553	Sivanathan	Miss K.
543	Ratnasabapathy	Mr. S.	554	Sivanathan	Mr. M.
544	Sabapathipillai	Mr. G.	555	Surendran	Mr. S.
545	Savundranayagam	Mr. N.	556	Surendran	Mr. S.
546	Sasirathan	Mr. K.	557	Thissairasa	Mr. K. S.
547	Selvarajah	Mr. K.	558	Thampoe	Mr. N. S. P.
548	Shanmukam	Mr. K.	559	Vijendiran	Mr. S.
549	Solomon	Mr. J.	560	Wijeyanayagam	Mr. U. S.
550	Sithambaranathan	Mrs. S.	561	Wignarajah	Mr. A.

### Wedding Bells

Our congratulations to the following couples who got married during the course of this year.

1.	Mr. Lukshman Rajaratnam	to	Miss Rajamallika Kadirgamar
2.	Mr. E. Raviraj	to	Miss Menaka Poopalan
3.	Mr. P. Sritharan	to	Miss S. Sundaramoorthy
4.	Mr. N. Manikkasinghe	to	Miss Vijeyaluxmy Vijeyaratnam
5.	Mr. V. Parameswaran	to	Miss Thanaluxmy Vijeyaratnam
6.	Mr. N. Thayananthan	to	Miss Shanthini Seevaratnam
7.	Dr. A. Sithamparanathan	to	Miss Sathiaselvy Tharmalingham
8.	Mr. S. Shantikumar	to	Miss Sharmalene Brodie
9.	Mr. S. Sangarasay	to	Miss A. Vanathy

### R. I. P.

We record with deep sorrow the passing away of the following Alumni during the course of 1985.

1.	Mr. I. P. Thurairatnam	6.	Mr. A. Sethupathy
2.	Mr. C. E. Anandarajan	7.	Dr. N. P. Rajendra
3.	Mr. P. G. Jeyaratnam	8.	Mr. Kulasegarampillai
4.	Mr. J. A. R. Sanders	9.	Mrs. M. Sanders
5.	Mr. Selladurai		



## Report of the Principal's Visit to Bangkok, Malaysia and Singapore — 1984-85

### Bangkok :

Though a visit was planned only to Malaysia and Singapore to meet Alumni there, a last minute invitation to attend a consultation of Directors of Christian Institutes in Asia also fitted into the schedule within the leave available. I was invited to attend this consultation in my capacity as the Acting Director of the CISRS, the conference being organised by the Association of Christian Institutes for Social Concerns in Asia (ACISCA). This consultation took place at the Student Christian Centre in Bangkok from 30th November to 5th December. There were directors of study Institutes from India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Philippines, Hong-Kong, Taiwan, Thailand, Sri Lanka and observers from USA, the Christian Conference of Asia and the World Council of Churches. Preliminary assessment of our common concerns in Asia boiled down to the following problems that needed serious consideration and social action :

1. Acute poverty
2. Pollution and environment
3. The status of women
4. Problems created by multi-national companies
5. Repressive governments and militarism
6. Problems of ethnic and other minorities.

It was somewhat consoling and refreshing to orient oneself again to the

Asian context and to feel its solidarity in facing these common problems. Permanent membership in this association is possible only for institutes that are action-oriented and not merely study-oriented. Our institute is still only study-oriented. Most of the national delegations had at least three delegates, while I was the only one from Sri Lanka. However, the Association gave me much time and concern as all the officers of the Association were well known to me personally—viz. Dr. K. C. Abraham (Chairman) of Bangalore, Rev. John England (Secretary) of New Zealand now in Hong-Kong, and Rev. Tosh Arai of Japan (W. C. C. Consultant ).

The Student Christian Centre, the venue of the Consultation itself was a worthy experience as a useful and relevant Christian enterprise in the centre of Bangkok. It was well planned architecturally and aesthetically meeting the needs of specially lesser privileged youth of Thailand with excellent facilities for residence, meals, libraries, worship, Christian fellowship, cultural activities and recreation. There was one Sri Lankan doctor resident in the centre. It had a well trained ordained minister as Director and Chaplain. I also took the opportunity of the one free day I had to visit the University and some Buddhist Temples in the company of the Director himself and to see how some of the youth of Thailand lived, studied, worshipped and worked.



PRINCIPAL'S VISIT TO SINGAPORE December—1984



Singapore Alumni — Men



Singapore Alumni — Ladies  
Including Mr. Justice A. P. Rajah on the left  
and Mr. S. M. Vasagar on the right.



## ALUMNI IN SINGAPORE



An Alumni Group in Singapore Singing the College Song. Dec. 1984.



Mr. Justice A. P. Rajah presenting memento to the Principal.



## Malasiya and Singapore

Revisiting Malaysia and Singapore, was a dream come true and a very pleasant, sentimental and nostalgic journey down memory lane! I first went to Malaysia in 1938 as a boy of ten and as the son of a Methodist pastor, lived and studied in the Anglo-Chinese School, Seremban; was caught up in the Japanese occupation, studied Japanese and finished schooling at the age of 15 and was employed by the Japanese Government as a correspondence clerk in the internal Affairs Department of the State of Negri Sembilan. With the dropping of the atom bomb on Nagasaki and Hiroshima in August, 1945 that experience came to an abrupt end and I was enrolled again as a student in the same school and reached Jaffna College on the first evacuee boat from Malaysia to Colombo in April 1946. As a young teacher at Jaffna College I had the opportunity of revisiting these same scenes on my way to and back from Philippines for the YMCA Conference in 1954.....1955. Revisiting those very places now after a lapse of 30 years was certainly a unique and joyful experience. I met my old teachers, many of them in their seventies and eighties, even my old school peon now in his early nineties living very affluently with a teacher son. I met a host of friends and school mates, further enhanced by a new generation of Jaffna College alumni well established there.

My wife and I were invited as guests to the opening sessions of the Annual Methodist Conference in Singapore and later in Malaysia as well, and also attended the consecration service of

the new Bishop of Singapore. We spent some time in the Methodist Headquarters in the company of an old friend, Bishop Doraisamy, who is now in charge of the Methodist Archives in Singapore. We visited many of the churches in Malaysia and Singapore, and some of the schools run by them. We also spent some time with the good friends in the offices of the Christian Conference of Asia in Singapore.

## Malaysian Alumni

I was able to contact many more alumni than I had on my list due to the energetic efforts of Dr. S. Durai Raja Singham and Mr. S. Rathichandran. Many of them are holding very influential posts and belong to the most respected rungs of society there. Dato Dr. S. Sarvananthan is the President of the Malayan Medical Association, and the King's Physician and one of my good biology students in the fifties at College. Mr. M. Rajasingham, a B.Sc graduate from the London University classes here is the Director of Postal Services. Similarly there were many eminent doctors, engineers, lawyers, teachers and scholars such as Dr. S. Durai Raja Singham. I visited the older members who could not make it for the alumni dinner while the rest about 40 hosted us for dinner at a restaurant in the Petaling Jaya Super Market. Besides this dinner I had smaller groups meeting me at the Selangor and Lake Clubs and in homes.

The alumni group in Malaysia unlike that in Singapore is a more indigenous one, as there are very few new comers. They were mostly my contemporaries in college



or my students. The group that met for dinner were those living in and around Kuala Lumpur. There were a few more scattered around the country, the chief of them, Dr. Kanapathipillai in Ipoh. However, I did not venture beyond Kuala Lumpur as my time was fully taken up during the two weeks in Kuala Lumpur and Seremban.

#### **Educational Institutions:- Malaysia**

I had much time with the educators of the Mara Institute of Technology and the Petaling Jaya Community College, since I was living in the home of one of the senior teachers and directors of both the institutions. These are institutions catering for school leavers dealing with a wide range of academic and technical studies and skills. One very significant feature of both these institutions is their collaboration with educators from abroad through the auspices of colleges and universities particularly in USA, UK and Australia. A partnership seems to be possible in common courses, examinations, staff and in the students continuing the courses abroad. Most Malaysian students seem to be preparing for education abroad and so this scheme is very helpful. A scheme like this has implications for us too and initial moves have been made to us by the UCBWM, the Princeton University, Williams College and Oberlin is another possibility for us. Some collaboration with Indian schools and colleges may be helpful at this time when so many of our students have to go to India.

#### **Home for the Elderly : — Seremban**

In Seremban, I took the opportunity to visit a Home for the Elderly to meet

one of the very best teachers I ever had —Mr. Gurdial Singh. Strange circumstances had brought this genial and accomplished gentleman to that home. He was one of Malaysia's best sportsman and one of the pioneering Methodist scholars to USA after World WarII. What impressed us most was that the Home was so efficiently run with dedication and commitment and the Director was a Tamil. They were very appreciative of our visit to this teacher. We are grateful that the Diocese has embarked on Boys and Girls Homes and Homes for the Handicapped. The Home for the Elderly seem to be a social need here too and we will have to share experiences from our neighbours.

#### **Singapore Alumni**

The major part of our stay was in Singapore since we had a home of our own almost—that of my sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. S. V. Chandran both alumni of the college too. Mr. Gnana-chandran, an engineer had contacted almost everybody possible in the place and the list again was very much larger than I thought. Alumni from Johore Bahru, the adjacent Malaysian City were also contacted. Many in the group in Singapore were more recent immigrants with the older generation almost gone. The oldest I met was Mr. Joseph, 84 years old and a contemporary of Bishop Kulandran.

The group consisted of influential lawyers, doctors, engineers, teachers and businessmen, the most influential of them being Mr. Justice A. P. Rajah (one of the seven judges in the city and a former speaker of the Parliament and



High Commissioner to UK) and Mr. S. M. Vasagar, a former Mayor of Singapore, both hailing from Vaddukoddai too. Mr. Justice Rajah presided at the alumni dinner which had more than sixty present at the Ceylon Sports Club. There were also smaller gatherings over meals in the prestigious Singapore Cricket Club and other such clubs.

There is no doubt about the fine impact our alumni has made on life and society, not only by the present generation of men and women but also by the great educators who went there from the time of the Batticotta Seminary days. This fact was brought to my knowledge even by my Chinese friends and teachers. I did my best to make all the personal contacts possible and they were all enthusiastic and appreciative about the K. A. Selliah Memorial Foundation. I was able to leave behind two video-films on the college to be circulated in Singapore and Malaysia. Stable communications have been established to initiate the fund raising campaign.

#### **Educational Institutions :**

##### **The National University of Singapore :**

I visited the University in the company of an alumni of the University, the best Chinese friend I had, Mr. Wong Ha Hee an eminent Tax Consultant. Mr. Ha Hee and I were pleasantly surprised to find that the most influential member of the University staff for our purpose, namely the Director. Liason Office was also an old mutual friend, Mr. Peter Lim. It was all the more relevant that Mr. Lim had himself visited

Vaddukoddai having been a young parish member of my father in Malaysia. In spite of no appointment being made he was generous enough to give almost the whole day to us. His experience as the Liason Officer at the Asian Institute of Technology in Bangkok earlier was also helpful in our discussions. It was impossible to see that brand new sprawling university in one day, but the visit established useful contacts.

##### **The Regional English Language Centre : (RELC)**

I was able to have an interview with the Registrar and his deputy in the company of Mr. Rathichandran regarding the courses and seminars at the Centre. This Centre is considered to be one of the best in the world for English Language training and for Linguistics. It is also reputed to have the best library in the field. Though primarily meant for ASEAN countries, they are willing to have Sri Lankan students accommodated. It will also be cheaper to have our teachers trained there. There are seminar courses, Diploma courses and post-graduate courses leading to Masters and Doctoral degrees. This centre is administered by the South East Asian Education Ministers Conference.

##### **Science Centre — Singapore :**

The Science Centre is certainly an invaluable experience for old and young in the popularisation and understanding of sciences and technology. Much can be learned quickly in very many pleasant attractive and easy ways. This is an aspect of education we in Sri Lanka have to take seriously and something



has to be done in a small way at least in our Technical and Agricultural Institutes.

**The Bird Sanctuary, Zoological and Orchid Gardens — Singapore :**

The efforts made by the Government and private enterprise to conserve, develop, enjoy and use plant and animal life and ecology is remarkable. I was with the guidance of alumni dealing with some of these interests, able to spend time in these places of interest.

**Some Conclusions :**

I have made my report somewhat personal, because the visits gratified a sentimental and emotional aspect of my life — my old church, my old school, friends and teachers, and now my own students. The time out was also one of great tribulation hearing about awful events back home, — in the newspapers, radio and TV. I was suddenly thrown into an affluent consumer society where

compulsive eating, shopping and TV watching was the evident 'culture'. There was among many Tamils a nostalgic yearning for their fast disappearing cultural 'roots'. A cultural poverty was evident in the new generation, and there was something missing in the 'physical quality of life.' In church life there was an easy drifting into the Charismatic Movement while there was also a lack of social and political concerns for relevant development. There are many things here that money cannot buy. There are lasting values that we have to preserve in our culture, our education, our religion and our social life. The hard, simple life here has a beauty of its own. There is still challenge, purpose and hope and therefore it is good to be back to face the tasks ahead.

My thanks are due to the Board and to the Trustees for making this visit possible. My wife and I remain deeply grateful.



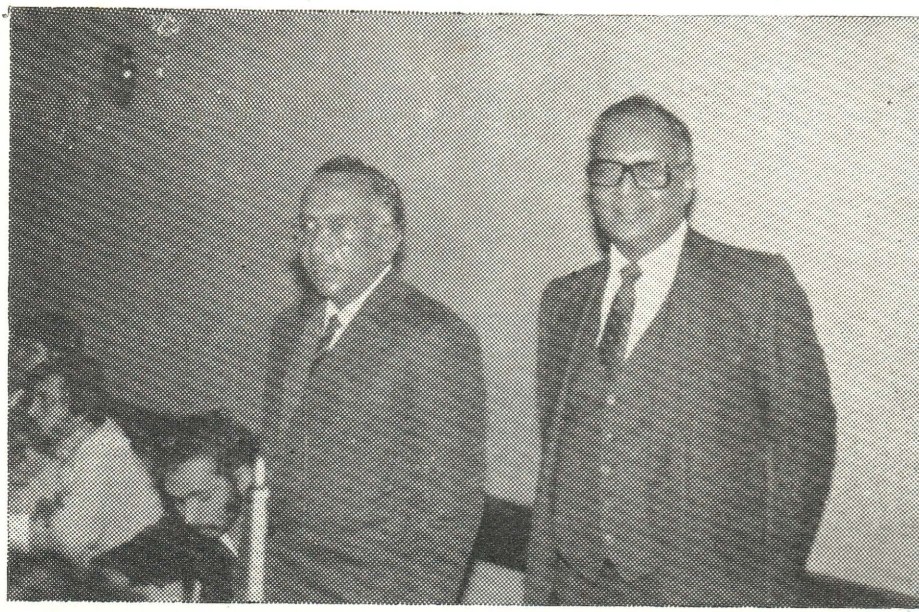
**HE GIVETH HIS BELOVED SLEEP**

BY ELIZABETH BARRETT BROWNING

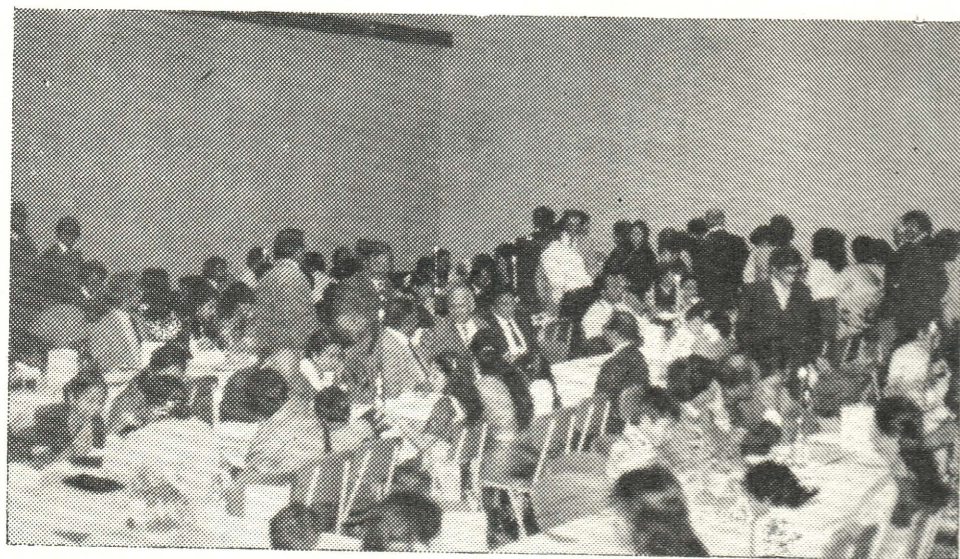
*Of all the thoughts of God that are  
Borne inward, unto souls afar,  
Along the psalmist's music deep,  
Now tell me if there any is  
For gift or grace, surpassing this,—  
"He giveth His beloved sleep."*



ALUMNI IN LONDON, December—1985

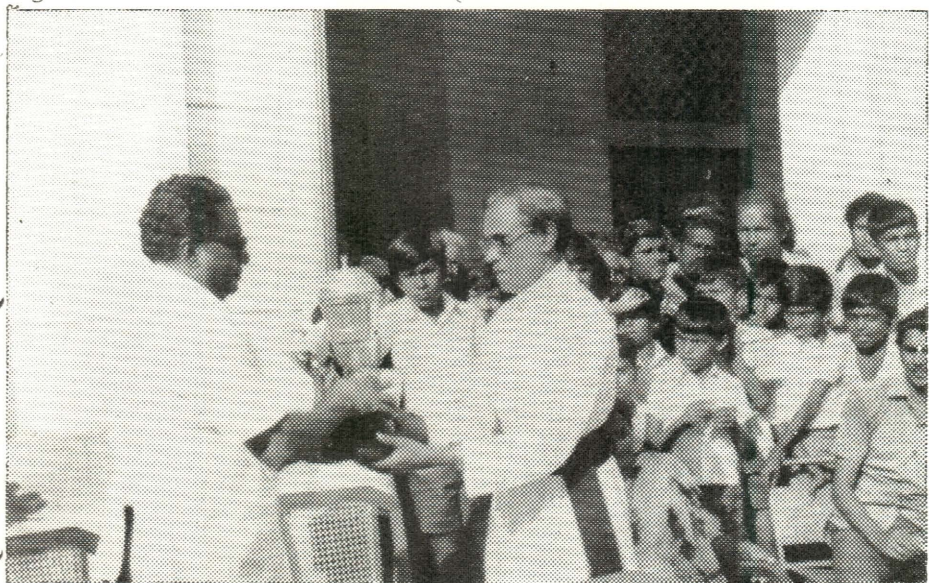


Mr. A. M. Brodie with Mr. Somasundram Anandarajah  
President U. K. Branch.



