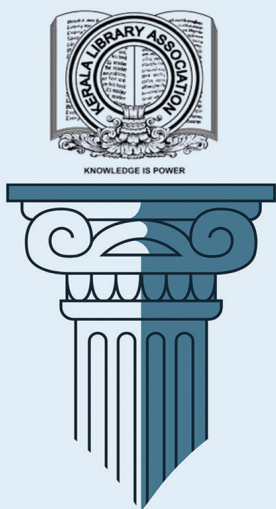


Milestones

KLA's Golden Journey

Golden Years. Timeless Mission.



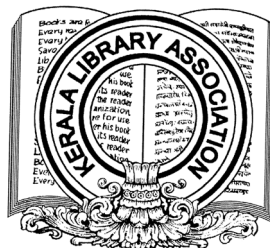
Kerala Library Association



MILESTONES

**KLA's Golden Journey
1972-2025**

Golden Years, Timeless Mission



KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

Knowledge is Power; More Knowledge is More Power

2025

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Dedicated to

All the

Library Professionals

Past, Present and Future

Who have made it their mission to

Spread The Word

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Ultimately, we are grateful to the past office bearers, whose diligent record-keeping made this compilation possible.

As we reflect on this journey, we wish that all our dear seniors could have been with us in person. Their efforts laid the foundation during challenging times, clearing the rough and thorny patches so that we could walk more smoothly. Their dedication and efforts in charting this path remain an inspiration.

Thank you all.

Foreword

A Tradition of Excellence in Librarianship: Honoring 50 Years of KLA

Library Associations: A Global Perspective

The concept of library associations dates back over a century and spans continents and cultures. Globally, these associations serve as crucial forums for professional development, advocacy, standard-setting, and the advancement of library and information science. The oldest and largest of these, the American Library Association (ALA), founded in 1876, has been seminal in shaping library practice, education, and ethics internationally. Its influence—and that of similar national and subject-specific associations—extends well beyond the borders of the United States.



At the international level, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) brings together associations and individual professionals from nearly every country, providing a powerful collective voice advocating for libraries and their users globally. Other organizations such as the Special Libraries Association (SLA), and regional groupings like the Commonwealth Library Association, the African Library and Information Associations and Institutions (AFLIA), and the Association of European Research Libraries (LIBER), address industry trends, research, and the evolving needs of specialist and regional library communities.

These global and regional alliances provide much-needed platforms for cross-cultural learning, international collaboration, and the forging of standards that transcend borders. They have been instrumental in guiding libraries through times of social, technological, and political transformation.

Growth of Library Associations in India

India's encounter with the modern library movement began during the British period. The establishment of library associations was a natural step as librarians sought to shape public policy, improve professional standards, and create a network that could campaign for the development of library infrastructure across the country. The Andhra Desa Library Association, launched as early as 1914, convened the landmark All India Public Libraries Conference in 1919 that ushered in a new era for library services in the subcontinent.

Other early associations quickly followed: the Baroda Library Association (1920), Punjab Library Association (1929), Bengal Library Association (1925), and Madras Library Association (1928), all of which contributed uniquely to the development of public libraries and professional education. National associations soon emerged: the Indian Library Association (ILA, founded 1933), Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres (IASLIC, 1955), Indian Association of Teachers of Library and Information Science (IATLIS, 1969), Central Government Library Association (CGLA, 2004) and many others.

These associations provided a national platform for discourse, professional development, and policy engagement, while also nurturing regional chapters and state-level groups. They also played a formative role in shaping the public library movement in India, advocating for universal access to information, fostering research and education in library science, and furthering the professional interests of librarians across sectors.

Emergence of the Kerala Library Association

Kerala boasts one of the most vibrant reading cultures in India—a fact reflected in its rich library history and network. Yet, until the mid-20th century, qualified librarians were few and far between in the state, impeding the formal organization of professional bodies. The establishment of the Department of Library Science at the University of Kerala in 1961 marked a turning point, enabling the emergence of a new generation of trained professionals.

This growth in expertise and conviction led to pivotal gatherings: the All Kerala College Librarians Association in 1958, Kerala Librarians Association in 1964, and finally, in 1972, the founding of the Kerala Library Association as we know it today. Registered as a society on December 8, 1972, the KLA became the first legitimate organization representing professional librarians in Kerala.

The Association's journey from its inception is interwoven with the progress of the library movement in the state. Its founders—led by Prof. K. A. Isaac as President and Sri P. V. Varghese as General Secretary—envisioned an organization dedicated to upholding the highest professional and academic standards, advocating on behalf of libraries, and facilitating the advancement of library and information services.

Prof. K. A. Isaac: A Visionary Leader

It is fitting to remember the contributions of Prof. K. A. Isaac, widely recognized as the father of Library and Information Science education in Kerala. Born in 1925, Prof. Isaac was a teacher par excellence, administrator, and passionate advocate for librarianship. His vision was not limited to institutional growth—he dreamt of libraries as democratizing agents of knowledge and of librarians as empowered facilitators. Under his stewardship, the KLA emerged as a beacon of professionalism. Today, the Association commemorates his legacy with an annual memorial lecture, carrying forward his commitment to leadership, innovation, and service.

Mission and Impact of the Kerala Library Association

From its earliest days, the Kerala Library Association was guided by a clear mission: to represent the interests of library professionals, advance the cause of library services, and contribute to the formulation of policies that would shape information access in Kerala. It has succeeded in creating policy awareness, advocating before administrative authorities, and helping government and academic institutions adapt to the evolving needs of education and research.

The KLA's influence is visible in its active role in curriculum development for library and information science, the organization of seminars and conferences, and the fostering of research and collaboration within the state and nationally. Its

commitment to scientific management and the continual improvement of library systems has echoed the vision of its founders and extended the Association's influence well beyond Kerala's borders.

Reflections on this Publication

This publication planned to be brought out in connection with the Golden Jubilee Celebrations, though somewhat belated, embodies the activities, achievements and aspirations of the Kerala Library Association to connect, inspire, and lead. It is the culmination of the collaborative effort, shared expertise, and professional commitment that characterize the Association at its best.

As we turn these pages, we may be reminded not only of the milestones reached but also of the work that lies ahead especially the need for strengthening of our professional community. Let us remember that the progress of societies is intimately linked to the vigor and vision of their libraries and the communities that support them. The Kerala Library Association, by sustaining its tradition of excellence, service, and advocacy, continues to play a vital role in uplifting Kerala's libraries and, thereby, promoting the cultural and intellectual flourishing of the state.

At this juncture, I have to specifically mention the commendable effort made by Dr. M. Lalitha, Vice-President of the Association, in the compilation of this volume, culling out information from various sources and weaving them together in a presentable manner. In fact, she has taken up the work voluntarily and completed it more or less single-handedly. The remarkable enthusiasm and tireless efforts of Dr. P.K. Suresh Kumar, General Secretary, truly merit special recognition.

Let this publication be an inspiration and a resource to all professionals, students, and supporters of libraries not only in Kerala, but across the world—a call to action to build stronger, more inclusive, and more vibrant libraries and professional associations for generations to come.

Dr Vijayakumar K.P.
President (2021-25)
KLA

Between Us...

Dear Friends

Kerala Library Association proudly presents this detailed chronicle, capturing over fifty years of unwavering dedication, transformative growth, and collective achievements in the field of librarianship in Kerala. This publication is born out of a sincere desire to document and celebrate the association's remarkable journey—an inspiring story of perseverance, professional advocacy, and continuous evolution.



Our history begins with recognizing pivotal milestones that have shaped the profession. Chief among these is the historic government order of 1971, which marked a turning point by elevating librarianship to a more respected and recognized vocation. Since then, numerous policies, orders, and recommendations have further contributed to enhancing the status, professionalism, and service conditions of librarians in Kerala.

It is essential to acknowledge the vital role played by the librarians of those days whose collective efforts, along with those of countless dedicated librarians—many now retired—have propelled the profession forward, ensuring that the aspirations of the professional community are championed and realized. This “history book” pays tribute to the passionate librarians whose unwavering service has profoundly shaped the profession's trajectory. It underscores the association's identity—not merely as a service or trade organization, but as a committed body dedicated to advancing librarianship through policy advocacy, continuous professional development, and safeguarding librarians' interests.

In compiling this history, extensive use was made of archived records, circulars, orders, reports, newsletters, and minutes of meetings, all serving to construct a comprehensive picture of the association's evolution. These records not only highlight milestones but also underscore the importance of meticulous documentation—an invaluable practice for preserving the rich heritage of our profession and guiding future generations.

The journey is not without its challenges; some projects, such as a documentary chronicling KLA's illustrious path, remain incomplete due to unforeseen circumstances. Nevertheless, the association remains committed to realizing these initiatives, reaffirming its dedication to documenting and celebrating its collective legacy.

As we reflect on over fifty years of achievements, it is evident that KLA has made a profound impact on the LIS community in Kerala. It has fostered a culture of collaboration, innovation, and lifelong learning, directly contributing to the professional development of librarians and the enhancement of library services across the state. The association's efforts have strengthened advocacy, improved working conditions, and promoted continuous professional education—cornerstones upon which its enduring reputation is built.

Looking to the future, KLA remains steadfast in its mission to embrace technological advancements, advocate for the profession's vital role in society, and continue fostering accessible, inclusive, and innovative information services. While the landscape may change, the core values of preservation, dissemination, and accessibility will continue to guide our endeavors.

The celebration of this Golden Jubilee is not merely a reflection on past successes but a renewed commitment to future growth. It is an invitation to uphold the legacy established by visionary pioneers and to carry it forward, ensuring that the spirit of progress and professionalism in Kerala's librarianship endures for generations to come.

Our heartfelt gratitude extends to all members, stakeholders, regional committees, and partners whose collective dedication and support have been instrumental. Their efforts have fueled the association's achievements, and together, we look forward to new opportunities, greater accomplishments, and an enriching future.

As we close this chapter, we do so with optimism, inspired by the legacy we have built and the promising horizons ahead. Kerala Library Association's journey exemplifies resilience, unity, and a shared passion for knowledge—an enduring legacy that will continue to inspire and empower.

Thank you



Dr Lalitha. M

Vice President, KLA

General Secretary Speaks

Dear LIS Professionals,

The Kerala Library Association (KLA), founded in 1972 under the visionary leadership of Prof. K. A. Isaac and other pioneers, has been a beacon for professional librarianship in Kerala for over five decades. As we mark this historic Golden Jubilee journey (1972–2025), it is with immense pride and gratitude that I present this briefing highlighting the Association's remarkable contributions, achievements, and its enduring role as a catalyst for professional growth, advocacy, and innovation in librarianship.



From its inception, KLA has been at the forefront of elevating librarianship as a respected profession in Kerala. The association's persistent efforts contributed to the 1971 Government Order that granted librarians improved status and recognition. Over the years, KLA has actively engaged with successive Pay Commissions, the UGC, AICTE, the Kerala State Higher Education Council, and the PSC, ensuring equitable recruitment, career advancement, and service conditions for library professionals. KLA's advocacy also played a pivotal role in promoting school libraries, pushing for the appointment of qualified librarians in high schools and higher secondary institutions.

KLA has pioneered numerous capacity-building initiatives to strengthen professional skills. Notable among these are:

- Study Circle Programmes (1989–90): Introduced computer applications, INFLIBNET, and bibliographic databases to LIS professionals.
- UGC-NET Coaching (since 2010): A flagship program to prepare aspirants for academic and research careers in LIS.

- Professional Enrichment Programme (PEP 2021–22): A comprehensive online CPD initiative, equipping 45 professionals with advanced LIS knowledge.
- Workshops on Koha, DSpace, Greenstone, Research Methodology, Reference Management Tools, AI Tools, etc.

These initiatives have cemented KLA's role as the training hub for LIS professionals in Kerala.

In addition, KLA has organized numerous regional and national seminars, addressing emerging LIS themes such as digital libraries, content management, research publishing, and information literacy. Eminent speakers, including policymakers and global experts, have enriched these forums, making KLA a respected platform for scholarly dialogue and policy influence.

The KLA Newsletter (with ISSN, 46 volumes completed) serves as a vital professional communication channel. In addition, the Association has published monographs, seminar volumes, and its flagship journal, entitled KLA Journal of Information Science & Technology (KJIST), thereby contributing to the body of LIS knowledge in India.

KLA has instituted several awards to honour excellence in librarianship and academics:

- KLA Gold Medals for MLISc toppers in Kerala every year.
- Prof. C. A. Augustine – Holy Cross Endowment and Prof. K. A. Isaac Commemoration Lectures, keeping alive the legacy of pioneers.
- KLA Best Librarian Award and Young Librarian Award, recognizing professional excellence and innovation.

These recognitions inspire professionals and students to strive for higher standards.

KLA has modernized and automated numerous libraries across Kerala, including Kerala State Archives Department, Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation (KSIDC), Vakkom Moulavi Foundation, Velloppilly Samskrithi Bhavan, Mar Ivanios College, the Kerala Women's Development Corporation, Department of Economics and Statistics, Govt of Kerala, Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation (GIFT), Marine College of Architecture and Planning Library, Kerala State Chalachithra Academy, and the Kerala Secretariat Central Library. These projects have established KLA's

reputation as a trusted consultancy body in LIS modernization and digital transformation.

Through National Library Week celebrations, Reading Day programs, and public lectures, KLA has consistently promoted reading culture and information literacy. Its collaborations with the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation and Kerala State Library Council have strengthened public library services.

On behalf of the Kerala Library Association, I extend my deepest gratitude to:

- Past Presidents, General Secretaries, and Office Bearers, whose vision and commitment laid the foundation of KLA.
- Regional Committees and Members, whose grassroots initiatives in Ernakulam, Thrissur, Kozhikode, and Kottayam have kept the Association vibrant and relevant.
- Patrons and Senior Leaders, especially late Prof. K. A. Isaac, Prof. C. A. Augustine, N.Parameswaran and Shri N. Sukumaran Nair, whose leadership continues to inspire us.
- Our Partners and Collaborators, including universities, professional bodies, and government agencies, for their enduring support.

Above all, I sincerely acknowledge **the members of KLA**—the true strength of the Association. Your unwavering trust, active participation, and commitment to our shared mission have fueled every milestone we proudly celebrate today.

As we celebrate **50+ years of KLA's Golden Journey**, we reaffirm our commitment to shaping a future-ready LIS profession in Kerala. With emerging trends like digital transformation, AI, and knowledge societies, KLA will continue to champion professional education, policy advocacy, and inclusive information services.

The journey of KLA exemplifies resilience, collaboration, and service to society. Let us together uphold this legacy and stride forward with renewed energy, ensuring that the **Kerala Library Association remains a torchbearer of librarianship** for generations to come.

Dr P. K. Suresh Kumar
General Secretary
Kerala Library Association



SECTION 1 - INTRODUCTION

Library Associations: Catalysts for Library Development *An Overview*

Benjamin Franklin famously stated, “An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.” This timeless wisdom underscores the importance of investing resources, time, and effort into the development of knowledge institutions, notably public libraries. As pillars of education and enlightenment, public libraries serve as gateways to knowledge, culture, and societal progress. Investing in them not only enriches individual minds but also benefits society at large, yielding high returns in terms of educated citizens, informed communities, and democratic participation.

Recognizing the vital role that libraries play in societal development, associations are formed across various levels—international, national, and regional—to unite professionals, influence policies, and promote best practices. In the field of library and information science (LIS), these associations act as catalysts for growth, innovation, and advocacy, ensuring that libraries evolve to meet contemporary informational needs.

1. Significance of Library Associations

The fundamental purpose of library associations is to unite library professionals, create a shared platform for dialogue, and advocate for the development of libraries. By fostering a sense of professional community, these associations amplify the collective voice of librarians and information specialists, empowering them to influence policy, secure funding, and innovate services.

Moreover, associations are instrumental in continuous professional development. They organize seminars, conferences, workshops, and training programs—focusing on new technologies, ICT literacy, management skills, and emerging trends in LIS. Such activities help the professionals stay up-to-date, enhancing their skills and,



ultimately, the quality of library services provided to users. Additionally, many associations publish newsletters, journals, and research reports, disseminating crucial insights and latest developments within the profession.

2. International Library Associations and their Contributions

International organizations have long played an influential role in shaping global library policies and standards. Their contributions are especially vital for developing countries, where they assist in formulating strategies tailored to local needs while aligning with global standards.

IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions)

Founded in 1927 in Edinburgh, Scotland, IFLA is perhaps the most prominent international body dedicated to the promotion and development of libraries, including public libraries. It operates through various specialized sections, notably the **Public Libraries Section**, which focuses on advocating for free and equitable access to information—an essential democratic principle. Over the years, IFLA has organized numerous global conferences, contributed to shaping international library standards, and issued influential documents like the **IFLA/UNESCO Public Library Manifesto (1994)**.

IFLA's efforts span resource sharing, licensing models, digital inclusion, and policy advocacy, all aimed at strengthening public libraries worldwide. Its guidelines are translated into multiple languages, making its recommendations accessible for library practitioners worldwide. By providing a platform for international collaboration, IFLA helps standardize quality and promotes innovative practices across countries.

FID (International Federation for Information and Documentation)

Established in 1895 as the International Institute of Bibliography, FID has historically contributed to the development of bibliographic control, documentation, and information management. Although it was dissolved in 2002, its legacy persists through its influence on information organization and dissemination. FID's work laid the groundwork for modern practices in information science and contributed to international standards for document control.



ASLIB (The Association for Information Management)

Founded in 1924, ASLIB caters primarily to professionals working in information management, offering training, consultancy, and publishing services. Its role emphasizes the importance of efficient information handling, especially in a digital era where information overload and management are critical challenges. By conducting seminars, publishing journals, and providing expert advice, ASLIB continues to shape best practices in LIS related to organizational and corporate information management.

3. Library Associations: Strengthening Local Library Movements

These associations focus on policy advocacy, establishing legal frameworks, and creating platforms where professionals can collaborate to improve library services.

Notable International Examples: ALA and CILIP

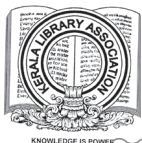
In the United States, the **American Library Association (ALA)**, established in 1876, plays a pivotal role in advocating for public libraries, librarianship, and literacy. Its division, the **Public Library Association (PLA)**, founded in 1944, specifically concentrates on strengthening public libraries. PLA organizes conferences, offers scholarships, publishes a dedicated journal, and runs training programs aimed at enhancing library services at the community level.

In the UK, the **Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP)** was formed in 2002 through the merger of the Library Association (founded 1877) and the Institute of Information Scientists. CILIP actively promotes professional standards, offers guidelines such as “What Makes a Good Library Service?” and advocates for the role of public libraries in fostering education and social inclusion.

At the national level, library associations have been central to the evolution of the public library movement in India and other countries.

Indian Scenario: Indian Library Association (ILA) and Others

India boasts a rich history of library associations contributing to its development. The **Indian Library Association (ILA)**, founded in 1933, is the oldest and most prominent national body representing library professionals in India. It works tirelessly to promote library movement through advocacy, seminars, and training.



