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On 15TH JUNE 2014





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CHUNDIKULI GIRLS' COLLEGE

PAST PUPILS' ASSOCIATION
(COLOMBO BRANCH)

SRI LANKA

75TH
ANNIVERSARY

(1939 – 2014)



SOUVENIR

The Eagle

*Powerful and invincible the eagle flies,
Fearless and determined he soars in the skies.*

*Unafraid of judgement and despair,
the eagle flies and does not care.*

*The eagle transcends the obstacles of despair,
that lie and wait there..*

The eagle soars on.

The eagle is strong and sincere.

He has no reason to fear the weakness around.

His mind is filled with the sound of success.

The eagle will do his best no-matter how difficult the test.

Hopeful and majestic the eagle flies.

No one will reach him even if they try.

His eyes are focused as sharp as the finest blade.

The eagle never allows errors he has made ,to cloud his mind

The eagle is surely divine.

The eagle is one of a kind.

The eagle is powerful because of his mind.

*The eagle will succeed every time because he lets nothing
stand in his way.*

His failures will only path his way for greater and greater success.

*The eagle never looks back. He sees all obstacles as a
test of his endurance and strength.*

*The eagle will deliver the best performance regardless of the lengths he must
go to.*

Free and unafraid the eagle soars high.

He is powerful because he does not ask others: "Why?"

The eagle achieves because he flies. Others merely try.

Message from the President

I take great pleasure in writing this message on the occasion of the 75 th Anniversary of our Past Pupils' Association of Chundikul Girls' College, Jaffna (Colombo Branch). The Fundraiser event 'Vaudeville' an evening of music and entertainment has been organized to commemorate this celebration and to support the education of the needy children at CGC,



A Thanksgiving Service will be held in August 2014.

It is with great appreciation I remember at this time our first lady Miss Caroline Hunt who started our Colombo OGA in 1939 and its been wonderful to see how we have increased in number. We have about 35 committee members and more than 200 in the general membership. My sincere thanks to all the past presidents who served our organization with their whole hearted commitment and dedication.

We have our regular meetings on the second Thursday of every month and I Thank our members who have set aside their time to participate in these meetings and help in all the OGA activities in spite of their busy schedules and their family commitments. One hour of discussion which includes fun times and laughter with the young and the old making everyone forget their cares and allow us to focus on the needs of our school.

We had a great opportunity to join in the Jaffna OGA Centenary Celebrations last year. It was a pleasure to link with the old girls living in Sri Lanka and abroad UK, Canada , America & Australia.

At this time we remember all those who have left us and once rendered their services to our organization and we are thankful to God for Mrs.Ruby Ariaratnam (100 Years) who is the most senior member of CGC Colombo branch who is here with us to grace this occasion.

My sincere thanks to the families of our members who willingly help, support and encourage us in many ways to perform our duties to our Alma mater. I am very happy to hear that many of our old girls of CGC are doing well all around the world and for the well-rounded education we received at CGC, We should be thankful to our Alma mater at all times. Our motto "Forward" is helping us to strive in achieving the best in every field we engage in.

My best wishes to our PPA of CGC (Colombo) as we continue our services to our school and country.May God's richest blessing shower upon our Alma mater and on everyone who has had the opportunity to be a past pupil of CGC

Ms.Amirthini John
President
PPA, CGC (Colombo)



CHURCH OF CEYLON

DIOCESE OF COLOMBO



Rt. Revd. Dhiloraj R. Canagasabey
Bishop of Colombo

Our Ref :
Your Ref :

Message from Rt. Revd Dhiloraj R. Canagasabey, Bishop of Colombo

I am pleased to be associated with this fund raising event and to send you a message of felicitation as you celebrate 75 years of the Chundikuli Girls College Past Pupils Association, Colombo Branch.

Chundikuli Girl's College is a household name in Jaffna and a pioneer in women's education not only in the peninsular but in the country as a whole, having been established by far thinking Anglican missionaries in 1896. Today, its name and renown are even 'global', due to the hard work and efforts of the CGC expatriate alumni.

I am told that the OGA was begun just a few years after the school itself and celebrated its centenary last year. Being a non fee levying school, the cost of running, maintenance and development of the institution, with regard to the facilities and physical infrastructure as well as the curriculum, sports and other character developing activities, depend very greatly on donations and fund raising. It is here that the OGA and its many branches play a significant role.

Today's concert, organized by the Colombo Branch of the OGA, is yet another initiative of this group. At the end of the war in the North, Chundikuli stepped in to provide education and hostel facilities for many children of the internally displaced. Bursaries have been offered by the OGA to almost all of these children and the proceeds of this event will be utilized to further strengthen this effort.

This gesture of lovingly caring for our neighbour is an integral part of the Gospel message and I commend this venture of the Chundikuli Girls' College PPA, Colombo.

Thilo Colombo

Rt. Revd Dhiloraj R. Canagasabey
Bishop of Colombo
23rd May 2014



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Message from Our Chief Guest

A Commendable Commitment

I am happy and honoured to send this message on the 75th anniversary of the Past Pupils' Association (Colombo branch) of Chundikuli Girls' College.



The needs of the school are numerous due to the years of conflict in the North and aftermath. The Past pupils of Chundikuli Girls' College have been an inspiration for others by their contributions to the development of the school infrastructure as well its academic activities.

Past pupils in Sri Lanka & abroad have come forward to assist in the needs of the children affected by the conflict to become confident and to move "Forward all the life time".

As a part of the 75th anniversary celebrations, the Past Pupils' Association (Colombo branch) has organized this evening of music and entertainment "Vaudeville" in support of the Internally displaced Children with much needed funds for their advancement.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the committee of the Past Pupils' Association (Colombo branch) on their commitment and wish the event a great success.

Ms. Vasantha Nallathamby

Message from the Principal, Chundikuli Girls' College, Jaffna

It gives me immense pleasure, in congratulating the Colombo branch of our OGA, as they celebrate the completion of their 75th year of existence.

Infact, this is a commendable achievement as they have not merely existed, but have been a great source of help and inspiration to their alma mater Chundikuli Girls' College, as well as the Colombo community during turbulent times in 1954 and 1977. I congratulate all the past and present members who have toiled hard to reach this memorable mile stone.



The Jaffna OGA was formed during the time of Ms. Sophia Lucinda Page in 1913 while the inception of Colombo OGA was in the year 1939, during the principalship of Ms. Northway. Ever since, enthusiastic old girls have worked hand in hand to bring it to its present stature.

May you soar to greater heights like the eagle under God's guidance, to continue your meritorious services and be a beacon of light to all you associate with.

May God bless you.

Mrs. D. Thuseetharan
Principal

Message from the Manager, Chundikuli Girls' College, Jaffna



With great pride I pen this message to the souvenir to be published to mark the 75th Anniversary of the Past Pupils' Association of Chundikuli Girls' College, Colombo branch in my capacity as the manager of the school at this historical moment.

We old girls are indeed privileged to have this great school, founded by the Missionaries of the past with great vision, as our Alma mater. With the eagle as the logo and the word 'Forward' as the motto, indicates the minds of those founders. The school has faced many challenges; the journey was not a bed of roses. But with the grace of our Almighty Father on whom our founders trusted and established Chundikuli in 1896, we have moved on. The challenges made us stronger and inspired us to reach heights. Today Chundikuli is a leading institution in the peninsula striving to promote the education of girls in that area.

After the end of the ethnic crisis we had to take in several children whose families were internally displaced and who had lost the bread winner of the family. We were able to accommodate these children because of the spontaneous and generous response and corporation from the old girls world over. The members of the Colombo branch individually and jointly rose to the situation and were a source of strength both morally as well as financially. They have been awarding bursaries to the children to support their education at Chundikuli since then.

The concert 'VAUDIVILLE' is another effort to raise funds to support more students and to increase the amount granted to each child. The school fees had to be increased to improve the quality of education. So the bursaries granted should cover that cost. We thank the members of the Colombo branch for all their support. This is a message of encouragement for the school authorities.

We thank all friends of Chundikuli Girls' College for all their support at all times.

I congratulate the PPA, Colombo branch on their successful completion of 75 years journey. Let us, the old girls of Chundikuli continue to support our alma mater in giving a wholesome education to the children who join our 'Forward' journey!

God be with us all.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Thanja Peiris'.

Thanja Peiris (nee Coomarasamy)

07th June, 2014.

Manager.

(1983 - 1986)

75th ANNIVERSARY OF THE COLOMBO O.G.A.

It gives me great pleasure in sending this message to the souvenir to mark the 75th anniversary of the Colombo O.G.A.

I have been a very active member of the Colombo O.G.A. from the 1970s to 1986 when I with my family migrated to Melbourne, Australia. As I go down memory lane, I recall some of the events that took place 30 to 40 years ago when I was serving as the Treasurer, Secretary and finally as President of the Colombo O.G.A. from 1983 to 1986.



We had about 100 members on our list who took part in various activities to get the Association going. We had variety entertainments where the members and their children took part. The old girls and their children enjoyed the practices and rehearsals and we enjoyed the fellowship with one another. As a fund raising event I remember the play we staged, "The Dear Departed" where Mrs Sugirthamalar Perinpanayagam took part as the old man – which was very hilarious and well accepted by those who were present. We also sold tickets and entertained groups of children and teachers who came from Jaffna to Colombo to stage their plays and collect funds for our Alma Mater. One such play was "The House of Bernada Alba" – a Spanish play where Ms Mahila Rajaratnam and daughter took part.

We also organized trips and picnics to various places of interest. I remember vividly the trip to a hotel in Bentota, where about 30 to 40 of us got into a boat to reach our destination. For many of us it was our first boat ride. Another interesting trip was to Kandy by bus to the residence of Mrs Ruba Gnanaratnam (nee Rajaratnam). Ruba entertained us and showed us round the estate. We had a committee meeting there and inaugurated an O.G.A. branch in Kandy as there were quite a number of old girls living there. Unfortunately, it did not materialize.

Another memorable event was our trip to Chundikuli to celebrate the 75th anniversary of our Alma Mater. 50 of our members were able to travel in comfort to take part in the celebrations. We enjoyed ourselves meeting with our former teachers and class mates, and returned after spending a few days there. It brought back many happy memories of our school days.

It was a pleasure to work with Mrs Punitham Thiruchelvam when she was the President. I was the Secretary of the O.G.A. We used to collect the Arts and Crafts from our members and well-wishers to sell them and raise funds for our Alma Mater.

I congratulate the President and the committee for continuing the good work and reaching a milestone in the history of the Colombo O.G.A.

Mrs. Arunthathy Handy (nee Tissainayagam)

(1986 - 1989)

Looking back, I have nothing but happy memories of Chundikuli Girls' College. I thank God for all those who have studied and worked here and loved freedom, and achieved great things for Him.

We know that God is the strength and power within us, who has enabled us to do this.

I quote from one of my poems :-

"Give us Lord, vision clear to see the lofty rainbows - No grapple with phantom shadows

Minds free of guilt, despair and thoughts bewildering - To rise above the smog of petty happenings!"

Chundikuli Girls' College – Let us work with God and Go "Forward into Light!"



