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நாலு முலை

ரா. கி. ரங்கராஜன்
கவலைப் படாதீர்கள்

மிளகாய்த் தூள் எக்கச்சக்க விலையா? கொஞ்ச நாட்கள் பொறுங்கள். சரியாகிவிடும். புளி விலை அநியாயமா? கொஞ்ச நாட்கள் பொறுங்கள். குறைந்து விடும். பால் விலை ஏறி விட்டதா? கொஞ்ச நாட்கள் பொறுங்கள். சரியாகி விடும். பெட்ரோல் விலை அதிகமா? கொஞ்ச நாட்கள் பொறுங்கள். சரியாகிவிடும். கூடங்குளம் பிரச்சனையா? கொஞ்ச நாட்கள் பொறுங்கள். முல்லை பெரியாறு தகராறா? கொஞ்ச நாட்கள் பொறுங்கள். தீர்ந்துவிடும்.

'கொஞ்ச நாட்கள், கொஞ்ச நாட்கள் என்கிறீர்களே? எத்தனை நாட்கள் சொல்லுங்கள்' என்று நீங்கள் கோபப்படுவது தெரிகிறது. கொஞ்ச நாட்கள்தான். நாலு லட்சத்து முப்பத்திரண்டாயிரம் வருடங்கள். ஏனெனில் அதுதான் கலிகாலத்தின் ஆயுள். 'எல்லாம் கலிகாலத்தின் கூத்து' என்று பழி போடுகிறோம் அல்லவா? அந்த யுகம் முடிந்துவிடும். சத்ய யுகம் ஆரம்பிக்கும் என்கிறது ஹிந்து சாஸ்திரம்.

கிருஷ்ண பரமாத்மா பூவுலகைவிட்டுத் தன் இருப்பிடத்துக்குத் திரும்பிய போது கலிகாலம் ஆரம்பமாயிற்றாம். இப்போது சுமார் ஆறாயிரம் வருடங்கள் கழிந்திருக்கின்றன. பொறுங்கள்! காலத்தின் கூத்துகளை விவரித்து கேலியாகவும் யதார்த்தமாகவும் ஒரு அழகான கட்டுரை உலவி வருகிறது. அது எழுதியவர் தலாய் லாமா என்ற ஒரு கருத்து நிலவுகிறது. அது உண்மையல்ல. அமெரிக்காவில் ஸியேட்டில் ஓவர்கூக் கிறிஸ்டியன் சர்ச்சை சேர்ந்த டாக்டர் பாப் மூர்ஹெட் என்ற அறிஞர் இதை எழுதியிருக்கிறார். அதில் -

தற்காலத்தின் முரண்பாடுகளில் ஒன்று: நம்மிடம் உயர்ந்த கட்டிடங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. ஆனால் தாழ்ந்த மனநிலை. அகலமான சாலைகள். ஆனால் குறுகலான கண்ணோட்டங்கள்.

நிறைய செலவுகிக்கிறோம். ஆனால் குறைவான உடைமைகள். நிறைய வாங்குகிறோம். ஆனால் குறைவாகவே அனுபவிக்கிறோம்.

முன்னைக் காட்டிலும் பெரிய வீடுகள் இருக்கின்றன. ஆனால் அவற்றில் சிறிய குடும்பங்களே வசிக்கின்றன. முன்னைவிட அதிக வசதிகள். ஆனால் முன்னைவிடக் குறைவான அவகாசம். முன்னைவிட அதிகப் பட்டங்கள். ஆனால் குறைவான புத்தி. அதிகமான அறிவு. ஆனால் தவறான முடிவுகள். நிபுணர்கள் அதிகம். பிரச்சனைகளும் அதிகம். முன்னைவிட அதிக மருந்துகள். ஆனால் குறைந்த ஆரோக்கியம்.

நிறையக் குடிக்கிறோம். நிறையப் புகைக்கிறோம். பொறுப் புணர்ச்சியில்லாமல் செலவுகிக்கிறோம். ரொம்பவும் கொஞ்சமாகவே சிரிக்கிறோம். ரொம்ப வேகமாக வண்டிகளை ஓட்டுகிறோம். வெகு விரைவாகக் கோபம் கொள்கிறோம். இரவு அதிக நேரம் கண்விழிக்கிறோம். காலையில் அதிகமான சோர்வுடன் எழுந்து கொள்கிறோம். படிப்பது கொஞ்சம். டிவி பார்ப்பது அதிகம். பிரார்த்தனை செய்வது மிக மிகக் கம்மி.

உடைமைகளைப் பெருக்கிக் கொண்டிருக்கிறோம். அவற்றின் மதிப்பைக் குறைத்து என்னுகிறோம். அதிகமாகப் பேசுகிறோம். குறைவாக அன்பு செலுத்துகிறோம். சம்பாதிக்கக் கற்றிருக்கிறோம். வாழக் கற்றுக் கொள்ளவில்லை. வாழ்நாளை நீட்டித்திருக்கிறோம். ஜீவனைக் குறைத்திருக்கிறோம். சந்திரனுக்கு செல்லவும் திரும்பி வரவும் அறிந்திருக்கிறோம். ஆனால் சாலையைக் கடந்து எதிர் வீட்டில் புதிதாகக் குடி வந்திருப்பவர்களை அறிமுகம் செய்து கொள்வதில்லை.

விண்வெளியை வென்றிருக்கிறோம். ஆனால் மன வெளியை வெல்லவில்லை.

காற்றில் மாக இல்லாமல் செய்கிறோம். ஆனால் ஆன்மாவை மாகபட வைத்துள்ளோம். அணுவைப் பிளக்க அறிந்திருக்கிறோம். அகுவைகளைப் பிளக்க அறியவில்லை.

நிறைய எழுதுகிறோம். ஆனால் கற்றுக் கொள்வது கம்மி. நிறையத் திட்டமிடுகிறோம். ஆனால் குறைவாக சாதிக்கிறோம். வேகமாக செல்லப் பயின்றிருக்கிறோம். ஆனால் பொறுமையுடன் காத்திருக்கப் பயிலவில்லை. வருமானத்தை அதிகரித்திருக்கிறோம். ஒழுக்கத்தைக் குறைத்துவிட்டோம்.

