



Remembering
Prof. M. P. VARGHESE

Inauguration of Birth Centenary Celebrations

Venue : Baselios Paulose Indoor Stadium
Date : 29-06-2022 Time : 10.30 am

Kothamangalam
20 June 2022

Dear Madam / Sir

We are pleased to inform you that *Mar Athanasius College Association* is commemorating the birth centenary of its Founder Secretary, Late. Prof. M P Varghese. He is the pioneering force behind all the institutions of the Association: Mar Athanasius College (Autonomous), Mar Athanasius College of Engineering, Mar Athanasius International School and Mar Baselios College, Adimaly. Today, all these institutions stand high as citadels of learning sending forth luminous rays in all directions with all hope for the future. The birth centenary day falls on 29 June 2022 and this marks the beginning of a wide spectrum of programmes in our institutions.

A commemorative function in honour of Late. Prof. M P Varghese will be held at 10.30 am on Wednesday, 29 June 2022 in the **Baselios Paulose Indoor Stadium** just after the liturgical festival of remembrance in honour of St. Peter and St. Paul and Holy Qurbana, scheduled at 8. 00 am in the St. James Chapel. A 'Snehavirunnu' is arranged after the Holy Qurbana.

We wholeheartedly request you to take part in the Holy Qurbana and invite you to be a part of the inaugural ceremony of the birth centenary celebrations.

Dr. Winny Varghese
Secretary,
M A College Association,
Kothamangalam

29 June 2022 - Wednesday

08.00 am **Holy Qurbana :** **H.G Dr. Mathews Mar Aphrem,**
H.G Elias Mar Julius,
H.G Mathews Mar Anthimos.

Remembrance Festival of
St. Peter and St. Paul the Apostles.

09.30 am : 'Snehavirunnu' (Indoor Stadium)

10.30 am : Public function (Indoor Stadium)

PROGRAMME

Welcome	:	Dr. Winny Varghese Secretary, Mar Athanasius College Association
Presidential Address	:	H.G Dr. Mathews Mar Aphrem Chairman, Mar Athanasius College Association
Commemorative Speech and Inauguration	:	Sri. Oommen Chandy Former Chief Minister of Kerala
Memorial Speeches	:	Sri. Pannian Ravindran Former Member of Parliament
	:	Dr. V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai Former Vice Chairman, UGC
	:	Adv. Dean Kuriakose Member of Parliament
	:	Sri. Antony John MLA
Vote of Thanks	:	Prof. M.K Babu Former Principal, Mar Athanasius College

***He lit the flame,
we keep it glowing ...***

Prof. M. P. Varghese (b. 29 June 1922) was an ardent scholar, eminent academician and a great administrator from central Kerala. He was born into an aristocratic Christian family (Manjummekudiyil) at Keerampara in the Kothamangalam Taluk of Ernakulam District. As a man of lofty vision, dynamic energy and tireless perseverance, Prof. Varghese had dedicated himself to the educational upliftment of society. He was graduated in Economics from Union Christian College, Aluva and was honoured with Gold medal from the then Travancore University in 1945. He took his Master's Degree from Madras Christian College in 1947 and M. Litt. from Madras University in 1951. During 1957-58, he spent one year in Oxford pursuing research work on Keynes' General Theory under the renowned Economist, Sir Roy Harrod of Oxford University.

Prof. Varghese's public life started in 1952 when he was elected as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of the State. In 1953 he became the Founder Secretary of the Mar Athanasius College Association, which established Mar Athanasius College in 1955, Mar Athanasius College of Engineering in 1961, Athanasius College High School in 1966, Mar Baselios College at Adimali, Idukki District in 2003 and Mar Athanasius International School, affiliated to Cambridge University, UK in 2008.

Prof. Varghese joined the Department of Economics at Mar Athanasius College in 1955. He held the dual posts of Principal of the college and Professor of Economics from 1963 to 1982. Prof. M. P. Varghese had to his credit acclaimed works such as *A Criticism of Keynes' General Theory*, *The Theory of Economic Potential and Growth*, *A Critique of the Nuclear Programme* and *The Law of Land Acquisition and Compensation – A Criticism*.

Through out his lifetime, Prof. Varghese had ardently involved in social, educational and environmental reforms. When there was a proposal to locate a Nuclear Power Plant in 1980 at Bhoothathankettu in the Kothamangalam Taluk of Ernakulam District, he had taken up the fight to discard the proposal. He founded a society called OPNR (Organisation for Protection from Nuclear Radiation) and won the battle. Realising that Kerala was sliding back in the field of technical education, he formed an *Organisation for the Promotion of Technical Education in Kerala* (OPTEK) for establishing more Engineering and Medical Colleges in the private sector. It was this campaign that prompted the government to take a favourable policy towards permitting private, self financing colleges in the State. Besides, he had formed the *Organisation of Farmers for Establishment of Rights* (OFFER) to fight for the just causes of farmers.

Prof. M.P. Varghese was honoured with a number of awards and recognitions for his selfless and dedicated service to the society. He was honoured by His Holiness Moran Mor Ignatius Zakka I Iwas, the Patriarch of Antioch and all the East, by bestowing on him the titles 'Commander' and 'Bar Etho Hakkimo', the wise son of the church.

Prof. M P Varghese took his last breath in the early morning of 19 July, 2011.