St. Thomas College Palai

Arunapuram P.O., Kottayam - 686574, Kerala.

Phone No: 04822-212317, Email: principal.stc@gmail.com



Institutional Distinctiveness



Dr. James John
Principal
St. Thomas College, Palai



ST.THOMAS COLLEGE, PALAI

INSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS

ST.THOMAS COLLEGE PALAI: A LEADERR IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION SECTOR OF CENTRAL TRAVANCORE

INTRODUCTION

When the college was established in 1950 on the banks of the River Meenachil with the collective effort of the agrarian population of central Kerala, its visionary founders had great expectations of making it a cultural centre of learning and holistic living. Being the first centre of higher education among the neighbouring taluks and by virtue of its geographical advantage, the college opened its doors of erudition to knowledge seekers in the developed vicinity as well as those from the academically under privileged of the high ranges of Idukki district. True to its foundational vision of equipping the students to venture out into the competitive world, the college through seven decades of uncompromising journey has grown into a pioneering institution offering 18 under graduate programmes, 15 post graduate programmes and 10 research centres. In addition, the college offers three vocational programmes, many certificate, Add-on, VET and Value Added programmes/courses. An Archaeology Museum, founded in 2015 under the aegis of the Department of Archaeology is a unique one.

What we envisioned and executed was later emulated by the other institutions that sprang up in the neighbourhood in the course of time. The infrastructural might of St. Thomas with its well- stocked and regularly updating library and an adjoining University Study Centre, state- of- the- art laboratories and building blocks with cutting- edge amenities is absolutely unmatched. St. Joseph's Hall, an Executive Hall with Lecture Capturing System that holds a capacity of 180 enables the college to keep pace with the technological advancement of contemporary academia. The augmentation of the infrastructural facilities took a different dimension with the construction of the Integrated Sports Complex with an adjoining Olympic Standard Swimming Pool. A Walkers' Lane, an annex to the Complex,

provides a wellness avenue for the public in resonance with the best practice of the college-Psychosomatic Wellness. A newly constructed Open Gym abiding by the green protocol of the college remains the first of its kind among nearby aided colleges affiliated to the University. The waste management system of the college with incinerators and e-waste disposal mechanism is faultless. Some of the other infrastructure facilities are: Hostel, Student's amenity centre, Book& stationery store, , computer centres, Lightening prediction devices, A widespread playground, Jimmy George stadium, Indoor stadiums, Gymnasium& Health club, Chapel& meditation centre, Yoga centre, Solar energy plants, Rainwater harvesting plants, Botanical garden, Medicinal plants garden, Organic farming garden, Power generators for uninterrupted power supply etc.

INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES: BUILDINGS















Different views of A - Block

B Block





Different views of B - Block

C -Block





Different views of C - Block

E- Block



View of E - Block

G -Block

















Different views of G - Block

St. Josephs Seminar Hall





Chapel & Meditation Centre



OTHER SUPPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES

1. Walkers Line – Total length: 700 Meters

A 700 metre length walker's lane, fully lighted with LED lights, paved with porch tiles through the thick flora encircling the play ground of St.Thomas College, Palai (Photographs shown below):





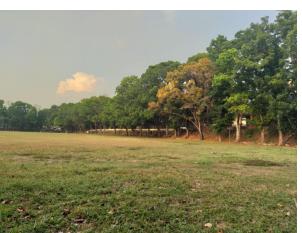












2. Play Ground

This is one of the biggest play grounds of an educational institution all around the central Travancore region and Kottayam district of Kerala state. Open to students, teachers, supporting staff, alumni and the public who maintains a membership in the integrated sports complex or who have got written permission from the authorities. This play ground is beautifully encircled by the walker's lane (photographs shown below):





3. Jimmy George Stadium

To honor the fond memories of Sri.Jimmy George, an International volley ball player and an alumnus of St.Thomas College Palai, who died in an accident during the visit to Italy in connection with an international volley ball tournament, the college maintains a stadium in front of the administrative block of the college. It has facilities such as volleyball court, basket ball court, galleries, podium etc.









4. Gym & Health Club

An indoor gymnasium and health club are functioning in the campus to look after the physical wellness of the students and staff, especially members of the college wrestling team, weight lifting team, students who practice martial art etc.



5. Open Gymnasium

As a pioneer institution who introduced many novel ideas and facilities in sports and games including swimming, the college introduced a unique idea of open gymnasium, which was identified as the first in this category in the state of Kerala by media persons and sports journalists. It ensures a total package of physical fitness to students and staff of the college. The most attracting feature of the gymnasium is that anybody can utilize the facilities at any time without any prior permission, provided strict discipline; modest dress code and strict silence are maintained, especially during class time.















6. Swimming Pool

One of the outstanding features of St.Thomas College Palai is its Olympic standard swimming pool. The 11 crore dream project of St.Thomas college Palai including this swimming pool and the multipurpose integrated sports complex was partially supported by UGC and the major share was invested by the management, teachers, alumni and well-wishers of the college.