Indrani Abesekera (Nee CanagaRetnam)

(1991 - 1998)

On this our 75 th Anniversary year I am so happy to see our CGC –PPA functioning so well under the leadership of our young past pupils. My Heartiest Congratulations to our President Miss Amirthini John & her committee for the efficient way they are managing our PPA and for organising the functions to celebrate our 75 th Anniversary in a fitting manner.



Our Colombo Branch had been officially inaugurated in 1939. We are proud that we had been the first of the Jaffna schools to organise a PPA in Colombo. We owe a debt of gratitude to the group of past pupils for their wisdom and foresight in starting this branch and carrying it without a break..

I was elected President in 1988 – 1991. During this time we had organised a few projects and this gave us an opportunity for all past pupils to meet together renew old ties and reminisce of our school days.

During this period there was an influx of Tamil Refugees from the North and East. Our PPA Committee visited the refugee camps and distributed milk powder cloths and Toiletries. We also provided translation facilities for the "Family Planning and Health talks" given by the Govt.nurses who were able to speak only in Sinhala and English.

Some of our girls were residing at St.Andrews, St.Margarets & Wellewatte Methodist Homes. We organised regular visits to these homes which was greatly appreciated. We also visited old girls who lived alone children being abroad. Our Christmas caroling was organised mainly to sing in the homes of the lonely old girls and cheer them up. We organised picnics to Hikkaduwa Bentota and Negombo. Everyone had an enjoyable time forgetting household chores, husbands and children and became "school girls" again and joined in the fun and frolic of the young just like the days gone by.

These occasions helped linked together different age group and generations in the bond of CGC. Membership had grown from 210 to 450 during this period.

We celebrated the golden jubilee of our PPA with a very colourful and most meaningful thanksgiving service at the Cathedral of Christ the living savior. It was well attended over 500 members and husbands took part in the service. Short histories of each quarter was presented by past pupils. The beautiful singing of 5 hymns by our choir culminating in the rendering of handles Halleluiah chorus from the Mesiah touched the hearts of the entire congregation.

A special Hymn was composed by Rev.A.J.C.Selvaratnam for this occasion was also rendered. It was so beautiful ! the choir was conducted by Mrs.Indrani Abesekera with Mrs.Joy Gnanadurai at the Organ. The service was followed by a time of fellowship.. We also donated shorteats to a childrens' orphanage.

We organised a special ceremony at St.Paul Milagiriya for the issue of a first day cover and a stamp to commemorate our school Centenary Celebrations..

The post master general at that time a Mrs.Soma Kotakedeniya herself came and presented the stamp and first day cover.

By God's Grace I'm still here to join in the 75 th Anniversary Celebrations. I wish God's Blessings on our PPA that like our college emblem "The Eagle" she will soar to grater heights and continue to support our Alma Mater Chundikuli Girls' College.

God Bless You All.

Mrs. Daisy Thevasagayam

(1998 - 2001)

As Past President I am very pleased to send this message of felicitation on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the past pupils' association of Chundikuli Girls College. It is with great joy that I greet you on this historic and momentous occasion. "Someone is sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago" (Warren Buffet).



We are mindful of the deep commitment and faithfulness of all our past old girls who have gone before us. As Chundikuli old girls, we always marched forward helping each other and encouraging each other. "Rearing human qualities in human beings is education" (William Wordsworth).

I am sure our school Chundikuli Girls School was the right place for all of us. On this great day I congratulate Miss Amirthini John our present President who was also one of my students at Chundikuli and the present committee for their great achievement.

Mrs.Jayanthi David

(2001-2004)

I am humbled of the privilege to send a message for the Colombo OGA's 75 Th Anniversary celebration.

To be a Chundikuli girl is an honour. To have been a President of one of the oldest OGAs of the school, a legend in its own right, is a double honour and an experience to be treasured. I must quickly add that even at my time one did not get to be a President unless one had gained the confidence and trust of the alumni on the path to leadership. A lesson in management which has held me in good stead in my career in the "jungle gym" that is the global marketing arena.



I was carefully nurtured for the role of President of the OGA by such personalities as Evelyn Lewis, Sarojini Sanders –Thevanayagam (for whom I was secretary), Devi Manoharan (my mentor while I was her assistant secretary), Sakuntala Joseph, Irene Rajaratnam, Daisy Thevasagayam (I was secretary again!), Indrani Abeysekere (I was secretary again!), Jayanthi David (I was Vice President for 3 years) and Ranjo Sinniah (my legendary treasurer and soul-mate). Behind the scenes stood my mother, a second generation old girl and my quiet critic ensuring I didn't shirk in my duties to the school! I learnt the priceless lesson that tradition is not just a sentimental feeling but in fact a responsibility that is carefully passed down from generation to generation with fervent hope and trust for continuity.

In all my years with the Colombo OGA I was fully conscious of the terror and hardship surrounding the school and its community. When the school celebrated its 100th year it was displaced just like its community. Realising its hope lies in the spirit of its old girls, the Colombo OGA pulled off a fine celebration of thanksgiving in Colombo with an elegant service of worship from classical Handel to beautiful reminiscences in poetry to the launch of a special edition school magazine from contributions from old girls across the world. In one of her darkest of hours we were the crack through which the light came through for Chundikuli Girls' College.

As you celebrate 75 years, I wish the old girls of Colombo would find true meaning, contentment and passion in your lives. For I have seen you navigate the difficult times and come out with greater strength and resolve. As one of my favourite leaders, Sheryl Sandberg, COO of Face Book would say to women, "I hope you have the ambition to lean in to your work and run the world. Because the world needs you to change it." The world that is Chundikuli and beyond.

Sharmini Masilamani
Melbourne, Victoria 3141
Australia

(2004-2006)

It is a delight for me to send this message on the occasion of the celebration of the 75th Anniversary of our Old Girls Association, Colombo Branch.



It is a joy to be in the company of Old School Girls, reminisce the times we shared with each other and also to get together to do whatever possible to assist in the development of our school. To this extent our Association plays an important role in our day to day life.

I was President of our association for two years. During this time I had great opportunity of coming in contact with most of our old girls here and abroad, The committee gave me the utmost support which helped me to carry out my duties and to overcome any difficulty hand in hand for the love of our school. We organized various events including the well acclaimed "Jaffna Kool Festival"

I am proud to say that our OGA has given continuous support in various forms to our school and I am certain this will go on. I would like to take this opportunity to express my profound appreciation of the efforts taken by the present President Amirthini John and her office-bearers who are dedicating their time and energy in organizing this Anniversary Celebration. I wish them all success!!

Mrs. Manovathana Canagsooryam

(2006-2007)

It is my privilege to write a message in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the CGC PPA (Colombo Branch).



I spent 13 years of my life at Chundikuli Girls' College, and I must add that I have undivided loyalty to this school. On my yearly visits to the school campus, I am constantly reminded of the quality of the strong foundation provided to me by this school – and I am comforted to know that this rich history continues under the leadership of my friend, Dushy Thuseetharan.

I offer my sincere prayers and good wishes to this young team of Officer Bearers who are running the PPA so efficiently. May I also wish the Principal, Teachers, Students and Administrative staff of the only Alma Mater in my academic career.

Congratulations to the PPA on 75 successful years!

Mrs. Malathi Nesiah

(2007-2010)
75! Sure it is!!



One of the greatest blessings for which I am thankful to my Lord is the right to call myself an Old Girl of Chundikuli Girls' College Jaffna and the honour and privilege He gave me to serve The Past Pupils' Association (Colombo) of Chundikuli Girls' College -Jaffna, as the President during the period 2008 – 2011. As we celebrate this event founded 75 Years ago, let us all be reminded about the contributions made by those who came before and are no more with us in this world to be saluted. Since then it is with great pleasure that our Association has entered into the work of those who have gone before us to continue our "FORWARD" march without a break and with great distinction to support the School in every possible way in the midst of conflicts changes, and challenges faced thus far.

The monthly meetings not only give us an opportunity to gather together for a time of social fellowship to go down memory lane but also rejuvenates us with fresh blood making us to be reborn as naughty young school Girls once again ! We have widened our activities at our meetings to suit both the young and the old [Excuse me – No one looks old. All look so vibrant, young and sophisticated! என்ரும் 16! never giving up on a task because it is tough.

My blessings and good wishes will always be with the Past Pupils' Association and may our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ give us the strength to see the Association flourishing, as we continue to grow towards our Centennial Celebrations.

It is so little We can do! - It is so little We can say!
Nay, But what is demanded of us - Is just that Little - Hear & Obey! (Selected)

Ms. Janaky Gunaratnam
(2010-2013)



75 Years of Excellence: Celebrating the Past, Present and Future.

I am honoured to have had served as president of The Past Pupils' Association of Chundikuli Girls' College, Jaffna (Colombo Branch) for three consecutive years from 2011 – 2013. I will forever cherish this experience and I am eternally grateful for the Education which I received at my Alma mater.

The beauty of Anniversaries is that they give us the opportunity to look back and see how far we have come. When celebrating a significant Anniversary, we are quite often forced to do many things that previously have been left undone. Members are the backbone and the inspiration of this association. We have accomplished a lot and I am certain that we will continue to support in our future endeavors too. It is amazing how many memories we can squeeze into these 75 years and we can do it all over again.

Lifelong friendships are formed at the Old Girls' Association where former students remember their School days with great affection. OGA works to encourage friendship and collaboration among its members and with the School. Old Girls of all ages enjoy sharing their memories of School with us and with their fellow Alumni.

As we celebrate the 75th Anniversary it is our hope that the association will continue to shine and that the Present & Future members will continue to serve our Alma Mater and the Association with high spirits ahead.

Mrs. Ranji Tissabalasinghem (nee Gunaratnam)

The Committee members of the PPA , CGC (Colombo) -2013/2014



Seated

(L-R) Sarojana Sri Ranganathan (Vice President), Premini Satcunan (Secretary), Ranjo Sinniah (Treasurer), Naveena Devanandan (Vice Patron), Pansy Daniel (Secretary), Amirthini John (President), Thanja Peiris (Manager C.G.C), Indrani Abeysekera (Vice Patron), Daisy Thevasagayam (Vice Patron), Devi Manoharan (Vice Patron) Sybil Thapararatnam, Janaky Gunaratnam, Ranji Tissabalasinghem

Standing

(First Row) Viji Thiru, Mano Canagasooriyam, Jayanthi David, Sarojini Thevamanoharan, Wijithi Karunanathan, Sothiluxmy Sivendran, Prema Thanapalan, Rubini Jebaratnam, Mathy Jeyakumar, Lalitha Manoharan, Chrishanthi Navaratnam, Joy Gnanadurai

Standing

(Second Row) Sharmila Paranitharan, Dwaraka Rajasooriyar, Dharmini Thivianathan, Srimala Prasathkumar, Kesavathany Muralitharan, Rajanthini Sethukavalar, Rohini Thamotharam

Absent

Dr. (Mrs) Rukmani Amarasekera (Vice President) , Kamu Arulanantham, Priyanthi Joseph, Rasamany Sadagoban , Rajini Black

Presidents of Past & Present of Colombo OGA



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படித்துச் சுவைத்தவை.....

