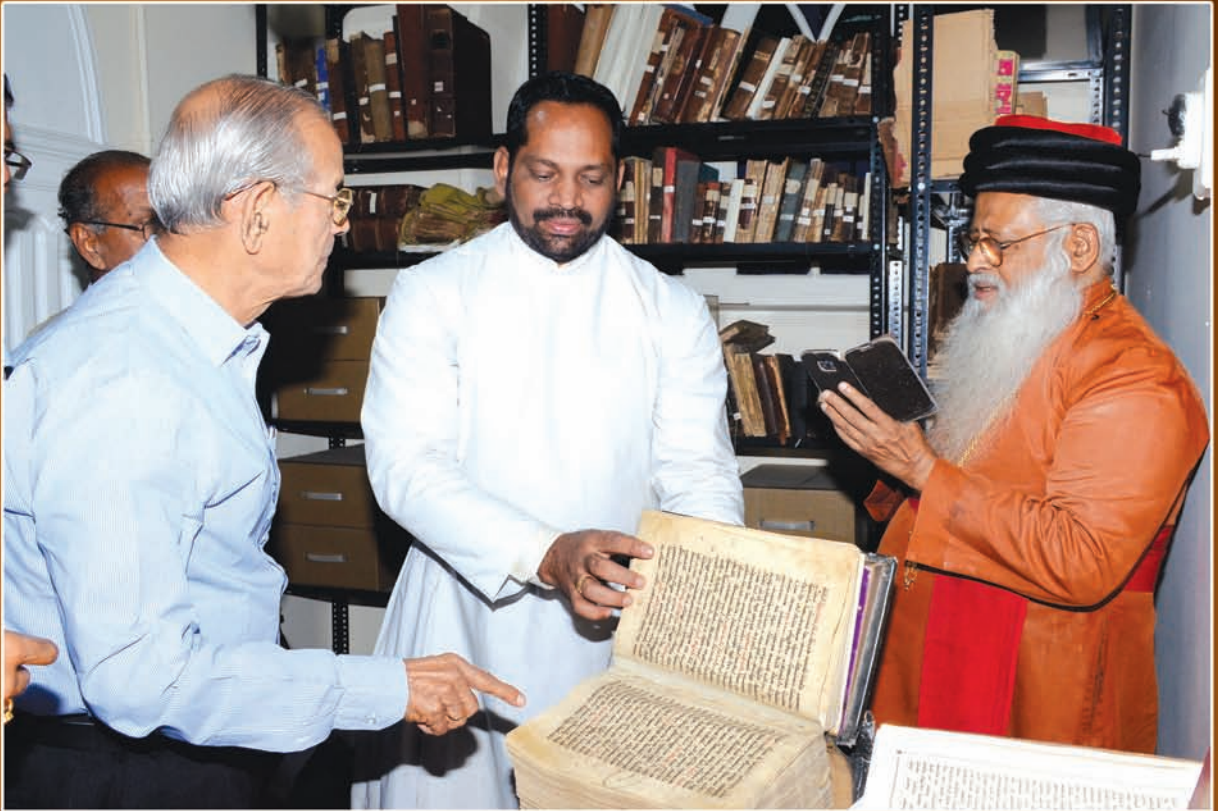


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Vol 65

January - February 2018

Nos.1 & 2



Dr. E. Sreedharan ("Metroman"), the father of Metro Railway of India joins H.G. Mar Aprem Metropolitan and Secretary Rev'd Fr Jacks Chandy to review sacred manuscripts kept at the Metropolitan Palace, Thrissur during his visit on 31 January 2018

VOICE OF THE EAST



Mar Aprem Metropolitan handing over half a million rupees to The Honourable Minister A.C. Moideen for the Kerala Chief Minister's Relief Fund at Mar Mari Shleeha Parish on 7 January 2018



H.G. Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan Receiving the Honourable Central Government Minister Alphons Joseph Kannanthanam at the Metropolitan Palace, Thrissur on 16 January 2018

VOICE OF THE EAST

(A socio-Religious bi-monthly)

(Private Circulation only)

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Voice of the East

Vol. 65

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Editorial

Ba'utha d' Ninwaye

The Rogation of the Ninevites is a great observation of penitence in the Church of the East throughout the world. In India it has been observed in a fitting manner. Since my boyhood I have looked forward to the fasting and prayer observed in Mart Mariam Cathedral in Trichur. From 7am to 3pm (on Wednesdays until 3.30pm) the faithful of the neighbouring parishes gathered together for intense prayer and fasting.

