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9597 609 609
இந்த விளம்பரத்துடன் வந்து பட்டுப்புடவை
கொடுப்பவர்களுக்கு பேன்ஸி சேலை
இச்சலுகை 03.01.2016 வரை மட்டுமே! | ஞாயிறு கடை உண்டு

தமாஷா வரிகள்

ஜே. எஸ். ராகவன்

சபா காலி! கேன்டீன் ஜாலி!

'நவாப் ராஜமாணிக்கம் பிள்ளை போன்ற வல்லுனர்கள் நாடக மேடைகளை ஆக்கிரமித்து அதிர வைத்திருந்த காலத்தில் கிளாரி னெட்டையும் மேளத்தையும் கவன ஈர்ப்புக்காக சத்தமாக வாசித் துக் கொண்டு ஒற்றை மாட்டு வண்டியிலிருந்து தெருத் தெருவாக விசப்பட்ட மிட்டாய் கலர் நோட்டீஸ்களில் கட்டாயம் இடம் பெறும் வாசகம் 'அடாது மழை பெய்தாலும் விடாது நாடகம் நடத்தப்படும்' மேனேஜர் இஷ்டம் போல புரோக்ராம் மாற்றப் படும்' என்பதே. தற்போது பேயாக அடாது மழை அடித்திருந் தாலும் விடாது கச்சேரிகள் நடத்தப்படுவதை அதன் தொடர்ச்சி யாகக் கொள்ளலாமா?

வருஷா வருஷம் மியூசிக் அகாடமிக்குத் தவறாமல் வந்து கச்சேரிகளைக் கேட்டுவிட்டு வீட்டில் கறாரான மனைவியால் 'நெக டில் விஸ்டில்' சேர்க்கப்பட்ட தொடக் கூடாத ஐட்டங்களைக் கேன்டீனில் பயம் கலந்த வெறியுடன் ஒரு கை பார்த்து விட்டு என்னோடு அரட்டை அடிக்காமல் ரகுநாதன் இருந்ததே இல்லை. ஏக பத்தினி விரதம் என்பதைப் போல ஏக சபா விர தத்தை அனுஷ்டிக்கும் அவர் பிற சபாக்களின் படிக்கலில் ஏறினதே இல்லையாம். காரணம் கேட்டபோது 'ஒரு பந்தம்தான் இந்த சபாவிலே டாய்லெட் கூட ஐந்து நட்சத்திர லெவலுக்குப் பளிச் சென்று தூய்மையோடு இருக்கும்' என்றார் வாஸ்தவம்தான்.

ஹைதராபாத் சகோதரர்களின் கச்சேரியைக் கேட்க நுழைந்த எனக்கு ஒரு அதிர்ச்சி காத்திருந்தது. ராம லட்சுமணர்கள் போல் காலம் காலமாக சேர்ந்து பாடிவரும் சகோதரர்களில் அன்று ஒருவர்தான் பாடிக் கொண்டிருந்தார். மற்றவர் மில்லிங். அவர் களில் யார் ராகவாச்சாரி யார் சேஷாச்சாரி என்று கண்டுகொள் வதில் எனக்கு எப்போதும் குழப்பம். 'எனக்கும் அப்படியே' என்று ரகுநாதன் தலையை ஆட்டி வழிமொழிந்தார். 'யார் வரலையோ அவருக்கு உடம்பு சரியில்லாமல் இருந்திருக்கும்' என்று சொல்லி சமாதானம் செய்து கொண்டார். 'சகோதரர்கள் ஆச்சே! 'வந்தவர் ஹைதராபாத் என்றால் வராதவர் ஸிகந்தரா பாத்! என்றேன். என்னுடைய பக்கம் பைசா கோபுரம் போல் சாய்ந்து தோளைத்தட்டிக் கொடுத்தார். 'ரெண்டு பேர்களிலே ஒருத்தர் வராததினாலே டிக்கெட்டிலே பாதித் தொகையை ரீஃபண்டு பண்ணுவாங்களா?' என்று அவரை சீண்டி வேடிக்கை பார்க்க நினைத்தேன். ஆனால் கேட்கவில்லை.

ஆடிட்டோரியத் தில் கூட்டமே இல்லை. வழக்க மாக சீசனுக்கு வேடந்தாங்கலுக்கு கம்பிரமாக வந்து தரை இறங்கும் சைபிரியப் பறவை போல் கட்டாயம் வரும் சர்தார்ஜி (இவருக்கு குட் டப் பட்ட பெயர் முகர்சிங்) கூடத் தென்படவில்லை. வாயில் காப்போனாக இருந்த இளம் சாரணர் ஒருவரைக் கேட்ட போது 'இந்த வருஷம் ரொம்ப டல் லார்! வழக்கமாக வர பல பேர்களைக் காணோம். நேற்று நடந்த நித்யமீ கச்சேரிக்குக் கூட இதே கூட்டம்தான்'.

என்னது? நித்யமீ கச்சேரிக்கு ஆதார் க்யூ ரேஞ்சில் நீண்டு நெளிந்து வெளியே பாய்ந்து தொட்டுக் கொண்டிருக்கும். சதாவுக்கும் அப்படியே. 'ஆனா இந்த வருஷம் சங்கீத கலாநிதி விருதை வாங்கும் சஞ்சய் சுப்பிரமணியத்துக்கு நல்ல ரஷ் வரும் பாருங்கோ. சில சங்கீத கலாநிதி விருது வாங்கும் வித்துவான்கள் எனக்கு அவ்வளவா பேச வராது'ன்னு துவக்க நாளன்றிக்குப் பசப்பு வார்த்தைகளை சொல்லி ஆரம்பிப்பார்கள். அப்போ துக்கடா ஐட்டம் போல் சட்டுனு முடித்துவிடுவார்னு அகமகிழ்ந்த அவையோர்களை ஆசை காட்டி ஏமாற்றிவிட்டுக் கணிப்பொறியில் ஆள் வைத்து அடித்துக் கொண்டு வந்த நீண்ட உரையை ஆங்கிலத்திலோ அல்லது தமிழிலோ ஆங்காங்கே பிசிறு தட்டிய குரலுடன் பேசி தன்னுடைய குருவுக்கு அனந்தகோடி சாஷ்டாங்க நமஸ்காரங்களையும் முன் வரிசையில் உட் கார்ந்து இருக்கும் மனைவிக்கும் மறக்காமல் நன்றியையும் தெரிவித்து விட்டுத் தேரை நிலைக்குக் கொண்டு வந்துவிடுவார்கள். ஆனால் சஞ்சை தனக்குப் பாட்டு நஞ்சை என்றால் பேச்சு புஞ்சை என்று சொல்லாமல் சொல்லி அகாடமி இண்டலெக்ஸ் கவல்களை மகிழ்வித்து மகிழ்ந்தார். சங்கீதம், கிரிக்கெட், சார்ட்டர்டு அண்ட் கால்ட் அக்கௌன்டன்ட்டுன்னு இவருக்கு தலை நிறைய சிறகுகள்.

