## நினைவு மலர்



In Memory of

Siva Sivapragasam

Dec 17, 1937 - Oct 27, 2023



'எඪෙන අවා පිනිස් කින් අඛ්ෂා නැත්ස කිහි අදිවිත් කර් සි

- இராமலிங்க சுவாமிகள்

#### அமரர். து.சிவபிரகாசம்





#### Thuraisingam Sivapragasam

(Former Circulation and Advertisement -Manager of Express Newspapers - Virakesari, Editor Monsoon Journal, Canada)

Passed away in Canada on 27/10/2023. Loving husband of late Sivapakkialakshmi Sivapragasam Loving son of late Thanigasalam Duraisingam (Architect) and late Selvanayaki Sivapragasam Beloved father of Premilla and Loving father-in-law of Sivakumaran Thambiayah Grandfather of Anjali and Harikesh Son in law of the late Dr.Ramasamy Nitchingam and late Sakunthala Brother of late Balasingham, late Rajasingham, late Sivakumaran and Ambikai Loving Brother in law of the late Dr.Christy Navaneelan, Dr.Rachel Navaneelan, late Selvakulalingam, Sivanes Selvakulalingam, late Sivakumaran, Meena Nitchingam, late Sivaranjan, Sumathy Sivaranjan, Sivananthan Nitchingam, Pramila Sivananthan, Ratnes Sivakumaran, Rajdurai Beloved uncle of Ashok, Mathanki, Sharmini, Ossington, Anthony, Joshua, Tanya, Siva Selva, Amber, Jack Selva, Havishmi, Shankaran, Sharon, Saku.

மண்ணுலகில்: டிசம்பர் 17, 1937 • விண்ணுலகில்: ஒக்டோபர் 27, 2023



Wedding Ceremony of Sivapragasam & Sivapakkialakshmi

#### வீநாயகர் வணக்கம்

வாக்குண்டாம் நல்ல மனமுண்டாம் மாமலராள் நோக்குண்டாம் மேனி நடங்காது - yக்கொண்டு தப்பார் திருமேனித் தம்பிக்கை யான்பாதம் தப்பாமற் சார்வார் தமக்கு.

– ஒளவையார்

#### பஞ்சபுராணம் தேவாரம்

மாதர்ப் பிறைக்கண்ணி யானை மலையான் மக்கொரும் பாடிப் போகுநாடு நீர்சுமந் தெத்திப் புகுவா ரவர்பின் புகுகவன் யாதுஞ் சுவடு படாமல் ஓயா றடைகின்ற போது காதன் மடப்பிடி யொடுங் களிற வருவன கண்டேன் கண்கிடனவர்திருப் பாதங் கண்டறி யாதன கண்கிடன்

வளர்வதிக் கண்ணியி னானை வார்குழு லாளொடும் பாடிக் களவு படாதிதார் காலங் காண்பான் கடைக்கணிற் கின்றேன் அளவு படாதிதொ ரன்போ டையா றடைகின்ற போது இளவண நாகு தழுவி மேறு வருவன கண்டேன் கண்டேனவர்திருப் பாதங் கண்டறி யாதன கண்டேன்

– அப்பர் சுவாமிகள்

#### த்நவாசகம்

உள்ளப் படாத திருஉருவை உள்ளுதலும் கள்ளப் படாத களிவந்த வான்கருணை வெள்ளப் பிரான்என் பிரான்என்னை வெகிறஆட் கொள்ளப் பிராணுக்கே சென்றாதாய் கொத்தும்பீ

– மாணிக்கவாசக சுவாமிகள்

#### **திநவிசைப்பா**

மாலுலா மனந்தந் தென்கையிற் சங்கம் வவ்வினான் மலைமகள் மதலை மேலுலாந் 6தவர் குலமுடி தாளுங் குமரிவள் வள்ளிதன் மணாளன் 6சலுலாங் கழனித் திருவிடைக் கழியில் திருக்குரா நீழற்கீழ் நின்ற மேலுலாந் தடக்கை 6வந்தன்என் 6சந்தன் என்னும்என் பெல்லியல் இவமீள

– சேந்தனார்

#### **தருப்பல்லாண்டு**

ஆரார் வந்தார் அவரர் குழாத்தில் அணியுடை ஆதிரைநாள் நாரா யண்டுனாடு நான்முகன் அங்கி இரவியும் இந்திரனும் திரையல் திதவர் குழாங்கள் திசையனைத்தும் நிறைந்து பாரார் தொல்புகழ் பாடியும் ஆடியும் பல்லாண்டு கூறுகுடேம

– சேந்தனார்

#### பெரியபுராணம்

கற்பனை கடந்த 6சாதி
கருணையை யுருவ மாகி
அற்புதக் 6கால நீடி
யருமறைச் சிரத்தின் மேலாஞ்
சிற்பர வியோம மாகுந்
திருச்சிற்றம் பலத்துள் நின்று
பெருப்புடன் நடஞ்செய் கின்ற
பூங்கழல் 6பாற்றி 6பாற்றி

– சேக்கிழார்

#### பத்னோராம் திருமுறை

நன்றும் ஆதரம் நாவிறுக் கரைசடி நளினம்வைத் தயினல்லால்.

இன்றும் ஆவது கண்டிலம் உபாயம்மற் றுள்ளன 6வண்6டாமால்

என்றும் ஆதியும், அந்தமும் இல்லந்தார் இகபரத் திடைப்பட்டுப்

பொன்ற வார்புகும் சூழலில் புக்கம்புகில் பொறியில்னும் புலக்னாக்ட.

