

PROF. SCARIA ZACHARIA

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SUMMARY

Prof. Scaria Zacharia energised Malayalam knowledge network by adding more than one hundred texts to its canons. His discovery of the rare works of Hermann Gundert and many invaluable texts of Malayalam from the Tübingen University archives in Germany was a groundbreaking moment in the history of Malayalam studies. Digital versions of these manuscripts are now available for scholars across the world. This paved way for many empirical and theoretical developments in literary historiography, textual analysis, comparative literature, translation studies, folklore, and cultural studies. His contributions to the area of Jewish Malayalam studies, particularly through *Karkuzhali* (a bilingual book on Jewish Malayalam folksongs published by the Hebrew University), not only revitalized the fading cultural memories of Kerala, but also showed Kerala as a hyphenated society citing text, practices, and narratives in different languages. His pioneering works have earned him many accolades like Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellowship at the University of Tübingen, DAAD Fellowship at the University of Tübingen, and Visiting Research Professor at Hebrew University, Israel. In view of his immense contributions, he was also appointed as the first Hermann Gundert Chair Professor at the University of Tübingen. He has delivered invited public lectures at many leading institutions across the world, including American Library of Congress, Harvard University, and Oxford University. He has more than 30 books and 180 articles to his credit.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Visiting Professor, School of Letters, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam	2007-
Visiting Professor, Department of Malayalam, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit	2011-13
Professor and Head of the Department of Malayalam, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit	1997-2007
Co-ordinator, School of Cultural Studies, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady	1997-2007
Reader, Department of Malayalam, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit	1994-1997
Professor, Department of Malayalam, SB College, Changanacherry, Kerala	1982-1994
Lecturer, Department of Malayalam, SB College, Changanacherry, Kerala	1969-1982

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala, 1992	1992
Title: <i>A Grammatical Analysis of Early Missionary Malayalam Prose Texts</i>	
M.A. Malayalam Language and Literature, S. B. College, Changanacherry, 1969	1969
B.Sc. Physics, S. B. College, Changanacherry	1967

HONORS AND FELLOWSHIPS (SELECTIVELY)

 Bhashacharya Puraskaram, Chennai	2018
 I. C. Chacko Award	2017

✚ Festschrift titled <i>Samskarapatanam</i> (Cultural studies), presented by colleagues to mark the 60th birthday. This is a scholarly reference book of 572 pages containing 25 articles. Current Books, Kottayam.	2007
✚ Lachmi Jessoram Gidwani Prize for the book <i>Karkuzhali</i> , Jewish Women's Songs in Malayalam with Hebrew Translations	2005
✚ Professor PKB Nair Award for the Best University Teacher (for developing Malayalam studies as cultural studies).	2004
✚ Invited Research Professor at Ben-Zvi Institute, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel to work on the Malayalam songs of the Jewish Women together with Prof. Barbara Johnson of Ithacca College, New York.	2002 2001 2000
✚ Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellow, Tübingen University, Germany	1995
✚ DAAD Fellow, Tübingen University, Germany	1993
✚ Alexander von Humboldt Fellow, Tübingen University	1990-91
✚ AIACHE Award for Distinguished College Teacher	1990
✚ Teacher Fellow, Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala	1984-87
✚ Sachivothama Shastiyabda Poorthy Memorial Gold Medal, University of Kerala	1967

PUBLICATIONS (SELECTIVELY)

Books

1. *Malayalavazhikal* (Forthcoming, 2019) [A collection of selected essays with critical introduction by editors Sunil P. Elayidom and N. Ajayakumar].
2. *Pracheena Gadyamathrukakal Udayamperoor Muthal Milan Vare* (Forthcoming, 2019).
3. *KARKUZHALI* - A revised second edition (Forthcoming).
4. *KARKUZHALI - YEFELAHAH*, Ben-Zvi Institute, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel, 2005 [Jewish women's songs in Malayalam with Hebrew Translations; Edited and translated with introduction and critical commentary in collaboration with Ophira Gamliel].

