HIGHER SECONDARY COURSE



CLASS - XI



Government of Kerala

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT); Kerala

2015

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

Jana-gana-mana adhinayaka, jaya he
Bharatha-bhagya-vidhata.
Punjab-Sindh-Gujarat-Maratha
Dravida-Utkala-Banga
Vindhya-Himachala-Yamuna-Ganga
Uchchala-Jaladhi-taranga
Tava subha name jage,
Tava subha asisa mage,
Gahe tava jaya gatha.

Jana-gana-mangala-dayaka jaya he
Bharatha-bhagya-vidhata.
Jaya he, jaya he, jaya he,
Jaya jaya jaya, jaya he!

PLEDGE

India is my country. All Indians are my brothers and sisters.

I love my country, and I am proud of its rich and varied heritage. I shall always strive to be worthy of it.

I shall give my parents, teachers and all elders respect, and treat everyone with courtesy.

To my country and my people, I pledge my devotion. In their well-being and prosperity alone lies my happiness.

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Foreword

Dear Students,

Syriac is one of the oldest languages in the world. It belongs to the Semitic family of languages. It is used as a literary language, official liturgical language and as a language of communication in some places up to the present day. The study of Syriac language was kept alive in Kerala along with Sanskrit and Arabic over the centuries and is being taught as one of the languages in our universities. The widely used Syriac loan words in Malayalam are clear evidence of its influence in Kerala culture, religion and language. Here is an exciting journey in to the classical language whose treasures are awaiting to be explored.

The study of Syriac is intended to inculcate interest in students to understand the great classics of Syriac literature and to translate them in to modern languages and to enable the student to communicate functionally. Syriac Text Book for Standard XI aims at to enrich the learner's vocabulary, grammatical competency and communicative ability through various interesting and familiar situations. The Text is designed according to the learner centered, activity based and process oriented curriculum. Each lesson has a theme, a discourse, activities, grammatical knowledge to be achieved, language ability and skills to be acquired

Hope the students will make best use of this book in enriching their competency in Syriac

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| Lession 1 Lesson 2 | ^%Cyc@ As NP | 7 15 |
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Certain icons are used in this textbook for convenience



Activities



Points to remember

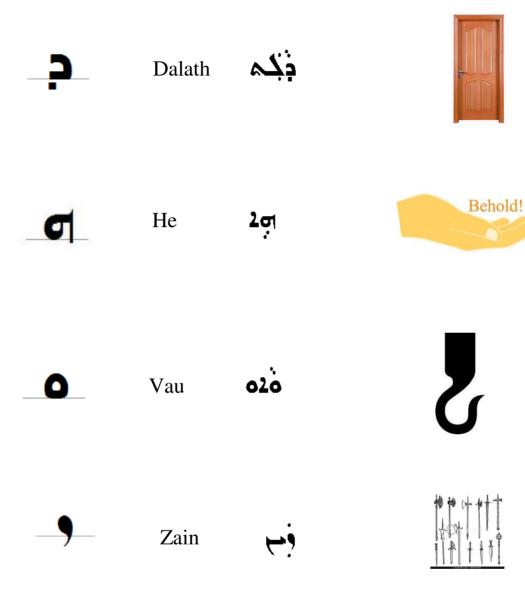
Lesson 1

نکو جبہ

ذکف چیم کفک ذکم کفر میح یوب چیم یفو خف کفر میح یوب همخم چد کن غزد عفف ذیع عیم ۱۹۵۵

There are twenty two letters in Syriac. All letters are written and read from right to left.

| <u>Letters</u> | <u>Name</u> | Meaning |
|----------------|-------------|----------------|
| _ Alap | نْكِد | |
| Beth | خمخ | |
| Gamel | کښک | |





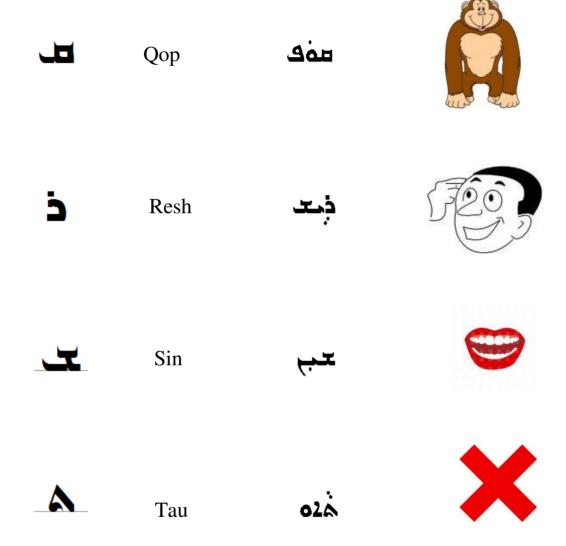
Heth





Mim





Pronounce the letters in the following way

| | Pronunciation | | |
|----------|---------------|----------------|--|
| Letters | ENGL: | MAL: | |
| 2 | а | അ് | |
| ŋ | b, bh | ബ്, വ് | |
| 4 | g, gh | ഗ് | |
| ÷ | d, dh | G [°] | |
| б | h | ഹ് | |
| ٥ | V | വീ | |
| , | Z | സ് | |
| ٠. | ķ | ഹ് | |
| 7 | ţ | ത് | |
| j | У | യ് | |
| ے (چ, ج) | k, kh | ക് | |

| ۷ | I | ല് |
|------------------|-------|----------------|
| (بح) مد | m | a ³ |
| a (, , ,) | n | ന് |
| عف | S | സ് |
| ىد | e (a) | എ് |
| ā | p, ph | പ് |
| 2 | Ş | സ് |
| Π | q | ഖ് |
| ż | r | o° |
| ч | Š | ശ് |
| 4 | t,th | ത്, സ് |

Note the specialities

The letters 1 \(\text{1} \) \(\text{1} \) take special shapes at the end of words.

م followed by 2 at the end of a word is often written ه eg:-گنبند

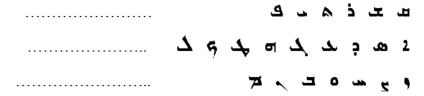


- ♣ In Syriac all letters are joined either with the preceding letters or with the following letters.
- The eight letters namely **b c n a a a** are joined to the preceding letters only and not with the following letters.



- I. B. Try to identify the letters

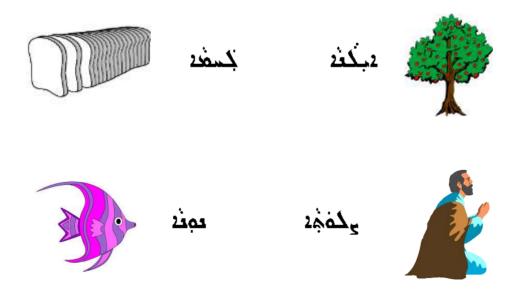
I. C. Write the following in the alphabetical order.



Lesson 2

حذبۍ چکد حذبۍ چکمد حذبۍ ذمخه حکم

What are these dots which you find above and below the letters? They represent vowels. There are two systems of vowels in Syriac namely the Dot System or East Syriac vowel system and the Greek System or the West Syriac vowel system. The vowels are placed above or below the letters. Look at the dots given for the letters below.



East Syriac Vowel Signs

i a (short) on

÷ - ā (long) ඎ

_ e (short) എ

- ē (long) ₃ ;

i, ee ஹ, ஹൗ تب

• u, oo 2, 29

• 0, ō 6, 60

West Syriac Vowel Signs

- a on, on

- e an, an

- 0 6, 60 **-**

ഇ, ഈ

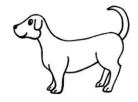
i

- u 2, 29

Read the syllables



730² 70² 0^{2 2}



<mark>ج جک جکت جکٹ</mark>



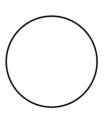
4 4ل 4لبه 4لبهٰ 4



نْ نُكُ نُكُهُ نُكُهُ كُنُهُ نُكُهُ فُهُ



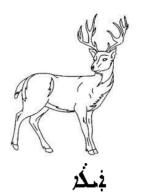
ب بک بک بکت



م سن سن منابع عند منابع عند منابع

Note the following words:





There are diphthongs or combination of vowels and letters in Syriac. In East Syriac has both short and long pronunciation.

