

MAR THOMA COLLEGE, TIRUVALLA
ANNUAL REPORT 2007-2008

The whole Campus was resonant with the drums of Jubilee in the 55th year of our College. Departments of Botany, Chemistry and Physics celebrated Golden Jubilee. Brains Trust also made its Golden Jubilee memorable while the History Department and Bestarts silver lined their Silver Jubilee. I thank the Almighty for all the blessings and am happy to present before you the Annual Report for the year 2007-08.

Commencement of Classes

The College re-opened on the 4th of June after summer vacation. A special prayer service was held in the Auditorium. Rev. T A. Varughese addressed the parents, teachers and students. Staff meeting was held on the 5th. Teachers met in seven groups for discussions and conveners reported various suggestions to tone up the academic atmosphere on the Campus.

Orientation for II DC & III DC

An Orientation Programme for II DC and III DC was conducted on the 4th June. Rev.T.A.Varghese and Prof. Mathews C.John led the session.

Orientation for I DC

The Orientation Programme for I DC was conducted on the 25th of June. Principal Dr.Abraham Karickam, Rev T.K.Mathew, and Dr.Abraham Varghese spoke on the occasion.

Orientation for P G

An Orientation Programme for the P.G. students was conducted in the college Seminar Hall. The main speaker was Rev.Dr.K.G.Pothen, Director, T.M.A.M.Orientation Centre, Kottayam Prof. Thomas Mathew also addressed the students.

Commemoration Day

Commemoration Service was held in the College auditorium on 10th July. Rt. Rev. Geevarghese Mar Athanasius delivered the message. Rev. Varghese Thomas, Prof. C.T Titus and others spoke on the occasion.

Courses Offered

The College offers eleven Undergraduate and eight Post-graduate courses. Six Departments are accredited Research Centres of M.G. University . Various diploma and certificate courses in Computer Science and Certificate Courses in Communicative English are also offered. Microbiology and Biotechnology M.Sc. courses are also provided under Self-financing streams. Moreover UGC Add on courses in Communicative English, Visual Communications and Functional Hindi were also offered during this academic year.

Results of the University Examinations

Our College maintained its tradition of securing very good results in the University Examinations with 85% pass in degree level. I congratulate all the Staff members for their dedicated efforts. P. G results need improvement.

Students Strength

First Year BA/Bsc/B.Com	427
Second Year”	368
Third Year “	371
First Year MA/MSc.	99
Second Year MA/MSc.	111

Teaching & Non-teaching Staff

The present Strength of the faculty members of the College is 93. There are 57 members on the Non-teaching Staff.

Following teachers assumed Office as Heads of Departments during the year:

1. Sheila Elizabeth Abraham English
2. Jonhs Abraham Malayalam
3. K J Gracy Hindi

New Appointments

Three Appointments to regular vacancies were made during the year. The newly appointed teachers are:

1. Dr. Ashley Susan Philip Department of English
2. Dr. Susan Thomas “ Zoology
3. Dr. Raju Thomas K “

Retiring Staff members:

Eight teachers are retiring from our institution this year. They are:

Dr. M Y Abraham	Principal
Sri. John Varughese	HOD, Physics
Dr. Jacob Mani	Department of Politics
Dr. Mercy Mathew	“ Zoology
Dr. Jacob Abraham	“ Chemistry
Smt. Aleyamma Philip	English
Smt. Pushpalatha Kurien	English
Dr.Koshy Abraham	Botany

From the Non-teaching staff Sri. P T Abraham (Office Staff) and M T Mariamma (Laboratory Assistant) are also retiring from active service.

The College is grateful for the invaluable services rendered by each one of them and we wish them a happy and blissful retired life.

Faculty Improvement Programme:

The following teachers were awarded research degrees during this academic year.

Sri. Icy K John Ph.D in Economics
 Prof. Alex Mathew- Ph.D in History
 Prof. Sheila Elizabeth Abraham- Ph. D in English
 Sri. Jacob Varghese - M.Phil in Chemistry
 Sri. P. G. Varghese – M.Phil in Maths

Sri. Leny. V , a research scholar in our Department of Economics was also awarded Ph.D

Research activities:

1. Department of Chemistry procured over 29 lakhs of rupees under DST FIST program, which is a commendable achievement in their golden jubilee year.
2. The University Grants Commission has sanctioned a Major Research project in Economics “A Study of the Socio economic Status of the Elderly in Kerala” with Dr. Abraham George as principal investigator and Dr. Leni V and Dr. Icy K John as co-investigators
3. 10 teachers have submitted applications to the UGC for minor and Major research projects this year

New Add on Courses

U.G.C has sanctioned two more add-on courses this year in following subjects:

1. Travel and Tourism (History Dept)
2. Micro Lab Technology (MLT- Zoology Dept)

UGC 11th Plan Grants:

We have has submitted projects to the tune of over 8 crores for UGC assistance under the 11th Plan. Advance of more than one lakh has been received. I commend the efforts of the Project Monitoring committee.

Seminars and Conferences

1. Department of Zoology organized a workshop on Intellectual Property Rights on 27th and 28th September. Chrysotom Valiya metropolitan and minister Mathew T. Thomas were present
2. Department of Botany organized a Farmers Meet for rubber farmers on 31st July in collaboration with the Rubber Board. Dr. James Jacob was the chief guest
3. Dept. of Botany also organized a one-day training program for teachers from Higher Secondary Schools in Pathanamthitta District
4. Dept. of English organized a two-day national seminar on “Literatures for English in the Changing World” from 28-29 November

5. Dr. Joseph Tharamangalam, Canada delivered the Annual Lecture in Economics on 31st October, 2007 on “Human Development-Lessons from Kerala and Cuba”
6. A seminar on Riverine Ecology was conducted by the Zoology Association in collaboration with Pampa Prirakshana Samithi on 14th November. Joseph M Puthussery MLA was chief guest.
7. A National Seminar on Genomics and Stem Cell Research was held on --- under the auspices of Bio-Science Dept. Dr. Joseph Mar Thoma Metropolitan inaugurated the program
8. A seminar on Chikunguniya was organized by the Zol Assn on 21-11-07. Dr. John George was leader.
9. Literary Society organized a Film Appreciation Workshop from 3-5 August

Teachers who attended Seminars/Conferences/ Presentation of papers etc:

1. James K. Philip and C. A Varghese attended two national seminars held at Christ College, Bangalore and Madras Christian College . C. A Varughese presented a paper on “Post Modern Translations”. He translated a book “Can is the Word of Power” for DC Books
2. Subhadradevi P.K- Presented a paper on “Latitudinal Aspects of Anomalous Enhancement of Ionospheric Critical Frequency at 15th National Space Science Symposium, 26-29 Feb, 2008 at Ooty. She also attended a Refresher Course on “Atmospheric Physics and Climate Change at CUSAT from Nov-Dec, 2007
3. Maries Idiculla-(Chemistry) Presented following papers:
 - a) Presented a paper entitled “Thermo physical properties of babbana/sisal hybrid fibre reinforced polyester composites” at the Sixth International Conference of Composites Science and Technology (ICCST/6) at Durban, South Africa from 22nd to 24th January 2007 organized by University of Kwazulu-Natal.
 - b) Presented a paper entitled Dielectric measurements of Hybrid bio-fibre reinforced polyester composites in the International conference on Materials for the Millennium held at Cochin University of Science and Technology during 1-3 March 2007.
 - c) Presented a paper entitled “Lignocellulosic fibre reinforced polyester composites” in the National Seminar on Optoelectronic phenomena (NSOP - 07) held at St.Aloysius College, Edathua from 10th to 12th August 2007.
 - d) Presented a paper entitled “ Natural Hybrid fibre (banana and sisal) reinforced polyester composites” in the International Conference on Natural Polymers (ICNP – 2007) held in Kottayam during 19-21 November 2007.

4. Raju Thomas (Chemistry)

1. Presented a paper entitled “Phase Separation Behaviour in a Rubber – modified Epoxy System” at the International Conference at Kottayam, organized by the Institute of Macromolecular Science and engineering, Nov, 2007

5. Joyce Jacob (Chemistry)

1. Presented a paper entitled “ Synthesis Characterization and photo catalytic activity of titania catalysts” in the international conference on Materials for the Millenium held at Cochin University of Science and Technology during 1-3 March 2007.
2. Presented a paper entitled ‘ Photo catalytic efficiency of Nano Silver baded titana Catalysts in the National Conference on Smart Electro Ceramics (NCST – 2007) organized by C-Met, Thrissur during March 8 – 9, 2007.
3. Presented a paper entitled “Photo catalytic activity of titania catalysts by hydro thermal route” in the 18th National Symposium and Indo U.S Seminar on Catalysis during April 16 – 18, 2007 in Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehra Dun
6. Sheila Elizabeth Abraham participated in the two-day national seminar on Literature and Environment at Catholiacte College, Pathanamthitta and presented a paper on “Ecological Devastation and Cultural Displacement in Tony Morrison’s ‘Tar Baby’
7. Dr. Reginold Varghese attended a national seminar in Physical Education at Tamil Nadu Sports uty Chennai. He also participated in the Asian Foot Ball Confederation Vision India Project introductory course
8. Dr. Abraham Karickam, Dr. K. Jacob and George Mathew attended the International Peace Building Training program of URI at Kovalam from 10-14 September.
9. Dr. Abraham Karickam participated in an International Education Conference at the University of Antwerp, Belgium, held in connection with the URI Global Council in June, 2008

Publications:

a. Dr. Samuel Mathew (Physics)

- a. Distribution of Indoor Randon & Thoron Projening levels in the Cumbalangi island of Kerala- “Indian Journal of Multi Disciplinary Research”, Dec.2007

- b. Distribution of Polonium in Cochin Backwaters and uptake in fish-
“Proceedings”, 15th National Symposium on Environment,
Macmillan Advanced Research Series, June, 2007

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- b. Dr. Abraham George-(Economics) “Ageing in Kerala- Issues and Challenges”, New Frontiers in Education, New Delhi, Vol.XXXVII, No.1, 2007
- c. Dr. K. Jacob(Maths)- published a paper jointly with Luts Volkman, RWTH Aachen Uty, Germany, S. Arumugham, Kalasalingam Uty, T.N entitled “Total and Connected Domination in Digraphs, Australian Journal of Combinatorics, Vol 39, 2007.
- d. Raju Thomas (Chemistry)- Published a paper on “Cure Kinetics”, Morphology and Miscibility of Modified DGEBA... in the “Polymer” Vol.48, March, 2007. Another paper has been accepted for publication in the next issue of “polymer”

Honours & Achievements:

1. Dr. Abraham George, our former Principal was selected by AIACHE for Sam Higginbottom National Award for being one among the ten best principals of colleges under Christian Managements in India
2. Federation of Kerala Associations of North America (FOKANA) in connection with their silver jubilee selected Dr. Abraham Karickam, Principal as the best teacher in Kerala and he is invited to attend the FOKANA jubilee convention in Houston in July, 2008
3. Dr. M. M. Mathew was selected for the manavikam award by Mahatma Gandhi Samkarika Vedi, Kottayam
4. Dr. Mohan Varghese was selected by Air India and Malayala manorama as the best teacher from Pathanamthitta District

University/ Govt. Responsibilities:

1. Dr. M. Y. Abraham served as chairman, English Board of Studies (Pass)
2. Koshy Thomas, served as chairman, Zoology P. G Board and as chairman of Examination Board, Kerala University for B.Sc
3. P.G. Philip was appointed a member of the Zonal vigilance squad for examinations by Mahatma Gandhi University
4. Dr. Varghese George served as a member of the Kerala State Debt Relief Commission

TV Programs/ Performances etc.

Several of our students and teachers participated in various TV programs. Mahatma Gandhi University School of Letters presented a drama – Oru Madhya Venal Pranayaravu- in our auditorium on the 29th of February.

College Examinations and Tutorials:

In addition to regular class tests and assignments , mid-year examination was conducted for all classes.

We have regular tutorial session which is incorporated into the time-table and it was effectively conducted this year too.

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Aptitude Test for IDC students:

An aptitude Test for all IDC students was conducted at the beginning of the year, which was very useful to evaluate the incoming candidates.

Remedial Teaching

Most of the departments conducted remedial teaching programme for weak students during holidays as well as before and after the regular working hours.

Sports & Games

45th Mar Thoma Trophy Foot-ball tournament was conducted at the College stadium this year in January. Other notable achievements include:

1. Men Team became M. G University South Zone Football champions
2. Women Team won the following championships:
 1. M. G University Football championship
 2. M.G Cricket championship
 3. M. G Soft ball Runners Up
 4. M. G Base ball runners up
 5. M. G Hockey Runners up
 6. M. G Hand ball third prize

University and national levels:

1. 14 Women players represented M. G Foot Ball Team.
2. 6 women players represented M. G Uty Team
3. 7 women represented M. G Uty Hockey team
4. 4 women represented M. G. Base ball Team
5. 1 student represented M. G Foot Ball Men Team
6. Harsha P.D captained Uty Foot Ball Team
7. Dhanya K. captained Kerala State Jr Foot Ball team

Dr. Reginlod Varghese served as

1. Coach of Kerala State Jr women Foot Ball Team
2. Coach & Manager of M. G Uty Foot Ball Women team which entered the semi finals in All India Uty championships
3. Selector of Kerala State jr Foot Ball team
4. Coach and Manager of Pathanamthitta District Foot ball team which won state championship

Dr. A. J Nigi served as:

1. Manager for M. G Uty Cross country teams
2. Selector of M. G uty Cricket and soft ball teams.
3. She has also passed the DOP Control Officers's test

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The much awaited inauguration of our Newly Constructed Basket Ball court will be on 26th March, 2008. Geevarghese Mar Athanasius Episcopa will dedicate the same to our college community. This will be followed by an exhibition match.

An inter-departmental Chess Tournament was organized and Commerce and Maths departments won first and second prizes respectively. In the friendly Foot Ball match between teachers and the college union, teachers were defeated by two goals to nil. In the Shuttle Tournament for staff held on 17th march, 2008. Abraham C Varghese and E V Thomas won first prize and P. T. Chacko and Varghese Varghese bagged the second prize.

College Union and Associations

College Union elections were conducted in the Presidential form. Inauguration was held on 29th October by Simon Britto M.L.A . Kerala day was celebrated with all Pomp and "Natyam", this year's arts festival was conducted from 4th December onwards. Union valedictory was on 6th February. For the first time in our history a woman Chairperson (Radhika M Krishnan II MSc Botany) was elected to lead the Union.

Two of our students viz. Sidhartha Sivaprasad and Preethi Anu Jose won prizes in the University Youth Festival. College honoured them with cash awards of Rs.1000/- each.

NCC

Dr. Kurian Mathew Abraham, Lecturer in Zoology, assumed charges of Associated NCC Officer of Mar Thoma College unit with effect from 1st April, 2007 as the successor of Lieutenant Dr. G. Mohanan. Lt. Col. J Choudhury selected MT college to install and start the Obstacle Course unit, which costs around 80,000/- rupees. The new obstacle course was installed beside the existing firing range and commissioned on 3rd May, 2007. A 12 day all wing Combined Annual Training Camp (CATC) was organized by 15 (K) Bn NCC at MT college from 22th April to 4th May. A total of 510 cadets belonging to senior and junior division including boys and girls attended the camp. A total of 133 cadets have been enrolled, including existing and newly enrolled in this unit for the academic year, of which 13 cadets were from S.C. S. Higher Secondary School, Tiruvalla, 09 cadets were from Devaswom Board Higher Secondary School, Kavumbhagonm and 15 cadets were from Kristu Jyothi Higher Secondary School, Changanacherry. Out of the total 133 cadets, 35 were girl cadets. 60 boys and 24 girls were enrolled as new cadets in this unit during this academic year. Independence Day celebration on August 15th was observed with due honour and sanctity. Principal, Dr. M.Y. Abraham Karikkam hoisted the National Flag and delivered the Independence Day message in the presence of ANO, Dr. Kurian Mathew Abraham. In addition to NCC cadets, sports and games students were also present on the occasion, led by Dr. Reginold Varghese, Head of the Department of Physical Education.

A total of 32 cadets were sent to Combined Annual Training Camp (CATC) from 24th August to 4th September As part of the community extension programme of this unit, a

total of 25 cadets including boys and girls were deputed to assist Kerala Police on Chakkulathukavu Devi Temple 'Pongala' on 24th November, 2007. Regular parade and other programs continued.

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Brains Trust

For the Brains Trust it was a golden year as they celebrated golden jubilee, which culminated in a meeting with the Founder Director Dr. Thomas Philipose from U. S.A. Pranab Jyothi I.A.S inaugurated the activities for the academic year and Hon. Minister Mathew T. Thomas inaugurated the Golden Jubilee Projects. Inter campus meet, Chat with spark series with eminent personalities, Annual Camp at Maramon etc. were some of the programs. They donated some penguins in the form dustbins to keep the campus clean.

Bestarts

Bestarts organized a number of programs in connection with its silver jubilee. K. G. George KSFDC chairman inaugurated the jubilee programs. Film Directors of Thiruvalla like Blessy, Siva Prasad, Babu Thiruvalla were honoured. There was a commemorative session about our old student John Abraham and his Films were also screened. Inter collegeiate short story competition, Mimics show, dance , ganamela by students etc. were some of the programs. D. Vinayachandran was the chief guest for the valedictory

Science Form

Formal inauguration was conducted by Prof. Prasad Thomas Kodiattu, Principal St. Mary's College on 11th October. Regular programmes include talks on science subjects, quiz competitions, seminars etc.

Women's Cell

Collected 1000 rupees through stamps and donated to the Child Welfare Council

Men's cell: This year we inaugurated the Men's Cell to co inside with the activities of Women's Cell. Dr. A. J. John inaugurated the same.

Women's Empowerment programme was inaugurated by Smt. Grace Lal on 9th October

N S S

During this academic year M. G University sanctioned one more unit of N.S.S. Now we have three units with three hundred volunteers. Dr. Samuel Mathew, Dr. Neeta N. nair and Reji Mathew serve as program officers.

Major programs this year included health awareness seminar and counseling, distribution of free medicines for chikunguniya, observance of world peace day and state level inauguration of signature campaign for Peace, Legal literacy program, seminar on challenges of youths and adults, AIDS awareness class, blood donation, tree planting and ten-day special camp.

College Choir, Medical Club, Tourism Club, Astro Physics Club, Career Guidance Cell, Planning Forum, Eco Club, Garden Club, Addic Club, Medical Club, Forum for

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Interfaith Dialogue, Academic Cell, Research Forum, Placement Cell and numerous other bodies and subject associations made the campus as busy as a bee-hive during the whole year.

Counselling Centre functioned very effectively during this year. Rev. Abraham Zachariah and Mrs. Suja Mary Zachariah serve as counselors. A room in the Golden Jubilee Block was specially allotted for the same.

Civil Service Institute

A civil service institute was launched this year to train our students who opt for civil service Examinations. Prof. Alex Mathew is Director

UGC/JRF/Guidance Cell:

Gives regular training to Post-graduate students who intend to appear for UGC and other examinations.

General Programmes of the year at a glance:

1. Felicitations to Dr. Joseph Mar Thoma Metropolitan – 20th November 2008.
2. Our community raised Rs.67000/- towards Chrysostom Valiya Metropolitan Navathy Project and the Cheque was handed over to Dr. Joseph Mar Thoma
3. English Week celebrated in August with the support of English Department. - half of our students were introduced to the Language Lab and phonetic script
4. Reading week was celebrated in January
5. Family get-together of FORT was held on the 15th of May. Chrysostom was Chief guest
6. Silver Jubilee meet of the Chemistry 1979-82 batch was held on 14th of July
7. First Episode of the Campus Debate Programme of Malayala Manorama was conducted in our College. Kaminanitta Vasudevan Pillai and Chris Thomas were chief guests.
8. A special Meeting was convened in the quadrangle on 25th Sept. to express our feeling of elation when the Indian Cricket- Team emerged world Champions of 20-20 inaugural.
9. A special seminar on “Information Act” was held on 13th August. Mr. George Sen and Jose Gregory led the sessions.
10. University Youth Festival Vilambara Jatha arrived at our college on 20th September and warm welcome accorded.
11. An Orientation for Student leaders was given at Charal Mount on 21st and 22nd September, under the auspices of our Consultative Committee. Fifty students and teachers attended. Dr. K. V. Vargese inaugurated the sessions. Dr. Vargese George and Dr. K. Jacob steered the program.
12. Power Quiz 2007 was held on 26th Sept.

13. A peace rally was organized by the Department of History in connection with the UN Day on 24th October

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14. Literary Society organized a dance performance of Smt. Seetha Sasidharan and party on 25th October
15. Under the auspices of Uni-Y South west India Region and our NSS. Peace Week Celebration and signature campaign was inaugurated by Kadaminanitta Ramakrishnan on 8th August
16. Our students took the pledge for a Plastic free campus as 3rd Oct. R Jayakumar was the Chief guest.

17. A series of Campus placement interviews were held in our College during the whole year under the aegis of our Campus Placement Cell, and several students got selection.

18. First Class Judicial Magistrate Sri. V . C Cherian inaugurated the series of lecturers on Legal Literacy under the auspices of NSS and Taluk Legal Service Authority . Advocates Abhilash Gopan, Mirah Alexander, V. C. Sabu and Prakashkumar led the sessions

19. Tuesdays were declared English only days on the Campus.

20. Annual Alumni Family get-together was on 15th August. Chrysostom Valiya Metropolitan was the Chief Guest.

21. Annual alumni meet was on 26th January Dr. James Thomas, our alumnus and V.C. of D Y Patil University was the Chief Guest.

22. College welcomed three foreign delegations during the year. 25 members of the URI Peace Building Teams visited in August, under the leadership of Rev.Dr.Charles Gibbs, Executive Director of URI . Chrysostom Thirumeni, Swami Samagrananda and Isa Maulavi welcomed them. 25 students and 2 teachers from Drew University under the Leadership of Dr. Wesley Ariarajah, former Dy. Secretary, WCC visited us in January. A Field Visit Team of URI came to our college in February under the leadership of Dr. Herm Weaver, Professor of Eastern Mennonite University, U. S. A. Miss Luise Barenhof of Germany was also our guest and she inaugurated the Tourism Club activities in the current year.

23. College community expressed appreciation for Deshvandana of Sachinanda Bharati by receiving him in our College on 21st November.

24. Department of Chemistry organized a Science Exhibition from January 15th to 17, 2008 in association with ISRO. Chrysostom Valiya Metropolitan inaugurated the same

25. An Exhibition-cum-workshop on Biology (Bio-Fest) was organised by the Department of Botany from 26 – 29 November 2008.

26. A Seminar on the Modernization of Higher Education was conducted under the auspices of the Mar Thoma Higher Education Commission. Dr. Joseph Mar Thoma Metropolitan, Dr.Zacharias Mar Theophilus Suffragan Metropolitan, Pro-Vice Chancellor K Unuskutty, and K Mathew (Syndicate Member) attended.

27. A family meet of Mar Thoma College Staff was held on 3rd November.

28. College Christmas celebration was on 19th December and Rev. Dr. K. S. Mathew delivered the message

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29. Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the Department of History were set off on 13th of November, with unveiling of the photos of retired professors.

30. Golden Jubilee of the Department of Physics was inaugurated on 20th Feb. Dr. Gangan Pratap (V.C.,CUSAAT) and Prof. P J Kurien, M.P. were the guests of honour.

31. With the new connectivity systems installed our Campus has gone wireless and free internet facility will be available for 24 hours.

32. IGNOU has selected our College as one of its limited centres for convergence of formal and informal education. Dual degree facility will become a boon to our students in future . 50% of our teachers can become IGNOU Faculty.

33. Dr.A V Varghese Memorial Trust has instituted an endowment of Rs.1,50,000 the interest of which will be handed over to the English Department every year for stipulated programmes

34. A retreat for the staff was held on 22nd February. Our manager Geevarghese Mar Athanasius Thirumeni led the sessions.

35. For the first time in the history of our college, we appointed two students as part-time staff to help with documentation etc. They were named “Blue angels”. Susan Abraham and Christina served as blue angels.

36. An open House program for all staff was conducted at the residence of the principal on 14th March, 2008

Obituary

Engineer Abraham Varghese, who was our treasurer and consulting Engineer for a long time passed away on the 30th of December. A selfless and dedicated person, he has left a tremendous void and we express our heart- felt condolences.

Councils and Meetings.

Our Governing Council met several times during the year and gave necessary directions regarding general administration and development of the college. Staff Council met regularly to decide on matters relating to internal administration and academic projects. Staff meetings were conducted every month and our faculty members gave valuable suggestions for improving the academic atmosphere. Teaching and Non-Teaching staff Associations also play an important role in streamlining the activities on the campus.

PTA

The parent teachers association has been always a source of support and inspiration for us. Class wise PTA meetings organized by different departments play an important role in setting the general tone and discipline on the campus.

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Several major and minor renovations, repair and modernization works were undertaken during the year. Construction of the 2nd floor of the Bio-Science Block, total renovation of the principal's quarters, modernization of the computer lab, net working, office automation, construction of the basket ball court, construction of the concrete cricket pitch with the assistance of the District Cricket Association, etc deserve special mention.

The college is grateful to all especially the alumni, former staff members, parents, friends and well wishers for their affection, co-operation and support in the day-today running of our institution.

I express deep gratitude to our manager Thirumeni for his patronage and effective leadership. Let me also express my heartfelt thanks to our Governing Council members, Staff Council, teaching and non-teaching staff and the student community for their wonderful cooperation and unstinted support in making a fruitful year and providing a peaceful campus. Not a single day was lost for strike this year, which is a remarkable factor.

I thank the Almighty for all the abundant blessings and guidance, which we enjoyed all through these years since the inception of our college and seek benevolent mercies for the years to come.

18th March, 2008

Dr. M. Y. Abraham Karickam
Principal
Mar Thoma College