

# MAAK BOOK

Real Stories at your Fingertips

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## Digital Scrapbook, Orma

*Vinod M Nagapally*

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## Collaboration and Mentorship

*Message from the Director - Career Wing*

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**Aksha Ann Thomas**  
Chief Editor - MAAK  
BOOK

## Editorial

Dear Marianites, welcome to the 9th edition of MAAK BOOK. We are grateful for your continued support and encouragement for the successful release of MAAK BOOK every month.

Our 8th edition was released on October 6 at Kochi at an event hosted by the Cochin chapter. The edition was launched by Dr Liance Mathew, one of our alumni. You can read more details of this on page 7.

MAAK BOOK began with a small team of people who were interested in the activities of the association, but today, we have expanded our team with three students from college who assist us with page layout on a part time role. They are , Yedhu Krishna R Nair (2nd BCA B), Alan Chacko (1st BBA B), and Kevin M John (1st BBA B). Their first project was our 8th edition, the print copy. With the ninth edition released today, we are proud that MAAK BOOK has become a reliable source of information and communication for the association.

The launch that took place on October 6th was a significant achievement for us. Compared to a digital edition, a print edition requires more effort, careful planning and timely execution, as well as financial support. We are grateful to our dear alumni who supported us with their advertisements.

Each edition is vibrant and different on its own and has a different story to tell. This edition, we have a handful of alumni success stories. Mr Sinoj Joseph BCA 2002 - 2005 won the Chief Minister's award for his 14 years of service to the police department. Two of our alumni secured MG University rank for their exams. Alumni Tintu and Tony showcased art and craft at KIED, Kalamaserry, among other news.

Our Career and Professional Development wing kick-started its activities for the year on October 9th. Director Twinkle Abraham has written more in detail about the wing and its plans.

Jelit Mathew Joseph, one of our faculties in college as well as an alumni, has contributed an article on the topic "How to use LinkedIn effectively". We hope this article helps those looking to build their profile on LinkedIn.

Reliving shared memories is blissful. Mr Vinod Nagapally BCA 1998 - 2001 has shared a well-written article about his batch as well.

As we are nearing the 10th edition of MAAK BOOK, I would like to invite alumni from different batches to keep sharing your stories, photos, achievements, and anything and everything that you wish to be included in the newsletter.

Real stories at your fingertips.



Adv. Nelson  
Joseph  
President -  
Marian Alumni  
Association  
Kuttikkanam

## President's message

The Onam special edition of MAAK BOOK was a huge success. The MAAK BOOK team is not complacent and it continues with the experiments for betterment and gives us the better version every time. This latest one is yet another memorable edition and thanks to the team for the consistent efforts.

Formation of Travancore Chapter and Kottayam Chapters were the milestones we had in the last month. I am sure both chapters will play a greater role in the growth of MAAK. All the best to both Kottayam and Trivandrum Chapters. The very active Cochin Chapter also got a new set of office bearers under the leadership of Renu Abraham. All the best to the new team.

Career and professional development wing Activities Inauguration was the highlight of October and it was class apart. The keynote address by Manoj Balachandran was simply superb with many insights. The mock interviews and internship assistance through career wing are all in full swing.

MBF continues its journey with its wonderful mutual helping system and the talk events. There is not a single day without a positive testimony in this beautiful platform.

MAAK events and Alumni Engagement area got a revamping when former Cochin Chapter Chair Merril Mathew joined as its Director. Expecting some big events and engaging activities soon.

Our PR area is all set for branding MAAK to the next level. The new Logo and tagline are all in the process. We got a wonderful response to the tagline context. Request all to brainstorm and come up with meaningful taglines for MAAK in the coming days as we deserve nothing less than the best tagline.

Expecting many more milestones in the month of November...wishing you all an engaging time with MAAK.

With Love,

Adv. Nelson Joseph





## Sydney's Boat Race Triumph

*Ajith Varghese Panamthottam  
(BCom 1999 - 02)*

We are thrilled to share the news of Ajith's remarkable achievement in the Kerala Boat Race competition at Sidney, Australia, conducted by the World Malayalee Council. Mr. Ajith's team bagged the first prize. He not only made us all proud but also displayed a strong passion for Vallamkali among the Australian Malayali community.

## Recognised as Research Guide

*Dr. Ann Baby (BCA 1997 - 00)*

We are delighted to announce that Dr. Ann has been recognised by Mahatma Gandhi University as a PhD Research Guide in Computer science. This is a prestigious recognition of her commendable research work in recognised journals of computer science. We congratulate her on this achievement and wish her all the best for her future endeavors.





## University Rank Topper

Anupa Mathew  
(BA Economics 2018 - 21)

Team MAAK extends hearty congratulations and best wishes to Ms. Anupa Mathew for securing 5th Rank in MA Econometrics exam conducted MG University Kottayam.