"வீதைத்த செயல்களை திரும்பிப் பார்ப்போம், சீதறிய செயல்களை சீரமைக்க முயலுவோம்,
இடையிடையே மூட்கள் முளைத்திருந்தால் முதலில் அதை நீக்குவோம்".

"வாழ்க்கை எனும் பூங்காவில் வெற்றி மலர்களைப் பறிப்பதற்கு
திட்டம் எனும் செயல் கரங்கள் நீட்டுவோம்".

"முயற்சிச் சிறகுகளை அசைப்போம், முடிவில்லா வெற்றிகளைக் குவிப்போம்,
சோம்பல் வில்லை ஒடிப்போம், சாதனை வானில் பறப்போம்".

சக்தியவள்ள பிரேமலாமார்

உசிதமலர் சிவபாலன்

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Cherished Memories from our Senior Old Girls' of CGC

PPA-Chundikuli Girl's College, Jaffna, Colombo Branch

I am privileged and pleased to send this message on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of PPA of Chundikuli Girls' College, Colombo. Through the years, the school has gone through good times and difficult times, but faced all the challenges so well, so as to come out victoriously.



I remember the time when the school opted to go private, without a strong financial backing, but the PPA made a bold decision that we go private. The school management accepted this decision. The PPA went all out to collect funds to run the school. Today the school stands out as one of the best schools in the island, because of this wise decision taken by the PPA

They say a school 'moulds a generation' and CGC has always lived up to the expectations and maintained its highest traditions and values. For this, the PPA salutes the teachers of both past and present.

Finally, as I am looking forward to celebrating my 100th birthday in August this year, I am proud to have been a part of the school, as a student and then as a representative of the PPA at the CMS Governing Body.

May God Bless the PPA abundantly in all their endeavours

Mrs.Ruby Ariaratnam, PPA, CGC (Colombo)

I Praise and Thank God for Chundikuli Girls' College, Jaffna

I was happy when Amirthini John requested me to write about my memories of CGC, Jaffna. I'm thankful to God for all the best I received from my school. I am proud a good school like CGC produces good mothers and good Housewives. Thankful for my mother Mrs.Malar Gunasegaram who guided me.



I owe much to the late Dr.Mrs.Thillaiyampalam, who has been a great influence in my life as well as to the other students. She was a committed Christian so she was concerned about the spiritual growth of those in the hostel. She was also particular about the girls taking part in outdoor sports and games as well as in all extra curricular activities. She was particular that all the hostel girls should come down to the garden seats for half an hour every morning before breakfast and morning study to meditate in their own religion. To this day I have continued to do so and my morning prayer time has blessed me immensely.

All my teachers were committed to their duties and responsibilities for the well being of the students and our school. Their influence was great in my life in Sri Lanka and in the other countries.

I enjoyed taking part in sports as a member of my school hopen Gartner house. We used to take part in dance items and tamil plays staged by our school and trained by Mrs.Anandanayagam.

I am grateful to our present principal Mrs.Dushy Thuseetharan and her staff for their dedication and vision. I also want to thank Mrs.Thanja Peiris an efficient manager who is doing her best for the Colombo OGA. Miss Amirthini John the president of the Colombo OGA and the members of the committee too are working very hard towards the 75 th Anniversary of the Colombo OGA celebrations. We the past students of the school, should always support their efforts to make it a success to the glory of God.

I am always happy to contribute my best towards my school, CGC Jaffna, whenever I am asked to do so.

Mrs.Vijayadevi Thamyapillay

PPA, CGC (Colombo)

Unforgettable Memories of CGC

It gives me great pleasure to pen a short message on the occasion of the 75 th anniversary of the Colombo branch of CGC OGA. I consider myself very fortunate to have gained admission to a very prestigious girls school in Jaffna. I joined CGC in 1949 and left in 1954 once I gained entry to Lady Doak College, Madurai, S. India. Though my period of stay was comparatively short, a mere four years, the Education I received and the contacts that I made there stood me in good stead for greater part of my adult life.

Dr Ms E.M.Thillayampalam was the principal of CGC at the time I entered. She was the Principal at Lady Doak College when I sought admission there. It was her persuasion and encouragement that made me seek entry to Christian Medical College, Vellore.

On my return to Sri Lanka I joined the Ministry of health and served as a medical officer and also as Consultant Community Physician in many parts of the Island.



I am greatly indebted to my ALMA MATER along with my family for all what we received from CGC. I wish C.G.C and all who are present here with God's richest Blessings to achieve greater heights.

Dr.Mrs.Esther Rukmani Amarasekera
Vice President PPA, CGC (Colombo)

Message From A Past Pupil Of Chundikuli Girls' College From The South

I have great pleasure in congratulating and sending my Best wishes to the Past pupils' Association (Colombo branch) as they celebrate their 75th anniversary.

As a person born in the South of Sri Lanka, I am very keen to send this message as a token of appreciation to the great institution in the North- Chundikuli Girls' College. The years 1958 / 59 will always remain special in my memory. My family lived in Jaffna during these years as my brother Somapala Gunadheera was the AGA Jaffna. Thus I had the opportunity to study at CGC Jaffna. During this time I was the only Sinhala student in the school. The Kind treatment I received, the valuable knowledge I acquired, the extra curricular activities I participated were immeasurable experiences.



I am so thankful to the then Principal Miss. Mathai, and the teachers who taught me - Miss. Deva (Botany & Zoology) Miss.Tissanayagam (Physics) Miss. Thambithurai (Chemistry) Miss. Kelk (English).

I value the friendship I made during my stay at CGC.

My Best Wishes and Blessings to Chundikuli Girls' College and Past Pupils' Association (Colombo Branch).

Malini De Silva (nee Gunadhe era)

Reflections.....

I am very proud to call myself a product of Chundikuli Girls' College. I had an all round education in that school. I joined Ch.in 1936 and my first teacher was Ms.Tiny Thambapillai. She was very kind and I soon became happy to study there. In the kindergarten we learnt a lot of nursery rhymes which we enjoyed singing. My experience in the lower school was very pleasant. We had very good teachers and we learned a lot under their guidance.



When I came to standard 3 my class teacher was Ms.E.I.Kelk, who was very versatile, and among the things she taught us was puppetry which was something new to us.

I won a gold medal in the inter collegiate tamil oratorical contest. I would like to say a big Thank You to Ms.Lydia Rajaratnam (Mrs.Sethukavalar) for coaching me for this contest.

Chundikuli gave us many opportunities to take part in various activities such as drama, sports, elocution, western and oriental music. My experience in western music which I learned in Chundikuli had a great impact on the songs I composed for my book of Lyrics. I am grateful to the teachers namely Mrs.Aiyadurai and Ms.Lydia Sethukavalar who encouraged us.

My rich experience as a member of the western music choir, who joined with St.John's Choir to sing at the annual carol service.

I very proudly recollect the presence of Canon.James Ratnanayagam in the St.John's choir trained by Ms.E.I.Kelk and Mrs.Dorothy Ferdinands who accompanied us on the piano. The introduction of the 'Halleluiah' chorus still rings in my ears.

May God Bless Chundikuli now and in the years to come.

Mrs.Parames Vijayaratnam



Chundikuli Girls' College Past Pupils Association

'Chundikuli Girls' College' - This name has a magic touch,
And us who came through its portals,
It means so very much!

As we go down 'Memory Lane', - Through the corridors of time,
The happy thoughts and pleasant reflections,
Seem so special and so sublime

Memories of our dear Principals and Teachers, - Who moulded us to what we are,
Fill our hearts with gratitude,
As we lift them up in prayer!

Although the years have sped so fast, - Thankfully we still are a part,
By serving in the Colombo Branch Committee,
With spirit, soul and heart.

Our committee meets once a month, - With vision, commitment and in our eyes a spark
The Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers and Board members,
In 2014 have reached the 75 years mark!

Our aim is to help our Alma Mater, - So we put our hearts and minds at work,
To build up funds for destitute students,
College Maintenance needs we do not shirk!

Our endeavours vary from musical recitals, carol services and sales,
But we do have our share of fun,
Enjoying trips, get-togethers, sharing jokes,
United in spirit and feeling young!

We thank God Almighty for the talent, - Chundikuli Girls are still displaying,
In sport, extracurricular activities and in examination results,
Backed by the teacher's efforts untiring!

May our Colombo Branch continue to serve,
The College we love so much
And help it grow and rise and shine,
Until it will have no match!

Mrs. Sybil Thapararatnam
(nee Aiyadore)

மலரும் நினைவுகள் (1947-1950)

நான் கல்வி கற்ற பாடசாலையிலே எனது ஆசிரியப்பணியை ஆரம்பிக்க கிடைத்த சலாக்கியத்தை நினைத்து அன்று மிகவும் சந்தோஷப்பட்டேன்.

நான்கு வருடங்கள் தொடர்ந்து அங்கு பணியாற்றியதின் பயனாக வாழ்வில் முன்னேற்றத்திற்கான வழிவகைகளை அப்பொழுது அங்கிருந்த அதிபர் ஆசிரியர்கள் மாணவர்கள் கற்றுத்தந்தனர்

அதிபர் செல்விதில்லையம்பலத்தின் உற்சாகமூட்டும் ஆலோசனைகள் எம் சேவையை வெற்றிகரமாகச் செய்து முடிக்க உதவியது குடும்பத்தில் ஒன்பதாவது அதுவும் பெண்பிள்ளையாக கிணற்றுத்தவளையாக வளர்ந்த என்னை ஊக்குவித்து பாடசாலையில் மட்டுமல்ல வெளியிடங்களுக்கு அனுப்பி பல அனுபவங்களைப் பெற்றுத்தந்தார். Tennis, Badminton போன்ற விளையாட்டுகளில் பங்கு பற்றவும் அங்கு பணியாற்றிய வேளையில் விடுதியில் தங்கியிருந்தபடியால் மாணவர்களின் முயற்சிகளில் (Sports, Games, Competitions, Contests) உதவி செய்யவும் விடுதியிலிருந்த மாணவர்களை அதிகாலை வழிபாடுகள் church ஆராதனைகள் படிப்பு விடயங்களில் வழிநடத்தவும் தந்த அனுபவங்கள் அளப்பரியன.

இன்னும் விடுதியில் புதன்கிழமைகளில் விசேஷ சாப்பாடு ஆராதனை நடத்தி எல்லோருக்கும் Table manners ஐ அதிபர் கற்றுக் கொடுத்தார்.

எனது 39 வருட ஆசிரிய சேவைக்கு அடிக்கல் அமைத்த கல்லூரியையும் அதில் சேவை செய்த நாட்களும் இன்னும் நுங்க முடியாத பசுமை நினைவுகளாய் வேரோடி இருக்கிறது

இக் கல்லூரி இன்னும் பல மாணவர்களை ஆசிரியர்களை வெவ்வேறு பதவியில் உள்ளவர்களை உலகிற்கு அர்ப்பணிக்க அதன் சேவைகள் தொடர இறைவனை வேண்டுகிறேன்

திருமதி சற்குணசிங்கம் கிறேஸ்

(கிறேஸ் சின்னப்பா)

Message from the past Secretary (2000-2002)

“The way of the Eagle”

It is with pleasure and privilege I pen these thoughts today to congratulate you on the 75th Anniversary of our own Colombo Alumni Association, where the cream of resourceful women produced by our most renowned school over the past years. Eagles are the largest and most powerful birds in the world. Let's fly..., fly....