Other prominent associations include the **Indian Association of School Librarians (IASL)**, **Indian Association of Teachers of Library and Information Science (IATLIS)**, and specialized groups addressing regional concerns. These associations focus on establishing library legislations, framing standards, and encouraging innovations suitable for Indian socio-economic contexts.

State Level Library Associations

State-level associations play a crucial role in implementing policies and initiatives at regional levels. Examples include the Andhra Desa Library Association (1914), Maharashtra Library Association (1921), and Kerala Library Association (1972), among others. These associations focus on indigenous issues, local advocacy, and the establishment and sustenance of public library services, often pushing for legislation such as the Public Libraries Act. Many states have successfully enacted and implemented legislation—19 Indian states have such Acts—signalling a significant achievement facilitated by regional associations' efforts.

Conclusion

Library associations, whether international, national, or regional, serve as vital pillars supporting the growth, excellence, and advocacy of library services globally and locally. They create communities of practice, influence policy, set standards, and provide continuous professional development opportunities, all of which are essential for the sustained development of vibrant and inclusive public libraries. Given the rapidly changing information landscape driven by technology, these associations will continue to be instrumental in guiding libraries to serve their communities effectively, ensuring that access to knowledge remains a fundamental human right.



Kerala Library Association (KLA)@50: Careerism to Professionalism

Championing the cause of the library and information profession

Established on November 13, 1972, KLA aims to unite libraries across Kerala through conferences and meetings, focusing on professional and academic matters affecting libraries. Its formation was driven by the need for a dedicated organization as qualified librarians increased following the establishment of the Department of Library Science at the University of Kerala in 1961. Recognized as Kerala's first lawful professional body under the Charitable Societies Act, KLA has played a key role in shaping the library movement in the state.

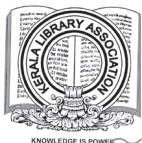
Over three decades, KLA has effectively represented qualified librarians' interests, advocating for library development and services. It has organized seminars and conferences to influence policy and has contributed to the scientific management and quality enhancement of the Library and Information System (LIS) in Kerala. Notably, KLA participated in important reforms and commissions, including the VP Joy Committee on College and School Libraries, and has undertaken projects to reorganize and modernize libraries and collections across the state.

Regional Committees of KLA (Kottayam, Ernakulam, Thrissur & Kozhikode)

Each region has a committee comprising a President, Secretary, and five members, elected for a two-year term during the Annual General Meeting. The committee's quorum is four members.

Powers and Responsibilities

- Enlist and assist new members.
- Collect donations and forward them to the KLA General Secretary.
- Advise the KLA Executive Committee on regional activities and policies.
- Promote the objectives of the Association within its jurisdiction.
- The President and Secretary serve as members of the KLA Executive Committee.



Regional Fund

The fund is constituted from 50% of regional members' subscriptions, grants from the KLA Executive Committee, 50% of collections from donations or gifts, and other income. The collected funds are deposited in an approved bank account, jointly operated by the President and Secretary, with the share of regional income distributed by the KLA Executive Committee.

Activities

The Kerala Library Association (KLA) engages in a wide array of activities aimed at fostering professional development, advocacy, collaboration, and societal engagement within the LIS sector. Key initiatives include organizing seminars, workshops, and skill development programs at regional, national, and international levels. The association conducts commemorative lectures such as the Prof. K.A. Isaac Memorial Lecture and awards prestigious medals to top students from Kerala's universities. It actively promotes LIS through publications, newsletters, and community events like National Library Week and Reading Day celebrations. KLA also undertakes consultancy projects, modernizes libraries, and facilitates professional networking through family get-togethers and collaborative ventures with national and international bodies. Moreover, the association conducts periodic surveys to assess the societal impact of LIS.

Advocacy and Resolutions Report

The Kerala Library Association (KLA) actively champions the interests of library professionals through targeted advocacy efforts and strategic submissions to government authorities at both state and national levels. Its primary focus is on securing equitable recruitment, promotion, recognitions, and improved working conditions for library staff across Kerala's educational and administrative sectors.

Key initiatives include submissions to the Kerala Chief Minister concerning discrepancies in recruitment rules for university librarians and the appointment of librarians in secondary schools. KLA has engaged with entities such as the Kerala State Higher Education Council, Kerala PSC, and other government departments to push for unified pay scales, career advancement opportunities, and the recognition of librarians' vital roles.



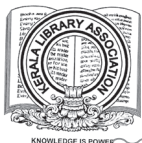
At the central level, KLA has communicated with bodies like the UGC and the Ministry of Education, highlighting issues related to research supervision, appointment procedures, departmental provisions, and infrastructural needs. These efforts aim to address anomalies in pay revisions, procedural inconsistencies, and policy gaps, thereby advocating for the elevation of the profession's standards.

Through consistent and strategic engagement, KLA remains dedicated to influencing policy decisions that enhance the professional stature and welfare of library professionals in Kerala and beyond. Its multifaceted activities underscore its role as a pivotal platform for professional growth, societal contribution, and the advancement of library science.

Role of Kerala Library Association (KLA) in Educational Policy Formation and Library Reforms in Kerala

Kerala Library Association (KLA) has played a pivotal role in shaping library policy and advancing library services within the state of Kerala. Recognizing the vital importance of libraries in fostering educational and informational growth, the Association has consistently engaged with government authorities through seminars, conferences, and consultative meetings, aiming to influence policy formulation and public opinion in favor of robust library systems.

A significant contribution of KLA has been its active participation in various reform committees and commissions, especially within the academic sector. Among the most noteworthy of these is the V P Joy Committee's report on College and School Libraries, which laid foundational guidelines for the development and modernization of educational libraries across Kerala. The Association's inputs have also been sought in several pay revision commissions formulated by the Government of Kerala, as well as national bodies such as the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). The dialogue with the Kerala State Commission on School Education, headed by Dr. U.R. Ananthamoorthy, exemplifies KLA's proactive engagement. The Association's proposals and inputs were well received and appreciated, underscoring its credibility and influence in matters of educational library development.



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey



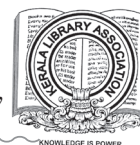
KLA has been instrumental in advancing the enactment and implementation of the Public Libraries Bill, Kerala, and has consistently championed policies for the scientific reorganization and effective functioning of public libraries in the state. Its support extends to various initiatives of the Kerala State Library Council and the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata, further demonstrating its commitment to strengthening library infrastructure and professional standards at both state and national levels.

Beyond policy advocacy, KLA has fostered collaboration with academic institutions—particularly Departments of Library and Information Science (LIS) across Kerala's universities. These partnerships facilitate training programs, seminars, and professional development activities for LIS students and practicing librarians, thereby enriching the professional community.

A key aspect of KLA's advocacy pertains to the working conditions of library professionals in Kerala. The association regularly articulates its viewpoints on issues related to service conditions, remuneration, and career development. Its persistent efforts have resulted in highlighting disparities and anomalies in pay scales across various levels of library professionals and successfully persuading successive pay commissions to address and remedy these concerns.

Furthermore, KLA remains an ardent advocate for the recognition and expansion of school libraries. The association continues its relentless efforts to persuade successive governments to appoint qualified professional librarians in high schools and higher secondary schools throughout Kerala. These initiatives aim to ensure quality library services in educational institutions, thereby supporting the holistic development of students and promoting a culture of reading and research.

In summary, the Kerala Library Association continues to serve as a vital bridge between the library profession, educational institutions, and government agencies, consistently working towards the development of a vibrant, professional, and well-supported library ecosystem in Kerala. Its contributions have significantly shaped policy, improved service standards, and fostered a culture of continuous professional advancement in the state.



KLA Gold Medal Award

KLA regularly organizes functions to distribute its most prestigious KLA Gold Medal and CA Augustine Holy Cross Endowment. It is being distributed every year to the First Rank holders of BLISc and MLISc Degree holders of Kerala, Mahatma Gandhi and Calicut and Kannur Universities. CA Augustine Holy Cross Endowment award is distributed to the MLISc students of Kerala University every year, who score the highest marks in the paper 'Information and Communication.'





SECTION 2 – PIECING IT TOGETHER

Reminiscences of a Retired Professional

After the fall of the Kerala Librarians Association, the senior library professionals in Kerala were realizing difficulties in taking up matters of professional interest with either the Government or the universities and in safe-guarding the larger interests of the profession. They wanted very much to give shape to a new state-wide organization, fully representative of all categories of qualified library personnel. Thus on 13th November 1972 some like-minded persons met in the Kerala University Library under the chairmanship of Mr. S. Parthasarathy, Librarian, British Council, Trivandrum, and the Kerala Library Association was formed with Prof. K.A. Isaac as President and P.V. Varghese (the State Librarian) as General Secretary. This meeting and all the follow- up work in the establishment of the KLA were at the initiative of Mr. Varghese and myself.



Prof C A Augustine

KLA secured registration as a society on 8-12-72-and became the lawful body of professional librarians in Kerala. Ever since its inception, KLA was able to represent the interests of qualified librarians working in different libraries always with due foresight and objectivity, keeping in view the proper development of libraries and library services in the State and thereby the development of a better and more informed and efficient citizenry. **KLA was not intended to be a trade union or service organization.** It worked for creating necessary public opinion on matters of policy relating to libraries and library services in the State and persuading the government machinery towards the improvement of all categories of libraries and librarians. It was able to project the case for improving library services in the colleges and as a first step in this direction to get improved status and pay special scales sanctioned for college librarians. KLA has always worked jointly with the Kerala College Librarians Association.

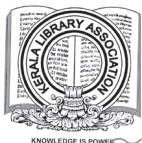


Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey



Prof. Isaac continued to be the President of KLA until his retirement from the Kerala University in 1985. I was the one elected to succeed him as the President, to be followed by Mr P.V. Varghese, Mr G. Reveendran Nair and Mrs. A. V. Rahelamma successively. KLA worked very well within serious limitations of men and money. Very often it was difficult to find persons to accept nomination as Office Bearers. I do not want to describe its activities and achievements here. But one thing I must say. The distinguishing feature of KLA was that it was non-political although persons with different political affiliations and ideologies were its members and office bearers.

(Source: KCLA Souvenir, 2000, Pp.39 - 40)



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey

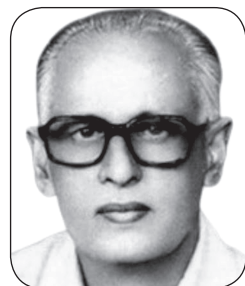


Kerala Library Association

Reg. No. 89/1971 TRIVANDRUM-1

Dear Friends

As you may be aware, a professional library association under the name Kerala Library Association has been formed at a meeting of a few Librarians held in Trivandrum on 13-10-71. The former Kerala Librarians' function as an effective instrument for lending Association has not been active for some years and it was felt that rather than revive that association it would be better to make a new beginning by lending our support to a new association. This Association has been registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1955 and the Reg. No. is 89/71.



Prof K A Isaac
(Founder President,
Kerala Library
Association)

We are sure that you are in complete agreement with the need for a professional association to function as a forum for ventilating the views of librarians on matters of professional interest to them. There was unanimity of opinion among the 24 librarians who attended the meeting at which the Association was formed that the formation of the Association should not be delayed in view of the projected library bill for our state and other developments of vital interest to us. Professional librarians have a responsibility to make their contributions to the successful implementation of any official or non-official programme for the development of libraries and library service in our state and our Association should function as an effective instrument for lending support to such endeavours. The Association is also necessary as an agency for holding conferences, seminars etc. with a view to giving opportunities to its members for informing themselves through discussions on professional problems and topics of interest. The Association's primary concern is improvement of professional efficiency in service and it places no bar on its members joining service associations.

We take this opportunity to invite you to join the Association and lend all your support to make it strong and effective. Please send your application for membership



along with the membership and admission fee of Rs. 11/- to the Treasurer Shri. C. A. Augustine, Lecturer in Library Science, University Library, Trivandrum...

Members of the Working Committee

1. K. A. Isaac, Librarian, University Library, Trivandrum. President
2. S Parthasarathy, Librarian, British Council, Trivandrum. Vice-president
3. P.V. Varghese, State Librarian, Trivandrum Public Library, Trivandrum.
General Secretary
4. G. Raveendran Nair, Librarian, Institute of Development Studies, Ulloor.
5. C.A. Augustine, Lecturer in Library Science, University Library, Treasurer
6. Smt. PC. Rukmini Amma, Librarian, Law Department, Secretariat, Trivandrum.
7. Shri. E. J. Mathew, Librarian, Deva Matha College, Kuravilangad.
8. Shri. P. Balakrishna Pillai, Documentation Officer, Medical College, Trivandrum.
9. Shri. C.N. Chandrasekharan Nair, Asst. Librarian, LS.RO., Thumba, Trivandrum.

Founder Members:

1. Shri. A.B. George, Deputy Librarian, Kerala Universtiy Library, Trivandrum.
2. Shri. N. Ramachandra Pillai, Librarian, Secretariat Central Library, Trivandrum.
3. Shri. Kurian G. Varghese, Librarian, K.E. College, Mannanam.
4. Shri. G. Swamickan, Library Assistant, British Council, Trivandrum.
5. Smt. Rajamma Mathew, Librarian, Medical College, Kottayam.
6. Shri. C.J. Kuriappen, Asst. Librarian, Medical College, Kottayam.
7. Shri. Mathew Varghese, Librarian, M.A. College, Kothamangalam.
8. Shri. M. George, Librarian, Marthoma College, Kothamangalam.
9. Fr. Paul P. Punchakunnel, Librarian, St. Thomas College, Palai.
10. Smt. Thankamma Samuvel, Library Asst., Kerala University, Trivandrum.
11. Shri. N. B. Xavier, Library Asst. British Council, Trivandrum.



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey



12. Smt. Sarah Titus, Librarian Christian College, Chenganoor.
13. Sr. Mary Grace, Librarian, Alphonsa College, Palai.
14. Fr. John V. C. Kallarackal, Librarian, Newman College, Thodupuzha.
15. Sr. Mary Bibiana, Librarian, B.C.M. College, Kottayam.
16. Smt. P. R. Girija Devi, Library Asst. SSTC Library, I.S.R.O. Trivandrum.
17. Smt. V. Mariamma, Library Asst. SSTC Library, I.S.R.O. Trivandrum.
18. Smt. T. Padma Jasmine, Library Asst. SSTC Library, I.S.R.O. Trivandrum.
19. Smt. Aleyamma George, SSTC Library, I.S.R.O. Trivandrum.
20. Smt. Remaney S., Library Asst. SSTC Library, I.S.R.O. Trivandrum.
21. Smt. D. Vimala Devi, Librarian, Mahatma Gandhi Govt. Arts College, Mahe.
22. Shri. M.M. Job, lecturer Dept. of Library Science, University of Kerala, Trivandrum.
23. Shri. Vaidyan Anjaneyulu, Librarian, SSTC Library, I.S.R.O., Trivandrum.
24. Smt. Elizabeth Varghese, SSTC Library, I.S.R.O., Trivandrum.
25. Shri. Thomas Kuruvila, Library Asst. SSTC Library, I.S.R.O., Trivandrum.
26. Smt. Saramma George, Library Asst. SSTC Library, I.S.R.O., Trivandrum.

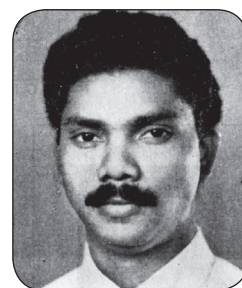
(Source: KCLA Souvenir, 2000, Pp. 70-71)



Glancing through KLA Journey: Kerala Library Association@25

Kerala Library Association - A Retrospective

The Kerala Library Association (K.L.A) was founded in 1971 by a group of librarians who strongly felt the need for a professional organisation dedicated to libraries and librarians. It was felt that an independent professional association at the state level is required to promote the cause of library development, professional improvement, and also the professional standards of librarians all over Kerala. The tremendous changes in concepts and practice in the field of Library and Information Science, consequent on the knowledge explosion and changes in Science and Technology, compelled these gentlemen to take such a wise decision.



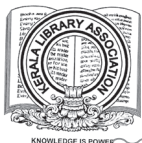
Dr. A. Paslithil
Former General
Secretary, KLA

Origin

Though Professional Library Associations were late to emerge in Kerala due to the lack of qualified librarians, the first attempt at founding a professional association had taken place as far back as in 1958. A few trained librarians met at Ernakulam and formed the All-Kerala College Librarian's Association (KCLA). The Association mainly dealt with issues like pay scales, improvement in qualification, status, and service conditions of librarians in the colleges of Kerala.

In 1961 the University of Kerala opened a new department to offer Bachelor's Degree in Library Science. Consequently, the number of degree holders in the field of Library and Information Science began to increase in Kerala. This subsequently led to the formation of another association for librarians called 'Kerala Librarians' Association' in 1964 at Trivandrum.

The Association worked very actively and succeeded in projecting a proper image of the library profession. The improvement in the status and pay scale of the state



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey



Librarians, the recognition obtained for professional qualifications essential for appointments in libraries, the importance given by the successive pay commissions to the library professionals as a special category are the major achievements of the Association.

As time passed, a feeling began to grow among the members that the Association should largely confine itself to academic and professional matters for which a redesignation of its name was inevitable and thus the present Association - 'Kerala Library Association'(KLA) - was formed in 1971. It was registered under the Societies Registration Act, and became the first legitimate organisation of the professional librarians in the State.

Objectives

The major objectives of the Association are promotion of professional library movement and improvement of library service in the State. In order to fulfil the objectives, it brings together all librarians in Kerala by holding conferences, seminars, workshops and meeting for discussions of matters affecting the library profession. It has succeeded to a great extent in matters such as the enactment of library legislation, strengthening of library administration, promotion of continuing education in Library Science, and popularisation of bibliographical and documentation services. Now it has become a common forum for effective interaction among librarians, information scientists, academicians, intellectuals, social workers and the common masses and it has in fact become a socio-cultural movement besides being an academic forum of the professional librarians.

Membership & Election of Office Bearers

The KLA is composed of four categories of Membership, i.e. ordinary to those who possess a degree or diploma in Library Science, membership for one year to library science students, Honorary membership to dignitaries in the field of Library Profession, and Life membership to all ordinary members who pay an advance subscription of Rs. 200/-. The members' loyalty to the Association has stood in good stead in all these years. They are continuously encouraging the various plans, programmes and activities being undertaken by the Association from time to time.



There shall be Regional and Sectional committees constituted as and when the Association deems it fit in accordance with the Bye-laws framed for this purpose.

Publications

In the field of publication also KLA has made its own imprint. It is regularly publishing 'KLA News Letter', which is distributed free to all its members. So far, the Association has published five research monographs, many seminar volumes and two souvenirs including the present one. The Association has also brought out a Bibliography on AIDS in connection with the World AIDS Day on 1st December, 1996. This publication was highly appreciated by the Press and the Medical profession.

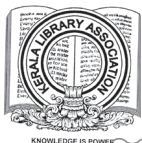
Seminars

Apart from this, the Association conducts seminars, computer training programmes, conferences and workshops every year for the library professionals. A galaxy of library and information professionals and other veterans in different fields in the State and outside actively participate in such seminars. The subject matter for discussion at these seminars include technical & professional topics, matters of wider interest like library development plans, library legislation, library awareness, promotion of reading habit and role of libraries for national development. Public functions and meetings are also organized by the KLA off and on.

