



# वेद्या-वेरपान

December 2015

Newsletter of St. Gregorios Dayabhavan, Kunigal, Karnataka

Volume 4



*Christmas and  
New Year  
Greetings*

St. Gregorios Dayabhavan  
Kunigal, Karnataka

## Honoring an ‘*Unsung Hero ...*’



**Rev. Fr. Jinesh Varkey receives the prestigious His Holiness Moran Mar Baselios Marthoma Didymus-I award**

Dubai St. Thomas Orthodox Cathedral felicitated Rev. Fr. Jinesh Varkey with the prestigious His Holiness Moran Mar Baselios Marthoma Didymus-I award for his services to the rural communities of Tumkur in Karnataka. The award carries a citation and prize money of INR 50,000. The award was ceremoniously made at a function organized by the Cathedral during the Harvest Festival in Dubai on November 13, 2015 by the Hon. Indian Ambassador to UAE, H.E. Mr. T.P. Seetharam.



Rev. Fr. Jinesh Varkey has been serving as the Resident Secretary of St. Gregorios Dayabhavan, an initiative of Malankara Orthodox Church Mission Board, which was established in Kunigal Taluk of Tumkur District in 2003 for rehabilitation of children who are affected by disease. He is also a recipient of the Selfless Contributor Award 2013 instituted by Mother Teresa Children’s Foundation (MTCF), United Kingdom.



**At the St. Gregorios Orthodox Church in Sharjah**

The St. Gregorios Orthodox Church at Sharjah honored Fr. Jinesh Varkey on 20 November 2015 at a special function commemorating his services to the community. President and Vicar Rev. Fr. Yakob Baby and Co-Vicar Rev. Fr. Aji K. Chacko, Hon. Trustee Varghese George and other members were present on the occasion.

# Dayasparsha Hospital

*A symbol of love, care, commitment, compassion*

Consecration of Dayasparsha Hospital was held on 30th November 2015 at 11 AM by HG Dr. Yuhanon Mar Chrysostomos (President of Malankara Orthodox Church Mission Board) and HG Dr. Yuhanon Mar Theodoros (Co-President) at Tumakuru, Karnataka.

**“Advocating equitable access to quality care, treatment and at prevention to all people living with or at risk of HIV infection”**



Started as a Primary Healthcare Clinic at Kunigal in 2005, this Hospital has now 30-bed inpatient and palliative care facilities and is exclusively devoted to HIV/AIDS/TB patients, one of a kind in Tumakuru District. It manages opportunistic infections, nutritional & nursing care and psycho-social services while administering anti-retroviral therapy (ART) for disease intervention. It also liaises with National AIDS Control Organization (NACO), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare – Govt of India, Karnataka Health Promotion Trust (KHPT), Karnataka State AIDS Prevention Society (KSAPS) and Revised National Tuberculosis Control Program (RNTCP). All services are free including medicines and food.

Other dignitaries present on the occasion - Smt. Lalitha Ravish, Hon. Mayor, Tumakuru Metropolitan City, Mr. Belli Lokesh, President, Lions Club, Tumakuru and Smt. Mamatha, Chief Medical Officer, ART Center, Tumakuru - felicitated the venture. Mr. V.G. Ramesh introduced the dignitaries and Mr. Narayan proposed a vote of thanks.

## Promoting a Zero-AIDS Society

Celebrating the World AIDS Day on December 01, 2015, St. Gregorios Dayabhavan rallied to synergize and make public its intentions to vote for a zero-AIDS society. Flagging off and leading the public rally were Mr. Dharmendra, Circle Inspector of Police, Kunigal and HG Dr. Yuhanon Mar Chrysostomos (President of Malankara Orthodox Church Mission Board). Later, at a public meeting, Hon. Civil Judge Dhakshayini, Kunigal Civil Court inaugurated the function and took oath for an AIDS-free world. Several other dignitaries from diverse sections of society - Dr. Shanthala Taluk Health Officer, Kunigal, Mr. T.G. Siddaiah, Block Education Officer, Hon. Civil Judge Sagar Ji Patil, Kunigal Civil Court; Presidential address was delivered by HG Dr. Yuhanon Mar Chrysostomos and blessings from Shri Siddarama Chaithanya Maha Swamigalu and HG Dr. Yuhanon Mar Theodoros (Co-President, Mission Board, Malankara Orthodox Church). Mr. V.G. Ramesh greeted the gathering and Mr. Muralidhar Gowda thanked the participants. Two skits were played by Jnana Bharathi School and Hemadhri College on the occasion.



## ‘BIRDS’ – In the service of uplifting sexual minorities

Through its affiliates viz., Dayabhavan and Dayasparsha Hospital, the Malankara Orthodox Church is involved in yeoman service among sexual minorities and workers by initiating them through medical screening and periodic health care measures. The ‘BIRDS’ (Belgaum Integrated Rural Development Society, a community-based organization) Coordinator Mr. Suresh felicitated St. Gregorios Dayabhavan for community services undertaken especially through health campaigns and support to disease affected people on the occasion of inauguration of the HIV/AIDS Hospital on 30 November 2015.



# Blood Donation Camp : 01 Dec. 2015

The Blood Donation Camp organized by Dayabhavan at Kunigal on December 1, 2015 attracted 32 donors and 32 units of blood were collected. The camp was inaugurated by Very Rev. K.I. Philip Remban and was supervised by Dr. Veena. (Pathologist District Blood Bank)



## Spreading awareness on diseases and cure

As a part of its outreach activity, Dayabhavan organized an interactive awareness program at Indo-Spanish Tasty Foods Pvt. Ltd., a company located in the dusty suburbs of Kunigal Industrial Area. This was a CHAI-AKSHAYA initiative and ably guided by the District coordinator of CHAI (Catholic Health Association of India) and Dayabhavan's social work trainer.

The employee-participants of the company were provided with primary information on Tuberculosis, its symptoms, mode of transmission, treatment courses and about free services available at Dayabhavan Medical Mission Hospital (DMC) and at Dayasparsha Hospital such as sputum collection and transportation for tests.

Fatality of the disease if not treated on time and the need for absolute drug adherence was stressed; also the recommended treatment regimen DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment, Short-Course), the tuberculosis control strategy recommended by the World Health Organization, was explained.

The company workers who participated in awareness program expressed satisfaction and happiness for giving adequate information on the disease. Those participants who had cough with expectoration and other features of TB volunteered for sputum and x-ray examination, all of which was considered as success of the awareness programme.



# Engaging community participation in Hebbur Panchayat

St. Gregorios Dayabhavan plans to establish a Village Community Centre consisting of a Youth Counselling Unit, Drinking Water Dispensing facility for public and Tailoring Training Center for women at Hebbur on land provided by Hebbur Village Panchayath. Construction commenced on 10 December 2015 and the Centre will be completed in 6 months. The foundation stone was laid by Hon. Member of Parliament S.P. Muddahanume Gowda, Tumkur Constituency in the presence of HG Dr. Yuhanon Mar Chrysostomos (President, Malankara Orthodox Church Mission Board).



## Tryst with Nature - Green Initiatives from Dayabhavan

Dayabhavan is abundantly blessed with natural resources. The campus is situated in a ten-acre lush green land. Cultivation of different kinds of vegetables and grains helps to meet daily needs and, while inmates get an opportunity to bond with nature, any excess produce serves as a source of income.



### 'Essence' reflects the True Spirit of Holy Trinity College

The Social Work department of the Holy Trinity College in Kunigal, a sister concern of St. Gregorios Dayabhavan, released its souvenir 'Essence' which captures life on the campus. The magazine was initiated by students and faculty of Master's Degree course which commenced academic curriculum in 2015. The first copy was released by the Hon Civil Judge Dhakshayini, Kunigal Civil Court on 01 December 2015.





*Where there is genuine  
effort to alleviate pains  
of the afflicted, there  
Christ is born*

-Geevarghese Mar Osthathios

late Lamented  
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**Dayabhavan**

(A Project of Malankara Orthodox Church Mission Board)

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