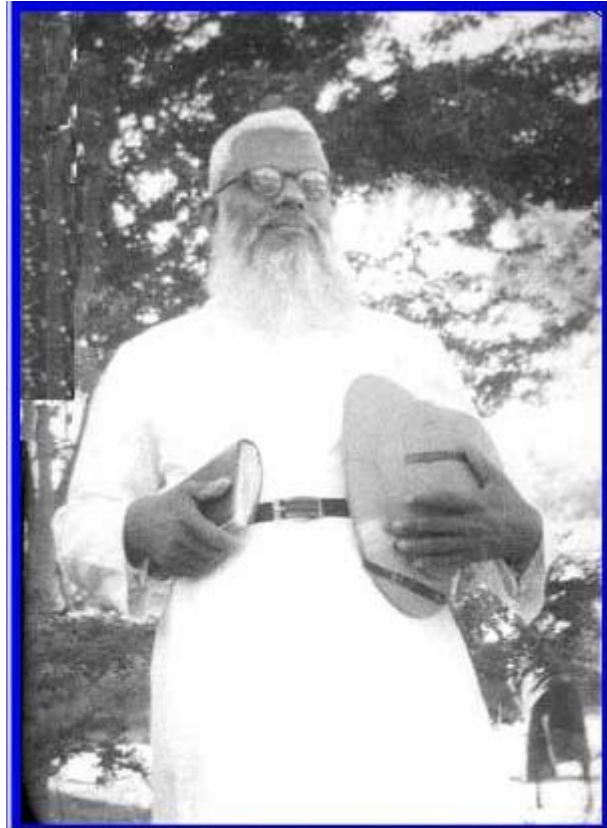


## Rev. K. G. OOMMEN



1901 – 1981

Life story of Rev. K. G. Oommen  
Kattunilathu, Punalur  
27 November 1901 – 3 August 1981  
Life story of Rev. K. G. Oommen  
(Kunjommachen Achen, Kattunilathu, Niranam)

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## **Biography of Rev. K. G. Oommen**

*"Then the King will say to the people on his right, 'Come you that are blessed by my Father! Come and possess the kingdom which has been prepared for you ever since the creation of the world. I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me a drink; I was a stranger and you received me in your homes, naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you took care of me, in prison and you visited me."*

*"The righteous will then answer him, "When, Lord, did we ever see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? When did we ever see you a stranger and welcome you in our homes, or naked and clothe you? When did we ever see you sick or in prison, and visit you?" The King will reply, 'I tell you, whenever you did this for one of the least important of these brothers of mine, you did it for me!"*

### **Matthew 25:34-40 (Good News Bible)**

#### **Prepare for Life**

"Getting ready for life is more than books and tests - it's about relationships and being on your own and discovering who you are, and who God wants you to be."

Momentum for life - "Taking the Word to the World".

"So Where Am I Going?" - Freedom within a Framework of Faith..."

"Challenge your mind....Build your faith.... Create Something Amazing..."

This is the story of a man from a village in Central Kerala, who found joy in feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and visiting the sick. He sheltered orphans and took care of them as his own. He did it whole heartedly and with complete devotion. Through his selfless and sacrificial life many found salvation. God used him as a mighty instrument for the propagation of His Gospel.

#### **Birth and Childhood**

Rev. K. G. Oommen (Kunjommachen / Kattunilathu Kunjomachen Achen) was born on 27th November, 1901 (12 Virchikam 1077 M.E.), as a member of the Kelaparampil Kattunilathu family of Niranam St. Thomas Parish. His parents, Geevarghese and Mariamma were God fearing and prominent members of their parish.

#### **Education**

Kunjommachen had his early education in the Government School in Thalavady. After completing his 7th standard examination in Malayalam, he joined the St. Mary's English School and continued his education. Kunjommachen was an exemplary student. During school lunch breaks he would gather his friends for prayer meetings. He was regular at church services and Sunday School classes and later became a Sunday School teacher. He visited and helped the needy, the sick and the poor people in his village and shared the Word of God with them. Due to his sterling character, people from all castes and creeds respected him. Through an association called "Bakthie Parisheelan" he led many young lives to the Lord.

