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Arshad Mushtaq is a Kashmir-based dramatist and designer whose work has got critical acclaim and widespread appreciation. He presented 'Maag: A Kashmiri Opera' on February 17 evening at Medai – The Stage, a theatre space in Sriram Nagar, Alwarpet.

This play is an adaptation of Macbeth in verse form and Arshad says he reimagines Shakespeare's Macbeth as a dystopian tale steeped in the rich cultural tapestry of Kashmir. This opera presented lyrical Kashmiri verses, Kashmir's traditional folk theatre of Bhand Pather with modern theatre.

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TAMIL ISAI FEST: MUSIC CONCERTS AT BHAVAN

Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan will present 'Bhavan's Tamizh Isai Vizha from February 24 to 28 at its main auditorium in Mylapore. Here is the concerts schedule - Feb. 24 - vocal concert by Vidya Kalyanaram on 'Sitham Yellam Sivamayam'. On Feb. 25 - vocal concert by Gayathri Girish on 'Devi Darisanam'. On Feb. 26: Tevaram Isai by othuvarg Sargurunathan. On Feb.27 : vocal concert by Amirtha Murali on 'Vazhga Nirantaram Vazhga Tamizh Mozhi'. On Feb. 28: vocal concert by Akshay Padmanabhan on 'Taaye Dayapari.



Concerts start at 6.30 p.m. and are open to all rasikas.



CHESS TOURNEY FOR CHILDREN. FEB.23

64 Squares Chess Academy is conducting a chess tournament for children under 8 / 10 /12 and 16 years – for boys and for girls at Chennai Citi Centre mall, Dr. Radhakrishnan Salai, Mylapore.

It is on February 23 (Sunday). Top 15 in the boys categories and top 10 in girls categories will be awarded trophies. No spot entry is accepted .

Entry fee is Rs. 500 For further details contact S. C. Subramanian, Candidate Master and FIDE Instructor in chess – 9176661411.

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OPEN MIC ON FEB.22. POETS, SINGERS, MUSICIANS, STORY-TELLERS WELCOME

Sahanas Open Mic is to take place on Saturday, February 22, 6 pm onwards. This event is an open platform for musicians, poets, storytellers, and performers to showcase their talents in a vibrant space in Abiramapuram.



To register, DM the host at @sahanasofficial or Whatsapp at 6381230739
Venue - Sahanas - Art Your Way - 15/7, Unit-2, D' Silva Road. Abhirampuram (near HDFC Bank).

MYLAPORE T-SHIRT ON SALE NOW



Fresh stocks of the Mylapore T-shirt have arrived and are on sale. Over 150 of these T-shirts were sold at the Mylapore Festival held in mid-January. The T-shirt is themed - Republic of Mylapore - and carries an artist's impression of Mylapore, featuring its well-known images.

The T-shirt is in white (a few pieces in black are also available). Cost - Rs.300.

They are on sale at the Mylapore Times office in Alwarpet. Call 2498 2244 to buy one. It also makes a nice gift.

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MYLAPORE TIMES

Editorial & Publishing Office:
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Email IDs : mylaporetimes@gmail.com (Adverts) mytimesedit@gmail.com (Edit)

Editor & Publisher - Vincent D'Souza
Community Reporter - Baskar Seshadri
Internet Design, Input - C. Parameshvaran
Photographer - M. Madhan Kumar
Designer - S. Prema
Advertising Executive - R. Kathiravan
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Event for senior citizens

This is an event for senior citizens of Mylapore. It is called 'Tehneer Arangam' and will be held in Alwarpet on February 27, 11 am to 12 noon. Conversations, debate, fun and games and fellowship, all organised by the Chennai chapter of Dignity Foundation.

The venue - Srinivasa Gandhi Nilayam, No.332, Ambujammal Street, off TTK Road.

There is no charge on people who wish to attend this event. It is a community-driven programme, says Merita Joseph of Dignity.