I have to first of all congratulate the present president Amirthini John and her Executive committee members for their hard work for this day. At the same time I appreciate the present Principal and the staff in Jaffna who have dedicated themselves with responsibility in imparting the right knowledge to the children under their care.

I appreciate each and every member for making an appraisal of all the activities conducted thus far to observe how far you have been helpful to our school. My support is there always in all your activities. Keep up the good work to glorify our Lord in all your endeavours.

While being in Canada I am always vigilant about the welfare of our school. I express my sincere gratitude and heartfelt congratulations to the vice-patrons, and the well-wishers for their ready support and participation. Our dear Lord had given the courage and strength to help our school.

I congratulate the CMC Chundikuli Girl's Alumni Association – Colombo, Sri Lanka for the completion of a fruitful 75 years. I extend my sincere wishes and God's blessings to all members of the PPA as they endeavour to do the best for our school.

Thank you and God bless you all.

Sujo Sri Ranganathan (Emelda)

Event Description

Ladies' College;

History of band; The word "Audacity" means to be bold and daring, which perfectly sums up the band. We are currently the only old girl band in Sri Lanka – to have emerged after around 40 years. Audacity consists of members between the ages 16-21 and we all share the same passion for music which is what drew us together as a band. The band members play a variety of instruments and we have wide repertoire from acoustic songs to popular rock songs. Our first performance was in 2011 at a school show. - Ever since then, we have been playing at public events and recently emerged winners at the TNL Onstage competition.

Chundikuli Girls' College;

Odissi Dance

The odissi dance, is a traditional dance which has originated from the state of Orissa in India. It has made its mark among the south Indian classical dances. There are many similarities between the odissi and the Bharatha dance. The Students of Chundikuli Girls' College take pride in presenting an odissi dance describing the activities of the five elements of nature which are land, water, air, sky and fire.

Dance Composition- Mrs. Jasintha Manohar.

Fusion Dance

Fusion is a type of music which is derived through a fusion of eastern and western music. This music evokes immense happiness in the minds of the listeners. Every human being is an individual with great potentialities and when people of the same caliber get together and constitute an act it would have perfection and beauty and would attract everyone towards it.

In today's performance the girls will present a dance which has the basis of the Bharatha dance, with new dimensions set to fusion music.

Dance Composition: Mrs. Balini Kannadas

Hillwood College ;

Mayura Vannama ; Peacocks are colourful birds who are proud. In tonight's item the peacocks are dancing to attract the peahens.

Folk Dance ;

The Revelations; -

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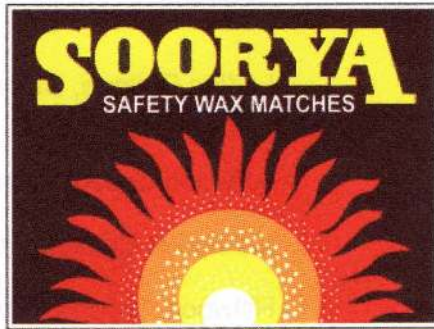
Programme Schedule

Arrival of Chief Guest	- Ms.Vasanthy Nallathamby
Welcome Dance Recital	-Chundikuli Girls' College
Welcome Address	- President PPA, CGC, Colombo
Phantom of the Opera (Instrumental cover) by Lindsey Stirling	- Ladies College, Colombo
Mayura Vannama	- Hillwood College, Kandy
Choral Performance	- Methodist College Choir
Folk Dance	- Hillwood College Kandy
Sachi & King	

BREAK

Hewisi Band	- S.Thomas College, Hewisi Band
Dance Recital	- Old girl of CGC By the Pupils of Mrs. Pooranavathany
The Fusion Dance	- Chundikuli Girls' College
The Revelations	
Vote of Thanks	-Secretary PPA, CGC, Colombo
College Hymn	-'Forward! be our watchword'

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HISTORY OF THE PAST PUPILS' ASSOCIATION OF CHUNDIKULI GIRLS' COLLEGE (COLOMBO BRANCH)

The year 2014 is a land mark in the history of the Past Pupils' Association of Chundikuli Girls' College (Colombo Branch) Our institution was one of the first Jaffna schools to start an old girls association in Colombo. The year of inauguration being 1939, the present year 2014 marks the 75th anniversary and hence it is a landmark and demands a celebration and thanksgiving to God!



It is but apt that we trace the history of the OGA of CGC to remind ourselves the objectives and aims of the association. It further helps us to be thankful to those who worked faithfully to fulfill these through out the growth of this great association in spite of all the difficult situations in the country. Tracing history will also inspire the younger generation to maintain the good work in the years ahead.

Objectives and Aims of the Association

According to the 1992 revised constitution of the OGA of CGC the name of the association was to be changed to Past Pupils' Association of Chundikuli Girls' College (Colombo branch). The aims and objectives of the association are ;

(a) To foster and maintain among the past pupils a sense of loyalty to the college, and fellowship with one another.

(b) To render every possible assistance to the college at all times.

Early Beginnings

It was Miss. Caroline Hunt an old girl a teacher and one who served for 7 years as secretary of the OGA Jaffna branch who initiated the OGA (Colombo branch). The suggestion was made by her in 1930 to Mrs. Joyce Hensman. Old girls in Colombo, namely Josephine Sinnathambay, Jeyamany Babapulle, Selvarani Barrkumarakulasingham and some others got together in Josephine's house, and the association was officially inaugurated in 1939.

PPA (Colombo branch) Committee Meetings

In the forties a small group of old girls met at different homes. Then they started meeting at Lindsay Girls' High School, where Miss. Lorna Vanden Driesen an old girl was the principal. Later when Mr. J.T.R Perinpanayagam was Headmaster of St. Thomas' Prep School, regular meetings were held there. After which it was moved to St. Pauls Church Milagiriya and from there it was shifted to the present venue - St. Lawrence Church Wellawatte where the committee meets now on the second Thursday of every month.

The Annual General Meetings held every year has been a regular and popular feature. These meetings always begin with a thanksgiving service followed by a business meeting, reading of reports regarding the year's activities and election of new members for the committee if necessary. These annual meetings conclude with fun activities, fellowship and lunch.

The annual combined carol service is an important tradition that has been kept alive by the CGC-PPA and SJC-PPA trained by the following Ms.Indrani Abesekera, Ms.Joy Gnanadurai & also Mr.H.T.VipulanandaMoorthy of SJC.

The PPA Honoured CGC Principals

In the forties the first important function organized by the PPA was the farewell to Miss. Northway and a welcome to Miss. Thillayampalam. Later services of thanksgiving was held on the demise of Miss. Mathai in 1984 and Miss. Kelk in 1991. During the sixties to eighties whenever the principals of CGC - Mrs. Chelliah, Mrs. Jeyaweerasingam and Mrs. Rajaratnam visited Colombo, the PPA had meetings with them to find out the needs of the school.They also had farewell functions for them. In 1996 the committee had a meeting to welcome the present principal Mrs.Thuseetharan.

Members of PPA's Visit to Jaffna for Celebrations

In June 1946 sixty members of the PPA were able to travel to Jaffna by train to participate in the golden Jubilee celebration of the school. Again in 1954 a band of forty old girls from Colombo flocked to Jaffna for the birthday celebration of the Alma Mater. During the eighties and nineties the situation in the country prevented the committee from group travels. Hence the PPA organized a fitting Thanksgiving service at the Cathedral of Christ the Living saviour in honour of the centenary celebration of CGC and published a stamp of Rs. 2/= denomination. The PPA undertook the responsibility of compiling the centenary magazine. The credit goes to the editorial staff which toiled hard under the leadership of Mrs. Indrani Abeysekara.

The July 2013 visit to Jaffna by a bevy of PPA members to join in the OGA celebration was a memorable one. The three day celebration involved the OGA centenary prize giving, a fitting Thanksgiving service, the centenary family night, and the solidarity forward march. I was fortunate and thrilled to be able to join in this historic celebration in Jaffna. Some of our PPA members again went to Jaffna in October 2013 for the opening ceremony of the middle school block.

PPA Colombo Hosting and Helping CGC students and old girls

The PPA had always been good hosts to students of CGC . In the mid forties when they came to Colombo to stage their play, the old girls here, gave accommodation in their homes and helped them in arranging the hall, rehearsals, selling tickets, and providing transport. Similarly , when athletic teams were brought to Colombo too, all assistance was given.

During the ethnic riots of 1958 and subsequent riots,The PPA Colombo arranged all forms of assistance to all in the Refugee Camps. In 1990 , when there was fighting and unrest in Jaffna there was an influx of refugees from the North and East. Our members distributed milk food, clothing and other necessities to the displaced.+

Fund Raisers to Help the Needs of the School

Records reveal that between 1991 and 1995 PPA Colombo had organized 3 charity bazaars and 1 coffee morning to raise funds. A good portion of the funds collected was sent to the school. Rs. 30,000 was sent towards the centenary celebration expenses. Another Rs 30,000 to support 2 blind children & orphans in the school and a further sum of Rs.10,000 towards legal expenses. When the CGC students won the Bible Quiz in the Northern Province , a sum of Rs 5,000 was given towards their travelling expenses to Colombo. From the funds a further Rs. 5,000 was donated towards Yogam Muthiah memorial fund for English Elocution. The PPA organized a kool party , Nestle show mini bazaar etc. to collect more funds.

In the years 2004 and 2005 two cultural shows were organized by the committee and they were very successful. In the year 2008 the principal CGC appealed to the PPA for financial help for a needy staff member's hospitalization in Colombo and the committee was able to donate Rs. 50,000. Again there was an appeal for the hostel washroom repairs and the request was met. In 2013 a ' Food Fiesta ' was held at the DRC church to raise funds. Through these efforts together with donations received, a sum of 5 lakhs was sent for the middle school building project. We are proud to record that a class room is named after the PPA Colombo. The present PPA committee launched a card collection and was able to send enough money to furnish the class room. Presently the committee is working towards a variety entertainment ' Vaudeville' to raise funds to help the needy students of the school.

Scholarship Fund – To Help Needy Students

This is a very worthy cause supported by the PPA for a number of years. After the conclusion of the war the orphaned refugee students increased in number, and due to the high cost of living the amount needed was also much more. At the moment the PPA is sponsoring 15 needy students. Seven faithful members in the committee have been honouring their pledges by supporting these students for a number of years. Now five more members have joined in supporting this cause. The rest is being funded from the common fund of the PPA committee.

All these bring to light how the PPA has proved to be a strong channel for the old girls of CGC to continue to be loyal and faithful to their Alma Mater through the various help they have rendered and continuing to render. Thus the aim of the Association is being faithfully fulfilled.

Fun Filled Activities to Foster Fellowship

The PPA committee organizes fun activities like – fabric painting, gift wrapping, flower arrangement pot luck dinners and picnics . These along with fund raising events do promote great fun and fellowship among the past pupils.