'இன்னிக்கு வைகுண்ட் ஏகாதசி. அதனாலே எதிலும் வெங் காயம் போடவில்லை' என்கிற ஆசார அறிவிப்பு இளைஞர்கள் ஆறடி நீளத் துணி உலர்த்தும் கழியால் கூடத் தொட விரும்பாத அரிசி உப்புமாவை கவைத்துக் கொண்டே ரகுநாதன் தொடர்ந்தார். 'வயசானதினாலே மறதி அதிகமாயிடுச்சு. அஞ் சறைப் பெட்டி போல் திறந்து வைத்துக் கொண்ட லாப் டாப்பை யோ, பேப்பரையோ பார்த்துத்தான் ரொம்பப் பேர் பாடறா. அந்தக் காலத்திலே அரியக்குடி, முசிறி, செம்பை, மதுரை மணி அப்படியா செஞ்சா?'

'நேத்தும் லஞ்ச் டயத்திலே இங்கே வந்திருந்தேன். கேன்டீ னில் சாப்பாட்டுக்காக எக்கச்சக்க கும்பல். அதிலே கால்வாசி கூட பிரம்மாண்டமான ஆடிட்டோரியத்தில் இல்லை. காபியை அந்தக் காலத்து ஸ்டைலில் சிந்தாம சிதறாம டபரா டம்பளரில் ஆத்திக் கொடுத்த சேஷு 'மாமா, தினம் 600, 700ன்னு இலை விழறது. நாங்க போடறது டிபிகல் அய்யங்கார் சம்பிரதாய கல் யானை சாப்பாடாச்சே. அதுக்காகவே மின்ட், சென்கார்ப் பேட்டை, தண்டையார்ப்பேட்டையிலே இருந்து லீவ் நாளிலே மார்வாடி, ஜெயின் குடும்பங்கள் ஏதோ யாத்ரா சர்வீசில் உற்சாகமாக கலந்துண்ட மாதிரி வந்து ஆற அமர ஐட்டங்களை ஒரு கை பார்த்துட்டுத் திருப்தியோடு கிளம்பிப் போறாங்க. இவங்க தப்பித் தவறிக் கூட உள்ளே நுழைஞ்சு பாடகருக்கு இன்ப அதிர்ச்சி கொடுக்க மாட்டாங்க. உங்களுக்குக் குறள் ஒண்ணு தெரிஞ்சிருக்குமே'.

'செவிக்கு உணவில்லாத போது சிறிது வயிற்றுக்கும் ஈயப்படும்தானே?'

'ஆமாம். மனுஷனுக்கு செவிகள்தான் டாப்பிலே இருக்கு. அதற்கு முணு, நான்கு ஜாணுக்குக் கீழேதான் வயிறு இருக்கு? அதனாலே வள்ளுவர் அப்படி சொல்லி இருப்பார்'.

'இருக்கலாம். ஆனா பசி வந்தா பத்தும் பறந்து போகும். அது மட்டுமா? காதையும் அடைச்சிடுத்துன்னுதானே சொல்றோம்?'

writerjsr@gmail.com

T. NAGAR BAZAAR

This column is intended to help small businesses in & around T.Nagar and West Mambalam to have a cost-effective advertisement medium. Advertisement in this section will be in standard panel sizes of 4 cm. x 1 column (costing only Rs. 500) and 4 cm. x 2 column (costing Rs. 1000)

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ISKCON program in Mambalam on Saturdays

By our Staff Repoter

The International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), Injam-bakkam, conducts 'Bakthi Vriksha' programs from 7 p.m to 9 p.m on Saturdays at 28, South K. R. Koil Street, West Mambalam. The program includes bhajans, congregational chanting and Bhagwad Gita classes. More details can be had in phone 2371 3606 or from Ranga Krishna Das (2474 4900, 98400 27800). All are welcome.

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Total reservoir storage at 90% of full capacity

By Our Staff Reporter

Even though the rains have subsided in the city and its suburbs, the city reservoirs in Red Hills, Cholavaram, Poondi and Chembarambakkam are registering healthy inflows. The storage on the morning of Dec. 25 was 9915 million cubic feet (mcf) which is almost 90% of the total capacity of 11057 mcf. The total storage on the same date last year was 2985 mcf.

The total capacity over the past one week has been 9869 mcf (Dec. 20), 9868 mcf (Dec. 21), 9877 mcf (Dec. 22), 9891 mcf (Dec. 23) and 9895 mcf (Dec. 24) which shows that the daily inflow more or less matches the daily outflow.

The average daily inflow since Dec. 15 has been around 650 cusecs per day.

The storage in the water bodies, which are the primary sources of city water supply, was abysmally low several months ago for want of rain.

As on Dec. 25, Poondi has a storage of 3077 mcf as against its full capacity of 3231 mcf (413 mcf on the same day last year); Cholavaram has 716 mcf as against the full capacity of 881 mcf (110 mcf last year); Red Hills has 2914 mcf as against its full capacity of 3300 mcf (1446 mcf last year) and Chembarambakkam has 3208 mcf against its full capacity of 3645 mcf (1016 mcf last year).

The two desalination plants also contribute around 200MLD daily.

Remembering a master upanyasaka

By Shivprasad

Tears trickle down my cheeks as I put down my memories of Srivatsa Jayarama Sarma (SJS), a master storyteller and upanyasaka, who passed away recently.

He was a long time resident of Mambalam.

On a rainy day, SJS, as a youngster, took shelter in Siva Vishnu Temple (South Usman Road T. Nagar) to escape the rains. At that time, Sengalipuram Anantharama Dikshitar was presenting a discourse on Narayaneem. It was the turning point in SJS's life and he became Dikshitar's student before embarking on



his chosen path to fame and popularity.

Only two programs out of many conducted annually in Mahalingapuram Ayyappan Temple would attract unmanageable audience: concert by K. J. Yesudas & religious dis-

course by SJS.

He had a way of connecting cricket with his talks on Narayaneeyam, Srimad Bhagavatam, Srimad Ramayanam and Bhaja Govindam, and more.

Right from the umpires, to stumps and fielders, he could link cricket with the topic he was discussing to keep his audience of all age groups enthralled.

Also, humour was another aspect of his discourse. He will be deeply missed.

S. Shivprasad is a resident of No. 44/21, Bagirathi Ammal Street, T. Nagar, Ph: 2834 4876, 95516 82993

The Editor and Staff of Mambalam Times Wish You A Happy New Year!

Talk on 'Thiru Arutpa' on Tuesday

Under the auspices of Vallalar Sanmarga Sangam (V.O.C Street, MGR Nagar, Ph: 94453 43706), Prof. P.K. Prabakaran will give a discourse on "Thiru Arutpa - Vazhai Adivazhai" on Tuesday, Dec. 29, at 6 p.m. in Sakthi Vinayagar Temple (P.T. Rajan Salai, K.K. Nagar). All are welcome.

Free Sandhyavandanam classes on weekends

Free Sandhyavandanam classes are conducted on Saturdays and Sundays at 7.30 a.m. in 28, Guha Apartments, Vivekanandapuram First Street, West Mambalam.

The classes are conducted by V. C. Gurumurthy.

The mantras are explained and taught with swaras.

For registration contact Gurumurthy in 98406 44150, 94456 44150

Free eye, diabetes check-up camp next Saturday

By Our Staff Reporter

Daasya (an NGO, Ashok Nagar) and Sri Shiridi Sai Baba Temple (Jaisankar Street, West Mambalam) have jointly organized a free eye screening program on Saturday, Jan. 2 from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. in Panigraha Kalyana Mandapam (Arya Gowda Road, West Mambalam).

A team of doctors from Sankara Netralaya will examine the patients.

Participants will also be screened for diabetes, BP and neuro related problems.

More details can be had in 99406 38972.