As there is no space in the Cathedral for the members coming from the neighbouring parishes, a *shamiana* (temporary roof) is arranged in the courtyard of the Church. Recently for the convenience of the old people we conduct *Ba'utha* prayers in two or three other parishes as well. Since the late Corepiscopa V.T. Raphael translated from Syriac to Malayalam some sections of these prayers from the **Hudra**, the faithful members of the Church are able to read and listen to the prayers with repentance.

This year we observed *Ba'utha* in January. The rule is that this fasting should be observed in the 5th week of Dinkha (Epiphany) and two weeks later we have the Memorial of the Departed. Two days later we start *Sauma Rabba* (Great Lent). As a matter of fact the Fifth Week of Epiphany was observed in the third week, as Easter in 2018 is two weeks earlier than usual. Many members of the Church feel blessed by these prayers. Although there are several churches in Trichur of various denominations, the Assyrian Church of the East is the leading Church in the observance of *Ba'utha*.

In the Hudra (Syriac Prayer Book of the Church of the East printed in Trichur in 1960) volume III, page number 336 we read in the prayers for the Rogation of the Ninevites on the prayer on Wednesday: "Receive our Lord requests of the Chinese and the Indians (*the Sienaye Vad Hinduvaye*) in the language of their land, honouring thy name and to thee they worship". As these prayers were composed in the sixth century we can believe that there were Christians in China at that time. This leads to a deeper search for the history of Christianity in China prior to the arrival of Alopen in 635 AD, as mentioned in the famous "Nestorian Stele" at Sian-Fu preserved in China.

Mar Aprem Metropolitan

International News

St. Narsai Assyrian Christian College, Sydney

On Sunday 21 January, 2018 the new campus of St. Narsai Assyrian Christian College, a year 7-12 co-educational Christian independent college of the Assyrian Church of the East was officially opened in a historic ceremony at Horsley Park, New South Wales, Australia.

The ceremony was led by His Beatitude Mar Meelis Zaia AM, Metropolitan of the Assyrian Church of the East's Archdiocese of Australia, New Zealand and Lebanon with the participation of representatives from sister churches and more than a dozen members of local, state and federal government. Of particular note was the presence of The Honourable Gladys Berejiklian MP, Premier of New South Wales and The Honourable Luke Foley MP, Opposition Leader.

The event was also attended by dignitaries representing numerous Assyrian political, social, cultural and charitable organisations along with members of the Iraqi diplomatic corps and guests from as far as the Middle East and the United States.

St. Narsai Assyrian Christian College is the first Assyrian senior secondary College to be established in the western world and will cater to more than 500 Australian-Assyrian students following its inception in 2006. Its sister school, St Hurmizd Assyrian Primary School in Greenfield Park was established in 2002. Between both schools along with childcare and early learning centres, the educational institutions of the Assyrian Church of the East in Australia now cater to more than 1500 students.

In her remarks to the 700-strong crowd, Premier Gladys Berejiklian reflected on the thousands-year-old history of the Assyrian people noting that St. Narsai's marks the "continuation of the history, culture and legacy that has graced the world for thousands of years". She went on to note her pride in the Assyrian-Australian community having "a school of this magnitude and calibre in the heart of New South Wales".

Addressing the attendees, Opposition Leader Luke Foley added that the College would "preserve the unique language, culture and faith" of the Assyrian people. He went on to reflect on the traditions inherited from the Apostles of Jesus Christ and handed down over the last 2000 years praying that the "sons and daughters of those people who turned to the Lord when the Lord sent Jonah to Nineveh are watched over by the Lord" here in Australia.