Conclusion

In conclusion of tracing the 75 year's history of PPA, It is important to thank all the past presidents and members who have served in the committee for their untiring effort and faithfulness in keeping the association alive and active. My connection with the PPA restarted in 2008 on my return to Sri Lanka from USA. As I browsed through available documents to trace the history I found that many of the members who are serving in the present committee had also been contributing immensely towards the forward march of the association , for the past several years. Although I very much like to mention their names individually, I find it difficult because the number is huge and I might omit some names. Those long standing members – 'Congratulations ' and a 'Big Thankyou'

I wish the president Amirthini John, and the committee all the success this year as we celebrate the 75th anniversary. May God bless and guide you to continue the good work in the years to come !

All Praise Glory and Honour to our Lord for His Guidance and Help Through these 75 Years !!

Naveena Dev Anandhan (Vice Patron)
(Former vice principal – CGC)

School Centenary Thanks Giving Service in Colombo



The Past Presidents, Secretaries & the Treasurers of the PPA, CGC (Colombo)

Year/Period	President	Secretary	Treasurer
1939	Ms.Caroline Hunt		
1942-1947	Dr.(Miss) E.M.Thillayampalam		
1947-1952	Mrs.Selvaranee Kumarakulasinghe		
1952-1961	Miss.Sarah Mathai		
1961-1964	Lady Coomarasamy		
1964-1965	Mrs.J.T.R.Perinpanayagam		
1965-1966	Mrs.Kirupai Snell		
1966-1967	Mrs.Jeyamany Britto Babapulle		
1967-1968	Mrs.Punitham Thiruchelvam		
1968-1970	Mrs.Jeyamany Britto Babapulle		
1970-1971	Mrs.Punitham Thiruchelvam		
1971-1975	Mrs.Clara Poopalasingham		
1975-1977	Mrs.R.V.Gunaratnam		
1977-1980	Mrs.Sheila Crossette Thambiah		
1980-1983	Mrs.Evelyn Lewis		
1983-1986	Mrs.Arunthathy Handy	Kamalini Kanaganayagam	Mrs.Ranji Thambiah
1986-1989	Mrs.Indrani Abeyssekera	Kamalini Kanaganayagam Devi Manoharan	Ranjo Sinniah
1989-1990	Mrs.Sarojini Thevanayagam	Sharmini Masilamani Ranjo Sinniah Sarojana Sriranganathan	Rubini Jebaratnam Kanages Arnold Ariyamlar Jeganathan
1990-1998	Mrs.Daisy Thevasagayam	Sakuntala Joseph Mano Canagasooriyam Sharmini Masilamani	Mrs.Arunthavam Arasaratanam Mrs.Kanages Arnold Dr.(Mrs).Selvajothy Fernando
1998-2001	Mrs.Jayanthi David	Sujo SriRanganathan Ranjo Sinniah	Rajini Black Rubini Jebaratnam
2001-2004	Sharmini Masilamani	Sujo SriRanganathan Ranjo Sinniah Amirthini John	Rajini Black Rubini Jebaratnam
2004-2005	Dr.Mrs.Selvajothy Fernando	Amirthini John Rasamany Sadagoban	Rajini Black Rubini Jebaratnam
2005-2006	Mrs.Mano Canasooriyam	Amirthini John Pansy Daniel	Rajini Black
2006-2007	Mrs.Malathi Nesiah	Pansy Daniel Shrimala Prasathkumar	Rajini Black
2007-2010	Janaki Gunaratnam	Malathi Nesiah Shrimala Prasathkumar Amirthini John	Rajanthini Sethukavalar Kesavathany Muralitharan
2010-2013	Ranji Tissabalasingam	Premini Thanapalan Premini Satcunan	Rajanthini Sethukavalar Kesavathany Muralitharan Ranjo Sinniah
2013-2014	Amirthini John	Pansy Daniel Premini Satcunan	Ranjo Sinniah Shrimala Prasathkumar

Messages from the Presidents PPA CGC (Jaffna & Overseas)

Message from the President, O.G.A, Chundikuli Girls' College, Jaffna.

It gives me great pride and pleasure to pen this message of good wishes to the old girls of the Chundikuli Girls' College, Colombo branch, while you celebrate your 75th Diamond Jubilee.

I am looking forward to be a part and parcel of this unique celebration of yours.

I hope, this would give an opportunity to strengthen the bond among the members of our associations further, and commit ourselves to help our alma mater. On behalf of the Old Girls' Association of Chundikuli Girls' College, Jaffna, I wish you all success and a memorable time as you celebrate this great event.



May the good Lord who guided you in all your endeavours over the past 75 years, continue to bless you abundantly and guide you in your future ventures too.

Mrs. Jeyasri Premakrishna
President - CGC OGA, Jaffna

Message St.John's and Chundikuli Girls' Alumni Association of Toronto

On behalf of St. John's and Chundikuli Girls' Alumni Association of Toronto, I have great pleasure in sending a message of congratulations to you for reaching 75 years of fruitful existence and invaluable service to our Alma mater. Today, we are all proud of our great institution. Our core mission is to engage all alumni for life and committed to reaffirming the ties. Many of us retain a deep regards for each other. It is also essential that each Alumnus continue to help and support the Association and in return the Association can continue its mission of caring and supporting the current students.



We all know that the success of OGA Colombo was due to the hard work and commitment of the committee members past and present along with the ardent supporters. Kudos to all of you to have overcome and withstand the challenges during the crisis to move forward.

Although we are continuing to grow, participation of the younger Alumni has been disappointing. Our main focus now is to create an environment for them to engage in some of our events. Our activities and actions should be geared towards helping our school continue its prestigious position in the country. Let us join hands to lift our school to more fame and success.

"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and out"

May God Bless you.

Thank you

Nithyaluxmy Sukumar(nee Rajasingham)
Co-Chairperson (2013/2014), SJC- CGC Alumni Association
Toronto, Canada

Colombo Oga 75Th Anniversary Message From Old Girls Association Victoria

It is with great pleasure I send this message of congratulations to the Chundikuli Girls' College Past Pupils' Association Jaffna (Colombo Branch) for their 75th anniversary celebrations. Let "Vaudeville" be an evening of fun and entertainment to raise the funds, and we hope that the thanksgiving service gives you the opportunity to reflect on how God has blessed our lives through Chundikuli Girls' College.



Our thoughts and prayers will be with you as you give thanks for the pioneers and leaders of our school. We join you as you remember the CMS Missionaries who, in 1896, planted the mustard seed with faith that the Eagle would land in Chundikuli. With their hard work they started a new era in women's education in Jaffna. We also honour the current principals and staff who are upholding the founders' legacy. Our task as past pupils is to support our Alma mater as they carry on the good work.

The OGA Victoria continues to support the Internally Displaced Children's sponsorship programme. We were also pleased to contribute the staffroom for the "OGA Centenary Building 2013". In April this year we had a "family nite"; it was an evening of fine food, music and dancing. The Old Girls with their family and friends enjoyed the food, fellowship, and the entertainment provided by old girls, their daughters. We all joined in the dancing to end the evening. Our annual event is the Chundikuli St Johns' Christmas Carol where we sing Carols spreading the Christmas message and give thanks to God for our schools. It is also a time to reminisce on the great times we had at Chundikuli.

On behalf of the Old Girls' Association Victoria, I look forward to seeing the Colombo Branch flourish and grow in the service of our Alma mater.

BEST WISHES FOR THE YEARS AHEAD!

Ranee Thayala Richards (née Coomarasamy)
President CGC OGA
VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

Message from the SJC, Jaffna OBA



Old Boys' Association – South Sri Lanka Message from the President, Mr. L.N. Balaretnaraja



I am indeed privileged to pen this message of congratulations to our Sister School, Chundikuli Girls' College, Jaffna, Past Pupils Association – Colombo Branch on the occasion of their 75th Anniversary in June 2014. Chundikuli Girls' College founded by the CMS Missionaries in 1896, has been a leading girls' school not only in the Northern Province, but also in Sri Lanka. It is widely acknowledged that this position was made possible by the great educationalist who guided the destinies of this institution over the past 118 years, and especially in the last three decades which were very challenging. My family had been associated with CGC since 1920's where my father's sisters, and my second cousins studied Celebrating 75 years is a significant landmark in the history and development of any Association. The CGC, Jaffna – OGA was formed in 1913 by one of their past Principal Miss. Page with a handful of Old Girls' within a short period of 17 years after founding the school. However, the Colombo Branch of the OGA was formed in 1939.

After the missionaries completed their task as Principals the first Ceylonese Principal was Dr. Miss Thilliampalam followed by M/SMathai, G.E.S.Chelliah, P.Jayaveerasingam, T.Rajaratnam and since 2006 Dushyanthy Thuseetharan. During the period of Mrs.Chelliah, in 1961 she withstood the take-over of schools by the then Government of Sri Lanka, with the strong support of the Old Girls' Association of Jaffna and Colombo & opted to remain a private non-fee levying school. Her courage and foresight at that time to hold this school private now bears fruits.

When most of the people in Jaffna left their homes due to the hostile situation, it was left in the hands of Mrs. Jayaveerasingam and Mrs. Rajaratnam to run the school in the midst of severe shelling and bombing. The love for the Alma Mater made them sacrifice their life and run the school at Killinochchi under the shade of trees and at Jaffna College as an evening school.

The damages caused to the school by the conflict was put right by the combined efforts of the Past Pupils' Association of Jaffna, Colombo and the Branches abroad. Various fund raising programs were held where the proceeds were utilized to repair damaged buildings and construct new ones. The school also came forward to grant free admissions/ education to a large number of IDP's. This program initiated by the CGC-PPA (Colombo Branch) is to raise funds to sponsor and support the IDP students with their long term education and hostel facilities.

In conclusion, on behalf of St. John's College, Jaffna – OBA (South Sri Lanka) we wish to place on record our sincere thanks to all artistes and the schools taking part in this event which is for a worthy cause and the event organizers the PPA Colombo Branch of Chundikuli Girls' College.

FORWARD THROUGH THE DARKNESS FORWARD INTO LIGHT.

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A Past Pupil

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My thoughts on the success of the OGA

I am truly honored in sending this congratulatory message to the President and to the members of the Old Girls' Association of Chundikuli Girls' College, Colombo as they celebrate their 75th Anniversary.



I would like to remember with gratitude the initiative of Ms. Caroline Hunt who started this Association in Colombo. This association met the expectation of the founder by continuously supporting the school to mould thousands of students like all of us to be what we are today. Even through the difficult situations, the OGA has thankfully supported the school in numerous ways and kept the 'Red and Black' flag flying high in the Island. Fortunately, several Old Girls who have migrated to various parts of the globe extend their support, we are thankful to the ones who stayed back and continue to fulfill the needs of the school.

As our motto says, I hope this association will march 'Forward' and uphold Chundukuli Girls' College as a great educational institution as it has always been. Like the Eagle in the logo, this association will continue to soar like an Eagle and reach greater heights with the blessings of God. Finally, I wish you all the best for the success of your Grand Event.

May God bless you for your hard work and may he help you in the future.

