



# ACADEMIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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## Annual Report of the Academic Library Association For the Period April 2022 – March 2023 Presented at the Annual General Body Meeting held at Rajagiri Business School, Kochi on 10-03-2023

Annual Report of the Academic Library Association (ALA) for the period **April 2022 – March 2023** is given below:

The Academic Library Association (ALA) has started its functioning during 2013 and it became an official entity on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 as registered society according to the Travancore-Cochin, Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies Registration Act 1955.

- Office Bearers 2022-23:** - The General Body meeting of the Academic Library Association held online on 16-03-2022 elected the following professionals as new office bearers for the period 2022-23:

Sl. No.	Name and Address	Designation
1	Dr. A.T. Francis, Professor & Head, DLIS, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kalamassery, Ernakulam, Kerala	President
2	Sri. C. Abdul Razak, Former Librarian, Kerala Agricultural University, Choondathodi, Amayoor, Pattambi, Palakkad	Vice-President
3	Smt. Jeena Jayan, Cochin College, Kochi	Vice-President
4	Dr. V.S. Swapna, College of Agriculture, Thrissur	General Secretary
5	Sri. Sanjo Jose, St. Thomas College, Thrissur	Joint Secretary
6	Dr. Antony Arockiavathy, Christopher Arts and Science College, Nanguneri, Thirunelveli-627 108, Tamil Nadu	Joint Secretary
7	Dr. P.A. Pradeep, Dairy Science College, Mannuthy, Thrissur	Treasurer
8	Dr. E.K. Mohanlal, Librarian, Kerala Veterinary University, Wayanad	EC Member
9	Ms. Mini T.N., Librarian, Koduvayoor Grama Panchayath, Palakkad	EC Member
10	Dr. Susan Mathew, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Ernakulam	EC Member
11	Sri. T.M. Saji, Librarian, St. Peter's School, Kolenchery	EC Member
12	Dr. Chriss Thomas, Govt. Medical College, Ernakulam	EC Member
13	Dr. Harikrishnan C A, VSSC, ISRO, Thiruvanthapuram	EC Member
14	Dr. Kavitha R., Mother Theresa Womens University, Kodaikanal, Tamil Nadu	EC Member
15	Dr. Kasilingam K., Lee Chengalvaraya Naicker College of Engg. &Tech, Kanchipuram - 631 502, Tamil Nadu	EC Member
16	Nithin S. Joshi, Librarian, MIT World Peach University, Pune, Maharashtra	Special Invitee
17	Dr. Joseph Jestin K. J., Librarian, Sahrudhaya College of Engineering, Kodakara, Thrissur	Special Invitee
18	Dr. Muthumari P., Alagappa University, Model Constituent College of Arts and Science Paranakudi, Tamil Nadu, Pin-623 707	Special Invitee

19	Dr. Abdul Azeez T K., University Librarian, Calicut University	Special Invitee
20	Dr. Humayoon Kabir, S., Professor (Rtd.), Dept. of Library information Science, University of Kerala, Tvm	Special Invitee
21	Dr. Prasad Rao, G.A., Librarian, Andhra Layoja College, Vijayawada, AP	Special Invitee
22	Dr. Hussain K. H., Scientist (Rtd.), KFRI, Peechi	Special Invitee
23	Dr. Smitha C. Elayadom, U. C. College Aluva, Ernakulam	Special Invitee
24	Dr. Rony Sebastian, Govt. College, Kozhikode	Special Invitee
25	Dr. Ajithan K.R., Librarian (Rtd.), Govt. Victoria College, Palakkad	Special Invitee

During the period 2022-2023 the ALA conducted the following major programmes:

2. **Annual General Body Meeting of the Academic Library Association:** - The Annual General Body meeting of the Academic Library Association 2021-22 was held online on 16-03-2022.
3. **School Libraries:** - ALA is taking all efforts to establish libraries in schools, especially in Kerala State Schools and urged the state governments to establish good libraries in all schools and appoint qualified librarians with provision for library hours.
4. **UGC Scheme for all College Librarians:** - As envisaged in the UGC Scheme, the meeting also decided to represent the UGC, Govt. of India, State Governments and Universities to implement the UGC Scheme for librarians and provide academic status for librarians.
5. **UGC Librarians in all Universities and Colleges:-** The meeting requested to sanction UGC Librarians in all colleges and universities.
6. **Recruitment to Universities:** - It also decided to represent the State and Central Governments, UGC and recruiting agencies to fill up all vacant posts of library professionals in all colleges and universities in India.
7. **ALA Best Librarian Awards:** -