The College is named for St. Narsai, a 5th-century Assyrian saint noted for his unique theological and scholarly works including a vast canon of commentaries, expositions, sermons, hymns, poetry and homilies. The life and teachings of the venerated saint give inspiration to the school's motto and foundational belief in excellence, commitment to teaching and dedication to the spreading of knowledge and Christian values.

His Beatitude Mar Meelis Zaia AM, Archbishop of Australia, New Zealand and Lebanon gave the function's keynote address. Commencing his remarks, the Archbishop noted that "education is the fundamental foundation of any society which wishes to enrich itself with the fruits of knowledge." He went on to reflect on the founding vision and inspiration for Assyrian education in Australia, stressing that the Assyrian culture and the tradition of the Assyrian Church of the East desperately need to be protected.

"Assyrians like many minorities in the Middle East have suffered long and hard to maintain their identity. Assyrians have been subjected to continuing unprecedented ethnic and religious persecution and prejudice that have forced a massive exodus of Assyrians from the Middle East to the western world", said the Archbishop.

Therefore, the College seeks to enrich its students with the heritage and Christian values of the Assyrian Church of the East, developing individuals who strive for excellence, who are life-long learners and who live their faith. His Beatitude also stressed his “vision and mission to give to our children the best education that this school can and will provide.”

The educational institutions of the Assyrian Church of the East in Australia would not have come to fruition without the courage, inspiration, vision and leadership of His Beatitude who has prioritised and spearheaded these major projects since his consecration and appointment as leader of the Assyrian Church of the East community in Australia in the early 1980s.

Stages 1 and 2 of the 4-stage, \$35 million project are now completed. Between March 2019 and March 2020, the third and final stages will commence construction, culminating in the finalisation of the St. Narsai Assyrian Christian College campus in Horsley Park. The Archdiocese of Australia, New Zealand and Lebanon is also presently in the preliminary planning stages for its second and first primary schools in New South Wales and Victoria respectively.

Like its sister primary school before it, the College is the first and only Assyrian Church of the East secondary institution established in the western world. The grand opening ceremony of the campus marked a historic and unforgettable day in the history of Australia’s Assyrian community and in the life of the Assyrian Church of the East. In both Australia and around the world, it has been heralded as a symbol of hope and survival for the Assyrian people in the Diaspora.

Archdeacon Emmanuel Youkhanna at the UN

On 13 February 2018 Archdeacon Emmanuel Youkhanna of Lebanon was at Istanbul Airport on the way to Vienna, Austria to participate in a conference organized by the United Nations and other institutions to discuss the United Nations action plan on the role of religious leaders in preventing incitement to hate crimes. He continues his active involvement in international fora linked with his extensive and ongoing charitable work in Iraq.

2018 Lenten Campaign

“Seven Weeks for Water” Begins in Colombia

15 February 2018

The World Council of Churches Ecumenical Water Network (WCC-EWN) began the 2018 edition of its annual Lenten campaign “Seven Weeks for Water” in Bogota, Colombia, on 14 February.

WCC leaders, members of WCC Reference Group of the Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace, and local churches participated in a ceremony at La Giralda, headquarters of the Colombian Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Rev. Gloria Ulloa, WCC regional president for Latin America and the Caribbean, who officially launched the Lenten campaign at a prayer service in Bogota, expressed her joy about the “timely intervention by the WCC to address the water issues Latin America.”

In her sermon, Ulloa said that “unfortunately, in Latin America and the Caribbean and in many parts of our planet, due to legal and illegal mining industries, our water resources are

not considered as strategically important and are not preserved. The extractive industries promoted by the governments significantly threaten the backwaters, rivers, lakes, and groundwater”.

“In Colombia, for example, the multinational oil and mining companies have received all sorts of benefits, namely flexible environmental regulations from the government”, Ulloa added.

Prof. Isabel Apawo Phiri, WCC deputy general secretary, recognized the importance of the Lenten campaign on water justice.