Training Programmes

The KLA in association with State Library Council has launched a training programme for working librarians in rural libraries of Kerala during 1996-97. The programme was mainly intended to

1. utilize the expertise acquired by Professional librarians for effective dissemination of information among the common masses through the public libraries spread over the State
2. convince the untrained librarians working in rural libraries of the enormous possibilities for information handling by organising the library in scientific lines.
3. boost the image of Professional librarians by offering services for the upliftment of the rural libraries and by making their usefulness felt by the common masses.



Former Presidents & Secretaries

Those who take active interest in the organization include a group of eminent librarians of the State like Prof. K.A. Issac, Prof. A.B. George, P.V. Varghese, C.A. Augustin, Late G. Ravindran Nair, N. Sukumaran Nair, Dr. G.Devarajan, N. Parameswaran, A.C. Rajan, P. Gopalakrishnan Nair, M. Ahammed Kunju, N. Suresfh Kumar, Smt. T. Vijayalekshmi and Smt. A.V. Rahelamma had served either as President or General Secretary of the Association in different periods.

Awards

In order to encourage the students who undergo Degree courses in Library and Information Services, the KLA has instituted Gold medal awards to the first rank holders of BLISc in Kerala & Calicut Universities. C.A. Augustin – Holy Cross endowment is also operated by the Kerala Library Association.

Voice of the Association

The Association has boldly voiced the sentiments and views of professionals on several occasions to the concerned authorities. A variety of public institutions and professionals seek information and guidance from the Association on different aspects of library and information science and service. It has conducted many seminars for mobilizing public opinion on public library legislation and helped the government to formulate policies relating to different aspects of the library development in the state. It has submitted to the government its firm views on public library system, academic library and special libraries on several occasions. It has successfully projected the need for improving library services in colleges, and universities. The formation of an Expert Committee to study the library situation in colleges (V.P. Joy Committee) and the partial implementation of the committee's Report was mainly due to the continuous efforts of the Kerala Library Association.

The vital role of the Association has been that of a leader, and coordinator, to bring about a harmonious development in the entire field of librarianship. This is a profession with an ever-expanding horizon. The Association feels that just like capital, land and labour, information is also basic to the development of a nation. Extending helpful access to information is the professional responsibility and moral obligation of every librarian.



Kerala Library Association Landmarks In The Silver Jubilee Year 1996-1997

- 24-06-1996 Shri. P.J. Joseph, Hon'ble Minister for Education, Kerala inaugurated the Silver Jubilee Celebrations and the two-day state level seminar on "Library situation in Kerala; a Blue-print for development"
- 02-08-1996 KLA Newsletter in the new format was published
- 11-11-1996 Book donation programme at Lekshmi Bhai National College of Physical Education [LNCPE], Kariavattom
- 16-11-1996 Seminar on "Modern information Technology" at B.C.M College, Kottayam
- 18-11-1996 Seminar on "The role of libraries in the people's participation programme" inaugurated by Sri. E.M. Sankaran Namboothiripad at Thiruvananthapuram
- 28-11-1996 Seminar on "Integrating Information Technology-problems ahead" inaugurated by Sri. V.P. Joy IAS at Ernakulam
- 01-12-1996 World AIDS Day Exhibition and publication of " AIDS: A Select Bibliography" at Thiruvananthapuram
- 22-02-1997 Prof. PN. Kaula, President of ILA addressed the KLA regional meeting at Kozhikode
- 24-02-1997 Five-day training programme for rural librarians in collaboration with the Kerala State Library Council at Kaladi, Ernakulam
- 08-03-1997 Two-day seminar on Modern Library Management & Multimedia Exhibition at Trichur inaugurated by Prof. (Dr.) Sukumar Azhikode
- 14-03-1997 Five-day training programme for rural librarians in collaboration with the Kerala State Library Council at Aripa, Palode, Thiruvananthapuram
- 26-03-1997 Five-day training programme for rural librarians in collaboration with the Kerala State Library Council at Boys Town, Mananthavadi, Wynad
- 28-06-1997 Valedictory function of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations and Get-together of KLA members and wellwishers at Thiruvananthapuram



Conclusion

As far as an Association is concerned, 25 years is not a very long period. Yet, the Association is proud of the time it has come over and the activities it has undertaken till now. I strongly believe that the prestige and image of the Association largely depend upon the consistency of efforts and contributions towards strengthening the profession, at a time when the Information Technology is changing the very face of the profession. In order to serve the society meaningfully the activities of the Association in the Silver Jubilee Year, (1996 – 97) like the training programme for the librarians in the rural libraries of the state, should be continued in the coming years as well. Let us work together for the glory and success of the Association which ultimately will benefit the profession at large.

Kerala Library Association Silver Jubilee Souvenir, 1997, Pp. 19-21





50th Year Celebrations of Kerala Library Association (KLA)

Kerala Library Association (KLA) commemorated its Golden Jubilee in the year 2022-23, celebrating five decades of dedicated service promoting library and information sciences in Kerala. The celebrations included a series of distinguished programmes held predominantly on August 23, 2023, at the Kerala University Study Centre, PMG, Trivandrum, marking a significant milestone in the association's history.

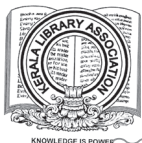
1. Golden Jubilee Main Function

The flagship event commenced at 10 AM on August 23, 2023, with an invocation by Miss Revathy Nair G. R. The function was presided over by Sri. Jacob Punnoose IPS, Former Director General of Police and Kerala Police Chief.

Sri. Jacob Punnoose highlighted the critical role of libraries in education, sharing personal college experiences. Dr. V.P. Joy IAS, Former Chief Secretary, Kerala, inaugurated the closing ceremony and expressed appreciation for KLA's efforts in uplifting the library profession. Dr. Vijayakumar, K.P (KLA President),

Dr. P. S. Sreekala (Director, Kerala Knowledge Economy Mission), Prof. G. Devarajan, Smt. P.K. Sobhana, among others, delivered felicitations. Various distinguished personalities, including Dr. P. K Suresh Kumar, Prof. A. Paslithil, Shri. P. J Manuel, and Shri. Tomy Joseph, shared insights on the profession.





2. KLA Best Librarian Award 2021

A special recognition was given to Smt. Mini G. Pillai, former University Librarian-in-charge at M G University, chosen unanimously by a subcommittee comprising senior library professionals. The award (Rs.10,000/- cash prize and citation) was conferred during the same event by Dr. V. P. Joy at the Kerala University Study Centre.

3. Honouring Former Office Bearers

A prestigious librarians' meet was organized to honour retired office bearers who contributed significantly to KLA's growth. A Ponnada and a memento were presented by Dr. V. P. Joy and Shri. Jacob Punnoose, acknowledging their invaluable service.

4. KLA Gold Medal & Prof. C. A. Augustine Holy Cross Endowment

The celebration featured the distribution of the KLA Gold Medals and Prof. C. A. Augustine – Holy Cross Endowment Awards.

- Gold Medals: Presented to top students in MLISc Course from Kannur University, Calicut University, Mahatma Gandhi University, and University of Kerala by Shri. Jacob Punnoose.
- Endowment Awards: Certificates, cash prizes, and mementos were distributed to students excelling in the "Information and Communication" paper of the MLISc course, honoring Prof. C. A. Augustine's legacy.

5. KLA Inter-University Quiz Competition 2023

Held at St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam on May 27, 2023, the quiz aimed to promote student engagement in LIS among universities.

- Participants: Teams from University of Calicut (2), M.G University (1), and University of Kerala (2).
- Results:
 - o 1st Place: Team A, University of Kerala
 - o 2nd Place: Team from M.G University

Dr. Vijayakumar K.P. was the quiz master and Dr. P. K. Suresh Kumar moderated. Cash awards and certificates were distributed at the closing ceremony.



6. Felicitation of LIS Professionals

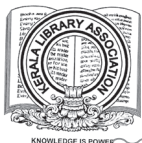
KLA acknowledged professionals who succeeded in the Professional Enrichment Programme (PEP) conducted during 2021-22.

Thirteen professionals, including those placed in the Kerala Public Service Commission rank list for university professional assistants, received mementos from Shri. Jacob Punnoose. The 50th-year celebrations of KLA successfully showcased the association's commitment to advancing library sciences and acknowledging individual and collective contributions. The programs fostered camaraderie, recognized excellence, and reinforced the vital role of librarians and information professionals in Kerala's educational landscape.

KLA remains dedicated to its mission as it continues to serve and uplift the library profession into the future.



KLA gold medals and certificates



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey



ROLL OF HONOUR

KERALA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION (KLA)

Reg. No. 89/71

Presidents & Secretaries (1971 - 2025)

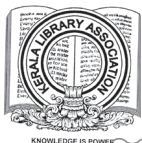
Year	President	Secretary
1971 - 72	Prof K.A. Issac	P.V. Varghese
1972 - 73	Prof K.A. Isaac	
1973 - 74	Prof K.A. Isaac	
1974 - 75	Prof K.A. Isaac	
1975 - 76	Prof K.A. Isaac	
1976 - 77	Prof K.A. Isaac	
1977 - 78	Prof K.A. Isaac	
1978 - 79	Prof K.A. Isaac	
1979 - 80	Prof K.A. Isaac	
1980 - 81	Prof K.A. Isaac	
1981 - 82	Prof K.A. Isaac	
1982 - 83	Prof K.A. Isaac	
1983 - 84	Prof K.A. Isaac	
1984 - 85	Prof K.A. Isaac	
1985 - 86	Prof C.A. Augustine	
1986 - 87	P.V. Varghese	
1987 - 88	G. Raveendran Nair	



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey



Year	President	Secretary
1988 – 89	Prof C.A. Augustine	N. Suresh Kumar
1989 – 90	Dr. G. Devarajan	P. Gopalakrishnan Nair
1990 – 91	Dr. G. Devarajan	P. Gopalakrishnan Nair
1991 – 92	A.V. Rahelanna	M. Ahamed Kunju
1992 – 93	Prof A.B. George	M. Ahamed Kunju
1993 – 94	Prof A.B. George	N. Sukumaran Nair
1994 – 95	Prof A.B. George	N. Sukumaran Nair
1995 – 96	A.V. Rahelamma	P. Gopalakrishnan Nair
1996 – 97	Prof A.B. George	Dr. A. Paslithil
1997 – 99	N. Sukumaran Nair	Dr. A. Paslithil
1999 – 2001	N. Sukumaran Nair	A. Gopikuttan
2001 – 03	N. Parameswaran	S. Subhash Babu
2003 – 05	N. Parameswaran	K.P. Sadasivan
2005 – 07	N. Parameswaran	Dr. A. Gopikuttan
2007 – 09	N. Sukumaran Nair	Dr. Vijayakumar K.P.
2009 – 11	K.P. Sadasivan	P.K. Sureshkumar
2011 – 13	K.P. Sadasivan/ Dr. A. Gopikuttan	S.L. Faisal
2013 – 15	Dr. A. Gopikuttan	Dr. M. Lalitha
2015 – 17	Dr. Vijayakumar K.P.	Dr. M. Lalitha
2017 – 19	Dr. Vijayakumar K.P.	Dr. P.K. Sureshkumar
2019 – 21	Dr. Vijayakumar K.P.	Dr. P.K. Sureshkumar
2021 – 23	Dr. Vijayakumar K.P.	Dr. P.K. Sureshkumar
2023 – 25	Dr. Vijayakumar K.P.	Dr. P.K. Sureshkumar



SECTION 3 - THE MILESTONES

1. KLA Constitution, Byelaws & Amendments

KLA has a well-drafted constitution, with its byelaws covering all aspects of librarianship and the functioning of a professional association. It was registered as 89/71 and has a section dealing with regional committees, incorporated later. As years pass by, the changes and the new situations demand appropriate amendments in the byelaws as well. It is thus an on-going process.

KLA's website has segment on Constitution, incorporating Amendments brought upto 3 May 1998. The subsequent amendments (2009 & 2017) are given separately. The link is given below:

<https://keralalibraryassociation.org/downloads/constitution.pdf>

Amendments to the Constitution and Bye-Laws (19.07.2009)

Article II

Existing: The Head Office of the Association shall be situated at Trivandrum. Until a permanent office of its own is established, all correspondence shall be addressed to the General Secretary in the personal address.

Amended: The Head Office of the Association shall be situated at its permanently acquired office building having the address: No.36, II Floor, Kairalie Plaza Annexe, Karamana.P.O, Thiruvannathapuram-695 002. All correspondences shall henceforth be addressed to the General Secretary in the Head Office address or in his/her personal address. Amended The Head Office of the Association shall be situated at its permanently acquired office building having the address: No.36, II Floor, Kairalie Plaza Annexe, Karamana.P.O, Thiruvannathapuram-695 002. All correspondences shall henceforth be addressed to the General Secretary in the Head Office address or in his/her personal address.



Article V, Clause a(iv)

Existing: Life Membership shall be open to all candidates who satisfy the required minimum qualification viz. a basic bachelor's degree with a degree/diploma in Library Science, subscribe to the objects of the Association and pay an admission fee of Rs.10/- and an advance subscription of Rs.400/- (Rupees Four Hundred only) either in full or in not more than four instalments falling within the period of the same financial year of the Association. Ordinary members can convert to Life membership by paying an advance subscription of Rs.400/- either in full or in not more than four instalments as mentioned above.

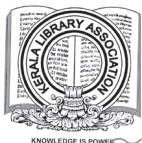
Amended: Life Membership shall be open to all candidates who satisfy the required minimum qualification viz. a basic bachelor's degree with a degree in Library & Information Science, subscribe to the objects of the Association and pay an admission fee of Rs.10/- and an advance subscription of Rs.600/- (Rupees Six Hundred only) either in full or in not more than two instalments falling within the period of the same financial year of the Association. Ordinary members can convert to Life membership by paying an advance subscription of Rs.600/- either in full or in not more than two instalments as mentioned above.

Amendments to the Constitution and Bye-Laws (20.08.2017)

Article V, Clause a(i)

Existing: Ordinary membership shall be open to all Librarians who satisfy the required minimum qualifications viz, a basic bachelor's degree with a degree in Library & Information Science, subscribe to the objects of the Association and pay an admission fee of Rs.10/- and annual subscription of Rs.100/- Ordinary membership shall be open to all Librarians who satisfy the required minimum qualifications viz, a basic bachelor's degree with a degree in Library & Information Science, subscribe to the objects of the Association and pay an annual subscription of Rs.250/-

Amended: Ordinary membership shall be open to all Librarians who satisfy the required minimum qualifications viz, a basic bachelor's degree with a degree in Library & Information Science, subscribe to the objects of the Association and pay an admission fee of Rs.10/- and annual subscription of Rs.100/- Ordinary membership



shall be open to all Librarians who satisfy the required minimum qualifications viz, a basic bachelor's degree with a degree in Library & Information Science, subscribe to the objects of the Association and pay an annual subscription of Rs.250/-

Article V, Clause a(iv)

Existing: Life Membership shall be open to all candidates who satisfy the required minimum qualification viz. a basic bachelor's degree with a degree in Library & Information Science, subscribe to the objects of the Association and pay an admission fee of Rs.10/- and an advance subscription of Rs.600/- (Rupees Six Hundred only) either in full or in not more than two instalments falling within the period of the same financial year of the Association. Ordinary members can convert to Life membership by paying an advance subscription of Rs.600/- either in full or in not more than two instalments as mentioned above.

Amended: Life Membership shall be open to all candidates who satisfy the required minimum qualification viz. a basic bachelor's degree with a degree in Library & Information Science, subscribe to the objects of the Association and pay a membership fee of Rs.1000/- (Rupees One thousand only) either in full or in not more than two instalments falling within the period of the same financial year of the Association.

1. Context of Amendments

- **Limited Frequency of Amendments:** KLA has only amended its bye-laws twice since 1998, indicating a relatively stable constitutional framework over this period.
- **Purpose of Amendments:** The changes seem primarily administrative and financial, reflecting evolving organizational needs, member qualifications, and fee structures.

2. Key Areas of Amendments

a. Head Office Location (2009 Amendment)

- **Existing:** The office was based at Trivandrum, with correspondence sent to the General Secretary's personal address until a permanent office was established.



- **Amended:** The office now explicitly resides at a permanent, newly acquired building (No.36, II Floor, Kairalie Plaza Annexe, Karamana), with clarifications on correspondence address.

Enhances organizational professionalism, accountability, and clarity. The move to a dedicated, permanent office signifies organizational stability and growth.

b. Membership Qualification & Fees

i. Life Membership (2009 & 2017 Amendments)

- **Qualifications:**
 - 2009: Minimum qualification as a Bachelor's degree with a Diploma/degree in Library Science.
 - 2017: Slight revision emphasizing "Library & Information Science" explicitly.
- **Fees & Payments:**
 - 2009: Rs. 400/- subscription, payable in up to four instalments.
 - 2017: Increased to Rs. 600/- (in 2 instalments).
 - 2017: New fee of Rs. 1000/- introduced later.

The fee increments over years suggest increased administrative costs or a desire to boost revenue. The instalment options are restricted over time, possibly aiming to streamline payments.

ii. Ordinary Membership (2009 & 2017)

- **2009**
 - Rs. 10/- admission fee.
 - Rs. 400/- annual subscription.
- **2017**
 - Same admission fee Rs. 10/-
 - Rs. 250/- annual subscription, indicating a reduction or adjustment.

The change in annual subscription fee could reflect inflation adjustments or efforts to encourage new membership.

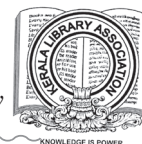


3. Overall Trends and Implications

- **Consolidation of Membership Criteria:** Slight refinements to qualifications (e.g., specifying “Library & Information Science”) suggest attention to clarity and professionalism.
- **Financial Adjustments:** Significant fee increases for life membership (from Rs. 400 to Rs. 600 and then Rs. 1000) highlight a strategic move to bolster funds or match rising operational costs.
- **Administrative Stability:** Minimal amendments over nearly two decades imply a stable governance framework, with changes introduced only when necessary — likely for administrative efficiency, financial sustainability, or clarity.
- **Focus on Formalization:** Precise addresses, fee structures, and qualification criteria improvements point towards a focus on formalization and organizational strengthening.

4. Conclusion

- The amendments reflect a cautious, steady approach to governance, balancing stability with necessary updates to meet organizational growth, financial needs, and clarity.
- The incremental fee adjustments and formalization of organizational details suggest a focus on sustainability and professionalism.
- The limited number of amendments indicates a well-established framework, with changes introduced thoughtfully rather than reactively.



2. Regional Committees of the Association

Initial Steps (1989-1991)

- **19 July 1989:** Initial efforts were made to organize regional committees; however, these did not materialize at that time (*19th AGM Report*).
- **1990-91 (20th AGM Report):** To facilitate regional activities, members were nominated to coordinate the Kerala Library Association (KLA) work initially two main regions:
 - **Kottayam**
 - ◆ **Chairman:** A. J. Philip (St. Stephen's College, Uzhavoor)
 - Convenor:** J. Suku (MG University Library)
 - **Ernakulam**
 - ◆ **Chairman:** V. Gopakumar (Government Law College, EKM)
 - **Kozhikode: (from 21st AGM Report)**
 - ◆ **Chairman:** A. Lalitha Solaman (Calicut University)
 - ◆ **Convenor:** Dr. Rosamma Joseph (Calicut University)
- **1991-92:** The association prepared and shared a region-wise list of members and circulars outlining activities for each region.

