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MANNAR NIGHT

2026

25th ANNIVERSARY



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MANNAR FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION

25 YEARS 2001-2026

25th Annual Mannar Night

CELEBRATING OUR SILVER JUBILEE

Saturday, November 14th, 2026

at Metropolitan Centre - The Princess Banquet Hall

Mannar Friendship Association - Canada

Celebrating 25 Years of Unity & Friendship

"Serving our Community in the Company of Friends" - SSN

3840 Finch Ave East, Scarborough, Ontario, M1T 3T4, Canada

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SONGS OF BELONGING

HONOURING OUR HOME IN CANADA AND THE TAMIL LANGUAGE

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather today is the traditional territory of many nations including the Wendat, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Anishinaabe, the Chippewa, and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. This area is covered by Treaty 13 and the Williams Treaties.

We recognize the enduring presence of Indigenous peoples on this land and their deep connection to it. We are grateful for the opportunity to live, work, and gather here, and we commit to ongoing learning, respect, and reconciliation with Indigenous communities.

01 CANADA

O Canada

O Canada!
Our home and native land!
True patriot love in all of us command.

With glowing hearts we see thee rise,
The True North strong and free!

From far and wide,
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

God keep our land glorious and free!
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.



Official English lyrics
Canadian national anthem

02 TAMIL HERITAGE

தமிழ் மொழி வாழ்த்து

வாழ்க நிரந்தரம் வாழ்க தமிழ்மொழி
வாழிய வாழிய வே!

வான மளந்த தனைத்தும் அளந்திடும்
வண்மொழி வாழிய வே!

ஏழ்கடல் வைப்பினுந் தன்மணம் வீசி
இசைகொண்டு வாழிய வே!

சூழ்கலி நீங்கத் தமிழ்மொழி ஓங்கத்
துலங்குக வையக மே!

தொல்லை வினை தரு தொல்லை யகன்று
சுடர்க தமிழ்நா டே!

வாழ்க தமிழ்மொழி! வாழ்க தமிழ்மொழி!
வாழ்க தமிழ்மொழி யே!

வானம் அறிந்த தனைத்தும் அறிந்து
வளர்மொழி வாழிய வே!

Poem by Subramania Bharati

தினுஷா ரேக்கவுட் அன்ட் கேற்ரறிங்



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MANNAR FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION (MFA)

CANADA CHAPTER

Serving Our Community in the Company of Friends

25 YEARS 2001-2026

2026 COMMITTEE



Sylvester Nicholas
PRESIDENT



Shiranie Peris
SECRETARY



Bertie Kingsley
TREASURER



John Gaster Benedict
VICE PRESIDENT



Jeyabalan Peris
SOCIAL MEDIA SECRETARY



Niranjan Eugene Nicholas
ASSISTANT TREASURER



Meroge (Kabil) Jeyaseelan
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen, distinguished guests, founding members, past presidents, members, sponsors, friends and well-wishers of the Mannar Friendship Association. It is an honour and a privilege to welcome you all as we celebrate a remarkable milestone — 25 years of the Mannar Friendship Association. Twenty-five years of friendship, service, commitment, sacrifice and, above all, perseverance. There is a phrase that I believe best describes the journey of any team entrusted with leading an organization in today's turbulent and often unpredictable world: Trial by fire.

And our journey at MFA has certainly been a trial by fire.

Leading a not-for-profit organization is never easy. It becomes even more challenging when the world around us is facing economic uncertainty, social challenges and unexpected crises. Here in Canada, we have witnessed the rising cost of living, businesses struggling with declining revenues, increasing unemployment and families finding it increasingly difficult to make ends meet. When people are struggling to meet their own basic needs, their ability to extend a helping hand to others is inevitably affected.

The circumstances in Sri Lanka have been even more challenging. Even during periods of global economic prosperity, approximately one in four Sri Lankans has lived below the poverty line. Following decades of civil conflict, the country faced the devastating consequences of war, followed by the COVID-19 pandemic and a severe economic crisis. The road to recovery has been long and painful.

Closer to home, our own greater MFA family has endured its share of hardships. We have experienced personal losses, illness, grief and the passing of members of our community.

Yet, through all these challenges, we have continued to stand together. Despite the obstacles, despite the uncertainties, and despite the personal sacrifices required, we have come together to make this 25th Anniversary celebration possible. And that, ladies and gentlemen, is something worth celebrating.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

So, what makes an organization survive, grow and succeed for 25 years? I believe it comes down to three essential ingredients.

First, a mission that gives people purpose. An organization must stand for something greater than itself. Its mission must be something people believe in, something that inspires them and gives them a reason to serve. For 25 years, the Mannar Friendship Association has brought our community together, preserved our bonds of friendship, supported those in need and worked towards the betterment of our Mannar community. It is this shared purpose that has kept MFA alive and moving forward.

Second, a committed team willing to sacrifice. No organization succeeds because of one individual. It succeeds because of people who are willing to give their time, talent, knowledge, energy and resources without always expecting anything in return. Behind every successful event, every charitable initiative and every achievement of MFA are countless hours of voluntary work and personal sacrifices. To our founding members, past presidents, executive committees, volunteers, families, sponsors and supporters — you are the backbone of this organization. Your contributions, whether big or small, have made these 25 years possible.

Third, leadership that empowers its people. Leadership is not about standing at the top and giving instructions. It is about bringing people together, recognizing their strengths, supporting their efforts and creating opportunities for everyone to contribute and succeed. A good leader does not build an organization around himself or herself. A good leader builds a team that can carry the mission forward, even in their absence. That is the kind of leadership that will ensure MFA continues to thrive for generations to come.

When we bring these three ingredients together — a meaningful mission, a committed team and empowering leadership — we create an organization that can withstand almost any challenge. The past 25 years have tested us, but they have also strengthened us. They have taught us that our greatest asset is not the money we raise, the events we organize or the recognition we receive. Our greatest asset is our people. As we celebrate this milestone, let us not simply look

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the executive committee, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has contributed to this incredible journey. Thank you to those who laid the foundation 25 years ago, those who carried the torch through the years, and those who are stepping forward to carry it into the future. Twenty-five years ago, we began with a vision. Today, we celebrate a legacy. Tomorrow, we must build a future worthy of that legacy.

May the Mannar Friendship Association continue to unite, inspire and serve our community for the next 25 years and beyond.

Happy 25th Anniversary, Mannar Friendship Association!

Thank you, and enjoy the evening!