நிறையவே சமைக்கிறோம். ஆனால் சாப்பாட்டில் விருப்பம் குறைந்துவிட்டது.

கம்ப்யூட்டர்களும் அவை தரும் தகவல்களும் அதிகம். ஆனால் மக்களுடன் கொள்ளும் தொடர்பு கம்மி. அதிகமாக உற்பத்தி செய்கிறோம். ஆனால் அவற்றின் தரம் கம்மியாகி விட்டது.

வேகமான உணவகங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. ஆனால் செரிமான சக்தி குறைந்து விட்டது.

நெட்டையான மனிதர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். குட்டையான குணங்கள். செங்குத்தான லாபங்கள். ஆனால் ஓட்டையான உறவுகள்.

உலக சமாதானம் நிலவுகிறது. ஆனால் உள்நாட்டுச் சண்டைகள் அதிகரித்திருக்கின்றன. ஒழிவு நேரம் அதிகமாக உள்ளது. ஆனால் பொழுது போக்குகள் கம்மியாகிவிட்டன. உணவு வகைகள் பெருகியுள்ளன. ஆனால் சத்து இல்லை.

கணவன் மனைவி இருவரும் சம்பாதிப்பது அதிகரித்திருக்கிறது. விவாக ரத்துகளும் அதிகமே.

அழகான வீடுகள் உள்ளன. ஆனால் முறிந்த குடும்பங்கள் அதிகம்.

உள்ளாடைகளைத் தூக்கி எறிகிறோம். ஒழுக்கங்களையும் தான். ஒரே இரவு தங்கும் விடுதிகள். ஊளைச் சதை உடம்புகள். உற்சாகமுட்டும் மாத்திரைகள். உயிருக்கு உலை வைப்பதும் அவைதான்.

வெளிப் பகட்டுக்கு நிறைய அலங்காரங்கள். உக்கிரான அறைகள் காவி.

டெக்னாலஜி இந்தக் கட்டுரையை உங்களுக்குத் தருகிறது. ஏற்படாதே தள்ளுவதோ உங்கள் இஷ்டம்.

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T. NAGAR BAZAAR

This column is intended to help small businesses in & around T.Nagar and West Mambalam to have a cost-effective advertisement medium. Advertisement in this section will be in standard panel sizes of 4 cm. x 1 column (costing only Rs. 400) and 4 cm. x 2 column (costing Rs. 800)

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Calling volunteers for free service in Tirumala

Sevas (50, Dharga Road, Rajaji Nagar, Pallavaram) is sending volunteers for week-long service to pilgrims in Tirumala starting on Sundays and ending on Saturdays.

Men and women who are physically fit and are willing to stay in Tirumala for a week are welcome to offer their services for 6 hours everyday. The work will be of supervisory nature.

Accommodation, lunch and dinner will be provided free of cost. They can have special darshan of Lord Venkateswara.

Travelling expense and the cost of breakfast must be borne by the volunteers.

Those interested can contact Nalini Ravikumar (18/43, Jubilee Road, West Mambalam) in 99621 53644, L. S. V. Mahadevan (98411 76386), P. Sundaram (98417 26695) or D. Gopinath (94442 09751).

Special 'alangaaram' for Abhaya Hanuman for Pongal

By Our Staff Reporter

Pongal will be celebrated with special darshan of Sri Abhaya Hastha Hanuman with special 'alangaaram' from Jan. 14 to 18 in Pandian Hall, Station Road, West Mambalam.

There will be asthothra archana from 9 a.m to 11 a.m and 5 p.m to 8.30 p.m on all days. Archana tickets may be bought for Rs. 60.

Devotees are welcome to bring flowers, 'tulasi', coconuts and fruits for archana.

More details can be had from R. M. Devanatha Desikan in phones 98415 02313/94443 32435.

Music contest for school students

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Sarada Devi Seva Sangh (95-A, Sowbhagya Colony, K. K. Nagar) will conduct a music competition for students in the 12-17 age group at 2.30 p.m on Jan. 28 in Saranam Hall, Sri Ayyappa Temple, Ponnambalam Salai, K. K. Nagar as part of 175th birthday celebrations of Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa.

Those interested may get more details and register their names in phones 98407 07601 or 97909 16060 by Jan. 20.

Procession on need for 'Smokeless Bhogi'

By Our Staff Reporter

T. Nagar Exnora and Sri RKM Sarada Vidyalaya School, T. Nagar jointly organized a procession to create an awareness about the need for a 'Smokeless Bhogi' on Jan. 11. V. P. Kalairajan (T. Nagar MLA) flagged off the procession in which students and teachers, and Exnora volunteers participated.

M. Manickam (Chairman, Zone 10), V. Saravanan (Councillor, Ward 136), R. Govindaraj (President, Chennai District Exnora), Anand Laxman



(Senator, Exnora International), Meenakshi (Headmistress), Durayammal (Asst. Headmistress) and Vasundra (NSS Co-ordinator) were also present.

Pavement shops evicted from Raja Street



By Our Staff Reporter
More than 20 pavement shops on Raja Street, T. Nagar were evicted by traffic police on Jan. 11 to facilitate free flow of traffic. M. Maarimuthu (Inspector, Traffic, T. Nagar Sub-

division) told *Mambalam Times* that they took the assistance of Corporation workers for the operation. Signboards will be installed at the spot warning against encroachment, he added.

Exhibition on Vivekananda

By Our Staff Reporter

Members of RSS set up an exhibition of photographs on the life of Swami Vivekananda on Station Road, West Mambalam on Jan. 12 on the occasion of his 150th birth anniversary.

R. Saiganesh and K. Muthukrishnan (Program organizers) told *Mambalam Times* that more than 50 photographs were on display.

Saiganesh said that they conduct such programs in schools, colleges and other venues.

He can be contacted in phone 94444 12947.



Extension of validity of ration cards being done

By Our Staff Reporter

The exercise of extending the validity of ration cards for another year is under way in all ration shops in the neighbourhood.

The head of the family or a member can present the ration card for the extension.

This huge crowd was seen at a ration shop on Muthurangan Salai in T. Nagar.



