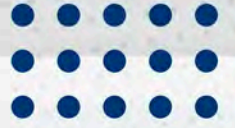




مَعْلَمَةٌ هَدِيَّةٌ



INTERNATIONAL SYRIAC THEOLOGY SYMPOSIUM

ORGANIZED BY
ST. THOMAS APOSTOLIC SEMINARY
& PONTIFICAL ORIENTAL INSTITUTE
OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES (POIRS)
VADAVATHOOR



2025

JAN 30, 31, FEB 01



REGISTER NOW



WELCOME

St. Thomas Apostolic Seminary, Vadavathoor and Pontifical Oriental Institute of Religious Studies (POIRS), Vadavathoor jointly organize an international symposium, highlighting the contributions of the Syriac Orient to the Christian tradition. The Symposium will provide platform for presenting the results of original research in the various spheres of the Syriac heritage.

The symposium begins at 10.00 a.m. on 30 January 2025 Thursday and ends at 1.00 pm on 1 February 2025, Saturday.

Dr. Scaria Kanniyakonil
Rector, St. Thomas Apostolic Seminary

Dr. Pauly Maniyattu
President
Pontifical Oriental Institute of Religious Studies

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2025 INTERNATIONAL
SYRIAC THEOLOGY SYMPOSIUM
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PROGRAMME
JAN 30, THURSDAY



Inaugural Session: 10.00 am–11.00 am

Prayer: Santhom Choir

Welcome: Dr. Pauly Maniyattu, President, POIRS

Inaugural Address: His Beatitude Mar Raphael Thattil

Major Archbishop of Syro-Malabar Church; Chancellor, POIRS

Presidential Address: Mar Thomas Tharayil

Metropolitan Archbishop of Changanacherry

Vice Chancellor, POIRS

Felicitations: Dr. Sebastian Brock

Professor Emeritus, Oxford University

Felicitations: Dr. Scaria Kanniyakonil,

Rector, St. Thomas Ap. Seminary

Dynamics of the Symposium: Dr. Thomas Vadakkal

Professor, POIRS

Vote of Thanks: Dr. Francis Pittappillil

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PROGRAMME

JAN 30, THURSDAY



Plenary Session I: 11.00 am -1.00 pm

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Andrews Mekkattukunnel, Professor, POIRS

Paper I: 11.00 am-11.30 am: Prof. Dr. Emidio Vergani, Professor,
Pontifical Oriental Institute, Rome.

“The Concept of Bishop in the Hymns of St. Ephrem”

Paper II: 11.30 am-12.00 pm: Mar Pauly Kannookadan,
Bishop of Irinjalakuda.

“East Syrian Lectionary System: A Critical Appraisal”

Paper III: 12. 00 pm-12.30 pm: Dr. Baby Varghese, Professor,
Orthodox Seminary, Kottayam.

**“Inculturation in the East Syriac Liturgy in Central Asia and
China”**

Discussion: 12.30 pm -1.00 pm

1.00 pm: Lunch

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JAN 30, THURSDAY



Presentation of Short Papers: 2 pm–4 pm

Simultaneous Presentations in Two Venues

GROUP A: CARDINAL TISSERANT HALL

Moderator: Dr. Joseph Kalarickal, Professor, POIRS

Paper I: 2.00 pm–2.20 pm: Prof. Dr. Scaria Kanniyakonil, Rector St. Thomas Ap. Seminary; Professor, POIRS, **“Exploring Special Moral Themes in the Liturgical Texts of Mar Addai and Mar Mari, Mar Theodore and Mar Nestorius”**

Paper II: 2.20 pm –2.40 pm: Simon Hansbauer, Research Fellow at the Philipps–Universität, Marburg
“Monophysites or Miaphysites”.

Paper III: 2.40 pm– 3.00 pm: Dr. Manoj Thattassery, Professor, Pontifical St. Joseph’s Seminary, Alwaye, **“Being Human is Being Humble: Re-reading the Virtue of Humility in Aphrahat, the Persian Sage”**

Paper IV: 3.00 pm –3.20 pm: Prof. Dr. Paulachan Kochappilly CMI, Professor, DVK, Bengaluru, **“Conscience as the Celebration of Life in Christ: Syro–Malabar Qurbana’s Perspective on Christian Ethics”**

Paper V: 3.20 pm – 3.40 pm: Dr. Dominic Muriyankavunkal Professor, POIRS: **“Holy Spirit in the Writings of Aphrahat”**