Call to register - 7550207456, 9962526608

Shivaratri: temples expect big crowd through the night

By Our Edit Team

The four kaala puja for Shivaratri at Sri Kapaleswarar Temple in Mylapore will start around 11.30 p.m. on February 28. This will go on till about 5 a.m. the next day.

Temple officials said that since they expect a big crowd after 11 p.m., the tickets (of Rs.50 and Rs.100) for special darshan here will be suspended at that time.

Similar pujas will take place at other temples of lord Shiva in the Mylapore zone, including the Sri Theertha Paleeswarar Temple located on Dr. Natesan Road in the Triplicane zone, an area opposite Citi Centre mall. Many people undertake to visit the seven temples dedicated to lord Shiva on this occasion.



File photo

Locating 'old' school batchmates is not easy. This 1975 batch of P. S. School is 'searching'

By Our Edit Team

Locating school batchmates who passed out even in the 1970s is not easy. It calls for some dedicated work. The lead members of the 1975 SSLC batch of P. S. High School, Mylapore which is planning their Reunion on November 2, 2025 is realising they have a tall task at hand but are at it week after week.

The lead group managed to connect with 15 batchmates after Mylapore Times put out, some months ago, a report on the Reunion plans. "That article was helpful. Locating over

15 of our batchmates was wow," said T. G. Shankar, a representative of the 1975 SSLC batch. The group members are focussed on collecting funds for their school while searching for other batchmates.

The group is also planning a souvenir themed on the sports legends of the school to document its sports legacy.

S. Venkat Raghavan, V. V. Kumar, Krishnaswamy, Prabhakar, Gopalakrishnan Kitta, Chandra Shekhar, V. Ram Narayanan, R. Hari, V K Pandian, S N Anand, T V Ramachandran, B. Prakash, P S Raghavan, Balasubramanian and R. Raghunathan are some of the sports legends who studied at P. S. High School.

It is also tossing a suggestion to host a popular music show which will feature alumni who are professional musicians today.

"We held a Bharathi Vizha in memory of one of our batchmates Ashok in 2023. Books by Subramania Bharathi were given to 1500 students. Over 300 students were given prizes," said Shankar. The group is also talking to P. S. School on special events that can be held in collaboration.

To connect with the group, call T. G. Shankar at 9445936288 or the Reunion co-ordinator R. Vishwanathan at 9840460700.

Photo shot in 1970, of students in Std. 7D, section, with the then teachers, Deivasigamani and Pichumani



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VINCENT'S JOTTINGS

By VINCENT D' SOUZA

I have tossed up my routine schedule this past fortnight where I make time between spells at my work desk to prepare and cook lunch. This was done on a whim. Or perhaps, reading features on food and farming gave me some ideas.

Maybe I told myself - why not have freshly-cooked food for lunch every day?

The other day, I had some broccoli on the kitchen table. I chopped it into medium-sized pieces, cooked them in coconut oil and added some pepper. Made for a good dish along with rice and dhal.

On another day, I chopped a big potato into very tiny pieces and added the lot to spinach. And on another day, I cooked drumsticks in a lavish sauce of tomatoes: with an extra dose of garlic paste in it. I had used red tomatoes we had bought at the local vegetable store. And I also added two small, green tomatoes which are growing in my backyard.



Having a kitchen garden in an apartments campus is quite a task. There are so many 'x' factors that frustrate you. But after we managed to grow a number of wild patches of green all around the campus - bamboo, sunflower, hibiscus, canna, bougainvillea and all that - there were a few patches that made space for more plants.

So we decided to grow some veggies in bamboo baskets. We hesitated. The thought of somebody yanking off a tomato or some green chillies discouraged us. We have resigned to people picking up flowers by dawn for their pujas.

Anyway, we went ahead with our plans. We kept it simple. Some tomatoes, greens and chillies. A friend gave us a pack of seeds - Ladies Fingers. But we held that back for another day.

The kitchen garden needed some attention - pruning, providing support and stuff. And some extra nutrition too. The appearance of the baby green tomatoes was a nice reward. Two of these went into the drumstick dish I made days ago.