"Serving our Community in the Company of Friends" - SSN

Sylvester Nicholas
President
Mannar Friendship Association



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MFA PRESIDENT HISTORY

A LEGACY OF UNITY, FAITH AND SERVICE

Honouring the visionary leaders who have guided MFA with dedication, integrity and compassion, strengthening our unity and serving our community.

25 YEARS 2001-2026



Period : 2001 – 2006
President : Jude Shanthirajah Yoganathan
Era Character:
Founding & Establishment



Period : 2007 – 2009
President : Bertie Kingsley
Era Character:
Transformation & Trust Growth



Period : 2010 – 2011
President : Thaya P.K. Kandiah
Era Character :
Financial Stability & Digital Launch



Period : 2012 – 2013
President: John Gaster Benedict
Era Character :
Unification & Bridge to Mannar



Period : 2013 – 2023
President : Sylvester Nicholas
Era Character :
Institutional Maturity & Modernization

HONOURING 25 YEARS OF VISIONARY LEADERSHIP

Celebrating the presidents whose dedication, service, and leadership have shaped the Mannar Friendship Association since 2001.



Period : 2024 – 2025
President : Indra Michael Xavier
Era Character:
Renewal & First Female President



Period : (2014 - 2023)
(2026 - Present)
President : Sylvester Nicholas
Era Character : 25th Anniversary Milestone

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A Voice from the Storm

Mannar's Wartime Government Agent Tells His Story at Last



S. Mariathasan Croos

There are books that inform - and books that make you stop and listen. Mannar District Government Agent's Wartime Diary 1983-2009 by S.Mariathasan Croos is the second kind.

For 26 years, Sri Lanka's civil war tore through the north and east. While the world read headlines, Mannar lived a different reality: displacement, bombardment, negotiation and survival. In the middle stood a public servant from Vankalai, carrying files, food rations and dead bodies along the same vulnerable roads where armies and armed groups lay in ambush.

A Son of Mannar

Croos was born and raised in Vankalai, Mannar District. According to the book's biographical account, he was the first person from Mannar District to enter university and graduated from the University of Peradeniya in 1965. He taught in Batticaloa and Colombo before joining the Sri Lanka Administrative Service in 1982.

His first posting as Assistant Government Agent for Nanaddan placed him directly in the path of the war.

What the Diary Records

This is a day-to-day record, drawn from notes kept during the war, of running a district while two armies, militant groups and international agencies pressed in from every side.

• The first landmine blast in Mannar on 12 August 1984 and the reprisal killings along the Murunkan road, including 26 bus passengers shot dead.

• His abduction by an armed group and a later hearing that voted on whether he should live or die.

• The rescue of 110 police officers from armed-group custody in June 1990.

• The expulsion of the Muslim community from Mannar in October 1990.

• His 59-day detention under the PTA in 1999 after explosives were planted in his vehicle without his knowledge.

• The post-2002 reconstruction period, when he directed several ADB- and World Bank-supported projects.

Faith runs throughout the diary. Croos writes that he prayed each morning at 4 a.m. that his wife would not become a widow and his children would not become orphans. He credits his survival to the
hand of God.

Why This Book Matters to Us

For the Mannar diaspora in Canada, this is our history: the roads our families walked, the villages we left and the names we still say in prayer.

It also records a civil administration that refused to collapse. Under bombardment and suspicion from both sides, the Mannar Kachcheri kept functioning. Food was delivered, refugees were settled, and schools and hospitals were rebuilt.

> “One side security force. Other side armed groups. He has detailed his terrible experience in a sensible manner.”
>
> — Rev. Fr. Xavier Croos

> “I felt I was reading a thriller rather than a record of a public servant ... he had saved the lives of 110 police officers by his tactful negotiations with [an armed group].”
>
> — M.C.M. Iqbal

A Story Worth Passing On

This 25th Anniversary Mannar Night, as we celebrate who we are, let us remember those who stayed behind and held the line. S. Mariathasan Croos is one of them. Now, at last, his voice is in our hands.

POLITICAL AND ANALYTICAL REVIEW

Between Two Fires

What a Wartime Diary Reveals About Power, Service and Silence in Mannar

> **“We never allowed district administration to collapse or come to a standstill.”**

S. Mariathasan Croos's Mannar District Government Agent's Wartime Diary 1983-2009 is neither a history from Colombo nor a manifesto from the battlefield. It is a record from the middle, kept by a Tamil Christian administrator appointed by the government, trusted by neither side and needed by both.

The Double Pressure

Civil servants in Mannar were not detached observers; they were targets. The state could view contact with armed groups as betrayal, while those groups could see refusal to cooperate as treachery.

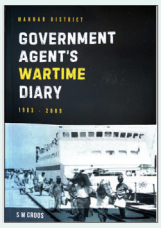
After Croos was abducted by an armed group, he says an army officer described it as pre-arranged and treated him as a suspect. Later, an armed-group hearing voted 2-2 on his fate before a deciding vote spared him. The war did more than kill people; it made everyone suspect.

The Kachcheri That Would Not Fall

Even when Mannar was shelled, bridges were blasted, the Kachcheri moved to Sunny village and staff lived as refugees, the administration continued. Rations moved by ship and small boat, relief reached Madhu and Pesalai, and refugee repatriation was organized from Talaimannar railway station. For affected families, this was the infrastructure of survival.

A longer period of growth

Sylvester Nicholas became President in 2013 and served through 2023, the association’s longest period under one President. During those years, MFA broadened its activities, developed sponsorship relationships and strengthened the financial arrangements supporting its charitable work. The Patrons’ Trust, established in 2014, added another source of income for community projects.



BOOK DETAILS

AUTHOR	S. Mariathasan Croos
ISBN	978-624-95134-5-7
EMAIL	scmariathasan@gmail.com
PRINTED BY	Canaan Creation

The Golden Era and Its End

After the 2002 ceasefire, the North-East Provincial Council worked with the World Bank and ADB on NECORD, NECCDEP, TAARP, NEHRP and the Jaffna-Kilinochchi water project. Croos directed several projects.

He argues that post-war political interference weakened large-scale development and criticizes opposition to the Jaffna desalination plant and Pesalai fishery harbour. This is contested: reader may instead emphasize constraints from Colombo, funding choices or several causes together. The diary does not settle the debate, but it forces the question.

Strengths and Silences

The book's strength is also its limit: it is one man's diary, recording what Croos saw, heard and was told. It is primary testimony, not a complete history.

• Armed-group perspectives appear mainly through Croos's encounters with their leaders.