Wear a helmet while riding a 2-wheeler

Currency garland for Hanuman

By Our Staff Reporter

The idol of Lord Hanuman in Sri Sanjeevini Peetam (BRP 1st Street, West Mambalam) will be adorned with a garland of currency notes amounting to Rs. 1 lakh at 6 p.m on Sunday, Jan. 15 to mark the completion of 1008 Shanthi Yagnas by Mathaji (Founder).

Hanuman (Secretary) said that the yagna is performed on Tuesdays.

He told *Mambalam Times* that devotees are can contrib-

ute cash for the 'alangaaram'. An equal amount will be returned after the pooja.

There will be 'sindhoora abhishekam' and chanting of Hanuman Chalisa.

All are welcome.

More details can be had in phones 90435 68941 and 98403 64567.

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Purandaradasar Aradhana next Saturday

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Purandaradasar Baktha Samajam has organized special programs from 9 a.m to 9 p.m on Saturday, Jan. 21 in Shreenath Kalyana Mandapam, 18, Thiruvengadam Street, West Mambalam on the occasion of the 448th Varsheeka Aradhana of Sri Purandaradasar and 26th anniversary of the Samajam.

P. S. Narayanaswamy will be the chief guest and present awards to eminent personalities on the occasion.

The following is the program: 9 a.m: Mangala isai and Veda paarayanam.

9.30 a.m: Rendering of

Pancha Geetham of Sri Purandaradasar.

10 a.m: Rendering of Sri Purandaradasar kritis.

5.45 p.m: Award distribution.

6.45 p.m: V. Rajarao (vocal), Akkarai Swarnalatha (violin), B. Ganapathiraman (mridangam).

8.45 p.m: Anjaneya uthsavam.

All are welcome.

More details can be had in phone 98410 06800.

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Colourful pots for Pongal

By Our Staff Reporter

K. Subramanian (62) (resident of 84/64/1, Canal Bank Road, CIT Nagar) sells colorful pots for Pongal.

He told *Mambalam Times* that he procures the pots from Manamadurai and Arani, and does the painting himself.

He said that though his family has been in the pottery business for years he is forced to buy the pots as there is no space to make them.

Subramaniam said that he also stocks pots used during marriages by certain communities.

He has regular customers, he added.



Prices of pots range from Rs. 20 to 120. He also sells lamps and fire-wood stoves. He can be contacted in phone 98408 25781.

Free Tamil plays this weekend

By Our Staff Reporter

Dummies Drama, a 14-year-old Tamil theater group, will stage four of its best plays this weekend in Rani Seethai Hall on the occasion of Pongal.

'Athithi' will be staged at 4 p.m and 'Ardhanari' at 7 p.m on Saturday, Jan. 14.

On Sunday, Jan. 15, 'Life-line' will be staged at 4 p.m and 'Vinoda Vidumurai' at 7 p.m.

Free tickets can be booked online at www.dummiesdrama.com or picked up at the venue (subject to availability).

All are welcome.

Award for archaeologist



By Our Staff Reporter

T. K. V. Rajan (Founder, Indian Science Monitor and resident of North Usman Road, T. Nagar) received 'Chemmozhi Thamizh Thendral' award from Tamil Heritage Foundation,

Tiruchi on Dec. 10 for his archaeological research for several years.

He is involved in Indo-Sri Lankan and South East Asian archeological studies. He has done research on 'Adhichanallur'.

Rajan's book on 'Kanchi to Cambodia' was released recently.

He said that the Foundation organizes expeditions, seminars and meetings of archaeologists from different countries to strengthen age-old cultural ties among Asian countries.

He can be contacted in phone 93805 54557.

He has been selling sugarcane for 15 years



By Our Staff Reporter

S. Paneer (63) has been selling sugarcane on Railway Border, West Mambalam during Pongal for the past 15 years.

He told *Mambalam Times* that he has invested Rs. 2600 this year. Prices are higher than last year, he added.

Prices range from Rs. 50 to 60 for two.

'Mattu Pongal' celebrations in goshala

By Our Staff Reporter

'Mattu Pongal' will be celebrated for the 35th year in Goh Samkrashana Sala (13, Kasi Viswanathar Koil Street, West Mambalam) on Monday, Jan. 16.

The following is the program:

7.15 a.m: Mangala isai.
8 a.m: Sthothram paaranam by Karthikeyan & party, Bhajans by Hare Krishna Party.

9.15 a.m: Discourse on 'Go madha perumai' by Yoganandha Swamigal (Yoga Shanthi Gurukulam, West Mambalam).

9.45: Talk by Sankaranandha Swamigal (Om Murugasharam, West Mambalam).

10.15 a.m: Go pooja.

10.45 a.m: Procession of goshala cows.

All are welcome.

More details can be had in phones 2470 0336, 98400 46649 and 92822 31594.

Good response to kritis concert in Jeeva Park

By Our Staff Reporter

A number of music lovers attended the 'Thiyagaraja kritis' concert organized by Jeeva Park Walkers and Joggers Association (Jeeva Park, G. N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar) on Jan. 8.

M. Sukumar (Program organizer) told *Mambalam Times* that carnatic music concerts will be organized in the future.

Those who are interested in presenting concerts may register their names in phone 98414 32604.



Special 'alangaaram' for Andal 'Avahanthi homam' on Thursday

By Our Staff Reporter

Under the auspices of Sri Anusham.com (G-1, Kala Flats, 63rd Street, Ashok Nagar) there will be 'Avahanthi homam' at 10.30 a.m on Thursday, Jan. 19 in Goh Samrakshana Sala, Kasi Viswanathar Koil Street, West Mambalam on the occasion of Sri Maha Periyaval Anusha Jayanthi.

Shymala Subramaniam (Co-ordinator) appealed to devotees who have collected 'oru pidi arsi' (one handful of rice) and one rupee daily (as directed by Maha Periyaval) to hand over the collections to the organization for 'annadhanam'.

There will be 'annadhanam' at 12 noon. All are welcome.

More details can be had in phone 98842 90540.



By Our Staff Reporter

There was special 'alangaaram' for Sri Andal in Sri Mukkur Lakshmi Nrusimhachariar Sannidhi (34/54, Venkatesan Street, T. Nagar) as part of Koodarvalli program on Jan. 12.