Jebashanthini Thevakumar (nee Jebaratnam)



ஒரு சந்திப்பு

“வட்ட நிலா விட்டநிலா
பால்ஒளி தந்தநிலா
நீலநிற வீதியிலே
உலாப்போகும் பால்நிலா...”
காதில் செருகிய கைப்பேசியில் பாடலை
கேட்டபடி வீதியில் நடக்கின்றாள் நிலாணி

சந்தியா: நிலா... நில்லாமல் உலாவா போறீங்க

நிலாணி: ம்....! அட்டா...!
பால், பழம், பட்டர், கரட், போஞ்சி என கூடை
நிறைஞ்சட்டுதே

சந்தியா: கரட், போஞ்சி சுப்பர்மாக்கட்டில் வாங்கினனான்.
விலை அதிகம்

நிலாணி: வட்டவளை, கற்றன், அவிசாவளை கடந்து
கொழும்புவர செலவு அதிகமாகும்

சந்தியா: பட்டர் யூஸும் அதிகமகன விலைதான்.

நிலாணி: அவை... பட்டியலில் சிறப்புப் பொருட்கள்....
அதுதான்

சந்தியா: சுய தெரிவு முறை அங்க... தீர்மானிப்பது இலகு

நிலாணி: தரிப்பிட வசதியும் உண்டெல்லோ...
ஐயையோ 17.31 மணிக்கு பரிசளிப்புவிழா

சந்தியா: பரிசு வாங்கத்தான் வேகமாக நடந்தீங்களா

நிலாணி: வட்டநிலா விட்டநிலா என்ற தலைப்புக்கவிதையை
பாராட்டி பரிசும் தருகிறார்கள்

சந்தியா: இப்ப பிரிவம். பிறகு கதைப்பம்

இராசமணி இராஜாட்சன் சடகோபன்

1987 - A/L

1978 - 1988



**பெருஞ்சாமி மறந்திருமோ
அது நினைவை குறந்திருமோ**

கூர்ச்சு மர் கண்ணகிக்குள் கர்ஸ்தவ சுரணியல் சுமீழ்வுடன்	சமுத்திரத்தீவம் மகனி சைவ புகழ் பெறு ஆவ்வகம்	இலங்கீரம் கல்புரீ மாணவரும் கவீரூறு கலாசாரம்	முத்தூர் யாழ்ப்பகன் மலர்வெண கலையுடன் வளர்ந்திட
சுமீர்வறு அர்வணம் பணியா புரீணியுள் ஆண்கு பாடசாலை செய்கு <i>All of you</i>	முசாலை முசாலை செய்யு சாய்க்கலை கூரண்டாய்ச்சு முசாலை முசாலைமயல் <i>CGCOGA/J</i>	சீர்ப்புறு செய்குவு ஆவ்வகம் ஆயுபுமுடனாக் புத்தூர் ஆற்றும் வாழ்வென்றே புறாவா விரூவல் கண்டிடாமதனை	சீர்ப்பு சுதீசா ரீசு சீட்டம் புலகை புத்தூர் பாக்களை "செய்குமுடன்" புறாவா விரூவல் கண்டிடாமதனை
பெருந்தி, மத்தாய், வழியல் தீவகையல்பலம், ஆயுசு அர்வணம் கூபத்தீவம் எப்படி முடியுமீ? ஆண்குசு	பேசு, அர்ப்புடன் அதீபுசு செய்கலையு, வர்கசையு ஆயுசு எமக்கு கூர்ந்தகையமறந்திட ஆயுசு	காட்டி மூர் கைசீ சுடம் பெய்வீசீசு, நனைக்கையல் ஆற்றல் அகூகைத்தீவம் எழுபுத்தீசு மறக்க ஆயுசுமீ?	காட்டி புத்தீ புரீசு வெளிப்பாடு வந்தீரம் எண்பு(சு) பகையு

புதிதாய்ப்பு	விழா	அழகினை	அழகம்!
நிலவொளிவீசின்	முற்றத்தினை	மேலை	தனிமை
சாணை	சாணை	ஒதுங்கும் மீளண்கும்	மேல்க்கு
ஒதுங்குவொடு	அந்நிலம் நல்லாய்	மெய்க்கொடுமாய்	பண்புடன்
சாட்டிய	வழியில்	இன்னும்	வாழ்த்திட

உதவியத்ப்பாசம்	பின் அந்நிலம்	ஒதுக்க வந்தசாட்டிய	அம்மொடு மெய்யறிவுசெய்தம்
வாழ்த்தினைநீறாம்	உதவிய	அன்பொழுது உதவ	வாழ்த்தினை நன்றி
விஞ்சுமாண்பு	பாணத்தினை	உட்கொண்ட	அன்பினைவாய்
எப்படி	மறக்கமுடியும்	உபநித்தாய்ப்பு	புறமுணர்ந்தமக்க்குமாய்
தேவானந்தனைவாயும்	ஒதுங்கும்	பொய்க்கிடவ	நினைவிலா
பண மெய்த	அவ்வாய்	பதிவாயின்	மெய்யறிவுசெய்தம்
மறப்பீடுமே	என்றும் மயன்	மெய்யறிவுசெய்தனை	ஒதுக்கல் படிக்கவென
ஒதுங்கித்தேவ	வந்தையாக	நினைவிலா, மெய்யறிவு, நினைவானந்தனை,	
நினைவிலா.	மெய்யறிவு	என்பொடு	ஒதுக்கல் ஒதுக்கியானாய்
தாய்மொடு	புயல்வென	மெய்யறிவு,	நினைவிலா,
மெய்யறிவு,	மெய்யறிவு	மெய்யறிவு	நினைவிலா,
ஒதுக்கினை	நினைவிலா	மெய்யறிவு	நினைவிலா
வாழ்த்தினைகொல்	புரியாய்	அன்புபலித்தால்	புரியும்.
எம்மனைவாயின்	மெய்யறிவு	நினைவிலா	மெய்யறிவு
நடமாடும்	மெய்யறிவு	ஒதுக்கினை	அவ்வழியே அழகினை
பின்மொடு	பொய்க்கல்	அன்பொழுது	மெய்யறிவு
சொன்னல்வா	உள்ளமுடன்	விவக்கியவாய்க்கு	அக்கா தேவா
பாடசாலை	விழையத்தனை	உயர்ந்திரு	மெய்யறிவு உடன்
மெய்யறிவு	மெய்யறிவு	மெய்யறிவு	மெய்யறிவு
என்றாயும்	என்பொன்றும்	எங்கொடு	நினைவிலா
முனைந்தனை	நினைவிலா	ஒதுக்கினை	நினைவிலா
மெய்யறிவு	அடங்கா	பண்பாய்	மெய்யறிவு
மறப்பீடுமே	செய்தி	பெயர்	செய்தி

புதித்த	புதிதவை	பதினை	ஒதுக்கினை
நினைவிலா	மெய்யறிவு	மெய்யறிவு	நினைவிலா

பெளதீச	வசூ அணைக்கீயல்	ஐரீயசீயல்	கைலாஷீயீயுடன் சூரியம்
கிணர் ஐக்கி	வருவாய்	புவியியலுக்கு	எனக்கு புவிருக்கம்
ஏணா தெரியாது	வெள்பெருள்	மயூசீக்கல்	கூலடிமடாக் பேசுருவாய்
புவியியல் புலமை	விஷயசூரியமவுடன்	ஐன்புடன்	கூர்வுததீயவத்தீயனை
சீதம்பயுதானுயல்	கனிவெரு	வெருமுயை	பசுநீருநாய் ஐயம்மனிதனி
எம்மெரு	விநாயுதையல்	நீயுட்டனி	ஐயங்கீயத்தீய முழுங்க
பக்கத்தீயல்	கதை	வசாய்வாய்	கூலய்க்கை தூயகம்
ஈயகமுயல்	ஐவருயல்	என்றுமீய	கதைபேசுயல்
எப்படி மறுபேயல்	வாயுயின்	வசுநீருங்கணை	வாயுவதனில்
வதையுதவென்குரீயல்	பேயுபேசுக்கீய	பாயங்கீய	கண்கை
பீயுபேண	என்குயல்	பேயுய் துபேண	என்றுமீய
சுய்வடுயின்நீயு பணியு	சுய்யமாயுயுயுயல்	தீயுயின் கண்கு	வெய்ச்சுக்கீயுயுயின்
பணிகீயுயின்	வெருமுடன்	வாயுயுவென்று!	கூயுஷீயீயுடன் எட்டீயுட்டீயல்
பேயுபேணம் சாயுதையுடன்	சாயுணைகண்கீய	ஐயுயுயுயுயல்	சுயுயுயுயு சாயுமது
தூயல்வீயுயின்	ஐமுணைகயுயல்	முசீயுயுயுயு	கூயுசீயுயுயு
பேயுபேயுயுயுயுயுயுயு	தூணை ஐயுயுயுயுயு	சாயுதூ	பேயுயுயுயுயுயுயுயு
சுட்டீயல்	மீயுணைகண்கீய	எத்தீயனை	எத்தீயனை
ஐயுயுயுயுயுயுயுயு	ஐயுயுயுயு	ஐயுயுயுயு	கூயுயுயுயு
தூண்கீயுயுயு	வீயுயுயுயு	ஐயுயுயுயுயுயு	முயுயுயுயுயுயுயு
பசுநீயுயுயுயுயு	வாயுயுயுயுயுயுயுயு	பக்கீயுயுயுயுயு	முயுயுயுயுயுயுயுயுயு
கூயுயுயுயுயுயு	கூயுயுயுயுயுயுயு	வயுயுயுயுயுயுயு	கனிவெருவு வெருமுயுயுயுயு
ஐயுயுயுயுயுயுயுயு	ஐயுயுயுயுயுயுயு	ஐயுயுயுயுயுயுயு	தூயுயுயுயுயுயு
ஐயுயுயுயுயுயுயுயு	ஐயுயுயுயுயுயுயு	பேயுயுயுயு	மூணைவீயுயுயுயு
சுயுயுயுயுயுயுயு	ஐயுயுயுயுயுயுயு	கையுயுயுயு	ஐயுயுயுயுயுயு
சுயுயுயுயுயுயுயு	என்குரீயல்	டீயுயு	சுயுயுயுயுயுயு
கூண்கு	சுட்டீயல்	ஐயுயு	எயுயுயு
ஐயுயுயுயுயுயு	கூணை பாயுயுயு	எயுயுயு	புயுயுயுயுயு
வயுயுயுயு	பேசுயுயுயு	பேயுயுயுயு	ஐயுயுயு
என்குரீயல்	கையுயுயுயுயு	பேயுயுயுயு	பேயுயுயுயுயு
சுயுயுயுயுயுயு	சுயுயுயுயுயுயு	சுயுயுயுயுயுயு	வாயுயுயுயுயுயு