Formation of Executive Committees & Early Activities (1992-1995)

- **26 February 1992:** The first Executive Committee (EC) meetings took place in Kozhikode, EKM, and Kottayam, establishing the organizational structures.
- **1993-95 Regional Committees:**
 - **Kottayam:** Chairperson – Kuruvilla George; Convenor – A.J. Philip
 - **Ernakulam:** Juliet Daniel, A.T. Francis
 - **Kozhikode:** M. Parameswaran, V. Rajam
- **1996 (3 July):** The EC decided to establish four regional committees with appointed chairs and convenors:



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey



- o **Kottayam:** E.J. Mathew, V.R. Chinnamma
- o **Ernakulam:** Juliet Daniel, Asok Kumar
- o **Thrissur:** R. Raman Nair, A.T. Francis
- o **Kozhikode:** M. Parameswaran, Dr. V. Rajam
- **Activities in 1996**
 - o Kottayam: Seminar on **"Modern Information Technology"** (16 November 1996)
 - o EKM: Seminar at Law College (28 November 1996)
 - o Thrissur: Workshop on **Modern Library Management & Multimedia Exhibition** (8-9 March 1996)
 - o Thrissur: Seminar on **"Popular Planning and Libraries"** (18 November 1996)

2000s: Expansion, Fund Regulations, and Regional Development

- **2000-2001**
 - o Regional members from various districts including Pathanamthitta, Idukki, Alappuzha, and Palakkad were integrated into respective regions based on current working librarians and the members' home districts.
 - o **Regional Committee Limit:** As per Bye-Laws, regional committees could have up to 75 members, with the EC limited to 7 members.
 - o **Funding (2000):** Only 50% of the annual membership fee collected could be allocated for regional activities; no financial assistance was provided for AGBMS.
- **2001-03:** Regional presidents and secretaries became members of the Central EC.
 - o **Regional Committee Members**
 - ◆ **Kottayam:** A.J. Philip (President), J. Suku (Secretary)
 - ◆ **Ernakulam:** Juliet Daniel, P.J. Manuel
 - ◆ **Thrissur:** P. Humayoon Kabir, K.D. Anto
 - ◆ **Kozhikode:** M. Parameswaran, T.P. Nazarudeen



Recent Developments (2009-2024)

● 2009-11

- o Regional committees continued with designated chairs and convenors, including:
 - ◆ **Kottayam:** Fr. Jose Viruppel, Unnikrishnan
 - ◆ **Ernakulam:** K. Balachandran, Anoop Varma
 - ◆ **Thrissur:** S. Azhagiri, E.K. Mohanan
 - ◆ **Kozhikode:** Dr. M.G. Sreekumar, Dr Dineshan Koovakkai

● 2011-13

- o The regional structure persisted with new appointments:
 - ◆ **Kottayam:** Fr. Jose Viruppel (President), V. Vimal Kumar
 - ◆ **Ernakulam:** P.J. Manuel, Sr. Mariya D'Silva (or Ashrita)
 - ◆ **Thrissur:** Dr. A.J. Francis, Humayoon Kabeer P
 - ◆ **Kozhikode:** Dr. Abdul Azeez T. A, T. M. Vasudevan
- o Notable activity: A payment of ₹ 3000 was made to Thrissur branch in September 2012.

● 2013-15

- o The regional structure persisted with new appointments:
 - ◆ **Kottayam:** (President), V. Vimal Kumar
 - ◆ **Ernakulam:** P.J. Manuel, Sr. Mariya D'Silva (Sr Ashrita)
 - ◆ **Thrissur:** Dr. A.J. Francis, Humayoon Kabeer P
 - ◆ **Kozhikode:** Dr. Mohammed Haneefa, Sasi P K

● 2015-17

- ◆ **Kottayam:** Tomy Joseph (President), V. Vimal Kumar
- ◆ **Ernakulam:** P J Manuel, Dr Shibu Ray
- ◆ **Thrissur:**
- ◆ **Kozhikode:** Dr Mohammed Haneefa, A Mohanan

● **2017-19**

- ◆ **Kottayam:** Tomy Joseph (President), V. Vimal Kumar
- ◆ **Ernakulam:** Dr T V Muraleedharan Pillai, V S Sivankutty
- ◆ **Thrissur:**
- ◆ **Kozhikode:** Dr T M Vasudevan, A Mohanan

● **2020-21**

- ◆ **Kottayam:** Tomy Joseph (President), T K Savithry
- ◆ **Ernakulam:** Joe Joseph, Kunjumammed V S
- ◆ **Kozhikode:** Dr Mohammed Haneefa, A Mohanan

● **2022-23**

- ◆ **Kottayam:** Tomy Joseph (President), T K Savithry
- ◆ **Ernakulam:** Joe Joseph, Silaja T
- ◆ **Kozhikode:** Dr Mohammed Haneefa, A Mohanan

● **2023-24**

- ◆ **Kottayam:** Dr Mini G Pillai (President), T K Savithry
- ◆ **Ernakulam:** Manuel P J, Dr Kunjumammed V S
- ◆ **Kozhikode:** Dr Syamili C, A Mohanan

In General

All the regional committees are actively engaged in recognizing professionals, supporting institutions through consultancy, and promoting continuous learning through webinars and motivational talks, strengthening the region's library community. Their activities reflect a strong focus on skill development and digital literacy among library professionals, students, and researchers. Through targeted workshops on Malayalam



KLA Seminar at Thrissur, 1997



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey



Wikipedia editing, effective writing, and Linux systems, regions like Kottayam successfully promote practical knowledge and technological proficiency, thereby contributing to the ongoing modernization and capacity building of the LIS community. For instance, while it was active, Kerala Library Association (KLA) Thrissur Region's activities during 2012-2013 had been highly successful and impactful. Through a series of well-organized seminars, a vigorous membership campaign, and dedicated efforts to improve school libraries, the region significantly contributed to the professional development of librarians and the advancement of library services.



Prof A B George at MA College, Kothamangalam

Overall, the programmes of regional committees maintain a good balance between practical skills, theoretical understanding, and recognition of important community figures. This diverse and engaging array of activities significantly contributed to the professional growth of participants and exemplifies a vibrant, forward-looking regional library community committed to continuous learning and innovation. For instance, during 2014-15, Kottayam RC had organized a diverse array of programmes

WEBINAR ON
PREPARATIONS FOR
KOHA IMPLEMENTATION

10:30 AM, 19 SEPTEMBER 2020

SPEAKER
DR VIMAL KUMAR V

KLAWEBLOG.WORDPRESS.COM

KERALA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION-KOTTAYAM REGION

MEETING LINK

YouTube

QR code

that catered to the needs of library professionals, researchers, and students. These activities ranged from theoretical seminars on scholarly communication and plagiarism to practical workshops on bibliographic management tools like Zotero, Mendeley, and WordPress, reflecting a strong emphasis on enhancing research competencies and digital literacy. The inclusion of a thought-provoking talk on 'e-reading' also highlighted a focus on emerging trends in media and publishing. Furthermore, the publication of an e-book



KLA Kottayam RC

in honour of Rev. Fr. Jose Viruppel showcases the committee's dedication to recognizing contributions within the community and promoting scholarly output. The activities collectively exemplify a proactive approach towards continuous professional development and adaptation to modern information and communication technologies in librarianship.

If the same period is taken, it will be seen that the Ernakulam Regional Committee had also demonstrated a highly active and relevant engagement with the professional community. The programmes encompass a wide array of initiatives aimed at enhancing professional skills, promoting research integrity, and fostering innovation in library services. These include capacity-building workshops on digital library development with DSpace and WordPress, seminars and workshops on managing innovation and



KLA Thrissur RC

ensuring research quality, and sessions on emerging trends such as e-reading and digital library design. The region also facilitated consultancy services for automation and digital initiatives in local libraries and announced an upcoming publication focused on managing innovations in modern libraries. All these programmes reflect a strategic and comprehensive



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey



approach to professional development in the library sector. By focusing on technological upskilling, research methodologies, and future-oriented practices, these activities demonstrate the committee's commitment to equipping library professionals with the necessary tools to meet contemporary challenges.

Such proactive engagement not only advances library science in the region but also fosters a culture of innovation, collaboration, and continuous learning, ultimately contributing to the sustained progress of library and information services in Ernakulam.



KLA Ernakulam RC

Kozhikode Regional Committee continues with KLA's objective of strengthening engagement through various initiatives, including seminars, training programs, and a membership drive. Notable activities include seminars on best practices in libraries, discussions on national seminar organization, and proposals to the Pay Revision



KLA Kozhikode RC

Committee. Despite challenges such as financial constraints and professional disinterest, the committee demonstrates a commitment to professional development, technological advancement, and active participation in library science discourse.

These efforts have fostered a vibrant professional community and laid a strong foundation for future growth and innovation in library and information services in the regions.

Additional Notes

- Regional committees are formed with specific regional representation based on the districts and institutions where members work or reside, including provisions for retired persons in their home districts.



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey



- The association emphasizes active participation through seminars, workshops, and collaborations, with funding guidelines and member limits clearly defined.
- The increasing formalization of these committees demonstrates sustained development of regional activities within the association.
- From 2018, the Annual General Body meetings in the election year are held at KLA Headquarters. Regional committees host the AGMs in the non-election year.
- Executive Committee (the Central Committee) usually meets at the HQ once in a month and decide on the future course of events and the like. Because of logistics and paucity of time, Presidents, Secretaries or the representative of the Regional Committees do not get an opportunity per se to become part of the decision-making process. To address this grievance, nowadays a State Committee meeting is being arranged every alternate year at the HQ at a convenient time. This gives an opportunity to all the members to interact and communicate with the main committee members and exchange ideas. The first combined State Committee met on 16 March 2014 and the next was on 19 February 2017. The pandemic in between and the subsequent drawbacks have temporarily put a stop to this exercise. Moreover, nowadays the ECs are mostly done in the online mode. This enables all to attend the EC meetings from wherever they are and get involved in the KLA activities.
- Thrissur Region became defunct from 2016-17 and is yet to be reconstituted. The closing down of Thrissur Regional Committee will remain a painful blot on the history of KLA. It was a culmination of a no. of combined issues and it was decided not to reconstitute the said Committee in a hurry. Attempts to revive it, choosing those willing to co-operate with KLA, failed and there was no positive response to the appeals made by KLA. On 19 February 2017, the EC decided to merge the Thrissur region with the Ernakulam region and also to amalgamate those from the Palakkad region with the Kozhikode region, after getting concurrence from the respective regional committees. Unfortunately, both expressed their unwillingness to comply and the stalemate continues till date.



3. Membership of the Association: An Overview

KLA Membership

KLA offers four types of membership:

1. Ordinary Membership

Ordinary Membership is open to all librarians who satisfy the required minimum qualifications viz. a basic Bachelor's Degree with a Degree in Library Science, and the annual subscription is Rs.250/-.

2. Associate Membership

Associate Membership is open to students undergoing a course of study leading to a Degree in Library Science, with an admission fee of Rs. 10/- and annual subscription of Rs. 25/-.

3. Honorary Membership

Honorary Membership is granted to eminent personalities in the field of library profession, service and teaching.

4. Life Membership

Life Membership is open to all librarians who satisfy the required minimum qualifications viz. a basic Bachelor's Degree with a Degree in Library Science. The life membership fee is Rs. 1000/- (Rupees One thousand only) and it can be paid either in full or in two instalments @ Rs. 500/- falling within the period of the same financial year of the Association.

The present membership stands at 1650.

Early Memberships (1971-1989)

- **First Member**

- **Sri P.V. Varghese**, the then State Librarian of Thiruvananthapuram Public Library, was the inaugural member enrolled on **13 October 1971**.
- Registration Fee: Rs. 1/-



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey



- o Annual Fee: Rs. 10/-
- o Total Members (1969-12/1971): 20 members

Growth and Membership Data (1988-1992)

- **1988-89**
 - o Total Members: 366
 - o Life Members (LM): 354
- **17th AGM (1988-89)**
 - o Total Members: 322
 - o Life Members: 118
 - o Ordinary Members (OM): 202
 - o Associates: 2
- **19th AGM (1989-91)**
 - o Total Members: 396
 - o Life Members + Ordinary Members: $145 + 251 = 396$ (full count)
- **21st AGM (1991-92)**
 - o Total Members: 426
 - o Life Members + Ordinary Members: $167 + 259 = 426$
- **Final Membership Position (Post 1992)**
 - o Total Members: 159 (sum of 143 + 16 from AGM notes)

Later Data and Notable Milestones

- **23rd AGM (Post-1992)**
 - o Life Members: 290
 - o Associates/Other: 36
- **Membership Figures (Mid-1990s)**
 - o 30 June 1995: Total members reached 320
 - o 30 June 1996: Total members increased to 347



- **1996-97 (Silver Jubilee Year)**
 - Total Members: 299 (comprising 50 Life Members plus 42 Others/OM)
- **By February 2000**
 - Membership count: 35 (Note: Likely a subset or active membership figure)

Membership Fee Structure and Enhancements

- **Pre-2009 Fee Structure**
 - Ordinary Membership: Rs. 50
 - Life Membership: Rs. 400
- **2009 (Extraordinary General Body Meeting on 19 July 2009)**
 - Membership Fee Increase:
 - ◆ Ordinary: Rs. 100 (from Rs. 50)
 - ◆ Life: Rs. 600 (from Rs. 400)
 - Fee increase formalized with amendments to Article V, Clause a (i) (Page 49 of KLA minutes bk - 2008-11).
- **2016 (Extraordinary AGM on 29 July 2016)**
 - Membership fee revised to Rs. 1000 for both Ordinary and Life Members.

Membership Policies and Decisions

- **26 June 1994**
 - Eligibility for Correspondence Course Degree Holders:
 - ◆ Ordinary membership of the KLA to be granted to correspondence course degree holders, ratified by the GB.
- **20th AGM (Date unspecified)**
 - Policy on Arrears:
 - ◆ Defaulting members (arrears not cleared before June or the subsequent GBM) are automatically cancelled.
 - ◆ The Association removed defaulters after due notice and issued ID cards to all LMS.



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey



o Institutional Memberships:

- ◆ The constitution was amended to include libraries and other institutions for institutional memberships.

Summary Timeline

Date	Event/Details
13.10.1971	First member (Sri P.V. Varghese) enrolled; Rs. 1/- reg fee, Rs. 10/- yearly
1969-1971	20 members enrolled
1988-89	Total 366 members; 354 Life Members
17th AGM (1988-89)	322 total; 118 LM, 202 OM, 2 associates
19th AGM (1989-91)	396 total; 145 LM, 251 OM
21st AGM (1991-92)	426 total; 167 LM, 259 OM
Post-1992	Membership settled at 159 after adjustments
1995-96	Membership grows to 347; Silver Jubilee Year (1996-97: 299)
2009	Fee increased: Rs. 100 (Ordinary), Rs. 600 (Life)
2016	Membership fee revised to Rs. 1000

Evolution of Membership Policies: A Timeline

1970s–1980s: Beginnings and Initial Membership Structure

- 1971: First member (Sri. P.V. Varghese), with a registration fee of Rs. 1 and annual fee of Rs. 10.
- Initial total members in 1971: 20.
- 1988-89: Membership count was 366 (with a breakdown of LM, OM, and Associate memberships).
- Membership categories primarily included Life Members (LM) and Ordinary Members (OM).



1990s: Formalization and Policy Clarification

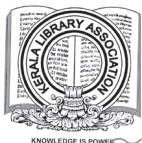
- **17th AGM (1988-89)**
 - Total members: 322
 - LM + OM + Associate categories recognized.
- **19th AGM (1989-91)**
 - Total members: 396
 - Breakdown: 145 + 251
- **21st AGM (1991-92)**
 - Total: 426
 - Breakdown: 167 + 259

Key Developments

- June 26, 1994: Decision to grant ordinary membership to correspondence course degree holders, ratified by the Governing Body.
- Membership flexibility was introduced, accommodating correspondence course qualifications.

2000s: Fee Enhancements and Policy Revisions

- **2000**
 - Membership count of 35.
- **2009:** Significant policy amendments via Extra-ordinary General Body Meeting (19.07.2009)
 - Membership Fees increased:
 - ◆ Ordinary: Rs. 50 to Rs. 100
 - ◆ Life: Rs. 400 to Rs. 600
 - These enhancements were formalized to improve organizational sustainability.
- **Membership categories & eligibility**
 - Correspondence course degree holders granted equivalent membership rights.



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey



2010s: Continued Growth and Fee Adjustments

- **2016**

- Fee increased again from Rs. 600 to Rs. 1000 (AGM held on 29.07.2016).

Membership counts showed growth and refinements reflecting organizational needs.

Summary of Membership Trends

- Membership increased from 20 in 1971 to over 400+ in the early 1990s.
- Regular fee hikes (notably in 2009 and 2016) indicate policy adjustments to accommodate inflation and organizational development.
- Policies around eligibility, correspondence degrees, and default management (which included removing defaulters after notices) were formalized to streamline administration.



4. Permanent Office for KLA

It is a matter of pride for all of us that KLA could fulfil the long-cherished dream of having its own office space right within the Thiruvananthapuram city. While many other older associations in the country are still struggling to find a leg space, KLA could purchase an office space of 365 Sq. feet for Rs. 6.5 Lakhs in the II Floor of Kairalie Plaza Annexe, Karamana on 11 November 2005, which is about 2 KM from Trivandrum Railway Station and the Central bus stand at Thampanoor, Thiruvananthapuram and very next to the Sales Tax office Complex, Government of Kerala. It was made possible by the concerted efforts of the members and well-wishers of the Association.

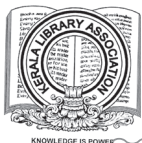
Initiation of the Project: Early Actions (1991–1992)

Recognizing the importance of establishing a permanent institutional base for effective functioning and increased visibility, the Kerala Library Association (KLA) initiated the process of acquiring its own office building during the early 1990s. The initial efforts for this project were undertaken around 1991–92, laying the ground work for future activities related to infrastructure development.

Till the office building was acquired, all the communications were addressed to c/o University Library but this arrangement was not very effective. Later KLA opened up a Post Box in 1999 - KLA, PB No. 5536, Palayam, Trivandrum 695 034 continued to be the address till e-mail and other social media gained prominence and became the norm.

Revival and Formalization: Mid-1990s (1996)

After a period of dormancy, the initiative received renewed focus in 1996. The Association recognized the need for a dedicated space that could serve as the nerve centre for its activities, including meetings, events, and administrative functions. This revival marked a significant step toward materializing the dream of owning a dedicated office.