Discussion: 3.40 pm – 4.00 pm

PROGRAMME

JAN 30, THURSDAY



Presentation of Short Papers: 2 pm-4 pm

Simultaneous Presentations in Two Venues

GROUP B: FR PLACID HALL

Moderator: Dr. V.S Varghese, Principal
Mar Thoma Seminary, Kottayam

Paper I: 2.00 pm-2.20 pm: Fr. Justin Neelankavil, Chaldean Church of the East, Trichur: **"Gematria and Divine Symbolism: Numerological Expressions in Syriac Theology and Poetry"**

Paper II: 2.20 pm -2.40 pm: Prof. Dr. Thomas Kuzhuppil, Professor, POIRS, **"St. Ephrem of Nisibis and the Nicene Creed"**

Paper III: 2.40 pm- 3.00 pm: Dr. Binu Mathew Kulathingal, Director, Pope Benedict Institute, Thamarassery, **"Paradise, Kingdom and Way as Imageries in the writings of Narsai of Nisibis"**

Paper IV: 3.00 pm -3.20 pm: Dr. Varghese Kochuparambil, Dean of Theology, POIRS, **"Interrelatedness between Church and Eucharist in the Writings of St. Ephrem"**

Paper V: 3.20 pm – 3.40 pm: Dr. George Kuzhippillil, Professor, Good Shepherd Institute of Theology, Kunnoth. **"Mystery as a process of Deification in Syriac Theology"**.

Discussion: 3.40 pm – 4.00 pm

4.00 pm: Tea

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JAN 30, THURSDAY



Plenary Session II: 5.10 pm – 6.30 pm

Moderator: Dr. James Thalachelloor: Professor, Institute of Eastern Canon Law, Vadavathoor

Paper I: 5.15 pm–5.35 pm: Prof. Dr. Alain Jacques Desreumaux, Chercheur Associé à l'UMR Orient & Méditerranée, CNRS, Paris, **"Syriac Culture in Kerala: Past, Present and Future"**

Paper II: 5.35 pm–5.55 pm: Mar Joseph Srampickal, Bishop of the Syro-Malabar Eparchy of Great Britain, **"The Garment of Salvation: Ephrem the Syrian's Vision of the Church through the Robe of Glory"**.

Discussion: 5.55 pm–6.10 pm

Group Discussion I: 6.10 pm – 7.20 pm

6.10 pm–6.50 pm: Discussion

6.50 pm–7.20 pm: Presentation of the Reports of the Groups

7.30 pm: Ramsa (West Syriac) Fr. Shibu Varghese, Director, Sruthi, Kottayam

8.00 pm: Dinner, Lelya

9.00 pm–9.45 pm: Syriac Music Night led by Fr. Shibu Varghese, Director, Sruthi, School of Liturgical Music, Kottayam

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JAN 31, FRIDAY



6.30 am: Sapra

6.50 am: Holy Qurbana in Syriac (Syro-Malabar), Dr. Varghese Mattathil, Dean of Studies, Paurastya Vidyaniketan, Manganam

8.00 am: Breakfast

Plenary Session III: 9.00 am -10.50 am

Moderator: Dr. Varghese Palathingal, Professor
Institute of Eastern Canon Law, Vadavathoor

Paper I: 9.00 am-9.30 am: Prof. Dr. Karl Pinggera, Professor for
Church History, University of Marburg, **“Ephrem the Syrian on
Church and Emperor”**

Paper II: 9.30 am-10.00 am: Prof. Dr. Pius Malekandathil, Professor
Emeritus, JNU, New Delhi, **“St. Thomas Christians and
the Networks of the Early Syriac using Christian Communities
in the Indian Ocean: 100-1000 AD”**

Paper III: 10.00 am-10.30 am: Dr. Jaisy A. Joseph, Professor, Villa-
nova University, USA, **“The Ecclesial Implications of St. Ephrem
the Syrian’s Eucharistic Theology”**

Discussion: 10.30 am-10.50 am

10.50 am: Coffee-break

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JAN 31, FRIDAY



Presentation of Short Papers: 11.15 am– 1:00 pm

Simultaneous Presentations in Two Venues:

Group A: Cardinal Tisserant Hall

Moderator: Dr. George Nedumparambil OFM.Cap.
Visiting Professor, POIRS

Paper I: 11.15 am–11.30 am: Prof. Dr. Pauly Maniyattu, President,
POIRS: **“Qudaša: The Anabatic and Katabatic Dimensions of the
Action of the Holy Spirit in the East Syriac Qurbana”**