Read the following words:



نِدَحْد

. كنەخ

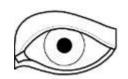




2336

كمفع





بنحف







- If any one of the letters is prefixed to a word which begins with a vowelled 2 the vowel sound goes to the prefix. eg:-
- **♣** Vowel less final **♂** is silent.
- The following three words are written without vowels.

 (methol) عند (kol) بند (min)

Read the following words



ىغد

کت



Here the second letter doubles in the pronunciation.

Doubling is the mode of pronouncing a single consonant as if it were two. When a vowelled letter is preceded by another with a short vowel it is doubled.

eg. جَهْب , جَهْد

Read the following words



ننذد

Here A has two different pronunciation.

The six letters A ع ع م م م المعافقة have two different articulations: the hard called **Kusaya** indicated by a dot placed above the letters, and the soft, called **Rukakha** indicated by a dot below.eg. مُحْبَعُنْ مُعْبَدُ عُمْبُونَا مُعْبَدُ اللهُ الله

Note: A small line given below or above a letter shows that, the particular letter is not pronounced. e.g. $\dot{\dot{z}}$

Read the following word

جدِهٰ٤

compensated by the doubling of the following letter.



Here \updownarrow and \blacktriangle are pronounced as one consonant. This is called assimilation.

Assimilation is the mode of pronouncing two consonants as one. Assimilation takes place between the same letters. e.g. (ettabbar), between the letters of same organ, especially (hattha = new) and between the letters of similar articulation in the middle of a word; (hattha = new) as, (hayussana = pitiful). Here the loss of the assimilated (1st) letter is

Note the following words



What are the two horizontal dots placed above these words? They are called 'sayame'.

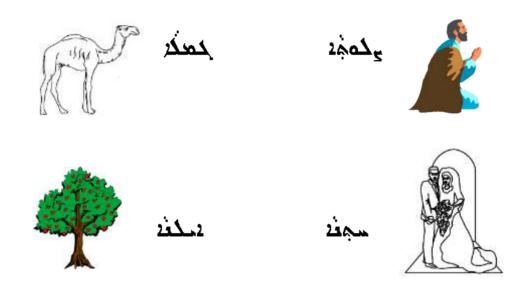
Sayame (Ribui) are two horizontal dots (-) placed above the words to denote plural number: as in 2 = names, = they have said. As in the latter example, when the word contains the letter -, the dot over - usually is made to coalesce with one of the plural dots.



II. A. Apply all the vowels to the following letters. Follow the example.

II. B. Find out letters with the vowels • • - - - and • from the following words.

II. C. See the pictures and find the missing vowels:

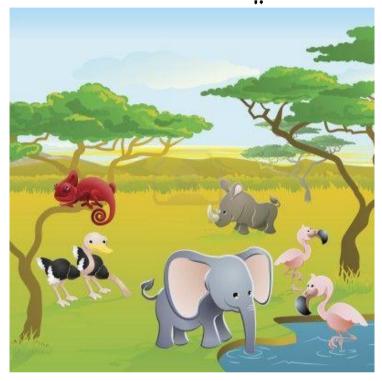


- II. D. Write two words each which contain Kusaya and Rukakha.
- II. E. Five pairs of words are given below. Only one in each pair is correct. Choose the correct word.

| ZÀÀB | حمج |
|--------------|-------|
| <u>ئېرىخ</u> | فعكف |
| 2 ~ 2 4 | 20022 |
| بمكنه | نجكت |
| عېسکې | فكحذه |

Lesson 3

عَجُد جِسَتُجُد



ين تن مده هد ين تن تن حجد نهدد بمعد. حبد نه هد يوكن كيده دسته هد سوبن جه جمعد دبكت ه فدحد بيد همكم يكمكر. دبم جه هرب سفرد هبد عبكر. Answer the questions given below:

- 1. حقد دبكتي دبه حيديم دبكتي وشتة
 - 2. حقد فبكر دبم حيدة وبتة 13،
- 3. حَفْدُ جُمَعَكِمْ دَبِهِ حَجِدَةُ2 جَبْتَهُمْ2؟
- 4. حفد مفدِّد دبم حيد دبت دبت ٤٤٠
- 5. حَفْدَ جَبِدُ دَبِهِ حَبِدِهِ دِبْمَ عَفْدَ دِبْتَهُ هُدُ؟
 - 1. . . . بكتِ
 - 2. . . . عبكر
 - د. کمکر
 - 4. . . . مفتر
 - ع. . . بن خيد

The numerals from one to nineteen have got masculine and feminine gender. One to five are given below

| Fem | Mas |
|--------|---------------------------|
| سَבْ2 | 2 % |
| جة فرح | لميّن مون ^ب |
| مکم | مكمْ |
| نْجُد | ئختخة |
| | 2 7 9 4 |

Let us recite the rhyme:

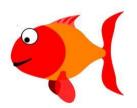
ئىد ھۆپ ھڭڭد: ئىد ئۆڭەك. ئەدىڭد ئىھىتىد: ئىھىتىد كىلىھىلى. سۆد ئودۇپ ھكىد: ئودۇپ ئىتىلى. ئەدىد ئىھىد: ئەدىد يونى.

Read the following:

شعفد كشعب فجةب عقعب



See the picture and write the correct number of the objects



1 **حوق** 1



2 حمج عند 2

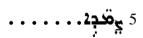


3 **بدلنج 2**



..... 2 24**3** 4







6 لېکتې 6

Observe the calendar for the month of June 2014 and find out the days?

Calendar- June 2014

| بُديْ | حذفدند | 244 2 2 2 2 2 3 | 2242 2323 | عكَجْد عَجُكْم | مزبع حغجه | 7 |
|-------|--------|-----------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|
| • | ٥ | бl | ÷ | ٨ | л | 2 |
| ÷7 | 7- | 7. | 2., | * | 4 | |
| 25 | ۵ | → | ٠.٠٠ | 9. | ð | ę, |
| حس | 4 | حه | 라고 | 25 | 42 | 7 |
| | | | | | 7 | 42 |

१ व्यंत्रेक १ क्रुंट

| 2 | - | 1 | E | - | 2 |
|------------|---|---|-----|---|----|
| ۷ | - | 3 | ÷ | - | 4 |
| 더 | - | 5 | • | - | 6 |
| • | - | 7 | un. | - | 8 |
| پ د | - | 9 | ٠. | - | 10 |

| 9 | - | 20 | 7 | - | 30 |
|----|---|-----|----------|---|-----|
| Ħ | - | 40 | ~ | - | 50 |
| ဏ | - | 60 | ىد | - | 70 |
| ڡ | - | 80 | Ž | - | 90 |
| 'n | - | 100 | ż | - | 200 |
| ı | - | 300 | 8 | _ | 400 |



The letters of the alphabet are used to express numerals

- ♣ The units (ie 1-9) are expressed by the first nine letters 2 to ♣
- \clubsuit The tens (ie 10-90) are expressed by the succeeding nine letters \clubsuit to \ref{thm} .
- ♣ The hundreds from 100 to 400 are expressed by the remaining four letters ♣ to ♠.
- The hundreds from 100 to 900 are expressed by placing a dot above the letters \dot{a} to \dot{c} (eg. \dot{a} =100: \dot{c} = 200: $\dot{\Delta}$ = 300: \dot{c} = 400 etc.).
- 4 To get the thousands a slanting line is placed below the letters.
 (eg. 2= 1000: == 2000).
- ♣ The lakhs are expressed by placing a straight line below the letters.

(eg.
$$\underline{2} = 100000$$
 $\underline{\underline{4}} = 200000$: $\underline{\underline{4}} = 300000$).

