

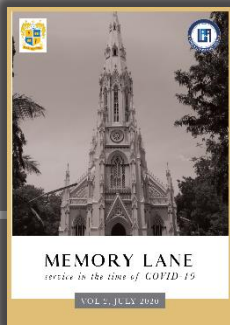
MEMORY LANE

service in the time of COVID-19

VOL 2, JULY 2020



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Message from

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*Dear Alumni,
Greetings.*

We are very happy to bring this Loyola Alumni Association's second Newsletter. This Newsletter chronicles the marvellous deeds of our members amidst this lockdown across the globe. When our fellow human beings suffer, we cannot discuss about their suffering and feel pity. We need to plunge into action and reach out to the people in need. This is what our members have done and let us be proud of ourselves. Let us continue to stretch out our hands so that we can wipe away the tears from our fellow human beings.

Let me also thank you all for the active participation in the Loyola Virtual Alumni Day 2020. Let this connection and companionship propel us to be more productive, prosperous and enjoy peace. In Loyola we are beginning our new academic year in the second week of August and it will be on a virtual mode. Our staff and students are getting used to this new normal.

Please continue to take care of yourself and your family. I know well that we are living in a challenging time. Our jobs, businesses, health and family are faced with multiple risks. We need to be agile, proactive, positive and forward looking to move ahead. It is said that,

“when the going gets tough, the tough get the going”. We need to become tough physically, mentally and spiritually. It is our earnest prayer that you all enjoy God's protection and favours in abundance.

Stay blessed.



Dear Alumni

It is a pleasure and privilege to edit the newsletter of the Loyola Alumni Association. I thank Fr Director for giving me the opportunity and also putting together an efficient committee.

It was heart-warming to see the help extended by the Alumni, in the times of unprecedented hardship, to the needy. My team and I have covered as many details as possible. In case if we had left out anything important please do let us know.

I thank Balamurugan, Masiullah Mohammed and Prithvi for gathering bulk of the material for this edition thereby making the editor's life easier.

Looking forward to your feedback to improve the newsletter.

Wish you all happy reading!

Thank you,



Thanjavur Chapter by TSR Aravinthan



Thanjavur Chapter of the Loyola Alumni Association headed by Suresh Moopnar, President of the association has done humongous service during the lock-down due to Covid-19. Funds were collected among the members and spent judiciously.

Highlights of the relief work:

- Covid testing kits to the Government Hospitals.
 - Food packets to about 300 families in remote areas
 - Alumnus Rosario provided groceries, Francis Yagappa David, Arul Xavier and others provided food as well as masks to the needy and Aravind helped the District administration with Sanitizer/Masks/Rice and groceries.
- Also, about 750 gypsy families received groceries and rice.



The members of the chapter along with the District authorities checked the veracity of the recipients beforehand to make sure the deserving received the largesse.

Thoothukudi Chapter



A Disinfection tunnel has been set up by our team at Tuticorin 'Armed Reserve' Police Headquarters. The Chapter sincerely thanks Mr Michael Motha.

The disinfectant tunnel was inaugurated by Thoothukudi District Superintendent of Police Mr Arun Balagopalan .



On 10.04.2020 Loyolites T.R. Thamilarasu, Balakrishnan and team handed over a cheque for Rs 3 lakhs to the Commissioner of the Corporation of Tuticorin Mr V P Jayaseelan IAS to be spent towards the containment of Corona .



On 14 .04 .20 the team handed over groceries to the District Collector to be distributed to the poor.

On 22.04.2020, once again the team handed over rice and grocery bags to be distributed to about 300 families through the local Member of Parliament Ms. Kanimozhi.



Again on 07.05.2020 rice bags of 2.5 tons to be distributed to 500 families were handed over. All India Chamber of Commerce and Industries was involved in these distributions.

Trichy Chapter



On 14th June 2020, relief packages were handed over to 25 families by Prof Gunaseelan of Jamal Mohamed College on behalf of the Trichy Chapter.