A Section of the Alumni at the Dinner in London.





The Rector of St. Patrick's College gifting Mr. A. Kadirgamar Challenge trophy for the limited over Cricket Match.



# What of the Night?

*(Sermon preached by Mr. S. Jebanesan at the Thanks giving Service of the Jaffna College Alumni Association on Saturday, the 31st August 1985)*

“Watchman what of the night? The watchman said. The morning cometh and also the night; If ye will inquire, inquire ye return come”

Isaiah 21 : 11, 12

These words were spoken by the prophet Isaiah in one of the most critical and crucial moments of Israel's history. Isaiah was a prophet. A prophet is a person who expresses God's views on current matters. If Isaiah were living at this time he would express God's views on the Thimbu talks; He would tell us what God would say to us about the negotiations that are going on in New Delhi. He would express God's views on the Tamil militants and about the most vulnerable flash points of the world.

The people of Israel in the sixth century B. C. were undergoing a very difficult time. The Israelites believed that they were perfect and upright and that they were a nation which feared God and eschewed evil. When their neighbours, the Assyrians, the Babylonians, Philistines and the Sabeans, were worshipping the sun, moon and the idols that were made by man, the Israelites believed in the one true God and worshipped him with all their mind and soul and strength. When the neighbours were indulging in loot, arson and conquest, they continued to live as God-fearing people and law-abiding citizens. They believed that their God Yaweh had made a covenant with them and that He would not desert them.

But in reality, what did they find? Again and again their country was raided by foreign troops. Their young men were taken as slaves to work in distant lands. Their young women were forced to marry the Gentiles for whom they had supreme contempt. The kingdom of

David was suppressed and they were forced to live in servitude for many centuries. In 586 B. C. a deadly blow was given their beliefs, aspirations and hopes. In that year the forces of mighty Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon marched into Jerusalem and destroyed their temple and thousands of Israelites were taken as slaves to Babylon.

During this period of captivity the major prophets like Isaiah, Ezekiel, and Jeremiah reminded them again and again of the covenant that God had made with them. They told the people that if things were not all right with them it was because they had displeased God, and if they repented and followed His commandments, their problems would be solved.

Isaiah expressed God's views in one of the darkest periods of Israel's history. The people were constantly asking “what of the night?” They were longing for the dawn.

We can understand the anxiety in this question when we are nursing a person who is seriously ill or when we ourselves are seriously ill. Going through the night is a very difficult matter for the patient. In the night the patient and the person who nurses him will look at the clock again and again to know if the dawn is near because in the night the intensity of the illness increases. If we tell him that the time is 4-00 a. m. he will be delighted. He will think that day is approaching and that he will have visitors and that the illness will be under control.



After many years of toil in the vineyards of Babylon the people of Israel were asking "What of the night?" Can we go back to our country with honour and dignity? God says, "the morning cometh and also the night." He says You are going to have day light soon but unless you change your ways you are going to have night again. "Watch man, what of the night?" The watchman says "the morning cometh and also the night."

We, the people of Sri Lanka, have been under going a very difficult period during the past five years. Again and again we are tempted to ask God, "what of the night?" God says this baptism of fire is necessary for you. The morning cometh, and you will have day light if you are purified by this baptism of fire.

Today the Alumni of Jaffna College have assembled here to conduct their annual fellowship meeting. The Alumni is a very important part of Jaffna College. When I think of the old boys and old girls of Jaffna College I am reminded of the book "The City of God" written by St. Augustine after the fall of the Roman Empire. When the Roman rule decayed and died in Europe, the Romans held that the Christians were responsible for the Empire's downfall. St. Augustine in his book "The City of God" said that the Church of God is not confined to the city of Rome. It consists of the angels and archangels and the thousands of martyrs who have crossed the bar, and also the many Saints who have finished their course. Jaffna College is not confined to the campus near Vaddukoddai junction. Jaffna College consists of thousands of our old boys and girls who are holding responsible positions in the affluent societies of the West. It consists of the hundreds of refugees

who are languishing in the refugee camps of Germany Netherlands, Norway, Denmark and France. It consists of the hundreds of our old boys and girls who have fled to South India for safety. It consists of the hundreds of our former students who are working in Southern Sri Lanka. It also consists of the hundreds of our courageous young men who brave the oceans and high seas.

In this context there arises a very important question. Does Jaffna College have a role to play in this situation? Has the Alumni Association a separate goal?

A month ago the Editor of Eelamadu, who himself is a distinguished old boy of Jaffna College, wrote an Editorial on The American Ceylon Mission. He wrote that at the dawn of the nineteenth century the American Missionaries came to Jaffna to propagate Protestant Christianity, but in actual fact they propagated the spirit of a new nation conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. It was not the spirit of Ronald Reagan and Richard Murphy, but the spirit of Thomas Jefferson who said "Education is the only avenue to all kinds of progress;" The spirit of Abraham Lincoln, who said, "As I would not like to be a Master, so I would not like to be a slave;" "The spirit of George Washington, who fought against the loss of those valuable rights and privileges which are essential to the happiness of every free state and without which life liberty and property are rendered totally insecure.

Now what of the night in Jaffna? Some of the happenings remind us of Robespierre's Reign of Terror. At this critical hour, let the Alumni of Jaffna College be a civilizing force, now when the promised land is in sight, let us prepare ourselves for perpetual daylight.



## Allen Abraham Supplement



In this year of Halley's Comet which appears only once in two generations it is but fitting that we should commemorate one of our own men whose name flashed across the astronomical firmament like Halley's Comet itself when it appeared in 1911 viz Mr. Allen Abraham.

Mr. Allen had been teaching mathematics here since 1891. He had studied astronomy from Dr. S. W. Howland and Mr. W. E. Hitchcock and had developed a taste if not passion for the subject and used to work out astronomical problems on his own. When the thought of Halley's Comet swam into his ken he devoted his attention to charting the path of this rare but periodic visitor. The issues of the Miscellany which in those days used to appear every term was full of articles written by him on the subject. He seems to have taken part in high controversy with European Astronomers. The point at issue in 1911 between him and them seemed to have been the time when the comet would come first nearest the earth. It is remarkable that as against the predictions of the Western astronomers Allens insight and calculations were confirmed true by the comets appearance. For this intellectual feat he was rewarded with a Fellowship in the Royal Astronomical Society which is a very high distinction.

It is impossible for any one of us to walk in his footsteps as none of us has Allens versatility dedication and brilliance. It is perhaps because of this our celestial visitor did not tarry with us long this time.

— Editor







## S. V. Balasingham Memorial Scholarship Award

The above award was initiated by the members of the Round Table (Teachers Guild) of Jaffna College in memory of a very affectionate colleague and Principal, the late Mr. S. V. Balasingham who died suddenly of a heart attack at the age of fifty. This award is given to the best academic performance at the G. C. E. Ordinary Level examination enabling the scholars to complete their Advanced Level at Jaffna College. A review of the awards and the achievement of scholars in later life will be of great interest and encouragement to the present day teachers and students.

Year	Name of Scholar	Present Position of Scholar
1970	Kanagaratnam Shanmugaratnam	— Doctor, M. R. C. P. (London), Working in U. K.
1971	B. T. L. Jeyasingham	— Postgraduate qualification in Engineering, working in Canada.
1972	Kanagaratnam Sivakumar	— Doctor M. R. C. P. (London), working in U. K.
1973	S. S. Gurupatham	— Lecturer in Sociology, University of Peradeniya (on scholarship abroad).
1974	Arumugam Muruganesan	— Graduate in Agriculture
1975	Sanmugam Sithamparapillai	— Post Graduate Scholar in Engineering, Bulgaria.
1976	Sundararajah Thevananther	— Lecturer in Bio-Chemistry, Private Medical College, Jaffna.
	Vasanthi Somasunderam	— Graduate in Home Science
1977	Kalyani Ramachandran	— General Clerical Service
1978	Not Awarded	—
1979	Velupillai Thevarajah	— Engineering Student, Katubatte University
1980	Rubarany Sivanesan	— Medical Faculty, Madras
	Nalini Nadarajah	— Private Medical College, Jaffna.
1981	Sundararajah Nesanather	— Scholar in Medicine, Russia.
1982	Navukarasy Vijeyaratnam	— Awaiting admission to University.
1983	Gunaratnam Jeyasingham Gunathilagan	— Medical Faculty, Jaffna.
1984	Das Balashankar	— Indian College — Prospective candidate for Engineering.
	Poopalapillai Yogachandran Benjamin	— Advanced Level Student at Jaffna College.
	Nirainithy Sivaguru	— Advanced Level Student at Jaffna College.
1985	Sundararajah Sarvananther	— Advanced Level Student at Jaffna College.
1986	Bavani Guruswamy	— Advanced Level Student at Jaffna College.







# Allen Abraham of Jaffna College returns to our ken with The Halley's Comet

Mr. A. Kadirgamar  
Principal, Jaffna College

There is a renewed interest in Professor Allen Abraham and his studies in Astronomy with the reappearance of the Halley's Comet during the course of this year. Jaffna College now produces a publication giving more information in historical perspective of Allen Abraham as a man, an outstanding teacher of Mathematics, an Astronomer, a Tamil Scholar and a Christian Layman.

A publication of the Royal Astronomical Society giving a list of Fellows and Associates published in February, 1921 has the name Allen Abraham. B. A. Professor of Mathematics, Jaffna College, Vaddukoddai, Ceylon, first on the list in alphabetical order. On scrutinising the document I find that there were about 759 Fellows in 1921 and **Professor Allen Abraham was the first native Ceylonese to be admitted as a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society on the 12th of January, 1912.** There was one other person who was admitted to the Fellowship from Ceylon before Professor Abraham on 11-6-1909 and he was an Englishman. Allec Joscelyn Bamford B. A. Associate Astronomer for the Government of Ceylon, Observatory, Colombo, Ceylon. The same document reveals that **professor Allen Abraham was the 8th native Asian to be admitted to the Fellowship** — which includes six from India and one from Japan. Taking into consideration all the other Fellows from Asia he was the 18th to obtain the Fellowship with seven Englishmen from India, and one each from Japan, Federated Malay States and Ceylon. But what is

most interesting is that most of the others who were admitted as Fellows of the Royal Astronomical Society were all working in established technical institutions or observatories with many facilities available for scanning the skies and for making appropriate records, but Allen Abraham alias Subramaniam Amplavanar made his observations with a very small telescope (brought in probably by the original missionary astronomer to Jaffna College from U. S. A. Dr Daniel Poor in the early 19th century) aided also by observations of the naked eye with the help of his students and colleagues on plamyarh tree trunks, at Karaitivu, Jaffna.

The following quotation from the Jaffna College Miscellany of first term, 1912 Volume XXII No: I under the heading. "Astronomy in Jaffna College" will be of some interest.

"Later Mr. Allen Abraham, a pupil of both Mr. Hitchcock and Dr. Howland, who obtained his B. A. degree in English, Philosophy and Mathematics, became the head of the Department of Mathematics. He has fully kept up the traditions of the chair by adding to his college teaching original work in calculating eclipses and writing articles on other astronomical phenomena. During the year 1910 while Halley's comet engaged general attention, he was particularly helpful in diffusing information in regard to this and other phenomena



through popular lectures and articles in the papers and magazines.

Especially two points are to be noted to his credit in connection with the comet in his lectures on Halley's comet. He predicted and explained with diagrams that the comet would be visible to the naked eye in the middle of April, 1910, while other astronomers thought that it could not be seen so soon. In fact the comet which was first observed in photograph on the 11th September 1909, by Dr. Wolf of Heidelberg, and in the telescope on the 19th of September 1909, by Prof. Burnham of Chicago, was first seen with the naked eye by Mr. Abraham on the 14th of April, 1910. He communicated the news immediately to the Colombo Press pointing out where to look for it in the heavens. It was seen at Khartoum on the 18th at Bombay and Kodaikanal on the 19th and in London on the 25th of April.

Again he pointed out in his lectures and explained with diagrams that the comet would enter into the orbit of Venus and reach so near it during the first week of May, that its motion would be retarded by that planet. This proved to be a fact which was neglected even by some of the most eminent astronomers in their first calculation of the time of the comet's transit across the disc of the sun, and was noticed only just before the time of the transit after seeing that the comet had not advanced in its motion as rapidly as they first calculated. Mr. Abraham

has indeed done real service in popularising Astronomy and amply deserved the honour conferred on him by a scientific society of such high rank as the Royal Astronomical Society of England."

A biographical sketch of Professor Abraham outlining his family background and academic achievements at Tellipallai and Jaffna College appear elsewhere in this issue. While a student at the Tellipallai Training and Industrial School of the American Ceylon Mission he along with his classmates built the important land mark at the present Union College, Tellipallai — the SANDERS HALL as masonry was one of subjects for practical training then. (Unfortunately the name Sanders has been sadly obliterated from the building now!).

Allen Abraham was the distinguished professor of Mathematics and Tamil at Jaffna College from 1896 to 1922 the time of his death. For a period during this time Jaffna College was affiliated to the Calcutta University. Some of his better known students during his last few years as Professor were Messers K. A. Selliah (Principal, Jaffna College), I. P. Thurairatnam (Principal, Union College, Tellipallai), L. S. Kulathungam (Vice-Principal, Jaffna College) and P. Sri Skandarajah (Supreme Court Judge). The fact that these able students were taught by a Professor of Mathematics as well as Tamil explains the ability of some of them in handling Mathematics as well as the Humanities — K. A. Selliah the able Maths and Physics teacher started teaching Tamil at Jaffna College while L. S. Kulathungam the great teacher of English and Latin



## Allen Elected F. R. A. S.

BURLINGTON HOUSE,  
LONDON, W.

Sir,

I have the pleasure to inform you, that you have this day been elected a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society. The Bye-Laws relative to new Fellows, with which it is expedient that you should be more immediately acquainted, will be found on a subsequent page. The prescribed Form of Obligation, therein alluded to, is enclosed; and I have to request that you will return it to me at your earliest convenience, after having subscribed it with your Christian name and Surname, together with the addition of your Rank, Profession, &c., and your usual place of Residence; in order that they may be properly inserted in the printed List of Fellows. Enclosed, also, is a Card announcing the days on which the ordinary Meetings are held during the present session.

I have the honour to be  
Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,  
(sgd) S. A. Saunder,  
Secretary.

PROFESSOR ALLEN ABRAHAM, B. A.



அலன் ஆபிரகாமின் சொந்தக் கையெழுத்தில்  
எழுதப்பட்ட கப்பற் பாட்டு

தெருவென்ற சிறுதிருமாம் - தந்தித்  
சிறு ப்புடனே செழித் தோடும்  
கோவென்ற பரத கண்பம் - அழிந்தெழுகித்  
குன்றுவறுவே கோழி புது வெய்யும்

பாவலர்க்கு வலவர்க்கு போற்றியவரு  
பாவினிய் பவவன மரிபயமுபுரே து  
தாவலர்க்கு கண்கொக்கல் கொள்ளுபுரே து  
கடல்படு திரவியம் காண்படுதலியம்  
மலைபடு திரவியம் மதிப்பியம் துரே து  
மய்யுளாதி திகனொடுமலைக்கா ப்தினை  
தாவலமவாவிகளா யுகள்கா ப்தி  
சுகமெலாம் வெய்த சுகத்தையு முக்கா ப்தி  
கோவலு யானெய்யெடுகொ டும்புலியுளாயுடு  
கோவலு மரமுடிவ் திணை யுமவன்தியின்தாப்தி  
நாதலோகத்தினிற் பைந் தடுவை யெடுகெடு  
நத்திடுய்ப்பு மந்தியதனையு நிகற்கும்  
சீவமுந் தீருவ குடிமுடுகும் பயக்துந்  
தாவலிடுய் படுதெரு தினது கபத்தி  
தீவ முறு கனலையாய் வெருநினைகாப்தி  
தூய் திணை யாழ் ப்பணைப் பய தினககாப்தி  
தூயககாப்தி திணைந் தீவலா டும் போற்ற  
தூயககாப்தி தூயககாப்தி தூயம் - ஏவெ



could handle Mathematics too to several classes.