#### **Better to serve the poor**

After his schooling at the age of 19, Kunjommachen passed the public examination and was offered a government job with a lucrative income. In those days a government job was a coveted profession. He declined the appointment order from the government but instead went for mission work in Punalur.

There, he came to know through his uncle P. I. Philip that Capt. Alexander, the manager of the Velakkuvattom Rubber Estate, was planning to establish an orphanage in his estate and so decided to meet him. Capt. Alexander was impressed with Kunjommachen's eagerness for the establishment of the orphanage and entrusted him with the job.

### **Viulakkuvattom Boys Home**

Capt. Thomas Patrick Mooden Alexander (an ex British Army Captain), was the manager of the Chaliyekkara Rubber Estate in Punalur. He was a God fearing man and was willing to provide the help needed for the upliftment of the poor estate workers. Kunjommachen's uncle, Pazhangeril Philip (P. I. Philip) was the writer (administrator) of that estate.

On 2nd January, 1924, Kunjommachen was introduced to Capt. Alexander by Philip. As per the instructions of Capt. Alexander, Kunjommachen prepared a plan for an orphanage. Within three days they received the first 3 inmates. In one month's time the number increased to 8. Buildings were constructed in the estate compound to accommodate the new inmates. At the end of the second year there were 14 inmates in the orphanage.

Capt. Alexander and the other estate workers were happy to see the progress of the Orphanage under the supervision of Kunjommachen. The official inauguration of the Orphanage was held on 9th Sep, 1927. In the course of time, many more inmates were added to the orphanage and Kunjommachen continued his service as the superintendent.

Kunjommachen personally took care of the orphans and brought them up in strict Christian discipline. It was a difficult task for him to tame the street boys, but he introduced the love of Christ through his selfless life to all of them. Capt. Alexander was very generous in supporting the Orphanage. He used to donate 25% of his salary to the Orphanage. He returned to England on 9th May, 1929, while P. I. Philip resigned from his secure job and continued with full time work at the orphanage

### **Early days of Orphanage**

Kunjommachen found joy in caring for the orphans. Many of the inmates with bad backgrounds were brought from streets.

Many had scabies and other skin diseases. For Kunjommachen each child was precious. Like a caring mother, he personally oiled their bodies and bathed them with soap and incha (natural soap scrub from a creeper) in the nearby waterfalls. He even cleaned their wounds and applied medicines.

He taught the children to read the Bible regularly and encouraged them to memorize verses. They were taught hymns and they even had their own choir. During Christmas, they used to visit homes in the estate area. Kunjommachen used to take the children and the marching band to open air Christian meetings, where their choral singing attracted many. People who visited Kunjommachen were amazed to see the work being done at the orphanage.

### **Marriage**

While Kunjommachen was working among the orphans in Punalur, he received many marriage proposals. During that time, Syrian Christians were much concerned about dowry. Accepting huge amounts as dowry was a symbol of prestige. But for Kunjommachen dowry didn't pose a problem, all he was looking for was a God fearing girl who would be willing to work with him among the orphan children. The good Lord honoured his desire and gave him the right choice. He married Rebecca of Kochukuzhivelil, Chengannur.

The marriage was held at the St. Thomas Mar Thoma Church in Niranam (Kattunilathathu Pally). After the marriage ceremony, the bridegroom (Kunjommachen) made an emotional sermon to the guests which touched their hearts. "Today the Orphans have received a mother to serve them as well and from now on we both will be serving the poor children, and we will need your prayers and support for our work". Kunjommachen and his wife continued work at the orphanage in Vilakkuvattom.

### **Life with orphanage children**

Kunjommachen and wife treated the orphans as if they were their own children and they played, ate, and stayed together. God gave them a broad heart to accommodate all the children without any disparity.

Kunjommachen was very active in mission work outside the orphanage also. He was the Sunday School inspector for Punalur area. He worked with Rev. P. T. Geevarghese (Haripad Achen) at the parishes in Punalur area. Kunjommachen was one of the founding members of the Punalur YMCA.