I have also realised the amazing impact that home-made compost has on plants. I drafted the woman who maintains our campus every day to pick up the vegetable and fruit waste I leave in a container on the window-sill and drop it in a used petroleum barrel on one day and into a discarded cement tank on the next. Over time, the compost which is created in these containers is manna for the plants.

I am now preparing to grow some coriander in my backyard. There is something about coriander that fascinates me. I think it is the colour. And the fragrance.

Think of it - a small kitchen garden not only engages you, it also motivates us to recycle waste, grow food at home in small measure and cook and consume good food

LETTERS FROM READERS

E-MAIL your letters to - mytimesedit@gmail.com.
Provide full name and short address.

This column also contains comments posted on our social media pages.



R. A. Puram 4th Street needs concrete speed-breakers

Chennai Corporation should provide good quality, durable cement or concrete speed-breakers at a span of every 200 feet on R A Puram, 4th Main Road, starting from the IOC Office Quarters end. The old rubber quality speed breakers are worn out and their metal studs are protruding out and these cause tyre punctures. With no speed breakers to regulate them, motorists zip down this road at high-speed.

- Krishnaswami Ramamurthi

Relay Thiruvengadam Street

Thiruvengadam Street in Mandaveli was relaid before the monsoon. Thanks to the Metrowater authorities who dug up a section of the road, the road is now in bad shape. Chennai Corporation must relay this street at the earliest.

- Allen Joe

Nageswara Rao Park: were surveys, plans really serious steps taken?

The re-design and restoration of a major local facility like Nageswara Rao Park needed a more serious debate on the plan, layout and facilities than has been provided now.

It appears that like most city civic projects this too is an eye-wash - claim a survey was conducted in the park, of which most people are not aware of, put out the design and have a dozen people look at it, create a second design but no effort was made to have that put out for all to see inside the park.

This is no way to undertake a key public facility. Sadly, many people who use the park care little about what happens to it. How can a park have sports /playing facilities inside it?

- R. Kalpana

Marina Loop Road disappointments

Despite the government's lofty ambitions and substantial investments, the changes and improvements made on and off the Marina Loop Road remains a work in progress. A state-of-the-art fish market and freshly-planted saplings were meant to change the face of this part of the Marina. Yet, the reality is starkly different.

Fish hawkers have abandoned the stalls they were given inside the new market and spread themselves in the parking lot. The saplings are withering away.

- Sanjeevi Arul Joseph

Provide more footwear stands outside Kapali Temple

I request the Kapaleeswarar Temple authorities to provide self-servicing shoe racks in addition to the existing facilities in the temple vicinity on the eastern and western sides. This will help devotees retrieve their footwear easily.

- S. Srinivasan

MYLAPORE REWIND

This column carries excerpts from Mylapore Times, 1995 onwards. This week, we focus on May, 1995

Mapping Mylapore for effective civic management (May 20-26, 1995)

By R. Bharathi

Mylapore has been selected for a pilot project to implement land information management using remote sensing technology. The layout, needs and facilities are to be studied. Details regarding drinking water supply, pollution sources, power lines, transport and communication will be collected for the digital database. Initiated by the Institute of Remote Sensing, a government organisation based in Anna University, the project will facilitate analysis for effective management.

Clinicare to market artificial heart valve (May 20-26, 1995)

By Chitra Sivakumar

Clinicare, a division of TTK Pharma Limited, will market TTK

Chitra Heart Valve, India's first indigenous artificial heart valve. A tilting disc, the valve will be manufactured and marketed by Clinicare, said Dr. Biren Sahoo, the manager of TTK Pharma. The company was selected by National Research Development Corporation in Delhi. Clinicare is located on San Thome High Road.