“Thanks to the work of the WCC-EWN, the WCC has become a Blue Community by respecting the human right to water, promoting public ownership and control of water resources and saying no to bottled water where tap water is safe to drink.”, said Phiri.

“The Lenten campaign is a constant reminder to us of our commitment to being Blue Community”, she added.

In 2018, the WCC’s Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace has a regional focus on Latin America.

Accordingly, the WCC-EWN is offering through the “Seven Weeks for Water” a series of Biblio-theological reflections and resources based on the water crisis in the region within the framework of justice and peace.

All the reflections for 2018 are written by theologians and environmentalists from the region and are now available at the WCC-EWN website.

Dinesh Suna, coordinator of WCC-EWN expressed his gratitude to all participants, authors of the Lenten resources on water and hoped “that these resources will be used by congregations and individuals during the Lenten period to rededicate their commitment to water justice”, he said.

Indian Archdiocese News

Report of the Inter-Church Council Meeting held on January 17, 2018

Theme: Evaluation of the Socio-Political Scenario in India and the task of Evangelization

The Inter-Church Council meeting of the bishops of all the Churches was held at SEERI on Jan 17, 2018. The meeting was hosted by H.G. Thomas Mar Koorilos of the Archdiocese of Tiruvalla (Syro Malankara Catholic Church) although he could not be present because of the demise of Geevarghese Mar Dionysis. The meeting was presided over by Cardinal Mar George Alencherry.

The following bishops were present: Cardinal Mar George Alencherry, Mar Joseph Perumthottam, Mar Mathew Moolakkatt, Mar Aprem Metropolitan, Mar Andrews Thazhath, Kuriakose Mor Severios, Thomas Mar Timotheos, Kuriakose Mar Ivanios, H.E. Stanley Roman, Yoohanon Mar Theodosius, Mar Awgin Kuriakose, Samuel Mar Irenios, Mar Sebastian

Vaniapurakal, H.E. Selvester Ponnumuthan, Mar Joseph Kallarangatt and H.E. Dr K.G. Daniel. Msgr. Jose Navez (Vijayapuram) and Fr. George Madathiparampil (Deputy Secretary) were also present.

Before the formal beginning of the meeting, Fr. Jacob Thekeparampil, the Director of the SEERI, welcomed the bishops on behalf of Mar Koorilos and gave a brief introduction about the working of the SEERI. The prayer service was offered by the students of SEERI in Syriac. Cardinal Mar George Alencherry, H.G. Mar Aprem Metropolitan, Archbishop Kuriakose Mar Severios offered prayers at the beginning of the meeting.

The Cardinal offered on behalf of all the bishops gathered there his prayers and condolences at the passing away of the former bishop of Puthur, Mar Geevarghese Dionysis.

Cardinal Mar George Alencherry in his presidential remarks clarified the theme of the meeting by saying that evangelization does not necessarily involve increasing the number of the faithful but in making the message of Christ reach all.

Some of the practical steps suggested for the better working of the Council were the following:

1. It was suggested by the Bishops that the Churches should act together in responding to crises and tragedies happening in the State irrespective of the caste or creed of the people.
2. It was also proposed that regional meetings of the bishops should be organized in order to create a sense of unity and cooperation.
3. The following bishops were authorized by the meeting to hold regional conferences:

- Bishop Selvester Ponnumuthan (Trivandrum, Kollam, Alleppey and Pathanamthitta)
- Severios Mar Kuriakose (Kottayam and Ernakulam)
- Mar Aprem Metropolitan (Trichur and Palghat)
- Mar Awgin (Malabar)

The following are the some of the other suggestions proposed during the discussions: The Churches should not feel diffident in continuing the ministries even if there are oppositions and hostilities against the ministry of the Church. The contribution of the Church in the fields of education, health and social service is enormous. The faithful are reminded to support the *Dalit* Christians in their struggle to lift themselves from poverty and deprivation. Even though the Christians are a minority, they should not forget the minorities in their midst. The interest in the protection of the environment should be fostered. Similarly, the educated youths should be encouraged to join the Govt. Service. Care should be given to the strengthening of families as the Christian population shows a diminishing percentage of growth in the State.