During Onam, Kunjommachen used to organize "Onam Week Gospel Meetings" in and around Punalur with the help of LMS (London Missionary Society), Salvation Army, Brother Mission and Pentecostal Churches. Children from the orphanage along with their band participated in these meetings.

### **Request from Bishop Abraham Mar Thoma Metropolitan**

Bishop Abraham Mar Thoma came to know about the work of Kunjommachen at the Vilakkuvattom orphanage. He sent Very Rev V. P. Mammen and Vicar General K. E. Oommen to Kunjommachen's orphanage to persuade him to become a priest in the Mar Thoma Church. But Kunjommachen refused their request as his main priority was for the work at the orphanage.

### **Mar Thoma Boys Home, Punalur**

The boys' home was established in 1924 by Capt. Alexander and P. I. Philip. Kunjommachen (Rev. K. G. Oommen) was the first superintendent. Those days the name of the orphanage was "Vilakkuvattam Anathasala" (orphanage).

Before returning to England in 1929, Capt. Alexander wanted to give the orphanage to the Catholic Church or to the London Missionary Society which was working in the Punalur area. But Bishop Abraham Mar Thoma intervened and took over the management of the orphanage. So on 29 September, 1929, it became a Mar Thoma Institution. Due to some disagreement with the local committee, Kunjommachen and family shifted their residence from the boys home to another house in Punalur. But Kunjommachen continued supporting the orphanage and was fully involved with all the mission activities in and around Punalur. In 1949, the management was handed over to the Mar Thoma Sevika Sanghom.

In 1954, the name was changed from "Vilakkuvattam Anathasala" to "Mar Thoma Boys Home Punalur". In 1990, management of the Boys Home was taken over by Irenaeus Thirumeni (Bishop Dr. Joseph Mar Irenaeus) and in 1997 the management was handed over to the Mar Thoma Syrian Church Dayara Samooham, which is based at the Boys Home.

### **Haripad Achen's (Rev. P. T. Varghese) last wish**

Haripad Achen (Rev. P. T. Geevarghese from Haripad) was one of the forerunners of the Mar Thoma Church in the Punalur, Pathanapuram and Kottarkkara area. In 1939, while Haripad Achen was in his death bed, Titus II Mar Thoma Metropolitan and Abraham Mar Thoma visited him. Haripad Achen expressed his last wish to the Thirumenis as "I want Kunjommachen to become a priest so that he can complete the many

projects that we have started for the Mar Thoma Parishes in the Punalur area” This last wish touched the heart of Kunjommachen who was standing nearby, and he decided to go for theological training at the seminary.

### **Priest**

Kunjommachen went for theological training and became deacon on 17 December, 1940, in Kundara Salem Mar Thoma Church. Bishop Abraham Mar Thoma conducted the ordination service. He was ordained as priest six months later at the St. Thomas Church Punalur. During the first half of the 20th century there were very few Marthomites in Punalur and Pathanapuram areas. The number of priests were also very few. It was common to have one priest managing 5 to 8 parishes at a time. Certain parishes used to have an Achen conducting the service only once in two months. The remaining Sunday services were conducted by lay leaders or Upadeshies (Evangelists). Rev. P. T. Geevarghese of Haripad (Haripad Achen) was one of the earliest leaders of our church in Punalur and Pathanapuram areas, who worked for the establishment of the Mar Thoma Parishes. Haripad Achen was one of the most able priests of the older generation who undertook the construction of many of our church buildings in Punalur area.

Due to the untimely death of Haripad Achen (Haripad Achen died on 13 July, 1939, at the age of 47) all responsibilities came on the shoulders of Rev. K. G. Oommen. He had to look after eight parishes in the Punalur area. The salary in those days was a mere two or three rupees per month per parish and even that amount was not paid in time due to the financial difficulties of the parish members as they were poor agriculturists with no proper income.

### **Man of Prayer**

Achen was a man of prayer. He trusted in the Lord for all his needs. Family prayers were conducted by Achen at home at least three times a day: early morning at 5am, intercessory prayer at noon before lunch and evening prayer by 7 p.m. During family prayers, the family would sit on a big mat in their prayer room with a Bible and hymn book. Leadership for prayer was given to each member by rotation. They would sing hymns of praise and worship.