♣ The crores are expressed by two slanting lines below the letters.

$$(eg. 2 = 10000000)$$
: $= 40000000)$.

| 1000-9000 | 100-900 | 10-90 | 1-9 |
|---------------|---------|-------|---------------|
| | | | |
| 1000 2 | 100 🕹 | 10 🛥 | 1 2 |
| 2000 ユ | خ 200 | 20 ع | 2 = |
| 3000 🗸 | 300 🕹 | 30 🛆 | ک 3 |
| چ 4000 | فد 400 | ط 40 | 4 ۽ |
| 5000 ਗ | 500 i | د 50 | 5 o n |
| 6000 Q | مغت 600 | ھ 60 | 6 0 |
| 7000 • | ند 700 | ىك 70 | 7 , |
| 8000 ~~ | ف 008 | ڪ 80 | ىن <i>د</i> 8 |
| 9000 👟 | 900 . | 2 06 | 9 🕹 |



III. A. Prepare a calendar for the month of July 2014

III. B. Provide Syriac letters for the Cardinal numbers.

| 102 | 23 | 67 | 85 | 99 |
|------|------|------|-----|-----|
| 12 | 21 | 44 | 65 | 77 |
| 1978 | 1543 | 2012 | 999 | 444 |

III. C. Find out Syriac letters for the following

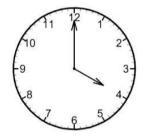
| 3,000 | 30,000 | 200,000 |
|------------|------------|------------|
| 20,000 | 600,000 | 3,000,000 |
| 10,000,000 | 40,000,000 | 90,000,000 |

III. D. When one entered the concert there he saw a board in which the numbers of the songs are written using Syriac letters. Now replace it with cardinal numbers

| -ti | . |
|-----|----------|
| 2 | ے |
| a | ۷ |
| ٠. | مد |
| so. | 4 |

III. E. Write the time given in the watches



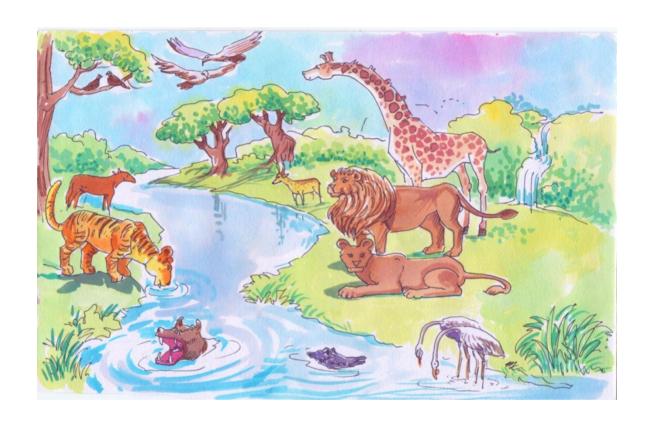


III. F. Write your own date of birth using Syriac letters

III. G. Provide Syriac letters to the cardinal numbers and complete the table as in the examples.

| 14 ب / بد | 12 حـ / حـ 12 | ۵ / ل ـ 11 |
|-----------|---------------|-------------------|
| 6 | 72 | 198 |
| 835 | 1973 | 2014 |

Lesson 4

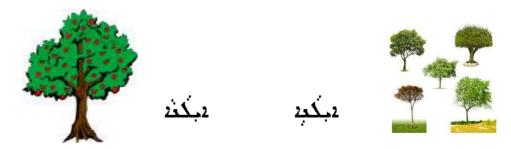


دَخْ وَمَ خُدْدُ بَدِدَ وَهُمِ جَبِهُ مَبْدُ وَهُمُ بَدُدُ وَمَ دُبُكُمُ وَمَ دُبُكُمُ وَمَ دُبُكُمُ وَمَ دُبُك عبج جِه بُذَك وقبكُر وَجُعكُر وَبُكُر وَدِنْدُ وَهُدُدُ وَهُونُدُ وَهُمُ عَبُم وَنُدُ وَهُونُدُ. عبج حَفْدُد بُهُدُدُ بُحُدُد بَيْدُهُ عَجْم فِكَ هِي وَهُ بَهُدُد. وَمَجِي الْفَعْدِ عِبْدُدُ كُفْتُد. Read the passage given above and write the names of persons, animals, birds, places and things in different boxes as in the example.

| Persons | Animals | Birds | Places | Things |
|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|
| 2 7 4 7 | 2,25 | جوجبحفه | کشک | 25013 |
| | عبكر | | | |
| | بحكر | | | |
| | بْخُد | | | |
| | ڎؚؠڿؚڒ | | | |

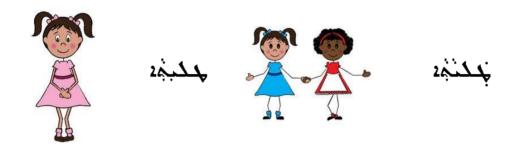
Read the passage

All the underlined words are nouns. A noun can be the name of a person, animal, place or thing. Usually the nouns ending in 2- are masculine singular and those ending 2- are masculine plural and 2- are feminine singular and those ending in 2- are feminine plural.





Words ending in $2 - \frac{1}{2}$ form their plural by changing the vowel into $2 - \frac{1}{2}$.



Nouns ending in $2\overset{.}{\approx}$ form their plural by adding an additional vowel $\overset{.}{-}$ to the letter that just precedes $2\overset{.}{\approx}$. To get the plural number of those words end in $2\overset{.}{\approx}$ and $2\overset{.}{\approx}$ are changed into $2\overset{.}{\approx}$ is changed into $2\overset{.}{\approx}$.



Nouns ending in $\overset{.}{\smile}$ make their plural by adding a vowel $\overset{.}{\smile}$ to the letter just precedes $\overset{.}{\smile}$.

| FP | FS | M P | M S |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| ڣ ڴڎۿ۪ۮ | نهدخه ٤ | بعكب | فعكث |
| <u>ۻۮڡٛؾڔؗٛ؞</u> ۮ | <u>ئەكەبې،</u> | <u>ښ</u> کفې | <u></u> ۻۮڡ۬ؽ |
| مغمغتيب | عجمجيبة | مجمخب | 2 Toto |
| ئكەڧېد | بكفعغك | بكفخ | بهفئ |

Many words have got entirely new words as their number and gender

| FP | FS | МР | M S |
|-------------|-----------|--|----------------|
| <u>څېښې</u> | אָמֹצִי | كَخُونُكُمْ كُنْ وَنَاكُمْ كُنْ مُنْ مُنْ مُنْ مُنْ مُنْ مُنْ مُنْ م | 2 - 2 |
| ئېمىن | عجب ع | كببغ | Ž., ż |
| حفث | ٢ڮٚۼۼ | حبن | حذن |
| 272 | بَقَمُمْ٤ | كحدٍ2 | 2574 |
| 28,9703 | 2جُعه | بكتدرد | بُجَ جُ |
| کجنجع | کتبج2 | 7 , 4 7 | 7,44 |
| نبكثمه | مكبنيء | سكند | بنكن |
| ي توريخ | 2سَڋۿؚ2 | <u>۲</u> سذب | 2سَڋٚڡٚػ |



IV. A. Complete the table with rhyming words

| حفجٰ ٤ | جَدَجُ2 | حفث | حذد |
|--------|-----------|-----|-----|
| | • • • • • | | |
| | | غغ | مكذ |

| | 25-1 |
|------------------------------------|--|
| IV. B. Find out the matching | نَجْدُ words from Group B to those given in |
| group A. A | В |
| تْمِد | بکب |
| حذٰ١ | 2 ợ 🗎 . |
| يو كې د | يد ېز |
| 2 | ر چېض <u>ځ</u> |
| 277 | حفر |
| IV. C. Complete the following box. | ig sentences choosing the correct word from the |
| | (ككبْمَ عِبِد يَمُد بُقَمُهُد جَدَهُد مِدكَةِد) 1 مِد بِككند . مذه يسند |
| | 2 هذِبُ بُلَدَدْ٤. هُدْهُم |

ة أَوْهُ فِعَكُمْ . عَنْ سَيَّا

6 سُم كِحَدُّد . سَجْ 2 6

IV. D. List the things found in the shop



| • • • • |
|-----------|
| |
| |
| |
| |
| • • • |

IV. E. Find out the matching words from Group B to those given in group A.



IV. F. Choose the appropriate word from the bracket and complete the following.

Lesson 5

يهمفكر جبك



ەفحى بەرتى بەرتى بەرىڭ دىڭ ئىمىنى بەرگەردى بەرگ

The following are some of the persons connected with school. Now write four describing words connected with them. One is done for you.

Nouns and adjectives have got number and gender. Adjectives are qualifying words. They agree with each other in number and gender.