Paper II: 11.30 am–11.45 am Dr. Peter Kannampuzha
(Vicar, St. Mary’s Forane Church, Pallipuram) **“The Rite of Qsaya:
Its position and Significance in the Holy Qurbana”**

Paper III: 11.45 am–12.00 pm: Dr. Francis Pittappillil
HoD, Syriac Theology Department, POIRS: **“Notion of Kahnutha
in the East Syriac Qurbana”**

Paper IV: 12.00 pm–12.15 pm: Dr. Jose Kochuparampil, Vicar
St. Mary’s Metropolitan Cathedral Church, Changanacherry
“Images of Baptism in the East Syrian Baptismal Euchology.”

Paper V: 12.15 pm–12.30 pm: Dr. Stephen Plathottam OIC, Professor,
SEERI, Kottayam, **“Theological significance of the Feast of Denho
in the East and West Syriac Traditions”**

Discussion: 12.30 pm–1.00 pm

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JAN 31, FRIDAY



Presentation of Short Papers: 11.15 am- 1:00 pm

Simultaneous Presentations in Two Venues:

Group B: Fr. Placid Hall

Moderator: Dr. Prasanna Vazheeparampil CMC
Holy Queen's Province, Changanacherry

Paper I: 11.15 am-11.35 am: Dr. Lonappan Arangassery MST
Professor, Ruhahaya Institute of Theology, Ujjain, "**Razanayuta of
the Mysteries and the Notion of 'Seven' Sacraments**"

Paper II: 11.35 am-11.55 am: Dr. Geo Pallikunnel CMI, Professor,
DVK, Bengaluru, "**Hominization and Divinization: Theological
Anthropology Envisioned in the Third G'hanta Prayer
of the Anaphora of Mar Addai and Mar Mari**".

Paper III: 11.55 pm-12.15 pm: Prof. Dr. Dominic Vechoor, Professor
POIRS, "**The East Syriac Understanding of Christian Moral Life
with Special Reference to the Syro Malabar Tradition**"

Paper IV: 12.15 pm-12.35 pm: Fr. Saju Mathai Keeppanasseril
Director, Mimro: Centre for Languages, Liturgy and Life Sciences,
Muvattupuzha, "**Repentance of Cain: A Syriac Exegetical
Analysis**"

Discussion: 12.35 pm-1.00 pm

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JAN 31, FRIDAY



Presentation of Short Papers: 2.00 pm–3.00 pm

Simultaneous Presentations in Two Venues:

Group A: Cardinal Tisserant Hall

Moderator: Dr. Mathew Kochadampallil, Professor, POIRS

Paper I: 2.00 pm–2.15 pm: Dr. Roy Joseph Kaduppil, Director, Institute of Eastern Canon Law, Vadavathoor: **“Care of Souls in the Syro-Malabar Tradition: An Inquiry into the Juridical Sources”**

Paper II: 2.15 pm–2.30 pm: Dr. Joy George Mangalathil, Professor, Institute of Eastern Canon Law, Vadavathoor, **“The Hierarchical Constitution of the Church as presented in ‘Liber Patrum’.**

Paper III: 2.30 pm –2.45 pm. Dr. George Thekkekara, Professor Institute of Eastern Canon Law, Vadavathoor, **“Orthodoxy and Papal Primacy in East Syrian Tradition”**

Discussion: 2.45 pm –3.00 pm.

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JAN 31, FRIDAY



Presentation of Short Papers: 2.00 pm–3.00 pm

Simultaneous Presentations in Two Venues:

Group B: Fr Placid Hall

Moderator: Rev. Dr. John Thomas Karingattil, Principal, Orthodox Seminary, Kottayam

Paper I: 2.00 pm–2.20 pm: Dr. Sebastian Kuttiyanickal, Professor, POIRS, **“Old Testament Syriac versions and its characteristics”**.

Paper II: 2.20 pm–2.40 pm: Prof. Dr. Cyriac Valiakunnumpurathe, HoD, Department of Biblical Theology, POIRS, **“Comparative Study between the Masoretic Text and Syriac Peshitha of the Book of Ruth”**.

Discussion: 2.40 pm –3.00 pm.