5. *Oh, Lovely Parrot! Jewish women songs from Kerala*, Jewish Music Research Centre, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel, 2005 [Translations in collaboration with Barbara Johnson].
6. *In meinem Land leben Verschiedene Voelker*, Schwaben verlag, Germany, 2002 [An anthology of Jewish Malayalam folksongs in German translation with critical introduction].
7. *Changanacherry '99*, Current Books, Kottayam, 1999 [A Polyphonic experimental local history].
8. *500 years of Kerala - A Cultural Study*, ACS, Current Books, Kottayam 1999.
9. *Tarjama Sidhantavum Prayogavum Malayalathil*, ACS, Current Books, Kottayam, 1997.
10. *Centenary Edition of Kerala Paniniyam*, DC Books, Kottayam, 1996 [(edited with critical introduction, foot notes, appendices and index)].
11. *The Acts and Decree of the Synod of Diamper*, IICS Palai, 1995.
12. *Canons of Diamper Synod in Malayalam*, IICS Palai, 1995.
- 13-17. *Tübingen University Malayalam Manuscript Series* 1994-'96 (5 books)
- 18-25 *Hermann Gundert Series* 1991-'92 (8 books).
26. *Selected Short Stories 1990*, Compiled with a critical introduction, DC Books, KTM. 1991.
27. *Selected Short Stories 1989*, Compiled with a critical introduction, DC Books, KTM. 1990.
28. *Selected Short Stories 1988*, Compiled with a critical introduction, DC Books, KTM. 1989.
29. Discovered, edited and published with a critical study *Phulmoniyude Katha*, the first novel in the Malayalam Language. The reprint has come after 130 years in February, 1989. This book is the translation of a Bengali novel (1851). The editor discovered this book from Tübingen University Library, DC Books, 1989.
30. *Carccayum Puurnavum*, An appendix of 280 pages to the classical work *Kristyaanikalum Malayala Saabityavum* (1935) by Dr P. J. Thomas. This study brings to the notice of the academic world about 100 rare books of 18th and 19th centuries. Most of these works will through fresh light on the modernisation of Kerala and Malayalam Literature during the last two centuries. The book published in February 1989 by DC Books, Kottayam, makes abundant use of the materials found in Tübingen University Library.
31. *Katamkathakal* (Riddles), Assissi Book House, Changanacherry, 1988. This is a collection of 800 riddles popular in Malayalam. They are classified on the basis of the imagery used. Many riddles make use of popular objects found in Kerala. The images of coconut trees, elephant, drum, river etc. are very popular.

32. *Selected Short Stories 1987*, Compiled with a critical introduction, DC Books, Kottayam, 1988.
33. *Selected Short Stories 1986*, Compiled with a critical introduction, DC Books, Kottayam, 1987.
34. *Randu Praachina Gadya Krithikal*. This book of 365 pages published in 1976 includes two Missionary Malayalam Prose texts (1599 and 1606), a very long critical introduction explaining the historical and linguistic importance of these missionary works, a glossary of archaic words and 425 footnotes.

Articles

1. Linguistic Convergence of Synod of Diamper, *The Synod of Diamper - A Prelude to Indian Renaissance* (Ed. Dr. Antony George, Pattapampil), ATC Publishers, Bengaluru, 2018.
2. Cultural Studies: Relevance, Possibilities and Challenges - Current trends in Cultural Studies (Ed. Dr. Sheeba M Kurian), Kerala University, Thiruvananthapuram, 2018.
3. Dictionaries and Grammar in Malayalam Language Studies, *Sahithyalokam*, Kerala Sahitya Academy, Vol. 45, Issue 3, June 2017.
4. Points of View of Aliah, *Malayalam Journal*, July 2017.
5. ISMS in Literary Discourses, *ISMS and Literary Discourses*, Journal of Literature Department, Malayalam University, Tirur, 2017.
6. Methodology of Malayalam Research, *Research Studies and Methodologies*, Current Trends in Knowledge Production (Ed. Radhakrishnan Elayidathu), Malayalam University, Tirur, 2017.
7. Experiential Language, *Thakazhy Studies* (Ed. Panmana Ramachandran Nair, Current Books, Kottayam, 2016).
8. Fear of Malayalam, *Malayalam Journal*, July 10, 2015.
9. Architecture of Language in Expectations, Ed. by Philip John, Devamatha College, 2012.
10. Thakazhi - Experience, Narration and Reading in *Thakazhi - Kalabhoopatungal*, Kairali Books, 2012.
11. Introduction to the book *Mathukkuttiyum Kuttaram* (Short story collection) by Beebi, National Book Stall, Kottayam, 2012.