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Sahasranaama archanai and bhajans for New Year in neighbourhood temples

By Our Staff Reporter

Special archanas, bhajans and other devotional programs will be held for New Year in neighbourhood temples, the details of which are as follows:

Sri Alarmelmanga Samedha Sri Prasanna Venkatesa Perumal Temple (Mettupalayam Road, West Mambalam, 98412 94449)

Three avartis of Sri Vishnu Sahasranaamam on Friday, Jan. 1 at 6.30 a.m. and devotional bhajans by students at 6 p.m.

Maragatha Sai Baba Temple (8, Babu Rajendra Prasad Second Street, West Mambalam)

Bhajans and 1008 Sahasranaama archanai on Thursday, Dec.31 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Vigneswara pooja at 6 a.m. on Jan. 1 and Sai Ashtothra pooja in the evening.

Sri Baba Hall, Balakrishnan Naicker Street, West Mambalam

Sathya Sai bhajans from 10 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 31 to 12.15 a.m. on Jan. 1, 2016 by The West Mambalam Samithi of Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations (Chennai Metro West).

Free Veda classes thrice a week

By Our Staff Reporter

Kurichi Lakshminarasimhachariar (resident of 8, 2nd Main Road, CIT Nagar East, Nandanam) conducts free Veda and Suktham classes from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

More details can be had in phone 98406 40705.

Christmas Crib on display in St. Mathias Church



A Christmas Crib heralding the birth of Jesus Christ is on display in St. Mathias Church (Kamarajar Salai, Ashok Nagar).

3-day concerts in TAG Auditorium from Monday

By Our Staff Reporter

Naadhabrahmam (Nagappan Street, Jaffer Khanpet), a monthly music journal, will conduct a 3-day Carnatic music festival for the 14th consecutive year from Monday, Dec. 28, to Wednesday, Dec. 30, in Ramakrishna Mission (South) School (TAG Auditorium, Dhandapani Street, T. Nagar).

The following are the details: Dec. 28:

5 p.m.: Vocal concert by Bhavadhaarini Anantaraman, accompanied by Ragavendra Prasath on the violin and Paiyur C. Gopalakrishnan on the mridangam.

7 p.m.: Vocal concert by C. Gurucharan, accompanied by V. Sanjeev on the violin, Neyveli Narayanan on the mridangam

and C. S. Venkatramanan on the kanjira.

Dec. 29:

5 p.m.: Upanyasam by Malli Sathishkumar.

7 p.m.: Vocal concert by Sandeep Narayan, accompanied by V. V. Ravi on the violin, Trivandrum Balaji on the mridangam and Sunil Kumar on the kanjira.

Dec. 30:

5 p.m.: Concert by Master Krishna Prasad, accompanied by S. Karthicknarayanan on the violin and K. Ranganathan on the mridangam.

6.15 p.m.: Bharatanatyam dance recital by students of Dharshana Dance Academy.

There is no entry fee. All are welcome. For more details call 93810 43396/98411 40855.

74-year-old man falls to death from bus footboard

By Our Staff Reporter

A 74-year-old man fell off the footboard of a moving MTC bus and got crushed under its wheels on the night of Dec. 22 in Alwarpet.

Srinivasan, a resident of West Mambalam, had taken the MTC bus to visit his son in Alwarpet.

Witnesses told police that he was traveling on the footboard and tried to get off the moving bus as it started to slow down before nearing the bus stop.

He slipped, fell down on the road and got crushed under the rear left wheels of the bus and died on the spot.

A case registered in Alwarpet Police Station is under investigation.

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By M. A. SADANAND

Land Growth

Some wise men have been heard to spout angrily "Land does not grow on trees" in heated arguments while recommending preservation of trees forever felled for advancement of domestic use.

This nugget of wisdom was proved right during the recent Chennai floods that stripped clean the city without uprooting a single tree on the banks of the rivers that have riven the city with their destructive arms, snaking through the city's good, bad, stinking waterways.

Riverine simplicity is evocative of eternal values, but its commercialisation is grossly ugly, as the unwritten epitaph of some two dozen patients in a hospital, parts of which were located in a river, would vouch for. When you build in water and try to peacefully coexist, water will show its true character and try to drown you when you least expect it.

Riparian philosophy is a difficult kettle of fish.

The owners of the riverine enclaves who must have chuckled at the bravado in stealing the murky deal will now have to shed rivers of tears for claiming ownership of the rivers. Is it a commodity in the market which was sold by the government in an auction? If properties of the government of the day are perennially deemed to be commodities for private ventures, I shall stake my claim to a room in the High Court Lawyers' Chambers where I am one of the allottees so that my heritage will be preserved and my heirs, if they are condemned by fate to be lawyers, can inherit it.

Amma with her foresight can spend a few minutes of her busy calendar to think about this inheritance. Thank you, Amma.

Trench poses danger



By Our Staff Reporter Road, K. K. Nagar has been posing a hazard for motorists, other road users and residents for several days.

Free course in 'Blouse embroidery and beauty care' for women

By Our Staff Reporter

Jayalakshmi Ammal Education and Charitable Trust (SP20, 3rd Street, 1st Sector, K. K. Nagar) will conduct its 51st batch of Government approved 3-month course for women on 'Bridal designer blouse embroidery' and 'Beauty care' in the 2nd week of January..

Those interested may register their names by Jan. 2 in 2371 1184/2474 7728.

Application forms can also be collected from the Trust's office between 10 a.m and 5 p.m from Monday to Saturday.

The T. Nagar - Mambalam edition of Mambalam Times can be accessed in www.mambalamtimes.in

Gets 'Best Social Worker' award

By Our Staff Reporter

V. Ganeshmurthy (resident of P.T. Rajan Salai, K. K. Nagar) was presented the 'Best Social Worker' award by Tamilnadu Udavikkaram Association for his services to the welfare of differently-abled persons during the 'World Disabled Day' function held in Dr. MGR Janaki Ma-



trication School (Saligramam) on Dec. 19.

The award was presented by P. Jothimani (Judge, National Green Tribunal, Chennai).

The Association also distributed aids like wheelchairs, tricycles and other household materials to disabled persons.

Laksharchanai for Lord Ayyappa tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

Ashok Nagar Sabarimalai Yathiraikuzhu (G-5, Navin Jayasree Flats, 69/33, Moorthy Street Extension, West Mambalam) has organized Lord Ayyappa Laksharchanai from 6 a.m to 9.30 a.m on Sunday, Dec. 27 in Kadampur T. N. Somasundar Nadar Kalyana Mandapam (38/32, Giri Street, West Mambalam).

The following is the program:

4 a.m: Gho pooja; 4.30 a.m: Mangala vathiyam; 5 a.m: Ganapathi homam; 6 a.m: Lord Ayyappa Laksharchanai; 9.30 a.m: Devotional songs by Sri Sai Bhajan Mandali (West K. K. Nagar); 11.45 a.m: Devotionals songs by Lord Ayyappa devotees; 12 noon: Kerala panchavathiyam; 12.30 p.m: Deeparathanai; 12.45 p.m: Annadhanam.

All are welcome.

More details can be had in 99623 20558.

Free Veda classes

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Sai Seva Chakra (15, Bharathi Street, West Mambalam) conducts free Veda, bhajans and sloka classes on Fridays from 5 p.m to 6 p.m and on Sundays from 3.30 p.m to 4.30 p.m in its premises.

