



ACADEMIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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Annual Report of the Academic Library Association For the Period April 2020 – March 2021

Annual Report of the Academic Library Association (ALA) for the period **April 2020 – March 2021** is given below:

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

- Office Bearers 2020-21:** - The General Body meeting of the Academic Library Association held on 25-06-2020 at University Central Library, Kerala Agricultural University (KAU), Vellanikkara, Thrissur elected the following professionals as new office bearers for the period 2020-21:

Sl. No.	Name and Address	Designation
1	Dr. A.T. Francis, Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur	President
2	Dr. B. Shaji, Sree Narayana College, Kollam	Vice-President
3	Sri. Sanjo Jose, St. Thomas College, Thrissur	Vice-President
4	Dr. K.R. Ajithan, Govt. Women's College, Thiruvananthapuram	General Secretary
5	Dr. V.S. Swapna, KAU Central Library, Thrissur	Joint Secretary
6	Dr. E.K. Mohanlal, Veterinary University, Wayanad	Joint Secretary
7	Dr. P.A. Pradeep, Veterinary College, Mannuthy, Thrissur	Treasurer
8	Dr. K. Meera, Dairy Science College, Mannuthy	EC Member
9	Dr. A. Lekha, Kerala Kalamndalam Deemed University	EC Member
10	Smt. A.V. Remya, DLIS, Kannur University, Kannur	EC Member
11	Dr. V.P. Ajithakumari, College of Agriculture, Kasargode	EC Member
12	Sri. Manoj Kumar P., Nehru Arts and Science College, Kanhangad	EC Member
13	Smt. Jeena Jayan. Cochin College, Kochi	EC Member
14	Dr. Susan Mathew, Cochin University	EC Member
15	Sri. T.M. Saji, Librarian, St. Peter's School, Kolenchery	EC Member
16	Sri. C. Abdul Razak, Former Librarian, KAU	Special Invitee
17	Sri. Cherian George, UC College, Aluva, Ernakulam	Special Invitee
18	Dr. V. Vishnu, Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram	Special Invitee
19	Dr. K.F. George, Scientist, Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi	Special Invitee
20	Sri. Mujib Rahiman, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Kanjikode	Special Invitee
21	Smt. T.N. Mini, Kizhakkencherry Grama Panchayath,, Palakkad	Special Invitee
22	Sri. Binoy Mathew, Valapattanam Grama Panchayath, Kannur	Special Invitee

23	Sri. P.C. Gireesh Kumar, Vidya Academy of Science and Technology, Thrissur	Special Invitee
24	Smt. Chriss Thomas, Jubilee Mission Nursing College, Thrissur	Special Invitee

During the period 2020-2021 the ALA conducted the following major programmes:

2. **Annual General Body Meeting of the Academic Library Association:** - Due to CoVID – 19 Pandemic, the Annual General Body meeting of the Academic Library Association 2019-20 was held in KAU Central Library, Thrissur only on 25-06-2020.
3. **School Libraries:** - As a thrust area of ALA, the meeting urged the state governments to establish 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 Govt. of Kerala to implement UGC Scheme for librarians in government arts and science colleges; and medical, Ayurveda, nursing, engineering and poly technique colleges.
5. **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.

6. **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. Sri. C. Abdul Razak, Former University Librarian; For the year 2018
- ii. Sri. V.C. John, former College Librarian, St. Thomas' College, Thrissur; For the year 2019

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

- i. Sri. Binoy Mathew, Librarian, Valapattanam Grama Panchayath; For the year 2018
- ii. Smt. T.N. Mini, Librarian, Kizhakkencherry Grama Panchayath; For the year 2019

Due to COVID-19, we have not presented Best Librarian Awards during the year 2020.

ALA has selected the following Library Professionals for the ALA Awards 2021:

1. **ALA Best Librarian Award – Life Time Achievement 2021:** - Dr. M.D. Baby, Dean & Professor, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kalamassery.
2. **ALA Best Young Librarian Award 2021:-** Sri. Jayan Avanoor, Librarian, Kodakara Grama Panchayat.

7. **Honoured PhD Awarded Librarians:** - The following ALA members have recently awarded PhD Degrees have been honoured:
 - a. Dr. A. Naseer, College of Agriculture, Vellayani, Trivandrum

b. Dr. Jestin Joseph K.J., Sahrudhaya College, Kodakara, Thrissur

8. **Honoured JRF and NET Scored Librarians:** - JRF and NET scored librarians also have been honoured.
9. **Free Coaching for NET in Thrissur:** - The ALA has conducted Free NET Coaching in Library & Information Science during 2019 (11th Batch for July 2019 and 12th Batch for December 2019) in collaboration with the KAU, Thrissur. Twenty-two students from different parts of Kerala were attended. Support and guidance for NET was also provided by e-mail and also over telephone for more than 12 students 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, etc.
10. **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.
11. **Representation to State Pay Commission:-** The Office Bearers of ALA represented the State Pay Commission and appraised the situation of libraries and librarians in Kerala and the essential reforms to be taken to enhance the quality of education and research.
12. **Membership Campaign:** - The ALA Committee and members have done continuous efforts to enroll more library professionals as members of the association. During this period, 116 new professionals enrolled as ALA Life Members. Rs. 72,727/- has been deposited as FD in the State of Bank of India being the total Life Membership Fee till collected.
13. **Annual General Body Meeting Re-Scheduled:** - Though we have scheduled the Annual General Body Meeting and seminar during March 2020, due to COVID-19 and Lockdown, we have to re-scheduled the meeting and held on 26th June 2020.

I hereby submitting the report for the kind consideration and approval of the General Body.

Thrissur
27-03-2021

Dr. A.T. Francis
President

Dr. K.R. Ajithan
General Secretary