## University Rank Topper

Rini Theresa Babu  
(BA Communicative English 2016 - 19)

Team MAAK extends congratulations and best Wishes to Ms. Rini Theresa Babu for securing 8th rank in her B.Ed final year exam conducted by MG University Kottayam.



# Unveiling The First Printed MAAK BOOK

06 October 2023 • Cochin

We are thrilled to announce the successful release of our 8th edition of MAAK BOOK, our first print edition. This was a long-awaited goal for our team, who have worked hard to produce seven online editions so far. The print edition involved many challenges, such as securing sponsors, finding printers, meeting deadlines, determining the number of copies, setting the layout for each page, and much more.

This edition is also our longest one with 44 pages of content. It's a reflection of the growth

and activity of our association.

Dr. Liance Mathew (BCom 1999 - 02, MCom PGDBA 2002 - 04) Asst. Professor at The Cochin College, unveiled the book in the presence of the alumni in Cochin and MAAK Governing Committee members.

A total of 75 copies were published, and we distributed them to the alumni who sponsored the print edition, to the governing committee members, and to the college. The college library has a copy for students to access, We gave copies to the college administrator, principal, department heads, controller of examination, and others.

We encourage you to keep sharing your stories and achievements with us. We at MAAK BOOK are delighted to spread the good news to the world.

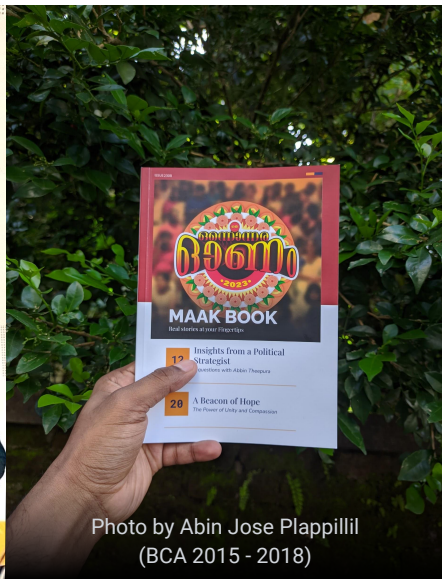


Photo by Abin Jose Plappillil  
(BCA 2015 - 2018)

*Special mention to our alumni for placing their advertisements in our MAAK BOOK;*  
Reshma Jerome (Movemator Education) • Mr Jobin Akkarakkalam (Spice Routes Luxury Houseboats) • Sarath (Ahalia Medical Group) • Joji Sebastian (Inspirations) • Tintu P Mathew (C2D Art and Craft) • Anu Joseph (AAB Global - Corporate Gifting)





We are delighted to witness our college faculties holding the MAAK BOOK, a project we consider our collective masterpiece. This achievement is the result of the dedicated and tireless efforts of our team, who poured their heart and soul into gathering and preserving the remarkable stories and accomplishments of our alumni. Their commitment to this project reflects our deep appreciation for the enduring bonds within our alumni community, and we are grateful for the opportunity to share these stories with the world.



Each photograph is a snapshot of a moment frozen in time, a reminder of the bonds forged and the adventures embarked upon during their academic years.









Vinod M  
Nagapally  
BCA 1998 - 01  
Client Partner at TCS  
United Kingdom

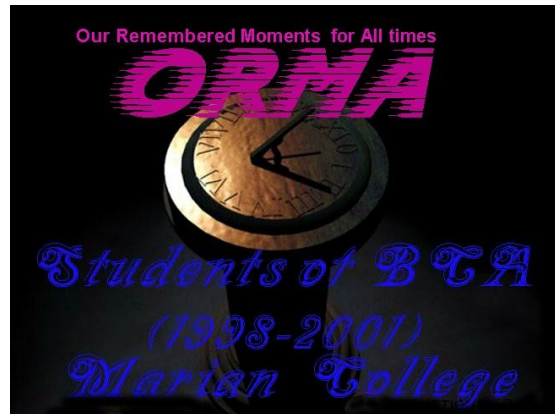
## Navigating the BCA Years at Marian

In 1998, while Indian IT was solving the Y2K mystery for the whole world, a group of students came together from different parts of Kerala to build a three year legacy that's cherished by all even today. BCA batch of 1998-2001 is a great testimony of true transformation that the College with Difference could bring in.