Swimming Pool

7. Integrated Sports Complex













Integrated Sports Complex

8. Solar Energy Harvesting Unit

To support the huge energy requirement of the college and to propagate the idea of green, non-depleting and environment friendly energy usage, the college started many small solar energy generating systems and devices during the last many years. In addition to this, a new solar energy plant of 10KW capacity was started functioning in 2019. A striking feature of this power plant is that the plant is constructed as a car parking shack where the entire roofing is constructed with solar panels.







Solar Energy Harvesting Plant

9. Organic Farming

The college supports the concept of producing pollutant free, healthy vegetables, fruits and food grains within the campus by practicing the methods of organic farming. Under the leadership of the staff and students of the Department of Vocational Education, we practice this for the last many years.









Organic Farming

10. Medicinal Plants Garden

Kerala is blessed with a variety of herbal medicinal flora, widely spread all through the Western Ghats. We have a rich collection of medicinal plants in our campus also. The medicinal plants garden is developed and maintains by the students, research scholars and staff of the Research& Postgraduate Department of Botany of the college.



Medicinal Plants Garden

11. Botanical Garden

A well maintained botanical garden is one of the conspicuous characteristics of St.Thomas College Palai. A variety of rare species of flora is maintained in this garden. The Staff and students of the Research& Postgraduate Department of Botany look after this garden.





Botanical Garden

12. Rainwater Harvesting Units

We have rain water harvesting plants inside the campus with a capacity of $20,0000\ L$ altogether. This helps to meet the water requirement to a considerable extent.





Rain water harvesting plants

13. Chapel: Prayer and Meditation Centre

A chapel is functioning within the campus, in a serene atmosphere, throughout the working time where any student or staff, irrespective their religion, caste, or belief can spend time in praying or meditation silently.



Chapel and meditation centre

14. Yoga

An active Yoga club which organizes various activities including Yoga classes, Yoga camps, observing International Yoga day etc. is functioning in the college. We have qualified Yoga trainers among our teaching faculty, supporting staff and students who provide guidance and help to other staff and students of the college.





Yoga class and Yoga camp

15. Solid Waste Management

In addition to the conventional waste management devices functioning in the campus for years, specially designed plants were installed for the management and processing of solid waste including plastics.



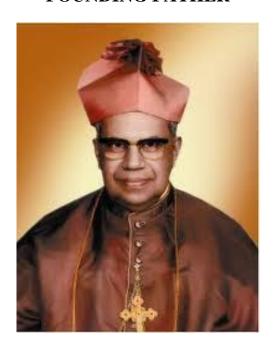


Newly constructed solid waste management plant

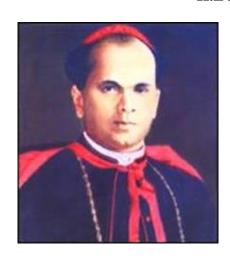
IMPORTANT HISTORICAL EVENTS:

1950-1986

1950-1953: "The Beginning of a Glorious Saga....." FOUNDING FATHER



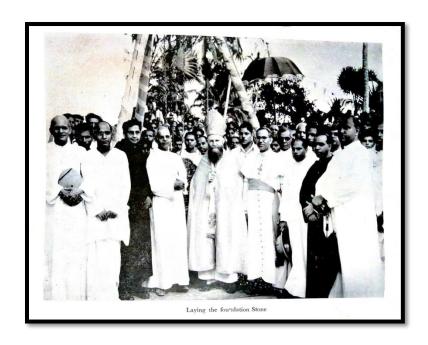
H.E Mar Sebastian Vayalil



H.E Mar James Kalasserry

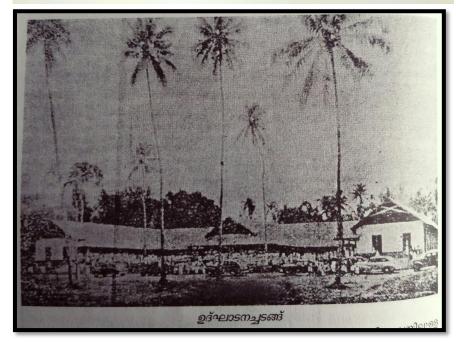


H. E. Louis Mathias Archbishop of Madras



Laying the foundation stone -April 16 1950 H. E Louis Mathias Archbishop of Madras