The leader of the day would then announce the day's Bible portion and they would pray together the following prayer, "Lord, open our inward eyes to see wonderful things in thy words, Amen". Then the Bible portion was read by all. And the leader of the day would read from the Bible reading notes. Then Achen would ask each person to share his/her views on the read portion and would conclude with his own comments. Then each person would pray followed by Achen, after which the Lords prayer was said followed by the benediction. The evening prayer concluded with the recital of Shayana Namaskaram (Prayer songs).

### **Tamil Nadu Mission**

Achen was concerned of the people of Tamil Nadu. Before 1947, Tamil Nadu was a foreign country for the people of Travancore. In the early 1940's, Achen visited the Kuttalam resort in Tamil Nadu, with Bishop Abraham Mar Thoma. There they felt the need to proclaim the Gospel to the millions of Tamilians who had never heard about the Saviour. Along with the help of the evangelists in Punalur, Pathanapuram and Kottarakka, Achen formed a Gospel Team to work in Tamil Nadu. He trained the Evangelists for the Tamil Nadu tour, which was held once a year for a week. When the team visited villages and cities in Madurai, Ramanathapuram, Tirunelveli and Shencottai areas of Tamil Nadu, the responses received were so encouraging that the team decided to tour twice a year. Their modus operandi was very simple. They used

to conduct gospel meetings at street corners and market places. They would sing Christian songs in Tamil accompanied with instruments, convey their message and witness. Bible tracts and Gospel portions in Tamil would be distributed to the listeners. By God's grace, they were cordially received by the local people in most of the places. Tea shop owners offered them free refreshments. The number of the gospel team members increased and Mission schools were arranged for their stay.

In 1952, Achen took the initiative for sending one permanent evangelist to Tamil Nadu. Achen was the founding leader of the Shenkottai Mission Work and Pollachi Tamil Nadu Gospel Mission.

### **A Christian Home**

Achen and Kochamma had great concern for the gospel workers. Their house was open to all mission workers irrespective of their cast or creed. Many people used to visit Achen and he would counsel and console them in their difficulties.

### **Personal Prayer**

"Friendship with God is reserved for those who reverence him. With them alone he shares the secrets of his promises." [Psalms 25: 14] *The Living Bible-Paraphrased*

His faith in prayer was very strong. At the still of the night he would kneel down and pray in the courtyard of his house. He talked with God as if He was his best friend. He was confident that God was sufficient for all his needs.

### **Achen's Messages**

For about thirty years, Achen was very active in his priestly duties in Punalur, Pathanpura and Kottarakkara areas of the Mar Thoma Church. The main aim of his messages was to attract the listeners to Jesus. He was able to quote numerous incidents and stories to convince the audience about the love of Christ and the need for submitting their lives to the Lord. Very often the audiences at his open air meetings were non believers, and he was able to quote verses and doctrines from their religious leaders and books. As he never said anything bad about other religions, he was greatly respected by non Christians.

### **Nalloor Publications**

Achen was strictly against alcoholism. He had the courage to speak directly to any drunkard about their bad habits. He convinced the young men that growing their hair long was against the teachings of the Bible (Hippy type long hair was a fashion of his time). Achen used occasions like baptisms, marriages, and even funerals to explain the love of Christ. Every occasion was a proper occasion for him.

When invited for conventions and devotional meetings in the parishes, he made it a point to meet every individual associated with the Youth League, Sunday School and Sevika Sanghom and encouraged them to live active Christian lives. He considered every individual important.

Achen was a close friend of great evangelists like Sadhu Kochoonju Upadesi, Panchamanni Mammen Upadeshi, Valiya Kunjappu Uapadeshi and Chako Sastri. He frequently invited them to his parishes for convention meetings.

## **A Man of Simple Living**

While visiting Parishes he was never a problem for his hosts. He was satisfied with simple food. Kanji and Kadumanga (Mango Pickle) was his favorite dish.