12. Malayalam and Foreign Connections in Kerala Cultural Studies, Ed. By Panmana Ramachandran Nair, Current Books, 2011.
13. Introduction to the book Ancient Folk Songs of Nazrani's (St.Thomas Christians): Folkloristic Study by Dr Deepa, National Book Stall, Kottayam, 2011.
14. Introduction to the book Bengali Novels in Malayalam - Theory and Practice of Translation Studies by Dr Jaya, D C Books, Kottayam, 2011.
15. Humanism and Judaism in Sreenarayana Guru and Humanism, ed. by T. Bhaskaran, Sivagiri, Varkala, 2010.
16. Roots/Routes of Malayalam Studies in Bhasha-Naveena Patanavazhikal, U.C. College, Alwaye, 2010.
17. History, Memory and Memorials in Zukunft in Gedenken, Ed. Albrecht Frenz and Stefan Frenz Stuttgart, Germany, 2007.
18. The Youthful face of Malayalam Literary Criticism, Review of P.K. Rajasekharan's book 'Ekanta Nagarangal', Mathrubhumi weekly, Jan.14, 2007.
19. Comparative Literature and Narratology, Comparative Literature - New Perspectives, K. M. George Centre, State Institute of Languages, 2006.
20. Buddhist Traditions of Kerala through Folklore (Preface of the book by Dr. Aju Narayanan), Association for Comparative Studies, 2005.
21. Jewish Malayalam Folk Songs, in International Journal of Dravidian Linguistics, Vol. XXXIV No.2, p.209-223. June 2005.
22. Possibilities of understanding Jewish Malayalam Folk songs. In: The Journal of Indo-Judaic Studies 6:29-47, 2003.
23. Jewish Malayalam. In: Jewish Language Research Website, 2003. http://www.jewish_languages.org/jewish-malayalamhtml
24. A critical Review of Malayalam Thesaurus (D C Books, Kottayam, 2002) in Varthamanam Azchappathippu, Kozhikkodu, April 27, 2003.
25. Sidhartha - Reading from an Indian point of view, Hesse Centenary Publication, City Council of Calw, Germany, 2002.
26. Muttathu Varkey's influence on contemporary Malayalam Culture, Samskarika Vikaram, November 2002.
27. Social Customs of Kerala Christians as reflected in the Decrees of Diamper Synod, Christian Heritage of Kerala, Cochin 1981.

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES (SELECTIVELY)