**ALA Instituted Best Librarian Awards as follows:**

**(i). ALA Best Librarian Award – Life Time Achievement; and**

**(ii). ALA Best Young Librarian Award**

**a. The following Senior Library Professions were presented the ALA Best Librarian Awards:**

- i. 2018: Mr. C. Abdul Razak, Former University Librarian
- ii. 2019: Mr. V.C. John, former College Librarian, St. Thomas' College, Thrissur
- iii. 2020: Not Presented due to Covid 19
- iv. 2021: Dr. M.D. Baby, Professor & Head & Dean, DLIS, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences and Former University Librarian, Cochin University of Science & Technology
- v. 2022: Dr. K.H. Hussain, Scientist (Rtd.), Library, Kerala Forest Research Institute, Thrissur

**b. The following Young Library Professions were presented the ALA Best Young Librarian Awards:**

- i. 2018: Mr. Binoy Mathew, Librarian, Valapattanam Grama Panchayath
- ii. 2019: Ms. T.N. Mini, Librarian, Kizhakkencherry Grama Panchayath
- iii. 2020: Not presented due to Covid 19
- iv. 2021: Mr. Jayan Avanoor, Librarian, Kodakara Grama Panchayath

ALA has selected the following Library Professionals for the ALA Awards 2023:

1. **ALA Best Librarian Award – Life Time Achievement 2023: - Mr. N. Nayanan Kutty, Scientist & Former Head, Library & Information Division, Vikram Saraabhai Space Centre, ISRO, Thiruvananthapuram.**
2. **ALA Best Young Librarian Award 2023:- Mr. S.L. Faisal, Librarian, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Pattam, Thiruvananthapuram.**

The Library Professionals for ALA Awards 2023 were determined by a Seven Member Committee consisting of Dr. A.T. Francis, President; Dr. V.S. Swapana, General Secretary; Dr. P.A. Pradeep, Treasurer; and Mr. Abdul Razak, Former University Librarian, KAU; Dr. S. Humayoon Kabir, Foremr HoD, DLIS, University of Kerala; Dr. P. Muthumari, Librarian and Research Guide, Alagappa University; Dr. K. R. Ajithan, Former UGC Librarian, Govt. Victoria College, Palakkad.