Strategic Decision: 1999 National Seminar and Fund Mobilization

A pivotal moment came during the **28th Annual General Body Meeting (AGBM)** held on **27 June 1999**. During this meeting, a decision was taken to utilize the proceeds from a **National Seminar on School Libraries**—organized in collaboration with prominent LIS figures such as K.P. Sadasivam and Jayakumar from the Ernakulam region—to fund the association's own office building. This strategic move aimed to leverage event proceeds for infrastructural development, ensuring sustainability and self-reliance.

Grassroots Fund Collection Efforts

Following this resolution, the KLA Building Committee was constituted in 1999 to oversee the fundraising activities and coordinate efforts toward acquiring the office space. The committee emphasized broad-based participation and transparency in mobilizing resources.

A notable milestone was the contribution of the first donor, Prof **A B George**, who generously donated Rs. 500 towards the building fund. This act of contribution served as an inspiration for others to follow suit, fostering a spirit of collective effort.



Prof A B George

Sustained Fundraising and Official Documentation

To facilitate systematic contributions, the association introduced **building fund coupons**, encouraging members and well-wishers to contribute toward building a **permanent office for KLA**. These coupons became a means to mobilize resources consistently and transparently.

Periodic updates on the fundraising progress and plans were reflected in the **Annual Reports (2004–05)** and newsletters published between **January and September 2005**, highlighting steady progress toward realizing the ownership of a dedicated office space.



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey



Current Status

The dedicated efforts and phased fundraising initiatives have laid a strong foundation for KLA to acquire and develop its own office premises. While specific details of the final acquisition are beyond the scope of this report, the outlined steps demonstrate a sustained commitment and collective effort that have been pivotal in moving closer to this goal.

Conclusion

The journey toward establishing the Kerala Library Association's own office building exemplifies strategic planning, community involvement, and perseverance. Initiated in the early 1990s, revived in the mid-1990s, and energized through dedicated fundraising and event proceeds, the project reflects the association's vision of strengthening its institutional base. As KLA continues to develop its infrastructure, the office building will serve as a vital hub for future activities, fostering growth, collaboration, and leadership within the LIS community.

The address of our head office is given below:

**Room No. 36,
II Floor, Kairalie Plaza Annexe, Karamana – Killippalam NH,
Karamana P.O., Thiruvananthapuram-695002
Email: kla.org@gmail.com**

SECTION 4 – FLAGSHIP PROGRAMMES

1. KLA-CPD

In a brainstorming conducted on 2 October 2013 on **KLA 2013-14: A Roadmap**, it was unanimously decided to organize training programmes for working librarians as part of continuous professional development. As a first step towards this a networked computer lab was set up at KLA HQ with Internet facilities, with a capacity to train 10-12 persons at a time. After much discussion a separate team was set up to implement the same. This intensive training centre with all IT facilities was named as KLA Centre for Professional Development (KLA-CPD). KLA's CPD programmes are envisaged as monthly programmes/workshops of short duration, aimed at providing hands-on experience and making the librarians more techno savvy.

The initial KLA-CPD TEAM

Sri N Parameswaran
Sri N Sukumaran Nair
Sri Sriram V
Sri S L Faisal
Sri A Abdunnasar
Sri Binu K John
Sri Arun V R



CPD @ KLA HQ

Whether it's on KOHA, DSpace, or any other, all the participants are given hands-on training to install and use all the modules and also given workshop kit (including software DVD), and a certificate. At the end of workshop feedback is also being obtained from all the participants in writing. KLA continues to conduct workshops, even advanced programmes as part of continuous professional development and has trained hundreds of librarians.



KLA-CPD-Professional Enrichment Programme (PEP) 2021-22

Kerala Library' Association (KLA) has a distinguished history of conducting successful continuing education programs for library professionals. Responding to widespread requests for comprehensive knowledge updation, KLA organized the **KLA-CPD-PEP 2021-22** to bolster the skills and understanding of LIS professionals across the state.

- **Course Details**

- Duration: Approximately three months
- Content: Core papers aligned with the LIS syllabus of Kerala universities
- Course Fee: Rs. 4500/- for KLA members; Rs. 5000/- for others
- Materials: Soft copies of course materials and PPT presentations provided to all participants

- **Participants**

- Total: 45 LIS professionals from across Kerala

- **Sessions**

- Conducted by eminent LIS educators and experts, ensuring high-quality learning.

The programme was inaugurated on **18th November 2021** via **Google Meet** and **Valedictory Session** was 9th June 2022, via Google Meet. The KLA-CPD-PEP 2021-22 was a comprehensive, well-received programme aimed at updating LIS professionals on key subjects, enhancing their expertise, and fostering continuous professional development.

The poster is for the Kerala Library Association's Professional Enrichment Programme (PEP) 2021-22. It features the KLA logo and the tagline 'KNOWLEDGE IS POWER'. The text is organized into sections: 'Kerala Library Association' with contact details, 'Announcement of PROFESSIONAL ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME' with a description of the program, 'Details of the Programme' with dates, duration, and delivery mode, 'Objective type multiple choice tests for each paper followed by a series of mock tests', 'Fee for the entire programme is Rs. 5000.00 only. Members of Kerala Library Association are eligible to get a 10% discount of the fee. They need to pay 4500.00 only.', and 'At the end of the programme, the participants will be provided with course material consisting of lucid explanation of important concepts in all subjects and thousands of questions and answers in soft copy format.' It also includes a registration link, 'How to pay the fee' with account details, and 'In case of clarification' with contact information for the President, Secretary, and Public Relations Officer.

Kerala Library Association
Reg.No. 89/71
36, II Floor, Kairallie Plaza, Karamana,
Thiruvananthapuram – 695 002, Kerala, India

**Announcement of
PROFESSIONAL ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME**

Kerala Library Association, the premier library association, is happy to announce the two month long Professional Enrichment Programme (PEP) for young professionals under the auspices of KLA Centre for Professional Development (KLA-CPD). The programme is aimed at refreshing the LIS professionals with the core papers of the LIS syllabi of universities in Kerala so as to equip them to crack any competitive examination in the field including Kerala PSC and UGC NET.

Details of the Programme

Last date for Registration: 1st November 2021
Period: November and December 2021
Duration: 100 hours @ 2 hours/day
Mode of delivery: Online using Google Meet
Faculty: Experienced faculty members and seasoned LIS professionals of repute

Objective type multiple choice tests for each paper followed by a series of mock tests

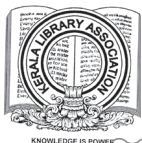
Fee for the entire programme is Rs. 5000.00 only. Members of Kerala Library Association are eligible to get a 10% discount of the fee. They need to pay 4500.00 only.

At the end of the programme, the participants will be provided with course material consisting of lucid explanation of important concepts in all subjects and thousands of questions and answers in soft copy format.

Interested persons are requested to register with this link
<https://my.forms.app/form/617036846b145458aa031ab5>

How to pay the fee
Account Name: Kerala Library Association
Account No. 67061603692
Bank: State Bank of India,
Kerala University Office Campus Branch
Palayam, Thiruvananthapuram.
IFS Code : SBIN0070292

In case of clarification
Dr Vijayakumar, K P
President, KLA
Phone : +91 9496749801
Public Relations Secretary
Phone : +91 9947137351
Email: kld.org@gmail.com



2. Study Circle Programme (1989-90): Educational Initiatives and Focus Areas

During the academic year 1989-90, the Kerala Library Association organized a series of Study Circle programmes aimed at enhancing the professional knowledge of librarians and information specialists. These sessions addressed pivotal topics in the evolving domain of library and information science, with expert presentations and discussions designed to equip participants with contemporary skills and insights.

Key sessions included:

- Computers in Libraries: Revolution, Revelation, and Strategies for Survival by J.B. Subramoniam (BHU), held on September 5, 1989. This session explored the transformative impact of computer technology on library operations and discussed strategies for adapting to technological changes.
- INFLIBNET: Its Role and Future presented by C.A. Augustine on September 5, 1989. The program highlighted the significance of the INFLIBNET program in modernizing library services and promoting networked information exchange.
- Computers in Infrastructure, Storage, and Retrieval by Dr. C.K. Sukumaran Nair, conducted on October 31, 1989. The focus was on technological infrastructure critical for effective library management and resource retrieval systems.
- Database III Plus in Bibliographic Operations by G.S. Bhuvaneswar on November 23, 1989, which provided practical insights into advanced database management for bibliographic records.

In addition to these core presentations, the program encompassed supplementary topics vital for contemporary library services, including:

- Hardware and Software Selection in Libraries by A. Vijayalekshmi, emphasizing criteria for choosing appropriate technological components.
- Standardization of Record Formats for Interchange of Machine-Readable Bibliographic Information by K.K. Lalitha Bai, addressing standards essential for interoperability among library information systems.
- Online Information Systems and Services led by K.P. Sadasivan, focusing on the development and management of online services to facilitate quick access to information.



This series of Study Circle programs played a significant role in fostering continuous professional development among library personnel, keeping them abreast of technological advances, and encouraging the adoption of best practices in library management.

3. UGC-NET Coaching Programme: Capacity Building Initiative by the Kerala Library Association

Introduction

The University Grants Commission National Eligibility Test (UGC-NET) is a competitive examination conducted in India to determine the eligibility of candidates for the posts of Assistant Professor and Junior Research Fellowship in Indian Universities and colleges. Recognizing the importance of this examination for LIS professionals and aspiring scholars, the Kerala Library Association (KLA) initiated a dedicated UGC-NET coaching programme to support and enhance the capacity of future LIS educators and researchers. This report provides a detailed overview, historical context, implementation details, and prospects of the programme.

Background and Rationale

With the increasing demand for qualified faculty and researchers in the field of Library and Information Science (LIS), the need for specialized coaching and preparatory support has become evident. In alignment with its mission to foster professional excellence and capacity development among LIS practitioners and students, KLA embarked on a formal coaching initiative targeted at successful UGC-NET qualification in LIS.

The programme aimed to:

- Equip candidates with comprehensive subject knowledge.
- Build confidence for cracking the competitive examination.
- Contribute to the overall professional development of LIS personnel.
- Strengthen the representation of qualified LIS scholars in academia and research.

Programme Initiation and Early Developments

The inaugural UGC-NET coaching session was launched on **21 February 2010**, inaugurated by Dr. Balamohan Thampi, then President of the Kerala State Library Council and Former Vice-Chancellor of Kerala University. This high-profile launch underscored the importance attributed to capacity building by the association.

Inspired by the success and positive response to the initial batch, subsequent years saw continued coaching sessions, involving expert trainers, resource persons, and dedicated study modules tailored to the UGC-NET syllabus in LIS. The programme was designed to provide both classroom instruction and supplementary guidance, including mock tests and discussion sessions.



Inauguration of UGC-NET Coaching

While the initiative enjoyed initial momentum, it was observed that the programme was discontinued after a few years due to logistical, resource, and operational challenges.

Revival and Current Context

Recognizing the persistent demand among LIS aspirants, the Kerala Library Association is planning to **resume the UGC-NET coaching programme** in the upcoming year. The strong interest among students and professionals underscores the critical role of such capacity-building initiatives in enhancing the professional standards of LIS personnel and increasing their presence in academia.

Regional Initiatives: Free Coaching for LIS Students and Professionals

Apart from the statewide programme initiated by the KLA headquarters, regional branches have played a vital role in expanding access:

- **KLA Thrissur Region:** The Thrissur region, in collaboration with the **Academic Library Association (ALA)**, has been actively conducting **free UGC-NET**

coaching classes for LIS students and working professionals. These sessions aim to address regional needs, especially for candidates who may face barriers to paid or formal coaching.

- **KLA Kozhikode Region:** The Kozhikode branch has also been independently conducting **free coaching classes** for LIS aspirants, focusing on comprehensive syllabus coverage, mock tests, and guidance on examination strategies.

These regional efforts exemplify the decentralization and democratization of professional capacity-building initiatives, making preparation accessible to a broader demographic.

Future Prospects and Recommendations

Given the strong demand and the strategic importance of qualified LIS educators for the growth of the sector, it is recommended that:

- The KLA **formalizes the resumption** of the coaching programme with institutional backing, resource allocation, and qualified trainers.
- Establish a **regular schedule** for coaching sessions, with course materials, mock tests, and online resources.
- Collaborate with academic institutions and LIS professional bodies to **expand outreach**.
- Integrate digital platforms for **virtual coaching**, thereby increasing accessibility and reach.
- Monitor and evaluate the programme's impact periodically, ensuring continuous improvement.



Participants



Conclusion

The UGC-NET coaching programme represents a significant capacity-building effort by the Kerala Library Association, aimed at fostering academic excellence and strengthening the LIS profession in Kerala. The initial success, regional initiatives, and ongoing demand indicate a promising future for this initiative. By resuming and expanding these coaching activities, KLA can continue to contribute significantly to the professional growth of LIS practitioners and the overall advancement of library science education in the region.

4. National Seminars Organized by the Kerala Library Association (KLA) Central Committee

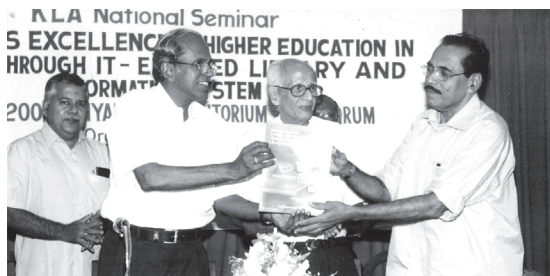
The Kerala Library Association (KLA) has a distinguished history of organizing national seminars that advance knowledge, policy, and practice in the field of library and information science (LIS). These events serve as vital platforms for dialogue among professionals, educators, policymakers, and innovators across India.

1. Seminar on School Libraries and Educational Systems (1998)

Held in Trivandrum on 19-20 November 1998, this two-day seminar was conducted jointly with the State Council for Educational Research and Training (SCERT), Government of Kerala. Inaugurated by His Excellency Justice Sukh Dev Singh Kang, the event comprised six technical sessions focused on the crucial role of school libraries within educational frameworks, emphasizing the integration of library services into school systems.

2. Seminar on Towards Excellence in Higher Education through IT-enabled Library and Information Systems (2005)

From 5-7 May 2005 in Trivandrum, this three-day seminar was inaugurated by Dr. M.K. Ramachandran Nair, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Kerala. Featuring five business sessions, the seminar highlighted technology-driven advancements in libraries, with





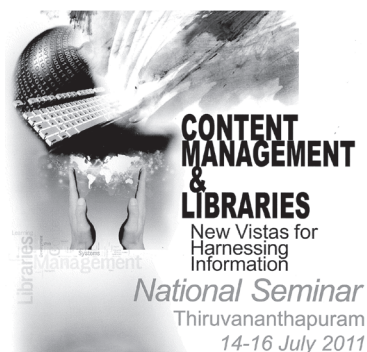
presentations from various vendors and a panel discussion involving decision-makers, service providers, and media representatives, fostering strategic dialogue on integrating IT into higher education infrastructure.

3. Seminar on Redefining Public Libraries in India: The Knowledge Society Imperatives (2008)

Organized from 6-8 August 2008 in Trivandrum and co-sponsored by the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF), this three-day event was inaugurated by Dr. T.M. Thomas Isaac, Kerala's Finance Minister. With seven technical sessions, the seminar brought together library professionals, educators, LIS students, and stakeholders from across India. It focused on policy-making, the evolving role of public libraries, and the importance of harnessing information for societal development.

4. Seminar on Content Management and Libraries: New Vistas for Harnessing Information (2011)

Held from 14-16 July 2011 at the Padmam Auditorium, IMG Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram, this three-day seminar was inaugurated by Dr. Shashi Tharoor, former UN Under-Secretary General and current Member of Parliament. It addressed emerging challenges and opportunities related to content management, digital resources, and information harnessing in modern libraries.



5. Seminar on New Information Technology Interfaces in Libraries and Information Centres (NITILIC, 2013)

This two-day event, conducted on 12-13 July 2013 at the Kerala State Science & Technology Museum, Thiruvananthapuram, was inaugurated by Dr. V. N. Rajasekharan Pillai, Executive Vice-President of Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Engineering. The address emphasized expanding library resources through IT, boosting social and collective learning, and





acknowledging how technology has revolutionized publishing and resource dissemination.

Through these seminars, the Kerala Library Association has consistently contributed to the national discourse on LIS, focusing on integrating technology, policy reforms, and the evolving roles of libraries across educational and social domains. These events have fostered collaboration, innovation, and strategic planning vital for the advancement of the library profession in India.

6. National Conference on Corporate and Media Librarianship (2018)

The 2018 National Conference on Corporate & Media Librarianship, held on December 14-15 at Padmam Auditorium, Thiruvananthapuram, was organized by Kerala Library Association with co-sponsorship from the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation. The primary goal was to create a platform for LIS professionals from corporate, media, and other special libraries to exchange ideas, address common issues, and learn about effective strategies for thriving in competitive environments.



During the two-day event, 20 papers were presented across six sessions, with three sessions each day, chaired by notable experts in the field such as Sri P. Jayarajan, Dr. Vijayakumar K. P., Dr. V. Gopakumar, Sri H. R. Mohan, Dr. M. G. Sreekumar, and Dr. A. Gopikuttan. The conference was inaugurated by Sri Kadakampally Surendran, the Minister for Cooperation, Tourism & Devaswoms, and presided over by Dr. P P Ajayakumar, Pro Vice-Chancellor of the University of Kerala. A souvenir was released by the Minister, and the first copy was received by Sri H. R. Mohan. The proceedings were summarized at the event's closing ceremony.

Sri V. Vijayakumar, Chief Researcher at Malayala Manorama, received the best paper award. Despite initial apprehensions about the theme and participation, the conference was deemed a success, especially due to the valuable inclusion of media



personnel as chairs and presenters, which added considerable value. The Kerala Library Association expressed satisfaction with the event and aims to implement the suggestions offered, with a focus on providing better professional orientation and development opportunities for LIS professionals working specifically in corporate and media libraries.

5. Seminars, Conferences and Workshops

Kerala Library Association (KLA) has demonstrated consistent leadership in fostering professional development within the library and information science (LIS) community through the organization of a diverse range of academic and professional events. These activities, including seminars, conferences, and workshops, serve as vital platforms for knowledge sharing, networking, problem-solving, and current practices dissemination. The following report offers a detailed overview and analysis of these initiatives, highlighting their thematic focus, scope, significance, and impact on the LIS field in Kerala and beyond.

1. Seminars, Conferences

Overview

KLA has organized numerous seminars at both state and national levels to deliberate on critical issues confronting libraries and the LIS profession. These seminars focus on emerging challenges, technological innovations, professional motivation, and the evolving role of libraries in society.

Key Seminars and Themes

- **1998:** *Library Situation in Kerala: Problems and Prospects* (Thrissur) – Addressed the state-specific issues in the library ecosystem.
- **1999:** *Library and Information Science Profession in the New Millennium* (Thiruvananthapuram) – Focused on professional evolution amidst rapid technological shifts.
- **2000:** Focused on *e-publishing* and *collection management & loss prevention* in academic libraries, reflecting early adoption of digital initiatives.
- **2012-2015:** Topics included *Technology Management*, *Public Relations*, *Motivation*, *Reading and Use of Libraries*, and *Scholarly Communication*,

addressing both technological and soft skills relevant for LIS professionals today.