– நம்பியாண்டார் நம்பி

#### தருப்புகழ்

പ്രവർ തുമുമുന്നു വെയുന്നും അവരു പ്രവേശം പ്രവേശം പ്രവേശം പ്രവേശം പ്രവേശം പ്രവേശം പ്രവേശം പ്രവേശം പ്രവേശം പ്രവേശം

டிரம் சுற்புகு மாரா நிமாகம் போக அந்தரி பாலா நிமாகம் நாக பந்தம் யூரா நிமாரம் ...... பரசூரர்

திர சம்ப்ரம விரா குமொரும் ...... கிரிராஜ

தீப மங்கள 6ஓாதீ நகமாநம தாய அம்பல லீலா நகமாநம கதவ குரு்சரி பாகா நகமாநம ...... அருள்தாராய்

ஈத லும்பல கௌலா லபூஜையும் இத லுங்குண ஆசா ரநீதியும் ஈர முங்குரு சீர்பா தகௌவயு ...... மறவாத

ஏழ்த் லம்புகழ் காகவ ரியால்விளை சொழ மண்டல மீக்க மக்காகர ராஜ கெம்பிர நாடா ளுநாயக ...... வயலூரா

ஆத ரம்பயி வாரூ ரர்6தாழமை 6சர்தல் கொண்டவ 6ரா6ட முனாளினில் ஆடல் வெம்பரி மீ6த நிமாகயி ...... லையி6லகி

ஆதி யந்தவு லாவா சுபாடிய செரர் கொங்குவை காவூர் நனாடதில் ஆவி னன்குடி வாழ்வா னீதேவர்கள் ...... பெருமாகள்.

– அருணகிரிநாதர் சுவாமிகள்

#### वार्येष वार्यात

கலையாத கல்வியும் குறையாத வயது கிமார்

கன்றாத வளமையுங் குன்றாத இளமையும் கடிலிணியிலாத உடலும்

ಕಮ್ಮಗಕ ಬಡ(ಚುಸು अಷ್ಟ अಕಮಗಕ ಬಹಾಡಮುಟ್ಟುಸು

தாழாத கீர்த்தியும் மாறாத வார்த்தையும் தடைகள் வாராத கொடையும்

தெள்வையாத நீதியமும் கொணாத கொலும் ஒரு

துய்ய நின் பாதத்தில் அன்பும் உதவி பெரிய தொண்டதொரு கூட்டு கண்டாய்

அலையாழி அறிதுயில் மாயனது தங்கையே! ஆதிகட வூரின் வாழ்வே! அலையாழி அறிதுயில் மாயனது தங்கையே! ஆதிகட வூரின் வாழ்வே!

अक्रिकंत कु (फ्रांचिकं अवशति कवणतिकारी अ(फ्रिंच्यानिकी अधीतारिक्या

தனம் தரும் கல்வி தரும் ஒரு நாளும் தளர்வு அறியா மனம் தரும் தெய்வ வடிவும் தரும் நெஞ்சில் வஞ்சம் இல்லா இனம் தரும் நல்லன எல்லாம் தரும் அன்பர் என்பவர்க்கெ கனம் தரும் பூங்குழலாள் அபிராமி கடைக்கண்களே

– அபிராமி பட்டர்

#### வீநாயகர் நான்மணிமாலை

பக்தி யுடையார் காரியத்திற் பதறார், மிகுந்த பொறுமையுடன் வித்து முளைக்குந் தன்மைபோல் மெல்லச் செய்து பயனடைவார், சக்தி தொழில்ல அனைத்துமெனிற் சார்ந்த நமக்குச் சஞ்சலமேன்? வித்தைக் கிறைவா, கணநாதா, மென்மைத் தொழிலிற் பணியெனையே. எனக்கு 6வண்டும் வரங்களை இசைப்6பன் 6களாய் கணபதி. மனத்திற் சலன மில்லாமல், மதியில் இரு6ள 6தான்றாமல், நினைக்கும் பொழுது நின்மவுன நிலைவந்திடநீ 6செயல்6வண்டும், கனக்குரு 61சல்வம் நூறு வயது இவையும் தரநீ கடவா6ய.

– மகாகவி சுப்பிரமணிய பாரதியார்

#### நல்லதோர் வீணை செய்தே

நல்லந்தார் வீணை செய்ந்த - அதை நலங்கெடப் புழுதியில் எறிவதுண்டோ? சொல்லடி சிவசக்தி - எனைச் கடர்மிகும் அறிவுடன் படைத்துவிட்டாய். வல்லமை தாராநியா, - இந்த மாநிலம் பயனுற வாழ்வதற்நக? சொல்லடி, சிவசக்தி - நிலச் சுமைபென வாழ்ந்திடப் புரிகுவைபோ?

விசையுறு பந்தினைப்போல் - உள்ளம் வேண்டிய படி செலும் உடல்கெட்டேன். நசையறு மனங்கெட்டேன் - நித்தம் நவிவனச் சுடர்தரும் உயிர்கெட்டேன். தசையினைத் தீசுடினும் - சிவ சக்தியைப் பாடும்நல் அகங்கெட்டேன். அசைவுறு மதிகேட்டேன் - இவை அருள்வதில் உனக்கெகுந் தடையுளகதா?

– மகாகவி சுப்பிரமணிய பாரதியார்

#### நந்சிந்தனை ~ திருந்தாண்டகம்: எங்கள் குருநாதன்

எங்கள் குருநாதன் எழில்நல்லை வாசன் இங்கும் அங்கும் எங்கும் பிரகாசன்

மங்கள கரமான வாக்யப்ர சாதன் மாறாத பெளன தியானப்ர 6விசன்

அன்பர்ச காயன் ஆனந்த சாகரன் அல்லும் பகலும்நல்லை வீதியிற் 6சகரன் என்பிழை யாவும் பொழுத்தெனை யாண்டவன் இரவும் பகலுபென்றன் மனத்தினில் தாண்டவன்

வஞ்சம் பொறாமைக்கோபம் வைத்திடும் மாந்தர்க்கும் அஞ்சாகத் பென்றருளை மீந்திடுஞ் சுதந்திரன் கஞ்ச மலர்ப்பதத்தைக் கனவிலும் மறகவார்க்குப் பஞ்சாமிர் தம்போபினஞ்சிற் பண்புட னினிப்பவன்