Abp. Mar Mathew Moolakatt, Mar Joshua Ignatios and Msgr. Navez were entrusted with the task of preparing the press release and it was given to the press immediately after the meeting.

The next meeting of the Inter-Church Council will be held on Jan 17, 2019 at Charalkunnu under the auspices of the Mar Thoma Church as per the invitation of Thomas Mar Timotheos who was representing Joseph Mar Thoma Metropolitan.

Please note the following:



Release of the English Translation of Mar Abimalek Timotheus' Prayer Book by H. G. Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan and H.L. Dr. Mar Yohannan Yoseph at Mart Mariam Big Church on 5 November 2017



Fr. Jacks Chandy and Deacon Chakkunni Vethayathil along with the students and staff of CMC after the Holy Qurbana at CMC, Vellore 21 January 2018



Padma Vibushan Dr. E. Sreedharan Visits Mart Mariam Cathedral, Thrissur with Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan Explaining Its 202 Year History on 31 January 2018



Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan participating in 'Buon Natale' 2017 with Bishop Mar Awgin Kuriakose, Metropolitan Mar Andrews Thazhath, Agriculture Minister S. Sunilkumar. The event is conducted by the Syro Malabar Church, Thrissur in connection with Christmas

The Commemoration of Anneedhe (Friday of the Departed) in the Cemetery of Mar Yohannan Mamdhana Church, East Fort, Thrissur and Mar Addai Sreeha Church, Paravattani, Thrissur on Friday 9 February 2018





The Grand Opening of St Narsai Assyrian Christian College by His Beatitude Mar Meelis Zaia AM, Archbishop of Australia, New Zealand and Lebanon on Sunday 21 January, 2018 at Horsley Park, New South Wales, Australia



Mr. Sriram Venkataraman, I.A.S. Receives the Prestigious 'Youth Icon Award' from H.G. Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan at the Chaldean Syrian Higher Secondary School, Thrissur on 31 January 2018

1. All the bishops of the Episcopal Churches are members of the Inter-Church Council and hence all the bishops are most cordially invited for the meeting of the Council.

2. As it is a body of bishops, priests and the laity need not be sent as delegates.

Mar Awgin Kuriakose
Secretary

Fr. George Madathiparampil
Deputy Secretary

Parish Festivals Celebrated Throughout Church of the East Parishes in India

Parish festivals were celebrated in most of the parishes in India during January and February. Metropolitan Dr. Mar Aprem, Dr. Mar Yohannan Yosip Episcopa and Mar Augin Kuriakose Episcopa attended most of these functions. Such activities were reported in the Malayalam secular newspapers, television etc. Most of the parishes published attractive newsletters or parish digests to preserve to posterity the events connected with the parish festivals. Some parishes reduced the extra decorations, illumination expenses etc and contributed to the dialysis of kidney patients in our Mar Timotheus Charitable Hospital in Thrissur inaugurated by our late Catholicos-Patriarch Mar Dinkha IV of blessed memory.

Mar Dinkha I Parish, Chiyyaram, Thrissur

The parish festival of Mar Dinkha I Parish at Chiyyaram, Thrissur was conducted on 28 January 2018. In the evening public meeting presided over by the Metropolitan, Fr. A.P. Varghese, Vicar of the parish was felicitated for the 45 years of ordained ministry in the Church. He was ordained deacon along with Fr. N.J. Abraham on October 2, 1972 at St. Thomas Church, Ernakulam, by Mar Thoma Geevarghese Metropolitan of Mosul who was the chief guest at the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the St. Thomas Church. Mar Aprem Metropolitan was honoured for his Golden Jubilee of the archiepiscopal consecration. He was given a bundle of *Sarees* to be given as gifts to the poor girls as their wedding saree.

Friday of the Departed

The Friday of the Departed (Anneedhe) was observed in major parishes where there is a cemetery attached to the Church on Friday February 9. On the previous evening the faithful gathered in the cemetery with candles etc.