Besides his scholarship in Tamil being known as "Allen Pandithar". Professor Abraham excelled in the art of composing and singing Tamil verses and lyrics. He was a prolific writer and author and was also the Editor of the Morning Star from 1897 to 1909. He was also the Secretary of the Jaffna Council of South India United Church from 1915 to the time of his untimely death and was an excellent lay preacher too.

His greatest contribution was in the field of Astronomy and his calculations, predictions and lucid explanations about the movements of the Comet in 1910 brought him international fame and the prestigious Royal Astronomical Society of England elected him as a Fellow and thus he became the first Ceylonese to be recognised as such and in spite of such publicity given to the Halley's comet in our news media Allen Abraham strangely seems to be forgotten!

Allen Abraham's son Aruliah now lives in Rakka Road, Jaffna and very affectionately holds on to some of his fathers documents and certificates and proudly and ardently cherishes the memory of a truly great and devout father.

Some of the writings of Allen Abraham in English and Tamil are still available in his own handwriting while most of them have been published in the Morning Star or in the Jaffna College Miscellany. Some of these interest to the present generation are:

1. "வானுதிசயங்கள்" — "Wonders of the Heavens" written in Tamil

as a series in the Morning Star beginning 5-2-1903.

2. "Tropical Heavens" published posthumously in the Jaffna College Miscellany in September, 1925.
3. Articles in the 1910 Miscellany are of absorbing interest, namely: "Comets and their influence on the Earth" (March 1910 Volume XX) and "The Comet's visit and after" (June 1910 Volume XY No. 2). The earlier article is also reprinted in the Centenary publication of the Miscellany of 1981.
4. Among some of the manuscripts found in his own hand-writing there is an article "On the Place of Astronomy in Elementary School Education" and another on "The Stars".

The telescope he used for his observations had a  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " objective and was 5' long when stretched. This telescope had much sentimental value to Jaffna College and was used by students and teachers in the Physics laboratory up to August, 1974 when it was forcibly taken away by the Jaffna University when the college was acquired and we believe that it is still in the Jaffna University. We are hoping that this telescope will be returned to us very soon. It will be a very kind and thoughtful gesture if returned.

While Allen Abraham returns to our ken along with the Halley's Comet again in no un mistakeable terms, we stand awestruck and enthralled reading his writings and lecture notes. His erudite scholarship, clarity of thought,



beauty and eloquence of expression are most remarkable and heart-warming. People who still remember him speak of his base-baritone voice that causes tremors of emotion when the Professor sings in Tamil. There are still some who refer to the brevity and lucidity of the minutes he used to maintain, as secretary of councils, like the Jaffna Council of the South India United Church.

What a treat it would have been for his students to know him and to imbibe knowledge at his feet. His son, Aruliah sobbing uncontrollably while handing his father's invaluable documents to me last year related how his father used to sing with tears streaming down his cheeks a song of gratitude and praise to God for raising him to such great heights and achievements from the sheer dust of Karaitivu: "to proclaim the triumphs of Him who has called you out of darkness into this marvellous light"—if I may express it in the words of the Epistle to St. Peter (I Peter 2:9)

While recapitulating Professor Allen Abraham's astronomical studies and his

commitment to Christianity, it may be relevant to refer to some observations in Professor C. A. Coulson's book "Science & Christian Belief" — "The Astronomer Kepler was sustained by the thought that as they work they are" "thinking God's thoughts after Him....." ".....Science is an imaginative adventure of the mind seeking truth in a world of mystery". In Canon Raven's words "Life abundant is both the goal of evolution and the purpose of Christ" and that "For mankind there are two unique sacraments which disclose the meaning and convey the experience of reality: they are the created universe and the person of Jesus Christ".

It is remarkable that we had in our midst a century ago such a genius and a scholar whose commitment to the academic and to Christ still remains a magnificent spectacle of all that we hope and desire to do at Jaffna College. He was more than aware of the college motto "Jesus Christ the Light of Life".



*With so many persons on the Federal payroll, we presume Congress will soon have to relax the immigration laws to let in some prospective taxpayers.*

*Women are steadily growing more beautiful. Well, they have been steadily trying for several thousand years.*

*What the United States is less paternalism in Washington and more in American homes.*

*The problem in this country has been whether to participate actively in the United Nations Organization or just butt into the world's arguments from time to time.*

*Winter is the time of the year when it gets later earlier.*



# Professor Allen Abraham & Halley's Comet

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**"The starry heavens above  
The moral law within"**

These were the concerns of the great philosopher Kant and are engraved in a statue to his memory in the ancient city of Konisberg. It seems to me that these lines are also appropriate to describe the life and work of Prof. Abraham.

A quality that distinguishes the humans from the rest of the animal world is the capacity to recognise and to wonder at some of the great and beautiful works of creation. The starry heavens above have filled mankind from ancient times with a sense of wonder and awe. Reflections on the stars quickened man's intelligence and led him on in that long road to learning and civilization. Marvel at the beauties of the creation led him on to adoration of the Creator.

The astronomical knowledge of the ancients had been consolidated by the great Ptolemy of Alexandria about two thousand years ago in great books which the Arab astronomers of a later date reverently called **The Almagest**. In the sixteen and seventeenth centuries, science entered a new phase when a mathematical science of mechanics, applicable universally to terrestrial and celestial motions alike, came to be constructed through a scientific movement in which Copernicus, Kepler, Galileo and Newton were among the pioneers.

What they did changed man's outlook towards the world and the universe. What had been looked upon as a chaos now became a cosmos, law abiding and predictable.

However, there were many sceptics who refused to accept that same simple mathematical theories and formulae could describe and limit the great wide universe, and confine the enormous heavenly bodies to specified motions. Some spoke from their prejudices and some from deep philosophical misgivings. Years later, Albert Einstein said :

**"The most incomprehensible thing  
about the world is that it is  
comprehensible."**

Halley's Comet, perhaps more than any other celestial occurrence, helped to convince that there must be something deep and true in the science of Mechanics. It had been believed that the occasional appearance of a comet portended some disaster-earthquake, famine, demise of rulers. When Edmund Halley applied Newton's laws of Mechanics and his Inverse Square Law of Universal Gravitation to study the paths of some twenty comets for which accurate historical records were available, he arrived at the surprising conclusion that the comets of 1531, 1607 and 1682 had followed approximately the same orbits. He went on to assert that these comets were one and the same, that it made its periodic



appearance once every 75 or 76 years, and that it would appear again in 1758. This prediction was brilliantly fulfilled. By then Halley had died but his fellow astronomers named that comet as Halley's comet, in honour of the man who had demonstrated that the universe was law abiding and predictable.

The first time I heard about Comets was as a school boy at Hartley College. By that time the name Allen Abraham was something like a legend. Those who spoke about him added in the same breath some reference to Halley's Comet. Prof. Abraham had prepared the people of Ceylon and in particular the people of Jaffna for the expected appearance of this Comet in 1910. The Comet obliged with a magnificent display for several months. Those who had been privileged to witness it often spoke with great emotion and passion.

In our early introduction to science in the middle forms at Hartley, astronomical topics were often included. I can recall vividly now, some fifty five years later, some of the themes with which Mr. S. T. Samuel inspired us. If later in life, we had learnt to love science through the works of Newton, Maxwell Einstein and Dirac, the early kindlings could be ascribed to the emphasis on science education which Prof. Abraham had brought to the Jaffna scene.

Halley's Comet is visiting us again. It is not expected to be so brilliant this time as in 1910. Here in Australia, visibility has required clear skies, remoteness from city lights and binoculars. It is expected to brighten by late March, 1986 and we would be able to see with the naked eye. As we look and marvel, we would think of professor Abraham whose life and work had testified to the glories and wonders of God and his Creation.



*A fool and his money may part, but they were lucky to get together in the first place.*

*Guests of a night club were held up on the way home. After all, these are days of keen competition.*

*A man who pays his family's living expenses and taxes deserves a badge of merit, but he gets a barrel.*

*Every automobile should have a small compartment in which to keep the installment loan contract.*



# Allen Abraham Ambalavanar the Astronomer of Halley's Comet Fame

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Halley an international Astronomer and a Scientist much respected by his contemporary Sir Isaac Newton made an astronomical study of the occurrence of a Comet and in 1704 predicted that the particular Comet would occur again in 1758. Though Halley was deprived of the satisfaction of realising the truth of his prediction on account of his death in 1742 his contemporaries did confirm his prediction by the observation of the Comet in 1758. The Comet had been named after him and it was observed subsequently in 1834 and 1910. The 1910 Comet was correctly predicted by the late Allen Abraham Ambalavanar, a member of the staff of Jaffna College who earned the distinction of being made a Fellow of Royal Astronomical Society of United Kingdom for his brilliant work. He has been the first Ceylonese to have been awarded the much respected International Fellowship. The certificate which was awarded confirming the fellowship is yet found in the Daniel Poor Library of Jaffna College, Vaddukoddai. Also the document of the Royal Astronomical Society of 1921 available in the same Library containing the names of others who were made Fellows states that he was the one and only Ceylonese to have been honoured thus then.

In the village of Karainagar, then called Karadive was born Subramaniam Ambalavanar (Allen Abraham Ambalavanar) in 1865 at Pairikoodal off

Chakalavodai as the eldest son of Kanthappar Subramaniam and wife Parvathy. He had two younger brothers and a sister. Those were days when the villagers were mainly concerned with either farm or fishing or trade with South India. The 1876 cholera epidemic made Ambalavanar an orphan as both his parents had to succumb to death. Then the three children were adopted and looked after by their uncle Kanthappar Saravanamuttu. During this period there weren't any proper school at Karadive and so Ambalavanar attended a 'Thinnai School' of Mrs. Sethi Nagamuthu. Having learnt his alphabets and some easy literature with her guidance he continued his studies under Karthigesai Aiyer and learnt higher and difficult literature and language under him. In December, 1881 he got selected to the then grant in Aid Training School at Tellipallai where he became a Christian. He finished the course in December 1883. Thereafter a notary and an old boy of Jaffna College took him to Jaffna College and made him follow the then five year Graduation Course of the Institution.

It was during the years 1884—1888 while being a student at Jaffna College Allen Abraham Ambalavanar's intelligence was spotted and he finished the course with a first class. While following the course itself he was appointed an instructor (a prestigious post at that time) at the said institution. After his graduation he



was appointed lecturer at the Tellipallai Training College. He had the distinction of having been welcomed as a lecturer of the Training College with songs specially composed for the occasion by the then students. They were really happy to have him as their lecturer but their hopes were short lived as he was appointed 'Professor' of Tamil at Jaffna College in 1891. During this period he passed the Senior Local in 1886 and the Madras Matriculation in 1889. The fact that he had a job, status and security did not prevent but on the contrary spurred him towards further academic pursuits. After having passed the F. A. of the Calcutta University in 1893 he continued his studies and followed it up by passing the B. A. Examination of the University privately by sitting for it in Jaffna itself. His performance at the Examinations is said to be unique. At this stage he was appointed 'Professor' of Mathematics as well at the institution. During this time Jaffna College got affiliated to the Calcutta University and was preparing student for the F. A. and B. A. Examinations. Then Mr. Allen Abraham Ambalavanar was their only teacher in both Mathematics and Astronomy.

By this time he got married to Muthachi, daughter of Suppar Sankarapillai (Chinnarni) and during his married life he had two sons (Kanagasuntharam and Aruliah) and two daughters. Jane Nallamma and Rose Rasamma. He lost his wife in his forties and got married again to Ponniah Thaiyamuthu. By his second wife he had no children.

Though Jaffna College had taught Astronomy right from the very inception

of the Institution in 1823 it was Allen who continued to treat Astronomy as his hobby right throughout his life. He had written a number of articles to the Morning Star, Jaffna College Miscellany and even to the Royal Astronomical Society in United Kingdom Some of his article were :

"The Place of Astronomy in Elementary School Education", "Halley's Comet", "Tropical Heavens" and "Wonders of the Heavens".

He continued to observe the stars from Karaidive and made a Central Study of the Stars in the sky a number of times. At this time he had a Brahmin, Mr. S. Maheswara Sharma as his pupil to work out the calculations and to study the Astrological charts before finalising the Astronomical calculations. He triumphed and earned world wide recognition While making the necessary calculation regarding the appearance of the Halley's Comet in 1910. He predicted that it would be closest to Earth on 19th May of 1910 between 9 a. m. and 10 a. m. This did happen and when the information and the necessary calculations of Allen were available to the Royal Astronomical Society he was made a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society an undreamt of honour for an ordinary teacher.

Apart from Astronomy he was interested in Music, Tamil Literature, Farming and Social work. His Lyrics (eight of them) are even now being used by the Jaffna Diocese of the Church of South India for worship. Then he could



also sing the Hindu Thevarams with both devotion and clarity. Once when Sir P. Ramanathan was invited to Karadive the crowd that assembled to hear Ramanathan was restless as the Guest Speaker was getting late. Then Ambalvanar rose to the occasion and sang some Hindu Thevarams which kept crowd spell bound and Sir P. Ramanathan expressed his astonishment at the way Ambalvanar performed.

Tamil was his firstlove. At Karadive he was called 'Pandithar' as he had an excellent knowledge of Tamil Language and Literature. He was an active member of the Ariya Dravida Bhasha Sankam which was then functioning under the Presidentship of the famous scholar Kumarasamy Pulavar of Chunnakam. The songs composed by Allen in Tamil for the week-end journeys to Eluvathivu constitute a much adored collection of work. He continued his interest in farming. A visit to his farm was part of his routine. He could plough and join the workers in sowing and thrashing paddy. Thus he continued to identify himself with the villager and was willing to share their problems as well. As an active worker of the temperance movement he was successful in getting the toddy taverns closed at a very critical time when thuggery was the order of the day. He persuaded the Missionaries to build a chain of Tamil schools at Karadive and dig a well for the depressed class group of people there.

An address by a foreigner in Jaffna was then incomplete without Allen's Tamil interpretation. His eloquence in English and Tamil was without parallel. A number of his achievements were due

to his wonderful sense of discipline in his daily activities. He would be up by 4-30 a. m. Leave Karadive by his bullock cart by 6-30 a. m. Reach Vaddukoddai by 8-00 a. m. Again he would start his homeward journey by 3-30 p. m. arriving at Karadive by 5-00 p. m. and attend to his other duties including farm work. It must also be noted that a critic by name Kallady Velan had composed satiric verses to ridicule him at the time when Allen was esteemed high by the people of Jaffna. Allen's prompt reparte in verse forced Velan to accept defeat.

As a teacher at Jaffna College he had worked under Rev. Hastings, Hitchcock, Brown and Bicknell. The period under Hastings and Hitchcock was one when Jaffna College was affiliated to the Calcutta University and he was chiefly a teacher of Mathematics. In addition he was also Treasurer of the Alumni Association and an active member of the Church. Browns period was one of changes and Cambridge Examination came to stay at that time as the affiliation to the Calcutta University ceased. This also was the period when Abraham was deeply interested in Astronomy.

In 1914 Rev. Brown the Principal of Jaffna College left and Allen and Mr. T. H. Paramasamy resigned from their teaching posts at College. The reason behind Allen's resignation is said to be professional jealousy and rumour mongering by some irresponsible people. However when Bicknell took over Allen re-joined the staff and continued to work at College with his earlier zest. He was the main confidant and advisor of Bicknell. By this time Allen was the Secretary of the



Church Council and a representative of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors. In early 1920's he convinced Bicknell of the urgency of the introduction of the London Inter classes. Bicknell accepted the suggestion and started the Inter Arts immediately but was hesitant about starting the Inter Science class. However a year later the Inter Science Classes too were started. These classes were continued at College for a pretty long time till about 1964.

Allen A. Ambalavanar when admitted to Jaffna College as a fresher was admitted in a higher class than the other freshmen inspite of his scanty knowledge of English as his super-intelligence was obvious at the viva voce examination held for admission. In the first term itself his rank was first and he maintained it right throughout his student days at College. Also he carried away the first prize in all the subjects taught in his class, all the time.

Subsequently when he rejoined the staff of Jaffna College during Bicknell's period he was Secretary of the Jaffna Council of the S. I. U. C. from 1915 to his death. He was also on the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of Jaffna College and the South India Church. Further he was the person behind the editing of the Miscellany and the Morning Star. Thus he was virtually functioning as a Vice-Principal though officially the appointment was not made. It is somewhat strange to note that at the Board Meeting held in February 1923 after Allen's death the next Senior person Mr. J. V. Chelliah was officially appointed Vice-Principal.

Allen used to wear a verti and a coat and was simple in his habits, humble, kind and cheerful in his ways. He had the moral courage to speak out his mind frankly and boldly act without fear even when he knew that his action would bring him unpopularity. He was free from personal animosity and jealousy. His was a culture that was an excellent combination of the best of the East and West. He had a clear brain, grasped the essentials of problems quickly and unerringly. He was a born Mathematician and a great Tamil Scholar. He cherished nothing other than being a teacher and of all places Jaffna College must have been his top choice.

After more than three decades of devoted service to his Alma Mater he had to enter hospital in June 1922 to get an ulcer in his toe treated. He was warded for three weeks and at 5 p. m. on Friday, July 9th 1922 he passed away. His funeral took place the following day at Karadive at 3. 30 p. m. His colleague Mr. J. V. Chelliah and the Principal, Rev. John Bicknell delivered the funeral oration. The senior students of the college drew the hearse from his residence to the grave yard. Who would fill the breach was the question raised by the Jaffna folks at the time of his death.