We were called a "Nest of singing birds" and "Titanic – the Unsinkable" by our teachers for the talent they observed in us. Our class was often handpicked to lead flagship events such as College building inauguration, Computer fests such as Navigator, Model Parliaments and Debate clubs, Inter collegiate cricket tournaments, student councils, Yearly spiritual retreats and University / National level competitions for debate and drama to name a few. In 2001, when desktops were a dream and an hour of Internet cost a fortune, seven of our tech wizards came together to build a digital compilation of our autograph called Orma and this was featured in Malayala Manorama. Apparently, Mr Zuckerberg owes the IP rights to BCA 2001 batch ;)

22 years from now, we are still strongly connected with each other and united as a

group. We have leaders in diverse areas globally – IT Professionals, Film Director, College Lecturers, Pastor, Entrepreneurs and Government Professionals and homemakers. We are busy in our professional and personal lives, yet we are united in spirit. We are eternally grateful to our dear Marian College for transforming us, to our teachers for nurturing us to be the future leaders and to the Lord Almighty for cherry picking us to be in this cohort .. THANK YOU MARIAN.



*While it's often said that the campus life in yesteryears is fortunate because they possess only memories without any concrete evidence, few of our 'Pulikuttikal' took the initiative to document our heroic tales from those days. This was done to ensure that our "veera kadhakal" (heroic stories) wouldn't fade away with time. Here, you can savor a few excerpts from our cherished "Orma." >>*



കൊച്ചു കൊച്ചു ഭൂമികുലുക്കങ്ങൾ

1998 ആഗസ്റ്റ് 10 മരിയൻ കുടുംബം പുതുമുഖങ്ങൾക്കായി കാതോർത്തിരുന്ന ആ ദിവസം. അന്നു എല്ലാവരും അടിവരയിട്ടു പറഞ്ഞു. "I BCA നിസ്സാരക്കാരുണ്യം" അതേ അതു ശരിയായിരുന്നു. അർധ്യാപകർക്കും സീനിയോർസിനിയോർമാരെക്കെ തമ്മിൽ പ്രതിഷേധകൾ നൽകിക്കൊണ്ട് I BCA യിൽ 26 സ്വന്തമായും 34 സ്വന്തം കളി ചേർന്ന് ബിഗ്റൈവ്വിതം ആരംഭിച്ചു.

ആദ്യത്തെ ഇലക്ഷൻ ദിനം. മേരിനോളിലെ സെന്റീവീരനും ചാൾസ് വില്ലിയുടെ കരിവീരനും പ്രതിനിധി സ്ഥാനത്തിനായ് കൊമ്പുകോർത്ത ദിനം. അന്ന് boys ഹോസ്റ്റലുകൾ തമ്മിൽ പോരാടിയപ്പോൾ ശ്രദ്ധാഭേദം കൂടാതെ അമലയിലെ തുണിമണികളായിരുന്നു. ഇലക്ഷൻ പ്രവർത്തനത്തിനിടയിൽ ഒരു Junior റൗഡി കൂട്ടപ്പൻ ഒരു Senior ചേട്ടനെയെ പ്രഖ്യാപിച്ചു. "Next time I see him I will blast him in the air" ഇതറിഞ്ഞു വന്ന Senior ചേട്ടനെ കണ്ടപ്പോഴേ റൗഡി "Good Morning ചേട്ടാ" എന്നു Wish ചെയ്തത് അണിയറ പ്രവർത്തനം. അന്നത്തെ പോരാട്ടത്തിനൊടുവിൽ ഒരു വേട്ടിന്റെ വൻഭൂമികുലുക്കത്തോടെ കരിവീരൻ വിജയമണി

വീണ്ടും ചുടുപിടിച്ച ഇലക്ഷൻ ദിനങ്ങൾ. ഇപ്രാവശ്യം പോരാട്ടം ക്ലാസിയിലെ തലമുത്ത അച്ഛനും തലമുത്ത മനസ്സും തമ്മിൽ. ഒരിക്കൽക്കൂടി മേരിനോളപ്പുറം വെയ്സ്കോളേഴ്സും തമ്മിൽ കൊമ്പുകോർത്തു. പെണ്ണുങ്ങളുടെ പുരട്ടിത്തലൈവിയായി ഏകപക്ഷീയമായി തെരഞ്ഞെടുക്കപ്പെട്ട അമലമണി ജനറൽ സെക്രട്ടറി സ്ഥാനത്തേക്ക് സ്ഥാനാർത്ഥിയായി നിന്നു. ക്ലാസിലെ പോരാട്ടത്തിനൊടുവിൽ ജയിച്ചത് തലമുത്ത അച്ഛൻ തന്നെ. വിജയകുറിയണിഞ്ഞ അച്ഛനും കേസരിയും മത്സരിച്ചത് ജനറൽ സെക്രട്ടറി സ്ഥാനത്തേക്ക്. അങ്ങനെ ഒരേ ക്ലാസിലെ ബ്ലോപ്പർ യൂണിയൻ ഇലക്ഷനിൽ മത്സരിച്ച unbreakable record II BCA യ്ക്ക് സ്വന്തം പക്ഷേ, പൊടിയും പുകയും കെട്ടടങ്ങിയപ്പോൾ II BCA ഒരുമിച്ച് വിളിച്ചുപറഞ്ഞു. "ജനറൽ സെക്രട്ടറി അച്ഛനേ കീ ജയ്."