• The 1990 Muslim expulsion is described briefly and largely from an administrative standpoint.

• The uncleared areas remain less visible because Croos says he was not permitted to carry out development work there.

These limits of position explain what the diary can, and cannot, establish by itself.

Why This Matters for Mannar Today

The diary asks what leadership Mannar needs, whether development is mainly technical or political, and what the community owes the public servants who stayed behind. Croos offers no easy answers, but he records the cost of service during war and what became possible when politics briefly stepped aside. That story deserves debate and preservation.

Dr. Victor Figurado & Staff of St. Lucia's Medical Centre

Warmest congratulations to the Mannar Friendship Association on the celebration of your 25th Anniversary – your Silver Jubilee!

Twenty-five years of service is a remarkable milestone. Your journey has undoubtedly been marked by trials, challenges and countless obstacles. Yet, through unwavering determination, resilience and unity, you have weathered every storm and emerged stronger and victorious. Your commitment to preserving the bonds of friendship, uplifting the Mannar community and serving those in need is truly commendable. May this Silver Jubilee be a celebration not only of your achievements, but also of the dedication and sacrifices of everyone who has contributed to your remarkable journey.

May the years ahead bring even greater accomplishments and continued success.

With our warmest wishes | **Dr. Victor Figurado & Staff**
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MANNAR NIGHT 2026

MANNAR FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION

PROGRAM LIST

01 **Introduction of the MC**
Jude Aloysius

02 **Lamp Lighting**

03 **Tamil Thai Vaalthu**
Anjalie Juliet Vaz & Anushka Juliet Vaz

04 **Canadian Anthem**
Anjalie Juliet Vaz & Anushka Juliet Vaz

05 **Moment of Silence**

06 **Sound of the Season**
Irene & Eugine John Vaz,
Anjalie & Anushka Juliet Vaz, Aloma Hilory,
Joseph Santhanpillai, Emarancia (Prema) Joseph,
Ashani & Niranjan Nicholas, Selvi John,
Bavan Linga, Naomi Peris and Jeyabalan Peris

07 **Welcome Speech**

08 **Opening Dance**
Niro Dance Creations

09 **Slideshow — History Untold Is a Future Without Foundation**
Author: Dheepthi Kumawat
Concept and Editorial Review: Anne Gayatri Nicholas
Special Acknowledgement:
Meera Kanageswaran
Visual Storytelling, image Curation & Music Production:
Jerom Rajadurai, Esai Canada & Anne Gayatri Nicholas

10 **Surprise Dance**
Two beautiful ladies

11 **Ganamum Kaatchium**
காணமும் காட்சியும்
Niranjan Nicholas & Wathsala James

12 **Dance | Approx. 5 minutes**
Zion & Samika Raguraj

13 **Song**
Jude Nicholas

14 அன்றும் இன்றும் **Couples Dances**
Approx. 14 minutes
Kingsley & Dharshini; Bavan & Sutha;
Jayabalan & Shiranie; Vimal & Meenu

15 **Song**
Ruban Remisiar

16 **MGR Masala | Approx. 9 minutes**
Bavan, Jayabalan, Kingsley,
Niranjan & Julian

17 **Vote of Thanks**

18 **Santa Arrival**

19 **Dinner**

20 **Committee Group Photos**

21 **Raffle Prize Draw/Door Prizes**

22 **Dance Floor Open**

MANNAR FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION (MFA)

Twenty-five years of community service

SILVER JUBILEE 2001–2026 | MANNAR NIGHT 2026

Written by Anthony Jeyabalan Peris, P.Eng., PMP.



A community carried across the ocean

Every Mannar Night, the performances seen on stage are only part of the story. Before the curtains rise and the music begins, members have sold tickets, found sponsors, prepared costumes or opened their homes for rehearsals. Beyond the celebration, these shared efforts have helped students remain at university, supplied hospital equipment and brought assistance to families in Mannar in times of need. For twenty-five years, true friendship has made all this work possible.

The Mannar Friendship Association began in Toronto in 2001, among people building new lives in Canada while remaining deeply connected to the district they had left behind in Sri Lanka. Memories of coastal villages, school friendships and family gatherings travelled with them wherever they went. So did their concern for relatives and neighbours facing displacement, interrupted education and uncertain livelihoods after years of conflict.

MFA gave that concern an organized purpose. It brought Mannar-origin families together in Canada, preserved opportunities to share Tamil culture and created a way to support people back home. MFA's non-profit, non-political and non-sectarian principles allowed members to work together with a common commitment to community welfare.

The first people who said yes

Jeevaratnam Murugesupillai, widely known as DSO from his service as Mannar's District Sports Officer, initiated the idea of a Mannar community organization in Canada. Jude Yoganathan, Bertie Kingsley, Rohan Mathews, Charles Maharajah, George Nicholas, Dilipkumar Emmanuel, Christy Masillamany and David Mariathasan were among those who helped turn the idea into the association.

Jude Yoganathan became the founding President, serving from 2001 to 2006. His contribution extended beyond chairing meetings: he helped establish the early structure and continued to advise later leaders. In those formative years, maintaining confidence and keeping people involved mattered as much as organizing the next event.

A gathering becomes a tradition

The first Mannar Night was held in December 2002 at St. Lawrence Church hall. It provided a place to renew friendships, enjoy community performances and contribute to a shared cause. What began as a modest gathering would become MFA's signature cultural and fundraising event year after year.

The association also needed rules and regulations that could carry it forward. In 2005, MFA registered as a non-profit organization in Ontario. Christie Masillamany, affectionately remembered as Christy Uncle, prepared the original constitution with fellow members. Meetings held in members' homes helped the young organization develop the habits of discussion, responsibility and collective decision making.

The first investment was in education

Education became one of MFA's earliest and most enduring commitments. Launched in 2002, the University Scholarship Program grew from the work of Suresh Mathews in Canada and Amalathas Master in Mannar. The problem was clear: admission to university did not remove the cost of books, accommodation, travel and daily living. A capable student could still struggle to continue.

In the beginning, approximately ten members contributed $100 each to help one student. The scale was small, but the approach was practical: combine manageable contributions and direct them towards an opportunity that could change a young person's future. The association's historical records report that 45 students completed undergraduate studies with MFA's support between 2002 and 2021, at universities including Jaffna, Colombo, Moratuwa and Peradeniya.

MFA also responded when immediate relief was needed. Following the December 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, it contributed $2,184 through CMR and church channels and a further $2,675 to the Medical Institute for Tamils. These early efforts established a pattern that would recur throughout its history: sustain long-term educational support while making room for urgent humanitarian needs.