By November 11th this year the Halley's Comet will again be visible in Sri Lanka. It would be seen best in March next year. Arrangements are being made under the leadership of Dr. Cyril Ponnampereuma here in Sri Lanka to make observations of the Comet during this period. Developed



countries are to send space crafts to have a closer look at the Comet. But people who know Allen Abraham Ambalavanar who predicted its appearance correctly in 1910 have not cared much to remember or commemorate his memory and his services all this time. However, people of Karainagar have formed an Allen Abraham Ambalavanar Society and are getting ready to erect a tomb at the top end of the Allen Lane in the village as a symbol of their love and devotion to one who has really immortalised this little hamlet. None can gainsay that it is the bounden duty of the people of Jaffna, Jaffna Diocese of the Church of South India, Jaffna College and even the state itself to memorialise this humble Mathematician of Halley's Comet fame.

**Note :** The author of this article is Editor and Acting President  
Allen Abraham Ambalavanar Society, Karainager.



*No married man ever pokes fun at a woman for shopping all day and buying nothing.*

*There are days in the office when a man finds it hard to believe the telephone was once a convenience.*

*In September many people return from the summer resorts for a greatly needed rest.*

*The easiest way to remain poor is to pretend to be rich.*

*The world hasn't a broken heart, but a cracked head.*

*The quietest affair in the life of the average family is Dad's birthday.*

*As an inducement to hard work and economy nothing beats a big family.*

*The Internal Revenue Department apparently works on the theory that "Man wants but little here below."*



# The Place of Astronomy in Elementary School Education

Allen Abraham, B. A., F. R. A. S.

Professor of Mathematics and Tamil, Jaffna College (1891 to 1922)

*(This is an unpublished handwritten document found in the possession of Prof. Allen Abraham's son, Mr. A. Aruliah of Rakka Road, Jaffna. These notes seem to have been written for a lecture. The notes are written on the reverse of the marks sheet of some of his students of that period and the sheets are dated 1912 and 1913. It is interesting to note the names of some of the students they are: Messrs G. M. Kanagaram, A. W. Rasiah, P. E. Rajaratnam, S. S. Williams, etc;*

*These notes have been copied out by A. Kadirgamar, Principal, Jaffna College, Vaddukoddai )*

Astronomy is a high and advanced subject. Its proper place is in the High School or College Education. When I speak of its place in Elementary School Education, I do not mean a deep or exhaustive study not even an elementary treatment of the subject but an Introduction of the child into this world of knowledge so as to create an interest in the subject and to induce him to make self observations and study of things around him and to help him to understand the allied subjects such as geography. I shall treat it **first** as a part of **nature study**. **Secondly** as related to the study of **Geography**.

I. Nature study plays an important part in the education of children according to the educational schemes of modern times, though it has not been encouraged as it be in our own country either by the authorities responsible for our educational curriculum or by the parents and guardians who are anxious about the education of their children.

- (1) Nature study creates in the child the habit of observation. The child is made to observe things for itself and compare and judge and draw inferences of its own. At the same time the child gathers a great amount of knowledge.
- (2) His moral capacities also are developed. His view of the world is broadened. He sees the interdependence of things around him. He begins to take interest in life. He begins to have sympathy with living beings about him and enjoys life.
- (3) He finds regularity, order and unity in the world and perceives the wisdom, power and benevolence of the creator and is filled with the spirit of reverence.

Nature study means not only the animal, vegetable and the mineral kingdoms but also the starry heavens. A study of the plants, animals and minerals



with the wonders of the starry heavens left out will be incomplete. Children should be taught to look up as well as look below and around, Astronomy is the oldest of the sciences. It is the shine of the stars that the human race first learned to worship. One of the oldest books ever written in the world says, "Canst thou bind the sweet influence of the Pleiades or loose the bands of Orion?" The Hebrew Psalmist sings, "The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth his hand work." The Apostle Paul writes in one of his Epistles..... (This incomplete statement is written in very small letters, probably to be elaborated as an illustration for his lecture). By directing the attention of young minds to the heavens above we open to them one of the most pleasant fields of enjoyment. Once you introduce them into it, they would not like to get out of it.

In the heavens above we see, as some one has said, a book of 365 pages always open before us. It never gets old, never torn, never dogeared. All that have eyes without the distinction of age or sex or wealth can make a study of it and enjoy it. Even the baby on the mother's lap may be made to look at the starry heavens and lisp "moo!" and "soo!" All the nations of the world may study this book in their own languages.

We hear almost every year of new stars and comets being discovered. In 1918, a new star was discovered in the constellation Aquila. Among those that discovered the new star first, was Master Fernando Drummond Menezes de Jesus,

a young lad of fourteen. At such a young age he had acquired the habit of surveying the heavens each evening. As he was conversant with all the known stars and constellations, he picked up the new comer as soon as it rose above the very clear horizon of Lisbon in Portugal. It is indeed a great means of mental and moral development and a great source of knowledge and enjoyment for children to watch the sky at evenings going over the principal constellations and the most brilliant stars and to recognise the planets and their movements among the fixed stars.

Though we commonly speak of the unchanging heavens, when we take into account the varying phases of the moon, the Kaleidescopic motions of the planets, the wandering comets and the variable stars, it is also true that the heavens are changing always. It is the duty of the teacher to regulate and guide the observations of the child. Instead of desultory star gazing, the child ought to be made to have an orderly procedure in observing with definite aims and proper co-ordination. He must be taught to watch the sky at evenings, to recognise the planets and pick out the bright stars such as Sirius, Arcturus, Capella, Regulus and Aldebaran, going over the roll of familiar constellations, whose very names are melodious and whose histories are replete with myth and legend. Many of the constellations bear names belonging to the heroes, animals and objects of ancient mythology. Great must have been the deeds of these heroes to entitle them to a place in heaven among the gods. The teacher must supply the students orally the stories of the heavenly bodies. Take, for example, the



small constellation called Lyra, the Harp, which is in these days seen in the evening sky. Ancient mythology tells us that this was a wonderful musical instrument given a place among the gods because of the sweet harmony of its music. Its music led the king of the infernal Regions and the Fates to do the hero's bidding and moved rocks and trees to tars. But modern Astronomy tells us truths concerning our relation to this constellation that far surpass in wonder the tales of mythology. It is said that one of the most eminent Astronomers once said that if asked what is the greatest fact that human intellect has brought to light, he would say it is this namely, "Through all human history, nay from infancy of time our solar system, the sun and the planets including the earth and the moon — has been flying through space towards the constellation Lyra with a speed of which we have no example on earth" a velocity of nearly a million miles a day. Astronomers say that if after ages of travel we were to arrive in that region of space occupied by this constellation, we cannot be sure that its stars would be there, because Vega the brightest star of this constellation is known to be moving away from its present position with a velocity equal to that with which we are approaching it. Not only Vega but other stars also are known to be moving through space. (Footnote repeated : "One of the most ancient books included in the Christian Bible says "Canst thou bind the sweet influences of the Pleiades," Modern astronomy says that Alsyon one of the Pleiades is the centre.) How highly interested the children would be to know that Arcturus (சேநாடு) which appears to us as a single star is in rea-

lity a galaxy of stars as revealed by the newest telescopes, several thousands in number forming a universe in itself and that is moving with a velocity of 20 million miles a day. How glad would they be to know that a train moving a mile a minute from the earth would take 40 million years to reach the nearest star, that light which, moving 186,000 miles a second, left some stars when Adam and Eve walked in the garden of Eden has not yet reached us; How many of our boys are able to locate the Pole Star at the tail end of the Little Bear, by producing the line of the Pointers in the Great Bear? How many of them have observed it to occupy almost the same position in the sky all through the night while all the other heavenly bodies rise in the East, go upwards, reach the zenith, move downwards and sink beneath the horizon. (Note: illegible reading "What an enjoyment it is to watch the motion of the moon among the twelve constellations and the 27 நட்சத்திரம் (stars).

Some people think that the telescope and other astronomical instruments are indispensable for the study of Astronomy. This is a wrong notion. The human eye is the astronomical instrument, provided by nature. How great was this instrument before the invention of the telescope. Quick as thought, in a glance it commands a widely extended field and in a few moments it surveys the whole course of the sky - In giving a grasp of the whole field showing the relation and connection of the different parts, it is superior to the telescope. In addition to the unaided eye the oldest astronomical instrument, there are a few simple appliances of great value for begin-



ners. The plumbline, the protractor, the gnomon and the sundial belong to this class of simple instruments. They would put so much meaning into the subjects connected with them. A flood of light would be poured upon some of the dark places of Geography if the boys and girls be made to find the latitude of the school building by finding the elevation of the Pole Star by the protractor or by measuring the height of the gnomon and the length of its shadow or if they were made to determine the error of the clock from a reading of the sundial or by noting the transit of a star across the plumbline. The ancients had no astronomical instruments such as we have. They did much by the simplest of all astronomical instruments the gnomon. Much can be done with it in an elementary school. This is merely a vertical column of known height erected on a perfectly horizontal plane and the observation consists in noting the length of the shadow at noon at certain times of the year. By computing the zenith distance at noon on the days of the summer and winter solstice and by taking the mean between them they found the latitude of the place.

(Note : Here follows some very closely written notes and rough diagrams on how to use the gnomon with several alterations as guidance to the lecturer. The sequence of this part of the lecture has been numbered from 1—8, but found at different parts of the paragraph. It takes some time to decipher and place in some order. I have tried my best to put it in the following order)

(1) The exact time of noon on any day can be found by noting the

moment when the sun's shadow is shortest.

(2) By the direction of the shadow at this moment the meridian or north and south line of the place also is fixed. This line may also be found by drawing circles around the gnomon and noting the time when the shadow just reaches the circle before and after noon. The line bisecting the angle between the two shadows will be the meridian. A line drawn at right angles to the meridian will denote the East and West line. Thus the cardinal points are fixed.

(3) By finding the day on which the noonday shadow cast northward is shortest or the shadow cast southward is longest we find the date of the summer solstice (June 22). The date of the summer winter solstice is found by noting the day on which the noonday shadow is longest. (Dec. 22).

(4) The days on which the shadow cast by the rising sun is in the same straight line as that cast by the setting sun are the dates of the Equinoxes (Mar. 21 & Sept. 23)

(5) The interval between the days in Spring or Autumn when the shadows had the same length at noon gives us the length of the year. This is also determined by noting the interval between two successive summer solstices or two successive winter solstices.

(6) The altitude of the sun above the horizon, and its zenith distance at

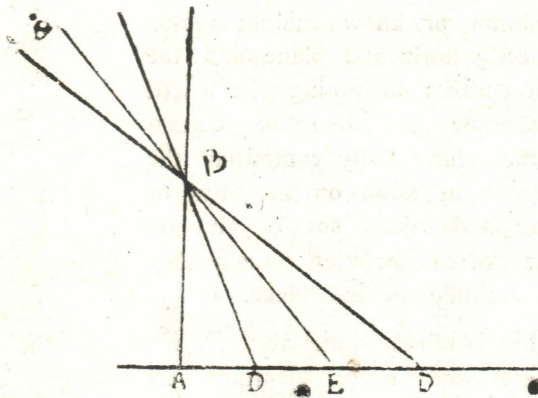
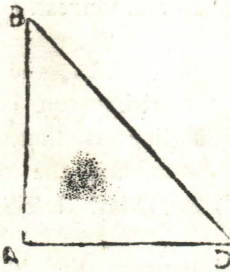


any time can be determined from the triangle formed by the height of the gnomon and the length of the shadow. The angle at the extremity of the shadow gives the altitude and the angle of the top of the gnomon the zenith distance.

- (7) The ancients determined the latitude of a place, the inclination of the ecliptic to the equator by means of the gnomon. How many of our students know that the sun

appears a little larger in January than in July?

- (7) (a) At an equinox the latitude of the observer is equal to the zenith distance of the sun. At summer solstice it is equal to the Zenith distance plus  $23\frac{1}{2}$ , at winter solstice Zenith distance minus  $23\frac{1}{2}$ .
- (8) Half the difference of these angles will give the obliquity of the ecliptic to the equator.



(Explanatory diagrams on the use of the gnomon  
for purposes of the lecture)



# Astronomy As Related To The Study of Geography

by

Allen Abraham

Astronomy is a description of the heavenly bodies and laws governing their motions. Geography is a description of the earth. As the earth is one of the heavenly bodies the study of geography closely connected with it becomes a part of the study of astronomy. Therefore, a description of the earth in relation to other heavenly bodies, that is Astronomical Geography must always form a part of the study of Geography as much of it is needed for geographical application.

Though some text books divide the subject of Geography into Mathematical, Physical, Political and Commercial Geography, some belonging to the modern school would add Geological and historical Geography, and treat under Mathematical Geography some aspects of Astronomical Geography, due emphasis is not laid on the relation of the earth to other heavenly bodies and the effects resulting from these relations. The name Mathematical Geography itself is a misnomer. It is not any mathematical aspect but the astronomical relation of the earth that is to be described and the division and the order of treatment of the subject must be (1) Astronomical Geography (2) Physical Geography (3) Political Geography and (4) Commercial Geography.

Political and commercial conditions of the earth are dependant upon the physical conditions such as climate, winds,

rainfall and vegetation and the physical conditions are dependant upon the astronomical relations of the earth. Therefore astronomical geography forms the basis of the whole study of geography and a grasp of the astronomical facts which are helpful for geographical purposes becomes indispensable for the proper understanding of the physical conditions of the earth and consequently of the political and commercial conditions. I could conclude by putting together the astronomical facts which from the fundamental principles of the physical phenomenon of the earth which in turn influence the political and commercial conditions of the earth.

I shall show in the following paragraphs how the fundamental principles of physical geography depend upon astronomical facts:

## 1. The Shape and Physical Constitution of Earth.

1. The shape of the earth is not an exact sphere; it is what is called an oblate spheroid, the polar side being flattened and the equatorial regions being bulged. The equatorial diameter is 27 miles longer than the polar diameter.

2. The earth's outer part or crust consists of two kinds of rocks, aqueous and igneous; aqueous rocks are stratified and are lying in a certain order resembling



beds of deposits formed by water. Igneous rocks are found distributed rather irregularly, disturbing and piercing through the stratified aqueous rocks resembling the rocks formed by active volcanoes.

3. Again the density of the crust is much less than the density of the whole earth, proving that the density of the interior is much greater than that of the crust of the earth.
4. The temperature of the earth is increasing as we go towards the interior. Hot springs and volcanoes and earthquakes indicate that the interior of the earth is in a very hot state.
5. The surface of the earth is not even, some portions are elevated while others are depressed, Some as continuous and mountainous plateaus and others as oceans and lakes and low lands.

Now, how are these geographical facts to be explained? They are to be explained only by the astronomical fact that the earth was once in an intensely hot, fluid state and came to the present condition by cooling down. The well known nebular hypothesis states that the solid matter which forms the earth, was once a part of a continuous intensely heated gaseous body extending from the centre of the sun to the outskirts of the solar system beyond the planet Neptune and having a diameter more than 6000 million miles. As this body slowly cooled and contracted, Neptune was detached and formed a planet. Ages after, Uranus broke away.

Then Saturn, then Jupiter, then Mars, the Asteroids, the Earth, Venus, Mercury separated. When the earth broke away from the Sun, first as a ring, and formed a spherical body, it was a soft fluid body rotating on its own axis and revolving round the parent sun. By the daily rotation, it put on its flattened shape due to the bulging out of the equatorial regions which rotated with a greater velocity than those of the poles. As the earth condensed the heavier substances sank to the interior and the lighter ones floated outside, causing the crust of less density than the interior. As the process of condensation advanced, a solid crust was formed while the interior was in a molten state. On the crust, oceans and lands were formed, and the oceans caused sedimentary rocks. As the interior was hot, earth quakes and volcanic eruptions took place, disturbing and piercing them. It is thus that the heavier mineral wealth which was sunk in the interior was brought to the surface. (to which Mountains and valleys are due.) As the cooling is not yet complete, the interior is yet hot and the temperature increases as we go towards the interior. Earthquakes are movements of the earth's crust, and volcanoes openings in it through which pent up matter is forced up to the surface, are due to the internal heat of the earth. The distribution and maintenance of life are due to the cooling of the interior and contraction of the crust and the action of the subterranean heat.

## 2. The Phenomena of Day and Night

The earth appears to be at the centre of a great celestial sphere. The sun rises in the east, goes up, reaches



the meridian, goes down and sets in the west. At any time one half of the surface of the earth is in light and the other half in darkness. How is this to be explained? Does the sun really move round the earth? No. Astronomy teaches us that it is not the sun and stars that move round the earth, but that the earth rotates on its own axis from west to east once in 24 hours, causing the daily apparent motion of the heavenly bodies—the sun, moon and the stars—in the opposite direction. As the axis of rotation is almost perpendicular to the direction of the sun, all the parts of the earth's surface are brought successively under the sun by an alternate light and darkness which we call day and night. If the axis were curved towards the sun, one half of the surface would have continuous light and the other half would be enveloped in continuous darkness.

