

Message from The President



Dear Members and Friends,

It is with heartfelt gratitude and joy that I extend warm greetings to you as we celebrate the 135th anniversary of YMCA Jaffna this year. This milestone is not only a testament to the enduring legacy of our institution but also to the unwavering commitment of generations who have dedicated themselves to the vision and mission of the YMCA Jaffna.

Since our founding in 1890, YMCA Jaffna has stood as a beacon of hope, faith, and service in the community. Rooted in Christian values, our journey over the past 135 years has been one of love, transformation, and collective growth. We thank God for guiding us every step of the way.

At the heart of our mission lies the empowerment of young people. Through education, leadership development, sports, and social engagement, we continue to nurture youth who are not only skilled and confident, but also compassionate and responsible citizens.

In today's rapidly changing world, this work is more vital than ever. As we look to the future, let us recommit ourselves to the calling of service – to love one another, to lift each other up, and to create spaces where all young people can thrive. May the YMCA continue to be a source of inspiration and transformation in Jaffna for generations to come. Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

With warm regards,
Mr. Ratnasabapathy Vinoth
President
YMCA Jaffna

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Annual General Meeting of the YMCA Jaffna was held on 05th of April 2025.

The following members were elected as Board of Directors.

- Rev. P. Thevamithran • Mr. S. Paul Dharshanth
- Dr. R. Dean Jenifert • Rev. M. Jeyanantharasa
- Mr. T. Jutharajah • Mr. T. Kalingdas
- Mr. J. R. W. Jeffrey

Following existing Directors will continue...

- Mr. T. Balasubramaniyam
- Mr. Dinesh P Gunaratnam
- Mr. T. Vimalraj
- Mr. T. Thevakanushan
- Mr. S. Pratheep

Followship dinner was followed after the AGM



The following Directors were elected as Office Bearers.

- President: Mr. R. Vinoth
- Vice Presidents: 1) Mr. J. R. W. Jeffrey
2) Mr. J. Jesuthasan
- Treasurer: Mr. S. Vaseekaran
- EXCO Member: Mr. T. Jutharajah

Induction Service - 01.05.2025



INDUCTION SERVICE

The Induction service of YMCA Jaffna was held on 1st May 2025, At 3.30 p.m, At St. John Baptist's Church, Chundikuli, Jaffna. The New Office Bearers & Board Of Directors (2025,2026) were dedicated to Glory Of God.

Officiated By : Rev.S.S.Jebachelvan
Message By : Rev D.S.Mathiyaparanam
Induction by : Rev K.T.Jerome Ramyakanth

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - NCYSL

Mr Richard Jansz was elected as new President of NCYSL at the AGM held on 24th May 2025 at St Micheal's church, Parish hall, Colombo. YMCA Jaffna was proudly represented by our Mr R. Vinoth, (President), Mr S. Jeyarajasingam, (General Secretary) and Mr J. Jesuthasan, (Youth Vice President) at this significant national event. Mr J.Jesuthasan elected as Youth ExCo Member.



Message from the Honorary General Secretary



Dear Friends in Christ,

Warm greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour.

As we journey together through this season, I am reminded of the profound and unending love of God that surrounds us daily. His love is the foundation of all that we do at YMCA Jaffna - a love that inspires us to serve, to care, and to build a stronger community. In a world often marked by division and hardship, we are called to be bearers of love and unity. The love of God is not just a feeling, but an action - a daily choice to uplift one another, to extend grace, and to build bridges of understanding and compassion. Let us reflect that divine love in our words and actions, within our families, communities, and among all those we serve. YMCA Jaffna remains committed to fostering an environment where love, respect, and service thrive. Thank you for being a part of this journey, and may we continue to grow together in faith, hope, and love.

Mr.Sathiyakumaran Paul Dharshanth
Honorary General Secretary

ALL ISLAND BIBLE QUIZ COMPETITION (ZONAL & REGIONAL)

All Island Bible Quiz Competition - Zonal - 17.05.2025



The All-Island Bible Quiz Zonal Competition was held on 17th May 2025, at St.John's College, Chundikuli. Eleven teams participated in the Under-16 age group and ten teams in the Under-12 age group. In the Under-16 category, the Uduvil Girls' College A team emerged as Champions, while the Uduvil Girls' College B team were the Runners-up. In the Under-12 category, the Chundikuli Girls' College A team won the Championship, and the Assembly of God Church, Jaffna, secured the Runner-up.