Annamayya Thiyagayya aradhana celebrations

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Annamacharya Vamseekula Sankeerthana Seva Mandali Trust, West Mambalam has organized a special program from 3 p.m to 8 p.m on Saturday, Jan. 21 in Sree Lalitha Kala Kshetra, 9, K. R. Koil Street, West Mambalam as part of Sri Annamayya Thiyagayya aradhana celebrations.

T. V. Meenalochani (descen-

dant of Annamacharya) and her disciples will present Sri Venkata Navarathana mala, Annamayya and Thyagayya Sankeerthana Pushpamala Bala Brindham.

Teachers of Sree Lalitha Kala Kshetra and Mythily Suresh Group will be present

Thiyagayya aradhana and goshti ganam.

Students of Lalitha Kala Kshetra will present a music and dance program.

All are welcome.

More details can be had in phones 3200 0994 and 93847 31651.

Discourses on 'Saisath Saritha'

By Our Staff Reporter

Under the auspices of Sri Shirdi Sai Meditation Mandir (6, Sarojini Street, T. Nagar) there are discourses on 'Sri Saisath Saritha' at 6.30 p.m on Sundays in its premises.

T. Thiruvalluvan (Founder) told *Mambalam Times* that mass spiritual healing is conducted at 7.30 p.m on Thursdays and Sundays.

All are welcome.

More details can be had in phones 2643 2323, 4212 5118 and 94444 53777.

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Title presented to dance teacher



program organized by Padma Subramanian in Thanjavur Brahadeeswarar Temple in which 1000 artistes performed at the same time.

She told *Mambalam Times* that she started learning bharathanatyam from Thiruvaidaimaruthur T. A. Rajalakshmi and Kumbakonam Murugesh at the age of 4. She had her arangetram in 1988. Dharani studied in Tamilnadu Music College, Chennai from 1988 to 1992.

She was presented the titles of 'Natya Kalai Oli' by Devi Prasad Sangeetha Vidyalaya in 1996 and 'Natya Kala Choodamani' by Gana Mukundhapriya in 2011.

Dharani started her dance school 18 years back.

Dharani and her husband Ramakrishnan have a son Vijaya Narayanan who is a Std. 7 student of Narayana Mission School, West Mambalam. She can be contacted in phone 98417 39168.

By Our Staff Reporter
Dharani Ramakrishnan (Founder, Saraswathi Natyalaya, West Mambalam and resident of Mahalakshi Flats, 5, Lakshmi Street, West Mambalam) was presented the title of 'Natya Chodaroli' by Apoorvaragam Music & Dance Magazine during its 1st anniversary celebrations on Jan. 1.

The award presented by Aruna Sairam (Vocalist). She was felicitated by Nalli Kuppsamy Chetti on Jan. 3. She is a dance teacher in Shri Shankarlal Shasun Sundarbai Jain College for Women, T. Nagar. Dharani has presented about 800 programs in various venues. They include a

Nadaswaram concert in temple on Sunday

By Our Staff Reporter
Mambalam M. K. S. Natarajan (Aasthana Vidwan of TTD) will present a nadaswaram concert at 7.30 a.m on Sunday, Jan. 15 in Devi Sri Aachi Amman Temple, 6/48, Sidhi Vinayagar Street, T. Nagar as part of Pongal celebrations.

There will be special abhishekam and alangaaram for presiding deity.

All are welcome. More details can be had in phone 92831 03990.

Free Veda classes thrice a week

Kurichi Lakshminarasimhachariar (resident of 8, 2nd Main Road, CIT Nagar East, Nandanam) conducts free Veda and Suktham classes from 9 a.m to 10 a.m on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. More details can be had in phone 98406 40705.

Vigneswar has presented over 1000 keyboard concerts

By Our Staff Reporter
V. G. Vigneswar (15) (resident of 15A, Thiruchendur Flats, 7, BRP 1st Street, West Mambalam) has presented more than 1000 keyboard concerts (Carnatic and Western music) so far.

He gave his first performance at the age of 4½ years in the presence of P. Susheela (Playback singer) whom he also accompanied for a song.

Vigneswar has performed all over India in sabhas, temples, marriages and other functions.

V. Gopalakrishnan (Vigneswar's father and mridangam artiste) told *Mambalam Times* that he played the mridangam



during his son's first 100 programs.

He knows more than 500 film songs.

He presented more than 100

songs non-stop for 5 hours for a program, he added.

He is a disciple of T. V. Gopalakrishnan (mridangam and vocal), Sivraj (keyboard) and

Rajalakshmi (vocal). Vigneswar has received titles from various organizations which include 'Balavadya Ratna' (2004), 'Balavadya Sironmani' and 'Eminent Citizen' (2005), 'Young Achiever', 'Kai Nalina Choodamani' (2006), 'Isai Ila Nyayiru' (2007), 'Yuvasree Kala Bharathi' and 'Born Artiste' (2008).

He is a Std. 11 student of GRT Vidyalaya, Ashok Nagar

He can be contacted in phones and 2474 6358, 98409 and 98400 68953.

Bhavana's dance program on Sunday



By Our Staff Reporter
S. Bhavana (resident of Premier Apartments, 1-E, Swaminathan Street, West Mambalam) will present a bharathanatyam program at 6.30 p.m on Sunday, Jan. 15 in MOP Vaishnava College for Women, Nungambakkam under the 'Talent Revealing Program' of VDS Arts Academy. She is a disciple of Dharani

Ramakrishnan (Saraswathi Natyalaya, West Mambalam). All are welcome.

She is a final year BE student of Fomra Engineering College, Kelambakkam.

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INSTITUTE of Sri Ramchandra Consciousness is offering free two days training on Pranahuti aided meditation at Valasaravakkam, on 21st January 2012 (Saturday) and 22nd January 2012 (Sunday), Time: 9 a.m to 6 p.m. For registration Ph: 99400 90838. Website: www.sriramchandra.org.