Mrs. Sheeba Babu

The only member of our Church in the Thrissur Corporation Council was elected as the Chairperson of the Development Standing Committee of the Corporation. Mar Aprem Metropolitan and Mr. M.A. Thomas along with other Central Trustees gave a reception to Sheeba Babu. She is the daughter of late Deacon Dhaved Kalathottukaren. She is an active member of the Mar Narsai Parish, Nadathra.

Donation to Oakhi Relief Fund

Half a million rupees was handed over to Kerala Honourable Minister A.C. Moideen for the Chief Minister's Relief Fund by Mar Aprem Metropolitan during the parish festival function in Mar Mari Shleeha parish on 7th January 2018 for the relief of the families of the fishermen (most of them Catholic Christians) killed in Kerala coast in the Oakhi Cyclone.

Unity Octave

The Unity Octave ecumenical prayer week was observed in the Syro Malabar Church in Palarivattom in Cochin. Cardinal George Alenchery, Latin Archbishop of Verapoly Emeritus Dr. Francis Kallarckel, Dr. Joseph Marthoma Metropolitan and Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan spoke at the ecumenical service which was attended by members of different denominations with their choir groups.

Patriarch Louis I Raphael Sako in India

The Chaldean Catholic Patriarch of Iraq was in Kerala in connection with the silver jubilee of the granting of Major Archbishop status to the Syro Malabar Church in India. Patriarch Sako who was a classmate of the Thrissur Syro Malabar Archbishop Mar Andrews Thazhath during their studies in Rome was given a warm reception in Palayur and in Thrissur on 13th and 14th January. Mar Aprem Metropolitan who is a friend of the Patriarch even before he became a bishop was a guest at the dinner reception in DBCLC hosted by Archbishop Andrews and the new Auxiliary Bishop Tony Neelankavil who has succeeded Bishop Mar Raphael Thattil who has taken charge of the new Syro-Malabar Diocese in Hyderabad.

Mar Aprem Metropolitan presented the Patriarch with 14 DVDs covering all the digitised Syriac manuscripts preserved in the Metropolitan's Palace, Thrissur. Mar Aprem Metropolitan mentioned in his speech that he had visited Patriarch Paulus Cheikhu in Baghdad way back in 1962 when he was a young deacon. During the past 55 and a half years the friendship has been cordial. Patriarch Sako was present in the Cathedral in Erbil, Iraqi Kurdistan when our Catholicos-Patriarch Mar Gewargis III was consecrated on 27 September 2015.

Mr. E. Sreedharan Padma Vibushan

The prestigious COSINE AWARD was given to Mr. E. Sreedharan, Metroman, father of Metro Railway in Delhi and throughout India on 31 January 2018 by the Chaldean Syrian Higher Secondary School in Thrissur. Metropolitan Dr. Mar Aprem received him in the Metropolitan's Palace and showed the Mart Mariam Cathedral and explained its 202 years history, the oldest church in Thrissur town. The 86-year old Chief Engineer of Metro Railways told us that he was received in a Christian Church for the first time.

The Youth Icon Award

The Youth Icon Award instituted by the Chaldean Syrian Higher Secondary School was given to Mr. Sriram Venkataraman, I.A.S. for his bold stand to eradicate corruption in high places and to grant justice to the poor and to the marginalised as an honest civil servant in Kerala state.

Dr. Istvan Perczel, Budapest

Dr. Istvan Perczel of Budapest delivered the eleventh annual Bishop Meddlycott lecture at St. Thomas College, Thrissur on January 31. Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan who was a student for the intermediate course in that College during 1955-57 presided over the function. Professor Istvan was in charge of the digitalising the Syriac Manuscripts in Trichur and other parts of Kerala and gave lectures in other places including Sri Sankara Sanscrit University, Kalady, Kerala.

Padma Bhushan award for Metropolitan Mar Chrysostom

The President of India announced the prestigious national awards to distinguished persons from various walks of life in India in connection with the Republic Day of India on January 26. The Christians and non-Christians were delighted to know that there was one 100-year-old personality among the awardees. Dr. Philipose Mar Chrysostom, Metropolitan Emeritus of the Mar Thoma Syrian Church is granted the title Padma Bushan.