– யோகர் சுவாமிகள்

#### <u>செந்தூர்</u> செல்லும் தென்<u>ந</u>ல்

செந்தூர் செல்லும் தென்றல் காற்றே முருகனைக் காண்பா6யா - அவன் செவடி நிழலில் செர்ந்திட நானும் வருவதைச் சொல்வா6யா

இடிடும்6பாது என் குறை கீடிட்க இரு கொடி நில்லா6யா உனைத் கேடிடும் வேளை நான்வரும் 6சதி அவனிடம் சொல்லா6யா

நால்வகைப் பாடல் மல்லிகை முல்லை நறுமணம் உன்6னாடு - வெறும் ஆசைகள் குன்பம் ஆயிரம் இங்6க அடியவன் என்6னாடு.

ஆழ்கடல் கூழ்ந்த ஆறுகள் எல்லாம் இனைந்து ஒன்றாகும் நல்லதாய் மனம் கொண்ட மேலவன் முன்னால் அனைவரும் ஒன்றாகும்.

– டி. எம். சௌந்தரராஜன்

#### தோத்திரப் பாடல்கள்

#### த்நவநட்பா

இருபையுடன் நினது திருவலருடி நினைக்கின்ற உத்தவர்தல் உறவு கவண்டும் உள்ளொன்று வைத்துப் புறவெளன்று பேசுவார் உறவு கலவாமை கவண்டும் பெருமை பெறு நினது புகழ் பேச கவண்டும். பொய்மை பேசாதிருக்க கவண்டும் பெருவநா பிடித்தொழுக கவண்டும். மதமான பேய் பிடியாதிருக்க கவண்டும் மருவு பெண்ணாசையை மறக்க கவண்டும். உனை மறவாதிருக்க கவண்டும் மதிகவண்டும் நின் கருணை நிதி கவண்டும் கருமமிகு சென்னையில் கந்த கொட்டத்துள் வளர் கலகமாங்கு கர்க்க கேவிள்

– வள்ளலார் – இராமலிங்க அடிகளார்

தண் முகத் தய்யமணி உண் முகச் சை வமணி சண் முகத் தெய்வ மணி 6ய.

#### auuls unlsachn

எப்படி பாடின்கிரா அடியார் அப்படிப் பாட நான் ஆசை கொண்கிடன் சிவிக்ன!

அப்பரும் சுந்தரரும் ஆளுடைப் பிள்ளையும் அருள் மணி வாசகரும் பொருளுணர்ந்து உன்னையே

குருமணி சங்காரும் அருமை தாயுமானாரும் அருணகிர் நாதரும் அருட்டுஜாதி வள்ளலும் கருணைக்கடல் பெருகி காதலினால் உருகி கனித்தமிழ் சொல்லினால் இனிதனை அறுதினம்

– சுத்தானந்த பாரதி

#### ஓம் ~ ஓரெழுத்து மந்திரம்

இங்காரம் எனவும் பிரணவ மந்திரம் எனவும்
அழைக்கப்படும் 'ஓம்' எனும் ஓபெரமுத்து மந்திரமே
மந்திரங்களில்லிய மிகவும் பிரபலமானதும் அதிகம்
உச்சரிக்கப்படுவதும் ஆகும். சாதாரண வழக்கில்
இதனைத் தமிழில் இரண்டு எழுத்துக்களின் துணை
கொண்டு எழுதினாலும், 'அ', 'உ', 'ம்' எனும் சப்தங்களின்
கேர்க்கையினால் வரும் 'ஓம்' எனும் சப்தம் ' ' ' எனும் விகேட எழுத்தின் துணை கொண்டும் தமிழில்
எழுதப்படுகிறது. சமஸ்கிருதத்திலும் இது ' 35' எனும்
விக்சட எழுத்தின் துணை கொண்டு எழுதப்படுகிறது.

இம் எனும் மந்திரம் பரம்பொருளான இறைவனைக் குறிக்கின்றது. பரம்பொருளுக்கு குணங்கிளா உருவங்கிளா இல்லை. குணிமோ உருவிமோ அற்ற பரம்பொருளை மன்தில் நிறத்தி வழிபடுவிதா தியானிப்பிதா சாதாரண மக்களால் இயலாத காரியம் என்பதால் பல்டிவறு உருவங்ளைப் பரம்பொருளைக் குறிக்கும் அடையாளமாகப் பயன்படுத்தி வழிபடுவது இந்து மதத்தில் அனுமதிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அப்படி வழிபட்டு ஆன்மிக முதிர்ச்சி அடைந்த சாதகர்கள், குணங்கிளா வடிவிமா அற்ற பரம்பொருளை குணங்கிளா அல்லது கவறு வடிவங்களோ இல்லாத வெறும் சப்த வடிவில் மட்டும் வழிபட 'ஓம்' எனும் மந்திரம் உதவுகிறது. இதனாலேலிய வேத மந்திரங்கள் பல 'ஓம்' என்று ஆரம்பிக்கின்றன. மேலும் சாஸ்திர நூல்களில் கூறப்பட்டிருக்கும் விதிகளுக்கு அமைய மூச்சை உள்ளிழுத்து வெளியே விடும் பொழுது ஓம் எனும் மந்திரத்தை உச்சரிக்கும் போது அது நமது மனதின் வேகத்தைக் குறைத்து மனதை அமைதிப்படுத்துகிறது. இதனாலேலிய இந்து மத சம்பிரதாயத்தில் எதனையும் ஆரம்பிக்கும் முதல் 'ஓம்' என மூன்று முறை அவ்வண்ணம் உச்சரிப்பது வழக்கமாக இருக்கிறது.

கதொபரிஷதத்தில் யலதர்லன் நசிக்கதனுக்குப் பெருண்மையை போதிக்கும் பொது. இவிதர்கள் அனைத்தும் ஒருமித்துக் காட்டும் இலக்கு ஓம் இதனை அடைவதற்கே பிரம்மச்சரியம் கடைப்பிடிக்கப்படுகிறத் பிரம்மகம் ஓம் இதனைத் தியானிப்பவர்கள் இதனை அடைகின்றனர். பிரம்மத்தை அடைவதற்கு இதுகிவ சிறந்த வழி" என்று கூறுகின்றான்.

முண்டக உபரிஷதல். வில்லின் துணைபிகாண்டு எவ்வாறு அல்பொன்று இலக்கை அடைகிறுதோ அடுத் டி போன்று 'ஓல்' எனுல் லந்திரத்தைப் பயன்படுத்தி ஜீவாத்லா பரலாத்லாவை அடைய டிவண்டுல் என்று கூறி ஆன்லிக ஈடேற்றத்திற்கு வழிகாட்டுகிறது.

தைத்திரீய உபநிடிதம். "பிரம்மகம் ஓம் இவை

அனைத்தும் ஓம் ஆமோதிப்பதற்கு அடையாளம் ஓம் எனும் சப்தம் என்பது பிரசித்தம் கடவுளை நோக்கிக் கூறப்படுவது ஓம் ஓம் எனும் சப்தத்துடன் ஆரம்பித்து சாம வேதம் பாடப்படுகிறத் ஓம் என்று கூறி சாஸ்திரங்கள் பாராயணம் செய்யப்படுகின்றன்... பிரம்மா ஓம் என்று கூறி அங்கீகரிக்கின்றார் பிராம்மணன் ஓம் என்று கூறியை வது மந்திரங்களை உச்சரிக்கின்றான்" என 'ஓம்' எனும் மந்திரத்தின் பெருமையைக் கூறகின்றது. (இலங்கை வாழ் தமிழர்கள் ஒன்றை ஆம்மாதிக்கும் பொது 'ஓம்' என்று கூறவதன் பின்னணி மேல்ல தைத்திரீய உபநிடிதத்தில் கூறப்பட்டிருக்கும் விடயமாக இருக்கலாம்).

மாண்டுக்ய உபநிடிதம். "ஓம் பரம்பொருளைக் குறிக்கின்றத் ஓம் 'அ', 'உ', 'ம்' எனும் சப்தங்களைக் கொண்டது. 'அ' எனும் சப்தம் விழிப்பு நிலையையும். 'உ' எனும் சப்தம் கனவு நிலையையும், 'ம்' எனும் சப்தம் உறக்க நிலையையும் குறிக்கின்றன" என்று கூறி, இம்மூன்று நிலையையும் கடந்த நிலையான துரீயம் எனப்படும் பரம்பொருளைய 'ஓம்' குறிக்கின்றது என்று கூறி அந்தப் பரம்பொருளை அடைவதற்கான ஆன்மிக சாதனையாக ஓங்கார உபாசனையையும் ஓங்காரம் எனப்படும் ஓபெருத்து மந்திரத்தின் சிறப்பையும் விளக்குகின்றது. கிமலும் அனைத்தினதும் தொடக்கமும் மத்தியும் அந்தமும் 'ஓம்' என்றும் இதனை அறிந்தவர்கள் பரம்பொருளை அடைகின்றனர் என்றும் கூடறகின்றது. இதன் மேலம் 'ஓம்' என்பது அனைத்திற்கும் ஆதாரமாக இருக்கும் பரம்பொருளைக் குறிக்கின்றது என்பதைக் காணலாம்.

பகவத் கீதையில் பகவான் "ஓம் எனும் ஓபெரழுத்து மந்திரமே பிரம்மம். இதனைக் கூடறி என்னைத் தியானீத்து இவ்வுலகை விட்டு நீங்குபவன் பரம கதியை அடைகிறான்" என்றம். "அனைத்து வேதங்களிலும் நாகன பிரணவமாக இருக்கின்கேறன்" என்றம் "நாகன ஓம்" என்றும். கூடறுகிறார். திருமூலர் திருமந்திரத்தில "ஓங்காரத்துள்கள் உதித்த ஓம் புதங்கள் ஓங்காரத்துள்கள உதித்த சராசரம்" என்று கூடறுவதிலிருந்து. ஓங்காரம் என்பது இந்த உலகத்திற்கே ஆதாரமாக இருக்கும் பரம்பொருளைக் குறிக்கின்றது என்பது தெளிவாகின்றது.

சமகாலத்தில் நம்மிடையே வாழ்ந்த மோகர் சுவாமிகள் "ஓங்கார மேடையின் மேல்லறி நின்றேன் ஒன்றையும் காலிணாம்.." என்று கூறவதிலிருந்து அனைத்தையும் கடந்த பரம்பொருளைக் குறிப்பதாகவும் அந்த நிலையை அடைவதற்கான ஒரு சாதனமாகவும் 'ஓம்' எனும் மந்திரம் இருக்கின்றது என்று அறியப்படுகிறது.

மேலும் முருகப் பெருமான் நடாத்திய நாடகத்தில் பிரம்மாவுக்கு பிரணவ இரகசியம் தெரிந்திருக்கவில்லை. பிரம்மாகிவா படைப்பின் அதிபதி. ஆனால் அவர் பிரணவ இரகசியத்தை அறிந்திருக்கவில்லை என்பதிலிருந்து பிரணவ மந்திரம் படைப்பிற்கு அப்பாற்பட்டு படைப்பிற்கு ஆதாரமாக இருக்கும் பரம்பொருளைக் குறிப்பது என்பது புரிகிறது.