TOURS & TRAVELS

(1) Jan. 20 to 23: Ahoobilam Nava Narsimhar. (2) Feb. 4 & 5: Nadu Nadu Divya Desam. (3) April 23 to May 6: Mathura, Brindavan, Gokulam, Goverdhan, Barsana, Rishkesh, Haridwar, Devprayag, Joshimut, Badri, Kurushetra, Delhi. Contact: Vaidehi Parthasarathy, Ph: 94447 62968, 94447 54468, 99401 47313.

1) KASI Yatra: Chitrakoot, Triveni Sangamam snanam on Tamil New Year's day, Kasi, Gaya, Ayodhya, Naimis-aranyam, Mathura, Agra for 12 days from 10th April 2012. 2) Nainital, Babaji cave, Jim Corbett National Park tour for 12 days from 21st April 2012. 3) Darjeeling, Gangtok, Kolkata tour for 12 days from 1st May 2012. 4) Delhi, Simla, Manali tour for 13 days from 11th May 2012. 5) Delhi, Amritsar, Vais-hnodevi, Kashmir for 14 days from 18th May 2012. 6) Badri, Kedar yatra for 13 days from 19th May 2012. Vijayalakshmi Balasubramaniam, Sujana Tours. Ph: 94440 85144, 94449 45003, 2489 5144.

THAMIZH NADU Brahmin Association (Regd), K. K. Nagar, conducts 1 day religious trip to Seevaram, Mukkoodal, Uthiramerur + Thennangur and performs a Kalyana Utsavam. Also visiting temples en route on 26.01.2012 (Thursday). For details: 94444 56901, 98400 36877, 98844 17261.

Program in Ramana Bhaktha Samajam on Sundays

By Our Staff Reporter Sri Ramana Baktha Samajam, West Mambalam (BVSN Moorthy School, Thambiah Road, West Mambalam) conducts the following program on Sundays: 5 p.m: Veda paaranayam 5.30 p.m: Ramana Maharishi's Aksharamanamalai. 6 p.m: Discourse. All are welcome. More details can be had in phone 94441 72623. Special pooja is conducted and prasadam distributed among special children at 11.30 a.m on Ramana Maharishi's birth star day (Punarpoosam).

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T. NAGAR, Sri Malola Mini Hall, New No. 174, Habibullah Road, near Kodambakkam Railway Station, available for small functions, non A/c. Ph: 28143406, 92831 12153, 94446 38577.

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THIRUVALLUR, very near railway station, Manvala Nagar, before John Bosco Colleges, DTCP approved, south facing, 2400 sq.ft, KKR Millennium City with developed road, drainage. Rs. 20 lakhs, negotiable. No brokers. Ph: 9445636823, 82207 03766.

MOGAPPAIR Eri Scheme, TNHB prime building, Jaibharath Apartments, near schools, 7 years old, on 60 Ft. Road, south facing, 860 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, lift, security, vitrified tiles, 1st floor, woodwork, car park, UDS 560 sq.ft. Rs. 46 lakhs, negotiable. Direct owners call: 82207 03766, 9445636823.

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WEST MAMBALAM, Brindavan Street Extension, 900 sq.ft, 2nd floor with lift, 2 bedroom flat, hall, kitchen, 2 split A/c, wood work, open car park, vegetarians preferred, rent Rs. 16000. Ph: 9840903453.

T. NAGAR, Sivaji Street, near T. Nagar Bus Terminus, 3 bedroom, hall, kitchen, store, dining, 3 bath, 1400 sq.ft, flat, office/residential, rent Rs. 22000. Ph: 074111 07480, 080-23483305.

WEST MAMBALAM, B.R.P. Street, near bus terminus and railway station, 2 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 1st floor flat, good water facility, 2-wheeler parking, rent Rs. 10000, no brokers, vegetarians only. Ph: 2371 7325.

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K. K. NAGAR, Ramasamy Salai, near PSBB School, 3 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 1125 sq.ft, 1st floor, lift, party furnished, rent Rs. 20000 (negotiable), brokers excuse, Brahmins only. Ph: 944057552.

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NO HOLDS BARRED

By M. A. SADANAND

"Madurai's Plastic Road Man", the article in *Mambalam Times* dated Jan. 7, 2012, has, in my view, unveiled a hero of the rarest of the rare public benefactors who, like the gems of the purest ray serene, lie buried on the ocean floor from where the newspaper dragged Professor R. Vasudevan, Dean of Chemistry Department, Thiagarajar College of Engineering, Madurai.

He wanted to end the garbage culture of people and, a decade of struggle later, got for his college the patent for laying roads using plastic waste and the good old tar. Until last February, the bad old tar was a yearly bonanza for the fraud-laying combine of the Madurai Corporation and the construction highwaymen.

Much before Vasudevan became a Tamil hero, I happened, while in Kannur District, to drive on a silky road from Taliparamba which, ever since man graduated from horse back ride to machine mobility, had something akin to the lunar surface.

Unable to believe that it was the extra padding of the seats that saved my body from jolts and jars, seeking information on the smoothness of life, I stopped at a tea-shop. The chaai-chap appeared crestfallen and told me that, since the plastic invasion of the road industry, he had lost 80% of his clientele as the vehicles nowadays just zip by on the silky road. A lot of motor car workshops that dotted the road too have also shifted to non-plastic areas.

Now that a new crew is in occupation of the Greater Chennai, Vasudevan could chuck his Deanship and become a saviour of Chennai roads, if Amma taps his reservoir of chemistry to rid the roads of the elephant pits that make a trip of 7 kilometers take an hour and a half and, if there is a drizzle, 2 hours as it did the other day to me when I had to attend a function in Hotel Savera.

The plastic mountain that piles up amid the city's daily garbage could make the Chennai roads the best in India if their Vasufication is adopted and implemented honestly.

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TAMIL CINEMA 75 - A LOOK BACK

By RANDOR GUY

THE AVM STORY - 95

ASA Sami argued with his boss Somasundaram that the future of MGR and his too were at stake and begged him to permit him to complete the film 'Rajakumari'. 'Mr. Somu, instead of burning it at 5000 feet, you can do so at 11,000!', he argued and Somasundaram gave him the green signal to go ahead and complete the film.