Abdul Jabbar with his wards at the summer cricket camp



State cricketer Abdul Jabbar conducts camp for children (May 20-26, 1995)

By V. S. Sridevi

Former Tamil Nadu state cricket team captain Abdul Jabbar is holding a summer cricket camp for children. 35 children are learning the basic skills and techniques of the game. The fee for the month-long cricket camp is Rs. 500. A resident of Alwarpet Street, Jabbar is conducting the camp at the CLRI grounds, Adyar. Tata Finance of the Tata Group is sponsoring the camp, which begins at 6.15 a.m. every day.

New restaurant on TTK Road offers European food (May 20-26, 1995)

By R. Maheswari

Duchess, a restaurant that opened at 35, TTK Road, brings European food to Chennai. The restaurant's manager, Kumaravel said it is the "only restaurant offering Continental cuisine in the city". Apart from Continental food, the restaurant offers Indian, Chinese and Tandoori food too.

Store offers hampers for toppers in exams (May 20-26, 1995)

Vitan Supermarket in Luz has invited the top five rankers in annual exams in schools, up to Class 8, to register for a special hamper.

The students may visit the nearest Vitan store with a photocopy of their mark sheet to register their names.

Five pencils with the name and the rank of the student, Nestle chocolates, a neem-based toothpaste and a Medimix soap go into this gift hamper.

● This column is curated by Kanaka Cadambi.



Ahobila Mutt jeer releases souvenir to mark temple's milestone

By Our Edit Team

A commemorative souvenir titled 'Sathamana Samvathsra Malar' was released on February 18 evening at the Vedantha Desikar Kalyana Mandapam, Mylapore.

The souvenir marks the 100 years since the installation of the images of Perumal and Thayar at the Sri Vedantha Desikar Devasthanam which was celebrated some time ago.

The first copy of the souvenir was released by Jeer Sri Ranganatha Yathindra Maha Desikan of the Ahobila Mutt, who has been camping in Mylapore for over a fortnight. Senior advocate K. Parasaran received the copy.

Present and past archakars of the temple were honoured at the event.

A note from the trustees of the temple says – Sri Vedantha Desikar Devasthanam is more than 300 years old. Originally, it had only one sannadhi for swami Desigan. In 1924, the sannathis for Sri Alarmelmanga Sametha Sri Srinivasa Perumal were installed with the support of The Hindu newspaper group and Bangur Charities of Kolkata.

Over the years, the TVS Group and several other donors have contributed for the development of the temple.



Kindergartners of Vidya Mandir dance, have fun



This was a fun and jolly day for the Kindergartners of Vidya Mandir.

It was the Annual Day for the KG community on this campus. Held on February 7, the event brought together young learners, teachers and parents for what was a vibrant showcase of talent and creativity.

The theme for the day was 'Celebrations and Festivals Around the World'. This provided an opportunity for these children to explore Indian and global cultures.

And so, the songs, the dances and the snappy stage acts saw the Kindergartners dressed in dazzling costumes, dance to music of different regions.

There was foot-tapping music, colourful props and some wow LED backdrops on the stage that made the day one to remember.

For the children as well as for the adults present.

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Students in Classes 6 to 10 sit for classes through the year, learning the fine skills of drawing, painting and craft work.

All that they produce creatively is showcased on one day - Crafts Day. And that show took place this week at the school campus.

Over 250 plus works were on show - paintings, drawings, needle and handwork, crochet, works on coconut shells and wood and all else.

It was a day when the students got to take a look at all that their colleagues had created in the class-



room and their parents also got the opportunity to see what their kids had created.

Kumar, who with Vel Murugan, are the art and craft teachers at this school say that the children are very creative and once they are taught the basics, they are allowed to express themselves.



LITTLE GEEKS

So what is Chip Challenge?

The students of Sir Sivaswami Kalalaya Senior Secondary School gave us a glimpse of what all this is about on February 7 when the annual Chip Challenge show was held in the school auditorium.

Sithara, HoD for Computer Science at Maharishi Vidya Mandir, Choolai was a special guest to this show and distributed prizes to stand-out projects.

This event showcased the technical prowess of students from classes II to X, offering them a platform to present their projects and innovations.