இவ்வாறு. ஓம் என்பது பரம்பொருளை குறிக்கவும், தியானத்திற்குரிய சப்தமாகவும், ஆன்மிக சாதனைக்குரிய உபாசனையாகவும், நமது அன்றாட வாழ்வின் இறைவனை நினைவூட்டும் ஒரு மந்திரமாகவும் இருந்து ஆன்மிக சாதனைக்கு உதவுகிறது. என்மே மந்திரங்களிமையே பிரபலமானதாகவும் அதிகம் உச்சரிக்கப்படுவதாகவும் 'ஓம்' இருப்பதில் வியப்பேதுமில்லை.

– சுவாமி குணாதீதானந்த சரஸ்வதி

## We Love you Pata forever

By: Anjali (Granddaughter)

he number of close friends, cousins, and colleagues Pata had throughout his life was as vast as a small country. He would often mention someone he talked to and say to me, "this, you know, is one of my dearest friends." And I would respond, "another one?" But to them, he was their good, best, or long-term friend of many years, Siva. All his friends would share with me how they were impressed by his work ethic and brilliance. Even into his 80s, he took on new projects and continued to support the paper. He was the most honest and soft-spoken man they knew. No matter the topic, he could always relate it to a captivating story. Not only were Pata's cousins close to him, but Ammama's cousins also became his dear friends. His friends, including Logan, Kula, Ajith, Mohan, Sathie, Alf, Nirmalan, Rajabalan, Roland, Thurai, and many more, helped shape the stories he loved to tell and brought him immense happiness.

Pata lived a simple life but had an extraordinary impact.



He was the second oldest among his four siblings: the late Balasingham, the late Rajasingham, the late Sivakumaran, and his sister Ambikai. While he cherished all his siblings, his bond with Ambikai, the only girl, was particularly strong and protective. In the last few months, Pata had plans to reunite with her, displaying his impatience to be by her side in Sri Lanka. He treasured the special bond he shared with Ambikai, a bond unaffected by distance or time.

Pata sought the company of sisters and had two more, sister-in-laws to be precise. My kunjumani aunty from Australia was like a sister to him, and he referred to her as "mani." His relationship with her remained strong even after Ammama's passing. He continued to call her weekly, a tradition he started when Ammama was still alive, saying, "it's because it's what Ammama would do."

Dr. Rachel Navaneelan was his other sister-in-law, lovingly known as "bubby." Pata often spoke about taking her to the bookstore and protecting her while she studied for exams. He was immensely proud of her accomplishments, confidently predicting that she would either become a doctor or marry one, and she accomplished both.

Pata had warm relationships with his brother-in-laws, including the late Neelan, the late Choutey, the late Kitchen, and Kundo uncle. These relationships were characterized by endless stories, weekly phone calls, paternal advice, and the recurring question, "Athan, can I get you another glass of wine?" followed by a disapproving look from Ammama.

In his later years, Pata found great joy in his nieces and nephews, celebrating their achievements, career successes, relationships, and family milestones. His nephews and nieces, including Ashok, Sharmini, Patiyah, Kunchan, Tony, Tanya, Shankaran, Sahu, and Havishmi, brought him immense happiness. He was present for significant family events, such as the birth of Shankaran's daughter Arya and Tony's marriage to his long-term partner, Josh.

Sivakumar, his son-in-law, was more than just that; he was Pata's son. They shared daily chats about politics and news, and Pata appreciated the delicious fruit salad Sivakumar made for him. He considered Sivakumar an exemplary father and husband and appreciated his unwavering support and

willingness to help. Pata often expressed his gratitude for Sivakumar, considering him a blessing to the family.

Pata's grandson, my brother Harikesh, meant the world to him. Pata often said that Harikesh was his vision, with each eye representing my brother and me. He was impressed by Harikesh's knowledge and assistance with technology. Pata fondly referred to him as "the miracle," admiring his pure and kind-hearted nature.

Pata had one child, but he believed that was all he needed. His daughter, my mother Premilla, was his pride. She cared for Pata with immense dedication, especially after Ammama's passing. Pata often told his friends that no one could care for him as well as his daughter did. He admired her hard work and independence, recognizing that she achieved her success on her own. His love for her was boundless, and it will endure, as the love between a father and daughter is unique.

I remember when I wrote my Ammama's Eulogy not too long ago, my main goal was to focus on her family and how much they meant to her because she wasn't one to seek the spotlight. With Pata, it was a different story. He loved to share his accomplishments and stories. He enjoyed reminding everyone that he was a media man and that he once shook hands with Justin Trudeau. However, when he spoke about his achievements, he did so with humility and grace, inspiring others to listen a little longer.

Pata was an accomplished journalist and editor who composed and published many remarkable articles. But his influence extended beyond journalism. He became the local career center, helping friends and family find employment. Whenever someone needed a job, he would confidently say, "Don't worry, let me make a call, and I'll

get you a job." He even considered himself a matchmaker, with many turning to him to find suitable matches for their children. And, of course, he was a promoter, endorsing various businesses in his community. Pata's repetition was a key strategy: he encouraged you to keep visiting the places he recommended until you gave in. He wasn't just a great media man but also someone always ready to lend a helping hand, a testament to his lifelong priorities. I believe that, in one way or another, big or small, recent or distant, he has touched the lives of everyone he ever knew.

Ammama was Pata's true love and life partner. They didn't display traditional affection but had a unique bond characterized by endless teasing and bickering. When Pata spoke about Ammama in an adoring way, it would annoy her, but he relished that reaction because it was quintessentially Ammama. Where Ammama was loud, Pata was soft; where she was assertive, he was passive. Her strength came from her husband, and his words were a great source of comfort. They had two pieces of advice for newlyweds: marriage is built on a give-and-take policy and requires patience. Ammama's patience lasted long, and she gave Pata to be with us for the past eight months. However, they couldn't bear to be apart any longer, and now they are eternally reunited, as their love and bond remained unbroken.