It also conducts the classes at the following venues:

From Monday to Friday from 6.30 a.m to 7.30 a.m in Sai Murugan Trust Temple (Vadhiyar Thottam, Rangarajapuram).

On Mondays, Wednesdays and Tuesdays from 4 p.m to 5 p.m in Sarva Priya Ganapathi Temple (Moorthy Street Extension, 7th Avenue, Ashok Nagar).

On Saturdays from 6.30 a.m to 7.30 a.m in Sri Krishna Gana Sabha (Maharajapuram Santhanam Salai, T. Nagar) and from 8 a.m to 9 a.m in Guha Apartments (29, Vivekanandapuram 1st Street, West Mambalam).

Sundara Kandam classes are held on Wednesdays from 3 p.m to 4 p.m at No. 1, Jawahar Street, T. Nagar.

All are welcome.

More details can be had by calling 98403 2005 or 94443 02113.

Cars damaged in floods block pavements and road margins



By Our Staff Reporter

A number of cars damaged in the recent floods are still lying on road margins and pavements.

The photo was taken on of 12th Avenue, Ashok Nagar.

Causeway in Jaffer Khanpet re-opened



By Our Staff Reporter

The causeway connecting Inner Ring Road with Ekkathangal (Jaffer Khanpet),

which was closed during heavy rains earlier this month due to the heavy water flow in Adyar River, was opened to traffic on Dec. 24. Photo shows a number of 2-wheelers using the service lane of the bridge to enter the causeway.

Students celebrate Christmas with terminally ill patients

By Our Staff Reporter

Students from Meghalaya pursuing 'Palliative care course' in RMD Academy for Health (T. Nagar) celebrated Christmas with the inmates of Karuna Sagar (Home for terminally ill patients) on Dec. 23.

They presented cultural programs and cut a huge Christmas cake with the inmates.

One of them dressed as Santa Claus distributed gifts among the inmates.



Karuna Sagar welcomes inmates and support the readers to spend occasions like birthdays and wedding anniversaries with the Trust's activities. Its contact number is 93810 16588.

TAMIL CINEMA 75 - A LOOK BACK

By RANDOR GUY

M. K. THYAGARAJA BHAGAVATHAR - 7

After his release from prison in 1947, Bhagavathar produced and appeared in 'Raja Mukthi' (1948), a fine musical but a failure at the box-office. He also starred in 'Amarakavi' (1952), 'Shyamala' (1952), and 'Pudu Vazhvu' (1957) and 'Sivakami' (1960), but none of them was a success. He gradually went to pieces, losing his health and wealth and died virtually a pauper. Even Bhagavathar's funeral arrangements were made possible only through the generosity of friends and admirers. (When Bhagavathar died in 1959, a few scenes of 'Sivakami' had been shot with him. The film was released posthumously.)

Why did people who had revered him as a demigod reject him later? Whatever happened to the incredible following he had? How and why did it fade away long before he died? These are questions to which answers have not been found to this day.

In all his later films he sang as well as earlier and there was no change seen in his screen persona. Yet, the films failed to enthuse moviegoers. Why?

A plausible explanation is that trends in Tamil cinema had undergone major changes by the time Bhagavathar made his comeback. The advent of writers like C. N. Annadurai and Mu. Karunanidhi and actors like Sivaji Ganesan and M. G. Ramachandran had changed everything. Bhagavathar was not a great actor compared to Sivaji Ganesan, nor could he compete with the latter's dialogue delivery. He was also no match for the action-oriented MGR.

The Lakshmi murder trial and its aftermath ruined Bhagavathar financially, physically, mentally and psychologically. The shock of being an accused in a murder trial and sent to prison was too much to bear for the great man and he never really recovered from it. However, Bhagavathar the singer still lives in the minds of millions of South Indians to this day, something that is reflected in the continued sales of the audio-cassettes of his film songs.

N.C. VASANTHAKOKILAM - 1

During her heyday she was one of the top three lady classical Carnatic musicians, M. S. Subbulakshmi and D. K. Pattammal being the other two.

Interestingly all of them were involved in movies, more precisely Tamil Cinema, Pattammal as an off-screen voice-lending 'play-back' singer and the other two as on-screen singing performers. 'MS' had a halo of glamour around her and, even as teenager, she had hit the headlines. But N. C. Vasanthakokilam did not have that kind of glittering halo. Though her musical talents and skills were as good as those of MS, she lacked the good looks, glamour and charisma and that indefinable factor, the class or 'X-factor' which MS had aplenty and Vasanthakokilam did not possess. Nor did she have the movie star looks and figure and all that goes with a star! She was not photogenic and she was no actress. But certainly she was a singer of haunting melody and high musical values. Yet she did act in a fistful of films during 1940's. Some of them are remembered to this day, like 'Haridas' (1944), 'Valmik' (1946) and 'Gangavatar' (1942), 'Venuganam' (1941), and 'Krishna Vijayam' (1950).

Kamakshi (that was her given name) hailed from an Iyer Brahmin family of Irinjalakuda now in Kerala, but the family had settled down in the port town Negapatam (now Nagapattinam) touching the Bay of Bengal. She was blessed with a melodious honeydew voice and her father had her trained in classical Carnatic music in Negapatam. She and her father nursed and nurtured the ambition that she should be a performing musical artiste and win fame and fortune.

The sadly neglected Indian film pioneer, the lawyer-turned-filmmaker K. Subramaniam, had strong links with Negapatam through marriage into a wealthy lawyer's family. Ever a talent scout, he felt that the girl had talent and could be groomed into a singing Tamil film actress. That was the period when onscreen performers had to sing in their own voice and the now common and routine off-screen-voice-lending-"play-back" system - was not yet in vogue. Prompted by his encouragement and promises, the father and daughter landed in Madras where they hardly knew any soul or body except K. Subramaniam! They had not much money either. Regretfully they could not meet Subramaniam for he was away in Calcutta making a film. They were all at sea in the seaside metropolis. Luckily, a family friend, a young bachelor, a native of Negapatam who had learnt music with Kamakshi under the same guru, was then working in the Egmore station of the then privately-owned South Indian Railway (SIR). He came to their rescue and gave them refuge in his bachelor quarters at the outskirts of the city.

(The retired railway executive who narrated the story-book like events of 1930s to this writer during a rainy evening in Madras in early 1980s wished to remain anonymous for obvious reasons!)

At some risk and much trouble, the Good Samaritan worked hard to promote his small town friend - by now his lover! Using his connections he succeeded in getting his mate a break to sing over radio then run by the Corporation of Madras. (The local station broadcast its programs only in the evenings. All India Radio, Madras was yet to be born!) She also sang in many places in the city and cut discs (then called 'plates') for His Master's Voice (HMV). She also won prizes and gold medals in music competitions. Critics and crowds began to take notice of her. By now she had a new name, N. C. Vasanthakokilam! (To be continued)

Conferred doctorate for social work

By Our Staff Reporter

Mahaveer Bothra (resident of Nathamuni Street, T. Nagar and Chairman, Whitefire Diamonds India Private Limited, T. Nagar) was conferred the 'Doctor of Letters' degree by International Tamil University (USA) for his social work, excellence in entrepreneurship, gemmology and philanthropy at a function in Madurai on Dec. 14.

Though Mahaveer's mother tongue is Hindi, he is an acclaimed orator in Tamil.

During his tenure as the President of Rotary Club of T. Nagar,



he won 36 awards for his social service projects.