ഒരു Suspension പോലും കിട്ടാത്ത ക്ലാസ് എന്ന തീരാക്കളികളിൽ നിന്നും നാം മുക്തരായത് II year അവസാനം. ക്ലാസിലെ നല്ല മിടുക്കന്മാർ ചേർന്ന് അവിടെയൊരുവന്റെ പിറന്നാൾ മധ്യരാത്രി നൃത്തം തന്നെ തന്നെ ശബ്ദമില്ലാതെ നൃത്തം ചെയ്തിൽ. സംഭവത്തിനൊന്നാം ദൃക്സാക്ഷിയായതോടൊപ്പം സാക്ഷാൽ റോഡി അച്ഛൻ തന്നെ.

ഫലം നാൽപ്പൻ സംഘം മഹത്തായ Suspension പട്ടവും സീക്രട്ടറി ക്ലാസിന്റെ അഭിവാദ്യങ്ങളോടൊപ്പം കോണ്ട് റെറ്റാർ ഗവർണർമാർക്കുവേണ്ടി നയിച്ചു. പിറ്റേദിവസം രാവിലെ "ആരൊക്കെയോ" ചേർന്ന് റോഡി അച്ഛന്റെ മദ്യപാന പിന്തിരിപ്പൻ നയത്തിനെതിരെ പോസ്റ്ററുകൾ ഒട്ടിച്ചു. Suspension തീർന്ന ദിവസം ശബ്ദമില്ലാതെ

മുഴുവൻ പൊന്നാമന പുത്രന്മാർ സ്വന്തം പിതാക്കളെ സാക്ഷിനിർത്തി മദ്യം "കൈകൊണ്ടു" തൊടില്ല എന്ന പ്രതിജ്ഞ വാചകം ചൊല്ലി കോളേജ് ദുരിതാശ്വാസ ഫണ്ടിലേക്ക് ആയിരം രൂപ സംഭാവന നൽകിയതോടെ വിഷയം closed.

Suspension കൊയ്തത് തീർന്നില്ല. COBOL ലെ ചില doubts clear ചെയ്യാനായി രണ്ട് പിപിഎക്സുകൾ College library ൽ നിന്നും Reference book അടിച്ചുമാറ്റി. വെറുതെ പാവം ജോർജ് സാറിനെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടിക്കണ്ടപ്പോൾ കരുതി സാറിനെ അറിയിച്ചില്ല. പക്ഷേ കുളിക്കാറില്ലാത്ത മോഷ്ടാവിന്റെ മണം പിടിച്ചെത്തിയ George sir പുസ്തകം hostel ൽ നിന്ന് കയ്യോടെ പൊക്കി. ഒടുവിൽ സോദരന്മാർ 4000 രൂപ വീതം ഗ്രന്ഥസമാഹരണത്തിനായി സംഭാവന ചെയ്ത് പ്രശ്നം ഒരുക്കിത്തീർത്തു. ഇതു വർഷങ്ങളിലും 'ചേപ്പ്'യ്ക്ക് പുതിയ മാതൃകകൾ സൃഷ്ടിച്ചിരുന്നത് നമ്മുടെ ക്ലാസിലെ ഒരു വിശ്വതനായിരുന്നു.