My Pata, Patikins, my Boo. I've never been one to express affection openly or wear my emotions on my sleeve, but with you, I couldn't resist showering you with hugs, kisses, and heartfelt expressions of love. You were more than just my grandfather; you were like a second father to me. You protected me, provided guidance, embraced me, and supported me throughout my entire life. Everyone who

knew me was familiar with you because I often spoke about you, emphasizing your paramount importance in my life. Even my friends know you as the legendary 'Pata.' Many of them are here today, thanks to your genuine interest in them. You'd inquire about their well-being, their endeavors, and endearingly assign them countless nicknames, never forgetting a single one. You even offered rides to my friends, despite Mom's occasional admonitions. I have a vivid memory from my early years that Pata often recalled. I was at an age where I was still learning to talk, and I repeatedly uttered the phrase 'showtopata.' Initially, I thought it was the name of some distant relative I couldn't remember. But you clarified that my mother had bought me a new pair of shoes, and the first thing I wanted to do when I put them on was to show them to you, Pata. This continued throughout my life. Whenever I achieved something noteworthy or accomplished a goal, you were the first person I wanted to share it with. When I recently graduated from law school and received my certificate, the very first person I texted and called was you, Pata, because I always wanted to make you proud. I am profoundly grateful for all the time and memories I shared with you, Pata, because not every grandchild has the privilege of spending almost every day of their life with their grandparents. Selfishly, I wish I could have had you with me for even longer, to witness more of my milestones. However, you made a promise to stay until my graduation, and you kept that promise. So, thank you for being my soulmate; no one can ever replace you or the love you bestowed upon me. I cherish this bond because it is the strongest connection I've ever known. I will miss you, and living life without you will undoubtedly be challenging. Yet, I will always carry you with me, no matter where I am. I

love you, Boo Boo. Pata lived a remarkable life spanning 85 years, filled with achievements and accomplishments. The people gathered in this room today serve as living proof of his extraordinary journey. While we will all grieve for a while, we can find solace in the knowledge that Pata fulfilled everything he wanted and needed to before departing. He left us with the assurance that we will eventually find peace and healing.



Sivapragasam with Granddaughter

# Siva uncle with my late sister played the role of my parents since my young age

#### By: Rachael Navaneelan

first met Siva Uncle in his home on Edward Lane in Colombo, when I was very young and near the beginning of my life. And I had the fortune to be in his hospital room in Markham two days ago at the very end of his life.

In the near forty years between those encounters, Siva Uncle play

an outsized role in my life. My sister and I were not old enough to meet our maternal grandparents before they passed. But we were fortunate to have Siva Uncle and our late Rani Aunty to fill that role.

And together they gave us those things that real or chosen grandparents are always best suited to give: their love, their time, and their deep curiosity in our lives and achievements.

Like many of you, my memories of Siva Uncle are filled



with some constant themes. The unshakeable integrity of his character. The quiet humility of his personality. The incredible warmth of his smile.

But we all have our own unique memories of Siva Uncle that mark out our own special relationship with him. When I argued one of my most important cases in court, I had discussed it with Siva Uncle in the months long before it happened. And though I had forgotten about the conversation, he had keenly remembered it.



And, when the court date came and passed, a card arrived from Siva Uncle, expressing his pride and asking about the outcome. I still have that card tucked away. And it always reminds me of his typical quiet thoughtfulness.

When Rani Aunty passed away earlier this year, we had made promises at her hospital bedside that as a family we would care for Siva Uncle in her absence. And that we would do our best to fill the void her death left in his life. We thought then that he would be under our care for much longer than he was.

In the end, Premilla, Sivakumar, Harikesh and Anjali, you more than lived up to that promise we made to Rani Aunty. I know Siva Uncle felt deeply loved in these past months. And he knows that he will be sorely missed in the years to come.



# 7ribute to Siva Siva Sivapragasam

By: Raymond Rajabalan, Senior Editor, Monsoon Journal

VINI, VIDI, VICI (He came, He saw, He won) – *This saying is attributed to Julius Caesar.* 



When we review the life and times of Late Mr. Siva Sivapragasam, who passed away peacefully in Toronto at the ripe age of 86.

Sivapragasam, popularly known as Siva had a Royal beginning since he had the great privilege of having his education at the reputed Secondary school in Colombo, Royal College.

He continued his higher education at the prestigious University of Ceylon, Peradeniya Campus, since there was great harmony among all the groups of people in the island. He established lasting friendship with undergraduates belonging to every community. This was later very helpful for him to develop his professional career.

Soon after graduation he served at Jaffna college as lecturer for a short period of time after which he moved to

Colombo where he got employed at Lake House that was being run by late Wickremesinghe, the father of the current President of Sri Lanka, Ranil Wickremesinghe.

While serving at Lake House, he worked as a parliamentary news reporter, during which time he had the great opportunity of meeting many senior politicians.

Meanwhile Virakesari newspaper had several vacancies and Siva was appointed as circulation manager. It was at Virakesari that Siva was able to develop his special talents. Since he had a very good interpersonal skills, he was able to get develop a good relationship with the rest of the staff members, which in term lead to great productivity.

While serving at Virakesari, he made a number of great changes. He was the one who was responsible for bringing out a new daily newspaper called "Mithiran" which turned out to be an instant success. Soon after he was able to bring out a special edition of Virakesari for the readers in plantation sector.

Since, Siva wanted to promote the special talents of the writers from upcountry areas of Sri Lanka, he created Virakesari Publication to publish north and short story books authored by writers from Upcountry.

After serving Virakesari for nearby three decades, he moved to Canada to join the family of his only daughter Premilla.

Within a week of arriving in Canada, Siva was offered a position of Manager for a Tamils Business directory that was being published by late Mr. Nandakumar, a very talented architect.

Siva effectively managed publication for nearly four years until the business was folded up by its owner.

Just as he was about to rest Mr. Siva was called upon to be executive editor and marketing consultant of a Tamil Canadian managing newspaper "Monsoon Journal". It soon turned out to be a very successful monthly and it continued for the next 18 years. While managing the publication of Monsoon Journal, Siva had a brain wave of a Canadian edition of Virakesari newspaper which was very effectively published for some time.