### 3. Temperature

The relative position of the sun and earth causes on the surface of the earth temperature—the variations in temperature which directly or indirectly cause most of the various physical phenomena on the earth. The temperature decreases as we go from the equator towards the poles. The amount of heat received by the earth depends upon the direction at which the sun's rays strike the various part of its surface. When the sun is higher, the number of rays received by any particular area is greater than when the sun is lower, and when the sun is high, the rays fall on the surface of the earth more perpendicularly and conse-

quently pass through less amount of the earth's atmosphere, lose less amount of heat. This is mainly the reason for the variation of the temperature on the earth's surface, from the burning heat of the tropics to the freezing cold of the snow-covered poles.

### 4. Day and Night

The length of the day and night is the same in all the places on the surface of the earth; neither the temperature nor the length of the day and night is the same in the same place at all times of the year. There is the change of the seasons, the summer and winter in the tropics, spring, summer, autumn and winter in the temperate zones. It is astronomy that explains these phenomena. If we watch closely the positional type sunrise and the sunset in relation to the stars we shall observe that the sun appears to have a yearly motion among the stars from the west to the east. The earth besides its daily turning on its own axis round the sun (sometimes the north pole, sometimes south, at one time sun is overhead on the equator then moves.....) with its axis inclined to the plane of its path at an angle of  $66\frac{1}{2}$  degrees, and constantly pointing in the same direction. This causes the variation in the temperature in the length of the day and night and in the altitude of the midday sun during the year and this brings about the changes of the seasons, the sun rising and setting north of the equator during (one half). If the earth's axis were perpendicular to the plane of its orbit, it is evident that as the earth rotates on its axis, every place on its



surface would have twelve hours day and twelve hours night. The equatorial regions would be hottest and the temperature would gradually decrease towards the poles. There would be no variation in temperature of any given place during the year and consequently no changes or seasons. But as the axis is inclined at an angle of  $66\frac{1}{2}$  degrees between the 21st of March and the 23rd of September, the sun is north of the equator, the North pole is inclined towards the sun and the regions round the North pole to the extent of  $23\frac{1}{2}$  degrees do not pass out of the sunlight, while the corresponding regions round the South pole are in continuous darkness; thus the North pole will have a day of six months duration and the South pole a night of six months duration, and the northern hemisphere will experience the spring and summer seasons and the Southern, autumn and winter. After six months, when the earth has accomplished half its journey round the sun, that is between the 23rd of September and the 21st of March, the conditions are reversed and the sun is south of the equator the south polar regions are in continuous light and the north polar regions continuous darkness, the south pole having a day of six months duration, and the pole a night of six months duration, the southern hemisphere experiencing spring and summer and the northern, autumn and winter. On the 21st of March and on the 23rd of September the sun is exactly overhead on the equator. The day and nights are equal everywhere. These positions on this account are called equinox, the position on the 21st March being vernal or spring equinox and position on the 23rd September

being autumnal equinox. On the 22nd of June the sun reaches the northernmost limit and this position is called the summer solstice, and on 22nd of December it reaches the southern most limit and this position is called the winter solstice. On the 22nd of June the sun is overhead at places  $23\frac{1}{2}$  degrees north of the equator and the sun's rays reach a distance of  $23\frac{1}{2}$  degrees beyond the North Pole. A circle drawn round the earth at this distance north of the equator is called the Tropic of Cancer. The parallel at a distance of  $23\frac{1}{2}$  degrees from the north pole is called the Arctic Circle. On the 22nd of December the sun is overhead at places  $23\frac{1}{2}$  degrees south of the equator and the sun's rays reach a distance of  $23\frac{1}{2}$  degrees beyond the South Pole. The parallel of latitude at a distance of  $23\frac{1}{2}$  degrees south of the equator is called the Tropic of Capricorn and the circle at a distance of  $23\frac{1}{2}$  degrees from the South Pole is called the Antarctic Circle.

At places between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn the sun is overhead twice during the year. The seasons begin with the equinoxes and solstices, the spring on the 21st of March, the summer on the 22nd of June, the autumn on the 23rd of September and the winter on the 22nd of December. The inequality in the length of the seasons is due to the varying speed of the earth as it moves through the four quadrants of its orbit because it is not a perfect circle, but an ellipse having the sun in one of its foci.

## 5. Winds and Currents

The variation in temperature on the surface of the earth also causes wind



in the atmosphere and currents in the ocean. The atmosphere in the equator is heated and made lighter; this rises and overflows towards the equator. So the water in the equatorial regions is expanded and made lighter; thus there is a tendency for the warmer water to flow as a surface current towards pole. Again, a great amount of water is being converted into vapour; to replace this and the surface flow from the equator, a constant flow of colder and heavier water from the polar regions sets out as an undercurrent towards the equator. Thus Trade Winds and Anti-Trade Winds, Equatorial and Polar Currents are caused by the heat of the sun. Their directions are influenced by the rotation of the earth. The greater velocity of the equatorial regions make the Trade winds from the North and the South become the North-East winds in the Northern hemisphere and South-East winds in the Southern hemisphere, and the Anti Trade Winds from the equatorial regions become South-West winds in the Northern Hemisphere and the North-West winds in the Southern Hemisphere. Rotation makes ocean currents to deflect to the right in the Northern Hemisphere and to the left in the Southern hemisphere. The Gulf Stream and the Brazilian Currents are examples.

#### 6. The Distribution and Maintenance of Life

The evaporation due to the sun's heat, the wind and the directions of mountain ranges cause the rainfall. The rainfall and varying temperature influence vegetation. Much high temperature and heavy rainfall cause the most luxurious equatorial forests and dense short undergrowths

of the tropics, whereas moderate temperature and rainfall cause the high forests with gigantic trees in the temperate zone. It is the varying temperature that causes rice, millet, tapioca, cotton, rubber, sugar, coffee, tea, etc., to grow in the tropics, and wheat, barley, maize, oats, etc., in the temperate zone. The varying conditions of grass and plants govern the distribution of animals. All these again govern the distribution of human life over the surface of the earth and the formation of cities and countries and at last the agriculture, manufacture and commerce of the world.

How is life maintained? The sun is the supporter of all life on the earth. The earth is lit up by its beams and warmed by its heat. We receive from the sun not only light and heat but also chemical force which separates carbon from oxygen and thus provides separate food for animals and plants. It is the sun that builds up the vegetable world. Vegetation produces grain and grass on which men and animals live. So the energy of men and animals is supplied by the sun, and man and animal are only little machines directing the energy supplied by the sun. What is the source of the mechanical power moving large machines? It is steam which is produced by coal which again is the remains of ancient vegetation. Thus the sun is the source of all energy in the world. Thus to the benign influence of the sun are due our food, drink, clothing, light, heat and our very existence.

#### 7. Sunlight

Sunlight, or the illumination of the sky which begins before sunrise and



continues after sunset, is caused by the reflection of light to the observers from the upper region of the earth's atmosphere. Its deviation is different in different latitudes. The greater the latitude, the longer is the deviation. This again is due to the obliquity of the eclipse. If the axis of rotation of the earth were perpendicular to the plane of the earth's revolution round the sun, the diurnal arc or the apparent path of the sun would cut the horizon at right angles in all the places. But owing to the slight inclination of the axis, the diurnal arcs are inclined at different angles at different latitudes. The duration of twilight depends upon these angles of inclination. It is found that the twilight lasts until the sun has sunk about 18 degrees below the horizon. The time required for this varies according to the latitude of the place. Near the equator the duration is shorter and in higher latitudes it lasts longer because the diurnal arc is at right angles to the horizon at the equator and is inclined more and more as the distance from the Equator increases.

#### **8. The Phases of the Moon and Eclipses**

It is a study of the relation of the earth, moon and the sun that explains to us the phenomena of the phases of the moon and the eclipses. Just as the earth goes round the sun and the period of revolution constitutes a year, so the moon goes round the earth in a period of one month. But while the earth rotates on its axis once in 24 hours, the moon takes a month to rotate on its axis, so that it always presents to us the same part of its surface. The moon is a cold body and shines not by her own light but by the reflected light of the sun. Only the half of the surface formed towards the

sun is lighted. As the moon moves round the earth, the side on which the sun shines is not always turned towards us. Only portions of the lighted half surface are seen by us, hence the phases of the moon which add so much to her beauty. When we are on the same side of the moon as the sun is, we see the whole of the lit up half and the moon is said to be full moon. When the moon comes between the sun and the earth, we don't see the lit-up portion at all and the moon is said to be new moon. The new moon and the illuminated portion waxes or increases till full moon and then wanes or diminishes till the next new moon. When the moon is midway between the new and full moon, presenting to us just half of the lit-up portion, it is said to be at the first quarter and the last quarter, the position just after the new moon, being the first and that just after the full moon being the last quarter. When a very small part of the lit-up portion only is seen during the week before and after the new moon, we get the crescent moon. When we see more than half of the lit-up portion during the week before and after the full, the moon is called gibbous moon. (If the moon's motion were in the same plane as that of the sun, during every new moon, the moon will put out the sun and there will be a solar eclipse and during every full moon, the moon will be hidden in the shadow of the earth and there will be a lunar eclipse. But in reality the plane of the orbit of the moon is inclined at a small angle to that of the sun and consequently one half of the moon's journey is performed above the plane of the sun's path and the other half below. Therefore, only twice in each revolution the moon is in the plane of the orbit of the sun.



These positions where the path of the moon cuts the path of the earth are called the nodes. If the moon happens to be new or full moon at those positions, that is, in line with the earth and the sun, we shall have an eclipse, in our case a solar eclipse, in the other case a lunar eclipse. (The eclipses will be total or partial according to the distance of the moon from the nodes during new and full moon times.)

### 9. Ocean Tides

The phenomena of ocean tides are caused chiefly by the attraction of the moon and in a lesser degree by that of the sun. The attraction by the moon on the ocean nearest to it is greater than on the solid earth, and the water moves more freely than the solid land and is heaped up under the moon, causing high tide. Again the solid earth being nearer to the moon than the water on the opposite side is drawn away, leaving the water behind and thus causing another high tide at the same time on the opposite side. On the sides of the earth midway between these two portions as the water is drawn away there will be low tides. The rising of the water is called the flow or flood tide and the falling the ebb tide. As the result of the rotation of the earth there will be in every place of the ocean two high tides and two low tides every day. The interval will be 25 hours, owing to the motion of the moon round the earth. At new and full moon the sun, being in line with the moon and the earth, exerts its influence also in the same direction as the moon and thus causes every fortnight tides higher than usual. These are called spring tides. During the first quarter and last

quarter the sun's influence is at right angles to that of the moon and hence the tides are lower than usual and are called neap tides. The tides are of essential service to navigation. They carry the vessels in and out of port, and if not for them many ports in the world would cease to exist, being silted up by the rivers running into them.

### 10. Calendar and Time

It is astronomy that teaches us how to measure the flow of time into day, week, month and year. and to regulate the calendar. Without these natural measurements, clocks and watches cannot be regulated and their use would be impossible. The day is the time of rotation of the earth on its own axis. The days of the week take their names from the seven planets as the ancients understood them. The month is the length of the time of the moon's revolution round the earth and the year is the time of the revolution of the earth round the sun. First the length of the year by astronomical calculations and then the number of months in the year and the number of days in the month are fixed so that the seasons may begin on the same days of the same months of the year.

### 11. Maps

It is astronomy that enables us to map the surface of the earth. No man can determine the shape of a continent or of an ocean by going round it. The map of a small country might be drawn by surveyors by measuring base lines and by the method of triangulation. But the maps of small countries are connected with the other parts of the earth



surface by the help of astronomy. On the surface of an artificial globe representing the earth, lines of latitude and longitude are drawn. The latitude and longitude of the chief points of coastline mountains, rivers, towns etc., are determined by astronomical calculations and remarked on the surface of this globe and the details are supplied by local surveys. Maps are mere reproductions of a part or the whole of this surface drawn to scale on a plane surface. The position of any place on them is defined by its latitude and longitude.

How do sailors and travellers find their way across pathless seas and unknown lands? It is by finding the latitude and longitude of their positions by observations of the heavenly bodies. Astronomers prepare four or five years in advance a book called the Nautical Almanac. The sailors take this with them. This book gives the places the moon, the sun and stars and planets occupy at stated hours of each day, and this information would enable the sailors and travellers to find where they are.

## 12. Astronomical Facts

- (i) The earth was at the beginning in a hot fluid state.
- (ii) The earth rotates on its own axis once in 24 hours.

- (iii) The earth is a member of the solar system, being one of the planets revolving round the parent sun once in a year.

It is astronomical facts that cause the physical features of the earth and consequently influence the political and commercial connections. I shall show this in the following :

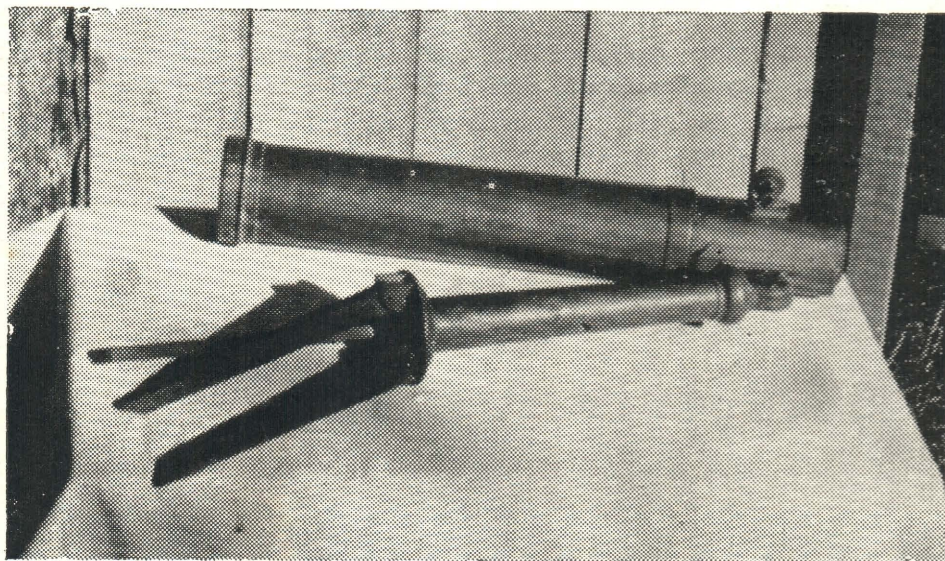
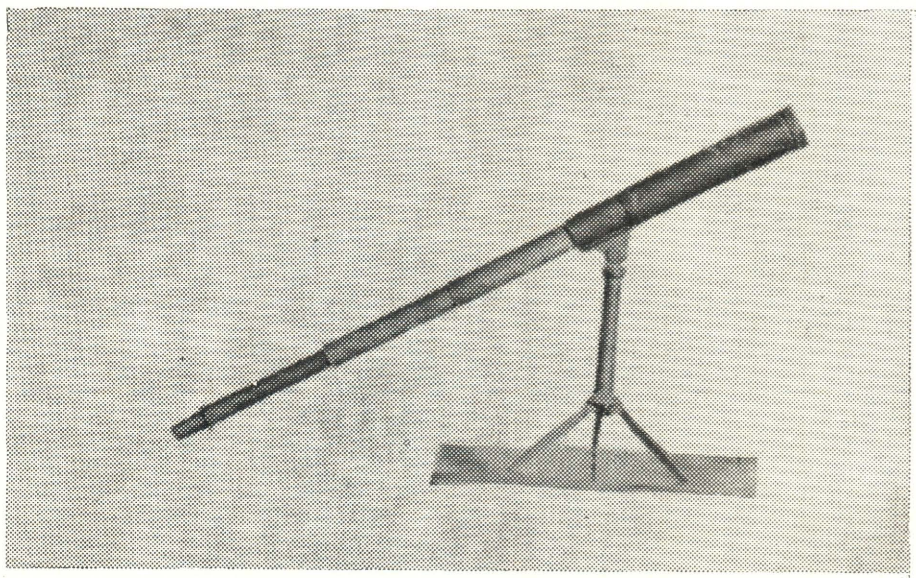
- (iv) The elliptic into the plane of the earth's equator at an angle of  $23\frac{1}{2}$ .
- (v) The axis of rotation of the earth is inclined to the plane of its path round the sun at an angle of  $66\frac{1}{2}$  degrees and consequently the elliptic.

## 13. Astronomical Appliances

In conclusion I shall describe some simple astronomical appliances of great value to the study of geography. The gnomon, the protractor, the sundial and plumbline belong to this class of simple instruments every teacher of geography must be provided with. They would put so much meaning into the subjects connected with them. A flood of light would be poured upon some of the dark places of geography if the students, etc. (There must have followed some practical demonstrations after the lecture as the notes end abruptly).



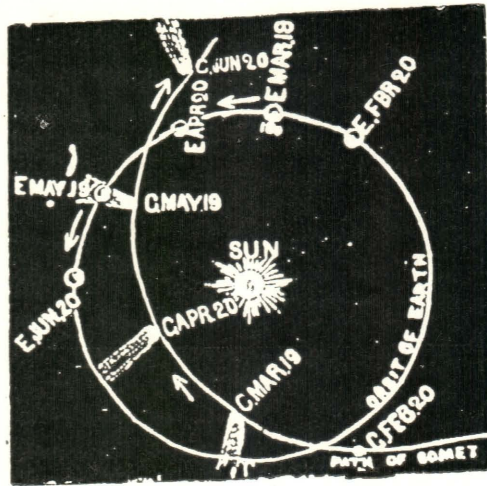
THE TELESCOPE USED BY Prof. ALLEN ABRAHAM





# Halley's Comet and the Earth

(By Allen Abraham)



The diagram shows the relative positions of the comet and the earth from January to July, 1910, and explains how, moving in opposite directions, they approached each other until the comet came between the sun and the earth and transitted the sun's disc between 9 and 10 a. m. on the 19th May 1910.