The Regional Level All Island Bible Quiz Competition was held on 31st May at YMCA Jaffna. The Uduvil Girls' College, obtained the Championship in the under 16 category. Cornerstone Foundation Kilinochi, obtained the Championship in the under 12 Category.

"INSIGHT FROM THE EDITORIAL CHAIRMAN"

Dear Readers,

It is with gratitude and hope that we present this quarter's edition of A Ray of Light. At YMCA Jaffna, we remain committed to uplifting lives, especially among youth and underserved communities, through service, education, and empowerment.

This issue captures the spirit of resilience and unity that defines our mission. Whether through Founders day programme, awareness walk, or flag week programmes, each initiative reflects our ongoing dedication to building a more compassionate and inclusive society.

We are proud of the tireless work by our directors, members, volunteers and partners, and we thank each of you for walking with us on this journey. As we turn these pages, may you find inspiration and a renewed sense of purpose.

Let us continue to be rays of light in our communities — guiding, supporting, and transforming lives.
With warm regards,



Mr. Thambu Balasubramaniam
Editorial Chairman
YMCA Jaffna



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT Programme Secretary – YMCA Jaffna

The Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) of Jaffna, a Christian organization dedicated to youth development, community service, and social responsibility, is seeking a dynamic and committed individual for the post of **Programme Secretary**.

Minimum Qualifications:

- G.C.E. Advanced Level - Minimum **three passes in one sitting** (compulsory)
- **Bachelor's Degree or Master's Degree** - Preferable
- Must be a **Christian**
- **Fluency in Tamil** - Essential
- Fluency in **English or Sinhala** - Added advantage

Age Limit: Below 40 years

Salary: LKR 43,825 per month

(Other fixed allowances will be paid after the successful completion of the probation period.)

Closing Date for Applications: 16th September 2025

The selected candidate will be responsible for designing and implementing programmes that promote youth empowerment, education, and spiritual development in alignment with the mission of YMCA Jaffna.

Please Note: Only **shortlisted candidates** will be called for the **final interview**.

How to Apply:

Applicants are requested to send a detailed CV with copies of certificates and a cover letter to:

The General Secretary

YMCA Jaffna

109, Kandy Road(A9), Jaffna.

Email: jaffnaymca@gmail.com

Please mention "Application for Programme Secretary" in the subject line of the email or on the top left corner of the envelope.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 2025 / 26



BOARD OF DIRECTORS, STAFF MEMBERS & CLARGIES AT INDUCTION SERVICE





இறையாட்சி நோக்கி... இற்றைப்படு

அறிமுகம்:

எங்களில் ஒருவராகி (மனுவுருவான இயேசு), வரலாற்றில் வாழ்ந்த இயேசுவின் முன்னெடுப்பு இறையாட்சி (மாற்கு 1:14,15). இறையாட்சியை பறைசாற்றியது மட்டுமல்ல, இறையாட்சியின் பண்புகளை மையமாக்கி வாழ்ந்ததால் சிலுவைச்சாவை எதிர்கொள்ள வேண்டியிருந்தது. இயேசுவின் முன்னெடுப்பை (நற்செய்தி) தொடருவது அவருடைய சீடர்களின் கடமை.

யதார்த்தத்தில் இறையாட்சி நோக்கிய அன்பாக்கம்:

நிலவும் சமூக அரசியல் பொருளாதார சமய கலாசார... யதார்த்தத்தில் நற்செய்தியாக்கத்தில், இயேசுவைப்போல (லூக்கா 4:18,19), ஈடுபடுவது இடைநிறுத்தப்படாமல் தொடர்ந்து நடைபெற வேண்டும். இயேசுவின் சீடர்களால் முன்னெடுக்கப்படும் அன்பு மைய வாழ்க்கைமுறை இறையாட்சி கருத்துருவாக்கத்தின் கட்டமைப்பாக இயல்பாக இருப்பதும் வளர்வதும் தொடரும்போதே நற்செய்தியாக்கம் உறுதியாக காணப்படும். ('நீங்கள் ஒருவருக்கொருவர் அன்பு செலுத்துங்கள்' என்னும் புதிய கட்டளையை நான் உங்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கிறேன். நான் உங்களுக்கு அன்பு செலுத்தியதுபோல நீங்களும் ஒருவருக்கொருவர் அன்பு செலுத்துங்கள். நீங்கள் ஒருவருக்கொருவர் செலுத்தும் அன்பிலிருந்து நீங்கள் என் சீடர்கள் என்பதை எல்லாரும் அறிந்துகொள்வர்" என்றார் - யோவான் 13:34, 35).