Mr. Siva was also involved in the annual publication of Canadian Tamils' Chamber of Commerce, for nearly a decade.

Thus, Siva was very active almost till the time of passing away in October 2023. It must be mentioned that he brightened every project he was involved.

Mr. Siva is survived by his only daughter Premila and family.

May his soul rest in peace.

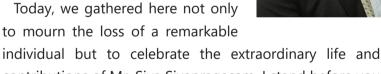


# Mr. Sivapragasam is a remarkable person

Below is the script of the eulogy delivered by the immediate past president of the Canadian Tamils' Chamber of Commerce at the funeral.

**Vina Devadas**Immediate Past President
CTCC

#### Ladies and gentlemen,



contributions of Mr. Siva Sivapragasam. I stand before you as the Immediate Past President of the CTCC, but more importantly, as a friend and admirer of a man whose impact on our lives and our chamber has been immeasurable.

Mr. Sivapragasam, or Mr. Siva or Siva Annaa or Siva Uncle as many of us fondly called him, was a true luminary in the field of journalism in Sri Lanka. For 17 years, he served as a



journalist in Canada for the Monsson Journal, illuminating the pages of print media with his sharp wit, wisdom, and unparalleled dedication. His writing was not just a profession; it was his passion, and he elevated journalism to an art form.

However, Mr. Siva's commitment to excellence extended far beyond his work as a journalist. He brought his talents and expertise to the CTCC, where he served as a board member from 2001-2003 and, most notably, as the Editor of the CTCC's Enterprise Magazine from the year 2001 until just last year 2022. It was during his tenure as the magazine's editor that we witnessed his true genius. He transformed it into a platform that not only highlighted the accomplishments of our chamber but also showcased the talents and achievements of our members and award recipients.

I still remember the day when I sat down with him for the final touches of the Enterprise Magazine in July 2022. He reminisced his days as Journalist with Virakesari in Sri Lanka. He shared many stories in his working days back then.

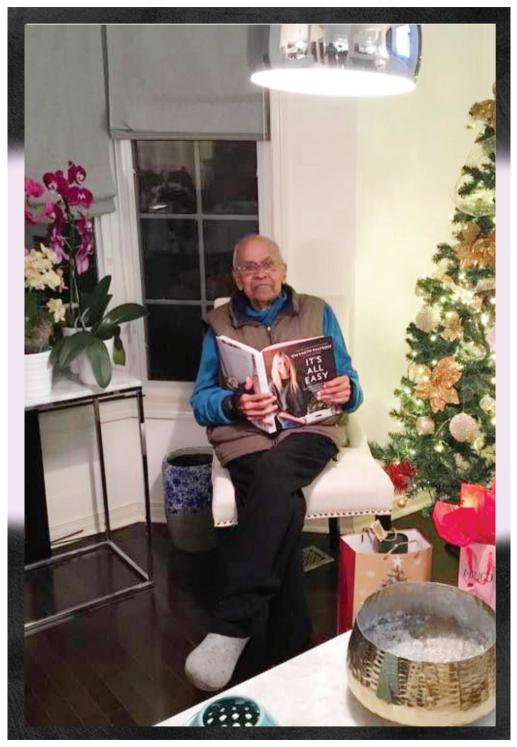
Mr. Siva was not just an editor; he was a visionary. He had a unique ability to capture the essence of our chamber and its members, bringing their stories to life in the pages of our Enterprise Magazine. His words had the power to inspire, inform, and connect us, and he did it with an unmatched level of grace and professionalism.

Even last week, he had called our incoming President, Murali Sivaguru, and congratulated him. That is how much he was involved with the Chamber even in his last days. His dedication to the chamber was unwavering, and his support for our incoming leadership was a testament to his commitment to the future of our organization.

Beyond his professional achievements, Mr. Siva was a warm and caring soul. He was always there to lend a helping hand, to offer a kind word, or to share his wisdom with anyone who sought it. His humility and genuine love for people left a lasting impact on all who had the privilege of knowing him.

As we remember Mr. Siva today, let us not just mourn the loss of an exceptional journalist, editor, and board member. Let us also celebrate the life of a man who used his talents and wisdom to enrich our lives, our chamber, and our community. His legacy will continue to inspire us to reach for excellence in all that we do, just as he did.

May his soul rest in peace, and may his memory continue to inspire us in the days and years to come.



### Mr. Sivapragasam (Siva)

# A man of class and a gentleman to the core

Every person you meet and get to know is a special creation of God. As you get to know them, you are changed to some degree as you hear their lifestory and you are affected by their personality. Every time you interact with a person, your life is altered in



Esa Para Esananda

some way. There are just a few individuals in your entire life that leave a profound and positive impact on you and Mr. Sivapragasam is certainly one of them. There are people who touch your heart instantly. They are magnetic and you are drawn to their positive attitude, energy, enthusiasm and their overflowing words of encouragement. They come into your life and you feel totally blessed. You are blessed because practically every contact with them leaves you feeling better about yourself and about life. They make you feel that life is exciting and every moment should be filled

with joy and gratitude. A person who has affected the life of many is our dear Mr. Sivapragasam. Many of us looked upon him as a mentor and guiding light.

In human life, two events are certain – birth and death. One cannot influence the manner of birth. However, one can shape the manner of death by life he led.

Mr. Sivapragasam lived and died serving God and many in so many ways. He was gifted with many great qualities.

Mr. Sivapragasam had an innate ability to relate to anyone and on any level and was most accessible regardless of his position and standing. What many of us will remember most about is his pleasant smile, love, kindness, sincerity and his general belief that everyone is good and means well. He touched people with his warmth and interest.

Time and space will not permit me to accurately convey how much Mr. Sivapragasam has meant to many and me. He has been an inspiration and example of a great man. I had the incredible privilege of knowing him for many years through Canadian Tamil's Chamber of Commerce.