At the inauguration of Trichy Chapter



Erode Chapter

On behalf of the LAA it's Erode Chapter had done quite a bit of service during the Corona time.

Based on the request from police officials the members donated groceries kit (Wheat flour, rice and vegetables) to the displaced workers in Erode district.





Feed the Need, conceived by the Chapter, was to feed 100 persons per day for 10 days.

Chapter members did not overlook those who tirelessly worked during these trying times to feed the needy. 122 staff members of the Erode Corporation who work in the Government

Canteen (Amma Unavagam) which provides food to the needy, were given grocery kits each costing ₹500



#FeedTheMigrantWorkers

LOYOLA Alumni association Erode chapter and JCI Erode has launched this campaign to support migrant workers in their time of need.

Based on the requirements given by government officials and relevant sources, it has been brought to our attention that 175 migrant workers are in desperate need of our help! Based on the request from officials we have decided to distribute dry ration and vegetable kits to each person.

Kindly Donate a Kit @ Rs.750/-

Kit Includes -

1. Rice - 1 Kg	8. Kadugu - 50 gm
2. Toor Dal - 1 Kg	9. Sugar - 500 gm
3. Atta - 5 Kg	10. Salt - 1 Kg
4. Sunflower Oil - 1 lit	11. Biscuit - 1 pkt
5. Turmeric Powder - 100 gm	12. Tomato - 2 Kg
6. Chill Powder - 100 gm	13. Potato - 2 Kg
7. Coriander Powder - 100 gm	14. Big Onion - 2 Kg

For more information contact
K.Kaveenkumar @ 95432 81000 | B.G.Vignesh Kumar @ 95663 00002
N.Shivaji Siddarth @ 99946 55522

LOYOLA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ERODE CHAPTER

Donate online to
 Name - K KAVEENKUMAR
 Account No - 606201521480
 IFSC code - ICIC0005062
 MMID - 9229022
 Bank: ICICI
 Google pay number: 9543281000

Venue 1

Groceries to the migrant workers, About 175 individuals benefitted who received kits each worth ₹750.

LOYOLA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

FEED THE NEED (MAY 2020) #THANKSGIVING

ERODE CHAPTER



Dhinakaran

Maalai Malar

Dhina Bhoomi



Dhina Thanthi



Maalai Murasu



Pondichery Chapter

Pondicherry Chapter of LAA has been doing sustained service to the needy.

107 families (Daily wage labourers both native and migrant) who did not have any income were provided with groceries and vegetables for a month.

500 kgs of Rice provided to Sri Lankan refugees camp near Pondicherry who did not have any means of livelihood during the lockdown.

Even during the lockdown, the sanitary workers kept the town clean. Our Chapter provided lunch to 100 of these workers every day for 45 days.





The Chapter donated Groceries, vegetables and toiletry items to an organisation which takes care of 110 boys who are orphans at Nonankuppam at Pondy.

They also sponsored Disinfectant Sprayer Machine to a home which shelters Special Children and Women.



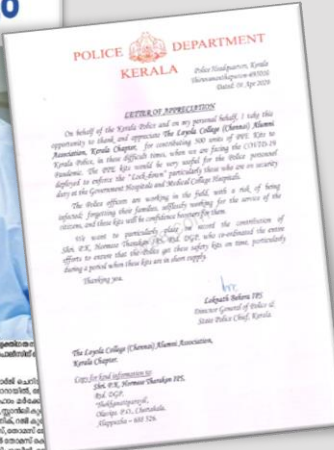
Kerala Chapter

The Alumni of the Kerala Chapter played an active role during the COVID 19 Lockdown period by involving in 5 distinct projects. Besides, they also support continuing projects at other times as well. Total outflow as of now is close to Rs 1 million.