The foundation was now in place: a community willing to gather, a structure for working together and a purpose that reached beyond the gathering itself.

Mannar Night finds a larger stage

Bertie Kingsley's presidency in 2007–2008 marked a major step in MFA's development. Mannar Night moved from church halls to J & J Swagat Hall, and the first printed souvenir magazine brought a new source of advertising revenue. The magazine raised more than $5,000 from advertisements, while the event generated a surplus that could support the association's work.

The change was cultural as well as financial. Bertie Kingsley choreographed dances, coached participants and brought Tamil cinema performances to the stage. His MGR-style acts became a memorable part of Mannar Night. Christina Kingsley performed alongside him and helped with rehearsals and the work behind the scenes. Their contribution encouraged others to take part and helped establish the event's distinctive community character.

Much of Mannar Night's appeal has come from seeing familiar people perform. Parents, children, friends and neighbours invested their time in preparing something for one another.

MFA HISTORY | SILVER JUBILEE 2001–2026

Rehearsals created friendships of their own, and the performances gave families a shared memory.

Ticket sales, advertisements and sponsorship connected the enjoyment to MFA's wider purpose. To this day, volunteer performers pay for their own costumes and related expenses, without using MFA funds.

Making assistance last

During this period, Bertie Kingsley and Suresh Mathews helped develop a more sustainable basis for scholarships through a fixed deposit at Hatton National Bank in Mannar. Interest could support students while the principal remained available for the future. This was an important shift towards planning for assistance that could continue beyond a single fundraising evening.

Under President P. K. Thaya Kandiah in 2009–2010, MFA continued its educational and welfare work. The records include a Rs. 500,000 educational fixed deposit in 2009, support for an orphanage and a senior recreation centre, and assistance for mental health services. Hospital support included a pulse oximeter and oxygen regulators provided to Mannar General Hospital in 2010.

The launch of the association's website in 2010 provided another way to connect members and share its activities. MFA was gradually building the resources and relationships needed to serve a community that has spread across two countries.

Building a bridge to Mannar

John Benedict, known to many as Gaster, led MFA in 2011–2012. Alongside the work of maintaining unity within the association, his presidency brought a project whose name expressed its purpose directly: Bridge to Mannar.

In 2012, the initiative supported 160 children affected by conflict and resettlement in Adamban, Aandaankulam and Aatkativeli. School bags, uniform material, exercise books, stationery and instrument boxes addressed everyday barriers to education. A celebration with food, games and gifts gave children an opportunity to enjoy being together. At an approximate cost of $3,050, the project showed how a focused community effort could meet several practical needs at once.

MFA's work with the Mannar Association for Relief and Rehabilitation (MARR) also supported educational materials and a Christmas program for vulnerable children. Local partners, including Jude Master and Ratnakumar, made such efforts possible. They helped identify the needs and organize the delivery, connecting funds raised in Canada with people who could put them to use in Mannar.

A longer period of growth

Sylvester Nicholas became President in 2013 and served through 2023, the association's longest period under one President. During those years, MFA broadened its activities, developed sponsorship relationships and strengthened the financial arrangements supporting its charitable work. The Patrons' Trust, established in 2014, added another source of income for community projects.

Meleni David became MFA's first Patron and contributed $3,000 to the Patrons' Trust. Jude Yoganathan and Sylvester Nicholas became Patrons in subsequent years, each contributing $3,000. Their contributions are held in a trust fund generating a 10% annual return to help cover MFA's annual operating expenses. All three patrons support MFA in many other ways.

Education remained central, while youth sport opened another avenue for support. Working with the Mannar District Football League, MFA sponsored tournaments in 2014 and 2015. Our then President, Sylvester Nicholas, spearheaded this project. Twenty-three teams participated in 2014, and jerseys were sponsored for sixteen teams in 2015. The association's records report more than $30,000 raised across the two years for football development, tournament needs and awards.

DSO's sporting experience and community connections were valuable to this work. The purpose went beyond providing uniforms or prizes: organized sports offered young people a place to practise teamwork, develop discipline and take pride in their abilities. For MFA, it was another way to invest in young people's opportunities.

Roots in Mannar and a home in Canada

MFA's Canadian activities have always helped sustain its connection with Mannar. Summer picnics and barbecues allow families to meet outside the formality of an annual gala. Children play together, elders renew friendships, and new members find people who share familiar places and memories. These relationships make it easier to bring people together when a project needs support.

In 2017, members marked Canada's 150th anniversary with a visit to Ottawa, including Parliament and an Ottawa River cruise. The outing reflected an important part of MFA's identity: a continuing attachment to Mannar alongside participation in Canadian community life.

In 2018, MFA welcomed Bishop Fidelis Lionel Emmanuel Fernando of Mannar as an Honorary Member. Fundraising associated with that visit supported temporary shelters for fifty families resettling in Mullikulam. The association's work continued to develop through relationships with people and institutions able to reach those needing help.

Service through the shutdown

The COVID-19 pandemic interrupted large gatherings, although committed members continued meeting via Zoom. Mannar Night could not be held in 2020 or 2021. Members lost familiar opportunities to meet, perform and fundraise, while families in Mannar faced new pressures on food supplies, incomes and healthcare.

MFA HISTORY | SILVER JUBILEE 2001–2026

MFA continued relief work through its Mannar contacts and local coordination. Dry food packages helped families meet immediate needs. In 2021, $6,395 was raised for equipment for Mannar General Hospital, including an ECG machine, four syringe pumps and two patient monitors. This was practical assistance shaped by healthcare needs identified locally.

Another emergency demanded attention that year. Following the Thalaimannar bus–train accident, MFA supported twenty students and one teacher. Return-to-school assistance included bags, stationery, shoes, socks, uniforms and financial support. The distribution took place at Thalaimannar GTMS School in April 2021, with local coordination involving education and healthcare contacts.

The resumption of Mannar Night in 2022 restored an important community gathering. The pandemic years had also demonstrated the value of relationships amidst a crisis. Even when members could not gather in person, they were still able to organize the help needed, across the ocean.

Renewal and the care of children

JIn 2024, Indra Michael Xavier became MFA's first female President, serving through 2025. Her leadership marked a new chapter after the disruption of the pandemic years. A long-time supporter and sponsor, she helped renew community participation and develop support for vulnerable children in Mannar.