പുതിയ അദ്ധ്യയനവർഷം പിറന്നു. വീണ്ടും പുതുമുഖങ്ങളെത്തി; ഒപ്പം മറ്റൊരു വിവാദവും. അമലയിലെ ഇളംപെരുന്തെങ്ങെ റബ്ബർ സ്റ്റിപ്പന്റിട്ട് കുറിയും തൊടിച്ച് കൊണ്ടുവന്ന മുഗിയുമായ റാഗിംഗിനെതിരായി ഒരു ക്വബെപ്രെതി Complaint നൽകി. പ്രശ്നം ഗുരുതരം. II year ലെ അമലമണികൾ Suspension ന്റെ വക്കിലെത്തിയപ്പോൾ III BCA യിലെ ചേട്ടന്മാർക്ക് ധർമ്മിക മോഷ്ടം മൂലം. മോഷ്ടം മൂലത്ത് class boycott ചെയ്തുനിന്നും വരെയെത്തി കാര്യങ്ങൾ. അപ്പോളൊരു വരുന്ന സാക്ഷാൽ സാബു സാർ. III BCA യുടെ വാതുക്കൽ നിന്നുകൊണ്ട് സാബു സാർ ക്ലാസിൽ കയറാൻ ഒർഡറിട്ടു. സാറിന്റെ III BCA പ്രതിഷേധം ഒളപ്പും തകർത്തുകൊണ്ട് പിള്ളൂർ പുറംതിരിഞ്ഞു നിന്നു. ആകെ senti ആയപ്പോഴേ സാർ ക്ലാസിൽ കയറി വാതിലടച്ചു. അബദ്ധത്തിൽപ്പെട്ടപ്പോഴേ മൂന്നു മാർകിടാങ്ങലെ സാർ OR പാടിപ്പിൻ തുടങ്ങി. അന്ന് III BCA യ്ക്ക് ഒരുഗ്രൻ നാമധേയം ലഭിച്ചു. "Titanic" ഒപ്പം രണ്ടു ക്യാപ്റ്റനായതും. സാറിന്റെ പിന്നക്കം അലിഞ്ഞത് OR portion തീർന്നപ്പോളാണ്. അവസാനം സാറിന് internal exam class മൊത്തത്തിൽ serious ആയിട്ടു കഷ്ടം പെട്ട് പാടിപ്പുഴുതി. Result വന്നപ്പോൾ ജയിച്ചവർ വിരലിലെണ്ണാൻ മാത്രം. Sir പ്രഖ്യാപിച്ചുസാറിന് മാത്രം OR internal pass ആകാൻ maximum ഇരുപത് പേർ. പക്ഷേ ആരും തളർന്നില്ല. Iceberg ആയി സാബു സാർ. Titanic മുങ്ങിപ്പോവുമെന്ന അവസരം എവിടെയും സംസാരവിഷയം III BCA യുടെ ഭാവി. ഒടുവിൽ ആ ദിവസമെത്തി സാറിന്റെ Birthday. Titanic യാത്രക്കാർക്കൊരുപാടും കൂടി Wish ചെയ്തപ്പോൾ Iceberg അലിഞ്ഞു. അങ്ങനെ സാറിന്റെ ഏർക്കും സാറിന്റെ സ്നേഹം തിരിച്ചു കിട്ടി. വിവാദം എഴുത്തടങ്ങി. ഈ വിവാദങ്ങൾക്കിടയിലും 'LOUIS' എന്ന മഹദ്. സ്റ്റാറ്റോസ്റ്റോമാറ്റി III BCA ന്റെമമ്മിനു പ്രാധാന്യം നൽകിയിരുന്നു.

വീണ്ടും തീപ്പെരുന്തെങ്ങുമുൾന്ന് മൂന്നാമത്തെ election ദിനത്തിൽ. അന്നത്തെ ദിവസം III BCA യെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം ഒരിക്കലും മറക്കാൻ പറ്റില്ലായിരുന്നു. ഒരേ സമരത്തിൽ അന്ന് അവർ തങ്ങളുടെ പ്രതിനിധികളെ തിരഞ്ഞെടുത്തു. ബിബിയും റോസ്മേരിയും. ബിബിയെ chairman ആക്കിയെ അടങ്ങുന്ന എൻ വാരിയിൽ III BCA യിലെ ഓരോരുത്തരും തുനിഞ്ഞിറങ്ങി. ബിബിയും റോസും ഇലക്ഷൻ ഹാളിൽ. പെൺകുട്ടികൾ കൊന്തയുമായി ചാപ്പലിൽ. ആൺകുട്ടികൾ മസിലുമായി ഹാളിനു പുറത്തും. ഒടുവിൽ ഒരു വോട്ടിന് ജയിച്ച ബിബി ഇറങ്ങിവന്നപ്പോൾ ജയിച്ചത് III BCA യിലെ ഓരോരുത്തരുടെയും വാരിയും പ്രാർത്ഥനയുമൊക്കെ. ഒന്നും പോരാഞ്ഞിട്ട് അന്യാമതി III BCA അത്തുല്യങ്ങളെത്തിൽ ജേതാക്കളായി. അന്നത്തെ ദിവസം മരിയൻ കോളേജിൽ ഉറക്കെക്കേട്ടതൊരേതൊരു മദ്യവാചകം.

"ഒട്ട ഒട്ട ഒട്ട ടാം...."

Iyya Uuvva III BCA"

പിന്നെയോ മദ്യവാചകം ഒത്തിരിയിടത്ത് മുഴങ്ങി. Inter class skit competition, Christmas celebration അങ്ങനെ നീണ്ടുപോകുന്നു സംഭവവികാസങ്ങളുടെ പരമ്പര.

ഒരുപക്ഷേ മറ്റൊരു ക്ലാസ്സിനും ഇത്രയും കഥകൾ പറയാനാണുവേണ്ടി. ഒർക്കാനും മറക്കാതിരിക്കാനും മായി ഈ കൊച്ചു കൊച്ചു ഭൂമികുലുക്കങ്ങൾ നമുക്ക് ഒർമുയറട്ടെ മണിച്ചെപ്പിൽ സൂക്ഷിക്കാം.