அடிவயலகாச	சாத்தியம்	சாத்தியம்	ஒன்புடனெ
நீர்மலா	மெலர்ன்	வசுத்தியமாய்	கன்வெகாண்கு
இற்றைவையா சாலமதல் இரட்டண்குடன் இயங்க்குடுத			
A/L புத்தூ விட்டோம் Bio வில்		மஹாஸ்க்கண்கண்	புறமணத்தம்
தேவா,	ககந்த்,	வந்தா,	தேவநாயகம்,
பாலமேகலா,	குறாய்ன்	கல்யாணியுடன்	ஒருத்தியம்
வணக்கா	இன்று	உடன் ஒருத்தமுமாய்	பாலமுமாய்,
கண்ணாடி,	நதியுடன்	நாணுமாய் ப்ரியுத்த	ருபணியுடன்
செய்துத்திட்டோம்	மாநகர்செவ	மஞ்சம்,	மலர்வீடு சார்ன், டிபாண
இராசமண	பல்சுறாய்	பட்டசார்யமாரிணர்	இணைத்துட்ட
பாங்குதனை	என்வென்செபன்	கன்பென்னை	பாடத்தால் நன்மைமெய்ன்னி
வில்வெநியம்	ஒழைப்பெபால்	இலக்கைத் தாக்கும்	விசையான
பொய்க்காய்ந்ரம்	மக்க வழுக்கட்டல்	கலங்க நீற்கும்	உணர்ச்சிக்கணைத் தென்வந்தூ
வாய்க்கால் கட்டி	ஒடவைக்கும்	தீறன்	இவர்களுக்கீக
கல்யாண	கூட்டும்	உபாத்தியாயர்	கட்டாயம்
நல்பறநுமாய்	இருத்தல்	செவண்கும்	கல்யாணை
என்னும்	புனைகைய கூத்தி	கனல் வீச	ஒன்பெருக்கச் செய்வார்
எத்தனை	எத்தனை	வகுப்புகள்	என்னாரெவ சேறும் போகும்
ஒருணியுடன்	ஒசார் வந்தாரெவ	ஒருகாஜத்	செண்கடிப் பார்க்குடுவென்
இராசத்தே	கண்காரெவ	கையல் வைத்தூ	ஒட்டிடுடுவென்
காப்பு	வெடுக்கவீரும்	காட்டாமல்	பொய்வீடுவென்
நியாய சபை	கூடியசூம்	ஒதுய்ச்சி என்று	செய்ப்படுவென்
கீழ்க்கு போல	நீவீரும்	வாழ்வல்	வந்தத்தனால்
விளக்குகாளாய்	எவ்வெள்கும்	ஒன்	விசைக்கீறாயம்
முடிபுத்தகம் FB	வந்தூடுவ	வாய்க்கால்	வழம்பாய் வகைவகைமயாய்
உற்றாகும்	மற்றொரும்	மெச்சுடுவ	கூடுகாரும் பாடுகாரும்
சீத்தனை	ஒடவைக்கும்	தீறனைத்தூம்	பெற்று ஒன்று போல்
இன்று	இனிதா	வாழ்த்திட்டோம்,	இணைத்துட்டோம்.

புகைவை	ஜம்பத்னீரீமல்	ஆசீர்நீமை.	புறமுடி மானவியாய்
கண்ணீரீடல்	ஆய்நீமாய்நீ	நீதாழ்நீகரை	டாக்டர், எண்ணீயீயீ,
எக்கவண்ணீடல்.	சீடீநீநீநீ.	நீயீநீநீயீயீ	ஆசீர்நீயீயீயீ
எநீநீநீநீயீயீ	வீநீநீநீநீநீநீ	கவீயீயீயீயீ	நீசாநீநீநீநீயீயீ உநீநீநீ
நீநீநீநீநீநீ	நீயீநீநீநீ	எடீயீயீநீயீ	120 நீயீயீயீயீ
ஆய்வீயீ	நீயீநீநீநீநீ	மண்ணீநீயீ	நீயீ
A5	நீயீநீநீநீ	காநீநீநீ	நீயீ
ஆய்வீ	நீயீநீநீநீ	ஆய்வீயீயீ	ஆ.நீநீ எய்வீயீ ஆசீயீ

ஆய்வீயீ	பாநீயீ	CGC	நீயீயீயீ	எய்வீயீயீ
உண்ணீயீ	நீயீயீ	நீயீயீ	எய்வீயீயீ	CGC, OGA Col Branch
நீயீயீ.	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ
நீயீயீயீ	ஆய்வீ	எய்வீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ
ஆய்வீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	ஆய்வீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ
நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	ஆய்வீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ
நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ
நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ
நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ
நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ
நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ
நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ
நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ
நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ	நீயீயீயீ

எண்ணீயீ நீயீயீயீயீயீயீ
 சக உநீயீயீயீ
 புறமுடி மானவீயீயீ

நீயீயீ, நீயீயீ, நீயீயீ, நீயீயீ

My Alma Mater

First of all, it is my ardent opinion that my alma mater can be compared to my parents who made me to be what I am today.

I was in Chundikuli girls' college between 1981 and 1994. I was taught by several teachers who were lovable and kind to me. I still look back with great fondness. Let me mention a few of them ; late Ms. Jeevaratnam, was my first class teacher, late Mrs. Wijayadharm, was our lower school supervisor and Mrs. Malathi Nesiah, was our Class teacher as well as English teacher in the lower school. They were not only teachers but also good guides.

In the upper school I still remember our vice principal Mrs. Naveena Devanandan, Late Ms. Leena Deva and Vanaja Miss, Wijithi Miss.....and others, I could list all the teachers who made my school time very colourful and bright. Overall, CGC shaped me, helped me to become a woman and a professional that I am today.

CGC not only shaped many of our lives but also provided protection and shelter to our students and teachers during the war period. Those days gave me an ever green impact in my mind. I am filled with nostalgia about my time in the school.

I gain a lot more than just an education from our school and it is imperative that we should give back as much as we can. We must realize that we have to support our school through donation to develop the Old Girls' Association since 2000. We had many different fund raising events to support needy students at our school.

Today I am proud to be an old girl and a committee member of this 75th celebration of OGA – Colombo, Sri Lanka.

I would like to ask the entire past students, if possible, to be a part of our school for ever and am looking forward to your support.

Srimala.T.P (LL.B)
(Asst. Treasurer 2013/2014)
Attorney-at-Law

“யாழைக்கொணர்ந்திங்கு மீட்டியதால் பாணன் பெற்ற பரிசாம் யாழ்ப்பாணம் தமிழர்களின் பெருமைக்குரிய பிரதேசம். கல்வியறிவைப் பெறுவதே தமது உயிர் மூச்சு எனக் கொண்டிலங்கும் தமிழர் தம் தாயகபூமியின் அறிவுக்கண்ணத்திற்க்கும் கல்லூரிகளில் முதன்மை பெற்று வுள்ளிருவது கண்டிக்குள் மகிளர் கல்லூரி. இக் கல்லூரியின் பழைய மாணவிகள் பாரெங்கும் பரந்திருந்து இன்றும் பாடசாலையின் வளர்ச்சிக்கு தனிபாகவும், பழைய மாணவிகள் சங்கம் அமைத்தும் பண்பாற்றி வருகின்றனர். அந்த வகையில் பாழ்ப்பாணம், கொழும்பு(இலங்கை), சீனா, மெல்போன்(அவுஸ்திரேலியா), கனடா, லண்டன் போன்ற இடங்களில் எமது பழைய மாணவிகளின் சங்கங்கள் முழுமுயற்சியுடன் செயலாற்றி வருகின்றன.



கொழும்பு பழைய மாணவிகள் சங்கம் ஆரம்பித்து 75வது வருட நிறைவை கொண்டாடும் இவ்வேளையில், இச்சங்கத்தை ஆரம்பித்த நாள் முதல் இன்று வரை பண்பாற்றிய நிர்வாக உறுப்பினர்கள் அனைவரையும் நன்றியுணர்வுடன் நினைவு கூர்க்கடமைப்பட்டுள்ளோம். காலம் காலமாக பல பழைய மாணவிகள் நிர்வாகத்திற்கு அறிமுகமாகி, இணைந்து பண்பாற்றி பின் தமது தேவைகளின் நிறீத்தம் பிறநாடுகளுக்கு சென்றதுமுண்டு - எம்மை விட்டுப்பிர்ந்து இறையடியில் இணைந்ததுமுண்டு. எல்லோரின் பெயர்களையும் இணைக்க முடியாவிட்டாலும் எமது இதயத்தின் நில்லுருவாய் இருப்பதை அழிக்கவும் முடியாது.

எமது கல்லூரியில் கல்வி கற்றவர்கள் “End of education is character” என்ற வாழ்வின் தத்துவத்தை உணர்ந்தவர்களாகவே தம் வாழ்வை நெறிப்படுத்தி வருகின்றனர். அன்பு, உண்மை, நேர்மை, பொறுமை, சகிப்புத்தன்மை, வீரம், ஆளுமை மிக்க வாழ்வைப்பின்பற்றும் கல்வியறிவையே எமது பாடசாலை ஆசிரியைகள் எமக்கு ஊட்டி வளர்த்தார்கள். எமது பாடசாலையின் பெருமைக்கு, வைத்தியர்கள், பொறியியலாளர்கள், சட்டத்தரணிகள், கணக்காளர்கள், அதிபர்கள், ஆசிரியர்கள், ஆன்மீக சிந்தனையாளர்கள், எழுத்தாளர்கள் எனப்பலதுறைகளிலும் உலகெங்கும் கால்பதித்து நிற்கும் எமது பழைய மாணவிகளே சான்று.

நாங்கள் செய்ய வேண்டிய செயல்களை கலந்துரையாடி தீர்மானங்களை எடுப்பதற்கும் அவற்றை நிறைவேற்றும் குழுக்களைப்பிர்ந்து செயல்படுத்துவதற்கும் மாதந்தோறும் உம் வியாழக்கீழமைகளில் (Holy Trinity Church, Parish Hall, No.21, St.Lawrence Road, Wellawatte) நிர்வாகக்கூட்டம் நடைபெற்று வருகின்றது. அவ் வேளைகளில் பிறநாடுகளில் இருந்து விடுமுறையில் வருகின்ற பழைய மாணவிகள்-நிர்வாக உறுப்பினர்களால் அழைத்து வரப்பட்டு, கௌரவிக்கப்பட்டு, அவர்களின் அனுபவங்கள், ஆலோசனைகள் கேட்டறியப்பட்டு பயன்கள் உள்வாங்கப்படும். அதுமட்டுமல்லாமல் மங்கையர்க்கு பயன் தரும் சமையல் செயல்முறை விளக்கம், கைவேலைப்பாடுகள், வைத்திய ஆலோசனைகள் என்பனவும் இடம்பெறும்.

வருடாந்தப் பொதுக்கூட்டம் இன்று வரை சீறப்புற நடைபெற்றே வந்ததுண்டு. பிரார்த்தனையில் ஆரம்பித்து-புதிய அங்கத்தவர்களை இணைத்த பின்பு கூட்டம் நிறைவறும். தொடர்ந்து மூளைக்கு வேலை தரும் விளையாட்டுக்கள் பல நடாத்தப்படும், குழுப்பிர்ந்து பொது அறிவு, உடனநாடகப்போட்டி நிகழ்த்தப்படும். மாலத் அக்காவின் சிந்தனையுடன் கூடிய பகீடி, மனோ அக்காவின் மொழிமாற்றப்பேச்சாற்றல், கூடி நடனமீடும் குழுநடனம், பாட்டுக்குப்பாட்டு என்று களைகட்டும் பொதுக்கூட்டம். “ஆரியக்கத்தாடினாலும் காரியத்தல் கண்ணாயிரு” எனும்

பழமொழிக்கேற்ப நதி சேர்க்கும் செயலாக மலிவு விற்பனை ஒரு புறம். அத்துடன் வயதுமுற்றந்த பழைய மாணவிகளை தெரிவு செய்து கௌரவித்து மகிழ்த்தவறுவதில்லை. ஈற்றில் குதூகலமாகக் கூடி உணவருந்தி பரிபமனமின்றி வீடைபெற்றாலும் எண்ணத்திலும் செயலிலும் எமது கல்லூரியின் உயர்ச்சியை குறிக்கோளாக இருக்கும்.