(Jaffna College Miscellany, June, 1910)



## வாஞ்சியங்கள்

அலன் ஆபிரகாம், B. A., F. R. A. S.

தற்கால வாணசாஸ்திரிகளால் சிரமென மதிக்கப்படும் சேர் நோர்மன் லொக்கியர், ஆங்கிலேய புலவர் சிகாமணியாயிருந்து சில காலத்தின் முன் மரித்துப்போனவரான லோர்ட் தென்னிசை ஒருநாள் தமது வான திருஷ்டி மண்டபத்துக் கழைத்துச் சென்று தூரதரிசி இயந்திரமூலமாய் வானசோதிகள் சிலவற்றைக் காட்டியபோது அவர் “வான சோதிகளின் அதிசயங்களைக் கவனிப்பதினால் எம் நாட்டுக் குடும்ப விசேஷங்களை மிக அற்பமாயெண்ண ஏவப்படுகிறேன். அதிக மாய் அவற்றைப் பார்ப்பேனாகில் இவ்வுலக விசேஷங்களைப் புகழ்ந்து பாட்டிசைக்குந் தொழிலை நான் விடவேண்டியதாகும். நான் அதிகமாய்ப் பார்க்க விரும்பவில்லை” யெனக் கூறினாராம்.

இற்றைக்கு ஏறக்குறைய 90 வருடங்களின் முன்னே பிரான்சிய ராச்சிய அதிபதியாகி மற்றும் ஐரோப்பிய அரசினரையெல்லாம் கெடிகலங்கச்செய்தவரான மகா நெப்போலியன், “வானசோதிகளைக் கவனித்துப் படித்தபின்பும் ஒருவன் தெய்வபயம் இல்லாதவனாயிருப்பானாயின் அவன் மதிமயக்கமுள்ளவனாயிருத்தல் வேண்டு” மெனக் கூறினார். ஆகாய விரிவிலே மகிமைப் பிரகாசமாய் விளங்கும் எண்ணிறந்த வானசோதிகளின் தோற்றங்களையும் இயக்கங்களையும் கவனிக்கும் எவனும் பயமும் ஆச்சரியமும் அடையாதிரான். இற்றைக்கு 3000 வருடங்களின் முன்னிருந்த இராச கவிவாண ரொருவர் இவ்வதிசய உணர்ச்சியால் நிரம்பியவராய், “வானங்கள் தேவனுடைய மகிமையை வெளிப்படுத்துகின்றன; ஆகாய விரிவு அவருடைய கரங்களின் கிரியையை அறிவிக்கிறது” என்றும்; உமது விரல்களின் கிரியையாகிய உம்முடைய வானங்களையும், நீபுஸ்தாபித்த சந்திரனையும், நட்சத்திரங்களையும் நான் பார்க்கும்போது, மனுஷனை நீர் நினைக்கிறதற்கும் மனுஷ குமாரனை நீர் விசாரிக்கிறதற்கும் அவன் எம்மாதிரம் என்கிறேன்” என்றும் பாடினார். வானத்திலே முந்நாற்றறுபத்தைந்து பக்கங்களுள்ளதும், ஒருபோதும் பழமைப்பட்டுக் கழிந்து

போகாததுமாகிய ஓர் அலங்காரமான புத்தகம் எல்லோருக்கும் முன்பாகத் திறந்து வைக்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்றது. அதை, பெரியோர் சிறியோர், ஐசுவரியவான்கள் தரித்திரரென்ற பேதயினரிக் காண்பதற்குக் கண்ணும் கிரகிப்பதற்கு மனமுமுள்ள எந்தச் சாதியானும், எந்தத் தேசத்தானும், எந்தப் பாஷைக்காரனும், தன் தனி சொந்தத் தேசத்திற் சொந்தப் பாஷையில் வாசித்துப் படித்துச் சிருஷ்டிப்பின் அதிசய உணர்வையும் இன்பத்தையும் மடையலாகும். அங்ஙனம் வாசித்து மகிழ விரும்புபோர்க் குதவியாக வருடத்தின் பன்னிரு மாதங்களிலும் நமது கண்ணுக்குத் தோற்றும் நட்சத்திர ராசிகளையும் அவற்றின் நூதனாதிசயங்களையும் அவைகளுக்கிடையில் நிலைமாறித் திரியும் கிரகங்களையும் மீண்டும் சிறுகச் சிறுக விபரிப்போம்.

பொழுது அஸ்தமனமாய்பின் வானத்தைக் கவனித்துப் பார்ப்போமாயின் எண்ணிறந்த நட்சத்திரங்கள் பிரகாசிப்பதைக் காணலாம். அவைகள் தமக்குள் இட மாறுதலின்றி ஒரே நிலையிலேயே நிற்கின்றனவாயினும், பூமியானது தன்அச்சில் நாளொரு முறை கிழக்குமுகமாகச் சுழல்வதால் நட்சத்திரங்களும் சூரிய சந்திரராதியாம் வானசோதிகள் யாவும் கிழக்கேயுதித்து மேற்கே அஸ்தமிப்பனவாய்த் தோன்றுகின்றன.

பூமியின் நாராசத்தின் (Axis) நேரில் நிற்பதாகிய துருவ நட்சத்திரம் (Pole Star) மாத்திரம் உதய அத்தமியின்றி இராப்பகலாய் ஒரேயிடத்தில் நிற்கும். பகலில் செங்கதிர் பரப்பிப் பிரபைகாலுஞ் சூரியனும் (Sun) ஓர் நட்சத்திரமேயாம். சூரியன் பரிவாரங்களான புதன் (Mercury), சுக்கிரன் (Venus), பூமி (Earth), செவ்வாய் (Mars), வியாழன் (Jupiter), சனி (Saturn), யூனஸ் (Uranus), நெப்டூன் (Neptune) என்னுங்கிரகங்கள் (Planets) அதனை மையமாய்க் கொண்டு சுற்றிச் செல்கின்றன. உடைந்தவோர் கிரகத்தின் துண்டுகளென வெண்ணப்படுவனவாகிய வெஸ்தா (Vesta), யூனா



(Juno), சீரீஸ் (Ceres), பல்லாஸ் (Pallas) ஆதியாம் 300க்கு மேற்பட்ட கிரகேவங்கள் (Asteroids) அல்லது சிறுகிரகங்கள் செவ்வாய்க்கும் வியாழனுக்குமிடையில் சூரியனை வலம்வருகின்றன. கிரகங்கள் இரவில் நட்சத் திரங்களைப்போல் தோற்றியும், அவற்றுக் கிடையில் நிலைமாறித் திரிவதிலிருந்து மட்டிடப்படலாகும். கிரகங்களின் பரிவாரங் களாய் அவற்றை மையமாகக் கொண்டு வலம்வருவன உபக்கிரகங்கள் (Satellites) எனப் படும். இரவீற் தண்ணெவிவிரித்து மகிமைப் பிரகாசமாய் விளங்கும் சந்திரன் (Moon) பூமியை மையமாகக் கொண்டு மாதத்துக் கொருமுறை சுற்றிவரும் உபக்கிரகமாம். கிரகங்கள் சூரியனையும் உபக்கிரகங்கள் தத்தம் முதற் கிரகங்களையும் மையமாகக் கொண்டு மேற்கிலிருந்து கிழக்குமுகமாய் வலம்வரு கின்றன. நட்சத்திரங்கள் தஞ்சய ஒளியாய்ப் பிரகாசிக்க கிரகங்களும் உபக் கிரகங்களும் தாம் சூரியனிடமிருந்து பெறும் ஒளியாற் பிரகாசிக்கும். சூரியனோடு அதன் கிரகங் களும் உபக் கிரகங்களும் சேர்ந்து சூரியமண்டல மெனப்படும். தமக்குள் இடமாறுத லின்றி வானத்திற் பிரகாசித்துக்கொண்டிருக் கும் கோடிக்கணக்கான நட்சத்திரங்கள் ஒவ்வொன்றும் ஒவ்வொரு சூரிய மண்டலமாம். நட்சத்திரங்களுக்கிடையில் மெல்லிய ஒளித் திலதம்போல் அல்லது சிறு முகிற் பொட் டுப்போல் அங்குமிங்கும் தோற்றுவன நெபுலக் கண்ட (Nebula) எனப்படும். தூரதரி சிலிகளைக்கொண்டு பரிசோதனை பண்ணிய தால், முன்னே நெபுலக்கண்டமென எண் ணப்பட்டவை சில இப்போது நட்சத்திரங் களின் கூட்டமென அறியப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. நீண்டஅண்டகாரமான பாதையிடைக்கிடை சூரியனை வலஞ்செய்து போவன தூரமேதுக் கள் (Comets) அல்லது வால்வெள்ளிகளாம். இவ்வகையாய் வானத்திற் தோற்றும் பல வகைப்பட்ட சோதிகளுள் முதலாவதாய் நட்சத்திரங்களையும், இரண்டாவதாய் சூரிய னையும் அதைச் சேர்ந்த கிரகங்களையும், மூன்றாவதாய்த் தூரமேதுக்கள் எரிவெள் ளிக ளாதியவற்றையும் விபரிப்போம்.

கிரகங்களிலொன்றாகிய பூமியானது ஒரு வருடத்துக்கொருமுறை மேற்கிலிருந்து கிழக்

குத் திசையாய்ச் சூரியனைச் சுற்றி வலம் வருவதால், பூமியில் வசிப்பவர்களாகிய நமக் குச் சூரியன் நட்சத்திரங்களுக்கிடையில் மேற்கிலிருந்து கிழக்குமுகமாய் வருடத்துக் கொருமுறை சுற்றோட்டஞ் செய்து முடிப் பதாய்க் காணப்படுகின்றது. நட்சத்திரங்க ளுக்கிடையிலே சூரிய சந்திரரும் கிரகங் களும் செல்லுமிடமாகி, கிழக்கு மேற்காய்ச் சக்கராகாரமாய் வானத்தைச் சூழ்ந்திருக் கும் 16 பாகை விசாலமுள்ள நட்சத்திர மண்டலம் பவணசக்கரம் (Zodiac) எனப் படும். இப் பவண சக்கரம் இராசிகள் (Constellations) எனப்படுகின்ற பன்னி ரண்டு கூறுகளாகப் பிரிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்றது. அவ்விராசிகள் மேற்கிலிருந்து கிழக்குத்திசை யாய் மேடம் (Aries), இடபம் (Taurus), மிதுனம் (Gemini), கற்கடகம் (Cancer), சிங்கம் (Leo), கன்னி (Virgo), துலாம் (Libra), விருச்சிகம் (Scorpio), தனு (Sagittarius), மகரம் (Capricornus), கும்பம் (Aquarius), மீனம் (Pisces) எனப் பெயர் பெறும். இவற்றில் ஏதும் ஆறுராசிகள் எப்போதும் திகாந்த பரப்புக்கு (Horizon) மேலே தோற்றும். சூரியன் ஒரு மாதத்துக் கொவ்வொன்றாய் ஒரு வருடத்தில் இப் பன்னிரண்டு இராசிகளையும் கடந்து செல் லும். சித்திரை மாதத்தில் மேடராசியிலும், வைகாசிபில் இடபராசியிலும் அடுத்த அடுத்த மாதங்களில் அடுத்த அடுத்த இரா சியிலும் நிற்கும். பூர்வீகத்தார் இப்பெயர்களை இட்டதற்குப் பலரும் பலவகையான கார ணங்கள் கூறுவர். பூர்வீகத்தாரின் கருத்து இதுவென நிச்சயப்படுத்திக் கூற இடமில்லை. சித்திரை வைகாசி ஆனி என்னும் வசந்தகால மாதங்களிலே பிராணிகளை அதிகமாகப் பெரு குவதால் அந்த மாதங்களிற் சூரியன் நிற்கும் இராசிகளுக்கு மேடம் (ஆடு), இடபம் (எருது), மிதுனம் (இரட்டைப் பிள்ளைகள்) என் னும் பெயர்களும், நண்டு, பிள்ளைக்கி நடப் பதுபோல, வடக்கு நோக்கிச் செல்லும் சூரிய உத்தராயணசத்தியை (Summer Solstice) யடைந்து ஆடிமாதத்திற் தெற்குமுகமாய் நிரட்சத்தை நோக்கித் திரும்புவதால், அம் மாதத்திற் சூரியன் நிற்கும் இராசியைக் கற்கடகம் (நண்டு) என்றும், ஆவணி



மாதத்தில் வெப்ப உக்கிரம் நோக்கி அம் மாதத்திற்குரிய ராசியைச் சிங்கமென்றும், அறுப்புக்காலமாகிய புரட்டாதி மாதத்திற் பெண்கள் கதிர் பொறுக்குவது வழக்க மாகையால் அம்மாதத்திற் சூரியன் நிற்கும் இராசியைக் கன்னியென்றும், ஐப்பசி மாதத் திற் சூரியன் நிரட்ச ரேஷையை அடைய இராப்பகல் மானங்கள் சரியாயிருப்ப தால் அம்மாதத்திற்குரிய இராசியை துலாம் என்றும், கார்த்திகைமாதத்தில் விஷசெந் துக்கள் அதிகமாய்க் காணப்படுவதால் அம்மாதத்து இராசியை விருச்சிகம் (தேள்) என்றும், மார்கழி வேட்டையாடும் மாத மானமையால் அம்மாதத்திற் சூரியன் நிற் கும் இராசியை தனு (வில்லு) என்றும், புல்லு மேய்ந்துகொண்டு மலையிலேறும் வெள்ளாடு திரும்பி மேய்வதுபோலச் சூரியன் தக்கனையனசந்தியை (Winter Solstice) அடைந்து தை மாதத்தில் வடக்குநோக்கித் திரும்புவதால் அம்மாதத்து இராசியை மகரம் (வெள்ளாடு) என்றும், மாசிமாதம் மழை மாதமாதலால் அம்மாதத்து ராசியைக் கும்பம் (தண்ணீர்க்குடம்) என்றும், பங்குனி மாதம் மீனதிகமான மாதமாகையால் அம் மாதத்திற் சூரியன் நிற்கும் இராசியை மீனம் என்றுங் கூறினர் போலும். இந்துக்கள் இப் பன்னிரண்டு இராசிகளையும் ஒரு இராசிக்கு இரண்டேகால் நட்சத்திரமாய் இருபத்தேழு நட்சத்திரங்களாக வகுத்திருக்கின்றனர். அவைமேடராசியிற் தொடங்கி அச்சுவினி, பரணி, கார்த்திகை, உரோகணி, மிருக சீரிடம், திருவாதிரை, புநர்பூசம், பூசம், ஆயிலியம், மகம், பூரம், உத்திரம், அத்தம், சித்திரை, சோதி, விசாகம், அனுஷம், கேட்டை, மூலம், பூராடம், உத்திராடம், திருவோணம், அவிட்டம், சதயம், பூரட் டாதி, உத்திரட்டாதி, ரேவதியெனப் பெயர் பெறும். இவை தனித்தனி ஏறக்குறையப் பதினமூன்றேகால் பாகை விசாலமான விருத்தி பாகத்தைக் குறிப்பனவாயினும் அவ்வப்பாகத்திலுள்ள விசேஷ நட்சத்திரங் களுக்கும் இப் பெயர்கள் வழங்கப்படும்.

வானத்திலே கண்ணுக்குத் தோற்றும் நட்சத்திரங்கள் எண்ணுக்கடங்காதனவென் பது பொதுவிளக்கம். எல்லையற்ற தொகை

யைக் குறிப்பதற்குக் கடற்கரையின் மண லும் வானத்து நட்சத்திரங்களும் உபமானங் களாய்ப் பலமுறையுங் குறிக்கப்படுகின்றன. ஆயினும் வானத்திலே வெற்றுக்கண்ணுக்குத் தோற்றக்கூடிய நட்சத்திரங்களின் தொகை ஏறக்குறைய 6000 மாத்திரமே. மிகத் தெளி வான இரவில் ஓரிடத்தில் ஒரேமுறையில் கண்ணுக்குத் தோற்றும் நட்சத்திரங்களின் தொகை 2000 வரையிலேயாம். இதுவரையி லியற்றப்பட்ட அதிபெரிய தூரதரிசி (Telescope) யிற் தோற்றக்கூடிய நட்சத் திரங்களின் தொகை 20 கோடி வரையிலாம். வெற்றுக்கண்ணுக்காவது தூரதரிசிக்காவது தோற்றப்படாத எண்ணிறந்த நட்சத்திரங் கள் ஒளிவிம்ப பிரதிமைப்படத்திற் (Photographic Plate) காணப்படுகின்றன.