## Alumnus Police Officer Receives Medal from CM

On this Kerala Piravi day (01 Nov 2023) Sinoj Joseph (BCA 2002 - 05) was awarded the Chief Minister's medal for his 14 years of exemplary service to the police department. He is currently working with the DySP's office, Kattappana.

## SPEAKing with Students

*RJ Shambu (BBA 2009 - 12)*

The most vibrant RJ in town, RJ Shambu was on campus on October 19, for a workshop for students of the English department on Anchoring and Compering. Mr Shambu also launched a new initiative of the Department of English and Department of Media Studies - SPEAK (Students Perspective, Engagements and Analysis Kindled).





## Exploring new opportunities together

*C2D and TSK showcased art and craft at Kalamassery KIED. Tony presented a painting to Shri. P Rajeeve - the Industry Minister while C2D offered a handmade craft.*

*Tintu Mathew (BBA 1998 - 01) runs C2D*

*Tony Sunny (BBA 2017 - 21) runs TSK arts*



## Nostalgic visits, reliving memories

*Chikku Joy (BCom 1998 - 01) with Dr. Joshy John, Dr. Soosy Joseph & then batchmates now teachers - Jyothi Jose and Melby Joseph.*



## Perfect Backdrop for a Selfie

When Roshma Peter (MSW 2012 - 14) decided to stop by Marian with her family, Ms. Jyothi Jose couldn't resist capturing a selfie with them after a Campus Show-around.

## Prospects of sports

*Vishal Ravi - (BBA 2012 - 2015)*

*Vishal Ravi is a former marian basketball team captain as well as a FIBA Asian Licensed statistician Entrepreneur. He was on campus on September 26, for a workshop on opportunities in sports.*

*He is also part of the basketball Technical Official team for 37th National games happening in Goa.*







## Another Happening Friday for Marianites@Cochin

by Lilin Thomas (Editorial Board Member - MAAK Cochin)

It was another fantastic Friday evening, October 6th, 2023, where 35 of our precious flock gathered for a remarkable occasion. We witnessed the swearing-in of the new office bearers of the MAAK Cochin Chapter, unveiled the first printed edition of our MAAK Book, wished our former Chairperson, Merrill Mathew, all the best in his future endeavours, and, of course, celebrated the Cochin Chapter's tradition since its inception - 'The Birthday Bash.'

Our vivacious host, Asmin Baker, welcomed us to her Eden Isle Luxury Service Apartments on Silver Sand Island, Cochin. The formal meeting kicked off at 8 pm with the installation of the new office bearers of Cochin Chapter. Renu Abraham took the reins as the

new Chairperson, Bryno Baby as the Vice Chairperson, Aleena Joshy as the Secretary, Dario Aby as the Joint Secretary, and Abin Jose Plappallil as the Treasurer. This dynamic team is poised to strengthen the Marian alumni community in Cochin. Chairperson Renu Abraham and Vice Chairperson Bryno Baby have promised their strong commitment to MAAK in their speeches. Joint Secretary Dario Aby congratulated the Cochin Chapter on the well-organised Onam event and shared his excitement about being part of this team.

Next came a moment of immense pride for the alumni community, the editorial board of our newsletter MAAK BOOK, and Marian College itself - the unveiling of the first printed edition of MAAK Book. Aksa Ann Thomas, the Chief

Editor of MAAK Book, presented the first printed copy to Dr. Liance Sajin, who officially unveiled it. The printed edition received accolades for its visual appeal, paper quality, and diverse content.

Farewells are always bittersweet, especially when it's the 'Poster Boy of Cochlin Chapter's Happy Vibes' - our Former Chairperson Merril Mathew, stepping down to reach for greater heights. MAAK President Adv. Nelson Joseph expressed his appreciation for our former Chairperson Merril Mathew, acknowledging his tremendous efforts in building this chapter and his unwavering support for MAAK. The Cochlin Chapter expressed their love and gratitude by gifting him a token filled with memories of his time here. Merril Mathew, in his speech, thanked the Chapter members for their support and affection. We're thrilled to see him in his new role as the 'Director of MAAK in-charge of Events and Alumni Engagement,' and we congratulate and wish him all the best in life.

The true joy of any celebration lies in celebrating it 'together.' The August, September, and October birthday celebrants of the Cochlin Chapter - Renu Abraham, Raima Sajeev, Dennis Devadas, and Pratheek P Kumar - blew out their candles, and the party began with a burst of energy as Pratheek's daughter, the cute little darling 'Daksha,' danced her heart out. The dance party became a riot of fun as even our 'matured' senior buddies joined to shake leg with the junior buddies, rediscovering their college days. We also witnessed the return of the 2000s heartthrob Hrithik Roshan through Dario Aby's killer dance moves. Some of our cherished pals brought homemade / mom-made refreshments which added to the homely feeling rippling within this group.