8. **National Seminar on Library Space for Scientific Research in St. Thomas College, Thrissur on 08-08-2022:-** ALA and St. Thomas College, Thrissur has jointly organized a National Seminar **on Library Space for Scientific Research on 08-08-2022**. In collaboration with **National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI), Govt. of India at St. Thomas College** on 08<sup>th</sup> August 2022. Dr. Mohanan Kunnummel, Hon. Vice Chancellor, Kerala University of Health Sciences inaugurated. Rev. Dr. K.A. Martin, Principal presided and Dr. A.T. Francis, Professor & Head, DLIS, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences delivered Key Note Address. T.R. Anilkumar, Member, Kerala Public Service Commission, Rev. Dr. John Neelankavil, CMI, C. Abdul Razak, S. Sreekumaran, University Librarian, KAU, Dr. K. H. Hussain, Shah Jahan, V.R. Arun, Scientist, KFRI Library, Sanjo Jose, Dr. V.S. Swapna, Dr. P.A. Pradeep, etc. spoke / served as resource persons.
9. **National Seminar, Encender @75 in Govt. College Chittur, Palakkad on 23-02-2023:-** Govt. College Chittur, Palakkad has organized a One Day National Seminar, Encender @75 on 23-02-2023 on the topics, “Serving the Science and Society through Reading” for Students and “Plagiarism & Academic Writing for Research” for Faculty Members, Librarians, Research Scholars and PG Students. 55 Students and 45 faculty/librarians/researcher have attended. Principal in-Charge Dr. T. Raji inaugurated. Dr. A. T. Francis, Professor & Head, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous), Kochi delivered Keynote address. Dr. A.T. Francis, Ms. K.R. Surekha and Ms. Rekha R. Nair handled different sessions.
10. **ALA Best Librarian Awards 2022 Presented:-** Dr. Mohanan Kunnummel, Hon. Vice Chancellor, Kerala University of Health Sciences presented the ALA Best Librarian Awards 2023 to Dr. K.H. Hussain, Former Scientist, KFRI, ALA Life Time Achievement Award and to Mr. Mujib Rahiman, Librarian, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Kanjikode, Palakkad, the ALA Young Librarian Award.
11. **Book, “Professionalism in Library Management: Dr. A.T. Francis Festschrift”, Released:-** Mr. T.R. Anilkumar, Member, Kerala Public Service Commission released the, book, “Professionalism in Library Management: Dr. A.T. Francis Festschrift”, **Edited by C. Abdul Razak,, Dr. K.R. Ajthan and V.S. Kunjumammed**, published by Astral Intl. and Daya Pub., New Delhi during the National Seminar on 08-08-2022.
12. **Webinar on “Career Prospects in LIS” on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2022:-** ALA has collaborated with St. Xavier’s College, Vaikom, Ernakulam and Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kalamassery, Kochi and conducted a Webinar on “Career Prospects in LIS” on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2022. Dr. A.T. Francis and Dr. Joseph I. Thomas, faculty members of Rajagiri College served as resource persons.
13. **Free Online NET/JRF Services in LIS: -** The ALA had conducted 12 Offline Free NET Coaching Courses in Thrissur in Library & Information Science (12<sup>th</sup> Batch for December 2019) in collaboration with St. Thomas’ College, Thrissur and Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur. Due to COVID-19, we could not continue

Offline classes and are giving some guidance through the WhatsApp Group, 'LISNET'. Support and guidance for NET and JRF was also provided by e-mail and over telephone to the aspirants all over the country. Dr. A.T. Francis, University Librarian, KAU was the master trainer who lead the classes supported by other experts like Smt. K.V. Alphonsa, Dr. K.R. Ajithan, Smt. Indu Sunil, Sri. Abdul Razak, Dr. V.S. Swapna, Dr. P.A. Pradeep, Dr. Susan Mathew, Dr. Joshy George, Ms. Neetha Devan, Ms. Neethu Mohanan, Dr. Joseph I. Thomas, Dr. B. Engango, etc.

14. **Representation to Govt. of Kerala:** - ALA submitted detailed representations to the Govt. of Kerala on: (i). To speed up the direct recruitment of Library/Professional Assistants to universities by KPSC; (ii). To implement the UGC Scheme for librarians in government arts and science colleges; and medical, Ayurveda, nursing, engineering and poly technique colleges; (iii). To sanction the post of librarian in all schools under state government and post qualified librarians; (iv). To sanction start Full-Time Libraries in all Local Bodies and sanction the post of Qualified Librarian.
15. **Representation to KUHS:-** ALA submitted detailed representations to the Kerala University of Health Sciences stressing the need for revamping the Library System, Services and Professionals in the University and colleges under it.
16. **Membership Campaign:** - The ALA Committee and members have done continuous efforts to enroll more library professionals as members of the association. During this period, 52 new professionals enrolled as ALA Life Members and the total members rose from 833 to 885 as on 10-03-2023.
17. **Assets as on 10-03-2023:-** As on 10-03-2023, **Rs. 89,608/-** has been deposited as FD in the State of Bank of India, Ollukara, Thrissur branch towards the Life Membership Fee till collected.
18. **Annual General Body Meeting:** - We have decided to conduct the **National Seminar on Role of Libraries in Academic Research and Publishing in collaboration with the Rajagiri Business School, Kakkanad, Kochi** and Kerala College Librarians Association. The Annual General Body Meeting and Election 2023 also will be held on 10-03-2023.
19. **Project on Reading, Library and Excellence in Science:-** ALA in collaboration with NASI and other government and non-govt. agencies started a project to organize seminars, workshops, discussions, trainings, etc. in universities, colleges and schools.
20. I, hereby submitting the Annual Report for the kind consideration and approval of the General Body.

Thrissur  
10-03-2023

Dr. A.T. Francis  
President

Dr. V.S. Swapna  
General Secretary