He had organized more than 200 eye camps, distributed 4170 pairs of spectacles and

arranged for 934 free cataract surgeries for poor persons.

He has also organized several veterinary camps in villages and provided free medicines.

During his tenure, Rs. 15 lakhs worth of educational scholarships were given to 766 girl students of government and Corporation run schools.

He conducted blood donation camps and provided aid for several old age homes and orphanages.

His contact number is 98410 72821.

Free talk on 'Governing Business and Relationship' next Saturday

Under the auspices of Vedanta Institute (Madras), R. Aravindan will give a free talk on 'Governing Business and Relationship' on Saturday, Jan. 2, from 10 a.m to 11.15 a.m in Hotel Pratap Plaza, 168, Kodambakkam High Road, Mahalingapuram.

All are welcome. For registration, contact Chithra Sundarajan in 98404 93904.

Thousands have 'Sorgavasal Darshan'

By Our Staff Reporter

Thousands of devotees had 'Sorgavasal Darshan' from 5 a.m in the neighbourhood temples on Dec. 21 on account of Vaikunda Ekadesi.

The photo was taken outside Tirumala Tirupathi Devasathanam, Venkatanarayana Road, T. Nagar as devotees lined up to have darshan of Lord Venkatesa Thayar.



Perumal and Padmavathi Similar crowds were seen

outside Sri Sathya Narayana Perumal Temple (Srinivasa Street, West Mambalam).

Relief materials donated to leprosy patients, handicapped persons



By Our Staff Reporter

Daasya (an NGO, Ashok Nagar) distributed mats, plastic buckets, blankets, provisions and other items among leprosy affected, visually and physically handicapped per-

sons affected by the recent floods on Dec. 19.

The relief materials were distributed by C. Sridhar (Additional Commissioner of Police, South). P. Raman (Founder, Daasya) was present.

Sarada Vidyalaya alumni to meet again on Wednesday

Nearly hundred alumni of Sarada Vidyalaya (T. Nagar) met in the school's premises on Dec. 21 to review the progress on the preparation for the school's Platinum Jubilee celebrations on Jan. 9.

A number of leading musicians including Nithyasree Mahadevan have come for-

ward to give shows during the event.

The next meeting has been scheduled at 4 p.m on Wednesday, Dec. 30.

Alumni are requested to attend the meeting.

More details can be had in 98413 89310 or email saisangalpa@yahoo.co.in.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

4.5 lakhs worth relief materials distributed

Sir, On Dec. 13, Jeeva Park Walkers and Joggers Association distributed relief materials worth Rs. 4.5 lakhs among more than 300 flood affected families of MGR Nagar and J. J. Nagar (Manapakkam, Chennai). They included provisions, water bottles, biscuits, mosquito coils, milk powder, clothes and other essentials. The funds were donated by Association members and members of Rotary Club of Chennai Port City. C.



Muthusamy, President, Jeeva Park Walkers and Joggers Association, G.N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar.

Burglary attempt in apartment complex

Sir, There was a burglary attempt in our apartment complex on Burkit Road, T. Nagar on the night of Dec. 20. I had returned home late in the night after an outing with my family. Everything appeared normal, the watchman was at the gate and the lights were burning in the common area. As I was about to hit the bed at around 12 midnight, I saw a shadow of a person standing on the sunshade and trying to peep in through the window. As soon as I raised an alarm, he jumped from the sunshade and raced away in the darkness. I rushed

to the balcony and managed to get a glimpse of him. Though I could not see his face clearly, he appeared to be in his 30's, lean and wearing a lungi and shirt. He jumped over the compound wall and escaped. In the morning, we found his footprint and hand imprint in the dust in the sunshade and windows respectively. A complaint was lodged with T. Nagar Police Station. There are a number of senior citizens living in our apartment complex. If our Nagar Police Station, can be

targeted, other apartments are even more vulnerable. The thieves are getting bolder due to the laxity shown by residents in security arrangements. My appeal to the neighbourhood residents is to take extra precaution in their apartments by having security systems like CCTV cameras to discourage thieves and burglars. **Ajay Kumar, Secretary, Sri Sumukha Flats Welfare Association, Old No. 25, New No. 63, Burkit Road, T. Nagar, Mob: 96000 70709.**

Improper enumeration of flood victims by revenue officials

Sir, Revenue officials have been visiting the houses in flood affected areas in the neighbourhood since the beginning of this month to do an enumeration for distribution of relief items. But it is not known on what basis they are doing the enumeration. When they visited our street, the officials were selective. Though all the ground floor houses got inundated, the authorities visited only a couple of houses.

So the families that were excluded in the exercise are unlikely to benefit from the govt. schemes for flood affected victims. I request the authorities to re-survey our street to ensure that all the affected residents are included in the list. **N. Rama-murthy, A1, Alankar Apartments, Old No. 12, New No. 25, Raman Street, T. Nagar.**

Innovative advertisement by gym



An innovative advertisement poster depicting a squirrel lifting weights to promote a gym was found pasted on a wall on Burkit Road, T. Nagar, to attract customers.

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Classified Advertisements under the heads Accommodation Required, Old Age Home, Marriage hall, Mini Hall, Real Estate Buying & Selling) and Rental will be published on this page. The charges are Rs. 600 (upto 30 words); Bold Rs. 900. Ashok Nagar - K.K. Nagar & Mambalam- T.Nagar Editions. Display: Rs. 250 per col. centimeter. Each advertisement of Real Estate and Rental must relate to only one house / flat. Full Address with Door Number is must for Rental advertisement. Advertisement will be received upto 1.00 p.m on Friday.

MINI HALL
WEST MAMBALAM, Mahadevan Street (State Bank Building), 2 Halls - Kamakshi Mini Hall A/c (100 guests), Kamakshi Hall A/c (200 guests). Ph: 4351 2233, 4351 2556, 99404 54545, 9445054545. www.kamakshi hall.com.

OLD AGE HOME
OLD Age (Brahmin) home in Keelkattalai, 3 times food, 2 times coffee, bed-ridden allowed, Rs. 7000 per month, attender available, very near to hospital, banks, temples. Ph: 98840 56233, 98840 56203.

SRIVARI residence senior citizens home, Singaperumal Koil, brand new construction, fully furnished, spacious rooms, attached bathroom, accommodation for 50 persons in 25 rooms, each room to be shared by 2 persons, 100% vegetarian food, basic medical facility, regular doctor visit, round the security, charges per person Rs. 10000 per month. Ph: 95512 55515, 99944 35680, 73582 37457. Email: rs54rs@gmail.com. Web: www.srivariresidence.com.

Sri Vinayaka Old Age Home K.K. Nagar
● Hygienic & Pure Vegetarian Food
● Medical Facility / Physiotherapy
● Experienced Nurses & Attenders
● Motherly Care
● Bedridden
95516 63106
93805 78731

REAL ESTATE (SELLING)
WEST MAMBALAM, No. 1, Subba Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 830 sq.ft, 1st floor, 2-wheeler parking, fully furnished, 22 years old, 3 phase, rate Rs. 7200 per sq.ft (negotiable), no brokers. Ph: 9940095328.