இறையாட்சி நோக்கிய, அன்பாக்க வாழ்வும் பணியும், இயேசுவை பின்பற்றுவோரால் (திருஅவை, நிறுவனங்கள், அடிப்படை கிறிஸ்தவ சமூகங்கள், தனிப்பட்டோர்...) இன்று உண்மையாக முன்னெடுக்கப்படுகின்றதா? இயேசுவின் முன்னெடுப்பை உயிர்ப்புடன் தொடர இன்று எதிர்நோக்கப்படும் சவால்கள் என்ன, அவற்றை எப்படி கையாளலாம் என்பதை நோக்கி ஒரு முழுமையான மாற்றத்துக்காக செயற்படுவதும் சிந்திப்பதும் தடைப்படாமல் தொடர வேண்டும்.

இறையாட்சி நோக்கிய அன்பாக்கம் - ஒரு நோக்கு:

“போரினால் பாதிக்கப்பட்ட, இனஅழிப்புக்குள்ளாக்கப்பட்ட சூழ்நிலையில், எப்படிப்பட்ட ‘செயற்பாடு - சிந்தனை - செயற்பாடு (ஈடுபாடு)’ முன்னெடுக்கப்படவேண்டும்?” என்பதை நோக்குவது, பற்றுறுதியுடன் வாழும் இயேசு சமூகத்தின் கடமை. ஆனால் யதார்த்தத்தில் எத்தகைய முன்னெடுப்புகள் மேற்கொள்ளப்படுகின்றன?

இராணுவ பிரசன்னத்துக்கு மத்தியில், போர் நடைபெற்றுக்கொண்டிருந்த, ஒரு குறிப்பிட்ட வரலாற்று காலகட்டத்தில் நிகழ்ந்துள்ள பேரவலத்தை, மனித உரிமைகள் மீறலை, மனுக்குலத்துக்கு எதிரான குற்றத்தை, இனவழிப்பை, ‘செம்மணி மனித புதைகுழி’ சுட்டிக்காட்டுகின்றது. இது நடைபெற்ற காலத்தில் ஆட்சியிலிருந்த அரசு மட்டுமல்ல அதனைத்தொடர்ந்து இன்று ஆளும் அரசும் முறையான பொறுப்புக்கூறவை செய்யவேண்டியது அவசியம்.

நடைபெற்ற போருக்கு காரணமான இனப்பிரச்சினை தீர்க்கப்படாமல், போரினால் ஏற்பட்ட பிரச்சினைகள் (காணால் ஆக்கப்பட்டோர், அரசியல் கைதிகள்...) இன்று அதிகரித்து வருகின்றன. இவை கவனத்திற்கொள்ளப்படாமல், இருப்பது பொருளாதாரப்பிரச்சினை இனப்பிரச்சினை அல்ல என கூறும் சிலருடைய போக்கு கேள்விக்குள்ளாக்கப்படவேண்டும்.

மன்னார் காற்றாலை மின் உற்பத்தி திட்டத்துக்கு எதிரான போராட்டம், முத்தையன்கட்டு இராணுவ முகாமிற்கு அழைத்துச் செல்லப்பட்ட திரு. கபில்ராஜ் எனும் இளைஞர், முத்தையன்கட்டு குளத்தில் சடலமாக மீட்கப்பட்டுள்ளமை தொடர்பாக நடைபெறும் எதிர்ப்பு நடவடிக்கைகள் உட்பட பல விடயங்கள் மனித நேயத்துடன் நோக்கப்படுகின்றனவா?