ومَن حَمِدُهُ بِحَمِدُهُ وه حَمِدِه بُحَمِه وه حَمِدِه بُحَمِه وه حَمِدِه Read the following

| FP | FS | MР | MS |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| کڅڅک | <u>ک</u> چې | 2 <u>3</u> 🔆 | 7 ±₹ |
| ب ڡڹڎٚۿؚ٤ | ب ڡڹڎۿؚ١ | ب هې <u>ټ</u> | خ فبڈ2 |
| عَج ذَبِذُهُ2 | عَجْدَجْهُ ٤ | عَجْدَ ب َ | عَنْبَدُ ^ن ِ |
| بخنج پر | بجبعث | فديخر | فخنج |
| مهنچني ۶ | مهنج څ | مره خدِّر | مجمع حجر ح |
| نبحبفث | بمبعث | سحتجد | ښحېفد |
| عبغبع | عبت ٤ | حبتٍ ٢ | كثبت |

A noun and an adjective should agree with each other in number and gender. An adjective is written after the noun. See the Examples given below:



V. A. Some of the words are given misplaced. Discuss in pair and write them in the correct order and make meaningful sentences.

- 2 کُجُد حَمْجُد
- 3 مُكفِن بُصفيه
- 4 معويدً 2 خُلُوفِ
 - 5 دُسفد پُدنِد
 - 6 چُجِه دُسجِه

V. B. Choose the correct word from the box and complete the sentences

- 1 يُمحَوْكُر (ذُكِّرُ / ذُكِمُ 1
- 2 كَفْعُمْ / كَفْعُمْ / عَنْصَمُ عُلَمُ عُلِيًّا / معرضكُ عُلِيًّا عُلِيًّا عُلِيًّا عُلِيًّا عُلِيًّا عُلِيًّا عُلِيًّا عُلِينًا عُلِيًّا عُلِيًّا عُلِيًّا عُلِيًّا عُلِيًّا عُلِيًّا عُلِينًا عُلِيًّا عُلِينًا عُلِيلًا عُلِيلًا
 - (كَجُعِدُ / كِجُدُ) كَفُسْخُ ع
- 4 فِكُفِدْ (بُحبفد / بُحبفجه)

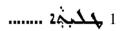
V. C. Rewrite the sentences with the words given in brackets at the proper place.

- ا يُغَدُ مُعَكُمْ لَغَدُ (يُحَدِّدُ)
- 2 بُقِمَ بِكُنْ بُقِمَ (جَعَبَدُهُ)
- 3 سفي حكب سفي (بحديد)
- 4 بُقَمَٰ حَكْبُمُ الْجَعَٰ (جُعَبِدُمُ)
 - 5 وه كحدًّد و (حجيد)

V. D. Choose the correct word from the bracket and complete the sentences

(كَفُونُو جُعَيْدُهُ كُونُو وَحَوْدُهُ (كُفُونُو وَحَوْدُو







..... <u>```````</u> 2



3 جُنمْ 2



4 جَـــــــ 2

Lesson 6



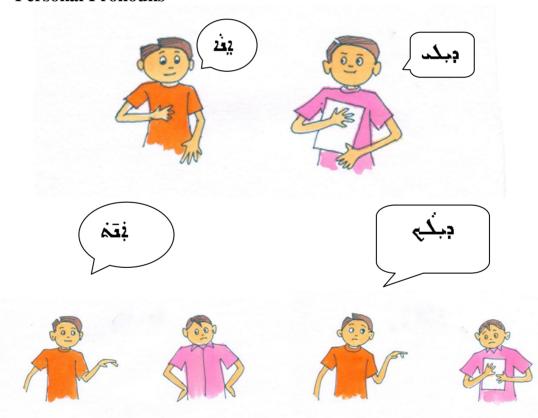
مكفنا ذك

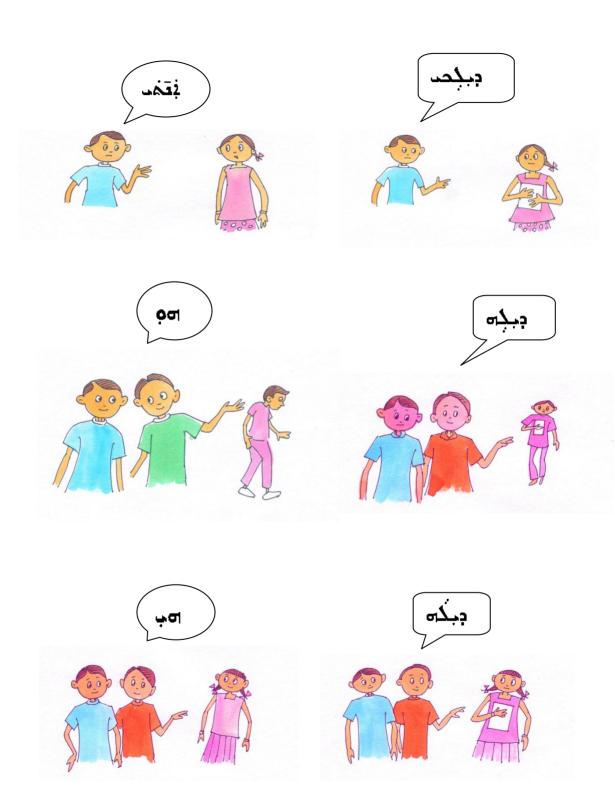
نِتَمَ نِتَمَ جِنفَ نِتَمَنَ ، نِتَمَنَ ، مِهِذُن دِخَكَضَن نِتَمَنَ ، نِتَمَنَ ، مِكْسَه دِنْدَكْن

Let us observe the usages given in the narrative such as

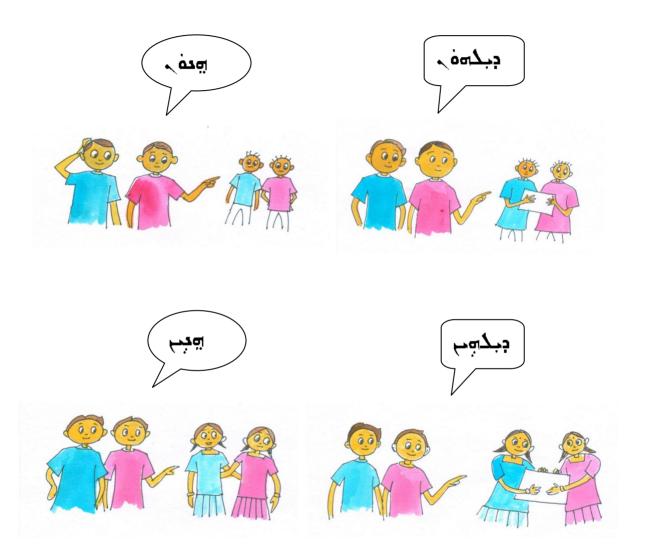
يَثْ تَثْ بُقَمُ بُقَمُ بُقَمُنَ بُقَمُنَ

Personal Pronouns









These personal pronouns can be used as verb 'to be' agreeing with the subject in gender, number and person. When they are used as verbs the 2 of and the of of and are occulted as in the following examples.

The third person plural verbs are in the following examples.

سَفِي كِكُنِي سَفِي فَتَهُ بَحَثَ يَقَعُ بِحَلْثُهُ يَقَعُ الْفَعُ بِحَفَّهُ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ ا بُقَمُ مَ جَنِي بَعَادِهُ الْمَادِي اللَّهِ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ ا اللَّهُ اللَّا اللَّهُ اللّ اللَّهُ اللّ

The following sentences are not correct. Read carefully the above passage and correct the sentences.

ين بنه هيه

يفد بقم كسفد دست

نِتَهُوْ ، يُغْدُ مُوسُدُدُ دِخُكُمُّدُ

يفد سفي دُحث بَحد

بنه منع بعكث دندند

A dialogue between two friends is given below. But there are some mistakes. Can you correct it?

يِفِدُ / نِقِمُ

خَوِهِكِ: يُغُدُ غُقِمُ خُوهِكِ

فدنح: نن نتف فدنح

عَجِمُ عِفِكَ خَدَة بِهِم عَمْدِ جُدِد

بَعَدَبُح: سَبِ يَفَعُ خَلَفَقَهُ ٤ كُثُمُهُ

Write four sentences about your friends. Begin the sentences with the usages like

Recite the song below

What are the uses of the letters $\Delta \circ = ?$

The four letters **ا** عند عند are used to make cases.

The meanings of the four letters are as follows:
in, with, by عند المحدد By the king
of عند المحدد Of the king
and eg: عند محدد And the king
to, for **ا** وو: عند حدد To, for the king

These letters are prefixed to the nouns to get different cases. If the first letter of the noun does not have a vowel this prefix receives an $\dot{\cdot}$ vowel.