## **Best Example for the Co-workers**

Oommen Achen was a man who believed that actions speak louder than words. He willingly helped his parishioners in manual labour as most of them were poor. During the construction of the Punalur St. Thomas Church, Achen and the parishioners voluntarily worked through out the night in bringing sand, stones and water from the Kallada River for the floor work of the Church.

In another occasion during the first night of the Kottarakkara Convention there was a storm that partially destroyed the Pandal (the Pandal was constructed in a dry paddy field). Achen immediately took responsibility to set the Pandal back in shape for the next day's convention.

He never found any job below dignity, being the servant of a Saviour who washed the feet of His disciples.

## **Channapetah School**

Achen was the manager of one of the new schools in Channapettah area near Punalur. To get Government recognition a certain number of students were a must. The teachers and the local church leaders somehow managed to obtain that number of students to come to school by bribing them. But during Inspections many students were found to be absent due to rain and the heavy load of work for the agriculturist families (It was the beginning of the agricultural season and children had to bear the share of work, with their parents.) It was very easy to manipulate the records by bribing the inspectors to get the Government recognition. But Oommen Achen, being a straight forward man, refused to manipulate the school attendance records. He then resigned from the job.

## **Important things in Christian Life**

Given below is an extract from Achen's diary. According to Achen there are seven important things in Christian life:

- 1 We are all new creations in Christ. We are new beings.
- 2 We must be controlled by the Holy Spirit.
- 3 We must find happiness in Christian life.
- 4 We must be thankful to God always
- 5 We must be holy in our life. Our master has called us for holiness.
- 6 We must be good stewards of all our possessions. We must take care of the poor.
- 7 We must have sure confidence in the second coming of the Lord. We must always be ready to receive our Lord. We must be sure about our place in heaven.

## **Incidents from Achen's life.**

The Lord who provided food to Prophet Elijah through the ravens was faithful to Achen too. It so happened once that while Achen was the vicar of the Piravanthoor St. Thomas Parish, there was no food in his parsonage. He did not have the money to buy food. He prayed to God as usual and at that very time God sent a person with rice and a basket full of vegetables.

*"Even lions go hungry for lack of food, but those who obey the Lord lack nothing good."*

### **Many people were cured through Achen's prayers.**

One of Achen's friends was admitted in the General Hospital in Trivandrum with some abdominal pain. There was a growth in the abdomen and the operation date was fixed. The day before the operation, Achen visited the patient and prayed for him. The next day when the operating doctor did a last checkup, he was surprised to find no growth and informed the patient of the miracle. The patient felt no more pain.

In another occasion, while Achen was having a gospel meeting in a place called Ninar Kovil, in Tamil Nadu, a lady prostrated before him and told him her story. She did not have children despite being married for ten years. She requested Achen to pray that she would bear a child. Achen placed his hands on her head and prayed for her and then gave her a glass of water to drink. Two years later when Achen and his team were conducting a meeting in the neighbouring village, the lady came with her child born because of Achen's prayer. Everyone was happy and the lady's family had a party in honour of Achen.

In another Tamil village, while Achen was taking rest after a meeting he heard the painful cry of a boy who had a severe wound on his leg. He was taken to many hospitals to no avail. His pain kept him awake for days. Achen went to his house and prayed for him. That very night the boy could sleep in peace and wound began to heal. The boy's family gave a party to the Gospel team.

During one of their Tamil Nadu tour, the Gospel team went to a village called Kumapetty. No rain had fallen for seven years and there was a severe water shortage. The village leaders requested Achen to pray for rain. For two days Achen and his team earnestly prayed for rain in Jesus' name. On the third day, it rained heavily over all the places. On seeing this miracle many non Christians believed in Jesus. Once while a meeting was going on in a place called Rajapalayam in Tamil Nadu, an angry Brahmin brought a huge picture of Sri Krishna tied at one end of a long pole and held it right in front of the Gospel team. The Team members were frightened. Then Achen, who was well versed in all Hindu Mythological stories and poems, started his message by quoting the story of Sri Krishna and Kuchela. He began to sing the Krishna Kuchela story and explained to the crowd how Sri Krishna helped his faithful friend Kuchela. By hearing this, the Brahmin slowly left from the area. Then Achen explained to them the love of Jesus to his followers.