'Rajakumari' turned out to be a hit and MGR (then billed in the film credits as 'M. G. Ramachandar'), manly and muscular, was hailed as an action hero. He was compared with the Hollywood Silent Film Superstar Douglas Fairbanks who was MGR's idol and source of inspiration since his Boys' Company Theater days.

Thus began the glorious career of MGR, but superstardom did not come to him on a platter. He had to fight his way up. The MGR screen persona was carefully nurtured by him and he was so successful that his fans saw no difference between the real life-MGR and reel-MGR.

He had known the pangs of hunger and pinch of poverty and deprivation, and he took up cudgels to fight for his convictions such as love for his fellowmen, affection for the poor and downtrodden, and respect for womanhood. All his life he was determined to serve his humble bit to the have-nots. All these elements were successfully integrated into the fine mosaic of the MGR-screen personality.

As an intelligent person, he was well aware of the persuasive power of the medium of cinema and he made stunningly successful use of it to spread his message and mould his public. In the way Karl Marx used the pen, MGR used cinema to spread his own personal and political philosophy.

Some of his films like 'Nadodi Mannan', "Ulagum Sutrum Vaaliban", "Oli Vilakku" and "Enga Veettu Pillai" scaled rare peaks of success. He ensured that his films had clean inspiring message-oriented titles such as "Nallavan Vaazhvaan" (The Good Man Will Prosper!), "Thaai Sollai Thattathay" (Never Disobey Your Mother!) and "Dharmam Thalai Kaakkum" (Charity Always Protects!). The plot lines were simple, clean and moral-based. A do-gooder, often poor and a dutiful son brought up against odds by his struggling mother, fights for the weak and oppressed, fights the selfish, greedy anti-socials, exposes their evil deeds and misdeeds, and wins his battles, and he lives happily thereafter with his mother, and his lady-love - was the recurring theme in his movies.

Another significant factor in his movies was that he never displayed any vices as a hero. He never drank or smoked in life nor did he do so in his films. The MGR-hero was a clean man of strong character ever ready to help and save a damsel in distress and to unmask wolves in sheep's disguise and their randy cousins.

Another reason for the success of his films was that they were all first class entertainers, fast-paced, racy narrated, the interest never flagging, the messages delivered as sugar and honey-coated lozenges, easily digestible. He exercised full control over the films in which he acted, irrespective of the director or producer. He was a fine technician who knew his business, his craft and art and, more particularly, his audiences.

MGR and Mu. Karunanidhi are the two film world personalities who not only dominated the Tamil move world but also the world of Tamilnadu politics. One attained such status and stature by his work and worth on screen, and the other behind the screen with the might of his pen and powerful oratory.

(This writer is currently at work on a book 'MGR and his movies', a study of some of his movies and how they helped him to define and perfect the MGR screen persona.)

One of the talents and skills which MGR and Meiyappan had in common was their uncanny ability to feel the pulse of the moviegoer.

(To be continued)

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ஆயிரக்கணக்கான ஆங்கில எழுத்தாளர்களுக்கிடையில் நகைச்சுவைக்காகப் பெருமை பெற்றவர்கள் ஜெரோம் கே ஜெரோம், பி.ஜி. வுட்ஹவுஸ், ஸ்டீபன் லீகாக் போன்ற வெகு சிலரே.

தமிழில் நகைச்சுவை எழுத்தாளர்களின் சிறிய பட்டியலில் கல்கி, தேவன், எஸ்.வி.வி, சசி, துமிலன், ஜ.ரா. சுந்தரேசன், முகுந்தன் வரிசையில் இன்று பிரகாசிப்பவர் ஜே.எஸ். ராகவன். அந்த முன்னோடிகள்கூட இவரைப் போல் தொடர்ந்து 500 வாரங்கள் சிறிதும் சுவை குன்றாமல் ஹாஸ்யக் கட்டுரைகள் எழுதும் சாதனையைப் புரியவில்லை.

வற்றாத ஜீவநதியாக ராகவனுடைய நகைச்சுவை உணர்வு - அவருடைய படைப்புகளுக்கு மேலும் மெருகை சேர்க்கும் ஓவியர் நடனத்தின் கார்ட்டூன்களுடன் - பாய்வதற்கு வாய்க் காலாக அண்ணா நகர் டைம்ஸ், மாம்பலம் டைம்ஸ் தொடர்ந்து அமைவது எங்களுக்குப் பெருமை.

கே.எஸ். ராமகிருஷ்ணன், ஆசிரியர்



Bicycles presented to students



By Our Staff Reporter

75 Std. 11 students of Sri Mangichand Bhandari Jain School, Madley Road, T. Nagar were presented bicycles by J. Ashok Galada (Correspondent) on Jan. 12 under the Tamilnadu Government's 'student welfare scheme'.

S. Sundarajan (Headmaster) was present.

'Swathi Thirumanjana pooja' for Yagnamoorthy

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Swathi Nrusimha Maha Yagna Trust will conduct 'Swathi Thirumanjana pooja' for Sri Yagnamoorthy at 11 a.m on Tuesday, Jan. 17 in Sri Mukkur Lakshmi Nrusimhachariar

Sannidhi, 34/24, Venkatesan Street, T. Nagar.

There will be 'Yenthira prathishta' and 'Panaga Aradhana' at 6.30 p.m. All are welcome.

More details can be had in phone 2435 3704.

College students clean temple premises



By Our Staff Reporter Co-ordinators) told Mambalam Times that more than 100 persons attended the medical camp conducted as part of their project. They said that students also conducted sports events for members of self-help groups and visited an orphanage.

தமாஷா வரிகள்

ஜே. எஸ். ராகவன்

ஐ! ஐநூறு!

'கணேசா, காப்பாத்து' என்று பிள்ளையாருக்கு எஸ்.எம்.எஸ் அனுப்பிக் கொண்டு வந்த தம்பையாவின் முகத்தில் ஆனந்த வெறி தாண்டவமாடியது.

'இந்த வாரம் உங்க தமாஷா வரிகளின் 500வது கட்டுரையாமே. கங்கிராட்ஸ்' என்று கையைக் கரடியாகப் பிடித்துக் குலுக்கினார். 'சுமார் பத்து வருஷங்களாக வாரம் விடாமல் எழுதநீங்க இல்லே? எப்படி ஆரம்பிச்சீங்க?'