'Chip Challenge' is a longstanding tradition at the school, designed to encourage students to explore and enhance their knowledge of computer science.

Participants present projects across various categories, including video editing, digital art creation, Artificial Intelligence, and programming.

SortBot - developed by R. Sibi Agilan, Ananthan. K and V. Anirudh of class 11 - was also on display. This eco-friendly system utilises artificial intelligence to classify waste materials into biodegradable and non-biodegradable. The team said that the project employs machine learning algorithms to identify and sort items accurately, promoting sustainable waste management practices.



Obituary

Geetha Rajagopalan, former English teacher at P. S. Senior Secondary School, Mylapore, passed away on February 11 at her residence in Alwarpet. She was 85.



Geetha was born in July 1939 to Dr V. Padmanabhan, son of Sir S. Varadachariar of the then judge in the Federal Court (presently Supreme Court) and Mythili, daughter of K. S. Krishnaswamy Iyengar, a former judge of the Madras High Court.

Their house was then in Kalvivaru Street, Mylapore where the primary section of the Vidya Mandir school now functions.

She studied in Rosary Matric School and got married to Rajagopalan, an agriculturist while doing her intermediate at Stella Maris College.

Geetha's passion for studies surfaced in her 40s when she pursued a masters in English literature and followed this with a M.Phil. programme. She joined the English department of P. S. Senior in Mylapore and contributed much here. She was called 'Sweetie Miss' in school, because she used to call all her students 'Sweeties' and they were veritably her life, says Murari, her son.

She took voluntary retirement and moved to Perugavazhndan village in Tiruvarur district in 1993 along with her husband and dedicated her time to teaching English to the rural students.

She shifted back to Chennai in 2003 and continued to teach poor girls of her colony for free, counsel young women in distress as well as teach school children dramatics.

Her other interests were Carnatic music, Bharatanatyam and English theatre. She is survived by her son R. Murari, a geochemist from IIT Kharagpur and daughter Ramya, an interior designer and their families.

The family is at No.14/6 Natesan Colony, Alwarpet. R. Murari can be reached at murarirajagopalan@gmail.com. Ph: 9500070859

Food sold fast at fancy fete at Cathedral

The community of St Thomas Cathedral in San Thome got together to host a fancy fete at the church campus last Sunday, February 9, This was part of the effort to raise funds for missionary work.

The day-long fete featured 26 food stalls which were the ones that drew most people here.

There were 13 stalls exclusively for games for the children

The high-point of the fete was the conduct of a raffle which offered some lovely prizes – tickets for Rs.100 each were sold for the raffle.

Parish priest Fr. Vincent Chinnadurai and his

brother priests at the cathedral drew up the plans for this fete.

– By Juliana Sridhar



Dance fest in memory of guru K. J. Sarasa

By Our Edit Team

This two-day dance festival celebrates the work and memory of late Bharatanatyam guru K. J. Sarasa.

To be held at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan on Feb.22 and 23 evening, the fest will open with an awards event where three people - veena artiste Mudikondan Ramesh, Mumbai-based Harikrishnan Kalyanasundaram who heads



a famed academy and Senthil Kumar of Shanthi Tailors will be honoured.

On Feb.22, the dance recitals are by Kavitha Ramu, Lakshmi Ramaswamy and by the Sri Mudhraalaya academy dancers.

On Feb.23, the concerts are by Sharmadha Vishwanath, Ramli Ibrahim of Malaysia and Shanmugha Sundaram, who curates the festival every year and was Sarasa's sishya.



Old Bedeans celebrate 100 years of the alumni association

Over 600 people took part in the gala which was held at the school auditorium in San Thome

By Our Edit Team

The Old Bedean Association (OBA) celebrated its centenary on January 26 with an event that will remain in the memories of over 600 people who were present at the St. Bede's School auditorium in San Thome.

Founded in 1924 by Rev. Fr. Williamson, the OBA has been the cradle of countless achievers. Antony Lobo, honorary consul of Spain, and alumnus (1970 batch) was the chief guest.