- **2015-2016:** Emphasized *Health Information, Knowledge Management, and Digital Resources*, indicating a shift toward specialized and applied LIS areas.



Research Impact, Publishing & Profiling, KLA Ernakulam 2014

These seminars have addressed critical themes shaping the contemporary LIS landscape, blending technological advances with soft skills and managerial strategies. The recurring focus on digital literacy, collection management, public relations, and scholarly practices reflects KLA's commitment to holistic professional development. Moreover, the regional seminars facilitate localized discussions, ensuring that Kerala-specific issues receive focused attention.

National Seminars

Overview

These mega-events have positioned KLA as a prominent voice in national LIS discourse, promoting best practices, policy dialogue, and academic excellence.

Major National Seminars

- **1998:** *School Libraries and Educational Systems* (Trivandrum) – Collaboration with SCERT; addressed issues in school-based LIS infrastructure.
- **2005:** *Excellence in Higher Education through IT-enabled Libraries* (Thiruvananthapuram) – Focused on integrating IT into higher education libraries, with vendor presentations and policy discussions.



*Dr. Shashi Tharoor @
Content Management Seminar 2011*



- **2008:** *Redefining the Role of Public Libraries in India* (Trivandrum) – Co-sponsored by RRRLF; addressed policy, social outreach, and modernization.
- **2011:** *Content Management & Libraries: New Vistas* (Thiruvananthapuram) – Inaugurated by Dr. Shashi Tharoor, emphasizing evolving content strategies.
- **2013:** *New Interfaces in Libraries & Information Centers* – Focused on emerging IT interfaces such as NITILIC.
- **2015-2017:** Programmes on *Digital Libraries, Research Report Writing, Academic Publishing, Research Tools* (e.g., Zotero, KOHA), and *Life Skills* – Highlighted the shift toward digital content creation, scholarly communication, and professional skills.
- **2018 December 14-15:** National Conference on Corporate and Media Librarianship – inaugurated by Shri Kadakampally Surendran, Hon'ble Minister for Corporation, Tourism & Devaswoms presided over by Prof. P.P Ajayakumar, Pro-Vicechancellor, University of Kerala.



These national seminars have broadened the scope of dialogue from regional concerns to global LIS trends. By involving policymakers, educators, technologists, and practitioners, KLA has facilitated policy-informing discussions while promoting adoption of robust digital and content management practices. The collaboration with eminent institutions and individuals underscores the high standards and wider impact of these events.

2. Workshops

Overview

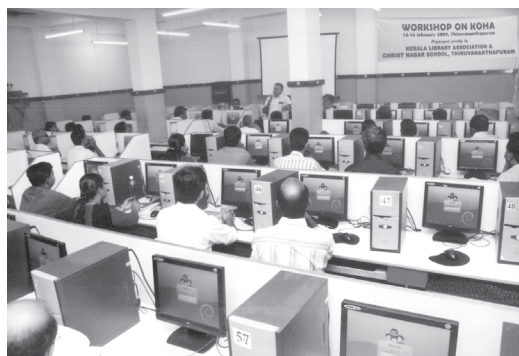
KLA's workshops have complemented the seminar series by providing hands-on training, capacity building, and skill development in critical LIS areas, especially emerging digital tools and systems.



Greenstone Software, 2004

Selected Workshops and Focus Areas

- Digital Libraries & Content Management:** Training on Greenstone Digital Library Software, DSpace, Joomla, and WordPress (2004-2016).
- Technology-Enabled Library Operations:** KOHA training programmes (2009-17), e-Granthalaya, and KOHA implementation workshops.
- Information Literacy & Security:** UNESCO-supported workshop on Information Literacy (2007), Information Security (2012), and INFLIBNET's NLIST, highlighting user training and security protocols.
- National Online Workshop on KOHA Library Management System & Advanced KOHA:** Even amid the COVID pandemic, a seven-day program was conducted from June 12-18, 2021 via cloud hosting, offering hands-on training to 68 library professionals and LIS students from across India, including Tamil Nadu and Kashmir. The workshop covered practical sessions such as Debian, KOHA installation, KOHA staff client, administration, cataloguing, circulation, report generation, label printing, and homepage customization.



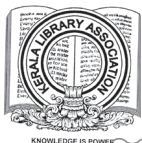
A two-day advanced National Workshop on KOHA was conducted at Christ Nagar English Higher Secondary School from 17-18 May, 2025.



Advanced KOHA Workshop, 17-18 May, 2025

6. Projects

The Kerala Library Association (KLA) has spearheaded numerous projects to reorganize and modernize libraries and information centers across the state. These include initiatives at the Kerala Government Secretariat Central Library in Thiruvananthapuram, various colleges of the Kerala Agricultural University, and the compilation of a Union Catalogue for Mahatma Gandhi University. KLA has also organized personal bibliographic collections, creating employment opportunities and professional skill development for budding librarians. Recently, the association completed modernization projects at the **Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation library, Vakkom Moulavi Foundation, and the Kerala State Archives Department, Secretariat Central Library, Marian College of Architecture & Planning, Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation (GIFT), Velloppilly Sanskrit Bhavan, Kerala Chalachithra Academy, Mar Ivanios College, Department of Economics & Statistics, Kerala State Womens' Development Corporation** and provided consultancy services to institutions like **MA College of Engineering, Illahia College of Arts and Sciences, and Chinmaya Vidyapeedam** for digital library development. At **Chalachithra Academy**, Thiruvananthapuram, with the help of two Project Assistants, 1,590 books were processed, labeled, accessioned, classified using



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey



DDC-23, cataloged in MARC format in Koha, and records from an older Koha version were migrated and edited. Additionally, Linux and a new Koha version with OPAC were installed and customized quickly. Another project was for **Kerala Institute for Entrepreneurship Development (KIED)** for reorganization and automation of its Library and Documentation Centres across Kerala, including district libraries, taken up in 2019. The project involved accessioning, classification (DDC-23), cataloging, labeling, shelving, and creating a union catalogue using KOHA, along with installation, training, and maintenance of the open-source Library Management System. This was done with support from KLA regional committees.

During 2022-24, KLA actively contributed to the modernization and skill enhancement of LIS professionals through various projects: successfully completed Library Automation at **Vyloppilly Samskrithi Bhavan, Nalanda, Trivandrum**; File Management System for **Kerala State Women's Development Corporation, Thiruvananthapuram**; and Library Automation and Digital Library Creation at **Mar Ivanios College, Thiruvananthapuram**.

In its early efforts, KLA had used its newsletters to announce its services for the reorganization, setup, and development of school and public libraries, including cataloguing, classification, procurement, and organization of library sections, carried out by professional experts. Now KLA has established a name as an expert in this field and seems to have earned acceptance and recognition for KLA's expertise.

SECTION 5 - COMMEMORATIVE LECTURES, ENDOWMENTS, AWARDS

1. Prof C. A. Augustine - Holy Cross Endowment for Information Science

C. A. Augustine - Holy Cross Endowment for Information Science is a scholarship established in honor of Prof. C.A. Augustin, created by donors involved in a project to computerize Holy Cross Hospital's records. The endowment awards a merit certificate, a memento, and Rs. 10,000 (shared if multiple top scorers) to the highest-scoring student in the BLISC degree exam of the University of Kerala for Information Services papers, provided they meet minimum score criteria (60%). If the BLISC course is terminated, the award shifts to the MLISC students, based on specialization preferences, starting with Medical Libraries, then Information Science, and finally Special Libraries. The endowment commenced with an initial corpus of Rs. 10,000. The Endowment was started with a corpus amount of Rs. 10,000/-. Every year since the award's institution, KLA has been religiously holding the event as a part of its activities.



Jacob Punnoose, IPS distributing Award



Kerala Library Association

36, II Floor, Kairali Plaza, Karamana Thiruvananthapuram Kerala, India. www.keralalibraryassociation.org



Condolence Meeting in online mode to pay tribute to the departed Soul of Prof. C. A. Augustine, former Head of DLIS, University of Kerala and former president and General Secretary of KLA
Date & Time
10th June 2024 at 7.00 pm

With a deep sense of sorrow and heavy heart, the Kerala Library Association (KLA) condoles the sad demise of Prof. C. A. Augustine, a distinguished figure in the field of Library Science who has dedicated nearly six decades to education and practical library work. His expertise extends to a wide array of subjects, from Library and Society, Information Science and IT Applications in Libraries, making him a stalwart in his profession.

He passed away on 2nd June 2024. Not only has Prof. Augustine mentored numerous LIS professionals, many of whom have achieved high positions in India and abroad, but he has also contributed significantly to charitable endeavours. His "Good Samaritan Project India" stands as a testament to his social concern and charitable disposition, which focuses on healthcare and education for the less fortunate.

To pay homage to the departed Soul of Prof. C. A. Augustine KLA is organising a condolence meeting in online mode on 10th June 2024 at 7:00 pm. All are cordially invited



Join with the link
<https://meet.google.com/xdd-jtsd-nqc>





2. K A Isaac Commemoration Lectures

KLA regularly organizes Annual Lectures to commemorate the fond memories of Prof. K.A Isaac, the progenitor of Library Science Education in Kerala and patron of KLA.

Better known as the 'Father of Professional Librarianship in Kerala' and also as the 'Gentleman Librarian of India', Prof. Isaac (1925–2005) was a beacon for LIS professionals, both young and old. He had been in the forefront of the movement for the development of library education and library service at the national as well as the State level. As the first Head of the Department of Library & Information Science, University of Kerala, Prof Isaac pioneered the development of Library & Information Science education in Kerala. As the first professional librarian to hold charge of the Kerala University Library, he guided its development to an institution of national stature. He had been associated with, and had made, significant contributions to the Public Library Movement at the State level in Kerala and also at the national level.



Prof Isaac had held several important assignments in various national institutions and agencies, with responsibility for policy formulations in the LIS domain. The blend of his highly intellectual personality and refined behaviour made him a respected friend to limitless people cutting across all professions. His hundreds of disciples now stretch across the

world carrying out their jobs with professional zeal, radiated by him.

Prof. Isaac was a true Librarian and Teacher unparallel and a true visionary. He was one of the founder members of the Association and had served as the President of the Association for a long period. As the Patron of the Association, he was always the guiding spirit and





Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey



Memorial Talk, 2005



Memorial Talk: Dr. George Onakkoor, 2005



Dr. M.D. Baby, 2012



Dr. S. Ravi, 2016

leading force for all of us. He was there to lead us in all our programmes. Till his last day, Prof. Issac was deeply involved in professional activities. The missionary zeal of Prof. Issac is evident from the fact that on the day of his death also he had visited the Dept of Library and Info Science and had academic discussions with professional colleagues.

There is no substitute for Prof. Isaac.

His demise is a great loss to the LIS domain and a big blow to the ethical and moral value systems.

The LIS fraternity of Kerala respectfully salutes the Great Leader.



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey



15 November 2005	Prof Dr George Onakkoor	Memorial Talk
12 September 2006	Prof Dr G Balamohan Thampi	Implications of Right to Information Act
4 October 2007	Dr C R Karisiddappa	
18 November 2008	Dr A Amudavalli	Information Architecture in Library & Information Science
4 October 2009	P Jayarajan	Library & Information Systems in India: Future Prospects
02 December 2010	Dr Gangan Pratap	Research Evaluation
02 December 2011	T P Sreenivasan IFS (Retd)	Education for a Changing World
20 December 2012	Dr M D Baby	New Generation Knowledge Management: A Challenge to Library Professionals
17 October 2013	Prof Ramesha	Google Generation
09 October 2014	Dr Jagdish Arora	Ten Technologies Librarians should know to Contribute and Strengthen their Institutions
03 November 2015	Dr S Ravi	Relevance of Ranganathan's Seminal Contributions in the Digital Era
04 November 2016	Dr K H Khan	The Library & Information Profession: Think Beyond
21 November 2017	Dr I R N Goudar	E-learning Integration with Digital Library: A Challenging Opportunity for LIS Profession
25 November 2018	Dr V Gopakumar	Research Data Management
20 November 2020	Dr M G Sreekumar	Coceptualizing and Designing 21st Century Libraries
15 September 2021	Dr B Shadrach	Essential Skills for Librarians for the Future
17 February 2022	Dr G Mahesh	Keeping Sight of What We Cite: the Ethics of Citations
31 October 2023	Prof. (Dr.) R. Sevukan	Reskilling of LIS Professionals in the Changing Scenario
16 October 2024	Prof Dr H P S Kalra	Digital Transition and Media & Information Literacy



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey



3. N Parameswaran Endowment

On 29th April 2021, the academic and library community mourned the passing of Shri. N. Parameswaran, a distinguished former University Librarian-in-Charge at the University of Kerala and a dedicated member of the Kerala Library Association's (KLA) State Executive Committee. His demise at SUT Hospital, Trivandrum, due to illness marked the end of an inspiring career rooted in service, innovation, and scholarly dedication.



Throughout his life, Shri. Parameswaran was a visionary leader committed to advancing librarianship and education in Kerala. His significant contributions traversed institutional development, policy advocacy, and fostering professional growth among LIS professionals.

In recognition of his invaluable service, the Kerala Library Association, during the 2021-22 period, took a momentous step to honour his memory by establishing the **N. Parameswaran Endowment**. This endowment, totalling Rs. 2.25 lakhs through generous contributions from LIS professionals and his family, aims to perpetuate his legacy by fostering excellence among young librarians. Beginning in 2023, the endowment will facilitate the institution of an **Annual Best Young Librarian Award**, serving as a lasting tribute to Parameswaran's enduring influence in the field.

The formal inauguration of this Endowment occurred on **12 May 2023**, in a solemn ceremony

KERALA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION & KERALA UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
 Thiruvananthapuram

You are cordially invited to the

COMMEMORATION OF
Sri. N. PARAMESWARAN
Former Deputy Librarian-in-charge
 Kerala University Library and former President and
 General Secretary of Kerala Library Association

at 3.00 pm on 29th April 2022
 Kerala University Library Building, Palayam

PROGRAMME

Welcome	: Dr. Vijayakumar K. P. President, KLA
Presidential address	: Prof. (Dr.) Achuthsankar S. Nair Prof. & Head, Dept. of Computational Biology and Bioinformatics, University of Kerala
Inaugural Address & Announcement of Sri. N. Parameswaran Endowment	: Prof. (Dr.) V. P. Mahadevan Pillai Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, University of Kerala
Commemoration lecture	: Prof. A. Pasilithil Former Professor of History Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit
Reminiscences	: Prof. (Dr.) A. Gopikuttan Former HoD, Dept. of Library and Information Sc. : Dr. B. Mini Devi HoD, Dept. of Library and Information Science : Dr. B. Asha University Librarian-in-Charge, Kerala University Library
On Kerala Library Association@50	: Dr. P. K. Suresh Kumar General Secretary, KLA
Vote of thanks	: Dr. M. Lalitha Vice President, KLA

Dr. Vijayakumar K. P.
President, KLA

Dr. P. K. Suresh Kumar
General Secretary, KLA

Programme

Welcome	: Dr. P. K. Suresh Kumar General Secretary Kerala Library Association
Presidential Address	: Dr. Vijayakumar K. P. President Kerala Library Association
Inaugural Address & Institution of Sri. N. Parameswaran Endowment	: Dr. M. Sathyan Director, Kerala Bhasha Institute
Receipt of Endowment	: Shri. N. Sukumaran Nair Patron Kerala Library Association
Commemoration lecture	: Shri. Manoj Kumar K. Senior Scientist INFLIBNET Centre/UGC Gandhinagar, Gujarat
Topic: Academic Window to Digital World	
Felicitation	: Dr. B. Mini Devi Head, Dept. of Library and Information Science
Vote of Thanks	: Dr. Arunkumar V. R. Treasurer Kerala Library Association

Inauguration of Endowment

graced by Dr. M. Sathyan, Director of Kerala Bhasha Institute. He officially inaugurated the fund by presenting a cheque of Rs. 2.25 lakhs to Shri. N. Sukumaran Nair, Patron of KLA. This event also marked the launch of the **N. Parameswaran Commemoration Lecture**. The inaugural lecture, titled *"Academic Window to Digital World"*, was delivered by Shri. Manoj Kumar K., Senior Scientist at INFLIBNET Centre, who emphasized the transformative role of digital technologies in academia and the importance of adapting to this ongoing revolution.



N Parameswaran Endowment, 2023



N Parameswaran Commemoration, 2022

A year earlier, on **29 April 2022**, in collaboration with Kerala University Library, KLA organized a memorial lecture in honour of Shri. Parameswaran. The event was inaugurated by Prof. (Dr.) V.P. Mahadevan Pillai, Vice Chancellor of the University of Kerala, who paid tribute to his legacy. The lecture was delivered by

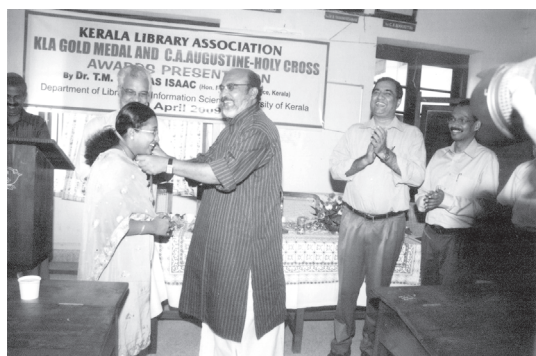
Prof. (Dr.) A. Paslithil, former Professor of History at Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, with proceedings presided over by Prof. (Dr.) Achuthsankar S. Nair, Head of the Department of Computational Biology and Bioinformatics at the University of Kerala. The occasion celebrated Parameswaran's lifetime of service, scholarly contributions, and his role as an inspiring leader in librarianship.

These commemorative events underscore Shri. N. Parameswaran's enduring influence and his commitment to fostering excellence and innovation in library and information sciences. His legacy continues to inspire generations of librarians and scholars in Kerala and beyond, affirming the vital role of dedicated leadership and scholarly pursuit in shaping a resilient and progressive knowledge society.



4. KLA Gold Medals, Awards

The scope of the KLA Gold Medal award has been specifically confined to the two-year integrated Master of Library and Information Science (MLISC) program. This integrated qualification was introduced within university departments and affiliated colleges, primarily in the University of Kerala and the University of Calicut, following the discontinuation of the traditional one-year BLISC and standalone MLISC programmes.



Starting from the academic year 2004-2005, the award was designated for the top-ranking students—those securing the first rank—in the integrated MLISC examinations. The selection process for the Gold Medal was aligned with the existing procedures, which have been ratified and formally adopted during the Kerala Library Association's Annual General Meeting held on 17th July 2005. This ratification cemented the continuity of the tradition of recognizing academic excellence among students pursuing the integrated MLISC qualification, thereby encouraging high standards of scholarship and professionalism within the library and information science community.

KLA has instituted KLA Best Librarian Award and Young Librarian's Award also.



KLA Best Librarian Award

The Kerala Library Association (KLA) Best Librarian Award is one of the most prestigious recognitions instituted by the Association to honor professional excellence, dedication, and outstanding service in the field of Library and Information Science. Established with the vision of promoting quality and innovation in librarianship, the award highlights the vital role librarians play in knowledge organization, dissemination, and user empowerment.