The letters $\Delta \circ \Rightarrow \exists$ are added to personal pronouns to make declensions

Read the following:-



रहेच्ये ०व रहेवे १

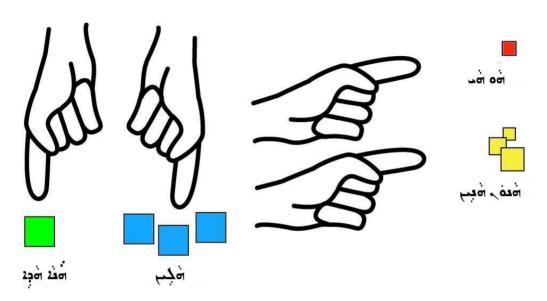


عُجِمُ بِصَ عَجِمُ ع



عَبُنَا لِمِنْ مِيْ مِكِمْ عَ

Demonstrative Pronouns





| | Singular | • | Plural | | |
|-----|----------|------|--------|-------|-------|
| M | F | | M | F | |
| 230 | کېڅا | this | بغ | these | |
| •ज | <u>্</u> | that | ्धंजं | بغوا | those |

The first set point to the objects nearest to the speaker and the second set point to distant objects.



Read the following rhyme

شخع يوب فحكث شحيفة شجع يوب فحكث شحيفة شجع يوب فحكث شحيفة شجع يوب فحكث شحيفة

Write similar rhymes using the word: من عنه and complete the sentences

منك وقا

عَجُبُكُ بِمَ

بنگنې رضع

.... يې پېدنې

Place (to get the meaningful Syriac sentences

...... فحكث

...... خُلَّهُ فَا

| 232 | • • | ٠ | ٠ | ٠ | ٠ | ٠ | ٠ | ٠ | • | ٠ |
|-----------------|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ؽڡؙٚؽ | •• | ٠ | • | • | ٠ | ٠ | • | ٠ | • | • |
| ر درخ خاکم ک | | | | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |

Conversation

بونع تفع جعنبونور مونا تفع حمر بونور مونا تفع مونور موناها: توز و مانور موناها: توز و مانور موناها: توز و توناها موناها: توز و توناها بالماناد بوناها موناها: توز و توناها بالماناد بوناها Read the rhyme given below

وم من محدد

كغت مفي مفغة

من من جدم ع

فعِي يعِي حقيمَ

Write similar rhyming sentences using the word كُنُونُوكُ كُنْهُ عَلَيْهُ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلِيهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلِيهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْكُ عَلَيْهِ عَلِهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلِي عَلِي عَلَيْهِ عَلِي عَلِي عَلِي عَلِ

...... خَكُفُكُ مِمْ

..... പ്രാ

مُد نَكُوْ عُمْ 2

..... يوبع بيون موبع يوبع



VI. A. Complete the sentences using the words given in the box.

(بنع جفخ بنقف مق مقب سف بقفه بقب بقف مقنع يقف عبد)

1 يَفَدُ نُوهِف1

2 بُقِهِ، فِندَبُكِ

..... 254 oo 3

4 معنى 🚣 🚉 4

عب**ع بكثيء مناسب عبد المناسب عبد المناسب**

VI. B. Rewrite the following sentences changing the underlined words (masculine forms into feminine forms and vice versa). Follow the example:

VI. C. Make five sentences in Syriac as it is given in the example.

| | , | | 11 |
|--------|---|-----------------------------------|----|
| | بكففك | | 2. |
| | يُخَرِ | | 3. |
| | <u>ي خې ۲</u> | | 4. |
| | | | |
| VI. E. | Place (in front of each word to meaning. | get the correc | t |
| | کند ا | ب | 1 |
| | 2جُبئ | ٠٠٠٠٠ | 2 |
| | کې2 | ئ | 3 |
| | دينې 2 | ٠٠٠٠٠٠ بِک | 4 |
| VI. F. | Arrange the words in the proper order and make a mean | ingful sentend | æ. |
| | 2 | <u> بُحَكُخُ</u> 2/ <u>تَخَ</u> 2 | 1 |
| | о́ न / 2. С | جُ رعيْنع جُ | 2 |
| | 25-45 | بُعَمُ \چَغَرُ | 3 |
| | <u> + ع</u> بخ ۱ | فعرجة/ فع | 4 |
| | 2 مُحْد َجُ /2 | يەن / گىنىڭ | 5 |
| | | | |

VI. D. Write كُمْ عَنْ in front of each word to make sentences.

Lesson 7

نجو ، جنجند



بُجِهِ ، دِجَعَهُدُ يَهِبَدِت عَهْبِ ؛ هِنهِن هَكُمهُمُ ؛ يوهِي _يَحَنْثِي بُنجِنْدُ دِجَعَهُنْدُ نُف حَبُدُنْدُ.

بعب كى كسفد جموسنب خوففد :

فعجفه كى شەختى فسكەنتى نىجند دنى سنى سخى كىنختى ـ ەكد ھىكى كىھىدند : يكد فئى، مى حبخد ـ يىكك ددبكى قب فىكجوقد دنىكر دىجىددسقد كنكح ئىكمى ـ نمجى ـ In the passage given above, many words have undergone certain changes. We shall understand it through the table given below.

| 2×0× | يجنفا | كې څکحې |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| بجمد | بإجنف | بەر حەنجە |
| <i>خې</i> ء | خيبغ | <u>ئەر</u> حەنچ |
| ग्रम् | تخبخت | فحكحه بجحه |
| متخد | مغبخة | elè da7 è |
| थाउट द | بر پرکنده | <u>बाङ्कंच्युक</u> |
| रंक्≖ | وغثجع | <u> خ</u> ېمکې خ |
| بيعدف | ' فعبهغ | ب كحوېحة ٢ |
| تمذ م | تخبيغة | بەر حەپخ- |
| <i>∽</i> ंवक्र <u>प्र</u> | ' ومب _ت غ ^ږ | < ंव्यर्थक ंट्राय ् |
| ∕-वेक्र≖ | لمفومخة | <i>الخافاع</i> |



Read the following sentences.

مخت فن مخت مجن فن بچن مخت فن مخت محت فن بچن مخت من مغید مخت من مخت

حەزند ئەند كحكمة عنده ون جونو عندن نوند كحكمة ب



✓ These forms are added to the stem or to the root of a noun.

The stem or the root is formed by dropping the last vowel of a noun.

- ✓ Suffixes are seen in two different lines.
- a. Suffixes added to the singular nouns (nouns ending in 2-)
- b. Suffixes added to the plural nouns (nouns ending in 2-).

| بمكجه | بُدگذ ن |
|--------------|--------------------|
| فكف فكفع | فعلحت فعلف |
| فعلنه فعلنه | <u>ښ</u> لخۍ ښلحص |
| فكضت فكضجع | فلجت فلتجع |
| فكخوص فكجمون | محكم محكمه |
| فكجنة فكخبوم | فكذه فكحوب |

Note these exceptional nouns.

i father, i brother and i father-in-law.

| Singular | _ | | Plural | | |
|----------|--------|----------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| كُجِد | نست | سعص | نخفخ | خ ضسغ | √ o.o. |
| بخفخغ | Şani | 2000m | بْجەجە | نسوجو | سعوجف |
| بٔخفخہ | بغضة | سموفحم | بخفخخ | بغضن | سموخ |
| نخفاهم | relowj | ~ما نبو ~ | ~ ्वकंत्र <u>े</u> | √ ọaióm <u>;</u> | र ्वाक्रम |
| بَجِهِ | qowş | سمجونه | المفاضغ | hàionş | ⊬ài oa ∞ |



| VII. A. Write five sentences using the word 254 | | | |
|--|-------------|---|---------|
| | | | 1 |
| | | | 2 |
| | | | 3 |
| | | | 4 |
| | | | 5 |
| VII.B. Add pronominal suffixes to يُفْدِ | | | |
| | ••••• | • | • • • • |
| | ••••• | • | • • • • |
| | ••••• | • | • • • • |
| | ••••• | • | • • • • |
| VII.C. Find out the appropriate words from the brace | ket and com | plete the | • • • • |
| following sentences. | | | |
| (حَجْدِم عَجْدِي) | ••••• | ه جد دبکی | ح |
| (محمّد محمّد م | ••••• | ه خد دحکو | ح |

| (مغُخِم معِجُم) | ڊبکه | حغج |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|--------|
| (حنہجہ حنہ ج | جبک | حغج |
| (مَجْجَمِ حَجْجَمُ) | وبكجب | حخجد |
| (﴿ وَمَجَمُ لَـ فَخَدِهُ ﴾ | جبكهة | حغج |
| • (حمْججہ حمْجمه) | ڊ بكحة ِ | حجج |
| (﴿ وَمَعَمِٰحَ لَـ مُعَجَٰجُح) | دبكوب | حجْجْد |

VII. D. Fill in the blanks with correct suffixed forms.

| ىخد | حذ | حمج | |
|------|--------|------|----------------|
| حجّت | | حنجن | |
| | حمٰححہ | حننب | |
| | حتجم | | حنجنجب |
| حمج | | | <i>~</i> فصىغى |
| | كفعجح | حخضب | |

VII. E. Use the hints given in the brackets and add suffixes to any two of the following nouns to get the possessive meaning.