ஆண்டுதோறும் மார்கழி மாதத்தில் இயேசு கிறிஸ்துவின் ஜனனத்தை முன்னிட்டு Christmas Party, Carol Service என்பன எமது சங்கத்தால் கொண்டாடப்படும். சில சமயங்களில் எமது சர்கோதரப்பட்டாசாலையான யாழ் பரியோவான் கல்லூரி பழைய மாணவர்களும் கலந்து சிறப்பித்துள்ளமை நினைவுகூறத்தக்கது. நிகழ்விற்குரிய Carol songs புகழ்வதில் ஒரு மரத்தின் ஆணிவேராக இருந்து வழிகாட்டும் Joy அக்கா நன்றிபுடன் போற்றத்தக்கவர்.

பாடசாலை அதிபரின் வேண்டுகோள், வழிகாட்டலுக்கமைவாக எமது கல்லூரியில் கல்வி பயிலும் வறுமைக்கோட்டின் கீழ் உள்ள மாணவிகளுக்கு உயர்தரம் வரை கல்வியில்லத்தேவையான புலமைப்பரிசீலனை வழங்குதல், கல்வித்திறன் மிக்க மாணவிகளை ஊக்குவிக்க பரிசீலனை வழங்குதல், விளையாட்டு விளையாட்டு விளையாட்டு போட்டி நிகழ்வுகளுக்காக கொடும்பு வரும் வேளைகளில் எமது உறுப்பினர்கள் அவர்களை சந்தித்து அன்போடு ஊக்குவித்தல், கணினி பெற்றுக்கொடுத்தல், தேவையின் அவசியம் உணர்ந்து வைத்தியத்திற்கு நதி உதவி செய்தல் போன்ற எண்ணிலடங்கா செயற்பாடுகளை எமது நிர்வாகம் செயற்படுத்தி வந்துள்ளமை ஆத்ம திருப்தி தரும் செயலாகும். எம்போடு இணைந்து செயலாற்றி, இயலாமைகாரணமாக வீட்டிற்குள்ளேயே வாழ்வோரை அணுகி, ஆதரவாக பேசி அவர்களை பாடசாலைக்கால நினைவுகளால் மகிழ்ந்திருக்கச்செய்யும் பாரிய பணியும் தற்போது ஆரம்பிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளமை மனதிற்கு மிக்க மகிழ்ச்சி தரும் செயற்பாடாகும்.

நதித்தேவைகளைக் கருத்தில் கொண்டு எமது சங்கம் கலை நிகழ்ச்சிகள் பலவற்றை நிகழ்த்தியது. அதில் "மனம் தொடும் மாலை" எல்லோர் மனதையும் தொட்டுச்சென்றது என்றால் மிகையாகாது. "கழி" Party கூட்டிய கூட்டம், கூடவே கிடைத்த வருவாய் யாழ் பாரம்பரிய உணவின் பெருமையை, மக்கள் மனதைப் பறைசாற்றியது. 7th July 2012 புலமைப்பரிசீலனை திட்டத்திற்கு நதி சேர்க்கும் செயற்பாடாக "மாபெரும் பல்பொருள் மலிவு விற்பனை" நடத்தப்பட்டது. எதிர்பார்ப்புக்கு மேலான பலன் கிட்டியது.

8th June 2013ல் வகுப்பறை நிர்மாண நிதிக்காக அடைமழையில் அரியசாதனையாக "Food Fiesta" உணவுப்பண்டங்களின் மலிவு விற்பனை நிகழ்த்தி முடித்தமை "இலக்கினை அடையும் வரை ஓயமாட்டோம்" என்பதன் வெளிப்பாடாகும், என்று கூறுவதில் பெருமைப்படுகின்றோம்.

13th, 14th & 15th July 2013ல் சண்டிக்கூளி மகனீர் கல்லூரியின் யாழ் பழைய மாணவிகள் சங்கம் தமது நூற்றாண்டு நிறைவை முன்னிட்டு நடாத்திய கலை விழா, இராப்போசனம், Thanks giving service, நடைபவனி(walk) அடங்கிய 3 நாள் விழாவிற்கு பிறநாடுகளில் இருந்து வந்த பழைய மாணவிகளை அழைத்துச் செல்ல பேருந்து வசதி செய்து கொடுத்ததுடன் எமது உறுப்பினர்களும் கலந்து சிறப்பித்தமை பாடசாலை எமக்குக் கற்றுத்தந்த ஒற்றுமையுணர்வின் வெளிப்பாடாகும். இவ் விழாவிற்கான Table Decoration, Red and Black saree ,designing, sponsors பெற்றுக்கொடுத்தல் போன்ற பல தனிப்பட்ட உதவிகளும் எமது கிளை உறுப்பினர்களால் வழங்கப்பட்டமை பெருமை தரும் அம்சமாகும்.

26th October 2013 O.G.A Centurnery Block திறப்பு விழாவிலும் எமது உறுப்பினர்கள் கலந்து தமது பங்களிப்பைச் செய்தமை குறிப்பிடத்தக்கது.

இளைப்பாறிய ஆசிரியை ராஜினி அக்காவுடனும் பின்னர் வகுப்புத்தோழியான ரஜாநிதீனியுடனும் நான் பொருளாளராக பணியாற்றிய காலங்கள் என்றும் பசுமையானவை. யாழ் பழைய மாணவிகள் சங்கம் கடந்த ஆண்டு தமது நூற்றாண்டு விழாவிற்கு உதவிகள் செய்ய கொடும்பிலிருந்து என்னை அழைத்தபோது இதரவளின் மகிமையை எண்ணி வியந்தேன். எனக்குத்தரப்பட்ட கௌரவமாக எண்ணி மகிழ்ந்தேன். பாடசாலையின் முகாமையாளராக இருந்து அதன் வளர்ச்சிக்கு அயராது பங்களித்து வரும் தஞ்சா அக்காவுடனும் கடந்த வருடம் கொடும்பு கிளையின் செயலாளராக இருந்த பிரேமா அக்காவுடனும் சேர்ந்து யாழ் பயணித்தமை, சேர்ந்தும், தனித்தும் எமக்கென தரப்பட்ட பணிகளை நிறைவேற்றியமை, ஒன்றாக பாடசாலை மைதானத்தில் உலாவி, வீடுதயில் உணவருந்தி,

உறங்குவதாக கூறி அவரவர் பள்ளிக்கால சம்பவங்களை பகிர்ந்து கொண்டமை - மீண்டும் வராதா? இத்தகைய நாட்கள் என்றே ஏக்கம் கொள்ள வைக்கின்றன.

பாடசாலை மைதானத்தைச் சுற்றி வந்த வேளையில் அந்தக் காலத்தில் ஒலிம்பிக் போட்டியில் பங்குகொண்டு எழுது பாடசாலைக்குப் பேரும் புகழும் ஈட்டித்தந்த செல்வகொளர் அக்காவின் (Jett) ஞாபகம் வந்தது. அவர் தம் பயிற்சியின் நிமித்தம் நாள் தோறும் மைதானத்தைச் சுற்றி ஓடுவதுண்டு. அவரின் பின்னாள் நாமும் எம்மைப் பெரும் வீராங்கனையாக நினைத்து ஓடியதையும் நினைவுகூர்ந்தேன்.

எனது பாடசாலைப் பருவத்தில் வீடுதிரியில் மிகக்குறுகிய காலமே தங்கியிருந்த போதிலும் பல்வேறுபட்ட அனுபவங்களைப் பெற்றுக்கொள்வதற்கான வாய்ப்பை அது அளித்தது. இன்றும் என் மனதை விட்டு நீங்காத லீனா ரீச்சரின் நினைவுகளை நான் என் நண்பர்களுடன் பகிர்ந்துகொள்வதுண்டு. மனைப்பொருளியல் மட்டுமல்லாமல் வீஞ்ஞானமும் கற்பித்தவர் லீனா ரீச்சர். எம்மை வாழ்விப்பலுக்கு ஏற்றுபடி செதுக்கியதில் பாரிய பங்கு அவருக்குண்டு. நாம் O/L படித்தபோது எம்மை விட்டுக்கு வரவழைத்து வீஞ்ஞானத்தைக் கற்பித்தார். கற்பித்தலை ஒரு சேவையாக எண்ணியே அதை வழங்கினார். இன்று நான் எந்தவொரு செயலைச் செய்யும் போதும் அதன் நேர்ந்தீ, அழகைக் கண்டு பிறர் பாராட்டும் போது, லீனா ரீச்சரை மனதில் நன்றிபுடன் வணங்குவேன். அவருடைய இறுதிக்காலத்தில் அவருக்கு என்னாலியன்ற உதவிகளைச் செய்யக்கூடாத்தமை பெரும் பேறெனவே கருதுகிறேன்.

அனுபவங்கள் ஒன்றா இரண்டா...இக்கட்டுரை அதற்குரிய இடமல்லவே, என்றாலும்கூட அந்தப் பயணம் எனது நினைவலைகளை மீட்டி இன்பராகம் இசைத்தது மனதிற்கு மிக மகிழ்ச்சியைத் தந்தது. எம்மால் மேற்கொள்ளப்படும் பணிகளை, சேவைகளை நாமே கூறிக்கொள்வதா? இது வீளம்பரம் தேடும் முயற்சியல்ல. எதிர்காலத்தில் பாடசாலை வளர்ச்சிக்குத் தூண்களாக வீளங்கவீருக்கும் மாணவிகளுக்கு எழுது செயற்பாடுகள் ஒரு உந்துதலை, தூண்டுதலை அளிக்க வேண்டும் என்று பேராவலின் மத்தியிலேயே இக்கட்டுரை வரையப்பட்டது.

நடப்பாண்டில் அமிர்தினியின் தலைமையின் கீழ் இயங்கும் கொழும்புக்களை அங்கத்தவர்கள் தங்கள் செயற்பாடுகளை மென்மேலும் வலுத்தடுத்துக்கொள்ளவும், தொடர்ந்து பாடசாலையின் சகல அபிவிருத்திப் பணிகளில் உதவவும், மேலும் ஏனைய எழுது பழைய மாணவிகள் சங்கக்களைகளின் அங்கத்தவர்களுக்கும், கல்லூர் அதிபர், ஆசிரியர், மாணவிகளுக்கும் எல்லாம் வல்ல இறைவன் சகல ஆக்கத்தையும், ஊக்கத்தையும், உந்துசக்தியையும் அளித்து ஆசீர்வதிக்கும் படி பிரார்த்திக்கின்றேன்.

- திருமதி. கேசவவதனி முளிதரன் -



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