The event began on a solemn, inspiring note with a prayer song, an invocation, and the past pupils' prayer, followed by a warm welcome from V. Kumaresan, OBA president. Fr. Sagayaraj Devadoss, rector set the tone for the event, emphasizing the unbreakable bond between the alumni and their alma mater.

Fr. K. J. Arulraj, provincial delegate, reflected on Don Bosco's principles.

J. Satish, national president, Stafford Mantel, province president and Rosekumar Kumanan, province secretary spoke on the OBA's recent record.

Present among the VIPs who are also Old Bedeans were Justice Mohammed Shaffiq (Madras High Court), Dr. Edwin Fernando (Stanley Hospital), Dr. K. P. Kosygan (Apollo Hospital), Dr. K. Ganapathy (retired from Apollo Hospital) and actor George Antony.

Retired teachers were felicitated with a standing ovation and a small token of gratitude. A special prayer was offered to the memory of Old Bedeans who have passed away.

There was a video presentation by Fr. Y L Irudayaraj, principal, showcasing the



school's recent record and later, a screening of a documentary film by Old Bedean Richard O'Connor which traced OBA's journey, and highlighted Old Bedeans who have excelled as leaders, professionals and artists.

Present at this gala were former rectors, headmasters, teaching and non-teaching staff and the present staff.

Old Bedeans from USA, Australia, UK, Malaysia, Germany, Canada, Philippines and from Singapore were here for the milestone event.

A lavish lunch ended the gala and as Dr. Atheek Shaik's (OBA's senior vice president) gave a vote of thanks, many 'old boys' huddled in corners of the hall and on campus to catch up with the old times.

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- ADYAR, Gandhi Nagar, new, 1640 sqft, 3BHK, 3bath, 2CCP, 2nd floor, east facing, lift, power backup, vastu 100%. Agent: 6380844247
- ABIRAMPURAM, brand new apartment, 2500 sqft, 3BHK, 3bath, pooja room, 2 CCP, 5.5cr. Ph: 9841999945, 98410999577
- MANDAVELI, East Circle Road, 1000 sqft, UDS 650 sqft, 2BHK, 2bath, 1 CCP, lift, 1.60cr. R.K. Nagar, 970sqft, UDS 650sqft, 2BHK, 2bath, 1CCP, lift, price 1.45cr, neg. Ph: 6380844247

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- ALWARPET, near KB Dasan Road, residency and commercial, 2320 sqft land area, south facing, 50 feet road, price 6.30cr, neg. Ph: 7299141164
- MYLAPORE, near Sanskrit College and Vidya Mandir, 7 years old, second floor, 770 sqft with lift and car park, brokers excuse, preference for vegetarians. Contact: 9884492968

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- MYLAPORE, near Vivekananda College, 2BHK, 940sqft, UDS 676sqft, 37 years old, G.floor, price 1.30cr. Ph: 7338797612
- T. NAGAR, off Habibullah Road, one ground land with 4 BHK, individual house, south west, 2 years old, Price 8cr. Ph: 9171829442.
- ADYAR, Gandhi Nagar, land with old house, 4.5 grounds on road property, suitable for commercial purposes. For details: 9171829442.

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- THARAMANI, 1171 sqft, 2 BHK + 2 toilets, 1 CCP, north facing, 1.35cr, fixed price, Ramaniyam pavithram. Ph: 9841269156.
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• NACHIAPPA Street, near Madhaperumal Koil, Mylapore, 700 sq.ft., 1 BHK, individual house, first floor for rent Rs. 15000, vegetarians only, family, bachelors, two wheeler parking only. Ph: 9710313801

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• EAST Abhirampuram, 3 BHK, 2 bath, 1 CCP, genset, lift, wood work, 3 AC's, store, Pooja, Rent 55000 + maintenance, brokers excuse. Contact: 9841699044