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PROGRAMME

JAN 31, FRIDAY



Case Studies at Four Venues : 3.10 pm-4 pm

(For each case study 7 minutes presentation
and 3 minutes clarifications)

Hall I

1. Sr. Kochuthresia MTS: (Research Scholar, POIRS)

**“Biblical and Patristic Basis of Subaa Prayer in the East
Syriac Tradition”**

2. Dn. Gregory George Ninan, Orthodox Seminary, Kottayam,

“Syriac Malapanite in Kerala”

3. Bro. Joseph Maranattu, “St. Joseph’s Pontifical Seminary,
Mangalapuzha, Aluva

**“With her ear, Mary saw”: A Mariological Symbol Reflecting
on St. Ephrem’s, Theology of Hope in the Jubilee Year 2025”**

4. Fr. Joseph Thachara: (Licentiate, POIRS)

“Theology of Body in St. Ephrem”

5. Josekutty Abraham,

“Letter of Mar Jacob from Kollam in the year 1504”.

PROGRAMME

JAN 31, FRIDAY



Case Studies at Four Venues : 3.10 pm-4 pm

(For each case study 7 minutes presentation
and 3 minutes clarifications)

Hall II

1. Fr. Daniel T. Philip: (Research Scholar, POIRS)

**“Ecclesial Identity of the Mar Thoma Church in the Context
of the Syriac Tradition”**

2. Sr. Alphonse FCC: (Research Scholar, POIRS)

“Monasticism of St. Thomas Christians”

3. Amal Joseph

“Uniqueness of the Architecture of Syro-Malabar Church”

4. Bro. John Kattrukudiyil

St. Thomas Ap. Seminary, Vadavathoor

“Ephrem’s Theology of Symbols and its Relevance”

5. Sr. Agnel CMC, Paurastya Vidyaniketan, Manganam,

**“Cyrillonian Vision on the Celebrated Biblical Episode
of Foot Washing”**

PROGRAMME

JAN 31, FRIDAY



Case Studies at Four Venues : 3.10 pm-4 pm

(For each case study 7 minutes presentation
and 3 minutes clarifications)

Hall III

1. Sr. Irene CMC: (Research Scholar, POIRS)
"Christology in the Odes of Solomon"
2. Fr. Joseph Puthoor, (Research Scholar, POIRS)
**"The Struggle of Malabar Syriac Christians to preserve their
Syriac Liturgy after the Diamper Synod."**
3. Bro. Joseph Vattakalam
Good Shepherd Major Seminary, Kunnoth,
**"The Order of the Sacrament of Initiation in Syriac Tradition
up to the 16th Century"**
4. Bro. Justin J. Sam, Mar Thoma Seminary, Kottayam, **"From
Altar to World: Unveiling the Missionary Heart of the St.
James Liturgy"**
5. Antony George, **"Liturgical Significance of Makshanitha"**

PROGRAMME

JAN 31, FRIDAY



Case Studies at Four Venues : 3.10 pm-4 pm

(For each case study 7 minutes presentation
and 3 minutes clarifications)

Hall IV

1. Fr. George Ponnammvarickayil, (Research Scholar, POIRS)
"A Brief Study of Karshon based on Vedatharkkam"
2. Sr. Sharon SH: (Research Scholar, POIRS)
"Eschatological Thrust of the East Syriac Liturgy"
3. Fr. Michael Thomas: (Licentiate, POIRS),
**"Revisiting Mar Thoma Sleeva based
on the Syriac Theology of Cross"**
4. Sr. Irene Maria MLF, Paurastya Vidyaniketan, Manganam,
"Biblical and Liturgical Foundation of the Feast of Denha"
5. Dr. Febin, **"Relevance of Malka
in the Syro-Malabar Church"**

4.00 pm: Tea

PROGRAMME
JAN 31, FRIDAY



Plenary Session IV: 5.00 pm – 6.10 pm

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Johnson Neelanirappel

Director Institute of Philosophy, POIRS

Paper I: 5.00 pm–5.25 pm: Prof. Marie Vinourd– France

“Restoration of Syriac Manuscripts”

Paper II: 5.25 pm–6.00 pm: Dr. Alain Desreumaux

and Dr. Jacob Thekkeparampil

“Syriac Heritage: An Enrichment for the Kerala culture”

Discussion: 6.00pm–6.15 pm

6.15 pm –7.25 pm: Group Discussion II

6.15 pm –6.55 pm: Discussion

6.55 pm–7.25 pm: Presentation of the Reports of the Groups

7.30 pm: Ramsa: Dr. Cyriac Valiakunnumpurathe

8.00 pm: Dinner, Lelya

9.00 pm–9.45 pm: St. Thomas Christian Cultural Eve

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PROGRAMME
FEB 01, SATURDAY



6.30 am: Sapra

6.50 am: Holy Qurbano (Syro-Malankara)