A significant initiative was a three-year commitment of $9,000 to Sebamalai Mariyannai House of Compassion in Pesalai, run by the Dominican Sisters. The home cared for twenty-six children, including children without parental care and those from families facing severe hardship. The commitment was intended to support food, education, clothing and daily care.

The project reflected an important lesson from MFA's earlier work: recurring needs benefit from organized support. A child needs meals and school supplies throughout the year. A commitment extending beyond one event gives our local partners a firmer basis for meeting those needs.

Indra and her husband, Michael Xavier, affectionately known as Master, also opened their home for meetings, rehearsals and gatherings. Master's long involvement in event preparation and logistical support helped make events successful and keep the association's activities moving.

The Silver Jubilee year

Sylvester Nicholas returned as President in 2026 as MFA approached its twenty-fifth anniversary. The year brought both preparations for celebration and further humanitarian work. Following flooding associated with Malwathu Oya, also known as Aruvi Aru, MFA provided emergency food packages to eighty affected families in the Nanattan area.

The response continued a familiar pattern in the association's history: members gathered resources in Canada, local contacts in Mannar helped identify urgent needs, and assistance reached families in Mannar. The scale and circumstances changed from project to project, but the working relationship remained unchanged.

The Silver Jubilee celebration at the Metropolitan Centre in Scarborough on November 14, 2026, brings these years into view. Behind this evening celebration are the visionary decisions of our founders, the dedicated contributions of successive committees, and the steadfast support of our families. This anniversary belongs to everyone who helped carry that work forward.

MFA service through the years

A chronological overview of selected projects and community initiatives.

Year	Projects and community initiatives
2002	University Scholarship Program.
2004	Indian Ocean tsunami relief.
2005–2009	Civil war relief and support for displaced families and children in orphanages.
2007	Scholarship Trust Fund established at Hatton National Bank.
2009	Anbu Sotharar Illam orphanage support; Senior Recreation Centre; educational fixed deposit.
2010	International Mental Health Association building fund; equipment for Mannar General Hospital.
2011	Free Advanced Level classes and examination preparation.
2012	Bridge to Mannar; educational and Christmas support through the Mannar Association for Relief and Rehabilitation.
2014–2015	Youth football tournaments and team sponsorship; Patrons' Trust established in 2014.
2017	Canada 150 community visit to Ottawa.
2018	Temporary shelter support for families resettling in Mullikulam.
2019	Parks Canada tree planting and park clean-up partnership; East Point Park shoreline cleanup; home-based textile manufacturing initiative. IT Employment Initiative announced as a plan.
2020–2022	COVID-19 emergency food relief and community assistance.
2021	Mannar General Hospital equipment; assistance following the Thalaimannar bus–train accident.
2024–2025	House of Compassion partnership developed during Indra Michael Xavier's presidency, including a three-year sponsorship commitment.
2026	Emergency food relief for flood-affected families in Nanattan; continuing child welfare support.

MFA HISTORY | SILVER JUBILEE 2001–2026

The people who kept MFA going

A history told only through presidents and projects would leave much of MFA's story unwritten. Behind this twenty-five-year journey stands the remarkable work and unwavering commitment of its members. Their tireless dedication and selfless service have sustained the association throughout its trials and tribulations.

Rohan Mathews, a founding member and long-serving Treasurer, brought steady attention to finances and membership. Shyamala Mathews collaborated with him at picnics and Mannar Nights, helping with food, hospitality and event preparation. Their service illustrates how often MFA's work has been supported by families rather than individuals alone.

George Nicholas, fondly known as George Uncle, built connections through personal contact. He encouraged membership, sold tickets, collected subscriptions and offered guidance to leaders. Christie Masillamany contributed the constitution, meeting space and practical support. Alston Thayalarajah Nicholas likewise opened his home and volunteered at gatherings.

Meleni David's longstanding support has included sponsorship, committee involvement and financial contributions to the Patrons' Trust. Her father, Nagarajah, encouraged her community service through MFA. Christeen Seevaratnam, known as Dushy, combined sponsorship through Chapel Ridge Funeral Home with service as a director and help with event planning.

The association's tributes also acknowledge Dr. Figurado's sustained generosity with raffle prizes and guidance. Such gifts mattered because a successful evening depended on many contributions arriving together: an advertisement, a donated prize, a meal prepared, a ticket purchased or a task completed.

Bertie and Christina Kingsley's years of performance and preparation, together with DSO's and George Nicholas's organization and mentoring, formed part of this wider account of service. Outstanding members including Indra and Michael Xavier, Jeyabalan and Shirani Peris, John Benedict and Aruntha Gaster, Joseph and Prema Santhanpillai, Niranjan and Ashani Nicholas, Julian and Jothini Nicholas, Anton and Sumi Balaraja, Gayatri and Keith Ketheswaran, Remina Figurado, Selvi John, Timothy Croos, Giritharan Dharmarajah, Suthakaran Arumugam, Viji Stanislaus, Felix Nixon and Watsala James have all been instrumental in MFA's twenty-five-year history.

Recognition at a Silver Jubilee is therefore an act of remembrance as well as gratitude. It makes visible the everyday work on which a community organization depends and reminds younger members that there are many ways to contribute and make a meaningful difference in their communities.

Remembering Suresh Mathews and Ravi Mathews

The loss of Suresh Mathews and Ravi Mathews in 2024 was deeply felt within the MFA family. Their contributions had become part of the association's everyday life, and each of them left a distinct place in MFA's history.
Suresh helped establish the scholarship program and worked on the arrangements that made sustained educational support possible. He also served as Treasurer and helped at events. His legacy can be seen in the association's commitment to giving students more than a single gesture of encouragement: practical support that could help them continue their studies.

Ravi was warmly known as MFA's BBQ King. At summer gatherings he took his place at the grill, helping feed the community through long hours in the heat. He also assisted at Mannar Night and other events. Those who remember him recall the cheerful presence that made working and gathering more enjoyable.

Remembering the brothers brings the meaning of volunteer service into focus. Planning a scholarship fund and preparing food at a picnic are different tasks, but both require someone willing to take responsibility. MFA carries their memory forward by continuing the activities to which they gave so much of their time and effort.

An inheritance for the next generation

Twenty-five years after its founding, MFA has an inheritance to pass on: lasting relationships, unparalleled experiences and a solid record of successful community efforts. Its future will depend on helping younger members take an active part in shaping what comes next. Performing at Mannar Night can lead to organizing an event; helping at a picnic can become the beginning of committee service.