(~ 0 5 2 2)

1 **مُعَكَّمُ**

2 جَهْجَهِ ع 4 **جُهُجُهِ** 3

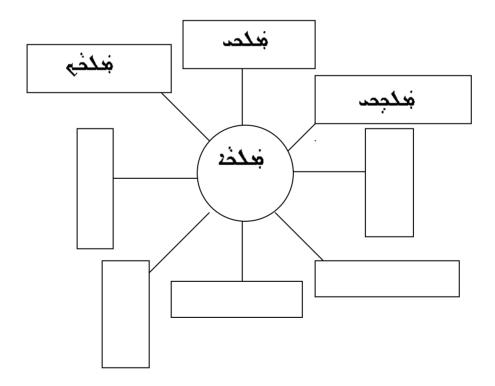
VII. F. Change any two of the following words as given in the bracket.

2 **مُدَّدُفُفُ**

3 جُنمُ 2

4 يبكغه

VII. G. Find out five similar words deriving from the central word to complete the boxes as the examples given and write them in your answer sheet.



Lesson 8



هذشح كفذبنح

 Answer the following questions:

1 فع ميم هم ١٥ذعهم كربذسه؟

2 فع مفعه مكفه كتدفع؟

3 فع حدد ككتدده

Find out the verbs in the following passage:

 معمید درات کردنیدی

 معمید درات کی

 بقتی درات کی

 بقتی درات کی

 بنده درات کی

 بندیم درات کی

 بندیم درات کی

 منی درات کی

 منی درات کی

 منی درات کی

Read the following rhyming sentences

حنج

 حَجْجَ بِحِجْنَ

 حَجْجَ بِحِجْنَ

 حَجْجَ بِحِجْنَ

 حَجْجَ بِحِجْنَ

 حَجْجَ بِحِجْنَ

 حَجْجَ بِحِجْنَ

 حَجْجَنَ

 حَجْجَنَ

 حَجْجَنَ

 حَجْجَنَ

 حَجْجَن

 حَجْج

 حَجْج





يجك

يجك كسفد يجكم كسفد يجكنه كسفع يجكف بسفع يجكب كسغن يجكم كسفعه يجكب كسفد يجكمن كسفد يخلني بسفد يجكني كسغد



بيد

بيفن بحفند بيفن بعضن بيفن



In Syriac as in other Semitic languages the majority of words are derived from roots which are generally of three radicals. These roots are the perfect tense, third person masculine, singular forms of verbs as

CLASSIFICATION OF VERBS

For the sake of convenience in treatment and facility in mastering the forms, verbs may be divided into four main classes:

I Class حجْد (The regular or strong verbs)

II Class 55

III Class

تخ IV Class

Look at the following table and see the different endings.



VIII. A. Use one single word for the following

| (حغٰح) ن عا | |
|---|------|
| (خغخخ) ٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠٠ | |
| ئِقَمْ(حَجُعَمُ) | حجد |
| ئِقَمْد(حَمِعَمُد) | حبج |
| يغ | |
| (र्जंबर्ज) र ज़ब | حنج |
| (حغغے) حغق | حبج |
| (ر مَمْجِمْم) رمَمْجَهٔ | حجٰد |
| (حجْجَجْع) حجْعَة | حجٰت |
| (جنعني) بنس | حجد |

VIII. B. Translate into Syriac

He wrote a book کَمْتُ کُمْتُکْ

She wrote a book ------

| You wrote a book (m) | |
|-----------------------|--|
| You wrote a book (f) | |
| I wrote a book | |
| They wrote a book (m) | |
| They wrote a book (f) | |
| You wrote a book (m) | |
| You wrote a book (f) | |
| We wrote a book | |

VIII. C. Fill in the blanks with correct inflected forms.

VIII. D. Find out different forms of the following words.

VIII. E. Conjugate the following verbs in the past tense

Lesson 9

FAREWELL OF MOSES AND AARON Mar Balai كَبُدُ خُدُ خُدُ حُدُهُ مُعُمْدُ حُدُهُ عُدُهُ خُدُهُ عُدُهُ خُدُهُ عُدُهُ خُدُهُ عُدُهُ عُلَاهُ عُلَاهُ عُلَاهُ عُلَاهُ عُلَاهُ عُلِهُ عُلَاهُ عُلَاهُ عُلَاهُ عُلَاهُ عُلَاهُ عُلَاهُ عُلَاهُ عُلِهُ عُلُهُ عُلُهُ عُلُهُ



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- 1. Moses said: "Go in peace, the loving priest of the house of the Lord."
- 2. Aaron said: "Stay in peace, the loving brother who loved his master."
- 3. Moses said: "Go in peace, oh priest who offered perfect sacrifices."
- 4. Aaron said: "Stay in peace, oh brother who performed every mighty acts."
- 5. Moses said: "Go in peace, oh priest who fulfilled his master's will."
- 6. Aaron said: "Stay in peace,oh brother who brought down Manna for the people."

About the author

Mar Balai lived in the first half of the 5th century. Nothing is known of the life of this poet except that he was a Chorepiskopos, perhaps in the area around Aleppo. Many short liturgical supplicatory hymns in the five syllable meter (known as the meter of Mar Balai) are attributed to him.



IX. A. Make an appreciation on

موجد وبنصده لأهدب عوم جمكفه كشذوه

finding out its meter, rhyme and imageries?

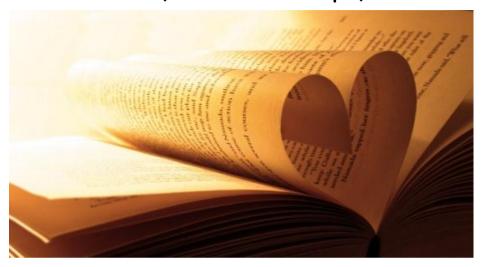
IX. B. Give the meaning of the following:

IX.C. Translate the following:

Lesson 10

SELECT SENTENCES OF ST. EPHREM

هَكِر كِحَنْجُهُ دِهُدَ بُعَدِيحٍ



1 بند دخست کومید کمبذه . بند دخست حککند بند دخست کومید کر مدی دیمورد جعبذد .

کلفد کیبکر ڈپد چہ جہ بہت ہیں۔
 نہ چکنج سکفد حیکت نہیں ہیت چہ خبنہ سکفد حیکت کند کہ خیف ہیت ہیں۔

- 1. He who loves learning, his knowledge will be great. He, who loves idleness, is not able to become prosperous.
- 2. The world is similar to a wheel that makes times and seasons run. As a dream deceives by night, so the world deceives by its promises.

About the author

St. Ephrem was a prolific Syriac language hymn writer and theologian of the 4th centuary. He was born around the year 306 AD in Nisibis, a Syrian town located in the modern day Turkey. He wrote a wide variety of hymns, poems, and biblical sermons in verse, as well as, in prose. The most important of his works are his teaching hymns. These hymns are full of rich, poetic imagery drawn from Biblical sources, folk traditions and other religions and philosophies. The originality, imagery and skill of his hymns captured the hearts of his readers. As a poet, teacher, orator and defender of faith he was recognized as a doctor of the church. The most popular title of St. Ephrem is 'Harp of the Holy Spirit'. He died on 9th June 373.



X. A.Comment on

expounding its literary styles?