Shri Muraleedharan and Shri P C Joseph handing over the PPE kits and N95 masks to the Kottayam Collector Shri Sudheer Babu IAS on behalf of the Kerala Chapter



500 PPE for the protection of the personnel of the Police Department in Kerala. These were sourced from Chennai and against all odds transported to Thiruvnanthapuram and handed over to the Director General of Police Mr Lokanath Behera. This was a brainchild of Mr Hormis Tharakan former Director of RAW and former DGP of Kerala and a member of the Chapter.



This gesture was well appreciated and was acknowledged by the Hon'ble Union Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan as well as the DGP of Kerala.

Former Vice Chancellor of the Kerala University Dr B Iqbal who is also the Advisor to the Kerala

Government on COVID handed over the 500 PPE to the Police Department.

Chacko Joseph handing over the sanitizers and masks to the Primary Health Centre at Ettumanoor on behalf of the Kerala Chapter. Another 6000 masks were also given to the Municipality.



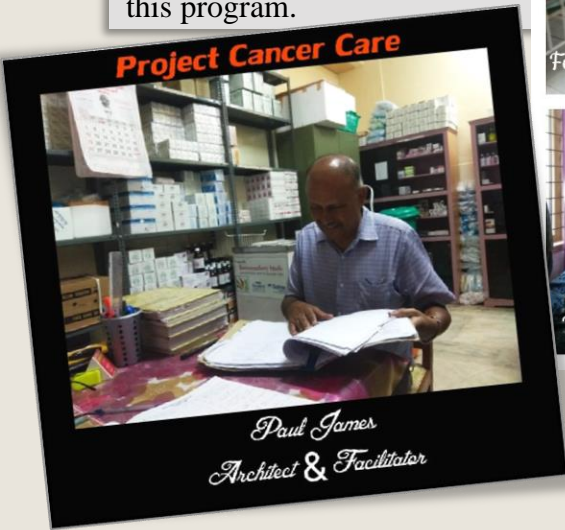
Based on a request by the Doctor in Charge of the PHC in Ettumanoor, Kottayam District, the Chapter sponsored the purchase of masks and sanitizers

The Basic Charitable Trust at Kottayam, managed by Mr Muraleedharan, a member of the Kerala Chapter, has been involved in many sustained charitable activities. The Trust provided food to the homeless and the displaced. They also provided TV sets to the students who otherwise could not take part in the online classes.

Responding to the appeal by the Loyola College Society the members of the Chapter contributed towards the Migrant Relief Mission of the Society.

Members of the Kerala Chapter of the Loyola College Chennai Alumni Association also provided 200 kits of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) for the protection of the Medical Fraternity in the forefront of the fight to contain the Coronavirus in Kottayam District. This was initiated by Mr Paul Antony IAS former Chief Secretary of the Government of Kerala and a member of the Chapter.

The second major continuing project is that of a Cancer Care Program being carried out at the Ernakulam General Hospital by Paul James a member of the Chapter. Members of the Kerala Chapter help out by making contributions towards this program.



Ongoing activity of the Basic Charitable Trust



On 27th July 1000 mattress and 675 cots were handed over to be distributed to the needy. These were sponsored by M/s Duroflex Private Limited .The Kerala Chapter of the Loyola Alumni Association and few other organizations.

The cots and the mattresses were received by the District Collector of Ernakulam Shri S. Suhas IAS in the presence of Shri Hibi Eden MP.



Chennai Chapter



Karthikeya Murugan with the help of friends distributed 920 kits consisting of essential groceries to the needy. This was done through the TN Police and the Official of Chennai Corporation.

Mr Amit Kothari representing Rajasthan Cosmo Club an NGO has donated 1000 lungies, 1000 sarees and 1000 trousers of different sizes for the migrants to be distributed through our Jesuit management services.



Coimbatore Chapter

The Chapter, under the direction of the treasurer Kannabiran distributed food grains to the needy.