இந்த யதார்த்த விடயங்களை கையாளாமல் வெறும் வழிபாட்டுகளுடனும் கொண்டாட்டங்களுடனும் இயேசுவை பின்பற்றுவோர் அதிகமாக ஈடுபடமுனைவதால் குழப்பங்களும் துன்பங்களும் மட்டுமே தொடரும்.

தொகுப்பு:

இன்றைய யதார்த்தத்தில் இறையாட்சி இயக்க அன்பாக்கத்தில் தொடர்ந்து ஈடுபடுவது அவசியம், முக்கியம்.

அருட்பணி S.D.P.செல்வன்

16.08.2025

யாழ் குருமுதல்வர்

இலங்கை திருஅவை - கொழும்பு மறைமாவட்டம்

FLAG WEEK 2025 - DAY 01

- The first day of Flag Week 2025 took place under the chairmanship of Mr. T. Jutharajah.
- The programme commenced at 3:30 p.m. with a flag hoisting ceremony.
- Mr. Richard Jansz, President of the National Council of the YMCA of Sri Lanka (NCYSL), hoisted the NCYSL flag.
- Mr. R. Vinoth, President of YMCA Jaffna, hoisted the YMCA Jaffna flag.
- Mr. T. Jutharajah, Chairman of Flag Week, hoisted the Founder's Week 2025 flag.
- Mr. S. Vaseekaran, the Treasurer YMCA Jaffna displayed the whole week programme to the public.

THE PUBLIC MEETING

A public meeting followed at 4:00 p.m. In the auditorium with the participation of members and well-wishers. The ceremonial lighting of the lamp was held in honour of the Founding Presidents of the World YMCA and YMCA Jaffna. Mr. Richard Jansz delivered an inspiring speech on the history of the YMCA—both globally and nationally.



Sir William Twynam
Founder President,
1890 - 1904 & 1911



AWARENESS WALK PARADE

An Awareness Walk Parade took place with enthusiastic participation from members and well-wishers. The parade proceeded along Old Park Road and returned via the A9 Road, drawing public attention to the mission and vision of the YMCA.

Sir William Twynam - Founder & President of YMCA Jaffna.

- Founder & President of YMCA Jaffna In 1890, Sir William Twynam established the YMCA branch in Jaffna and served as its President from 1890 to 1904, and again in 1911.
- Legacy in Cultural Institutions - He Donated a ...

(Continued in Next Page.....)

FLAG WEEK 2025 - DAY 02 to 06 (Day 2)

- The YMCA Flag was hoisted by Mr. Richard Jansz, President of the National Council of the YMCA of Sri Lanka.
- Mr. J.R.W. Jeffrey, Vice President of YMCA Jaffna, hoisted the Founder's Week 2025 flag.
- Mr. M. Piratheepan, District Secretary of Jaffna District, received the Flag Week Memento from Mr. Richard Jansz.
- Rev. J. J. Gnanaruban, Circuit Superintendent Minister, Methodist Church – Jaffna Circuit, also received a Flag Week Memento from Mr. Richard Jansz.
- Mr. S. Sutharsan, Divisional Secretary, was presented with the Flag Week Memento by Mr. Richard Jansz.



SHRAMADHANA (CLEANING PROGRAMME)



A joint programme was held in collaboration with the Consulate General of India and the Municipal Council of Jaffna at Old Park around 4:00 PM. Trees were planted at Old Park, and a Shramadhana (cleaning campaign) was carried out from Old Park Road up to the YMCA. Mr. Shri Sai Murali S, Consul General of India, along with his staff members, Mr. R. T. Jeyaseelan and team, and YMCA members actively participated in the event.

valuable collection of northern arts and crafts to St. John's College, which inspired the creation of the Twynam Memorial Museum. The foundation stone was laid by his daughter, Miss Nora Twynam, in 1918

- Esteemed Administrator in Jaffna.

Twynam joined the Ceylon Civil Service in 1845, served as Government Agent in Jaffna starting 1869, and held public office for approximately 27 years, retiring in 1896. He earned enduring respect, often referred to as the “Rajah of the North” for his firm and conscientious governance.

- Continued Public Service Post-Retirement Even after retirement, he remained an active resident and public figure in Jaffna until his death on March 12, 1922, at the age of ninety-four.