- Special Lecture - 'Heritage Studies - Theories, Methods and Concepts', **Heritage Study Centre**, Thrippunithura, Kerala (2019).
- Annual Presidential Lecture - 'My Experience with Folklore', Annual Conference of **FOSSILS**, Calicut University (2019).
- International Conference on Jewish Heritage at **Ben-Zvi Institute, Hebrew University**, Israel (2016).
- Linguistics and Kerala Jews, **Kochin Jews Museum**, Israel (2016).
- 'Modern Malayalam Literature', **Tübingen University**, Germany (2016).
- 'Malayalam Bible Translations', National Seminar on Politics of Translation, organised by **Kendra Sahitya Akademy** and **Department of English, University of Calicut** (2013).
- Keynote address on 'Literary Historiography - Strategies and Tactics', **Mahatma Gandhi University** (2012).
- Keynote address – 'Contemporary Discourse Models of Kerala Culture', National Seminar at **Government College, Pattambi** (2012).
- Keynote address – 'Contemporary Research Methodology - Paradigms, Concepts and Theories', National Seminar organised by the Department of Philosophy, **Maharaja's College**, Ernakulam (2011).
- 'Literature and Psychology - Concepts and Theories', **Baselio's College**, Kottayam (2011).
- Keynote address – 'Kerala as a Translation Zone', National Seminar on Contemporary Translation Studies, **St. Xavier's College**, Aluva (2011).
- 'Zoning, Mapping and Indexing as tools of Heritage Tourism', **Kerala Kala Mandalam** (2009).
- 'Diversity of Languages and Ecology of Social Learnings - A Socio-linguistic Perspective', Department of Malayalam, **Kannur University** (2009).
- 'Religious and Political Communications of Ramayana Translations', **All India Radio, Calicut** (2009).
- 'Translations and Malayalam Semiosphere', Department of Malayalam, **University of Calicut** (2009).

- ‘Cultural Communication and Classical Performing Arts’, **Kerala Kala Mandalam** (2009).
- Keynote address – ‘History of Reading in Malayalam’, Seminar organised by School of Letters and Publication Department, Mahatma Gandhi University, **International Book Exhibition**, Kottayam (2008).
- ‘Rethinking the Jewish, Christian and Islamic Cultures of Kerala - Insights from Linguistics and Folklore’, **Cornell University**, Ithaca, USA (2008).
- Lecture class - A Harvard Seminar in World Literature: Jewish Languages and Literatures, **Harvard University**, USA (2008).
- ‘Jewish Musical Treasures from Kerala’, **University of Maryland** (2008).
- ‘Jewish Musical Treasures from Kerala’, **Library of Congress**, Washington D.C. (2008).
- ‘Jewish Musical Treasures from Kerala’, **DCJCC’s Aaron and Cecile Goldman Theatre** (2008). [Sponsored by Indian Council of Cultural Relations and Indian Embassy, Washington D.C.]
- ‘Avatars of Mahabharata in Malayalam and Periodization of Malayalam Literature’, Department of Malayalam, **Kannur University** (2007).
- ‘The state-of-the-art of autobiographical writings in Malayalam’, National Seminar organised by the **Kendra Sahitya Academy** and **School of Letters, MG University**, Kottayam (2007).
- ‘Translation Studies and Malayalam Literary Historiography’, **Kerala Varma College**, Thrissur (2007).
- ‘Jewish Malayalam Folk songs and Literary Canons of Malayalam’, **International Conference on Jewish Heritage of Kerala** (for the papers see TAPASAM 1:3), Kochi (2006).
- ‘Cultural Studies and Ecology of Communication’, Dan Thottakara Memorial National Seminar organised by the English Department, **SH College, Thevara**, Kochi (2006).
- Keynote address - National Seminar on Post-Independence Malayalam Novel, organised by the Department of Malayalam, **University of Madras** (2005).
- Special lecture - Literary Significance of Jewish Malayalam Folk songs, **National Library of Israel, Hebrew University**, Jerusalem (2005).
- ‘Interpreting Westernisation’, National Seminar organised by the Department of Malayalam, **University of Madras** (2004).