In one of the centre conventions held in the premises of Perayam Mar Thoma Church, Achen was one of the speakers. Just before the final meeting it began to rain with strong winds. Everybody got up and ran for shelter causing utter chaos. Achen came on the stage, prayed and requested all of them to calm down and sang the song "*Athama santhosham kondanadhippan*". The Good Lord who controls the rain and the wind heard the prayer, and the wind and rain stopped.

### **Achen was the first Vicar of the following parishes**

1. Edamon Moria - Edamon Post-691307 Punalur. Est. in 1948.
2. Elampal Sehiyon-Elampal Post-691322 Punalur. Est. in 1968.
3. Kaithodu Bethel – Vilakkuvettam Post -691305- Punalur – Est. in 1950.
4. Kalayanadu Salem – Placherry Post -691331-Punalur- Est. in 1946. 5 Kuravanthalam – Mamplazhathra Post - Est. in 1957.
5. Mathra Immanuel- Mathra Post 691315-Punalur.- Est. in 1942.
6. Nagamala Marthoma- Kazhulakutty Post –Punalur- Est. in 1956
7. Punalur Carmel, Papermills Post -691322-Punalur- Est. in 1950.
8. Vilakkuvattom Mar Thoma-Vilakkuvattom Post- 691305, Punalur- Est. in 1948.
9. Shenkottah St. Pauls- Shenkottah Post -627810-Tamil Nadu- Est. in 1955.

In addition to the above parishes, he was the vicar of many other parishes in Punalur, Pathanapuram, and Kottarakkara centres of the Mar Thoma Church. He served the Church through more than thirty parishes.



## Children of Rev. K. G. Oommen

Oommen Achen had seven children. The firstborn, Rev. K. O. Sam was the first missionary of the Mar Thoma Church to the African continent. The good Lord, who cared for Rev. K. G. Oommen and Kochamma, was faithful to their children too.

- 1 Rev. Dr. K. O. Sam married to Dr. Mary Sam (Themalil, Maramon)
- 2 K.O. Oommen married to Sosamma Oommen (Daughter of Rev. P. T. Geevarghese (Haripad Achan) Bethel, Mathra)
- 3 K.O. John married to Grace John (Vayalil, Piravanthoor)
- 4 K.O. Mariamma married to A.V. Oommen (Ambrayil, Thalavady)
- 5 Dr. K.O. George married to Dr. Sosamma George (Mullelathu, Karipuzha)
- 6 K.O. Thomas married to Molly Thomas (Padinjattedathu, Adoor)
- 7 K.O. Aleyamma married to Very Rev. M.E. John (Mullasseril, Valakom, Kottarakara)

## Final days

Achen's final days were very peaceful. The day before his heavenly call, on Sunday 2nd August 1981, he received Holy Communion from his son Rev. K. O. Sam. The next day he became sick and told his wife "I am going to my house". Those were his last words.

Achen passed away at 11.30 pm on 3 August 1981, at his residence in Punalur. Burial service was conducted on 4 August 1981 by Most Rev. Dr. Alexander Mar Thoma Metropolitan at the Tholicodu St. Thomas Mar Thoma Church, Punalur. Dr. Philipose Mar Chrysostom, Dr. Zacharias Mar Theophilus, hundreds of priests and thousands of ordinary people were there to bid farewell to him. During the burial ceremony Achen's favorite hymn "*Vazhum njan en rakshithavin koodo epozhum*" was sung by his family. Achen's eldest son Rev. K. O. Sam gave a very touching and emotional message.

Oommen Achen's life is a challenge for all of us. There are millions and millions in the Indian villages who have never heard about Jesus in their lives. Who will go there?