'எல்லாம் எழுட்டர் ராமகிருஷ்ணனுடைய கிருபை. 'திருமதி, திருப்பதி, க்ரோர்பதி'ன்னு என்னுடைய கதைத் தொகுப்புக்கு விமர்சனம் எழுதி அண்ணா நகர் டைம்ஸில் பிரசுரித்த கையோட அந்த தீர்க்கதிரிசி என்னிடம் வாரம் ஒரு 'காலம்' எழுதுங்களேன்னு சிட்டுக் குருவியின் தலையிலே கனத்த பனங்காயை வைத்தார். எனக்கு திக்குன்னுது. அந்தி பூத்தாப்போல எழுதறவனை வாரம் ஒரு கட்டுரை நகைச்சுவையா எழுதுன்னா எப்படின்னு மலைத் தேன். வயத்திலே 'படபட'ன்னு பட்டாம்பூச்சி கூட்டமாப் பறந்தது. 'ஆரம்பியுங்க, தானே வரும்'னு சொல்லி 'ஹாய், டிரர்'ரரரனு' தார்க்கோல் போட்டார். வண்டி இன்னும் ஓடிண்டிருக்கு.'

'அப்புறம் அலங்காரமா படம் வேணுமென்னார். முதல்வன் சினிமாவில் அர்ஜுனுக்கு அப்பாவாக நடித்த 'நடனம்' அவர் களின் கதவைத் தட்டினேன். மியூரல் ஆர்ட்டில் வித்தகரான அவர் ஜாலியாக சம்மதித்தார். வாரா வாரம் சணக்காமல் டெட்லைன் இம்மியும் தவறாமல் உடல் நிலை சரியாக இல்லாத சமயங்களிலும் வீட்டிலிருந்தே படங்களைத் தீட்டி என் கட்டுரை களுக்கான கலர் நியான் விளக்கை இன்னிக்கும் போடறார் லார்.'

'அண்ணா நகர், மாம்பலம் டைம்ஸுக்காக என் கட்டுரை களைக் கம்ப்யூட்டரிலே ஏத்தற ஷோபா, தேன்மொழி, சித்ரா, மீனா, அப்புறம் டெலிஃபோனில் பொறுமையாக பதில் சொல்கிற கீதா, வசந்தி ('லார், நீங்க நுங்கு போண்டா, ஐஸ்கிரீம் பர்ஸி, மதுர வடைன்னு பட்சணத்தைப் பத்தி வக்கணையா எழுதினா படிக்க ஜாலியாக இருக்கு. அடிக்கடி ட்வண்டி ட்வண்டி'ன்னு கிரிக்கெட் பத்தி எழுதாதீங்க'). ஆதியில் கணினியில் தமிழ் ஃபான்ட் லோட் செய்து சகாயம் செய்த குஷியான கண்ணன், அவருடன் டெலிஃபோனில் அடிக்கும் பலான கிள்கிளப்பு, 'ஏ' அரட்டைகள், பல முறை எழுட்டர் ராமகிருஷ்ணனிடமிருந்து பலத்த குட்டுகள் வாங்கியும் இன்னும் சரிவரப் பிடிபடாத ஒற்றுப் பிழைகளின் தொடர்ச்சி. இதையெல்லாம் நடப்பு சரித்திரமாகப் பதிவு பண்ணணும் லார்.'

வந்த சூடான டிகிரி காப்பியை ராஷ்டிரபதி பவ னில் பத்ம விபூஷண் விருதை வாங்குப வரைப் போலத் தம்பையா பரவசத் துடன் பெற்றுக் கொண்டு ஆற்றிக் குடிக்கத் தொடங்கினார்.

'உங்க வாசகர் களைப் பற்றி சொல் லுங்களேன் லார்.'

'அதிர்ஷ்டம் பண்ணினவன் நான். எனக்குத் தெரிஞ்சு பிரும்மஸ்தீ ஜெயராம சர்மா, அமரர் கஜாதா, பர்ட்யூசர் என். கிருஷ்ணஸ்வாமி, க்ரேஸி மோகன், இரா. முருகன் ('உங்க புண்ணியத்திலே சொஜ்ஜிக்கும் கேசரிக்கும் என்ன வித்தியாசம்னு தெரிஞ்சுண்டேன்'), ரவி தமிழ்வாணன், நர்மதா ராமலிங்கம், 'சாய்சங்கரா' பஞ்சாபகேசன்னு சொல்லிண்டே போகலாம்.'

'வாசகர்களின் ரியாக்ஷன் எப்படி?'

'ஒருத்தர் கண் குத்திப் பாம்பா எப்படி ஆங்கில வார்த்தை களைத் தமிழில் எழுதறென்னு பார்த்துண்டு இருக்கார். 'டைவர்ஸ்'னு (பழக்கமானபடி) எழுதினா பிடிச்சப்பார். அது 'டிவேர்ஸ் லார்'னு குட்டுவார். ஆப்ரஹாம் லிங்கன்னு பெயரை சரிவர எழுதினால் சபாஷ்னு முதுகில் தட்டுவார். குடும்ப டாக்டர் சீனிவாசன் கண்ணனோட பெயர் கட்டுரையில் வந்துட்டா பல மாம்பல பேஷன்கள் அவரிடம் வந்து அதைப் பற்றி சொல்லிவிட்டுப் போறாங்களாம். எண்பது வயதைத் தாண்டிய பூந்தமல்லி வக்கீல் எஸ்.கே.பி 'நம்மூர்ப் பெயன், நம்ம ஊரைப் பத்தி அப்பப்போ எழுதறான்பா'ன்னு பெருமையுடன் சொல்லிக் கொள்கிறாராம்.' நானா எழுதறேன்? பிள்ளையார்தான் எழுதறார்.'