Sir George William

Founder,
YMCA Movement,
1844



FLAG WEEK 2025 - DAY 02 to 06 (Day 3)

- The YMCA Flag was hoisted by Mr.J.Jesuthasan, Vice President of the YMCA Jaffna.
- Mr.S.Jeyarajasingam, General Secretary of YMCA Jaffna,hoisted the Founder’s Week 2025 flag.
- Mrs.D.Thuseetharan, Principal, Chundikuli Girls’ College received the Flag Week Memento from Mr. T. Jutharajah, Chairman of Flag Week.
- Rev. Fr. A. P. Thirumahan, Rector, St.Patrick’s College received the Flag Week Memento from Mr. T.Jutharajah, Chairman of Flag Week.
- Also Some YMCA members too received the memento.



FLAG WEEK 2025 - DAY 02 to 06 (Day 4)

- The YMCA Flag was hoisted by Mr. X. Luxman Kethees, Proprietor of Yarlini Hotel.
- Mr. S. Gowryshangar, Receptionist of YMCA Jaffna, hoisted the Founder’s Week 2025 Flag.
- Honourable Nagalingam Vethanayahan, Governor of the Northern Province, received the Flag Week Memento from Mr. R. Vinoth, President of YMCA Jaffna.
- Professor S. Srisatkunarajah, Vice Chancellor of the University of Jaffna, also received the Flag Week Memento from Mr. R.Vinoth President of YMCA Jaffna .

“That they all may be one”

FLAG WEEK 2025 - DAY 02 to 06 (Day 5)

- The YMCA Flag was hoisted by Dr.R.Dean Jenifert, Board of Director YMCA Jaffna.
- Mr. S.P.Vaseekaran, Receptionist of YMCA Jaffna, hoisted the Founder’s Week 2025 Flag.
- Dr.R.Dean Jenifert received the Flag Week Memento from Mr. T. Jutharajah, Chairman of Flag Week.
- Mr.A.Anandarajah, Principal, J/Canagaratnam M.M.V -Stanley College | Jaffna received the Flag Week Memento from Dr.R.Dean Jenifert, Board of Director YMCA Jaffna.
- Rev. Sis. Lourth Mariaseeli Mariathas, Principal, Holy Family Convent, Jaffna, also received the Flag Week Memento from Mr.J.Jesuthasan, Vice President of YMCA Jaffna.
- A meaningful seminar on Non-Violent Communication and Maintaining Healthy Relationships was held at YMCA Jaffna.

- Rev. Fr. Thevarajah Raviraj, Secretary for Studies atSt. Francis Xavier Institute of Theology, conducted the seminar. More than 25 members and well-wishers participated.

FLAG WEEK 2025 - DAY 02 to 06 (Day 6)

A thanksgiving service was held on 6th June at 5:00 p.m. at the gravesite of the late Sir William Tuynam, the founder president of the YMCA Jaffna, at the graveyard of St. John the Baptist Church, Chundikuli. The service was held in remembrance of our World and Jaffna founder presidents



Charges for Accommodation

Rooms	
Room with Common Bath	
Single Room	1,500.00
Double Room	2,200.00
Family Room	3,750.00
Room with Attached Bath	
Single Room	2,500.00
Double Room	3,000.00
Triple Room	3,500.00
Room with Attached Bath - A/C	
Single Room	3,750.00
Double Room	4,500.00
Triple Room	5,000.00

Auditorium & Hall		
Auditorium		
<i>Meetings</i>	1st 2 hours	Every additional hours
Non A/C	6,000.00	1,000.00
AC	10,000.00	2,000.00
<i>Functions</i>		
Non A/C	11,000.00	(Max 8 hours)
A/C	20,000.00	(Max 8 hours)
Main Hall		
<i>Meetings</i>	1st 2 hours	Every additional hours
Non A/C	7,500.00	1,000.00
<i>Functions</i>		
Non A/C	16,000.00	



Best Wishes from



Yarllini Hotel

யாழ்ரின்ன ஁ணவகம்



Jaffna Traditional food

யாழ் பாரம்பரிய ஁ணவு



06.30 am to 09.00 pm



**109, YMCA Building,
Kandy Road,
Jaffna**

0771190011