LAKSHMI KRUPA
4 in 1, Exclusive 2 bedrooms apartments @ T. Nagar, New Boag Road only one flat is for sale
Contact: **Neeraj Housing & Properties Pvt Ltd.,**
98406 33372
2483 2824
www.neeraj.com

FLAT FOR SALE
Jaffer Khanpet Nethaji Nagar 3rd Street, 740 sq.ft, 1st floor.
97899 93639

WEST MAMBALAM, Lakshmi Street, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, built-up area 548 sq.ft, 1st floor apartment, 2-wheeler parking, Brahmins only, no brokers. Ph: 97919 54970, 9445955961.

RENTAL
WEST MAMBALAM, No. 1-H, Premier Apartment, Swaminathan Street, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1000 sq.ft, 2nd floor flat. Ph: 094418 47387.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 14, Rams Ganga Flat, Postal Colony 2nd Street, single bedroom, 500 sq.ft, 1st floor, Brahmins only, no brokers, inspection on Sunday, 27th December after 10 a.m. Ph: 9087069893.

T. NAGAR, No. 1, Gandhi Street, near Muppathamman Temple, 2 bedrooms, 600 sq.ft, ground floor, back portion, rent Rs. 12500, small vegetarian family, elevated, not affected by floods. Ph: 2814 1234, 9498098880.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 65, Railway Border Road, near Duraisamy Subway, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1000 sq.ft, lease Rs. 12 lakhs or rent Rs. 18000, vegetarians only. Ph: 90801 64510.

T. NAGAR, No. 7, Bazullah Road, near ICICI Bank, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 800 sq.ft, open car park, rent Rs. 21000 (negotiable), no brokers. Ph: 89393 41745, 99413 15323.

T. NAGAR, No. 174, Habibullah Road, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, study room, dining, 3rd floor, lift, semi furnished, 2A/cs, vegetarians / Brahmins, no brokers, inspection from 27th December. Ph: 094837 24511, 094453 78715.

KODAMBAKKAM, No. 18, 8th Cross Street, Trustpuram, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, balcony, 1st floor, attached bathroom, new house, covered car park, rent Rs. 14000, advance 5 months, family / bachelors. Ph: 2433 3477, 98411 93685.

ASHOK NAGAR, No. 67-A, 15th Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1150 sq.ft, 1st floor, covered car park, vegetarians only, no brokers. Ph: 9940261476, 2452 3391.

VALASARAVAKKAM, No. 46/B, Sundarar Street, Kamakoti Nagar, 2000 sq.ft, independent house, rent Rs. 20000, advance Rs. 2 lakhs. Contact: Shubham. Ph: 90944 45556, 98406 30359.

K. K. NAGAR, No. 50, 96th Street, 15th Sector, near Naghathamman Koil, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 900 sq.ft, ground floor, 3 phase, metro water, rent Rs. 13000, Brahmins only. Ph: 99404 50340, 2372 8272.

T. NAGAR, No. 66, South Boag Road, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1400 sq.ft, brand new, lift, all amenities, covered car park, vegetarians only. Ph: 98410 03051.

T. NAGAR, No. 24, Thanikachalam Road, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1st floor flat, fully furnished. Ph: 96000 47373.

WEST MAMBALAM
No. 15, Rams Flat, Lake View Road, double bedrooms, 875 sq.ft, 2nd floor, open car park, rent Rs. 16000
94449 75265
2474 1769

WEST MAMBALAM, New No. 23, Old No. 12/8, Dhanapal Street, opposite Mettupalayam Market, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1100 sq.ft, 2nd floor, no lift, covered car park. Ph: 98943 94469.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 29/45, B.R.P. 1st Street, near Mambalam Railway Station & T. Nagar Bus Terminus, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 800 sq.ft, ground floor, 2-wheeler parking, rent Rs. 12500. Ph: 98843 94574, 98840 76940.

URAPAKKAM, No. 57, Kannadasan Nagar, Krishnapuri Adanoor, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 735 sq.ft, covered car & 2-wheeler parking, 24 hours water supply, rent Rs. 6000, vegetarians only. Ph: 084628 45566.

T. NAGAR, No. 18, North Usman Road, near Roma, 2 rooms, 380 sq.ft, attached bathroom, furnished, A/c, rent Rs. 11000, office/bachelors. Contact: Vimal. Ph: 94441 16320.

ASHOK NAGAR, No. 10, 7th Avenue, 2 bedrooms, 2 halls, kitchen, ground floor, newly painted, vitrified tiles, separate entrance, overhead tank, semi furnished, rent Rs. 23000. Ph: 98402 24710.

Ramana Satsang in Sumuka Vinayagar Temple on Saturdays

Sri Ramana Satsang is held on Saturdays from 7 p.m to 8.15 p.m in Sumuka Vinayagar Temple (Raga Malika Apartments, 184, Lake View Road, West Mambalam, Ph: 94441 72623). Veda Paarayanam, Ulladhu Narpadhu, Arunachala Siva Paarayanam and Upadesa Saram are held. All are welcome.

REQUEST TO READERS!
Please help us to serve you better! **Mambalam Times** is being delivered free at every doorstep in this neighbourhood week after week. If our delivery boy skips your house or flat in any week, please call **98409 70091** between 10.30 a.m and 5 p.m on week days to enable us to take effective and immediate remedial action.

Free health check-up in Trustpuram tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter
Department of Health and Family Welfare (Govt. of Tamilnadu) will conduct 'General Health Check-up' on Sunday, Dec. 27 from 10 a.m to 1 p.m at New No.18, Old No.27/1, 10th Cross Street, Trustpuram, Kodambakkam. A team of doctors and paramedical staff from Govt. hospitals will conduct the check-up. It has been organized by Lions Club of Central Madras and EXNORA (Greater Chennai). For further details contact 93804 24972 / 93838 33847.

Shop offers cash, free saree for old and torn silk sarees

By Our Staff Reporter
Sri Balaji Pattu Center (105/83, Usman Road, T. Nagar, opposite Siva Vishnu Temple, near T. Nagar Bus Terminus) buys old and torn/damaged silk sarees. Apart from cash for the old silk sarees, it is also offering a free fancy saree till Jan. 3 to customers. It is also offering a special price for silk sarees damaged during the recent floods. The shop is open from 10 a.m to 8 p.m on all days including Sunday. Its contact number is 95976 09609.

12 medical students suspended on ragging charge

Twelve 2nd year students of ESI Medical College, K. K. Nagar were suspended on Dec. 23 for allegedly harassing a junior staying in the hostel. This created some tension among the students. While the Central Government-run college remains closed for study holidays ahead of upcoming exams, the 12 students were called for questioning by the Dean after the reported incident. The students, all day scholars, allegedly went to the men's hostel on Dec. 21 and ragged the first-year student. The victim lodged a complaint with the Dean who ordered an inquiry. A student said most inmates of the college hostel were from outside Chennai and some had problems as they were not willing to 'obey' their seniors. "This started as a minor incident in which seniors teased the junior but it quickly snowballed into an ego clash when the junior student's parents and friends got involved," said another student. A staff member said that the senior students could have been let off with a warning but the victim's family mounted pressure and insisted on suspension. However, no police complaint has been lodged.

Sai bhajan programs in T. Nagar and Mambalam

By Our Staff Reporter
Sri Sathya Sai Samiti conducts Sai bhajans every week in the following venues in T. Nagar and Mambalam.
T. Nagar:
Sai Keshav Hall, 157, G. N. Chetty Road (near Panagal Park, Vijaya Bank building): Saturdays, 5 p.m.
Ayurvedasramam, 155, G. N. Chetty Road (near Panagal Park): Mondays, 6 p.m.
Mambalam:
Vallabha Ganapathy Temple, Arya Gowda Road, West Mambalam: Fridays, 6.30 p.m.
Murugashramam, Srinivasa Pillai Street, West Mambalam: Second Tuesdays, 6 p.m.
For registration, please call 94456 11333 or 94447 73926. All are welcome.