வானத்து நட்சத்திரங்களின் தொகை போலவே அவற்றின் பருமம், தூரம், கோற்றம், சலனம் ஆதியனவும் அதிசயம் பொருந்தியன வாம். வானசாஸ்திரிகள் நட்சத்திரங்களை அவற்றின் பிரபைக்குத்தக்கதாய் பதினாறுக்கு மேற்பட்ட வகுப்புக்களாய்ப் பிரித்திருக்கின் றனர். முதல் ஆறு வகுப்பு நட்சத்திரங் களும் வெற்றுக்கண்ணுக்குத் தோற்றுவன வாம். அதி பிரபையான 20 நட்சத்திரங்கள் முதல் வகுப்புக்குரியனவாய்க் குறிக்கப்பட் டிருக்கின்றன. பிரபையிலிவற்றுக்குக் குறைந் தனவான இரண்டாம் வகுப்பு நட்சத்திரங் களின் தொகை ஏறக்குறைய 100 நட்சத்திரங் களின் பிரபை அவற்றின் பருமத்திற் தங்கி யிருக்கின்றதாயினும், அவை நமக்குத் தோற் றும் பிரபை மிகுதியும் அவற்றின் தூரத் திற் தங்கியிருப்பதால் தோற்றத்திலிருந்து உண்மையான பிரபையையும் பருமத்தை யும் கணித்தல் கூடாது. நாம் வசிக்கும் நட்சத்திரமாகிய சூரியன் மிகச் சிறியவோர் நட்சத்திரமே. மிக நுண்ணியனவாய்த் தோற் றும் நட்சத்திரங்கள் சில சூரியனிலும் அதி பிரபையும் பருமனுமுடையன. அறமீன் (Pleiades) நட்சத்திரங்களில் அதி பிரபை யுள்ளதாய்த் தோற்றும் அல்சியோன் (Alcyon) சூரியனிலும் பார்க்க 1000 மடங்கு பிரபையுள்ளதென அறியப்பட்டிருக்கின்றது. அகஸ்தியரெனப்படுங் கனோப்பஸ் (Canopus) நட்சத்திரம் 2500 மடங்கும், சோதி எனப்



படும் ஆக்றாறஸ் (Arcturus) நட்சத்திரம் 8000 மடங்கும் பிரபையுள்ளனவாம்.

நட்சத்திரங்களின் தூரம் எண்களினால் இலகுவாய்க் குறிக்கப்படக்கூடாத அவ்வளவு பெரிதானமையால் ஒளியின் சலனகாலத்தைக் கொண்டு வெளிப்படுத்தப்படுகின்றது. ஒளி ஒரு செக்கனுக்கு 1,85,000 மைல் வீதம் செல்லுகின்றது. நாம் சூரியன் என்னும் நட்சத்திரத்தில் வசிக்கின்றோமாயினும் ஒளி சூரியனிலிருந்து அதன் கிரகமாகிய பூமிக்கு வர, 8 செக்கன் செல்லுகின்றது. ஆனால் சோதி (Arcturus) நட்சத்திரத்திலிருந்து ஒளி பூமிக்கு வரவோ 200 வருடங்கள் செல்லுமாம். இதுவரையிலறியப்பட்ட ஆகக்கூடிய நட்சத்திரத்தின் தூரம் 25 லட்சக் கோடி மைல். அதிலிருந்து ஒளி பூமிக்குவர மூன்றரை வருடம் வரையிற் செல்லும்.

நட்சத்திரங்களொன்றுக்கொன்றிருக்குந் தூரசம்பந்தத்திற் கவனிக்கப்படத்தக்க மாறுதல் யாவும் நமக்குத் தோன்றவில்லையாயினும் அவைகளும் அதிகெதிராய்ச் சலனிப்பனவாய் அறியப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. சோதி நட்சத்திரம் ஒரு நிமிஷத்துக்கு 22,000 மைல் வீதமாய்ச் சலனிக்கின்றது. நாம் வசிக்கும் சூரியன் தனது பரிவாரங்களாகிய கிரகங்களோடு கூடி நிமிஷத்துக்கு 900 மைல் வீதஞ் சலனிக்கின்றது. சில நட்சத்திரங்கள் நம்மை நோக்கி வந்துகொண்டிருக்க, வேறுசில நம்மிலிருந்து தூரப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றன.

வெற்றுகண்ணுக்குத் தனி நட்சத்திரங்களாய்த் தோற்றுவன சில தூரதரிசியில் இரண்டாய், மூன்றாய், நான்காய்க் காணப்படுகின்றன. இப்படி இரண்டாய்க் காணப்படுவனவற்றுள் சில ஒன்றையொன்று சுற்றுவனவாய் அறியப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. இவை இரட்டை நட்சத்திரங்கள் (Binary Stars) எனப்படும். நட்சத்திரங்கள் நிறத்திலும் ஒன்றுக்கொன்று வித்தியாசமாயிருக்கின்றன. சில நட்சத்திரங்கள் சிவப்பாயும், சில தூய வெண்மையாயும், சில நீலமாயும், சில மஞ்சள் நிறமாயும், சில பச்சை நிறமாயும் தோற்றுகின்றன. பூர்வ வான சாஸ்திரிகள் சிவப்பு நிறமெனக் குறித்த நட்சத்திரங்கள் சில இப்போது வெண்மை நிறமுடையனவா

யிருக்கின்றன. நிறத்தில் மாத்திரமல்ல பிரபையிலும் நட்சத்திரங்கள் காலத்துக்குக் காலம் குறைந்து கூடிய மாறுதலடைகின்றன. இவை விகார நட்சத்திரங்கள் (Variable Stars) எனப்படும். இவற்றுட் சில நாளுக்கு நாள் பிரபையிற் குறைந்து சில காலத்துக்குத் தோற்றது போய் மறுபடி படிப்படியாய்ப் பிரபையிலேறி முன்னிருந்த நிலையை அடைகின்றன. தேகத்திலுண்டாகும் மாறுதலினால் அல்லது வேறு இருண்ட உலகங்கள் சுற்றிச் செல்வதினாலேயே நட்சத்திரங்கள் இவ்வகையாய்ப் பிரபையில் விகாரமடைகின்றன. காலத்துக்குக் காலம் தன் தேகத்தில் மறுக்கையடைவதாகிய சூரியனும் ஓர் விகார நட்சத்திரமேயாம். ஒளிவிட்டுப் பிரகாசிக்கும் வானசோதிகளேயன்றி அனலையும் ஒளியையும் இழந்து குளிர்ந்துபோயிருக்கும் பல இருண்ட உலகங்களும் வானத்திலிருக்கின்றவென்பது வானசாஸ்திரிகளின் அனுமானம். கடைசி நாளிற் பூமியானது இவ்விருண்ட உலகங்களிலொன்றுடன் முட்டுவதினாலேயே நெருப்புப் பற்றியெரியுமென்பது உலகமுடிவைப்பற்றிச் சிலர் கொண்டிருக்குங் கொள்கையாயிருக்கின்றது. இவ்வகையாய் இந்தச் சந்ததியும் சிவபிராணிகள் தாவர வஸ்துக்களும்ற்றுப் போக ஆதியில் நடந்தவகையாய் மறுபடியும் புதியவோர் சிருட்டிப்பு நடைபெறும்போலும். வானத்து நட்சத்திரங்களுட் சில தமது பிரபையை இழந்து மறைந்து காணாமற் போவதும், முந்தோற்றாத புதிய நட்சத்திரங்கள் தோற்றுவதும் காலத்துக்குக் காலம் கவனிக்கப்பட்ட காரியம்.

நிலாவில்லாத சுத்தாங்கமான இரவிற்கு சிலவேளை வானத்தைக் கவனித்துப் பார்த்தால் வானத்தை இரண்டாக்கி ஊடறுத்து மிக மென்மையானவோர் ஒளிப்படலம் பரந்திருப்பது கவனிக்கப்படலாகும், இது பால்வீதி மண்டலம் (Milkyway) எனப்படும். அதி தூரத்திலே எண்ணிறந்த நட்சத்திரங்கள் நெருங்கியிருப்பதே இவ்வொளிப்படலத்துக்குக் காரணமென்பது தூரதரிசி மூலமாய் அறியலாகும். பால்வீதி மண்டலம் சக்கரருபமாய் அண்டகோளம் முழுவதையுஞ் சுற்றியிருக்கின்றது. வானத்



திற் தோற்றும் 20 கோடி நட்சத்திரங்களிற் 18 கோடியும் இப் பால்வீதி மண்டலத்திலேயே இருப்பதால் இதிலிருந்து வானசோதிகளின் கூட்டமான பிரபஞ்சரூபம் எவ்வகையானதென்பதை ஒருவாறு அனுமானிக்கலாகும்.

நட்சத்திரங்கள் வானத்திலெங்கும் ஒரே வகையாய்ப் பரந்திராமல் சிலவிடங்களில் நெருங்கிக் கூட்டங்களாய் (clusters) இருக்கின்றன. பூர்வீகத்தார் வானத்தில் ஒவ்வோர் பாகத்திலுள்ள நட்சத்திரங்களைச் சேர்த்து உருவப்படுத்தி அவற்றுக்குப் பூர்வசதா சம்பந்தமான வீரவான்கள் பிரயாணிகளின் பெயர்களை இட்டிருக்கின்றனர்.

இவ்வகையாய் உருப்படுத்தப்பட்ட நட்சத்திர ராசிகளுள் எவையெவை எந்தெந்த மாதங்களிற் தோற்றுமென்றும் அவற்றின் பிரதான நட்சத்திரங்கள் காட்சிகள் எவையென்றும் பின்னே விபரிப்பாம்.

தை மாதம் முற்பகுதியில் இரவு 11 மணியளவில் அல்லது மாசிடமாதம் முற்பகுதியில் இரவு 7 மணியளவில் அல்லது பங்குனிமாதம் முற்பகுதியில் இரவு 7 மணியளவில் வானத்தைக் கவனித்துப் பார்த்தால் மேற்கு அடிவானத் தொடங்கித் தலைக்குமேலாய்க் கிழக்கு அடிவானம் வரைக்கும் மீனம் (Pisces), மேடம் (Aries), இடபம் (Taurus), மிதுனம் (Gemini), கற்கடகம் (Cancer), சிங்கம் (Leo) என்னும் ஆறு பவன சக்கரராசிகள் சக்கரார்த்தமாய் நிற்க, மீனம், மேட மென்பவற்றுக்குத் தெற்கே திமிங்கில (Cetus)க் கூட்டமும், வடக்கே அண்டிரோமீடா (Andromeda) என்னும் இராச கன்னிக்கூட்டமும், அதற்கு வடக்கே கசியோப்பியா (Cassiopeia) என்னும் இராணிக்கூட்டமும், இடபத்துக்கு வடக்கே பேஹியஸ் (Perseus) என்னும் இராசவீரன் கூட்டமும், அதற்குக் கிழக்கே ஓறிக்கா (Auriga) என்னும் இரதசாரதிக்கூட்டமும், சிங்கராசிக்கு வடக்கே பெரிய கரடி (Ursa Major)க் கூட்டமும், இடபத்துக்குத் தென்கிழக்கே ஒறையன் (Orion) என்னும் இடையன் கூட்டமும், அதற்குக் கிழக்கே சிறுநாய் (Canis Minor)க் கூட்டமும் அதற்குத் தென்மேற்கே பெருநாய்க் (Cane Major) கூட்டமும், அதற்குத் தென்

கிழக்கே கப்பல் (Argo Navis) கூட்டமும் தோற்றும். அதி தூரத்திலே எண்ணிறந்த நட்சத்திரங்கள் நெருங்கியிருப்பதால் மிக மென்மையான ஒளிப்படலமாய்த் தோற்றுவதாகிய பால்வீதி மண்டலம் (Milkway) வடமேற்கு அடிவானத்திற் தொடங்கித் தலைக்குமேலாய்ப் பவன சக்கரத்தை வெட்டிச் சென்று தென்கிழக்கு அடிவானத்தில் முடிகின்றது.

உச்சத்துக்கு மேற்கேயிருக்கும் அறுமீன் (Pleiades) நிரலுக்குக் கீழே விரிகோண முக்கோணமாகித் தோற்றும் மூன்று நட்சத்திரங்கள் மேட (Aries) ராசியின் பிரதான நட்சத்திரங்களாம். குதிரைத் தலைபோற் தோற்றுமிவையே இந்துக்களால் அச்சவினியெனக் குறிக்கப்படும். “அச்சவினி அடுமீன் குதிரைத் தலைபோல்”. மூன்றில் அதி பிரபை யுள்ளதாய் உயரநிற்கும் ஏரையதீஸ் (Arietis) மேற்கே தலையும் கிழக்கே உடலுமாய்ப் படுத்திருக்கும் கடாவினுச்சியிலிருக்கின்றது. அச்சவினிக்கு வடகிழக்கே அடுப்புப்போல் இருக்கும் மூன்று சிறிய நட்சத்திரங்கள் பரணியெனப்படும். “பரணியும் மீனடுப்புப் போலும்”.

பரணிக்குத் தென்கிழக்கே இடப (Taurus) ராசிக்குரியதான அறுமீன் (Pleiades) திரளிருக்கின்றது. இதில் ஆறு நட்சத்திரங்கள் தெளிவாய்க் காணப்படினும் அதிக கூர்மையான கண்ணுக்குப் பதினொரு நட்சத்திரங்களும் தூரநரிசிக்கு (Telescope) 3000 நட்சத்திரங்களும் தோற்றும். இவை கார்த்திகை எனப்படும். “கார்த்திகை அறுமீன்.” இவற்றுக்குத் தென்கிழக்கே 14 பாகை தூரத்தில் அல்டிபாரன் (Aldebaran) என்னும் முதல் வகுப்பு நட்சத்திரம் செந்நிறப் பிரபை காலுகின்றது. அதனோடு மேலும் பல நட்சத்திரங்கள் சேர்ந்து ‘V’ என்னும் அட்சர ரூபமான அயடஸ் (Hyades) திரளாகின்றன. இவை உரோகிணி யெனப்படும். “உரோகிணி யூற்றால் பன்னிரு மீனும்”. கார்த்திகைத் திரள் இடபத்தினேரியும், உரோகணித்திரள் தலையுமாகும். கார்த்திகைக்குக் கிழக்கும், உரோகணிக்கு வடகிழக்குமாய்ப் பால்வீதி மண்டல எல்லையிலிருக்கும் எல்நாத் (El Nath) என்னும்



இரண்டாம் வகுப்பு நட்சத்திரமும் அதற்குத் தென்கிழக்கே யிருக்கும் நான்காம் வகுப்பு நட்சத்திரமும் இடபக் கொம்பு நுனிகளாகின்றன. எல் நாட் நட்சத்திரம் இந்துக்களால் அக்கினியென்றழைக்கப்படும் அறுமீன் திரளில் அதி பிரபையுள்ள நாகிய அல்சியோன் (Alcyon) என்னும் நட்சத்திரத்தை மையமாகக் கொண்டு வானத்திலுள்ள சகல நட்சத்திரங்களுள்ளும் சலனிக்கின்றனவென்றும், சூரியன் அல்சியோனை ஒருமுறை சுற்றிவர 1 கோடியே 30 லட்சம் வருடங்கள் செல்லுமென்றும், மனுஷ சிருஷ்டியின் பின் அப்பாதையில் 3000 / 1 பங்கைத்தான் சுற்றியிருக்கின்ற தென்றும் வானசாஸ்திரிகள் சிலரெண்ணுகின்றனர். அல்சியோன் சூரியனிலும் பார்க்க 1000 மடங்கு பிரபையுள்ளதாய் 1500 லட்ச கோடி மைல் தூரத்திலிருக்கின்றது. “அறுமீன் நட்சத்திரத்தின் சுகிர்த சம்பந்தத்தை நீ இணைக்கக் கூடுமா” என விவிலிய வேதங் கூறுகின்றது. அறுமீன் திரளுக்குக் கிழக்கே 50 பாகை தூரத்தில், பால் வீதி மண்டலத்தின் கிழக்குப் பக்கத்தில் ஒன்றுக்கொன்று சமீபமாயிருப்பனவாகிய காஸ்தர் (Castor) என்னும் இரண்டாம் வகுப்பு நட்சத்திரமும் பொல்லக்ஸ் (Pallax) என்னும் முதல் வகுப்பு நட்சத்திரமும் மிதுன (Gemini) ராசியின் பிரதான நட்சத்திரங்களாம். இவை புநர் பூசம் எனக் குறிக்கப்படும். “ஓதிய புந்த

மோடம்”. பச்சை வர்ணமாய்ப் பிரகாசிக்கும் காஸ்தர் நட்சத்திரமே முற்காலத்திலே பொல்லக்கிலும் பிரபை கூடியதாயிருந்தது. இப்போது பொல்லக்ஸ் கூடிய பிரபையுள்ளதாய் இருக்கின்றது. இவை இரட்டையரின் தலைகளாக, இவற்றுக்குத் தென்மேற்கில் சதுர்ப்புசருபமாய்த் தோன்றுஞ் சிறு நட்சத்திரங்கள் உடல்களுங் கால்களுமாகின்றன.

புனர்பூசத்துக்குத் தென்கிழக்கே 20 பாகை தூரத்தில் வடக்குந் தெற்குமாய் ஒன்றுக் கொன்று மூன்றுபாகை இடைவெளியுள்ளனவாய்த் தோற்றும் இரு சிறு நட்சத்திரங்களும் அவற்றிற்கு மேற்காய் ஒரு முக்கோண மத்தியில் மிக மெல்லியவோர் முகிற் பொட்டுப்போற் தோற்றும் பீறிசெபி (Praesep = தேன்கூடு) என்னும் நட்சத்திரத் திரளும் கற்கடக (Cancer) ராசியிற் கவனத்துக்குரியனவாம். இவை பூசமெனக் குறிக்கப்படும். “பூசம் புடலம் பூவதுபோலும்.” குறித்த இரு நட்சத்திரங்களிற் தெற்கேயிருப்பது சூரிய கட்சமாகிய கிராந்தி மண்டலத்தில் (Ecliptic) இருக்கின்றது. ஆடி மாதம் 29ஆம் திகதி இது சூரியனில் மறையும். பீறிசெபி வெற்றுக் கண்ணுக்கு ஒரு நெபுலகண்டம் போற் தோற்றினும் துரதரிசியில் நட்சத்திரத் திரளெனத் தெளிவாய்க் காணப்படும். பூசத்துக்குத் தென்கிழக்கே அம்மிபோற் தோற்றும் நான்கு நட்சத்திரங்கள் ஆயிலியமெனப்படும் “ஆயிலிய நான்கு மம்மி போலும்.”