Dr. Mar Chrysostom who was born on 27 April 1918 became a bishop in the Mar Thoma Syrian Church in May 1953 when he was 35 years old. He retired from active duty when he was 89 years old. He has been a speaker in the Maramon Bible Convention for the past 65 years. He wrote a fitting foreword to the book written by Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan entitled '**Bishop's Jokes**', which has been translated into the Russian language and released in Moscow in 1992.

English Translation of Mar Abimalek Timotheus' Prayer Book

The English translation of the prayer book originally written by the late Mar Abimalek Timotheus Metropolitan (d. 30 April 1945) was released in Trichur after the scrutiny of experts from the clergy and laity along with the Metropolitan and two Bishops. This prayer book written in Malayalam in 1917 and used by the believers in India for 100 years will be useful for their children growing outside Kerala who cannot read their mother tongue Malayalam.

***Editorial Note:**Parents; buy this prayer book and have your children use it. These Malayalam prayers were the prayers in Aramaic (Syriac) found in various places in the **Hudra** prayer book. Those who want this English book can purchase it in the bookstore run by the Board of Central Trustees. The Indian price is Rs.125 plus postage. Please buy before the first edition of 1000 copies are sold out. People outside our Church are also buying it.*

Clergy Seminar on Ecumenical Agreements

A special one-day programme was conducted on 5th February 2018 in the Metropolitan's Palace, Thrissur. Dr. Mar Yohannan Yoseph Episcopa, who is the member of the Vatican-Assyrian Dialogue committee, distributed the Malayalam translation of the Common Statement on Sacramental Life signed at the Vatican by the leaders of both delegations.

Bishop Dr. Mar Yohannan Yosip is the only Indian in this delegation. Some years ago Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan was the co-chairman of this committee. This is the second agreement, the first being the Common Christological Declaration signed in the Vatican on 11 November 1994 one year before the unity of two calendar groups in India. This conference helped many clergy to clear their doubts regarding this agreement and the continuing work of this committee which is scheduled to meet in Rome in November 2018.

Maramon Convention

The 123rd Maramon Convention was held in the river bed of Pampa River, a 4 hours car drive, south of Thrissur. Mar Aprem Metropolitan attended three days of this famous Convention on 14, 15 and 16 February 2018. During the Convention he presided over the Jabalpur Alumni Fellowship where he had studied for B.D. from 1957 to 1961. He also attended the Bangalore Alumni Fellowship where he had studied for M.Th. (1964 to 1966) and Doctor of Theology from 1970 to 1974.

Mar Aprem Metropolitan was attending this famous annual Bible Convention for the 49th year. He stayed with the 100 year old Philipose Mar Chrysostom Metropolitan who preached at this Convention for the 65th year. Perhaps nobody had such a record anywhere in the world.

United Gospel Convention, Kunnamkulam

The 48th Annual United Gospel Convention was conducted from February 5 to 11 at its own Convention Grounds. It was inaugurated by the President Mar Aprem Metropolitan. The Vice President, Most. Rev. Cyril Mar Baselius Metropolitan, Supreme Head of the Independent Syrian Church of Malabar, presented a memento in connection with the Golden Jubilee year of Mar Aprem Metropolitan who gave effective leadership for this Convention since the beginning of this ecumenical venture, first as the Vice President and then as the President.

Brother of Late Bishop Reposes in India

Konikara Antony Kurien, aged 80, elder brother of late Bishop Poulos Mar Poulos passed away on 17 February 2018 in Trichur. The burial ceremony took place the next day and was officiated by Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan, Dr. Mar Yohannan Yoseph Episcopa, Mar Awgin Kuriakose Episcopa and many of our priests and deacons.

