

## Resource Materials

Along with this text book, the teachers are encouraged to use the following books for preparing the lessons.

1. **Gleanings, The Mar Thoma Church: Its Faith, Practice and Mission** published by The Madras-Calcutta Diocese of the Mar Thoma Church, 1997. (A detailed discussion of all the topics in our text is given in this book. It is a valuable resource for teaching our lessons).
2. **The Mar Thoma Church: Heritage and Mission** by Alexander Mar Thoma Metropolitan.
3. **Christianity in India and A Brief History of the Mar Thoma Syrian Church**, by Juhanon Mar Thoma Metropolitan.
4. **Mar Thoma Sabha Directory** (Latest)
5. **Thiru Nivasam Ethra Manoharam** (How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place)
6. **Padapedathinkal** (At the Master's Feet).
7. **Ormakalum Kurippukalum** (Memoirs and Notes) by Juhanon Mar Thoma Metropolitan.
8. **Dr. Juhanon Mar Thoma: Jeevithavum Sandeshavum** (Life and Message) Mar Thoma Sabha publications, 1977.
9. **The Mar Thoma Church Order of Worship, Prayers & Hymns** The Diocesan Sunday Schools, The Diocese of North America & Europe 2000.
10. **T.M. Thomas and Abraham Mattackal (ed) In the beginning: Formative years of Mar Thoma Parishes in North America.**

CSS Publications, Thiruvalla 2008

## APPENDIX 1 OUR LATE BISHOPS AND PRESENT METROPOLITANS OF THE MAR THOMA CHURCH

After the Reformation of 1830s (1836)

Consecration	Name	Metropolitan
1843-1877	Mathews Mar Athanasius	XIII
1869-1893	Thomas Mar Athanasius	XIV
1894-1911	Titus I Mar Thoma	XV
1910-1944	Titus II Mar Thoma	XVI
1917-1947	Dr. Abraham Mar Thoma Metropolitan	XVII
1937-1976	Dr. Juhanon Mar Thoma Metropolitan	XVIII
1937-1973	Dr. Mathews Mar Athanasius Episcopa	
1953-1984	Dr. Thomas Mar Athanasius Suffragan Metropolitan	
1975-1988	Rt. Rev. Easow Mar Timotheos Episcopa	
1953-2000	Dr. Alexander Mar Thoma Valiya Metropolitan	XIX
1953-2007	Dr. Philippe Mar Chrysostom Metropolitan	XX
1975-present	(Valiya Thirumeni 2007-present) Dr. Joseph Mar Thoma Metropolitan	XXI



Mathews Mar Athanasius Metropolitan



Thomas Mar Athanasius Metropolitan



Titus I Mar Thoma



Titus II Mar Thoma



Abraham Mar Thoma



Mathews Mar Athanasius Episcopa



Yuhanon Mar Thoma



Thomas Mar Athanasius Suffragan Metropolitan

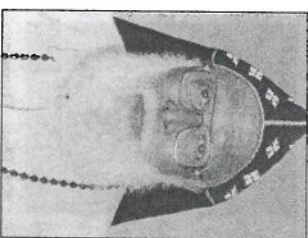


Eso Mar Timotheos Episcopa



Alexander Mar Thoma

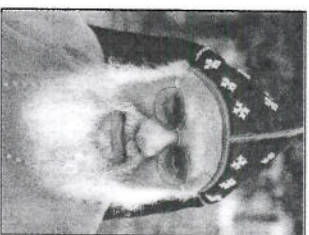
APPENDIX 2  
PRESENT BISHOPS OF  
THE MAR THOMA CHURCH



Most Rev. Dr. Phillipose Mar Chrysostom Mar Thoma Vailya Metropolitan



Most Rev. Dr. Joseph Mar Thoma Metropolitan



Rt. Rev. Dr. Zacharias Mar Theophilus Suffragan Metropolitan



Rt. Rev. Geevarghese Mar Athanasius Episcopa



Rt. Rev. Dr. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius Episcopa



Rt. Rev. Dr. Euyakim Mar Coorilos Episcopa



Rt. Rev. Joseph  
Mar Barnabas Episcopa



Rt. Rev. Thomas  
Mar Timotheos Episcopa



Rt. Rev. Dr. Issac  
Mar Philoxenos Episcopa



Rt. Rev. Dr. Abraham  
Mar Paulous Episcopa

## APPENDIX 3 GLOSSARY

**Altar (thronos):** The table on which the elements of Holy Qurbana are placed for consecration. The altar in the Madbaha is a symbol of God's presence. At the altar we offer Qurbana while we offer ourselves as a living sacrifice.

**Ashram:** a retreat centre where people live in fellowship with one another and in devotion to God. Hindu devotees lived in ashrams. The Mar Thoma Church has established ashrams as a centre for missionary work.

**B.C.E.:** Before the Common Era, the time before Christ or B.C.

**Bhoo - Bhavan Movement:** Home for the Homeless. In Malayalam, Bhoomi means land and Bhavan means house. A movement took place in the Mar Thoma Church, initiated to provide land and houses for the needy.

**Catholic:** universal- means all Christians belong to a universal or catholic church. The Roman Catholic Church (the Catholic Church located in Rome) is one of the many churches that come under the definition of catholic churches. The capital letter C is for the church in Rome, and the small c is for the universal church.

**C.E.:** common era - a time after the death of Jesus Christ or A.D.

**Censer or Dhupakuty:** the vessel in which incense is kindled during Holy Communion. Fragrance and smoke comes out of it.

**Coonan Kurisu:** During an oath or vow in Cochin, the cross was slightly bent, and thus known as Coonan Kurisu incident. In Malayalam, Kurisu means cross, and Coonan means bent.

**Dalit:** refers to a section of the people of India who have suffered oppression and marginalization for centuries under the caste system. Treated as “out castes” these people were kept outside the social structure. Other terms used to refer them are “Scheduled castes”, “depressed classes”, “untouchables”, “Harijans” etc., Dalit is the term they have given to themselves in recent years.

As a result of Christian mission in India a large number of Dalits got converted to Christianity. On conversion, Christian Dalits loose job reservation and legal protection provided by the Government to Hindu, Sikh and Buddhist Dalits.

**Haikala (Nave):** the area in the church building where people gather. There are special benches or pews for people to sit. The other area in the front of the church where achen celebrates Holy Communion is called Madbaha or chancel. Sanctuary refers to both of these areas.

**Kayyasoori- Kiss of Peace:** a symbol of reconciliation. During worship, people hold hands in a particular way as the Kiss of Peace.

**Madbaha (Chancel):** The area in the church is divided into Madbaha and Haikala. There is an altar in the Madbaha where achen celebrates Holy Communion.

**Malpan:** Teacher or professor. People used Malpan as a last name in the case of Abraham Malpan, the leading reformer of our church.

**Mamodisa:** means baptism - one of the seven sacraments followed in the Mar Thoma Church.

**Mooron:** oil used to anoint a person during baptism. Muron is applied by the achen as a sign of the blessing of the Holy Spirit. For the Mar Thoma and other Eastern churches, it is the confirmation.

**Masnapsa:** the hood worn by the bishop of the St. Thomas Churches. The sides of this hood are embroidered by 12 crosses and a big cross at the back which are there to remind us of the 12 disciples and Jesus.

**Nazarani:** means Christian, an early term used in Kerala to refer to the Christians there. The word means one who is a follower of the person from Nazareth.

**Qurbana:** offering/Holy Communion in the St. Thomas churches is called Qurbana with its emphasis on sacrifice without blood. It has different interpretations in other churches.

**Upadesi:** evangelist, Malayalam term for evangelist meaning one who gives advice or preaches. Our church endorses only some as upadeshi because of the tendency to abuse this title.

**Syrian Church:** The official name of the Mar Thoma church includes “Syrian”. People in Kerala proudly use this term signify the long history and tradition of our church. In America, the term Syrian is not widely used because of the possible confusion with Syrian immigrants.