



past for a positive future



KCHR ORGANIZES A SEMINAR ON
M.G.S. NARAYANAN
RETHINKING KERALA'S PAST,
REIMAGINING HISTORY

15th MAY 2025
THURSDAY

Venue : Jubilee Hall, HOTEL ALAKAPURI,
Palayam, Kozhikode

Kerala Council for Historical Research

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M.G. S. NARAYANAN:

RETHINKING KERALA'S PAST, REIMAGINING HISTORY

M. G. S. Narayanan (1932-2025) was a renowned Indian historian, public intellectual, academic and political commentator. He headed the Department of History at Calicut University and later served as the Member Secretary (1990-92) and as the Chairperson of the Indian Council of Historical Research (2001-03). He is considered as “one of India’s top authorities of pre-modern history of India” and who struck an objective and scientific pathway in Kerala history research.

He was Commonwealth Academic Staff Fellow, SOAS, University of London (1974 –75); Visiting Fellow, Universities of Moscow and Leningrad (1991); First Member Secretary, ICHR, New Delhi (1990-92); Member of UGC Panel in History, UGC National Lecturer, UGC Visiting Professor, School of Social Sciences, MG University, Kottayam (1992-93); Visiting Research Professor, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Tokyo (1994-95); Visiting Professor, Mangalore University (1996), Chairperson, ICHR, New Delhi (2001-03), and Chairperson, Technical Advisory Committee for Kerala State Archives (2004-05). Since 1969, he was closely associated with the Indian History Congress, of which he was member of Executive Committee for several years from 1974; Local Secretary (1976); President of Section I-Ancient India (1978); Joint Secretary for many years, and General Secretary (1983-1985). He was President of Indian History and Culture Society (2001). Professor Narayanan took active part in establishing and promoting South Indian History Congress, Epigraphical Society of India, and Place Name Society of India; and has been Member of Executive Committee and President of these bodies at different times. He was member of the following academic bodies: Editorial Committee, Journal of Indian History, Indian Historical Review; Editorial Board, History Text Books in the NCERT; and Team Project on Socio-Religious Movements, Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla.

As General Editor of the Calicut University Historical Series, he brought out three volumes of sources for Kerala History, including *Vanjeri Grandhavari* (1987) which he himself edited. He was Chief Editor of *Malabar* (1994), a compilation of extracts from research works in the last hundred years. His doctoral dissertation had been printed under the title of *Perumals of Kerala* (1996).

In Malayalam, he is the author of *India Charithra Parichayam* (1969); *Sahithya Aparadhangal* (1970); *Kerala Charitrattinte Adisthaana Shilakal* (2000); *Kozhikkodinte Katha* (2001); *Secular Jaatium Secular Matavum* (2001); *Janaadhipatyavum Communisavum* (2004), and *Keralacharithrathile Pathu Kallakkadhakal* (2016), besides essays on history and literature published in important journals and magazines.

Programme Schedule

Invitation to the context
of the Seminar

: Professor K.N. Ganesh
Chairperson, KCHR

10.00-10.15 am

Session I

Moderator

: Dr. P. P. Abdul Razak
Associate Professor of History (Retd)., PSMO College, Tirurangadi

1. Professor Kesavan Veluthat

Former Professor of History, University of Delhi

10.15-11.00 am

Topic: MGS and the Recasting of Kerala History

Tea break

11.00-11.10 am

2. Professor Rajan Gurukkal

Vice-Chairperson, Kerala State Higher Education Council

11.10 -11.30 am

Topic: MGS and Study of Social Formations in Kerala

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| 3. | Professor Y. Subbarayalu Retired Professor, Department of Epigraphy and Archaeology, Tamil University, Thanjavur Topic: Professor MGS' Study of Local Bodies | 11.30-12.15 pm |
| 4. | Professor Raghava Varier Former Professor of History, University of Calicut Topic: MGS and the Study of Kerala Epigraphy | 12.15- 1.00 pm |
| | Lunch Break | 1.00-2.00 pm |
| Session II | | |
| 5. | Professor P.K. Michael Tharakan Chairperson, Centre for Socio-Economic and Environmental Studies, Government of Kerala Topic: MGS and the Writing of Kerala History | 2.00-2.45 pm |
| 6. | Professor T. R. Venugopal Retired Professor, Department of History, Govt. College, Kuttanellur, Trissur Topic: MGS and the study of Economy and Polity | 2.45-3.30 pm |
| | Tea Break | 3.30-3.40 pm |
| 7. | Dr. Anna Varghese Associate Professor, Department of History, Christ University, Bangalore Topic: Readings on Ritual, Politics and Social Life: The Case of a Medieval Kerala Hindu Temple | 3.40-4.20 pm |
| 8. | Mr. K.P. Ramanunni, Writer & Adjunct Professor, Thunjathezhuthachan Malayalam University, Tirur Topic: എം.ജി.എസ് : സാഹിത്യചിന്തയുടെ വഴികളിൽ Followed by a Discussion | 4.20-5.00 pm |
| | Vote of Thanks: Professor Dinesan V, Director, KCHR | |

Kerala Council for Historical Research

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