



SINGAPORE MALAYALEE HINDU SAMAJAM

സിംഗപ്പൂർ മലയാളി ഹിന്ദു സമാജം

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“A Newsletter for You by You” - 005/2017 <>> for Members Circulation Only

May 2017

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YUVAJANOTSAVAM - Auditions started on May 14th, **Entry** date extended to **31st May 2017**.. if not registered yet, do so quickly

Swami Udit Chaitanya: Talk at Sivan Temple from **Saturday June 3rd to June 10th**... registration required, free entry, donations welcome

This MAY 2017, our key activity is to conduct the **Yuvajanotsavam** Auditions. This is a first of its kind competition in Singapore. Youths in Singapore are invited to showcase their talent in classical, semi-classical, folk, instrument music, story-telling, dramas & skits and variety of other performing arts. The minimum requirement for an item to be auditioned is to have 5 contestants per category. More details about the competition can be found on the hindusamajam.org website. Main competition happens from July 15th for different categories, over the week-ends. We anticipate the Finals to be scheduled towards the end of August or early September.

The contest is open for non-Malayalee as well. However, **Samajam will be happy if more Malayalee Hindus take part in these competitions to conserve our traditions and culture in our young generation**. Hence request all members and well-wishers to make it a point to get the youth in your family to take part in at least one item.

There is a special prize for the winners in multiple talents, called **Kala Thilakam** and **Kala Prathibha**.

A new committee is formed under the **Chairmanship of Mr. Sonu Nair** to conduct this event.

Forthcoming events:

Swami Udit Chaitanya is giving his annual discourse in Singapore on one of Aadi Shankara's writings. Please see the enclosed leaflet for details. **Please remember to register at hindusamajam.org; which is a pre-requisite this year**. All are welcome to donate to the event so that we can arrange prasadam for participants. Swamiji will be performing a puja for children on June 10th 4pm chanting mantra to remove “fear” and to become mentally strong: Vidhya Vijaya Pooja & Bhaya Nivarana Pooja.

Regular events:

Samajam Members' Sahashranamam
Puja: 07:00PM

First Saturday*: for
Swami Ayyappan

Third Saturday*:
For Guruvayurappan

***Calender month**

**Pls register your mobile number to get update of any change in time

Forthcoming Events:

Swami Udit Chaitanyaji : 3rd June to 10th June 2017

Yuvajanotsavam: Registration starts on April 6th ends 31st May 2017.

Pongala: 6th to 9th July 2017 at PGP Hall premises

To update member's particulars & to get event info: WhatsApp or SMS to : Ajay :92387500

SMHS Advisor:

Mr Gopinath Pillai BBM
BBM(L)

Auditor:

MGI Menon &
Associates

Internal Auditors:

Ramakrishnan Nair

Rajitha Krishnan

H/p: 83222173

Legal Advisor:

Vacant

Membership list update: We are enclosing a list of members whose whereabouts are unknown. The mails sent to them are getting returned. If you know them or anyone from their family, please ask them to get in touch with us or give us their contact details so that we can update our records.

If they remain un-contactable, we have no choice but to remove their names from the membership rolls.

Last Month Events :

Reception to Guru Mohanji: On 14th April, during the eve of Vishu, Samajam had a special guest, Guru Mohanji. He was visiting his disciples in Singapore. Being a Malayalee from Palghat, he conveyed his interest to meet Malayalees on Vishu Day and Samajam arranged a get-together at Hindu Centre premises.

About 25 participants attended the Satsang and they were impressed by his knowledge and his style of delivering deep philosophical knowledge in simple Malayalam which is easy to understand. Samajam will be inviting Gururji to do such satsangs during his future visits to Singapore.



He had a full day retreat on Meditation on April 15th arranged by his disciples at Veerakaliyamma temple which we understand was a grand success. We notice that more people are getting interested to learn and practice meditation.

Sri Chakra Pua: The Puja was conducted under the guidance of **Guru Karunamaya** on Saturday April 15th at Sri Sivan Temple Multipurpose Hall.