## From the Children of Rev. K. G. Oommen

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The practical secrets of spiritual life, he revealed to his family, children, parishioners, and whomever he came across. He always personified the universal truths revealed with simplicity by one of the world's greatest spiritual teachers (Jesus Christ). Rev. K.G. Oommen's life is an example for all of us on how to live by faith, how to be forgiven, how to overcome doubt, how to pray and get answers and how to overcome worry and sorrow. Individuals who read the biography of the late Rev. K.G. Oommen and families who care about their spiritual development will never be satisfied until you have accomplished what God would want you to do. Our job is to get you close to God so that you can receive from God, His direction, anointing and wisdom and fulfill the plan that God has for your life. Keep in mind that God has a plan for every person and that He knew before the foundations of the world that you're blessed to be a blessing. By walking close to Him, you will start to see through His eyes, feel with His heart, and know with His mind the purpose of your creation.

In His Great Love,

Children of the late Rev. K.G. Oommen

### Main Events during the time of Rev. K. G. Oommen

1901 Nov 27	Birth of Rev. K. G. Oommen
1905 Feb 25	Formation of Mar Thoma Sunday School Samajam
1909	First Mission field outside Kerala – Karwar Mission
1909 Oct 20	Metropolitan Titus I Passes away.
1910	First Mar Thoma Students Conference
1917 Jan 27	Kovoorachen - Ipe Thoma Kathanar- passes away
1919 Feb	Formation of Sevika Sanghom
1921 June	Establishment of Union Christian College in Alwaye.
1923 Aug 27	Haripad Achen- Rev. P. T. Geevarghese joins the Mar Thoma Church.
1924 Jan 2	Beginning of Vilakkuvattom Anathasala (Orphanage)
1924	Formation of Voluntary Evangelistic Association
1926	Establishment of Mar Thoma Theological Seminary at Kottayam.
1927 Sept 9	Official opening of the Anathasala (Orphanage).
1929 May 18	Capt. Alexander –Founder of the Orphanage returns to England.
1919 Sep 29	Mar Thoma Church takes over the management of Boys Home, Punalur.
1929 May 19	Birth of Rev. Dr. K. O. Sam
1933	Formation of Yuvajana Sakhayam
1936 Dec.27	Centenary Celebrations of Reformation in Maramon Mar Thoma Church
1939 Jul 13	Rev. P. T. Geevarghese (Haripad Achen) passes away.
1940	Beginning of Ankola Mission, North Karnataka
1940 Dec 17	Ordination of Rev. K.G. Oommen as Deacon
1941	Ordination of Rev. K.G. Oommen as Priest
1944 Jul 6	Metropolitan Titus II passes away.
1944	Abraham Mar Thoma becomes Metropolitan.
1945 Nov 30	Sadhu Kochoonju Upadesi passes away
1947 Jun 27	Beginning of Hoskote Mission
1947 Jul 14	Punchamannil Mammen Upadesi passes away.
1947 Aug 15	Freedom for India.
1947 Sep 1	Abraham Mar Thoma Metropolitan passes away
1949	Sevika Sanghom takes over the management of Boys home.
1953 Apr 30	Ordination Rev. Dr. K. O. Sam (Son of Rev. K. G. Oommen)
1954	Name changes from "Vilakkuvattam Orphanage" to Mar Thoma Boys Home"
1963 May 13	P. I. Philip (Niranam) – Co-Founder of Boys Home passes away.
1981 Aug 3	K. G. Oommen Achen passes away
1981 Aug 4	Burial of Rev. K. G. Oommen

### Notes

**"Bhakthi Parisheelan"** - It was a Christian student group started by Kunjommachen while he was a school student. Through this group many came to know Jesus and became Missionaries and Gospel workers.

**Haripad Achen** - Haripad Achen was the pet name of Rev. P. T. Geevarghese (23 February 1892 - 13 July 1939) of Thundiyl, Haripad - He was a Jacobite priest- but joined the Mar Thoma church on 27 August 1923. He was the founding president of the Punalur YMCA. and was one of the first Mar Thoma priests in Punalur area.



Late Rev. K. G Oommen and Thankamma Oommen  
Kattunilathu Bungalow, Punalor

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#### **Note from the Author:**

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*All for HIS glory*

*Your's in Christ,*

*John Joseph*

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