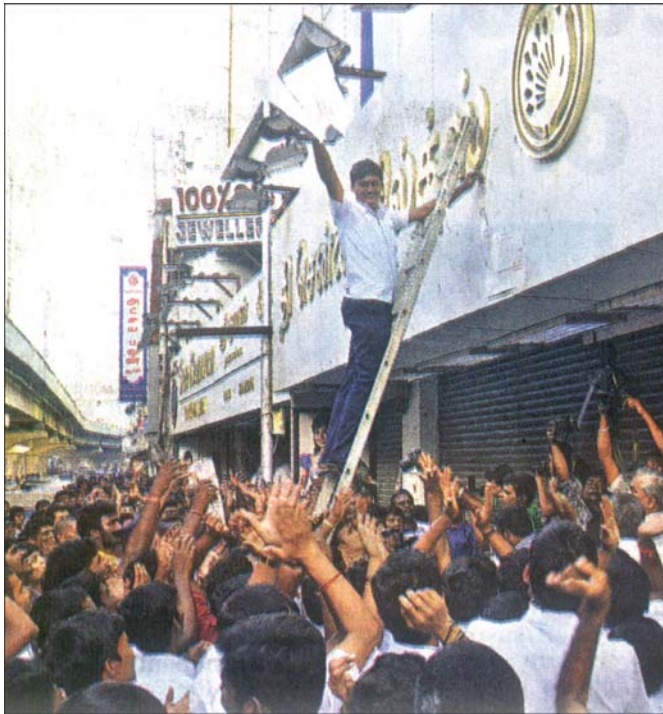
காப்பி டபராவைக் கீழே வைத்துவிட்டுத் தம்பையா கேட்டார்.

'லேடி வாசகர்கள் இருக்காங்களா?'

'நிறையப் பேர் லார். இப்படி அர்த்த ஜாமத்திலே பிசாசு மாதிரி எழுந்து எழுதினால் உடம்பு என்னத்துக்கு ஆகும்னு கடிந்து கொள்ளும் என் மனைவி, தன் கணவன் இறந்த சோகத்தைத் 'தமாஷா வரிகள்' தொகுப்பைப் படித்து மறந்தேன்னு சொல்லி என்னைத் திகைக்க வைத்த பேங்க் ஆபீஸர், 'நானைக்கு அமாவாசை. தர்ப்பணம் செய்து வைக்க மாமா வருவாரா?' என்று ஃபோனில் குடும்ப வாத்தியாரின் மனைவியைக் கேட்ட போது 'தர்ப்பணம் இருக்கட்டும். இந்த வார தமாஷா வரிகளைப் படிச்சேன். சூப்பர்'னு டாபிக்கை மாற்றுகிற அளவுக்குக் கட்டுரை பாதிச்சிருக்குன்னா நான் இந்தக் கட்டுரைகளுக்காக செய்யும் அர்ப்பணம் வீண் போகலைன்னு தெரியறது. இது வரை அலையன்ஸ், கிழக்குப் பதிப்பகம் மூலமா பத்து தொகுப்புகள் வந்திருக்கு லார்.'

தம்பையா எழுந்து கொண்டார். 'நான் கூட ஆரம்பத்திலே தமாஷா வரிகளன்னா ஏதோ என்டர்டெயின்மென்ட் டாக்லைப் பற்றிய சுவசுவ கட்டுரையாக இருக்கும்னு விட்டுட்டேன். ஆனால் பின்னாடி தெளிவாகி இப்போ வரி வரியா விடாமல் படிக்கிறேன்.. 'எப்படிப் போறது லார்? உங்களுக்குப் பிடிச்சிருக்கா?' தம்பையா மர்மமாக சிரித்தார். 'அதுக்குள்ளே அவசரப் பட்டா? இப்போதானே ஐநூறு வந்திருக்கு! ஆயிரம் ஆகட்டும். அப்புறம் சொல்றேன். வரட்டா?'
writerjsr@gmail.com

Shops back in business as seals are removed



By Our Staff Reporter
There were loud cheers and joyous scenes when the seals on shops on Ranganathan Street and South Usman placed by Chennai Corporation and Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority officials were removed on Jan. 10.



The Supreme Court had on Jan. 9 ordered that the seals placed on 25 shops be removed for a period of 6 weeks. Corporation and CMDA officials came to the area at 5.30 p.m on Jan. 10 and removed the seals one by one. The shutters went up almost immediately. 19 buildings had been sealed by the Corporation and 6 by CMDA.

A. M. Vikramaraja (State President of Federation of Tamil Nadu Merchants' Associations) said, "We have given all necessary documents. We hope to get a good, permanent solution in 6 weeks".

Owners congratulated one another and distributed sweets as workers cheered.

The Supreme Court order was passed by the bench of Justice Dalaveer Bhandari and Justice Dipak Mitra on special leave petitions from the Ranganathan Street Merchants Association and others against the Madras High Court order of Dec. 21, 2011 asking them to approach the Monitoring Committee for relief.

The Jan. 9 order said that the Supreme Court had directed the High Court on Nov. 11, 2011 to hear the applications of the association and

others on unsealing of their shops and pass orders in accordance with law but, instead, the High Court had directed the Monitoring Committee to dispose of the applications.

The order said, "In the peculiar facts and circumstances of the case, we direct the High Court to dispose of all the unsealing applications filed by the association and others when the matter is taken up in the 4th week of January".

Pongal gifts presented to needy persons

By Our Staff Reporter
About 500 persons residing in T. Nagar, West Mambalam, Ashok Nagar, K. K. Nagar and nearby areas were presented assistance and gifts by M. Jacky Bhandari (Industrialist) during Pongal celebrations on Jan. 11 for the 3rd year.

Jacky told *Mambalam Times* that 100 packets of sweet pongal were distributed among poor women. Dhosis and sarees were also distributed.

He said that school bags, notebooks, pens and other stationery were presented to



students of Government and Chennai Corporation schools.

An iron box and 2 sewing machines were also given to needy persons.

PHC 'health march' next Saturday

By Our Staff Reporter
Public Health Center (174, Lake View Road, West Mam-

balam) has organized a 'Health march' in West Mambalam on Saturday, Jan. 21 as part of the birth centenary celebrations of M. C. Subrahmanyam (Founder) to create an awareness about health care.

The march will start at 4.30 p.m from the hospital's premises and pass along Lake View Road, Station Road, Thambiah Road, Jubilee Road and Arya Gowda Road.

All are welcome. More details can be had in phone 2489 3172/7008.

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