OBITUARY
MANGALAM JAYARAMAN

Mangalam Jayaraman (resident of Flat No. 2, Subhiksha Apartments, 5, Tank Street, United India Colony, Kodambakkam) passed away on Dec. 22. She was 76, and had been resident of Kodambakkam for 20 years. She is survived by her husband Jayaraman, son Ganesh, daughters and grandchildren. For condolences, please contact 2472 6677 / 98409 33213.



நாலு மூலை

(ரா.கி.ரங்கராஜனின் பழைய 'நாலு மூலை' கட்டுரைகளிலிருந்து தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட்ட சிலவற்றைப் பெருமையுடன் மறுபடியும் பிரசுரிக்கிறோம் - ஆசிரியர்)
ரா.கி. ரங்கராஜன்
அகோரஃபோபியா

ஒரு நாள் என்னுடைய சினைகிதர் ஒருவரைப் பார்ப்பதற்காக வெளியே நகர் பக்கம் போயிருந்தேன். பிற்பகல் மூன்று மணி இருக்கும். 'வாங்க, வாங்க' என்று என்னை உட்காரச் சொல்லி தானும் உட்கார்ந்தவர், சட்டென்று எழுந்து கொண்டு உள்ளே சென்றார். 'காப்பி கீப்பி எதுவும் வேண்டாம். இப்போதுதான் சாப்பிட்டு வந்தேன்' என்றேன். உள்ளே போனவரே காப்பி எதுவும் கொண்டு வரவில்லை. கைமீட்டு மூன்று மிளகாய்க்காய்க்கட்டு களுடன் வந்தார். பின்னாலேயே அவருடைய மனைவி இரண்டு மூன்று மிளகாய்க்காய்க்கட்டுடன் வந்தார். இவரும் என்னைத் தாண்டிக் கொண்டு வாசலுமே போனார்கள். வாசலில் தண்ணீர் லாரி. என்னை அறியாமல் அரைத் தூக்கம் போட்டு விட்டேனோ என்னவோ 'லாரி, லாரி' என்ற குரலுடன் நண்பர் என்னை எழுப்பினார். அவருடைய மனைவி தரையில் சிந்தியிருந்த தண்ணீரைத் துணியால் துடைத்துக் கொண்டிருந்தார். உட்புறம் பக்கெட்டுகளிலும் குடங்களிலும் தண்ணீர் நிறைந்து பளபளத்தது. நண்பர் தன்னுடைய பனியனைத் தூக்கி முகத்தைத் துடைத்துக் கொண்டு 'இன்னும் கொஞ்ச நாட்களில் குஜராத் நிலைமை இங்கே ஏற்பட்டு விடும்' என்றார். 'தண்ணீருக்காக மதக் கலவரமா ஏற்படும்?' என்றேன். 'மதக் கலவரமில்லை. பூதம்பம்' என்றார் அவர். சிரியலான குரலில். 'நான் திகைத்தேன். 'எப்படி?... எதை வைத்து சொல்கிறீர்கள்? இதெல்லாம் பூதம்பம் வராத பகுதிகள் என்று சொல்வார்களே?' 'வராததுதான். ஆனால் வரும்படி பண்ணிவிடுவார்கள்' என்று கூறிய நண்பர் நிதானமாகச் சொன்னார். 'ஸ்டீட்டி பூராவிலும் தெருவுக்குத் தெரு, வீட்டுக்கு வீட்டு. கட்டிடத்துக்குக் கட்டிடம் போர் போட்டுத் தண்ணீரை உறிஞ்சிக் கொண்டு இருக்கிறார்கள். நீர்மட்டம் இறங்கிக்கொண்டே போவதால் கட்டிடங்களின் கீழேயுள்ள நிலப் பகுதியில் ஒரு குவியல் பிரதேசம் உருவாகிக் கொண்டு வருகிறது. அதை அப்படியே விட்டால் என்ன நேரிடும்? ஒரு நாள் நமது அடுக்கு மாடிக் கட்டிடங்கள் பூமிக்குள் டொமாலென்று இறங்கிவிடக் கூடும். அதன் பெயர்தான் பூதம்பம்...' அவரிடம் ஒரு புத்தகம் வாங்குவதற்காகப் போயிருந்தேன். அவசர அவசரமாக அதை வாங்கிக் கொண்டு அவசர அவசரமாகத் திரும்பினேன். அவருடன் பேசிக் கொண்டிருக்கவே பயமாகிவிட்டது. அன்று பூர எனக்குத் தூக்கமில்லை. படுத்திருக்கும் கட்டில் (நண்பர் சொன்னது போல்) டொமாலென்று தரைக்குள் இறங்குகிற மாதிரி இருந்தது. புத்தக அலமாரி சாய்ந்து சரிந்து என்மேல் விழுகிற மாதிரி இருந்தது. நான் அலுப்பி புடைத்துக் கொண்டு தெருவில் ஓடி, பெண்டு பின்னைகளைக் காணாமல் நானும், என்னைக் காணாமல் அவர்களும் கூச்சல் போடுகிற மாதிரி இருந்தது. வெட்ட வெளியில் நான் தன்னந்தனியே நின்றிருப்பது போல் இருந்தது. பொழுது விடிந்ததும் முதல் வேலையாகக் கம்ப்யூட்டரின் முன்னே போய் உட்கார்ந்தேன். 'கூகிள் லெர்ன்' போட்டு பூதம்பம் வருவதாக இருந்தால் என்னென்ன முன்னெச்சரிக்கைகள் செய்து கொள்ள வேண்டும் என்ற விவரங்களைப் பார்த்தேன். நீளநீளமாகப் பல கட்டுரைகள் இருந்தன. அவற்றைப் படிக்கப் பொறுமை இல்லாமல் சிறுசிறு குறிப்புகளை மட்டும் பார்த்தேன். அலமாரிகளையும் வெல்புகளையும் சுவரோடு சுவராக வைத்து இருப்பதற்கு மூலம் இணைத்துவிட வேண்டும் என்று ஒரு குறிப்பில் படம் போட்டுக் காட்டியிருந்தார்கள். கனமான பொருள்களை உயரத்தில் வைக்காமல் கீழே வைக்கும்படி ஒரு படம் காட்டியது. தெருவிலே இருந்தால் அங்கேயே நிற்கும் படியும் வீட்டுக்குள் போக வேண்டாமென்றும் ஒரு குறிப்பு சொல்லியது. வாசல்களில் போய்க் கொண்டிருந்தால் நின்றிருப்பது போலவோ அல்லது குடும்பத்தில் ஆளுக்கொரு மூலையில் சிதறி ஓடும் அளவுக்கு பயங்கரம் நேர்ந்தால் எந்த இடத்துக்கு எல்லோரும் வந்து சேர வேண்டும் என்பதை வீட்டில் உள்ள அனைவரும் முன் கட்டியே பேசி வைத்துக் கொள்ள வேண்டும் என்று ஒரு குறிப்பில் காண்ப்பட்டது. எல்லாமே படிக்க சுவாஸ்யமாயிருந்தாலும் வெட்டி வேலை என்று தோன்றியது. இதைக் காட்டிலும் கிச்சலில் கால் கிலோ பின்னை 'ஆய்ந்து' கொடுத்தால் அரை டம்பளர் எக்ஸ்ட்ரா காப்பியாவது கிடைக்கும் என்று தீர்மானித்துக் கம்ப்யூட்டரை அணைத்து விட்டு வேறு விஷயங்களில் கவனம் செலுத்த முயன்றேன். ஆனால் மனக்குள் ஏதோ ஒரு வகை பயம் இன்ன தெரியாத பிதி உறுத்திக் கொண்டேயிருந்தது. இதன் விளைவாக ஜூர்ம் வந்து படுத்து விடுவோமோ என்று அஞ்சி அன்று மாலை என்னுடைய டாட்களுக்கு ஃபோன் செய்து விவரமாக எல்லாவற்றையும் சொன்னேன். 'வெற்றொன்றுமில்லை. உங்களுக்கு அகோரஃபோபியா' என்றார் டாட்கர். 'வினையாடாதீர்கள் டாட்கர். நீங்கள் சொல்வது ஏதோ சம்ஸ்கிருத மந்திரம் மாதிரி இருக்கிறது' என்றேன். 'அகோரஃபோபியா என்றால் என்னவென்று டிக்கஷனரியில் பார்த்துக் தெரிந்து கொள்ளுங்கள். பிறகு போன் செய்யுங்கள்' என்றார். டாட்கரிடமே 'ஸ்பெல்லி' கேட்டுத் தெரிந்து கொண்டு டிக்கஷனரியைப் புரட்டினேன். பாலைவனத்தில் தனியே நின்றிருப்பது போலவோ அல்லது தாள முடியாத கட்டத்தின் நடுவே சிக்கிக் கொள்வது போலவோ ஏற்படுகிற பயம் இது என்றும் இந்த உணர்வு உள்வாங்கல் வெளியே தலை காட்டாமல் வீட்டுக்குள்ளேயே அடைந்து கிடப்பார்கள் என்றும் அர்த்தம் போட்டிருந்தது. டாட்கர் சாவகாசமாக இருந்த நேரத்தில் மறுபடி ஃபோன் செய்து டிக்கஷனரியில் படித்ததை சொன்னேன். 'அதே தான்' என்றார் அவர். 'காரணம் இல்லாத பயம், தேவையில்லாத கவலை முதலியவற்றால் ஏற்படுகிறது அகோரஃபோபியா. இரண்டு மாதங்களுக்கு முன்பு ஒரு அம்மாள் இதே கம்பளைண்டுள் வந்தார். வெளியே போகவே தனக்கு பயமாயிருக்கிறதென்று யாரோ ஒரு கற்றுக்குட்டி டாட்கரிடம் சொல்ல, அந்த அம்மாளுக்கு 'பார்டர் லயன் டயபெடிக்ஸ்' இருப்பதாக அவர் சொல்லிவிட்டாராம். அதற்காக ஏகப்பட்ட பயம் இருந்தது. உடம்பு மெலிந்து பலவீனமாகிவிட்டார். நன்றாக ஆகாரம் சாப்பிட்டு வைட்டமின் மாத்திரைகளை விழுங்கும்படி சொன்னேன். வேறு என்ன மருந்து என்று கேட்டார். 'எதுவும் வேண்டாம். கிடைத்த நேரத்தில் அமைதியாக உட்கார்ந்து தியானம் பண்ணுங்கள். அரைமணி நேரம் மூச்சை நன்றாக இழுத்து நன்றாக வெளியே விட்டு பிராணாயாமம் செய்யுங்கள். அப்படி ஆகிவிட்டால் என்னாவது, இப்படி ஆகிவிட்டால் என்னாவது என்று நினைப்பதை நிறுத்திக் கொண்டு, கடவுள் எப்போதும் என்னுடைய பக்கத்தில் எனக்குத் துணையாக இருக்கிறார் என்று ஐயம் மாதிரி சொல்லிக் கொள்ளுங்கள். போதும்' என்றேன். நேற்று வந்திருந்தார். 'இப்போது தெம்பாக இருக்கிறேன். இஷ்டப்பட்ட இடத்துக்கு இஷ்டப் பட்ட நேரத்துக்குப் போகவும் வரவும் தைரியம் ஏற்பட்டு விட்டது' என்றார். 'அதே டீர்மென்ட்தான் உங்களுக்கு' என்றார் என்னுடைய டாட்கர். நான் தியானமும் செய்யவில்லை. பிராணாயாமமும் பண்ணவில்லை. கடவுள் என்னுடைய பக்கத்தில் இருக்கிறார் என்று மட்டும் நினைத்துக் கொண்டேன். வேறு எதெதிலோ நேரம் சென்றதால் எத்தனை அடுக்குமாடிக் கட்டிடங்கள் கட்டினாலும் எவ்வளவு ஆயிரம் 'போர்'கள் இறக்கினாலும் சென்னை நகரில் பூதம்பம் வராத என்ற நம்பிக்கை திடமாக ஏற்பட்டுவிட்டது (சுனாமிக்கு முன்னால் எழுதியது இது)