MAAK President administering the oath to new office bearers



The cute little darling Daksha

*This evening yet again highlighted the strong connections among Marianites and the bond with 'The Magnificent Marian College'. Overall it was another unforgettable evening filled with good food, music, dance, laughter, and friendship.*



# MARIAN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION KUTTIKKANAM

## COCHIN CHAPTER

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



**Merril Mathew**  
Immediate Past Chairperson



**Renu Abraham**  
Chairperson



**Bryno Baby**  
Vice Chairperson



**Aleena Joshy**  
Secretary



**Dario Aby**  
Joint Secretary



**Abin Jose**  
Treasurer

### CO-ORDINATORS



**Shibin Jose**  
Membership & Database



**Dennis Devadas**  
PR & Social Media



**Vijoy Varghese**  
Alumni Welfare & Social Service



**Joice Augustine**  
Events & Alumni engagement



**Alan Joseph**  
Career & Professional Development



**Danie R**  
Marianites' Business Forum



**Lilin Thomas**  
Editorial Board Member - MAAK BOOK



**Twinkle Abraham**  
 Director - Career &  
 Professional  
 Development Wing  
 MAAK

## Collaboration and Mentorship: The Alumni Career Wing

The feeling that connects us together as Marian Alumni is a sense of belonging, shared experiences, and a mutual investment in our common Marian Legacy. It's this sense of belonging, shared history, and mutual support that creates a strong bond among us.

We, the Alumni Career Wing, understand the transformative power of our educational journey. We extend our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to each one of our dear teachers who dedicated their time, wisdom, and passion to nurturing the minds of our alumni. Your mentorship has laid the foundation for our professional endeavours.

We acknowledge the dedication of the former Career Wing team in creating a robust environment for our alumni. The programs, resources, and support systems you established have been instrumental in guiding alumni toward their career aspirations. As we step into our roles, we pledge to continue the journey you initiated.

Our vision for Career Wing is to create a vibrant community that thrives on collaboration, knowledge sharing, and collective growth. The revamped Career & Professional Development

Wing comprises the Resource Team and the Board of Directors which work collaboratively. During the brainstorming session within the career team, several key ideas and core areas have been identified to enhance career development and grouped to form 6 core teams with clearly defined goals and activities including Curriculum Team, Knowledge Team, Skill Team, Career Counselling Team, Networking Team and Recruitment Team. The Deputy Directors overseeing these teams are Rosemary Kurian, Justin Jacob, Gijo Johnson, Tom K Tomy, Cyril Mathew and Varsha S Babu respectively.

[The inauguration of the Career Wing activities for the year](#) was marked by an insightful keynote address delivered by Mr. Manoj Balachandran, Vice President Inhana Organic Research Foundation, which was well-received by the attendees, and generated positive feedback. College Principal Prof. Dr. Ajimon George graced the occasion with the Principal's message, highlighting the significance of Alumni Career Wing. Rev. Dr. Roy Abraham P (Honorary Director MAAK) emphasised the need for collaborative learning and growth. Ms. Jyothi Jose (Honorary Director, Alumni Teachers Representative) coordinated the event.

Following the inauguration and keynote address, the Career Wing launched and scheduled a series of initiatives and programs in line with our vision. This includes, the 'Alumni Career Talk series', "Career Scavenger Hunt competition", Career Counselling Sessions, Career Planning & Goal Setting Workshops, Mock Interview Sessions, Industry Specific Training Programs, Entrepreneurship and Innovation Workshops, Skill Gap Analysis Programs, Soft Skills Development Training Programs, Alumni Internship & Placement support for students and alumni, Career Transition Workshops and Wellness - Work-Life Balance Programs for Alumni. Career wing is coordinating with the Alumni IT support to

**DEPUTY DIRECTORS**



Rosemary Kurian  
Career Team



Justin Jacob  
Knowledge Team



Gijo Johnson  
Skill Team



Tom K Tomy  
Career Counseling Team



Cyril MATHew  
Networking Team



Varsha S Babu  
Recruitment Team

provide a platform for Alumni job referral and virtual mock interview powered by AI.

We are committed to offer need based programs to address specific gaps, requirements, or demands identified among students. A meeting was held with college union representatives, batch placement coordinators and faculty representatives on 2nd November, 2023 to understand specific requirements. It provided a platform for student representatives to engage in a dialogue with alumni to understand and address the career related needs of the student body.

Career Wing's focus is not merely about providing information but about creating a

supportive and empathetic community that values personal connections and individual growth. This emotional connection bridges the gap between generations, creating a continuous cycle of support, inspiration, and guidance. We aim to foster a culture of collaboration, where each one of us contributes our unique experiences, knowledge, and expertise to empower one another. We invite all our alumni to be an integral part of this journey. Your input, your experiences, and your involvement are crucial in shaping the success of our Alumni Career Wing. Let us collaborate, learn from each other, and create an environment that propels every member of our community towards their aspirations.







## Jelit Mathews Joseph

Asst. Professor &  
Professional Studies  
Coordinator  
**scaps**, Marian College  
Kuttikkanam  
Autonomous

# Unlocking the Power of LinkedIn: A Guide to Effective Usage

LinkedIn is not just another social media platform; it's your gateway to a world of professional opportunities, connections, and knowledge. Whether you're a job seeker, a seasoned professional, or a recent graduate, using LinkedIn effectively can open doors to career growth and personal development. In this article, we'll explore how to harness the full potential of this platform in a simple down-to-earth way.

## 3 Mindset Changes Required to Use LinkedIn Effectively

- The number one change required is stop treating LinkedIn as a job portal. LinkedIn is not a job portal. LinkedIn is a networking platform.
- Change number two, there are no predefined steps to use LinkedIn. You have to use your own creativity to use LinkedIn in the best way possible.
- Change number three, your LinkedIn profile is not your resume. Are you talking about that one page or two page resume or CV that doesn't

show me who you are as a person? Everything that you cannot fit into your resume should be showcased in your LinkedIn profile.

In my experience, 8 out of the 10 clients that I have worked with, were using LinkedIn the wrong way. Once we worked on the shift in the mindset, we started seeing exciting results. And usually, within the first month, they would bag a prized job offer.

## The All-Important Profile: Your Digital Business Card

Your LinkedIn profile is your online identity, and it's the first thing people see. Make it count by:

- **Professional Photo:** Use a clear, high-quality headshot that shows you as approachable and confident.
- **Compelling Headline:** Craft a catchy headline that sums up your professional identity. This is your first impression.
- **Background image:** Your background image can be an extension of your personal brand. It's an opportunity to visually communicate your field, interests, or expertise.
- **Informative Summary:** In your summary, tell your story. Share your career journey, passions, and aspirations. Make it engaging, not robotic.
- **Detailed Experience:** List your professional history with clarity, emphasizing your accomplishments and responsibilities.
- **Highlight Your Achievements:** Don't be shy about showcasing your accomplishments, projects, and certifications.

**Connecting Strategically: Quality Over Quantity**

Collecting hundreds of connections might seem impressive, but it's the quality of your network that truly matters:

- **Personalize Invitations:** When sending connection requests, always add a personal note. Explain why you want to connect; it makes a huge difference.
- **Engage Actively:** Interact with your network. Like, comment, and share posts, showcasing your genuine interest in their updates.
- **Join Relevant Groups:** Participate in LinkedIn groups aligned with your industry or interests. It's an excellent way to make meaningful connections.

**Be consistent. Keep posting relevant content.**

LinkedIn isn't just about connections; it's a platform to share knowledge and establish yourself as an expert. So, keep sharing your knowledge, keep posting.

- **Recommendations & Endorsements: Give & Receive**  
Endorsements and recommendations are a testament to your skills and professionalism:

**Request Recommendations:** Don't be shy about asking colleagues or supervisors to write recommendations highlighting your strengths and achievements.

**Give Endorsements:** Return the favor by endorsing your connections for their skills. It's a great way to appreciate their abilities.

**Professional Branding:**

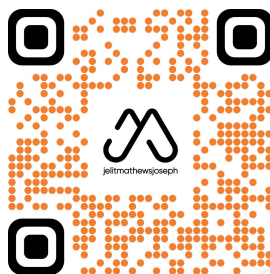
Your LinkedIn presence is an extension of your professional brand. Regularly update your profile and engage with your network to maintain a strong online presence.

Do not copy everything that others do. Do what works best for you. You are unique, so take specific steps to achieve your specific goals.

In conclusion, LinkedIn is a versatile platform that can open doors, foster connections, and establish your professional identity. The key is to use it effectively, genuinely, and with a human touch. So, go ahead, update your LinkedIn profile, connect with purpose, share your knowledge, and watch your career prospects soar.

There are many more strategies you can effectively use to get the best out of LinkedIn. But, I would urge you to start with the action points mentioned above and you can start seeing results. If you need help with any of the above, drop in a line @ [ielitmathewsioseph@gmail.com](mailto:ielitmathewsioseph@gmail.com) and I'll do my best to help you out. Good luck and do let me know if LinkedIn helped you get that dream job you were looking for.

[Watch my video here:](#)





Announcement of  
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