Dr. Jacob Thekkeparampil, Director, SEERI, Kottayam

8.00 am: Breakfast

Plenary Session V: 9.00 am -10.50 am

Moderator: Dr. Xavier Maramattam, Professor, POIRS

Paper I: 9.00 am-9.30 am: Prof. Dr. Mateusz Rafal Potoczny, (Dean of the Faculty of Theology, University of Opole, Poland)

“He taught them to sacrifice love”. Priestly Spirituality according to Mar Narsai of Nisibis”

Paper II: 9.30 am-9.50 am: Mar Joseph Perumthottam, Archbishop Emeritus, Changanacherry

“Syriac Heritage of St. Thomas Christians: A Historical Study”

Paper III: 9.50 am-10.10 am: Prof. Dr. Thomas Kollamparampil CMI, Professor Emeritus, DVK, Bengaluru

“Trinitarian Imprint for Salvation in Syriac Theology”

Paper IV: 10.10 am-10.30 am: Dr. Jiphy Mekkattukulam, Secretary, Commission for Liturgy of the Syro-Malabar Church

“Theology of Sacraments of Initiation in the Early Syriac Tradition: The Findings from the Acts of Thomas”

Discussion: 10.30 am-10.45 am

10.45 am: Coffee-break

2025 INTERNATIONAL
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PROGRAMME
FEB 01, SATURDAY



Presentations at Two Venues: 11.00 am-12.00 pm
(Discussion 15 minutes)

Group A: Cardinal Tisserant Hall

Moderator: Dr. Martin Sankoorikal, Professor, POIRS

Paper I: 11.00 am-11.15 am: Dr. Jacob Thekkeparampil
Director, SEERI, Kottayam

"Mimro of Mor Jacob of Sarug on "Abun d-ba-Shmayo"

Paper II: 11.15 am-11.30 am: Dr. Lindo Kuttikadan
Professor, POIRS

Syriac Philosophy during the Medieval Times"

Paper III: 11.30 am-11.45 am: Dr. George Kudilil
Chief Editor, Deepika, Kottayam

**Some Observations on the Biblical Translations found in the
Original Malayalam Text of the Acts and Decrees of the
Synod of Diamper" (1599)**

Paper IV: 11.45 am-12.00 pm: Dr. Varghese Mattathil
Visiting Professor, POIRS

"Ps 91 in the Hebrew and Pshitta Traditions"

Discussion: 12.00 pm-12.15 pm

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PROGRAMME

FEB 01, SATURDAY



Presentations at Two Venues: 11.00 am–12.00 pm
(Discussion 15 minutes)

Group B: Fr Placid Hall

Moderator: Dr. Sebastian Madathisseril, Professor, POIRS

Paper I: 11.00 am–11.15 am: Dr. George Mathew Kuttiyil
Mar Thoma Syrian Church

**“The Concept of Madbranutha: Economy
of Salvation Reflected in the Anaphora of St. James”**

Paper II: 11.15 am–11.30 am: Dr. John Kannamthanam
Principal, St. Mary’s HSS, Bharanganam

**‘Hymn of Church’ in the Acts of Thomas and the Mystery
of Bride and Bridegroom the East Syrian Tradition**

Paper III: 11.30 am–11.45 am: Dr. Jincy Othottil
Chaldean Church of the East, Trichur

**“Feast of Transfiguration of our Lord
in the East Syrian Liturgical Heritage”**

Paper IV: 11.45 am–12.00 pm: Fr. Biju Parekkattil, Professor, MSOT
Jacobite Syrian Seminary, Mulamthuruthy

**“A historical introduction to the West Syrian
Bethgazo System.”**

Discussion: 12.00 pm–12.15 pm

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2025 INTERNATIONAL
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PROGRAMME
FEB 01, SATURDAY



Concluding Session: 12.15 pm–1.00 pm

Welcome: Dr. Varghese Kochuparambil

Concluding Address: Prof. Dr. C.T. Aravindakumar

Vice Chancellor, M.G. University, Kottayam

Words of Appreciation:

Vote of Thanks: Dr. Thomas Kuzhuppil

Convenors

Dr. Francis Pittappillil (General Convenor)

Dr. Thomas Kuzhuppil

Dr. Varghese Kochuparambil

Dr. Scaria Kanniakonil

Dr. Pauly Maniyattu



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