(இக் கட்டுரை 1903ஆம் ஆண்டு “உதயதாரகை” இதழ்களில் பகுதி பகுதியாக வெளியிடப்பட்டது.)



யாழ்ப்பாணக் கல்லூரி Y. M. C. A. யினரின்  
எழுவைதீவுப் பயணத்தின்போது பாடப்பட்ட பாடல்.

இது அலன் ஆபிரகாமினால் இயற்றப்பட்டது.

பிறிஞ்சியல் பிறவுனோடு பாக்குத்தர் ஜோக்கும்  
அல்லினோடு கட்சன் அவரோடு ஜோனும்  
செல்லையா குக்கரோடு செப்பு பொன்னையா  
C சாழ் வேலுடன் கணபதிப் பிள்ளை  
இந்தியா இன்னாசு தோமசு உடனே  
யாழ்ப்பாணக் கல்லூரி ஆசிரிய ராமே  
ஏல ஏலோம் தத்தெய்தாமே  
ஏல வலி ஏலோம்.



## கிறிஸ்தவக் கவிஞர் அலன் ஆபிரகாம்

எஸ். ஜெபநேசன், M. A., B. D.

“பாடல்கள் கவிஞர்களின் உள்ளத்தின் ஆழத்திலிருந்து ஊற்றெடுத்து வருகின்றன. அவைகளை நெஞ்சின் ஒலிகள் என்று கூறலாம். சில பாடல்கள் மிகக் குறுகிய காலத்திலேயே பெருஞ் செல்வாக்குப் பெற்று விளங்குகின்றன. பல்லாயிரக்கணக்கானவர்கள் தலைமுறை தலைமுறையாக அவைகளைப் பாடுகிறார்கள். இங்ஙனம் சாகாவரம் பெற்றிருக்கும் பாடல்கள் எத்தகு குழலில் எழுந்தவை, பாடலாசிரியர்களின் வாழ்க்கை நிகழ்ச்சிகளோடு, அவை எங்ஙனம் ஒன்றி நிற்கின்றன? என்பவைகளைத் தெரிந்து கொள்ளும்போது, அப்பாடல்களின் முழு உயிர்ப்பு நிலையை நாம் காணலாம்.”

— கலாநிதி தயாணந்தன் பிரான்சிஸ்

யாழ்ப்பாணம் உருவாக்கிய கிறிஸ்தவத் தமிழ்க் கவிஞர்களில், ஆர்ணல்ட் சதாசிவம் பிள்ளை, எஸ். எஸ். எரேமியா, அழகந் தரம் கிங்ஸ்பெரி தேசிகர், எவாட்ஸ் கனகசபைப்பிள்ளை, ஜே. எஸ். ஆழ்வாப்பிள்ளை, அலன் ஆபிரகாம் ஆகியோர் முக்கியமானவர்கள். இவர்களெல்லோரும் புரட்டஸ் தாந்துக் கிறிஸ்தவர்களெனினும், வெவ்வேறு பின்னணியைக் கொண்டவர்கள். வட்டுக்கோட்டைச் செமினரியிற் கற்றவர்கள் சிலர்; இந்தியாவிலுள்ள இறையியற் கல்லூரியிற் கற்றவர்கள் சிலர்; யாழ்ப்பாணத்திலுள்ள ஆசிரியர்களுக்கான போதனா வித்தியாசாலையிற் கற்றவர்கள் சிலர். கல்வித் தராதரம் வேறுபட்டு நின்றதைப் போலவே, ஒவ்வொருவருடைய பொருளாதார நிலைமைகளும், வாழ்க்கை வசதிகளும் வேறுபட்டு நின்றனவென்பது, மறுக்கமுடியாத வண்மையாகும். ஒரு குறிப்பிட்ட காலத்தில், ஒரு குறிப்பிட்ட இலக்கியத் தோன்றுவதற்கு, அக்காலத்தின் சூழல் பொதுக்காரணம். கவிஞரின் வாழ்க்கையனுபவம் சிறப்புக்காரணம்.

அலன் ஆபிரகாமின் கல்வி, சமூகவியற் பொருளாதாரப் பின்னணி எத்தகையது? காரைநகரிலுள்ள சைவ வேளாண் மரபைச் சேர்ந்த சுப்பிரமணியத்திற்கும், பார்வதி அம்மையாருக்கும் மூத்த புதல்வனாகப் பிறந்தவர் இக் கவிஞர். இவருடைய பெற்றோர் இவருக்கு அம்பலவாணர் என்று, நாமஞ் சூட்டினர். பதினேராவது வயதில் இக் கவிஞர் பெருமான் தமது பெற்றோர் இருவரையும் இழந்தார். இவருடைய ஆரம்பப் பள்ளிக்கூட ஆசிரியை, இவருடைய திறமையைக் கண்டு, தெல்லிப்பாளையிலே அமெரிக்கன் மிஷனரிமார் நடத்திவந்த போதனா வித்தியாசாலையிற் கற்பதற்கு ஒழுங்கு செய்தார். இவ் வித்தியாசாலையிற் படித்துக்கொண்டிருந்த போதுதான், அம்பலவாணர் அலன் ஆபிரகாம் எனும் பெயருடன் கிறிஸ்தவரானார். தெல்லிப்பளைப் போதனா வித்தியாசாலையிற் கற்பிக்கப் பெற்ற கிறிஸ்தவ இறையியல், வட்டுக்கோட்டைச் செமினரியின் இறையியலை விடத் தாழ்ந்த நிலையிலிருந்தது என்பது வெள்ளிடைமலை. வட்டுக்கோட்டைச் செமினரியிற் கிறிஸ்தவ இறையியல், ஐரோப்பியப் பல்கலைக்கழகங்களுக்கு நிகராகக் கற்பிக்கப் பட்டதென்பது, ஆராய்ச்சியாளர் ஒப்பிய முடிவு. ஆர்ணல்ட் சதாசிவம்பிள்ளை, எவாட்ஸ் கனகசபைப்பிள்ளை ஆகியோரின் பாடல்களிலே காணப்படும் வேதாகமச் செய்திகளும், கிறிஸ்தவ இறையியலும் நம்மைப் பிரமிக்க வைக்கின்றன. போதனா வித்தியாசாலையிலே வழங்கப்பட்ட வேதாகமப் பயிற்சி, அதிக ஆழமுடையதாகக் காணப்படவில்லை. இதனாலே, அலன் ஆபிரகாமின் பாடல்களில் விரிவான கிறிஸ்தவ இறையியலைக் காணமுடியாதிருக்கின்றது.

தாண்டகம்—திருப்புகழ் விருத்தம்

ஆனால், அலன் ஆபிரகாம் கிறிஸ்தவத் தமிழிலக்கியத்திற் தனக்கெனவொரு தனி யான இடத்தைத் தேடிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார். இவருடைய கவிதைகளின் சிறப்பம்சங்கள் யாவை? மெய்யுருகிப் பாடுதல், அறன் வலியுறுத்தல் (Ethical), சைவத் தேவாரத்



திருவாசகப் பாடல்களிலே காணப்படுந் தொடர்களை, மிகுந்த இலாகவத்துடன் பயன்படுத்துதல் என்று கண்டுகொள்ளலாம்.

தவத் திரு. தனிநாயகம் அடிகள் ஒரு முறை, பிரெஞ்சைத் தூதின் மொழியென்றும், செருமானியத்தைவிஞ்ஞானத்தின் மொழியென்றும், ஆங்கிலத்தை வர்த்தக மொழியென்றுங் கொள்வர். இதனைப் போலத், தமிழைப் பத்தி மொழி என்று கொள்ளலாமென்றும், தமிழில் இரங்குவதைப்போல, ஒரு மொழியிலும் இரங்க முடியாதென்றுங் கூறினர். அலன் ஆபிரகாம் இளமைப்பரயத்திலிருந்தே சைவத்திருமுறைகளை நன்கு கற்றவராக இருந்திருத்தல் வேண்டும். பின்வரும் பாடல், மாணிக்க வாசகரின் திருவாசகத்தில் அவர் பெற்றிருந்த பயிக்குச் சான்று பகருகின்றது.

“ஆதியந்த மில்லாஅற் புதனே, எங்கும் ஆருயிரே, அருட்கடலே, அன்பே, ஞானச் சோதியே, தொண்டருளத் தமர்போய் விண்ணோர் சுத்தர்பரி சுத்தரெனத் துதிக்குந் தேவே, பூதலத்தி லடியரைமீட் புரட்சை செய்யும் பொருட்டாக அவதரித்த புண்ணியமூர்த்தி, போதமறைப் பழம்பொருளே, பூரண எம் புகலிடந் ஆகிஎன்றும் புரந்தி டாயே.”

கவிஞர்கள் “எடுத்தாளும்” பண்பிலிருந்து விடுபடமுடியாது. கவிஞர்கள், தமக்குமுன் தோன்றிய புலவர்களின் உருவகங்களையும், உவமைகளையும் கையாண்டு புதிய கவிதைகளைச் சமைக்கின்றனர். Cecil Northcott என்பார் தோத்திரப் பாடல்களைப் பற்றிக் கூறியவை ஈண்டு மனங்கொள்ளத் தக்கவை யாகும்.

“A melody, some easily memorized words; and the desire to sing together perhaps a little sentimentally, and May be, a little tearfully—Those are happy ingredients of the Gospel Song.

“அப்துல் ரஹ்மான் என்னுங் கவிஞர் பாரதியாரைப் பற்றிப் பின்வருமாறு எழுதினர்: “உன்றன் கவிதைகளை விட, அழகானது உன் வாழ்க்கை!” இவ்வாறு,

அலன் ஆபிரகாமைப் பற்றித் துணிந்து கூறலாம். 57 வயதில் இவ்வுலக வாழ்வை நீத்த அலன் ஆபிரகாம் அவர்கள் மாந்தருக்குள் ஒரு மாணிக்கமாக வாழ்ந்தவர். ஆனால், நான் பாவி. இறைவனுடைய அருள் எனக்குக் கிட்டுமோ? என்று ஏங்கியிருப்பதனைக் காணலாம். இவருடைய அனுபவம் பெரும்பாலும் தாண்டக வேந்தர் திருநாவுக்கரசரின் அனுபவத்தை ஒத்திருப்பதனைக் காணலாம். “சலம் பூவொடு தூபம் மறந்தறியேன்” ..... “ஒரு பற்றில் லாமையுங் கண்டு இரங்காய் இறைவா கச்சி யேகம்பனே” போன்ற ஏக்கவுணர்வுகளை, நாமிக் கவிஞர் பெருமானின் பாடல்களிலே காணலாம்.

“கர்த்தனே, கருணைக் கடவுளே, உலகம் காத்துநற் கதிதரும் பரனே, நித்தனே, நிமலா, நினைச்சர ணடைந்தேன்; நேயமா யணைத்தெனைப் புரப்பாய்; சித்தமார் பாவங்கள் தீர்த்தெனிற புதிய சுவளைச் சிருட்டியெய் வதற்காய்; இத்தரை யுதித்த இறைவனே, என்னை ஏற்றுநீ இரட்சைசெய் வாயே.”

இத்தகைய தாழ்மையுடனும், பாவ உணர்வுடனும் வாழ்ந்த இக்கவிஞர் பெருமானின் சொந்த வாழ்க்கை எப்படிப்பட்டதாக இருந்ததென்பதற்கு, ஜோன் பி்க்னல் அவர்களே சான்று பகருகின்றார்கள். அலன் ஆபிரகாம் மரித்தபொழுது, பி்க்னல் பின் வருவாறு கூறினர்:

“உயர்திரு. ஆபிரகாம் அவர்களின் இடத்திற்கு யாரை நியமிப்பது? என்ற கேள்விக்கு, நான் கூறக்கூடிய மறுமொழி, ‘எவரையுமில்லை’ என்பது தான். அவரின் இடத்தை யாரும் நிரப்ப முடியாது. அவரிடம் முற்றான அறிவு, கற்பிப்பதிற் தனியாற்றல், ஆலோசனை கூறுவதில் ஆழ்ந்த அறிவுடமை ஆகிய பண்புகள் சிறந்து விளங்கின. அவர் தமது சொந்த வசதிகள் பாதிக்கப்படுவதைப் பொருட்படுத்தாது சேவையாற்றச் சித்தமாயிருந்தார். மற்றவர்களுடன் சுமுகமாகப் பழகும் பண்பு வாய்ந்தவர். இந்நற்பண்புகள் இன்னொருவரை அவரிடத்திற்கு நியமிக்கும்போது தயங்க வைக்கின்றன.”



அலன் ஆபிரகாமவர்கள் தம் வாழ்வின் பிற்பகுதியில் நீரிழிவு நோயினால் பீடிக்கப் பட்டார். நீரிழிவு நோயின் காரணமும், சிகிச்சையும் அப்பொழுது நன்கறியப்பட வில்லை. தன் வாழ்நாள் மெல்ல மெல்லக் குறுகி வருகின்றதென்பதனை உணர்ந்து கொண்டார். சுப்பிரமணிய பாரதிக்கும் பிற்காலத்தில் இப்படியான உணர்வு தோன்றியது.

“சொல்லடி சிவசக்தி! — என்னைச் சுடர்மிகும் அறிவுடன் படைத்துவிட்டாய்! வல்லமை தாராயோ? — இந்த மாநிலம் பயனுற வாழ்வதற்கே!”

என்று பாடினார்.

எனது இனிய நண்பர் மகா கணம் சபாபதி குலேந்திரன், தான் அலன் ஆபிரகாமவர்களைக் கடைசியாக 1921ஆம் ஆண்டு நடைபெற்ற வைகாசிக்கூட்டத்திற் கண்டதாகக் கூறினார். அப்பொழுது மரணம் அவர் முகத்தில் எழுதப்பட்டிருந்தது என்றுங் கூறினார்.

எனது மாமனும் கல்வித் திணைக்களத் திற் கணக்காளர் நாயகமாகத் திகழ்ந்த வருமான திரு. வல்லிபுரம் நல்லையா அவர்கள் மிகுந்த உணர்ச்சியோடு பின்வருஞ் சம்பவத்தைக் கூறியிருந்தார்.

அலன் ஆபிரகாம், பள்ளித் தொடக்கத் தில் நடைபெற்ற பிரார்த்தனைக் கூட்ட மொன்றிற் பின்வரும் பாடலை நெஞ்சருகப் பாடினார்:

“கல்லான மனமுடையேன் கருங்கோ பத்தேன் கருணைபொறை தாழ்மையன்பு காட்டி நில்லேன் பொல்லாத நினைவுகளாற் பேச்சால் நாளும் புரிவினைக் ளாற்பவத்திற் புரள்வே னாவேன் தொல்லுலகை மீட்கஅவ தறித்த இயேசு சுவாமிஅடிச் சுவட்டினிற்பின் தொடர்ந்து செல்வேன் எல்லையிலா அவரதன்பின் சாயல் பூண்டு ஏழையேன் ஈடேற இரங்காய் தேவே.”

அன்று ஆசிரியர்கள், மாணவர்கள் அனை வருமே உணர்ச்சி வசப்பட்டிருந்தனர்.

இப்படிச் கண்ணீர்மல்க உணர்ச்சியோடு ஒருவரும் பாடியதில்லை. அலன் ஆபிரகாம முடைய உணர்ச்சிமிக்க பாடலைக் கேட்டவர்கள், இப்படிப் பாடியவர் இனி அதிககாலம் உயிரோடிருக்கப்போவதில்லை என்றுங் கூறினார்கள். அவ்வாறே, மாமேதை அலன் அவர்களும் இந்தப் பாடலைப் பாடிச் சில வாரங்களுக்குள், இவ்வுலக வாழ்வை நீத்தார் என்று குறிப்பிட்டார். அலன் ஆபிரகாம் அவர்கள் தாம் விரும்பியவாறே,

துதிமிகும் அதிசயகுண சம்பூரண தூய தேவனை முகம் முகமாய்ச் சந்திக்கச் சென்று விட்டார்.

“உடலுள்ளம் பொருள் யாவும் ஈயவும், உனது தொண்டிலே மனஞ் சாயவும்”

“ஊக்கமும் பெலமும் ஆக்கிக் கண் நோக்குவாய்”

என்ற உயர்ந்த இலட்சியத்தோடு, இனி ஒரு புலவன் தோன்றுவானா என்பது சந்தேகமே!



## Thank you

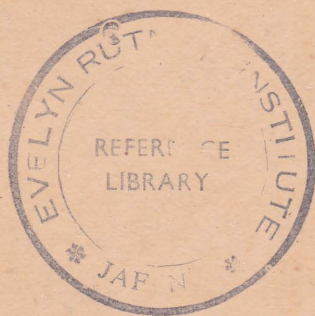
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— *Editor*









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