



KOONANKURISHU PILGRIM CENTRE - MATTANCHERY
ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX KOONANKURISHU PALLY & HISTORIC MONUMENT
Historic place of the Koonankurishu Oath by Malankara Marthoman Nasranis on 3rd Jan. 1653 AD.

The Malankara Orthodox Church is celebrating the 360th Anniversary of the Koonankurishu Oath 1653 - 2013



His Holiness Baselios Marthoma Didymus I, the 90th Catholicos of the East appointed a council presided by the Supreme Head of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church, His Holiness Baselios Marthoma Paulose II, the 91st Catholicos of the East and 21st Malankara Metropolitan to renovate the Koonankurishu Pally and establish a Pilgrim and Heritage Center at Mattanchery.

A master plan was finalized by the Mattanchery Koonankurishu Pally Council to complete the project in several phases and work is in progress. This is the most prestigious project for any Malankara Orthodox Syrian Christian in the recent times as it is for preserving his heritage and it coincided with the Catholicate Centenary Celebrations. The Mattanchery Koonankurishu Pilgrim Center is an A grade institution directly under the Catholicos.

The St. George Orthodox Koonankurishu Pilgrim Center has added importance as it preserves the Holy Relics of St. George. The plan is also to house the relics of Parumala Thirumeni and Vattasseril Thirumeni, the declared Saints of the Malankara Orthodox Church at this Pilgrim Center.



Admin and Personage Block
as on 27 Oct 2012

The construction project comprises of an Administrative Block including the Offices and Parsonage for the Clergy which is almost complete; renovation of the old Church without changing the original structure is in progress.



Vaults under construction

The Church is being renovated in the 15th century architecture with eco friendly green construction principles in line with the Malankara Orthodox Church's commitment to mother nature. Very less cement and no steel is used. Burnt bricks are not used to reduce CO₂ emission. Compressed Stabilized Earth Bricks (CSEB) are used for construction under the guidance of UNITED NATIONS CENTRE FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (UNCHS - HABITAT) and the Auroville Earth Institute, Pondichery (www.earth-auroville.com) importance is given for natural lighting and air circulation to save energy.

The building to house the Heritage Center consisting of a Museum, library and research center which will provide the history of the Malankara Marthoman Nazranies since AD 52 for the coming generations is planned in the next phase.



Verandha renovation



Commemoration Medallion

The 360th Anniversary Celebrations of the Koonankurishu Oath was inaugurated by His Holiness the Catholicos and the Supreme Head of the Malankara Orthodox Church on 3rd Jan 2013 at the Catholicate Center, Devalokam. On the occasion, His Holiness released the 360th Anniversary Commemoration Medallion of the Koonankurishu Oath. This limited edition, serial numbered, Blessed Medallion is in three finishes - Golden, Silver and Bronze. The Golden Medallions will be awarded to the donors of ₹50,000/- and above, Silver to the donors of ₹25,000/- and above, the Bronze to the donors of ₹10,000/- and above. Our Catholicos and Metropolitans H.G. Geevarghese Mar Coorilos, H.G. Dr. Zachariah Mar Theophilos were the first to receive the Commemoration Medallions with their generous contributions, showing their lead and support to the Koonankurishu Pilgrim Center project. The Council solicits generous contributions and prayers for the Koonankurishu Pilgrim Center from all the Malankara Orthodox Nazranies.



Church renovation progress
as on 27 Oct 2012

Please visit the web site www.koonankurishu.com and join the "Friends of Koonankurishu Pilgrim Center"; show your solidarity with the Malankara Orthodox Church; post your suggestions and propagate to the masses the necessity to preserve the MarThomman Nazrani heritage. Make use of the earliest opportunity to visit the Koonankurishu Pilgrim Center construction site which is blessed with the foot prints of our great forefathers who fought for our Church and make us proud of our heritage.

Jai Jai Catholicos!

Jai Jai The Apostolic Throne of St. Thomas!

Jai Jai Malankara Orthodox Church!