Preserving memories with photographs, videos, magazines, project records and members' recollections will help preserve MFA's legacy. This, in turn, will allow future volunteers to understand how decisions were made and help them recognize those who served on MFA working committees over a quarter of a century.

As readers turn these pages at Mannar Night 2026, the most meaningful tribute to MFA's founders is already around them: people are still gathering, still volunteering and still finding ways to help those in need, especially in our homeland, Mannar. The next chapter will be written through the same willingness that began the first.
Long live MFA.

Serving Our Community in the Company of Friends.
Information for this article was collected from MFA annual magazines and other long-time MFA members.
Written by Anthony Jeyabalan Peris, P.Eng., PMP.

PATRON'S MESSAGE

As the First Patron of the Mannar Friendship Association, it is with great pride and deep gratitude that I address you on this historic milestone — our **25th Anniversary**.

For a quarter of a century, MFA has been more than an association; it has been a family. Bound by our roots in Mannar and united by friendship, we have shown what can be achieved when a community stands together with love, respect and a shared purpose.

Twenty-five years is not just a measure of time; it is a measure of resilience, understanding and unshakable friendship. What makes MFA truly special and what I am most proud of is that, in these 25 years, MFA never gave up on its vision nor its responsibilities, even when times were very hard for the association and we were on the verge of breaking down. Many associations fade when faced with challenges but we stood firm and we held on to each other.

Our 25 years is a testament to the vision of our founders and the dedication of every member who carried this torch over the last 25 years.

Let this silver jubilee not only be a celebration of our past, but a renewed pledge for our future - to strengthen our unity, to uplift our next generation, and to continue to serve with compassion.

To have served as your first patron for the past ten years has been a profound honor.

I thank you for your trust in me as Patron and I look forward to celebrating many more milestones together.

With love and gratitude,

Meleni Vasanthy David
Founder Patron
Mannar Friendship Association (MFA)



MFA - ACCOUNTS

ROYAL BANK - CANADIAN DOLLARS
Operational Account: $7,766.38

HATTON NATIONAL BANK - SRI LANKAN RUPEES
Current Account: Rs. 41,000.00

Northern Financial Services & Real Estate Management
Investment Deposit Trust - Canadian Dollars

Patrons' Trust: $9,000.00
Annual Interest Earned: 10%
Amount: $900.00
Interest Payment Date: September 1st / Annually

Investment Deposit: $41,000.00
Annual Interest Earned: 10%
Amount: $4,100.00
Interest Payment Date: May 1st / Annually



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A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Members

Mannar Friendship Association – Celebrating 25 Years of Unity and Friendship

Mannar Friendship Association (MFA) extends its sincere gratitude and appreciation to all members who have renewed their annual membership for 2026 by contributing $25 for Individual Membership and $50 for Family Membership. Your continued membership and financial support are a testament to your commitment, generosity, and dedication to our association and the Mannar community. Your contributions enable MFA to continue its mission of bringing our community together, supporting those in need, preserving our heritage, and serving the people of Mannar. Together, we have built 25 years of meaningful memories and achievements. With your continued support, we look forward to many more years of service and making a difference in our community.

Thank you for being an integral part of the MFA family. Your membership makes a difference!

With heartfelt appreciation,

Mannar Friendship Association (MFA)
25 Years of Friendship, Unity & Community Service

MFA PAID MEMBERS

1 Meleni David (Patron)
2 Jude Shanthirajah Yoganathan (Patron)
3 Sylvester & Nirosha Nicholas (Patron)
4 Aloma Hillary
5 Amutha Anton
6 Anne Mariln Sritharan
7 Anne Remina Figurado
8 Anton Balarajah
9 Anton Luke Marcelline
10 Bavan Linga
11 Bertie & Christine Kingsley
12 Carmal Theopilees
13 Charles Maharajah
14 Christi Massillamanni
15 Devadas Paramananthan
16 Dharshini Vijayakumar
17 Dilipkumar Emmanuel
18 DSO Jeevaratnam
19 Christeen (Dushy) Seevaratnam
20 Emmanuel Vaz
21 Eugine John Vaz
22 Faustin Anthonipillai
23 Fredrika Marisal
24 Aruntha & John Gaster Benedict
25 Geetha Ravi
26 George & Immaculate Nicholas
27 Girija Illanko
28 Giritharan Dharmarajah
29 Jane Jude
30 Jeyabalan & Shiranie Peris
31 Jeyakumaran Sellappah
32 John Santiago
33 Emarancia & Joseph Koduthor Santhanpillai
34 Ketheswaran Sivasubramaniam
35 Anne Gayatri Nicholas
36 Kris Collins
37 Priya Nicholas
38 Kumarasamy Balendran
39 Lenin Savarimuthu
40 Leslie (Julian) Nicholas
41 Marino Rajeswaran
42 Marlyne Devadas
43 Maryanne Jayashankar
44 Indra & Michael Xavier
45 Mohan Paramananthan
46 N Nagarajah
47 Nadesha Vijayakanthan
48 Ashani & Niranjan Nicholas
49 Nixon Felix
50 Norbert Anthony
51 Quintus Figurado
52 Rahu Thuraisingham
53 Reagan Anton
54 Rohan & Shyamala Mathews
55 Sakayan Joseph Family
56 Sarathkumar (Dili)
57 Sharmilan T
58 Shiranee Chrisopher
59 Srilingam Sugirthalingam
60 Sritharn Punniyamoorthy
61 Suthaharan Arumugam
62 Thaya PK Kandiah
63 Thiruvaruthselvi John
64 Timothy Cross
65 Vartharajan Nadarajah
66 Vasikary Hridyanand
67 Victor John Figurado
68 Wathsala James
69 Yoga Prakash

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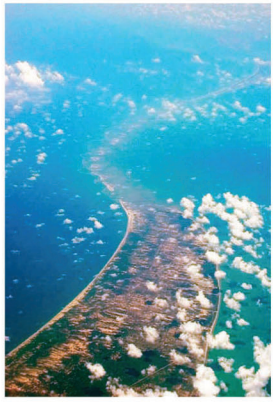
Mannar Poem By Santhiyapillai Benedict











1. மாமறையோன் துணைகொண்டு மன்னார் தலம் பற்றி
தேமதுரத் தமிழில் பாடுதற்கு திருவடிதொழுது நிற்கிறேன்.
பாமரனாய் பாவலனாய் பைந்தமிழில் யாப்பதற்கு
நாமகள் அருள்வந்து தங்கவேண்டும் அடியேன் நாவினில்.