Malaysia Chapter

The Malaysian chapter of Loyola Alumni Association took several steps to assist the needy during this pandemic. Activities were carried out both at the official level but even more at the individual levels. Notably, the Chapter raised funds to help the Alumni association's efforts in Chennai to help the needy migrant workers in spite of trying times.

The Chapter had also sponsored a Ramadan breakfast to around 200 Indians who were stranded in Kuala Lumpur. Meals were sponsored to the front liners in a hospital in Kuala Lumpur. A total of 400 meals were sponsored to the stranded students in Kuala Lumpur. Many other members of the Chapter have carried out activities without publicity during this hour of need.

Singapore Chapter

The Singapore Chapter of LAA to heed to the request of the Principal / Director LAA made a collection of funds and the same was sent to the Loyola College Society. This was to support the efforts of the college in providing the sustenance to the migrant workers who were stranded in Chennai during the lockdown.

UAE Chapter

Aristotle once said, "It is during our darkest moments that we must focus to see the light."

The COVID-19 pandemic plunged us all into a time of uncertainty and fear. The Loyola U.A.E. and G.C.C. Chapter reached out to its members and the people in the community around them to make a difference in the lives of others. Members and volunteers from the Guru Nanak Darbar Gurudwara, Dubai (founded by Mr. Surender Singh Kandhari, member of the Chapter) provided food packets to thousands of workers and their families in the U.A.E, distributing meals to around 1500 people every day, since March.

They also worked tirelessly with the governments of India and UAE to arrange for the repatriation flights from the U.A.E. to Amritsar to help stranded people return to India safely. The Chapter's general secretary Mr. Christy Paul also reached out to members from all the international and Indian chapters to put together a message of gratitude for people fighting on the frontlines against COVID-19 in the form of a video which was well received.

Melbourne and Victoria Chapter

Melbourne and Victorian Chapters have 83 registered members and another 30 non registered and are in a WhatsApp group. They regularly kept in touch with each other. They were able to make a decent amount of collection towards the efforts of Loyola College Society to help the migrant labourers in India.

United States Chapter

US Loyola Alumni Association has 4 Chapters viz., North East, South, West Coast and Midwest. New members are being added in these Chapters. There are also City Groups in Dallas, Houston, Chicago, New York, Philadelphia and Boston.

A message from the Mathew Tharakan, Overall Head – LAA USA Chapters to the local members:

“During these turbulent times, emotions and tensions are high, and many of us are using social media to vent, connect, and find support and solace from other Loyolites and share information. We also need to continue to monitor the current guidance from the CDC, State and local health departments. If you experience any symptoms contact the local health clinic regardless the visa status or lack of medical insurance coverage. As many of you are aware that some of our member’s spouses and children are working in the healthcare field directly treating Corona virus patients at major hospitals all over United States.”

Canada Chapter

Message from Mohan Paul Varghese, President Canada Chapter,

“When our Chapter saw the note on Loyola's involvement in helping migrant labours in Chennai few of us got together and decided to be part of it. As soon as we communicated to the local alumni members, we received overwhelming support from the members and they were kind enough to raise our goal with a week. We personally would like to thank the alumni for taking this initiative and thank our Canadian Chapter for raising to this occasion”

Abraham Verghese is one of the eldest of the members of the Loyola Alumni Association. It is an honour to publish his thoughts:

Dear Friends,

I do feel Blessed to be amongst you in a spirit of goodwill.

Let me share with you an interesting Anecdote of pertinence. Within days of joining Loyola, one fine morning, I walked our Principal Tall, with a commanding Personality, he came across with definite poise and admirably well. He addressed us as “Boys” saying we were at that stage with the Trust that besides excelling in Academics, we would be able to develop our Personality & form our character benefitting from the wide & varied available facilities and with the guidance of the excellent Teaching Faculty & Administrative personnel.