X. B. Give the meaning of the following:

Lesson 11

TO CHRIST THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Mar Aprem

كمعبشة ذمنة كجد

محجب بهدمه



د څخک کېت کېت کېت کېت کېت دخب کېتبډوجت دجب کېتبډوجت د ۲ېټ یک تیک تک فخدنې

- 1. O Good Shepherd, who came to seek the lost ones, seek me who am lost (Lit. my loss) so that I may be a sheep in your flock.
- 2. O Good One, who have opened his door to the wicked and the sinners, open to me, our Lord, the door of mercy that I may come near you.

About the author

St. Ephrem is classed as the finest and greatest of all the Syriac poets. He was a theologian of great insight, and one who deliberately preferred to express his theology through the medium of poetry rather than prose. According to Robert Murray St Ephrem is the greatest poet of the patristic age and perhaps the only theologian- poet to rank beside Dante.



XI. A.Make a comparison of

كمعيش ذمث نهجه

with similar song you have studied?

XI. B. Give the meaning of the following:

XI.C. Translate the following: كُذُكُ دُوْسُوكِ 2 كُمُونُكُ دُوْسُوكِي 1

Lesson 12

WISDOM John of Mosul

بجعب

حفيث جعفووك



1 حک خمخد دکر شدد بنده مجم حخت کر خجد بنده دد دجم جندد عدددد بند مخت جهدی عدددد بنده مخت جهدید بنده

عمل ښکۍ دښت کبېدېده د د جملې مښمانې د مختوند د جهدنانې د مختوند د جمنانې د

- 1. Any day on which you do not read and gain from books, know that you are conquered by devils and counted with idle men.
- 2. Virtue is of three kinds: the father who teaches (his) children, and the son who learns as it is proper and the one who serves the Lord.
- 3. With all your strength love knowledge, the mother of all virtues, and the fountain of all good things, and of all heavenly gifts.
- 4. Do not turn away from knowledge, that you may be alive and not dead. And meditate constantly and run away from idleness.

About the author

John of Mosul is one of the famous writers of Syriac literature who belongs to the second half of the 13th century. He wrote many edifyingpoems with rich moral contents.



XII. A. Find out the rhyming words in the poem عيده المعادة ا

XII. B. Give the meaning of the following:

1 نَوْهُ 2 كَمْجَهُ 3 كِبَائِمَ 4 كَبِكِبُمْ 5 هَنِهُ دُوهُ 4 كَبِكُمْ 5 مَنْهُ دُوهُ 6 مَنْهُ دُوهُ 4

XII.C. Translate the following: 2 منبكع 2 عبية 1

Lesson 13

A BRIEF HISTORY OF SYRIAC LANGUAGE

Syriac belongs to the Semitic family of languages, and is a dialect of Aramaic. Aramaic is one of the oldest languages known to the world. The history of Aramaic goes back to the second millennium B.C. In the time of Alexander the Great, Aramaic was the official language of all the nations from Asia Minor to Persia, from Armenia to Arabian Peninsula. It was divided into two dialects: the western, used in Palestine and Syria by the Jews, Palmyrans, and Nabateans; the eastern, spoken in Babylonia by the Jews, Mandeans, Manichaens, and the people of Upper Mesopotamia. Aramaic is a member of Western Asian family, called Semitic group (the name Semitic-after Shem, Noah's son). Other members of the family include Ethiopic, Phoenician, Akkadian, Hebrew, Arabic etc. Among all other Semitic languages, Aramaic has the pre-eminence.

I. ARAMAIC LANGUAGE

I. 1. History of Aramaic Language

Aramaic was the oldest of all the Semitic languages. There are many reliable and historical evidences about the antiquity of the Aramaic language. The Holy Bible also solemnly testifies its pre-eminence. When the Holy Bible refers to Laban, Jacob's maternal uncle, he is styled as an Aramaen. The language employed when Jacob made an agreement with Laban was Aramaic. This may be the oldest written document in Aramaic. Abraham and the early fathers used Aramaic even before they settled in the land of Canaan.

Aramaic got its name from the region Aram, which is named after Aram, the fifth son of Shem and the grandson of Noah; while Hebrew traces its origin from Heber, the great grandson of Noah. Aram includes the present eastern Syria, and northern Iraq.

The inhabitants of Aram were called Aramaens. Their language was known as Aramaic. Abraham and other early patriarchs spoke Aramaic before they settled in Canaan. Thera, the father of Abraham with his family left Ur and settled in Paddan Aram where too Aramaic was the spoken language.

The Arameans were highly civilized people and they used 22 letters of linear alphabet. They used this for writing even before 10 BC. When the Assyrians conquered Arameans, their expert clerks were employed in the Assyrian government. Assyrians were using cuneiform. But when they found that the linear alphabet used by the Aramaen clerks are easier than theirs in different aspects, they too adopted the linear alphabets and thus Aramaic got popularity in Assyria.

In the 8th century B.C, the Assyrians conquered the Northern Kingdom of Israel and deported most of its inhabitants to Assyria, where Israelites settled permanently and adopted the local language, Aramaic. In 702 B.C, the envoys of the Assyrian king Sennacherib were asked to speak Aramaic by the Jerusalem authorities. In 7th and 6th centuries B.C, when Nabukadnasar invaded the kingdom of Judah and enslaved the natives to Babylonia, where too, the spoken language was Aramaic. During and after this Babylonian exile, Aramaic was continued as the spoken language of the Jewish people and, in fact, Hebrew was transplaced by Aramaic.

During the Chaldean Empire, Aramaic became the common language of Western Asia. The Persians succeeded to the Chaldeans in the 6th century B.C, and established the Ahaemenid Empire. Aramaic became the official language of this empire.

In the 4th century B.C Aramaic became the commercial and official language of all the nations of Western Asia, from Asia Minor to Persia and from Armenia to the Arabian Peninsula.

I. 2. Aramaic Becomes a Biblical Language

After the Babylonian captivity Hebrew became a dead language. So the people could not understand the readings of the Bible in the Synagogues. So after reading the Holy Scriptures in Hebrew, they were translated into Aramaic to be intelligible to the younger generations and to the common people. In the course of time these translations were written down and were called 'Targum'. During this period parts of some of the Books of the Bible were also written in Aramaic. For example, parts of I Esdras, Jeremiah, Daniel, and second part of Mosaic Law. Later in the 1st century AD, the gospel of St. Mathew was written in Aramaic language.

I. 3. Aramaic Language During the Time of Jesus Christ

Aramaic was the literary as well as spoken language at the time of Christ. We know more about the Aramaic language during the time of Christ from the books written in this period. In fact the pre-Christian literature was mostly Biblical. But the Jewish historian Flavius Joseph wrote his masterpiece "Jewish War" in Aramaic.

It was the language in which Christ made manifest to mankind his Holy Gospel-the truths, precepts and counsels of the Christian revelation. Aramaic is one of the three languages in which Books or parts of the Books of the Holy Bible were originally written. The gospel of St. Mathew was written in Aramaic. The other Evangelists, who wrote their gospels in Greek made use of various Aramaic names, words and phrases. Most of the names of persons and places found in the New Testament for eg: Thoma, Martha, Abba, Racca, Gehanna, Rabbi, Barjona, Barabbas, Kepha, Bethsaida, Gagultha, Bethlahem, Hakkeldama, Silohaetc, and some of the words of Jesus Christ such as, 'Thlisakoom'(girl, rise up, Mk.5:41), 'El, El, Lma Sbakthan'(my God, my God why hast thou forsaken me? Mt.27:46) etc. are purely Aramaic which are retained even in the Greek version of the Bible.

II. SYRIAC LANGUAGE

II. 1. Origin and Development of Syriac

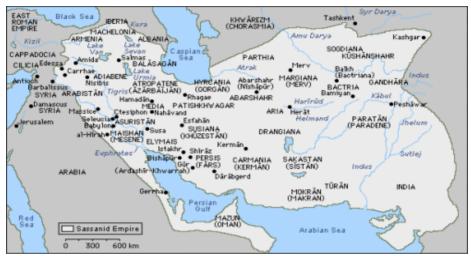
Syriac emerged as an independent Aramaic dialect in the early 1st centuary A.D. It started out simply as the local Aramaic dialect of Edessa. Later it came to be adopted as the literary language of Aramaic speaking christians all over Mesopotamia. Mesopotamia was a part of Assyrian empire. When this Aramaic dialect became the spoken language of the whole Assyrian empire, it was called the Assyrian or Syrian language. In course of time the names Arameans and Aramaic were changed into Syrians and Syriac. Under the influence of Christianity it developed considerably, and eventually became the liturgical and literary language of all the Churches from the shores of the Mediterranean to the centre of Persia. In Syria proper and western Mesopotamia Syriac was first used simultaneously with Greek. The period from the middle of the 5th century to the end of the 7th was the most brilliant period of Syriac literature.

