



ACADEMIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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Annual Report of the Academic Library Association For the Period April 2021 – March 2022

Annual Report of the Academic Library Association (ALA) for the period **April 2021 – March 2022** 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 society according to the Travancore-Cochin, Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies Registration Act 1955.

- 1. Office Bearers 2021-22:** - 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 & Tech., Thrissur	Special Invitee
24	Smt. Chriss Thomas, Jubilee Mission Nursing College, Thrissur	Special Invitee

During the period 2021-2022 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 2020-21 was held in KAU Central Library, Thrissur only on 27-03-2021.
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. Mr. C. Abdul Razak, Former University Librarian; For the year 2018
- ii. Mr. V.C. John, former College Librarian, St. Thomas' College, Thrissur; For the year 2019
- iii. Dr. M.D. Baby, Professor & Head & Dean, DLIS, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences and Former University Librarian, CUSAT; For the Year 2021

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

- i. Mr. Binoy Mathew, Librarian, Valapattanam Grama Panchayath; For the year 2018
- ii. Ms. T.N. Mini, Librarian, Kizhakkencherry Grama Panchayath; For the year 2019
- iii. Mr. Jayan Avanoor, Librarian, Kodakara Grama Panchayath, For the year 2021

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 2022:

1. **ALA Best Librarian Award – Life Time Achievement 2022:** - Dr. K.H. Hussain, Scientist, Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi, Thrissur.
 2. **ALA Best Young Librarian Award 2022:-** Mr. Mujib Rahiman K.U., Librarian, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Kanjikode, Palakkad.
7. **Honour to PhD Awarded Librarians:** - ALA decided to felicitate during the Annual General Body Meeting on 16-03-2022; the following library professionals as they have been awarded PhD Degrees recently:
- a. Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, NPOL, Defence Research and Development Organisation, Kochi

- b. Dr. Roy Sebastian, Govt. College, Kozhikode
 - c. Dr. Vimalkumar, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam
 - d. Dr. Sajitha, Sre Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kaladi
 - e. Rev. Dr. Jesmi, Carmel College, Mala
 - f. Dr. Jyoathi, Vyasa NSS College, Wadakkancherry
 - g. Dr. Gilu, St. Thomas' College, Palai
 - h. Dr. Radhakrishna Pillai, NSS College
8. **Seminar on Role of Libraries in the Empowerment of Societies 27 March 2021.** ALA has collaborated with Kerala Agricultural University in conducting the **Seminar on Role of Libraries in the Empowerment of Societies on 27 March 2021.**
 9. **Reading Week Celebrations 2021:-** ALA has collaborated with Kerala Agricultural University in conducting the Reading Week Celebrations during 19-25 June 2021. Conducted competitions like Quiz, Book Review, etc.
 10. **Book, "Library Technologies for Academic Inclusion" Released:-** The book, "**Library Technologies for Academic Inclusion**" comprised of 19 papers selected from the papers presented at the National Seminar on Academic Inclusion of Libraries in Digital Era, conducted by College of Horticulture, Thrissur in Collaboration with Academic Library Association. The book is edited by **Dr. A.T. Francis, Dr. V.P. Ajithakumari and Dr. V.S. Swapna**, ALA Life Members; and published by Astral International Pvt. Ltd. This is the 2nd book published with the papers presented in the seminar.
 11. **One Day National Workshop on Research Publishing and Plagiarism Control 26 August 2021:-** This national workshop was conducted by Kerala Agricultural University in collaboration with Academic Library Association on 26 August 2021 at KAU Central Library, Thrissur.
 12. **Two Day National Workshop on Library Automation Software, Koha 26-27 November 2021:-** This Two Day National Workshop was conducted by the **Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous), Kalamassery, Kochi** in collaboration with Academic Library Association. 120 participants attended from Kerala and Tamil Nadu.
 13. **Felicitation to JRF and NET Scored Librarians:** - JRF and NET scored librarians during 2020-21 have been felicitated and honoured during the Annual General Meeting held on 27-03-2021.
 14. **Free Coaching for NET in Thrissur:** - The ALA has conducted 12 Offline Free NET Coaching Courses in Thrissur in Library & Information Science (12th 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 was also provided by e-mail and also 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.
 15. **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.

16. **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.
17. **Membership Campaign:** - The ALA Committee and members have done continuous efforts to enroll more library professionals as members of the association. During this period, 73 new professionals enrolled as ALA Life Members and the total members became 833.
18. As on 16-03-2022, **Rs. 81,772/-** has been deposited as FD in the State of Bank of India, Ollukara, Thrissur branch towards the Life Membership Fee till collected. Including the accumulated Interest on Fixed Deposit, the total amount will be more than 83,000/-.
19. **Annual General Body Meeting:** - Due to COVID-19 and related Lockdown measures, we have decided to conduct the National Seminar on Stress Management in Libraries, Annual General Body Meeting and Election 2022 online on 16-03-2022. Hence, I hereby submitting the Annual Report for the kind consideration and approval of the General Body.

Thrissur
16-03-2022



Dr. A.T. Francis
President



Dr. K.R. Ajithan
General Secretary