Free 2-day class for CA-CPT students

By Our Staff Reporter

The Accounting Genius Academy (56, Rameswaram Road, T. Nagar) will conduct a free 2-day class for students appearing for CA-CPT exam next year.

The classes will be held on Jan. 2 and 3 from 11 a.m to 1 p.m

Students will be taught shortcuts in Maths, speed Maths, memory magic, exam techniques, success strategies and time-management.

The classes will be conducted by experienced faculty.

For registration, contact the Academy in 92822 33333 / 93848 44405.

Thousands apply for copies of lost documents

By Our Staff Reporter

Flood victims who lost their registered original documents in the recent floods were seen standing in a long queue to apply for copies at the special camp being held in Mambalam Tahsildar's office, Bharathidasan Colony, K. K. Nagar.

The special counter will remain open from 9.30 a.m to 4.30 p.m on all working days till Dec. 31.

Residents under Mambalam Corporation zone including T. Nagar, West Mambalam, Ashok Nagar, K. K. Nagar and nearby areas can submit applications for issue of new documents.

Officials from Civil Supplies, RTO, Revenue Department,



Corporation, Metrowater and available in the camp to help Education Department are applicants.

No garbage clearance from Ramasamy Street



Garbage has remained uncleaned in Ramasamy Street, T. Nagar for more than 15 days. Residents have appealed to the Corporation to clear the accumulated garbage which has become a serious health hazard for residents. They have also appealed for regular clearance of garbage from the street.

For some the throes continue even after a fortnight



Two weeks have gone by since the heavy rains followed by floods affected the city. But throes continue for a person was found drying water soaked documents on the terrace of a building on Srinivasa Street, West Mambalam on Dec. 21.

Suprabhatam, Thiruppavai, Vishnu Sahasranaamam chanting from 5 a.m tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

The Chennai Group of Sri Vishnu Sahsaranama Mandalis (F2, 5, Cart Track Road, T. Nagar) has organized chanting of Suprabhatam, Thiruppavai and 12 avartis of Sri Vishnu Sahasranaamam on Sunday, Dec. 27 from 5 a.m in Sri Krishnaswami Kalyana Mandapam (62, South Boag Road, T. Nagar) as part of its 9th anniversary celebrations.

All are welcome. More details can be had from Radha Sivasubramanian in 95001 77505.

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