• LUZ Church Road, 1600 s.ft., 3 BHK, CCP, lift, east facing, Rs. 50000, St. Mary's Road, 1350 sq.ft., 3 BHK, CP, east facing, Rs. 40000, R A Puram, 1200 sq.ft., 2 BHK, 2 AC, Rs. 30000. Narasimhapuram, 1600 sq.ft., 3 BHK, individual house, CCP, renovated, Rs. 40000. Ph: 9841983231

• 3 BHK house for rent, 2 car parking, Seethammal Colony and commercial office for rent, 1 car parking, TTK Road, Alwarpet. Contact: 9884395777

• FLAT, Rent 40K, 1 floor, 3 BHK, 2 bath, east face, OCP, only veg families, near P.S school. Ph: 9566125770

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• LUZ corner, 2 BHK, 700 sq.ft, 3rd floor, no lift, open car park, children play area, park, copious drinking water, Rent 25000. Contact: 8825820487

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• ALWARPET, 1500 sq.ft., 3 BHK, 2 bath, 1 CCP, lift, Rs. 55k, Venus Colony, 1700 sq.ft., 3 BHK, 3 bath, 1 CCP, Rs. 45K. Ph: 7299141164

• MYLAPORE, Saibaba Temple, near 3 BHK, 1950 sq.ft., 1st floor, 2 wheeler parking, Rs. 39000. Vidya Mandir school near, 1 BHK, 1 st and 3rd floor, units 16000, bachelors welcome. Ph: 9790736113 / 7401677318

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• MYLAPORE, Kapaleeshwarar koil near, 2 BHK, 3rd floor, lift, 25000. 1 BHK, 2nd floor, Rs. 13000 only veg. 2 BHK, ground floor, 19000. Ph: 9790736113 / 7401677318

• R.A. PURAM, Karpagam avenue, 750sq. ft., 1BHK, semi furnished, 2nd floor, family or bachelor's. Rent 26K. Ct: 8939225395

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• ALWARPET, Eldams Road, furnished, 5 Air conditioned, cabin, 12 seat conference, 7 workstation, 2 directors, 2 rest, 2 floor, lift, 1car, 5bike parking, brokers excuse. Ph: 9790935149

• MANDAVELI, near R.T.O office, 600 sqft, 1 BHK for office purpose, 2nd floor on Main Road, posh location, rent Rs.20000, advance 60000. Contact: 9962922617

• COMMERCIAL apartment Mylapore, 1600 sqft, 50K, lift, CCP, CIT Colony near, 1800 sqft, 3BHK, 75K, balconies, lift, CCP, security. Ph: 9080103486

• T NAGAR, office space, North Boag Road, near Singapore Embassy & opp Just Buy Cycles, 600 sq.ft., 1 BHK, 1st floor, separate entrance, AC, car parking, Rs. 30000 pm, brokers excuse. Contact: 9003033034

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Scholarships Day at P. S. High School is big. How does the money help?

By Our Edit Team

Scholarships Day is a much-looked-forward-to event for the students of P. S. High School in Mylapore.

It is a day when a number of students are handed scholarships which help in their education, since most hail from economically poor families.

This year's Scholarships Day of P. S. High School was held on February 18 morning at the Dakshinamurthy Auditorium in the same campus.

The chief guest was M. R. Vasudevan, executive director, William Hare India P. Ltd, and an 'old student' of this school. Also present was C. V. Krishnan of the P. S. Educational Society.

Scholarships of value from Rs.1800 to Rs.9900 were awarded to some 143 students who now study in various classes here.

There was a set of scholarships for teens who had excelled in sport.

Scholarships worth Rs.5.5 lakh were awarded that morning.

An awardee from Class 12 said that he will put away this money to buy books and part fund the fees when he gets admitted to college next year.

Another student-awardee, of Class 10, said that this money would allow him to buy some guides and text-books he needed for studies besides spending on stationery he needed for his daily study.

School Headmistress R. Kala says that besides the money helping students to fund what is an immediate and key need for their studies, the scholarships are also seen as prestigious awards given only to those who shine in academics and need financial support.

Assistant Headmaster Paneerselvam says any financial support is welcomed by families of students who study here.