The award is presented annually to a library professional who has demonstrated exceptional commitment to advancing library services, leadership in the profession, and active involvement in academic and community development. The selection process is carried out through a rigorous evaluation of professional achievements, contributions to library development, research, publications, and service to the Kerala Library Association.



Dr. V P Joy presenting the KLA Best Librarian Award, 2021 to Smt. Mini G. Pillai

Over the years, the Best Librarian Award has become a symbol of professional pride and recognition, motivating librarians across Kerala to strive for higher standards of service and innovation. It not only acknowledges individual achievements but also reinforces the collective mission of librarians to nurture a vibrant reading culture, support academic excellence, and uphold the values of equitable access to information.

By honoring exemplary professionals through this award, KLA continues to inspire future generations of librarians to embrace creativity, adaptability, and lifelong learning, thereby strengthening the library movement in Kerala and beyond.



SECTION 6 - PUBLICATIONS

KLA has made significant progress in its publication activity. The following are our major publications:

1. Newsletter

KLA Newsletter, the official newsletter of KLA, is a quarterly publication with ISSN Number and has completed 46 volumes. It carries details of the activities of KLA and its regional committees, news, notices, relevant govt. orders, and announcements and is distributed free to all the members of KLA. Newsletters construct a comprehensive picture of the association's evolution. These records not only highlight milestones but also underscore the importance of meticulous documentation—an invaluable practice for preserving the rich heritage of our profession and guiding future generations.

Evolution of the KLA Newsletter

The Newsletter of the Kerala Library Association has been a vital communication medium, serving to inform, connect, and engage LIS professionals across Kerala. Over the years, it has reflected the association's growth, evolving needs, and technological advancements, adapting in content, format, and distribution to serve its members effectively. KLA Newsletter in a new format was published in 1996.

Inception and Periodicity

The newsletter's early history was characterized by irregular publication schedules, with no fixed periodicity. At times, only a single issue was released annually, while in other periods, the frequency increased to two or three issues per year. This inconsistency was influenced by resource availability, editorial capacity, and the broader operational framework of the association.

Content and Features

The newsletter typically featured a standard structure that created a sense of familiarity among its readership:



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey





- Editorial Section: Usually penned by the General Secretary, offering insights, updates, and reflections on current issues.
- Messages from Leadership: A detailed write-up from the President discussing significant events, achievements, and future directions.
- Annual Reports: Summaries of activities, membership updates, and organizational progress.
- Field Updates: Reports on important developments in the library and information science sector, including conferences, seminars, and training programmes.
- Event Highlights: Coverage of recent and upcoming events, professional problems faced by members, and discussions on policy and practice.

Most issues comprised around 12 pages, predominantly printed in Black & White (B&W), reflecting the resource constraints and technological standards of the period.

Printing and Distribution

The newsletter was initially produced using traditional offset printing methods, with a notable offset issue published on 11 March 1999. The physical copies were distributed among members, institutional libraries, and stakeholders across Kerala, serving as a crucial communication link.

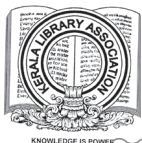
Content Enrichment and Innovation

Recognizing the importance of engaging members with professional challenges, the KLA introduced a "Box Item" feature on 4 June 2000. This section was dedicated to discussing professional problems faced by members—a platform for problem-sharing, dialogue, and peer support, strengthening the collective voice of the LIS community.

Format, Size, and Technological Adoption

Throughout the years, the size and format of the newsletter experienced changes, aligning with evolving printing technologies and organizational needs. These modifications aimed to improve readability, layout aesthetics, and content richness.

With technological advancements and the push towards digital dissemination, the idea of making the newsletter more accessible gained momentum. A significant



suggestion came from Dr. Gopakumar in 2009, advocating for the transition of the newsletter to an online format to broaden accessibility, reduce printing costs, and ensure timely updates.

Digital Transition and Modernization

The KLA responded proactively by standardizing the newsletter's format during the 2010s. In 2015, the association successfully made the newsletter available online, marking a milestone in its communication strategy. This move enhanced reach, allowed members to access updates conveniently from anywhere, and modernized the association's image.

December 2014: The Editorial team was revamped with Dr K G Sudhier leading the team. 4. Applied for ISSN for the newsletter.

2016:. ISSN was granted for the newsletter. (ISSN 2454-9851)



Conclusion

The Kerala Library Association's newsletter has evolved significantly from its humble, inconsistent beginnings to a structured, digitally accessible publication. Its journey reflects a commitment to effective communication, professional engagement, and embracing technological change. As the organization progresses, the newsletter continues to serve as an essential forum for information sharing, professional discourse, and fostering a vibrant LIS community in Kerala.

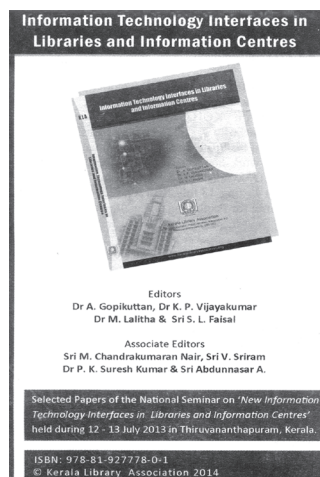
2. Books

KLA has published nine books so far.

- i) Canons of Library classification — Bavakutty.M (1981)
- ii) Libraries in Distance education — Isaac. K.A & Devarajan. G., Ed. (1989)
- iii) Library Computerization in India — Isaac Festschrift. Papers presented in honour of Prof. K.A. Isaac - Devarajan, G. & Rahelamma, A.V., Ed. (1990)
- iv) Professional Librarianship- C.A.Augustine Festschrift, Devarajan. G.,Ed.(1991)
- v) Role of Libraries in Education – Devarajan. G & Rajan. A.C., Ed.(1994)
- vi) School Libraries & the Educational System with school library Compendium— Vijayakumar K.P. & Sukumaran Nair, N., Ed. (2001)



- vii) Information Technology interfaces in libraries and Information Centres - Edited by Gopikuttan, A and others. (2014)
- viii) Managing Innovations in New Generation Libraries - Edited by Shibu Ray S and others (2016).
- ix) Corporate and Media Librarianship: A prelude. TVPM; KLA, 2019. **(KLANC- 2018)** - Vijayakumar K P et al. (2019). KLA National conference proceedings held at IMG, Thiruvananthapuram, 14-15 December 2018.



3. Souvenirs

KLA has so far published seven souvenirs in connection with various events.

- i) National Library Week Souvenir (1976). Edited by C.A. Augustine.
- ii) Silver Jubilee Souvenir (1997). Edited by K.P. Vijayakumar and others.
- iii) KLA National Seminar Souvenir: School Libraries and Education System. (1998). Edited by K.P. Vijayakumar.
- iv) KLA National Seminar Souvenir: Towards Excellence in Higher Education in Kerala through IT enabled Library and Information System (2005). Edited by P.K. Suresh Kumar.
- v) KLA National Seminar Souvenir: Redefining the role of public libraries in India: the knowledge society imperatives. (2008). Edited by P.K.Suresh Kumar.
- vi) KLA National Seminar Souvenir: Content Management and Libraries: New Vistas for Harnessing Information. (2011). Edited by Dr. M. Lalitha.
- vii) KLA National Seminar Souvenir: New Information Technology interfaces in Libraries and Information Centres (NITILIC). (2013). Edited by Dr. P.K. Suresh Kumar.
- viii) KLA National Conference 2018 Corporate and Media Librarianship (2018). Edited by Dr. P.K. Suresh Kumar.



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey





4. KLA Journal of Information Science and Technology (KJIST)

The Kerala Library Association (KLA) has consistently contributed to the advancement of library and information science through various scholarly initiatives. A significant milestone in this regard was the inception of the **KLA Journal of Information Science and Technology (KJIST)**, aimed at fostering research, knowledge sharing, and professional development in the field of LIS.



Kerala Library Association
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Karamana, Thiruvananthapuram- 695 002
www.keralalibraryassociation.org
E-mail: kla.org@gmail.com



We cordially invite you to the

Launch of
KLA Journal of Information Science & Technology (KJIST)

by
Prof. (Dr.) Rajan Gurukkal
Vice-Chairman, Kerala State Higher Education Council

&
13th Prof. K. A. Isaac
Commemoration Lecture

E-learning Integration with Digital Library
A Challenging Opportunity for LIS Profession

by
Dr. I. R. N. Goudar
Former Visiting Professor Cum Library Adviser, Bangalore &
Mysore Universities & Former Scientist 'G' and Head,
ICAST, NAL, Bangalore

at 2.00 pm on 21st November 2018

Venue
DLIS Hall, Kerala University Library Buildings
Thiruvananthapuram – 695 034

Programme Overleaf

Programme

21st November 2018
Wednesday, 2.00 pm

Invocation :
Welcome : **Dr. P. K. Suresh Kumar**
General Secretary, Kerala Library Association

Presidential address : **Dr. Vijayakumar K. P.**
President, Kerala Library Association

Inaugural address & Launch of the
KLA Journal of Information Science
& Technology : **Prof. (Dr.) Rajan Gurukkal**
Vice-Chairman, Kerala State Higher
Education Council

Receiving the Journal : **Dr. A. R. Rajan**
Director, State Institute of Encyclopedic
Publications

Felicitation : **Dr. B. Minidevi**
Asst. Professor and HOD, DLIS,
University of Kerala

Commemoration Lecture : **Dr. I. R. N. Goudar**
Former Visiting Professor Cum Library
Adviser Bangalore & Mysore Universities
& Former Scientist 'G' and Head, ICAST,
NAL, Bangalore

Vote of Thanks : **Shri. G. S. Harikumar**
Vice-President, Kerala Library Association



KLA Blog: <http://klaweblog.wordpress.com>

KLA Journal of Information Science & Technology (KJIST), launched in November 2018, is published twice every year (January and July) in open access (OA) and print formats. It includes original papers, short communications, book reviews and letters pertaining to library and information science and its related fields. The papers focus on aspects of exploring, applying, and evaluating new theories and ideas to develop and modernize

libraries and enhance library services. It is meant for library professionals, documentation and information professionals, researchers, students and others interested in the library and information science field.

KJIST contents are licensed under Creative Commons 4.0 Attribution. It has been implemented and hosted by L2C2 Technologies and Powered by Open Journal Systems. The online version can be accessed at <https://www.kjist.in>.



Timeline

2011:

The idea of a scholarly publication was first mooted in 2011, on 28.08.2011, to be exact. Subsequently its sub committee was formed on 23.09.2011

2016: Conceptualization and Launch

During the 45th Annual General Body meeting held on 31 July 2016, the KLA officially announced the launching of the **KLA Journal of Information Science and Technology (KJIST)**. Recognizing the need for a dedicated scholarly publication, the association took immediate steps to establish the journal.

An Editorial Board was constituted, with Dr. K. P. Vijayakumar appointed as the Editor-in-Chief. The editorial team comprised distinguished professionals, including Dr. M. Lalitha, Dr. Mohammed Haneefa, Mr. V. Sriram, Dr. K. G. Sudhier, and Dr. P. K. Suresh Kumar. To facilitate digital dissemination, M/s. L2C2 Technologies, led by Shri Indranil Das Gupta, developed the journal's website using Open Journal System (OJS). The official website, **www.kjist.in**, was concurrently launched to serve as the access portal.

The journal was envisioned as a biannual publication, with issues released in January and July, encompassing original research, short communications, policy commentaries, book reviews, and letters related to library and information science. The publication was planned in both print and open access electronic formats, with limited print copies based on subscriptions and author requests within India.





2016-2017: Registration and Preparations

The process of registering ISSNs for both print and digital editions began with the aim of commencing publication with the first issue scheduled for January 2017. The scope and guidelines for submissions were drafted to focus on innovative theories and the application of new ideas to modernize libraries and improve library services.

2018-2019: Inauguration of the First Issue

In a significant milestone, the inaugural issue of **KJIST** was launched successfully. The event was inaugurated by Prof. (Dr.) Rajan Gurukkal, who formally launched the journal's inaugural print and electronic versions. During the launch, Dr. A. R. Rajan, Director of the Institute of Encyclopaedic Publications, Thiruvananthapuram, received the first copy of the journal from Prof. Gurukkal, marking a historic step in KLA's scholarly journey.

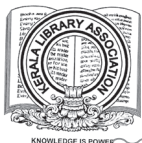
2021:

In a Google Meet in connection with the valedictory function of the National online workshop on Koha Shri. N.Sukumaran Nair, Patron, KLA released the new issue of the KLA Journal of Information Science & Technology (KJIST) both print and online version. The online version of KJIST was also uploaded in the Open Access online portal (www.kjist.in) and applied for ISSN for online version to NISCAIR on 24 August 2021.

2023: Domain Transition and Continued Accessibility

In recent years, the original domain **kjist.in** was lost due to unforeseen circumstances. To maintain uninterrupted access, KLA acquired a new domain, **www.kjist.org**, through Asianet Satellite Communications Ltd. This strategic move ensures that the journal continues to disseminate valuable research and scholarly articles efficiently to a global audience.

The **KLA Journal of Information Science and Technology (KJIST)** has grown from an innovative idea to a respected scholarly platform, contributing significantly to LIS research, policy discussions, and professional development within Kerala and beyond. The association remains committed to advancing the journal's mission of promoting excellence in library and information science.



Did You Know...?

Some Interesting Titbits

a. Effectiveness of KLA

Kerala Library Association (KLA) worked tirelessly to address the improper appointment of a non-professional as State Librarian (SCL), which lasted for years. In 1996, after persistent efforts and an interview with the Chief Minister and Education Minister, the government replaced the non-professional and appointed the senior-most professional at Trivandrum Public Library, Smt. Saramma George, who took charge on November 6, 1996.

b. Founder Patron - Prof. K.A. Issac

On June 25, 1991, Prof. K.A. Issac was appointed as Founder President and Patron of the organization, recognizing his significant contributions. Subsequently, on the same date, P.V. Varghese, C.A. Augustine, and G. Ravindran Nair, all former presidents of LKLA, were also designated Patrons for their services.

c. Account with Fed Bank

On November 29, 1991, an account was opened in the name of C.A. Augustine Holy Cross Endowment with the Federal Bank, holding cash, a memento, and a certificate as part of the endowment's formal establishment.

d. Recording Secretary - Appointment

From 1993 onwards, a recording secretary was appointed to prepare, read, and pass minutes during meetings, ensuring smooth proceedings. S. Harikumar was appointed as the initial Recording Secretary, later serving as the Organizational Secretary.



e. Library Logo Initiative

The library logo project was initiated in 2013. It was a significant branding effort for the organization.



f. Patronship to Ex-Presidents

At the 18th AGM in July 1989, it was decided to grant patronship to former presidents of KLA upon their retirement as a mark of appreciation for their contributions to the association.

g. Advance Distribution of AGM Reports

During the 19th AGM on July 1, 1990, it was agreed that copies of annual reports and accounts would be provided to members in advance of the meeting, promoting transparency and informed participation.

h. 1993 General Body Meeting Incident

How serious the members were in those days about each and every activity of KLA! Many of the seniors may remember this incident in 1993, soon after the Annual General Body meeting that went on in an orderly and dignified manner. It was an election year and the new Committee with Prof A.B. George as the President also came into being. Sri. P.V. Varghese, after attending the meeting from beginning to end, including the elections, filed a suit stating in the affidavit, "because of insufficient notice many members including me were not able to vote".

The President had sent out a letter well in advance on May 10, 1993, giving information about the General Body fixed for 27th June 1993, at the Kerala University Library, Trivandrum, which was subsequently followed up by the then General Secretary. It was one of the best General Body Meetings and the attendance was an all-time record at 73. Members, several from distant Calicut, Cochin, Kottayam, Kothamangalam etc attended, making it a really all-Kerala gathering.

A notice from the Thiruvananthapuram Munsiff Court was served on the new executive committee, consequent on Mr. P. V. Varghese filing a suit. He had prayed that all proceedings of the General Body on 27.6.'93 be declared null and void because twenty days' notice had not been given to the members.



The executive committee met urgently to take appropriate actions. The facts were presented before the court and Mr P V Varghese' suit was dismissed.

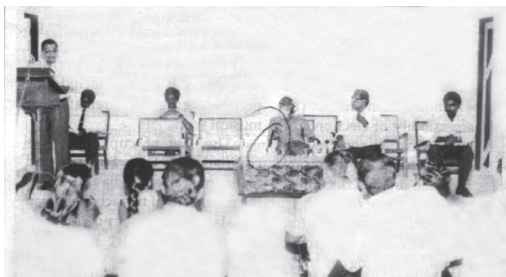
i. Silver Jubilee Prayer

Ravindranath Tagore's poem was adapted by the committee headed by Prof A B George as KLA's Silver Jubilee Prayer thus:

"Where the mind is without fear and the heart is held high;
Where words come out from the depth of truth; Where knowledge is free;
Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection
Into that heaven of freedom my Father, let my country (**my association**) awake".

j. Book Donation Programme

The KLA arranged a book donation programme at the Lakshmi Bai National College of Physical Education, Kariavattom Thiruvananthapuram. Sri. Subramaniam, a lover of books and sports, donated his collection of sports journals to KLA through Sri. V.



Ramakrishnan, Chief Librarian, C.D.S. The KLA handed over the journals to the library of Lakshmi Bai National College of Physical Education where it will be most useful. Dr. Kamesh, Principal of the college, formally accepted the book donation on 11.11.1996.

k. Exhibition of Documents on AIDS

An exhibition of Books journals, paper clippings, research papers, monographs etc. on AIDS was conducted by KLA at Thiruvananthapuram on the World AIDS day, 1.12.1996. The exhibition was conducted at the Hassan Marikar Hall, Thiruvananthapuram from 10 am to 5.30 pm. It was inaugurated by the District Medical Officer Dr. V. K. Amina Beevi. There was a public meeting in the evening at the Hassan



Marikar Hall, in which, Prof. A. B. George, Shri. B. Sathyan (District Panchayat president) Sri. Antony Raju M.L.A., and several leading medical professionals spoke.

I. Women Librarians' Meet, 2014 & 2016

Kerala Library Association (KLA) organized a notable event on March 8, 2014, in Thiruvananthapuram, coinciding with International Women's Day, to celebrate




women librarians. The event featured the unveiling of a new professional logo for librarians, held during the Women Librarians' Meet. Prof. Khyrunnisa A., a renowned writer, inaugurated the meet by gifting the logo to P. Suprabha, the State Librarian.

Dr. A. Gopikuttan, the KLA President, presided over the program.

The meet included three insightful technical sessions:

- "Empowering Women Librarians: Approaches & Attitudes" by Dr. Mini Devi B.
- "Women Librarians' Network: Some Random Thoughts" by Smt. Lovely Susan Varghese
- "Librarianship as a Woman's Profession" by Dr. Aswathy S.

Honours were bestowed upon senior women librarians, including senior most librarian Smt. Accamma Cherian and junior most librarian Ms. Aswathy. Over sixty women librarians from academic, public, and special libraries participated. The event was coordinated with warm welcomes from Dr. M. Lalitha and a vote of thanks by Dr. S. Beena.