- ‘Gundert's Dictionary as the Archive of Malayalam Literary Historiography’, National Seminar on Lexicon as Archives, organized by the Department of Modern Indian Languages, **University of Delhi** (2004).
- ‘Lexicon as the Archive of Social History’, Department of History, **Hyderabad Central University** (2004).
- ‘Christian Contribution to Indian Culture’, National Seminar on Kerala's Contribution to Indian Civilization, **Calicut University** (2003).
- ‘Blackholes in the criticism of Malayalam Short stories’, National Seminar organised by the **Kendra Sahithya Academy, Kannur University** (2003).
- Keynote address - the International Seminar on Jewish Malayalam Folk songs, **The Hebrew University**, Jerusalem, Israel (2002).
- ‘Possibilities of Understanding Jewish Malayalam Folk songs’, International Seminar on Indology and Jewish Studies, **Oxford University** (2002).
- ‘Hermann Hesse in Malayalam Translations’, **Hermann Hesse Centenary Celebrations**, the Cultural Centre, Berlin (2002).
- ‘Lilathilakam’, National Seminar on the Indian Traditions of Linguistics and Literature, organised by the Department of Modern Indian Languages, **University of Delhi** (2002).
- International Colloquim on the Malayalam Folk Songs of the Jews of Cochin, **Ben-Zvi Institute, The Hebrew University**, Israel (2001).
- ‘Is there a Jewish Malayalam?’, International Congress on Languages and Literatures of Sephardi and Oriental Jews held at Mount Scopus Campus, **The Hebrew University of Jerusalem**, Israel (2000).
- ‘Contextualising the Idea of World Literature in the Traditions of Modern Indian Literatures with special reference to Malayalam’, National Seminar on the Idea of World Literature Today held in connection with the 250th birthday celebrations of Goethe held at **Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit**, Kalady (1999).
- ‘Manipulation and Euphemism’, National Seminar on Testing of Language Proficiency organised by the **Central Institute of Indian Languages**, (HRD, Govt. of India), Mysore (1999).

- ‘Gundert's Contribution to Malayalam Folklore’ and ‘The Identity of Malayalam Literature’, the First Dravidian Conference and Hermann Gundert Conference, **Stuttgart** (1999).
- ‘Arnos Padri's Contribution to Malayalam’, **World Malayalam Conference, Berlin** (1986).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Ph.D. Programme:

Credit Courses: Research Methodology, Cultural Methodology, Linguistics for Literary Studies.

M. Phil. Classes:

Research Methodology, Theory and Theorisation, Linguistics for Literary Studies, Contemporary Cultural Theories, Semiotics, Popular Culture.

Postgraduate Classes:

Modern Linguistics, Malayalam Grammar, Cultural Studies, Folklore, Modern Novels, Contemporary short stories, Literary Historiography.

Graduate Classes:

Modern Malayalam Literature, Malayalam Grammar.

RESEARCH SUPERVISION

- More than 20 doctoral students have received Ph.D. Degree under direct supervision.
- Major areas of research contribution -
 - Textual Criticism, Linguistic and Cultural Analysis of Old Malayalam Prose Texts.
 - Malayalam Translation studies.
 - Literary Historiography and Comparative Literature.
 - Folk Epics, Official Records and Literary Works, Folk Communications
 - Jewish Malayalam
 - Theory and methodology of local history
 - Oral history with special reference to language, culture and gender
 - Western Influence on the Malayalam Language and Literature

- Multiculturalism of Kerala
- Translation Studies and Comparative Literature.
- Narratology and comparative Literature.
- Contemporary Cultural Studies.
- Theory and Theorisation in general.
- Methodology - Cultural and Literary.
- Interdisciplinarity (Theory and Practice)
- Semiotics and Popular Culture.
- Heritage Studies - Heritage Tourism, Museum, Museum Communication,
- Heritage Interpretation.

OTHER ACADEMIC HONORS/ PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

- Senior Consultant, Muziris Heritage Project, Government of Kerala (2009-10).
- Guest Research Professor, Ben-Zvi Institute, The Hebrew University, Israel.
- Research Collaboration with Dr. Albrecht Frenz, Germany on Gundert Studies (1986 - Present).
- Research Collaboration with Dr. Barbara Johnson, USA (1999-) on Jewish Folksongs in Malayalam.
- Resource person – UGC-HRDC centres at University of Kerala, University of Calicut, University of Kannur.
- Member - Academic Council - Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayalam University, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit.