

SOCIO-CULTURAL RESURGENCE IN KERALA DURING THE 19TH CENTURY: A HISTORICAL ANALYSIS

Known as the melting pot of different cultures, Kerala is credited to be one of the most fascinating regions in India where different groups of people and individuals contributed significantly to the development of this unique culture. The caste ridden society of Kerala in those times, characterized by discrimination against the lower caste, such as restrictions against their entry into places of worship, educational institutions, and various such other restrictions on their social life, transformed itself into one of the most egalitarian societies in India primarily through the efforts of these socio-cultural reformers.

The commonly acknowledged heroic renaissance leaders of the nineteenth century Kerala are St Kurikose Elias Chavara, Naranayana Guru, Vidyadhiraja Chattampi Swamikal, Ayyankali, Vakkom Maulavi, Dr Palpu, etc. Their contributions were spread over many areas of the social life of the people of Kerala: promotion of inter caste marriage and inter dining, pioneering efforts in field of education, such as education of Dalits and women, co-education, mid-day meal programme for the students, boarding for students, job oriented programme for girls; attempts at establishing an egalitarian society by promoting the right to inheritance and abolition of slavery, and attempts to eradicate poverty.

It has come to the notice of many eminent historians that there are no holistic and comprehensive studies conducted on the contributions of these reformers. The proposed seminar is an attempt to throw light upon the contributions of these great souls, whereby it will enhance our understanding of the 19th century socio-cultural context in Kerala, and the knowledge of how it paved the way for further growth and development of the society.



SEMINAR CONVENORS

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CHRIST
(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)
NODAL OFFICE, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON
Socio-Cultural Resurgence in Kerala during the 19th Century:
A Historical Analysis

9 - 11 MAY 2019
Nodal Office, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Thiruvananthapuram

DAY I THURSDAY, 09 MAY 2019

Inaugural Session

9.30 am – 11.00 am

Keynote Address

Prof. Dr K S Mathew

Session I

11.00 am – 1.00 pm

Efforts for an Equitable Society

Dr K S Madhavan	Social Modernisation Process and Intellectual Imagination in Kerala
Dr M M Khan	Subverting Hierarchies and Dominance: Legacies of Social Transition of Travancore in the late 19 th Century
Mr Shaukath	Role of St Kuriakose Elias Chavara in the Socio-Cultural Resurgence of Kerala
Dr K M Seethi	Engaging Modernity and Social Reform in Kerala: Why <i>Vakkom Moulavi</i> Matters Today

1.00 pm: Lunch Break

Session II

2.00 pm – 4.00 pm

Education as an Instrument to bring Changes in Society

Dr Jose Kurielath	Education as an Instrument of Social Change in Kerala in the 19 th Century
Prof. Jaiprakash Raghaviah	From Craft to Industry: Industrial Entrepreneurship of Basel Mission
Dr Joseph Skariah	Dr Herman Gundert: A Paradigm for the Future of Language and Society
Dr Sr Jessy, CMC	Educational Vision of St Kuriakose Elias Chavara: Principles of Transformational Leadership

DAY II FRIDAY, 10 MAY 2019

Session III

9.30 am – 10.30 am

Empowerment of Women

Dr Kavitha Srinivasan	The Process of Re-humanisation Initiated by Mrs Mault, Mrs Mead, Ms Hogridge and Mrs Molly Fletcher
Dr Xavier C S, Sr Anne CMC	Focus of Women Empowerment as Found in the Life and Writings of St Kuriakose Elias Chavara

Session IV

10.45 am to 1.00 pm

Efforts to Elevate the Conditions of Dalits and Minorities

Dr Muse Mary George	Kerala Renaissance and Ayyankali: A Critique of the Caste Body Politics
Dr Sunil Jose	Vidyadhiraja Chattampi Swamikal: a Pioneer in Bringing Awareness about the Rights of Dalits
Dr K V Thomas	Sri Narayana Guru: Tradition and Detachment

1.00 pm: Lunch Break

Session V

2.00 pm – 4.00 pm

Historical Attempts to Reduce the Influence of Superstitions and Social Evils in Society

Dr Ignatius Payyappilly	Historical Attempts to Lessen the Influence of Superstitions and Social Evils in the Society of 19 th Century Kerala as Gleaned Through Palm Leaves
Dr J Raghu	Dr Palpu and his Crusade against the Inequalities in the Society
Dr S Raimon	Sri Vaikunta Swami: The Pioneer Social Reformer of Kerala
Sr Mareena Scaria	Contributions of St Kuriakose Elias Chavara in Upholding Human Dignity
Dr Rajesh M	Cast(e)ing the Marginalised: A Biographical Reading of Chentharassery's Ayyankali

DAY III SATURDAY, 11 MAY 2019

Session VI

9.30 am – 12 noon

Contributions in Media, Language and Literature

Dr Babu Cherian	Contributions of CMS Missionaries with a Special Focus on Benjamin Bailey to Malayalam Literature
Dr Ajay P Mangad	Contributions of St Chavara in the Socio-Cultural and Literary Scenario of 19 th Century in Kerala
Mr Sajai K V	Literary Contributions of St Kuriakose Elias Chavara
Prof. Sajeev Rose	LMS and Their Contributions in Literature
Mr Syamkumar	Endeavors of St Kuriakose Elias Chavara to Improve the Conditions of Dalits and Minorities

VALEDICTORY

12 noon to 1.00 pm

Chief Guest **Mr Subash Chandran**