**International Youth Conference
Thrissur, Kerala, India
August 21 to 24, 2018**

**9th World Syriac Conference
SEERI, Kottayam, Kerala, INDIA
8 to 15 September 2018**

Contact SEERI direct: seeri@bsnl.in or maeri@dataone.in

NB: The papers read in the 8th World Syriac Conference in SEERI are available in the **THE HARP, Volume XXX published by SEERI.**

Reflections on the Redeemer

[Syriac lyric by Rev. P K Varghese. It's a translation from vernacular, composed by the late T D Paul in 1929. See English Tr.]

The reflection on the Redeemer
Does impart indestructible fortune
All the time, night and day as well
It's on you O! Lord, I do remember
How happy then and comfortable am I
Even if a sinner am I.

While I am reflecting and remembering
The truly Righteous that you are
I set aside instantly and wake up
from all my impure ways
And proceed having no fear
Along the path of righteousness

While I am pondering in my mind
On you who have kindness and wisdom
Although you have made me in mercy
And in grace O! Gracious
My heart always does murmur
No piety I possess towards you.

At one occasion I reflect on your love
Toward me; it's immeasurable;
When I meditate on it; thus I understand
What a fellow am I having no love to you
At the same time I know you love me;
Your affection to me knows no bound

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١٨ ضجبتك ها ذقت اقا
 لصوتك في ربي اقا
 كلنا جسد حب ذلتا موعنا
 ١٩ موعنا ٢٠ بولد ذلر موعنا
 ٢١ لب اقا ٢٢ موعنا ٢٣ موعنا
 ٢٤ ذقتك اشد حبنا ٢٥ ذقتك

Holiness of yours which I ponder on
 When I understand you are 'the Holy One'
 All my guilt has been revealed to me
 And my errors know no bound
 Unclean lips I do possess
 As had said Isaiah the prophet

٢٦ ذقتك اشد حبنا ٢٧ اشد حبنا
 ٢٨ ذقتك اشد حبنا ٢٩ ذقتك
 ٣٠ ذقتك اشد حبنا ٣١ ذقتك
 ٣٢ ذقتك اشد حبنا ٣٣ ذقتك
 ٣٤ ذقتك اشد حبنا ٣٥ ذقتك

The perfect of all you have been
 And God of all you are as well
 In my heart when I reflect
 The perfection of yours which I ponder on
 It is well revealed in my mind
 The nothingness of mine really exposed

٣٦ ذقتك اشد حبنا ٣٧ ذقتك
 ٣٨ ذقتك اشد حبنا ٣٩ ذقتك
 ٤٠ ذقتك اشد حبنا ٤١ ذقتك
 ٤٢ ذقتك اشد حبنا ٤٣ ذقتك
 ٤٤ ذقتك اشد حبنا ٤٥ ذقتك

Further I do ponder on the Fullness of yours
 And I do consider, you are the fullness.
 At any rate unable I am to know all about you
 When I remember always the fact
 To know all about you exactly,
 I am merely a worm, an insect-in fact.

٥٥٥٥

- :Praise the Lord:-

Golden Jubilee Hymn

I

God bless our Archbishop
 Long live Mar Aprem
 Celebrity
 Of Golden Jubilee
 Happy and Glorious
 Long to lead Your Church
 Humble and spouse

II

Your choicest gifts in store
 On him be pleased to pour
 Long may he tend
 Flying swift far and wide
 Taking us to pasture green
 and still waters; wish him
 Longivity

- P K Varghese Qasha -
 01.01.2018



The Chaldean Catholic Patriarch of Iraq, Louis I Raphael Sako Visiting Thrissur on 14 January 2018 in Connection with the Silver Jubilee of the Granting of Major Archbishop Status to the Syro Malabar Catholic Church



H.G. Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan Speaks with Chaldean Catholic Patriarch of Iraq, Louis I Raphael Sako in a meeting conducted at Lourdes Cathedral, Thrissur on 14 January 2018



Padma Vibushan Mr. E. Sreedharan (Metroman) Receiving the Prestigious
COSINE AWARD from H.G. Dr. Mar Aprem Metropolitan at the Chaldean
Syrian Higher Secondary School, Thrissur on 31 January 2018