2. எழிலுறு தீவகமாய் இயற்கை தரும் ஓவியமாய்
மலரிடை சுரக்கும் தேனாக வானுலாவும் மதியாக
வளம் கொள் திருநகராக வான்புகழ் பெருநகராக
உளம் களிக்கும் எங்கள் பூமி மன்னாரெனப் பாடுவமே

3. நிலவோடு விளையாடும் ஒளிக்கதிராய் வரனோடு உறவாடும் தாரகையாய்
மலரோடு இழையோடும் நறுமணமாய் இசையோடு கலந்திடும் இன் கவியாய்
சுற்தரற் தமிழின் சொற்சுவையாய் கானமுடன் வீணையும்
சங்கமிக்கும் எங்கள் நிலமம் மன்னாரெனச் சாற்றுவோமே.

4. கடல் சூழ் மன்னார் கரைகளில் அலைகள் மோதும்
காடுகளில் பறவையினம் காதோரம் கானம் ஓதம்
வாடுகின்ற பயிர் செழிக்கும் வான்மழை வரவு கண்டு
தேடுகின்ற பொருள் கொழிக்கும் செந்நெல் குவியல் கொண்டு

5. அழகிய நீளப்பாலமதில் அலைகள் வந்து மோதிடுமே
பழகிய மாந்தர் பயணம் செய்திட பல்துறை வழிகளில் உதவிடுமே.
உலவும் தென்றல் காற்றாக ஓயாதுழைக்கும் அங்காடிகள்
பலவும் ஆங்கே நிலைகொண்டு பார்க்கப் பரவசம் ஆகிடுமே.

6. பள்ளிமுனைக் கடலோரம் பாங்குடனே காட்சி தரும்
வெள்ளிநிலா ஒளிபோல விண்ணகத்து மாதா
தள்ளிநின்று பார்ப்போரையும் தன்பக்கம் வரவழைத்து
உள்ளம் குளிர அருள் பொழிவது சாந்த லூசியா ஆலயமே

7. தலைமன்னார் வீதியிலே மாதாகோவில் முன்றலிலே
கலைமகள் அருள் கொண்டு கட்டியெழுப்பிய கல்லூரி
புனித சவேரியார். நாமம் சூடி புவியோரின் ஆசியுடன்
இனிதே வளர்ந்து இன்கல்வி பரப்பிட இறைவனருள் வேண்டிடுவோமே

8. அருள் நிறை ஞானசம்பந்தர் இறைவரம் கொண்டு மறைவேதப்
பொருள் பொதிந்து பாடலாக்கி புகழ் கொண்ட தலம் திருக்கேதிஸ்வரமே
இருள் சூழி உலகின் இடர்நீக்கி தீவினையகன்று நல்வினை ஓங்க
வரம்பல தந்து வையம் தழைத்திட வளம் நல்கும் தலம் திருக்கேதீஸ்வரமே

9. புலிகரடி சிறத்தையுடன் புவியதிரும் வாரணமும்
கிலி கொள் வல்வேங்கை ஓநாய் காட்டெருமை இவற்றுடன்
பலியெடுக்கும் பாம்பினமும் சேர்ந்துலாவம் காகைத்தே
நலிந்து வாடும் மாந்தர்க்கு நலமருளும் மடுத்தாயேபோற்றி.

10. மாதோட்ட பகுதியில் மாமன்னன் இராவணன்
ஆதியிலே ஆண்டதற்கு அடையாளம் உள்ளதாக
வாதிட்டு சான்று பகரும் வரலாறும் ஒன்றுண்டு
சேதுவை மேடுறுத்திக் காட்சி தரும்பாலமே இதற்குச் சாட்சி.

11. சீர் பெற்றிலங்கும் மன்னார்த்திருநகர் மத்தியிலே
பார் புகழும் செபஸ்தியார் பேராலயம்
கார்முகில் கிழித்தெழும் மதியொளியாகக்
காட்சி தந்திடுமே வான்முட்டும் கோபுரங்கள்.

12. பன்முனைப் போரில் பலம்குன்றி வதைப்பட்டபோதும்
படுகொலை செய்தே பகையது பலி கொண்ட போதும்
வன்பதை சூழ்ந்து வாள் கொண்டழித்த போதும்
தன் மதம் மாறா வேதசாட்சிகளை ஈந்ததெங்கர் மன்னாரே.

Mannar Poem By Santhiyapillai Benedict

13. வன்னிப் பெருநில மன்னனடா அவன் பெயர் பண்டார வன்னியனடா.
அன்னியன் அவன்பேர் கேட்டால் அஞ்சிநடுங்கிச் சாவானடா
பொங்கி வரும் பகைகண்டு அஞ்சமாட்டான் போர்ப்பறை கேட்டுத் துஞ்சமாட்டான்.
வெங்கொடுமை சாக்காடு எதிர்வரினும் வேங்கையெனப் பாய்ந்திடுவான் பகை வீழ்த்த

14. நேர்நின்று போர் புரியத் திறனின்றி, நோற்று வந்தவன் போட்டான் ஒரு திட்டம்
நெஞ்சுக்கு நீதியில்லை வஞ்சத்துக்கும் ஆங்கே பஞ்சமில்லை
ஆசை கொண்டான் காக்கை வன்னியன் ஆட்சியில், பாதியென்றான் அண்ணியன்
நாசம் நடந்ததடா, நாற்றிசையும் அமுததடா துரோகம் இன்னமும் ஒரு தொடர்கதை

15. இந்து முஸ்லீம் கிறிஸ்தவ மும்மதமும் சம்மதமாய்
வந்துதித்த நம்நாடு நாம் வாழும் மன்னார் அதனைப்
போற்றிப் புகழ்ந்திடுவோம் பொன் போலக் காத்திடுவோம்.
மாற்றார் அபகரிக்க விடமாட்டோம் மாற்றுக் கருத்துக்கிடமில்லை இனி

16. கிரேக்க நாட்டு அரண்மனையில் கீர்த்தி கண்டது எங்கள் முத்து
உரோமை நாட்டு அரண்மனையில் ஒளி பாய்ச்சியது எங்கள் முத்து
சீனதேசம் வங்கதேசம் சிங்கைநகர் மங்கையர் அணிந்தது எங்கள் முத்து
சிலாவத்துறை தந்த முத்து அது செந்தமிழன் பெருமை பேசும் எங்கள் சொத்து

17. பற்பல தேசங்கள் கடந்து நாம் வாழ்ந்தாலும்
பொற்காசு கைநிறையக் கோடியெனக் குவித்தாலும்
நற்றவப் பயனாய் நாம்பிறந்த நன்னாடு மன்னாரைப்
போற்ற மறப்பேனோ பொங்கு தமிழ் நெஞ்சே நீ சொல்

சந்தியாப்பிள்ளை பெனடிக்ற்
Santhiyappillai Benedict



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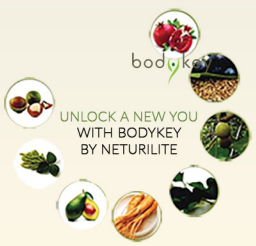

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MANNAR BASIN

A Sea of Possibilities

What lies beneath the water matters. What reaches the people of Mannar matters just as much.