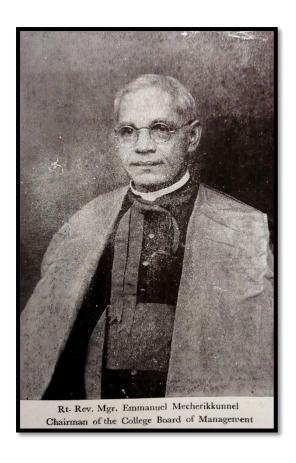
College Inauguration- 07-08-1950

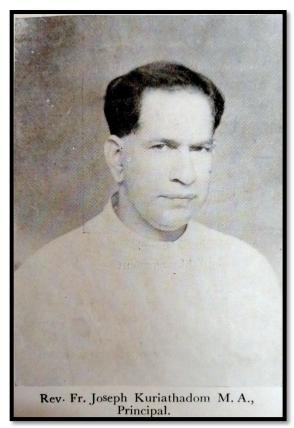


Construction of main block



Dr. P J Thomas, Economic advisor Govt. of India First Principal





April 15 , 1952



1953 Tisserant Hall (A Block)

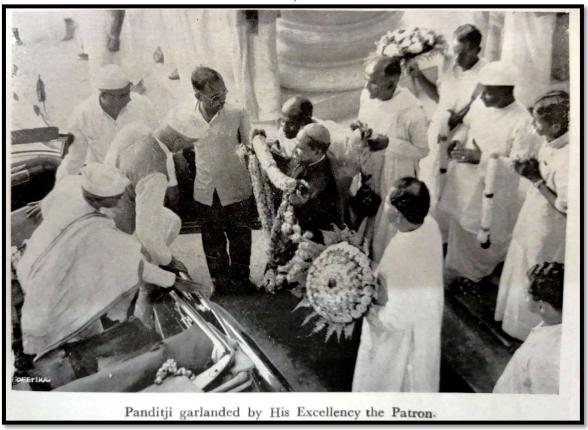


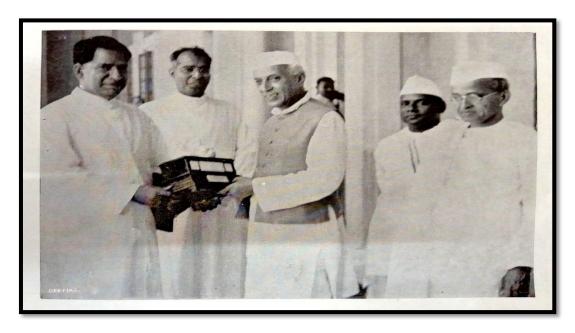
"The Chronicle Continues....."

NURTURING THE TEMPLE OF KNOWLEDGE: IMPORTANT EVENTS, IMPORTANT PERSONS

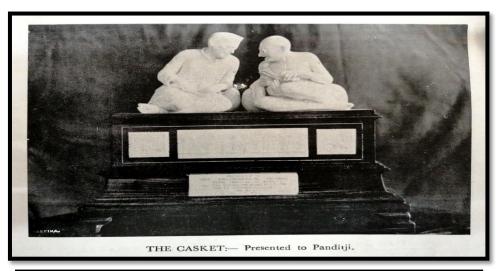


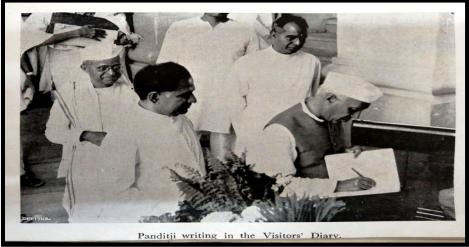
Visit of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the First Prime Minister of India











Visit of H.E. Sree Chithira Thirunal Maharaja



H.E Sree Chithira Thirunnal

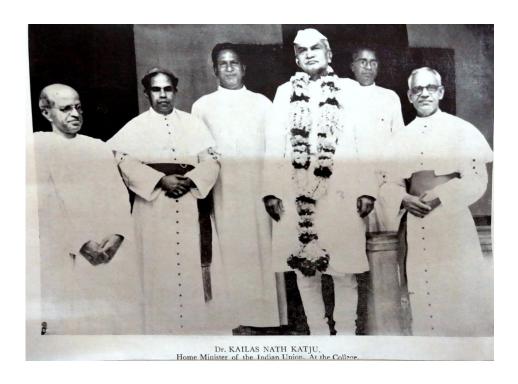
Visit of H.E. Cardinal Tisserant



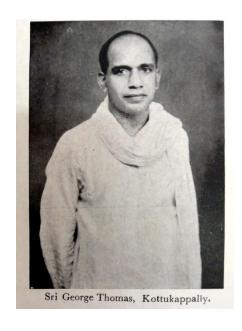




Visit of Dr.Kailas Nath Katju, Home Minister of Indian Union



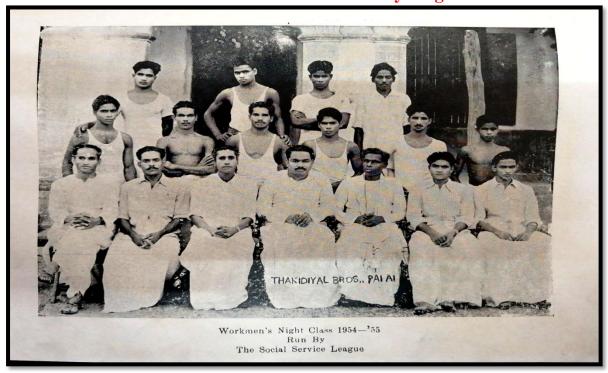
Great Organisers in the Early Stages

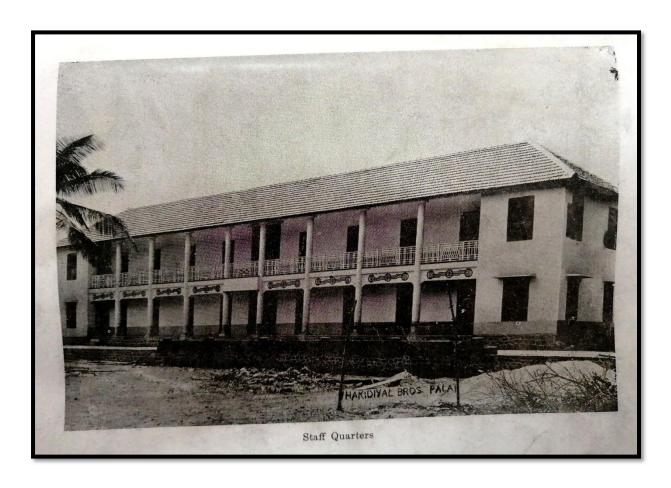




1954-55

Memorable Events in the Early Stages





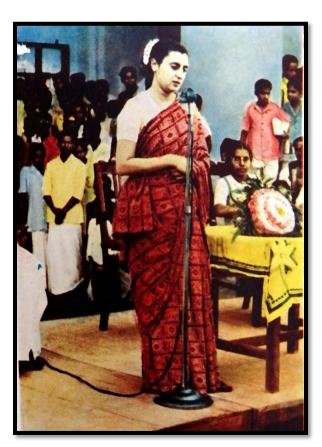


B. Sc. Botany Laboratory



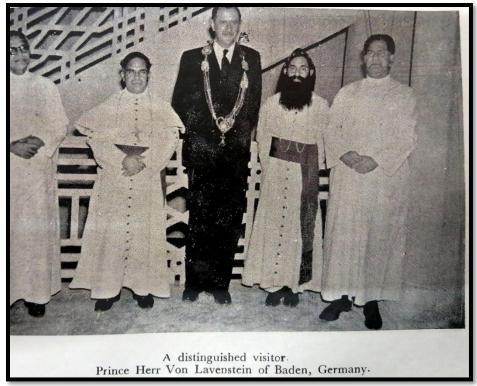
Visit of Mrs.Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of Indian Union 1955-56

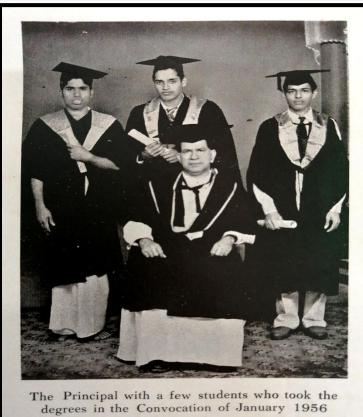


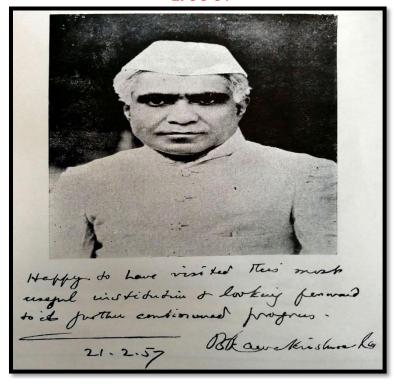


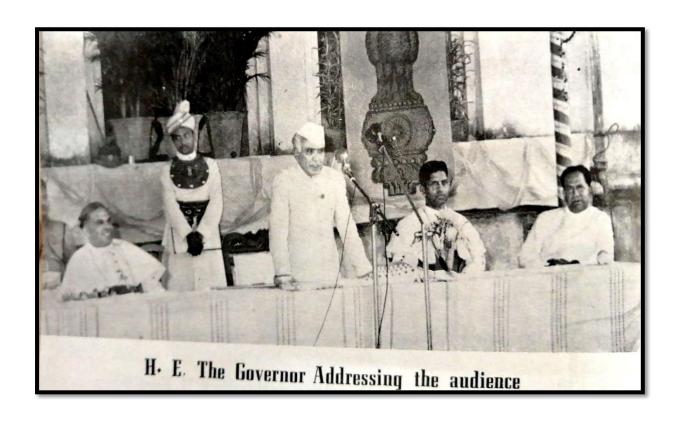
Mrs. Indira Gandhi inaugurates social service league 29-9-1955

Visit of Prince Herr Von Lavenstein of Baden, Germany







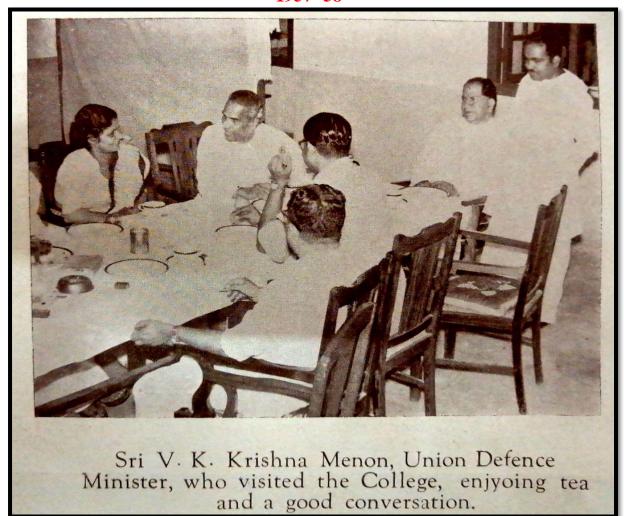


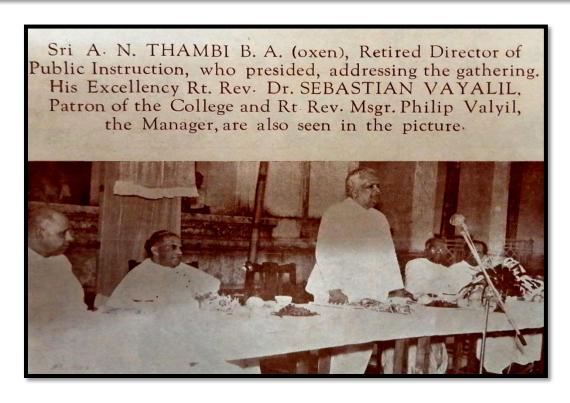


Formal inauguration of Swimming pool & $C\ R$ Hostel

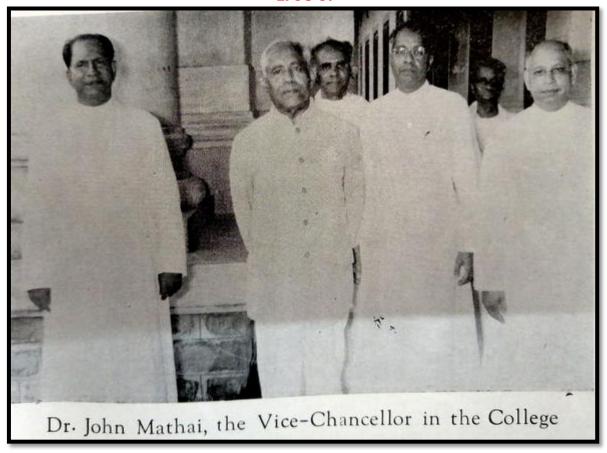


A view of C R Hostel

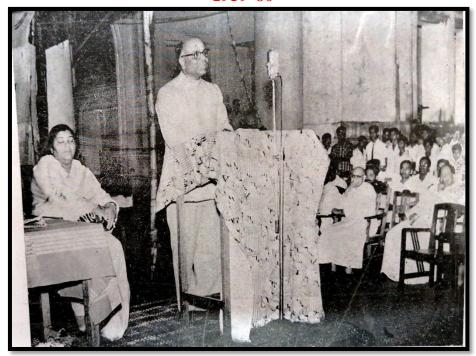




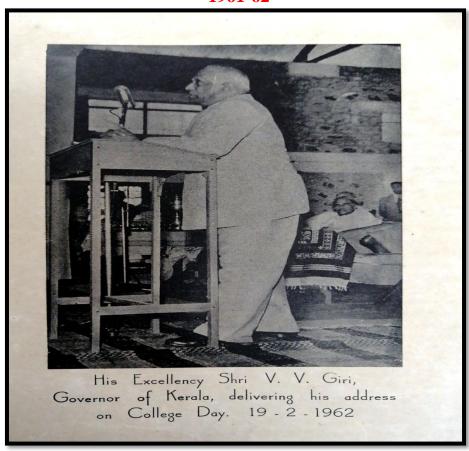
1958-59

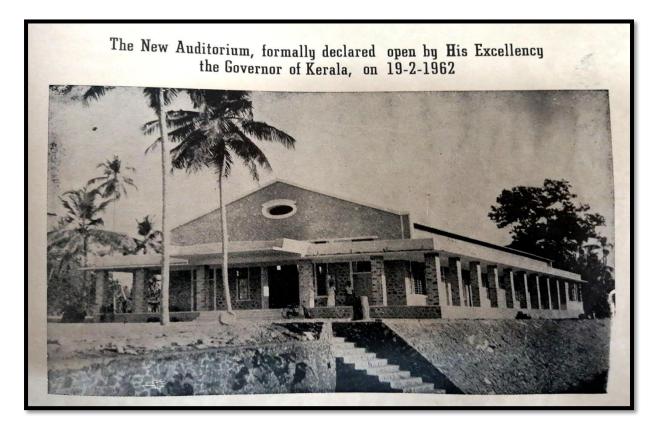


1959-60

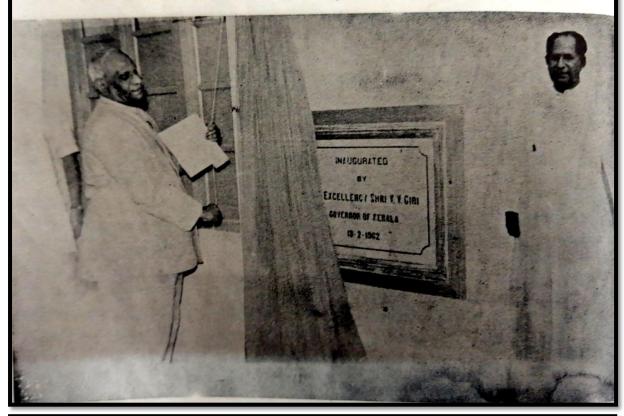


Sri Samuel Mathai Secretory, University Grants Commission





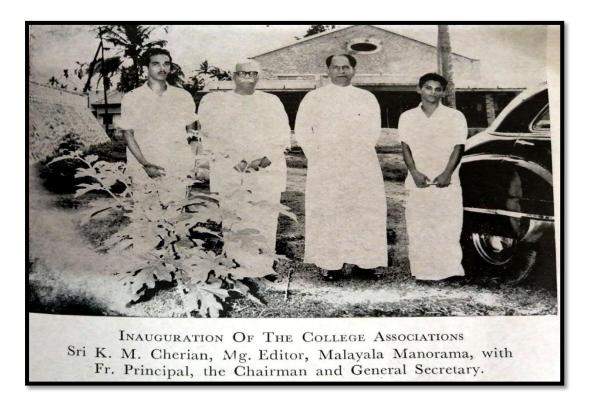
H. E. the Governor formally inaugurating the new Library Building



The State Home Minister visits the College



The Home Minister Sri P. T. Chacko, taking the Salute of the N. C. C.



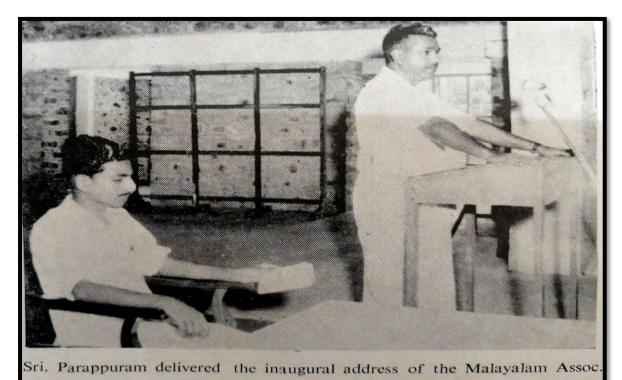




Prof. Joseph Mundassery delivering the inaugural address during Malayalam association inauguration



Dr. A. T. Markose, of the International Tribunal (Hague), Dr. M. V. Pylee, Director of Management Studies University of Kerala, with Fr. Principal, Vice-Principal, Chairman & General Secretary of the College Associations.





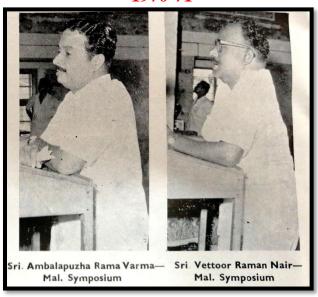




Prof. M K Sanu

Sri Thakazhi

1970-71





Sri M K Joseph IPS Deputy Inspector General Inaugurates College unio



Sri Jose Prakash, Cine Artist



The newly completed St Philip's Faculty Residence

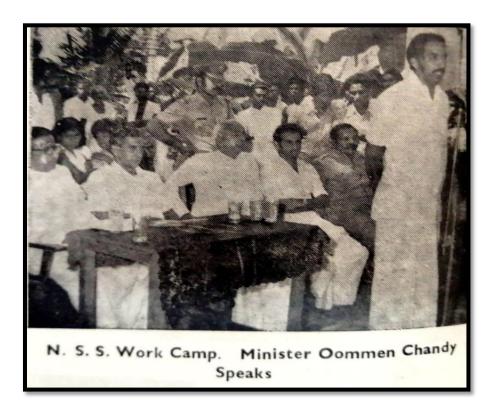
Named after the heavenly patron of Very Rev. Msgr. Philip Valiyil, whose outstanding services as the President of the Managing Board of the College shall long be remembered

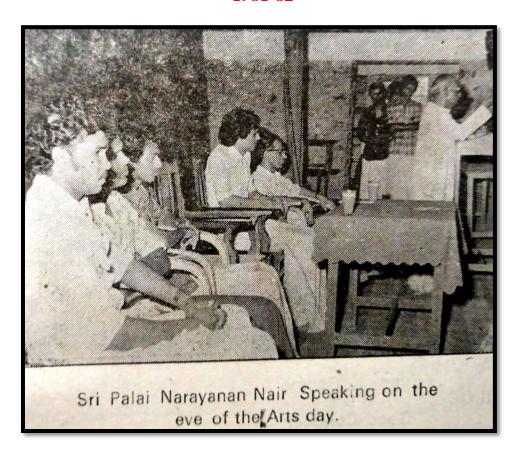
DEATH OF A TITAN



VERY REV MSGR JOSEPH KUREETHADOM

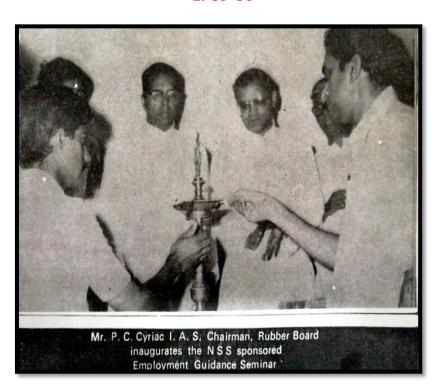
PASSED AWAY ON THE TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY OF AUGUST 1974. PRINCIPAL FROM 1952 TO 1968, HE BUILT UP ST. THOMAS COLLEGE FROM ITS MEAGRE BEGINNINGS TO ITS PRESENT EMINENCE, FOR ALMOST TWO DECADES HE IDENTIFIED HIS HISTORY WITH THAT OF ST. THOMAS COLLEGE. SUPER-STATURED IN BODY AND MIND, COMMANDING FIERCE LOYALTY FROM HIS FRIENDS, GIVING NO QUARTER TO HIS ENEMIES, MAGNANIMOUS IN VICTORY, DEFIANT IN DEFEAT, HE STRODE THE CAMPUS LIKE A COLOSSUS, RADIATING POWER AND CONFIDENCE, COMPELLING ADMIRATION EVEN FROM HIS ANTAGONISTS. OUR HOMAGE TO THE MEMORY OF THIS GREAT MAN — THE ARCHITECT OF ST. THOMAS COLLEGE, A TOWERING FIGURE IN THE REALM OF UNIVERSITY EDUCATION IN KERALA, A POWERFUL ADMINISTRATOR. WE SHALL BE PROUD TO SAY WE LIVED IN HIS TIME.







1985-86



IMPORTANT HISTORICAL EVENTS:

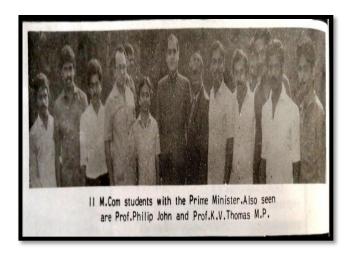
1986-2009

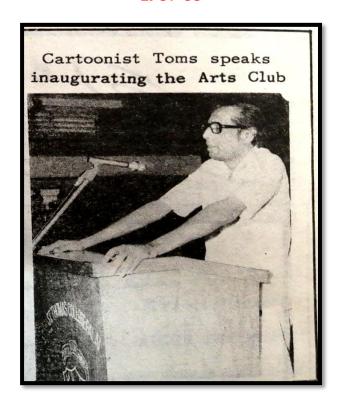
"History Speaks the Immensity....."

1986-87

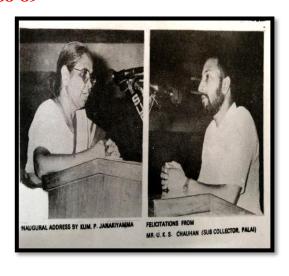


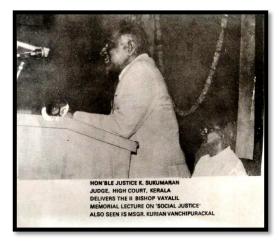
Visit of Sri.Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India



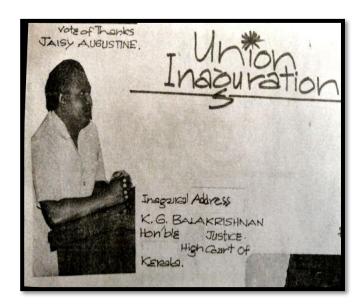










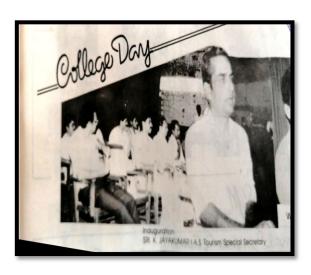








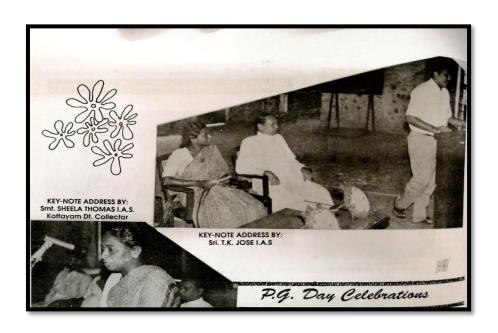




















Inauguration of the Golden Jubilee





ഗാന്ധിമാർഗ്ഗത്തിൽ :- K.S.R.T.C. ബസ് ക്ലീനിംഗ്





V J Kurian I A S



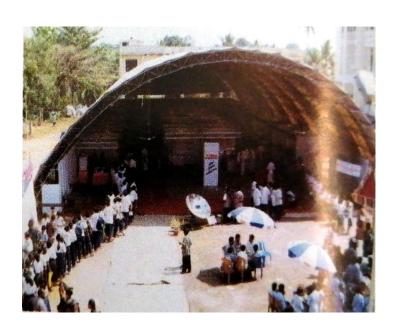
Leading Cdt. Toni Thomas receiving the trophy for the Best NCC Naval Wing Cadet (Kerala-Lakshadweep) from the Hon. Prime Minister Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee



Dr. V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai(VC, MGU) inaugurating the Research Centre in Commerce













Orchestra - Mr. Biju Narayanan

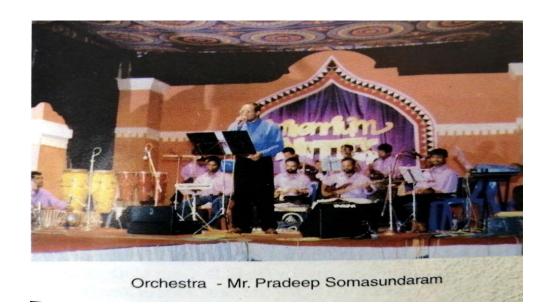


Classical dance - Ms. Divya Unni



Mimics drama - Film star Aby







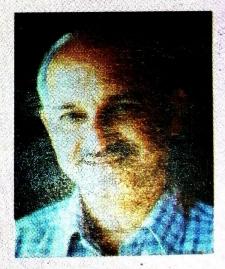


Mr. O. Rajagopal, Hon'ble Minister of State, Govt. of India delivers the valedictory address.

The youngest in the country;
The seniormost in the state!
Prof. V. J. Sebastian
Narively (Head of the Dept. of English)

When he passed his B. A. at the age of 16 in 1965, Mr. V. J. Sebastian

Narively was the youngest graduate in the country - a record that remained unchallenged till 1998. Subsequently when he joined the English Department of St. Thomas College Pala after post graduation in 1967,

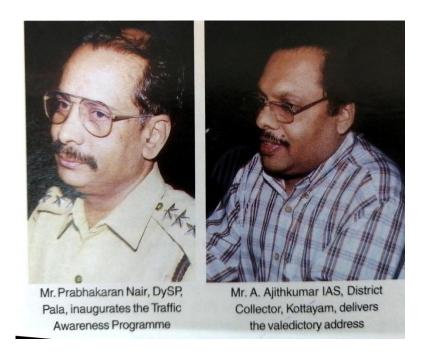


he was the youngest college teacher in India. Born in November 1948, Prof. Sebastian joined the sixth standard at school at the age of six; he passed the SSLC Examination at 12 and graduated at 16. He passed his M. A. in 1967 at the age of 18, again creating a record. Now with 33 years of service, Prof. Sebastian can claim to be the seniormost college teacher within his age group, in the whole country.

(Ref: Manorama Year Book 2000)















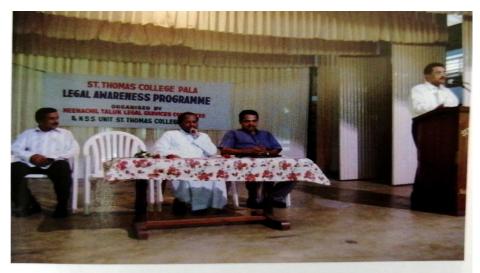


Mr. T.P. Srinivasan IFS and other dignitaries at the inauguration of the Endowment Lecture





Dr. Rajpal Singh inaugurates the Annual Conference of the Society of Statistics, Computer and Applications



Mr. B.G. Hareendranath, Hon. District Judge (MACT), inaugurates the Legal Awareness Programme



Adv. Alphons Kannanthanam MLA delivers the Dr. P.J. Thomas Endowment Lecture



Mr. Jayaraj, film director, inaugurates the Media Seminar.

IMPORTANT HISTORICAL EVENTS:

2009-2018

"History Speaks the Immensity....."





2009-2010

Visit of Prof. Rajan Gurukkal, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor



Prof.Sukumar Azheekode



Sri.Kuldip Nayyar



Visit of Prof.Jancy James, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor





Visit of Justice K.G.Balakrishnan, Hon'ble Chief Justice, Supreme Court of India







International Conference on Mathematical Science





2011-2012 National Conference





International Conference on Material Science

Prof. C.N.R.Rao, Science&Technology Advisor of the Prime Minister



Prof. C.N.R. Rao inaugurates ICMST 2012 in the presence of H.E. Mar Joseph Kallarangatt, Prof. Norbert Kroo, Very Rev. Dr. Joseph Kollamparampil, Dr. K.K.Jose, Dr. Michael Augustine and Dr. Ginson P. Joseph



Visit of Dr. A. P. J. Kalam, Hon'ble President of India





Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam plants a sapling in the College campus aided by Dr. Jomy Augustine, HOD of Botany



Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam inaugurates the 62rd College Foundation Day Celebrations in the presence of H.E. Mar Joseph Kallarangatt, Very Rev. Dr. Joseph Kollamparampil, Dr. K.K. Jose, Adv. K.T. Joseph and Mr. Alex Menamparampil



2013-2014
Integrated Sports Complex and Swimming Pool



H.E. Mar Joseph Kallarangatt blesses the foundation stone for the new swimming pool and multipurpose indoor training hall

National Conference on Petroleum Conservation and Petroleum Pricing



2014-2015 NAAC Peer Team Visit







Prof. Arunoday Saha hands over the report of the NAAC Peer Team to the Principal Rev. Fr. N.V. Joseph Njarakkattil at the Exit Meeting



2015-2016 Visit of 2010 Chemistry Nobel Laureate Ei Ichi Negishi





Blessing of Integrated Sports Complex and Swimming Pool



Inauguration of Integrated Sports Complex and Swimming Pool Chief Guest Sri.Oomman Chandy, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala



College Day Celebration

Chief Guest Ms.Merin Joseph, IPS



2016-2017

All India Inter University South Zone Championship Hosted by St.Thomas College Palai





International Conference on Material Science



Prof. P. J. Kurian, Hon'ble Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, inaugurates ICMST 2016

Visit of Irom Sharmila, Civil Rights Activist



Visit of Sri. Siby Joseph, Hon'ble Ambassador to Vatican



Visit of Dr.Babu Sebastian, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi University



Dr. Babu Sebastian, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, inaugurates the 67th Foundation Day celebrations

International Conference on Recent Advances in Statistical Methodology