His death is a great loss to his family. However, it will be some consolation to them to know that many share in their grief.

I will miss his inspirational telephone conversations and greetings - but I am so grateful for having known him.

May his soul rest in peace.

# Mr. Sivapragasam is an esteemed Journalist with conscience, honor and genuineness

Mr. Sivapragasam and I met in Canada around 1999 or 2000. I believe our first meeting was at a net-working event of the Canadian Tamils' Chamber of Commerce. Subsequently, He became the Editor for the Chamber's Monthly Newsletter and also for the annual Enterprise Magazine. He remained in these voluntary roles for a very long time. During this period, many of us in the Chamber had the opportunity to seek his advice on many issues relating to our community.

Working together at the Chamber of Commerce not only enriched our own learning development and resulted in a close collegial bond, but also escalated to a more friendly and mutually respectful relationship.

Mr. Sivapragasam's journalistic career started in Sri Lanka several decades ago, and he gave his best in many ways to the larger community in that country, and again in Canada through his editorship at Monsoon Journal and through his active participation in the community affairs.

Mr. Sivapragasam was more a listener than a talker, a giver than a taker. I would like to remember him as a friend, a colleague and an esteemed journalist with conscience, honor, and genuineness. **We will all miss him, dearly.** 

K. Gnanachandran



Sivapragasam with Daughter and his wife Sivapakkialakshmi



Sivapragasam with Daughter



Sivapragasam with Grandson

### A trailblazer in Journalism, the community loses a pioneer of our time

Exemplary contributions in Journalism & Management of Media Organizations

### By: Logan Velumailum

**C**iva Sivapragasam is a Media Professional who received his high school education the prestigious Royal College, premier а educational institution in Sri Lanka. He later graduated from the University of Sri Lanka **Economics** with an Honours Degree.



His interest and passion for Journalism made him join Lake House, the largest Newspaper group in Sri Lanka. At Lake House he worked for the Daily News, the premier English Daily in Sri Lanka in the capacity of Finance Editor for the newspaper. He later joined the Virakesari Group of Newspapers and functioned as the Secretary and Marketing Manager for the Virakesari Group for more than 30 years.

Since his arrival in Canada, Mr. Sivapragasam has continued his Media work and was managing "Thamilar Mathiyil", the Tamil Business & Information Directory.

He was also a Director of the Canadian Tamils' Chamber of Commerce and handling Publishing work for the Chamber. He was functioning as the Editor of the Chamber's annual Souvenir titled "Enterprise" for the past several years.

He had a deep love for Virakesari newspaper that made him to even bring it to action by publishing and being the Chief Editor for Canada Virakesari in Toronto for a while.

The highlight of Siva's journalistic contribution was the article on Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi titled "The beginning of the Modi Era" and selected as Chapter one in the book "Modi's Blueprint for India" published by Pentagon Press, New Delhi.

Mr. Sivapragasam possesses over 50 years of Media experience.

Until his demise, he was the Executive Editor of "Monsoon Journal", the South Asian Monthly English Newspaper for 17 years since the inception.

He will be missed by us and absolutely there is no replacement for him.



## Siva is remembered by his wisdom seven decades ago

y memories of T. Sivapragasam go back to the late 1950s when we were both residents of Marrs Hall at the University of Ceylon, Peradeniya. By a coincidence, we also had another Siva: K. Sivapragasam. So, one was called T. Siva and the other was called K. Siva. Both were from Royal College, Colombo: a double distinction.

After graduation, where we both specialized in Economics, Siva and I crossed paths again, this time at Lake House, one of the major newspaper publishers in the country. I was a reporter on the editorial staff of the Observer and Siva was a reporter on the Daily News.

Siva's beat was politics and finance. He was regularly seen hanging out in the lobby of our parliament, chasing MPs and cabinet ministers, hunting for scoops and breaking stories.

Perhaps one of the legendary stories at the Daily News was an investigative piece he did on the shenanigans in the Bank of Ceylon. Our news editor, who rightly believed in the right of reply, asked Siva to contact the General Manager (GM) of the Bank, an influential figure at that time, for his comments on the story.

When he spoke to the tight-lipped GM, he told Siva to call him around 2 pm that afternoon for his comments. As

agreed, Siva called him sharp at 2. The GM asked him "Do you have a pen and paper". When Siva said he did, the GM dictated to him: "When the Daily News contacted the General Manager of the Bank of Ceylon, he said, he had no comments to make"...

But that did not prevent the Daily News from running the story on Page one. In effect, it looked as if it was Siva who outsmarted the GM.

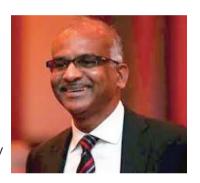


**Thalif Deen**Senior Editor,
Inter Press Service (IPS)
news agency.
United Nations

Thalif Deen, author of the book "No Comment – and Don't Quote Me on That," is Senior Editor at Inter Press Service (IPS) news agency, an ex-UN staffer and a former member of the Sri Lanka delegation to the UN General Assembly sessions. A Fulbright scholar with a Master's Degree in Journalism from Columbia University, New York, he shared the gold medal twice (2012-2013) for excellence in UN reporting awarded by the UN Correspondents Association (UNCA). The link to Amazon via the author's website follows: https://www.rodericgrigson.com/no-comment-by-thalif-deen/

## Siva will be missed by Community Organizations

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Siva Anna's heart beat fervently for community service. His unwavering support



for the Durham Tamil Association and other community organizations inspired countless volunteers, leaving an indelible mark on the lives he touched.

We will dearly miss him, our thoughts are with his family and friends.

Thank you, **Dinesh Kumar**www.DurhamTamils.Org



With Pincere Gratitude

Words cannot express how deeply we appreciate all the acts of sympathy shown to us during this difficult time.

The Family of

Siva Sivapragasam