For Mannar, the sea is a workplace, a source of food and a link between generations. Renewed interest in offshore energy brings hope - but success must mean lasting opportunity, protected livelihoods and a fair share of progress.

4 offshore blocks
2026 licensing round [1]

~34,000 km²
offered in 2026 [1]

2011 discoveries
Dorado & Barracuda [2]

Potential, not a promise

Sri Lanka launched its 2026 licensing round on 25 August, inviting qualified companies to explore four Mannar Basin blocks. Licensing permits evaluation and exploration; it does not mean production has begun. [1]

Evidence beneath the sea

Cairn Lanka discovered natural gas at Dorado and Barracuda in 2011. The finds demonstrated hydrocarbons in the basin, but do not establish a commercially viable project today. [2]

Resources are not reserves

Prospective resources are potentially recoverable quantities in undiscovered accumulations. Reserves concern discovered accumulations linked to commercial development under defined conditions. A large estimate is not money already in the bank. [3]

What must happen next

Watch for credible exploration commitments, drilling results, appraisal and a published development proposal. Commercial development needs recoverable volumes, major investment in wells and facilities, a buyer, a viable price and a route to market. Ask how it will be financed and what safeguards will apply.

A future Mannar can share

Benefits need a plan from the start. These priorities are recommendations, not confirmed projects or promised returns.

01 Skills and local enterprise

Build scholarships, apprenticeships and recognised training in engineering, marine operations, safety and data. Publish supplier needs early; help local firms meet quality, safety and insurance standards. Award contracts transparently.

02 Infrastructure and public income

Assess roads, water, power and communications against demonstrated public need. Ports or power stations are not automatic benefits. If production brings revenue, disclose payments and spending, with independent oversight and prudent investment in lasting public services.

03 Community voice and knowledge

Involve fishing communities before surveys and siting decisions. Share information in Tamil and Sinhala, provide clear complaints procedures and justified compensation. Partner with universities and technical colleges on training, marine research and appropriate non-sensitive data.

PROTECT THE SEA. PROTECT THE LIVELIHOOD.

Fishing access: Map fishing grounds, publish vessel schedules and agree safe routes and a fair grievance process.
Marine life: Assess habitats and sensitive seasons; control survey noise and require independent monitoring.
Pollution & climate: Require robust wells, tested spill response, waste controls and operator liability. Measure methane, avoid routine flaring and compare costs and emissions with renewable alternatives.

A legacy for the next generation: careers close to home, a meaningful voice for fishing families and a protected coast. Offshore energy may play a part; evidence, fairness and stewardship must lead.

Sources: [1] PDASL, “Sri Lanka Licensing Round 2026 Launched”, 25 Aug 2026 (pdasl.gov.lk/news). [2] PDASL, exploration history (pdasl.gov.lk). [3] SPE et al., Petroleum Resources Management System, 2018 (spe.org). Original article facts checked 27 Oct 2026.

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அம்பாறை, மன்னார், கொழும்பு
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VOTE OF THANKS

It is our privilege and honour to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to making our 25th Anniversary Mannar Night such a spectacular success. An evening like this does not happen by chance. It is made possible by the dedication, talent, hard work and commitment of many individuals working behind the scenes and on stage. First and foremost, we extend our sincere appreciation to all our entertainment performers, singers, dancers and artists who shared their incredible talents and kept our guests entertained throughout the evening. Your performances brought life, energy and excitement to this special celebration. A very special thank you to our MC-Jude Aloysius, and DJ-Robin, for tirelessly keeping the atmosphere vibrant, alive, and ensuring everyone had a wonderful time.

Our lasting gratitude to all our AD sponsors. Your financial support makes our mission possible.

Meleni David - MD Law (Diamond - $3000//)
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Our Raffle grand prize $500// sponsors, Sampaul Peris & Selvakumar Peris, who've travelled from UK to join us in celebrating our 25th anniversary we express our lasting gratitude. Our Raffle 2nd prize $300// sponsors, Emarancia & Joseph Koduthor Santhanpillai, your continued support of MFA is as always appreciated and recognized. Our Raffle 3rd prize $100// sponsor, Baskaran Soosaithasan, we thank you for your continued support.

VOTE OF THANKS

Thanks to our Raffle Early bird draw sponsors :

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Our thanks to each of you who've made a Cash Donation:

George Nicholas ($100) / Ben Jeyanathan ($100) / Timothy Cross ($100) / Raymond Santiago ($75)
Giritharan Dharmarajah ($50) / Suthaharan Arumugam ($50)

We're most touched by our brothers form Mannar Welfare Association (MWA), United Kingdom (UK), who've traveled to Toronto to join us in rejoicing 25 years of trials & triumphs. Each of you from UK and USA being here despite all the obstacles, makes this all the more special.

Sudarasan Anthonypillai – Current President of MWA
Anton Vandakon Sebamalaimuthu – Past President of MWA
James Christuraja Pathinathan – Past President of MWA
Puvindran Masilamany – Past President of MWA
Navanathan Navaratnam – Entrepreneur from UK
Maheswaraj Balasubramanium – Head of Networks for UK Central Government, Cabinet office.
Anthony Sampaul Peris and Anthony Selvakumar Peris from UK
Sri Baskaran Nadarajah – Entrepreneur from New York, USA

Thanks to all our service providers for extending their knowledge and technical expertise to make this night a success.

DJ - Robin / Photographer - Ruban / Videographer - Ganga - Video
LED Stage back-drop - Prashant & Dhanaraj / Security & Ticket Booth - Nimal G & Ram
Metropolitan Centre - Banquet - Jeya Ponnuchamy & Staff
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On behalf of the Mannar Friendship Association, we extend our heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you. May the friendships we have built continue to grow, may our community continue to prosper, and may the Mannar Friendship Association continue to serve generations to come.

Thank you, everyone, and have a wonderful evening.
Safe travels home!



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