The Principal went on to say, with all the facilities made available, there would not be any need for us to go out of The Campus. With a touch of humour, The Principal said that if anyone stepped out and God forbid if the Principal happened to see then you are in trouble. The message was that don't ever be in the wrong place and waste your life.

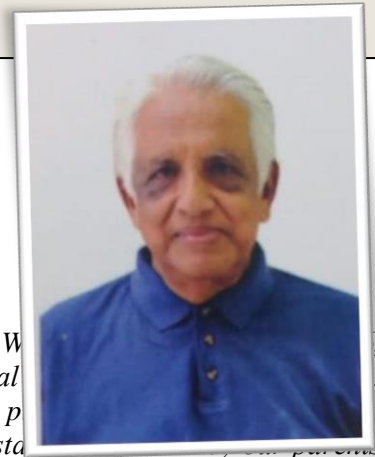
In conclusion what The Principal said had Telling Impact - “Listen! These are the very best years of your Life, apply yourselves intelligently, utilise your time profitably to help you achieve your ambition. Take part in the facilities made available for your all-round development. Go out qualified and accomplished to be an asset to the country.

Having travelled the distance, experienced the thrill of riding The Crest of success as well as coming through The Trough of Distress let me share with you a message which is The Quintessence of it all.

Most of you will out of the Richness of your contribution & achievement reach The Pinnacle or Summit of your chosen field. While Riding the Wave of Success, brimming with confidence do not ever cross the “Lakshman Rekha” which is from a state of Super Confidence to Arrogance & miss The Final Step to The Summit. “The Hillary’s Step”.

Let me conclude saying “Live Life to its Fullest. Be Giving! A Smile!! A Kind Word!!”

Bless you
Abraham Verghese.



Notice Board

Alumni Office

Mon-Sat---9.30-17.30
(Except on holidays)

Mohan Raj & Suresh

Please send your high resolution photos with your write up for better visual effects

Please continue to send us activities of your Chapters for publication in the forthcoming issues!

Forward your feedback and news for future issues to :

alumni@loyolacollege.edu

In memoriam

An Illustrious Alumnus C S Seshadri (1932 – 2020) is no more

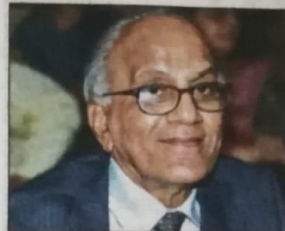
Mathematics artist no more

V.Ayyappan@timesgroup.com

Chennai: Renowned mathematician and Padma Bhushan awardee Conjeevaram Srirangachari Seshadri, who founded Chennai Mathematical Institute (CMI), died in the city on Saturday. He was 88.

A Carnatic music aficionado who was known for his passion for music in the classical music circle in Chennai, Seshadri's area of interest in mathematics was algebraic geometry and algebraic groups. He worked to broaden the scope of the subject and also brought in the practice of researchers teaching undergraduates in the country, back in the 1980s. He also worked to ensure that science students were exposed to other streams like humanities.

Born on February 29, 1932,



C S SESHADRI
(1932-2020)

in Kancheepuram, Seshadri did his BA in mathematics from Loyola College. He started his career at Tata Institute in Bombay after his PhD, but moved to Chennai in the mid-1980s.

CMI was his great contribution to maths. Rajeeva Laxman Karandikar, director of the institute, said Seshadri was a gre-

at mathematician whose contribution to institution building was huge. "He also had an entrepreneurial skill. His single-minded pursuit of that skill led to the establishment of the Chennai Mathematical Institute. It was he who brought this idea of undergraduates to be taught by researchers, prevalent abroad."

Mathematicians are often cut off from the world, but Seshadri was good at picking people and delegating them work. "He would discuss ideas but would tell us that it is our responsibility," said Karandikar, explaining how researchers would be given space to experiment. Seshadri stepped down as director of CMI around 10 years ago but he was a regular at the institute, working till his last days.