



SINGAPORE MALAYALEE HINDU SAMAJAM

സിക്സറ്റി മലയാളി ഹിന്ദു സമാജം

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Newsletter

“A Newsletter for You by You” -003/2017<<>>for Members Circulation Only

SMHS Management Committee Members

President:

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Hp: 9633 3130

Hon.Secretary:

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Hon.Asst.Secretary:

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Hon.Treasurer:

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Committee Members:

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MARCH 2017

The Management committee decided to conduct the **Annual General Meeting of Samajam on 11 March 2017.05:00PM** at our Registered office. The new committee will assume office on 18th March 2017.

Thanks to all members and well-wishers for your support and co-operation in organising various events.

The register of members stands closed. Members who have not been on rolls for at least 3 months before the General Meeting shall not be eligible to be elected to any office.

Samajam conducted the initial rounds of Gita Chanting Competition for Gita Jayanti Celebrations on Feb 25th and 26th. Finals will be on March 04th. Thanks to all who registered and volunteered.

The talk by Swami Chitnanada Puri of Advaita ashramam Kerala, on Upanishads, will start from 1st March 2017. He is a very learned scholar. We seldom get time to read and understand Upanishads and such higher texts ourselves. This is a great opportunity to learn it from an expert. Please get all your friends and relatives to register.

Varshabhishekam is on Sunday 26th March 2017 at Toa Payoh temple.

Last month's activities:

Gita Chanting Competition for Gita Jayanti Celebrations. Prelims on Feb 25th and 26th.

Updating Members information: There are still a few who are yet to confirm your address and update your contact particulars.

Discontinuing mails: Mails to members who are

Regular events:

Samajam Members' Sahashranama 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 Chidananda Puri Talk : Mar 1-4th PGP Hall, 5th at Thendayuthapani temple Tank Road
Varshabhishekam: 26th March 2017

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:
C S Balan
H/p: 97593907
R Asokan
H/p: 9740 6593

Legal Advisor:
Vacant

unreachable will be discontinued. Hence please make it a point to respond if you did not respond yet.

Information on your interests, details of Children/ young members in family etc: As part of our effort to organise events to give the right knowledge about our Hindu religion to our youngsters and children, we request all members to update the details of your children or grand-children who are still pursuing education.

Adults in family who are not members of Samajam are welcome to take memberships taking advantage of the present fees which are due for revision.

President's Message:

The term of this committee is coming to an end. There are several things this committee can be proud of. Organised Chakkulathukavu Pongala as a SOLE Samajam event for the FIRST time, effectively planned and celebrated 50th year Makaravilakku Celebrations are the two key events which attracted much public attendance.

If you ask me what is the most difficult task in running Samajam, I will say it is the difficulty to reach to all the Malayalee Hindus in Singapore. We estimate that there are 7500 families around. But still we struggle to get 200 families for our events.

I believe that for Samajam to be meaningful, every Malayalee Hindu family should be known and associated with Samajam one way or other. This is the only independent organisation which can look into their religious needs.

Unlike other religions, we have no particular day in a week to go to temple. **Unlike other Hindus**, Malayalees are a little backward when it comes to daily prayers and following rituals, in my observation. In the new generation, many have no knowledge beyond lighting a lamp at an altar. There are many Malayalee Hindu families who do not even do that. The result is that the children grow without an idea of their own religion. On the other hand, the fact is that there is a lot of culture and good values which the real knowledge of this religion have in its store for both youngsters and adults alike which can help them to face the life with confidence. The philosophical knowledge of our higher scriptures are capable of making ones mind very powerful to handle any trying situations in life and beyond life.

Making Malayalee Hindus realise the above and getting them to decide in favour of including knowledge of own religion into their priority list will be the prime aim of Samajam.

In the present busy world none of us will have the time to read and learn the complex Sanskrit scriptures ourselves. Therefore Samajam is including various stages of religious practices in its activities from monthly Sahasranama chantings, bhajans in individual households at periodic intervals, annual Makaravilakku and Guruvayur Ekadashi celebrations, prayers on Malayalees important events such as Vishu, Onam, Janmashtami, Annual chakkulathukavu Pongala and to the higher level talks by Swami Udit Chaitanva on

an annual basis and by other well known Swamijis as and when they are available or request comes from the fellow Malayalee Hindus. Thus members have the choice to join the events that match their interest.

This month we are introducing renowned Swami Chithandapuri for a 5 day session. First time we are organising talks in English. **First 3 days English talks** are on **UPANISHADS – An introduction and the relevance of its teaching in today's World**. Many malayalees say they cannot follow Malayalam. Let them not be short of choice. Last **2 days are in Malayalam in Hindu Dharma and Temple culture**.

In other words, this is what Samajam is trying to make the community in Singapore to be aware of...

As inherited events, we also do Aadi Chowa, Skantha Shashti, Varshabhishegam ubhayams etc at SVK Temple using Samajam funds.

Samajam runs out of donations from devotees, participation fees for its various events, and surpluses made by the major events it organises. Occasionally we make deficits also when new events are introduced. Normally the MC takes due care in choosing events in such a way that it can turn to a surplus in years to come though it start with a deficit or lower turnout. Swami Chidananda Puri's event also may have to go through some initial years of deficits like any new talk event. This year the venue cost is high. Availability of a suitable place matching our pocket is a limitation for Samajam.

Not having an own space to do events that our members and supporters want Samajam to do for them is one major handicap suffered by Samajam. The needs can be social, cultural or religious. Everytime Samajam need to rent or borrow space from someone else or have to do a joint event. We used the space of Hindu Centre to chant Bhagavatham and Narayaneeyam in December 2016. Thankfully Hindu Centre allowed us to use the space for free. There is a group of ladies needing a place to learn chanting Bhagavatham, Narayaneeyam and Ramayanam. Temples also have no places to do it peacefully. To address this issue, this MC had seen a place. It is in an Industrial area. But we pass it to the forthcoming committee to decide on hiring it. It will cost about \$2,000 per month. Therefore the MC need to find methods to recover such cost or to make use of the rental expense incurred.

We have the enquiry for a few events in hand. Leaving it to the next committee to see the feasibility and organise them.

Once again thanking you for all your support during the term of this MC. See you for the AGM. Please be present and express your views and directions to make Samajam to move in the path which will be more useful for the Malayalee Hindu community in Singapore.

Swami Saranam!

Om Namo Narayanaaya!!!

Yours truly,
Ajayakumar Nair
President