**KERALA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**
36, 2nd Floor, Kairali Plaza Annex
Karamana, Thiruvananthapuram-695 002
www.keralalibraryassociation.org. E-mail: kila.org@gmail.com

We have great pleasure to invite you to the

Women Librarians' Meet 2014


to be organized in connection with
the International Women's Day

from 2.00 to 5.00 pm on 08 March 2014
at Prof. N. Krishna Pillai Foundation Hall, Nandavanam, Palayam
Thiruvananthapuram - 695 034.

Prof. Khyrunnisa A.
(Writer and Columnist)
has agreed to inaugurate the function.

Dr. A. Gopikuttan
(President, Kerala Library Association)
will preside.

PROGRAMME

Invocation	
Welcome	Dr. M. Lalitha General Secretary, KLA
Presidential Address	Dr. A. Gopikuttan President, KLA
Inaugural Address	Prof. Khyrunnisa A. Writer and Columnist
 Release of the "Librarian Logo"	
BUSINESS SESSIONS AND LEAD SPEAKERS	
Session 1: Empowering Women Librarians: Approaches & Attitudes Dr. Mini Devi B., DUS, University of Kerala	
TEA BREAK	
Session 2: Women Librarians' Network: Some Random Thoughts Smt. Lovely Susan Varghese, PSLV Library, Vallamala	
Session 3: Librarianship as a Woman's Profession Smt. Aswathy S., UPSC Library, Vallamala	
Vote of Thanks	Dr. S. Beena Asst. Librarian, Kerala University Library



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey




Kerala Library Association organized a programme on Health Information on 12 March 2016 in connection with the International Women's Day, from 10 am at the Department of Library & Information Science, University of Kerala. In all, there were three sessions, dealing with three different aspects of health information. The meet was chaired by Dr. K.P. Vijayakumar, President, KLA and Dr. Humayoon Kabir, Head, Dept of Library & Information Science (DLIS), University of Kerala, felicitated on the occasion. Dr. Mini Devi proposed vote of thanks.


Named "Health Infoscape: Health Information for Librarians", the programme's sessions were handled by experts in the respective fields. In her welcome address, Dr. M Lalitha, General Secretary, KLA, explained the relevance of the topic and described how it has become inevitable in a society especially when women's health is at risk. Dr. K P Vijayakumar's presidential address covered the various aspects of health information and the necessity to be knowledgeable about the various information sources available on the Net.

The three sessions followed. The first one was by Dr. T K Padmanabhan, a renowned oncologist. His session was aptly titled "Cancer Any Questions?" Before it was thrown open to the audience, Dr. Padmanabhan briefly provided valuable information on the much-dreaded disease, its varieties, symptoms and methods of treatment. He also tried to dispel certain beliefs and myths about cancer and said that early detection is the key to successful treatment. This was followed by a lively interaction with the audience.

The second speaker of the day, Smt. Rahelamma Augustine (Former Deputy Librarian in- Charge, Kerala University Library), focused on health information from a healthcare worker's perspective. Her presentation was sprinkled with human interest



KERALA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
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celebrates
**International Women's Day
2016**

HEALTH INFOSCAPE
Health Information for Librarians

12 March 2016, 10.00 am
DLIS Hall, Kerala University Library Buildings
Thiruvananthapuram - 695 034

PROGRAMME
10 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Invocation

Welcome : **Dr. M. Lalitha**
General Secretary, KLA

Presidential Address : **Dr. K. P. Vijayakumar**
President, KLA

Felicitations : **Dr. Humayoon Kabir S.**
Head, DLIS, Univ. of Kerala

SESSION I : WHAT THE DOCTOR SAYS
Dr. T. K. Padmanabhan, KIMS Hospital, Trivandrum

SESSION II : A HEALTHCARE VOLUNTEER'S PERSPECTIVE
Smt. Rahelamma Augustine, Ex-Dy. Librarian in-charge, Kerala Univ. Library

SESSION III : AN INFORMATION SPECIALIST SPEAKS
Dr. V. Vishnu, Librarian cum Information Officer, RCC Trivandrum

INTERACTION
Vote of Thanks : **Dr. B. Mini Devi**
Asst. Prof., DLIS, Univ. of Kerala

LUNCH
All are cordially invited.



Milestones: KLA's Golden Journey



stories, drawn from her own experience as a volunteer with Ashraya, an NGO. She ended with an appeal to the audience to free oneself and others from the fear of mortality and to be more compassionate towards the fellow beings.

The concluding session by Dr. V Vishnu (Librarian cum Information Officer & Head, Library & Information Services Division, Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram) was on reliable Internet sources on cancer. His PowerPoint presentation included valuable tips on how to trust a source based on various indicators like the ownership, purpose of the site and HNO Code compliance. This was amply supported by screenshots of various sites like National Cancer Institute and the International Agency for Research on Cancer. The programme drew much appreciation from the library professionals for its usefulness and timeliness.

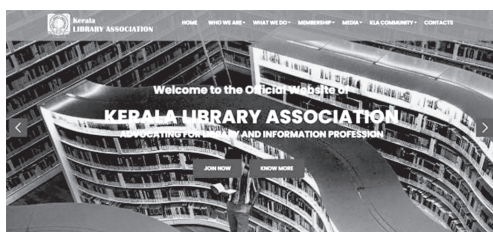
SECTION 7 – KLA ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Kerala Library Association has increased its visibility using many social media platforms through which members from anywhere at any time (24x7) can communicate and interact. KLA on Social Media are:

- KLA Weblog (<http://klaweblog.wordpress.com>)
- Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/Kerala-Library-Association>)
- Twitter (<http://twitter.com/klaconnect>)
- Curation:Scoop.it (<http://www.scoop.it/t/library-cloud-what-s-up-in-lis/>)
- Flickr (<http://www.flickr.com/photos/73623627@N07/sets/>)

Revamping KLA Website

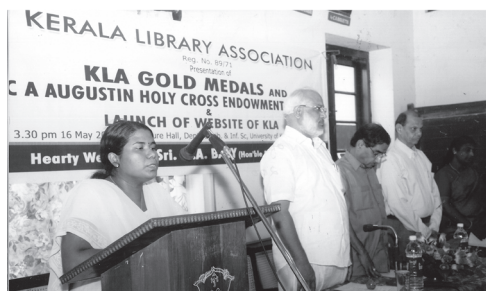
Websites have thrown open immense opportunities for the internationalisation of the Associations which enable them to successfully co-operate with each other. The official website of KLA was launched by Prof Dr. K.S Raghavan on 16th May, 2007.



Web Domain of Kerala Library Association (www.keralalibraryassociation.org) has been renewed up to May 2025.

KLA revamped its Website by making it dynamic and mobile-friendly.

<https://keralalibraryassociation.org/>





Leading Faces Behind the Milestones of KLA

PATRONS



Prof. K.A. Isaac



Prof. C.A Augustine



Shri. N. Sukumaran Nair

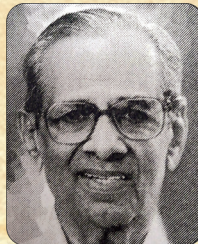
CENTRAL COMMITTEE



Shri. P.V. Varghese



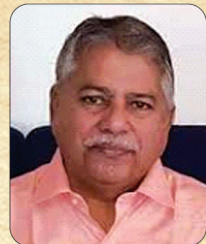
Dr. Devarajan G



Prof. A.B.George



Smt. Rahelamma A.V



Shri. Parameswaran N



Dr. Paslithil A



Dr. Vijayakumar K.P



Dr. Lalitha M



Dr. Suresh Kumar P.K



Dr. Gopikuttan A



Dr. Gopakumar V



Shri. Ahammed Kunju



Shri. Arumugham S



**Shri. Chandra
kumaran Nair M**



**Shri. Gopala
krishnan Nair G**



Shri. Hashim, E



Dr. Harikumar G.S



Shri. Ravindran Nair G



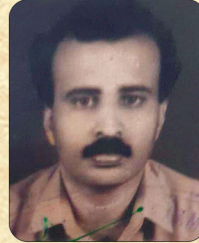
Shri. Sadasivan, K.P



Shri. Sriram, V



Smt. K.K. Lalitha Bai



Shri. Subhash Babu



Shri. Suresh Kumar, N



Shri. Faizal S.L



Smt. G. S. Soudha Mini

Calicut Region



Prof. Bavakutty



Dr. Dineshan Koovakkai



Dr. Nasirudheen T.P.O.



Dr. Sreekumar, M.G



Dr. Abdul Azeez T. A



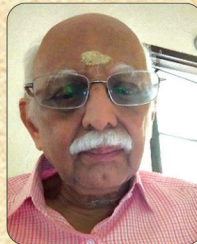
Dr. Haneefa, K.M



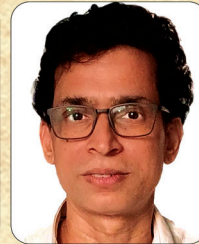
Dr. Sasi, P.K



Dr. Vasudevan, T.M



Prof. M. Parameswaran



Shri. Mohanan



Dr. Syamili C

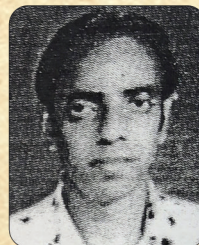
Kottayam Region



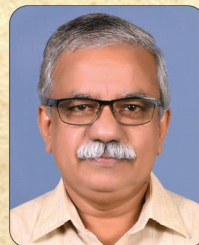
Fr. Viruppel



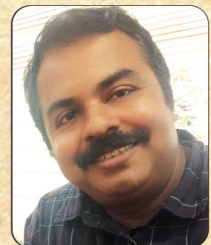
Shri. A. J Philip



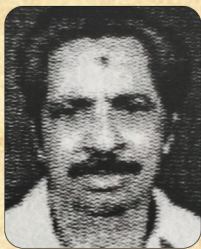
Shri. E.J Mathew



Shri. J. Suku



Dr. Vimalkumar V



Shri. Mathew Varghese



Shri. Tomy Varghese



Shri. Unnikrishnan



Smt. Savithry, T.K



Smt. Mini G. Pillai

Ernakulam Region



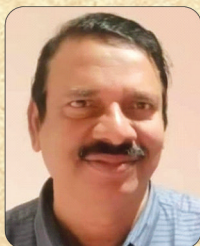
Shri. Jayakumar C.R



Juliet Teresa Venadt



Sr. Ashrita



Dr. Kunju Muhammed



Dr. Sivankutty, V



Dr. Muraleedaran Pillai, T.V



Dr. Shibu Ray



Silaja T



Shri. Anoop Varma



Shri. Joe Joseph



Shri. Manuel P.J

Thrissur Region



Shri. Azhagiri



Dr. Raman Nair R



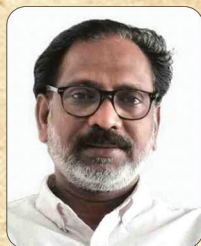
Dr. Francis A.T



Dr. Rajendran K



Shri. Humayoon Kabir P



Shri. Mohanlal. E.K



Office Bearers in 50th Year of KLA (2022-23)



Shri. N. Sukumaran Nair



Dr. Vijayakumar K. P.



Dr. M. Lalitha



Dr. P.K. Suresh Kumar



Smt. Darsana Gopinath J



Shri. A. Abdunnasar



Shri. Sujith G.



Dr. V.R. Arun Kumar

Executive Committee Members



Shri. Alex V



Dr. Beena Mol. T



Prof. (Dr.) A. Gopikuttan



Dr. G.S. Hari Kumar



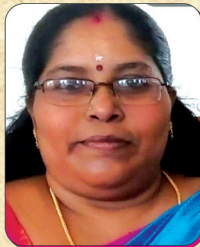
Shri. Harilal G.



Shri. V. S. Jayasankar



Shri. Shihab I.



Smt. G. S. Soudha Mini



Shri Suraj R



KLA Office Bearers 2023-2025



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Dr. Vijayakumar K.P.



Dr.M. Lalitha



Dr. P.K. Suresh Kumar



Dr.Arunkumar,V.R



Ms. Darsana Gopinath J.



Mr. Abdunnasar A.



Mr. Sujith G.



Dr. Shihab I.



Mr. Alex V.



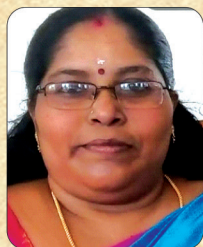
Dr. Beenamol T.



Prof. (Dr.) A. Gopikuttan



Dr. G. S. Hari Kumar



Smt. G. S. Soudha Mini



Mr. Sasi Kumar C.



Mr. P. Gopalakrishnan Nair

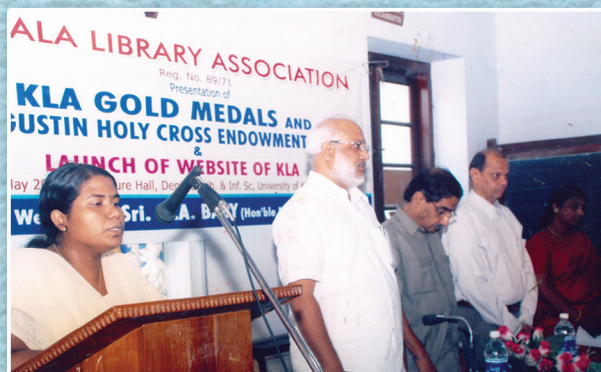


Shri. Binu K John

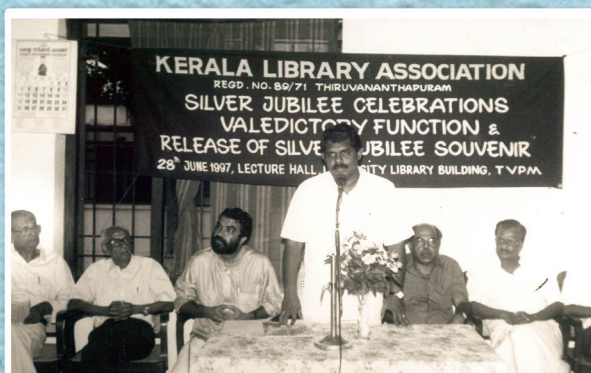
**Executive
Committee
Members**



Milestones of KLA



Launch of website 2007



Silver Jubilee



KLA Gold Medal 2009



Prof K A Isaac Condolence Meeting 2005



KLA Gold Medal 2009



Release of KLA Publications 2019



Workshop on Greenstone 2004



Reading Day 2012



Prof. K.A. Isaac Commemoration Lecture 2007



Prof. K.A. Isaac Commemoration Lecture 2007



Inauguration : National Conference on Corporate and Media Librarianship 2018



Valedictory Function : National Conference on Corporate and Media Librarianship 2018



KLA Gold Medal 2013



KLA Honouring writers in LIS 2019



Theme Paper : Corporate and Media Librarianship 2018



Corporate and Media Librarianship 2018



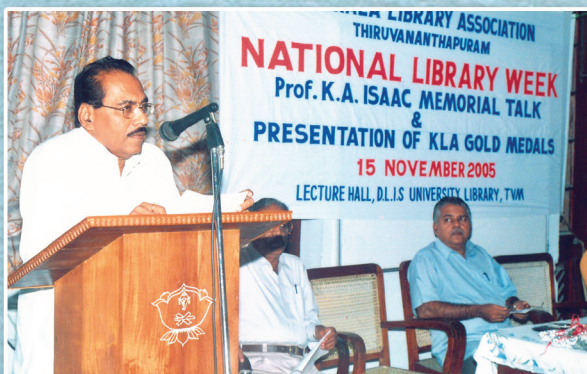
Prof. K A. Isaac Commemoration Lecture 2007



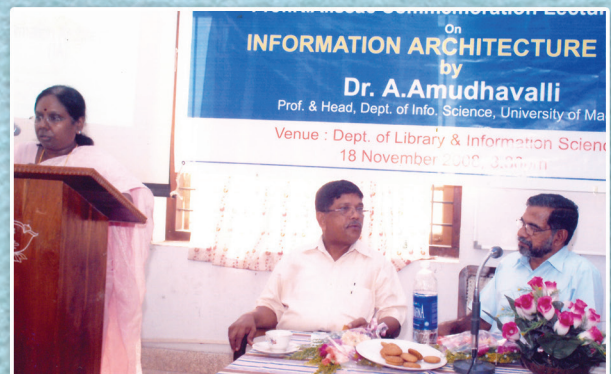
Prof. K A. Isaac Commemoration Lecture 2014



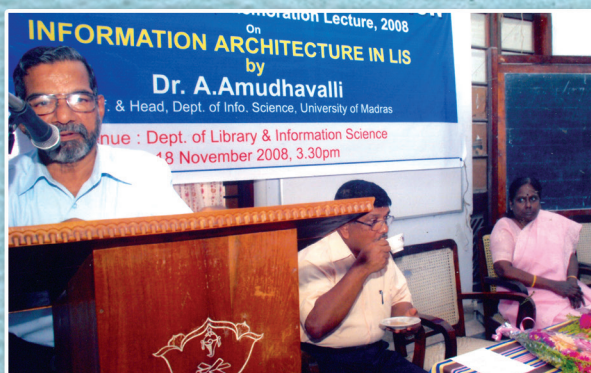
KLA Gold Medal Distribution 2013



National Library Week Celebration 2005



Prof. K A. Isaac Commemoration Lecture 2008



Prof. K A. Isaac Commemoration Lecture 2008



KLA Gold Medal Award Function 2002



Honouring writers in LIS 2019



Annual General Body Meeting 2021



Electronic Publishing and Future of Books



Workshop on koha 2009



Birth Anniversary Celebration on S.R. Ranganathan 2010



KLA National Seminar 2005



RRRLF Felicitation to Prof. K.A. Isaac 2005



RRRLF Felicitation to Prof. K.A. Isaac 2005



RRRLF Felicitation to Prof. K.A. Isaac 2005



RRRLF Felicitation to Prof. K.A. Isaac 2005



KLA National Seminar 2002



KLA National Conference 2018



National Library Weekly Celebration 2005



Prof. K.A. Isaac Commemoration Lecture 2005



Prof. K. A. Isaac Commemoration Lecture 2014



Workshop on Koha 2009



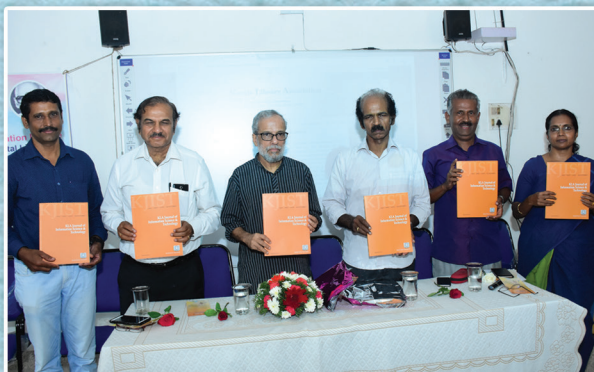
Prof. K. A. Isaac Commemoration Lecture 2008



Release of KLA Souvenir 2018



Workshop on Greenstone 2004



Release of KLA Journal of Information Science & Technology



National Workshop on koha



Demise of Prof. K. A. Isaac 2005



KLA Golden Jubilee Celebrations 2022





Kerala Library Association (KLA)

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