The participants were taught how to draw the Sri Chakram and they also participated in the correct methodology of performing the puja. We had 20 lady volunteers and 10 male volunteers who helped to draw the Sri Chakram under the guidance of Guru Karunamaya which took about 6 hours to complete. **The puja was performed in the evening.**



[Pictures of the Sri Chakra Puja participated by about 120 participants. Mrs.Rekha Sachit and Mrs.Rekha Dinesh lead the sale of tickets. Many other Samajam members and supporters assisted. There were some non-Malayalee participants too]



[The Chakram after lighting up of all the lamps towards the end of the Puja]

Class on performing Sri Chakra Puja: Guru Karunamaya conducted a full day lecture on doing pujas by oneself. He also advised mantras to about 40 aspirant students who turned up for the session on April 16th at 152 Ubi Ave 3, Smart Innovations centre premises. Sincere Thanks to Dr. Modi Chariman of SIC and CEO Mr. Maneesh Thripathy for supporting us by providing the venue.

Talk on the Art of public speaking and debating: By Vihasini Gopakumar

This event was conducted on Saturday 22 April 2017 from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm. It was aimed at the youth to build their confidence and skills on public speaking and debating. Children in Primary 5/6 onwards and above, all the way to tertiary education – joined the event. The Speaker is an award winner and judge in various international debates held overseas too.

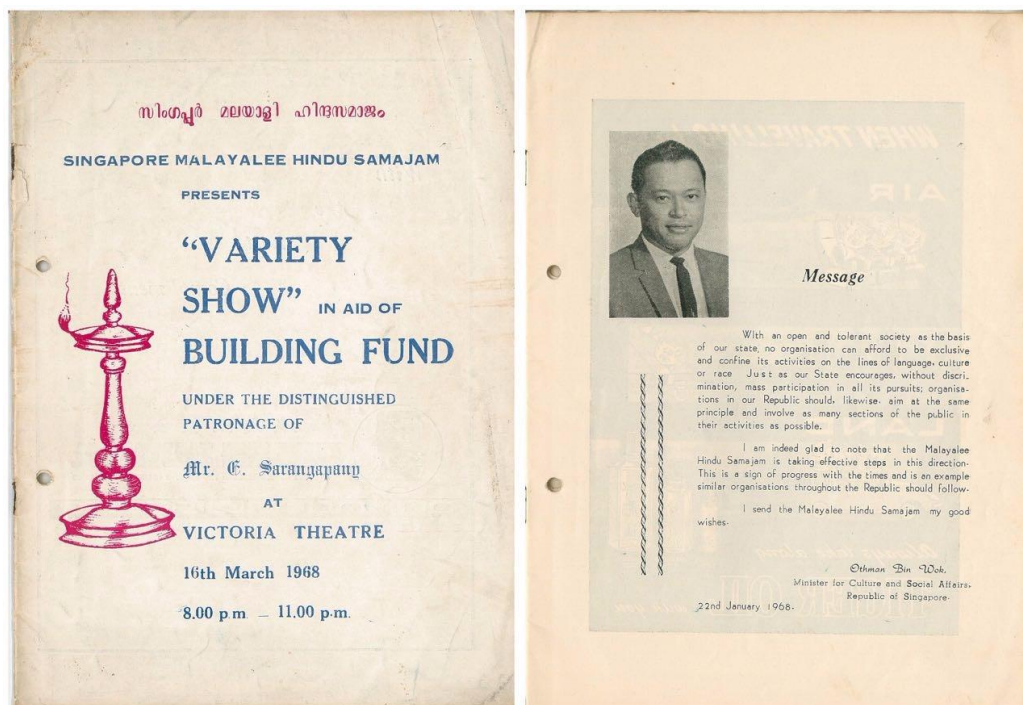
This is part of our Social activities for the benefit of the young members of the community. Participation was free but registration is compulsory. About 50 participants registered for the event.