"The parents of our students are drivers and maids and casual workers. So they are in need of money," he says.

APPEAL FOR DONATIONS

P. S. School has a history of instituting scholarships and awarding them annually. But over time, the value of each scholarship has become insignificant. After all, what can a sum of Rs.2000 donated in the 1970s earn in 2025?

So the Society that manages the school has clubbed and rationalised the scholarships: now each awardee gets a substantial amount.

In recent times, not many 'old boys' have come back to institute scholarships.

School Headmistress R. Kala says that the school urgently needs donations for the common fund. "Though many teachers' salaries are paid by the state, the day-to-day expenses and other bills take away much of the funds," she says.

She appeals to 'old boys' of the 1970s and 80s to consider raising funds for the school.



This travel agency's focus is on group tours and family vacations

By Preetha K.

My Travel – a professional travel agency – celebrated the first anniversary of its Chennai branch recently. Founded by S. Manickasamy in Coimbatore nine years ago, My Travel has a dedicated team to ensure the comfort of the customers and its office is in the heart of Mylapore.



"We organise group tours, corporate tours, students' tours, honeymoon trips, family vacations and weekend gateways. Shirdi and Kasi packages are our specialty tours. Most of our customers are senior citizens. Single women can also travel with us," says Akalya Manickasamy, proprietor of My Travel.

Akalya said that her company's focus is to ensure customers' comfort throughout their journey and this has made My Travel one of the leading outbound tour operators in the region.

The company offers tour packages to Singapore, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Thailand, China, Japan, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand, Dubai, USA, Europe, Africa, Turkey, Mauritius, Maldives and Middle East.

These packages include transportation, breakfast and accommodation. "My team is a pioneer in destination management in the region," said Akalya.



For more details about the travel packages, log on to www.mytravel.org.in

My Travel is at No.9, North Mada Street, Mylapore. Ph: 9894886088, 9843598455

Temple event

The kumbhabhisekam of Arulmigu Sundara Vinayagar Alayam on Sundaeswarar Street, Mylapore, near R R Sabha was held on February 16.

This shrine was established in 1980 and is managed by Divakar, his brothers and their families, with the support of local area devotees.

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Silambam, yoga and Pencak Silat create buzz at QMC's sports meet

By Our Edit Team

Queen Mary's College held its 109th annual Sports Day recently. The chief guest, Meghanathan Reddy, CEO and member-secretary of the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu, hoisted the flag and took the salute during the impressive march past by students from 20-plus departments. Dr. B. Uma Maheshwari, principal of the college was present.

C. Amudha, international triathlon athlete, and now a superintendent of GST and Central Excise, and an alumna of the college

was a special guest.

Dr. V. Sujitha, director of physical Education, presented the sports annual report, highlighting the achievements of the college's athletes and campus sports initiatives.

Students took turns to present demonstrations of karate, silambam, yoga, Pencak Silat, and Zumba aerobic fitness dance. Sujitha said that these sports skills of the students reflect the college's commitment to holistic fitness and traditional martial arts.

The buzz got high at the prize distribution ceremony when outstanding athletes were honoured for their dedication and excellence.

The annual dance festival which is presented by Bharatanatyam teacher Sheela Unnikrishnan at Sri Kapali Temple ended on February 9 with the host presenting its 2010 dance-drama 'Shadaksharam'. Over 300 people sat in the Navaratri Mantapam at the temple that evening and watched the recital. Artistes from the city and outside performed in this five-day festival, in its 16th year.



Launch of forum for communal harmony

Justice V. Ramasubramanian, chairman, National Human Rights Commission of India will launch Unity India, a national forum for the promotion of communal amity in India at an event to be held on February 22 evening at C. P. Ramaswami Centre, Eldams Road, Alwarpet.

Six eminent people will speak on this occasion and they include Justice K. Kannan, former judge, N. L. Rajah, senior advocate and Justice P. N. Prakash, a former judge. The event starts at 5.30 p.m.



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