The venue was the multipurpose hall of SINDA (Singapore Indian Development Association). SINDA was very helpful in allowing us to use the venue. They have also shown interest to work with Samajam for the benefit of its members to co-work on other SINDA's projects.

Tributes to Mr. Othman Bin Wok

Samajam paid tribute to the Nation's former Minister for Culture and Social Affairs Mr. Othman Bin Wok, who passed away on Monday, 17 April 2017. He was well known to our pioneer members and was the Guest of Honour for the variety show in aid of our building fund held at Victoria Theatre on 16th March 1968.

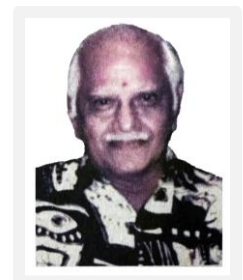
We find the below message in our records...



Obituaries:

Mr. K.S.P Menon, member of Samajam passed away on 28th April 2017. He is the father of our former Treasurer Mr. Kishore Menon and father-in-law of our former Chairman of Makaravilakku committee Mr. Dileep Nair.

On behalf of all our members, Samajam convey our heartfelt condolences to the family of Mr. K.S.P Menon.



President's Message:

We are publishing a Newsletter every month from the start of this year 2017. This is the 5th edition of the Hindu Samajam's newsletter. Thanks to all who sent us their feedback. Your support gives me the enthusiasm to keep in touch and do more for our community!

Present monthly revenue of Samajam is not sufficient to afford postage charges through Singpost. Hence we shall be posting it on our website. Members are requested to access the newsletter at www.hindusamajam.org >> **click on the News Letters section.**

Members who provide their e-mail ID will receive the newsletter via e-mail by the 5th of the month.

In the last 4 months, I had written on various subjects which are important to Malayalee Hindus in Singapore. **This month, I wish to ask you all this important question:**

Can we make the dream of a Kerala Style temple in Singapore a reality?

I think this is possible if the community stays together and get ready to support this project. It is estimated that there are about 7,500 Malayalee Hindu families in Singapore. This includes the expatriate community as well. We perform many religious services in Singapore such as marriage, housewarming, child naming ceremony, *chorroonu* etc. which require the service of a *namboodiri*. Krishnan namboodiri at Toa Payoh temple cannot handle this demand from the community in Singapore. As such, they are now using priests from other temples although the rituals do not match our Malayalee Hindu tradition.

Can we find a solution to avoid this compromise? I think YES! If each family here can commit an amount of S\$100 per month for 10 months, we will be half way through to make this dream come true. If at least 3,000 community members extend their commitment to make a one-time contribution for a AYYAPPAN TEMPLE in Singapore, with Guruvayoorappan and Bhagawathi as other deities, then **we will have \$3,000,000** as a committed initial fund to **make the dream TEMPLE a reality** to upkeep our Malayalee Hindu Temple traditions.

We are not collecting any money now. The Samajam is in the process of taking census to estimate the number of Malayalee Hindu families in Singapore. The process is to first build the database of Malayalee Hindus in Singapore and then prepare an estimate on the sponsorship and support we can get from the committee towards this cause. So, please register yourself and your family at the Samajam's website www.hindusamajam.org . Tick your willingness to contribute \$100 per month for 10 months or a higher amount towards your contribution. Please get all your Malayalee Hindu friends and family members also to register to the Samajam's database. We will request for your monthly contributions once the authorities give us permission to proceed with this project and to start collection of funds.

From our side, the MC shall also use all our events including **Yuvajanotsavam 2017** to spread this appeal to register at Samajam website. As the numbers grow, we shall organize events that benefit them, their children and family too. I am sure that will be a big step to get the children to follow the traditions you want them to follow. Once the desired numbers are reached, we can work on the dream temple project which will literally be a Temple of our traditions.

It is in your hands... please help. Let you be the first to register. Please do it today!

Yours truly,
Ajayakumar Nair
President