Syriac influenced the common people more than any other Semitic languages. If we go through history we can see that Syrian Colonies were there in Asia Minor, India, Assyria, and in Babylon, and in these regions Syriac flourished as a language

II. 2. Two Centers of Learning Which Helped the Development of Syriac

The development in the Syriac language was initiated and fostered by two centers of thought-Edessa and Nisibis. Edessa was a center of Aramaen culture even before the 1st century AD. Certain developments in Syriac language were initiated at Edessa in the 3rd century AD. During this period Edessa was part of Roman Empire. Large number of Christians fearing persecution under the Persian king Sapor II came to this Christian centre and settled there. St. Ephrem was one among them. It was St. Ephrem who founded the Christian school of Edessa. The development of the Syriac language was pushed forward in the 3rd and succeeding centuries by the famous Christian school of Edessa. The Syriac developed in Edessa is known as west

Syriac. Nisibis was another center, which helped the development of Syriac language. Nisibis became a center of learning after the origin of Nestorianism. The famous school of Nisibis was established by Narsai the greatest among the Nestorian writers. He began his career in Edessa. But as a Nestorian he and his colleagues were expelled from Edessa. They went to Nisibis and developed the school of Nisibis. The Syriac language that developed in Nisibis is called East Syriac.



Map of the Sassanid Empire - showing the 5 provinces back in Persian hands – Nisibis and Edessa are in the upper left hand corner between the upper Tigris and Euphrates

II. 3. The Development of East Syriac and West Syriac Scripts

There were some progressive changes in Syriac language in the 3rd and succeeding centuries. The Syriac language developed in two lines: East Syriac and West Syriac. Estrangela is the most ancient form of Aramaic script. The word Estrangela is a composite of two words 'Sitrum'= Character and 'Ingil' = Gospel. Thus Estrangela means Bible character. This script was used for writing copies of the Bible, hence the name. It had no proper vowel system. Words were pronounced according to the meaning and circumstances. East Syriac and West Syriac are two dialects of Estrangela originated due to the division of territories where Syriac was a living language, as Eastern part under the dominion of the Persian Sassanids (upto

seventh century) and Western part dominated by emperors of Greek Byzantium. East Syriac script was developed by the school of Nisibis. It achieved permanent shape before the 7th century. West Syriac script was developed by the school of Edessa and brought to final shape before the 9th century. With the adoption of these two scripts for common use, the Estrangela script became an ornamental script for titles of books and chapters. In fact these two dialects are not two different languages but are only modified versions of Estrangela. Both these dialects have same vocabulary, grammar and literature. The main differences consist in the script, vowel system and pronunciation.

II. 4. Origin and Development of the Vowel System in Syriac

As in other semitic languages so also in Syriac there are twenty two letters in the alphabet, which are all consonants. Hence they can be pronounced only by the help of vowels. The vowels were indicated initially by three letters only and they were • 2 (alap, waw and yod). These letters were called mothers of reading. But this system of vowels was not sufficiently defined in writing and correct pronunciation of words by the common people became almost difficult.

Later a system of dots was developed. It consisted of putting dots above or below the letters in order to denote the vowels. This system was also inadequate. So another one was developed. In the new system one or more dots placed in different position above or below the consonants representing the various vowels. It was developed in Nisibis by East Syrians like Narsai and Joseph Houzaya. The West Syrians began to use the forms of Greek vowels in the place of East Syrian dots. The East Syrians in most cases have kept the original pronunciation.

II. 5. The Pre-eminence of Syriac Language over Other Semitic Languages

Syriac was once the Lingua Franca (implied meaning-Common peoples language) of the Middle East. It was the vernacular of an ancient and popular nation that occupied a great part of Asia, Africa etc.

After Latin and Greek there is none more useful than Syriac to the Biblical study, Theology, and Ecclesiastical history. Large number of books were written which cover every branch of activity of Syrian people. The literary Aramaic or Syriac is very voluminous. As the literary language of Aramaic speaking Christianity, it spread worldwide along with the spread of Christianity. Although the literature of Aramaic is mostly religious, it covers every branch of knowledge like biblical lore, commentaries on Bible, liturgy, asceticism, astronomy, apologetics, history, theology, legends, civil and canon law, philosophy, poetry, grammar, natural science, physical science, mathematics, medicine etc. 'Peshita', the syriac version of the Old Testament of the Bible, is the oldest monument of literary syriac. More than 150 great authors, through their innumerable volumes of works, enriched the language from second to14th century A.D. The libraries of Europe and those of some eastern monasteries which are of easy access possess nearly 3000 manuscripts, containing the greater part of these works. The treasures in their masterpieces are yet to be hunted.

Besides the original Syriac works, there were numerous translations and adaptations from other languages mainly from Greek. They include works of Aristotle and his school. Greek philosophy and science were made known to the Arab world through these translations and commentaries in Syriac. Translation from Arabic into Latin helped Greek philosophy to reach Western Europe. Thus Syriac played as a link in the chain of transmission of Greek philosophy and science to the Western Europe.

The most important centres of Syriac literature were Edessa, Nisibis, Sarug, Amid, Mabbug, Selucia-Ctesiphon, Arbela, Beth Lapet and Qatar.

II. 6. Syriac as a Liturgical Language

Syriac had been a flourishing language for many centuries until the Arab conquest, which imposed Arabic on Syrians. After the Arab conquest literary Syriac became a dead language like Sanskrit, Latin and Greek. But it continued to be the liturgical language of the churches of Western Asia and India. Till recently East Syriac was the liturgical language of the Nestorians and the East Syrian Catholics of

Western Asia and the Syro-Malabar Christians of Kerala. West Syriac was used by the Jacobites and the Maronites and the West Syrians and the Syro-Malankara Catholics of Kerala. The importance of Syriac as a living language was lost around 800 A.D. But still it has been used as a spoken language in isolated villages in Labanon and Mesapotemia.

Considering its historicity, richness in contribution to the world literature, culture, trade and religion, elegance and style, a detailed study of this classical language is highly essential and profitable.

II. 7. Syriac Loan Words in Malayalam

Syriac language had its entrance to Kerala from 4th Century B.C. onwards. It was raised to the status of liturgical language with the coming of St. Thomas one of the Apostles of Jesus Christ in 52 A.D. The Syrian immigrations of the 4th and 9th Century A.D. strengthened its growth along with other languages. The centuries-old presence of Syriac language enriched the vocabulary of the Malayalam language and influenced the Kerala culture. Many Syriac words, phrases and proper names became part and parcel of the day today language of the native people. Some of these are commonly used and accepted words in Malayalam and others are used in the ecclesiastical circles only.

Some of the Syriac words commonly used in Malayalam are given below:

a) Proper Names

| ഈശോ മ്ശിഹാ | يتفد معيشا |
|------------------|---------------|
| മറിയം | فعظنهر |
| യൗസേഷ് | ع ة و. |
| റൂഹാ ദ് കുദ്ശാ | تجغفهغ يسفع |
| യോഹന്നാൻ മാംദാനാ | موشق فععمذج |

b) Apostles

കേപ്പാ

فمكفع പൗലോസ്

عنففته തോമാ

യാക്കോബ്

പീലിഷോസ്

ബർണ്ണബാ

c) The Evangelists

ഏവൻഗലിസ്താ

മത്തായി

فحدسفها മർക്കോസ്

كوننه ലൂക്കാ

യോഹന്നാൻ

d) Angels

മാലാഖ

ھیڈبیک کحدبیک മിഖായേൽ

ഗബ്രിയേൽ

റഷായേൽ

حذفجه ക്രോവേന്മാർ

ന്ത്രാഷേന്മാർ മൂറ്റ്

സാത്താൻ

മാമോനാ

e) Places

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ബേസനിയാ ച്ചുറ്റു ച

ഗ്ലീലാ ച്ച്പ്

ഗാഗുൽത്താ 2244

ബേസ്പുർക്കാനാ

f) Other Proper Names

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ഹനാ

ഹേറോദേസ് കാറ്റ് ത്

ചീലാത്തോസ് മര്പ്പ് ച

അദ്രേം കൂട്ടു

ഏലീശ്ബാ ചുന്നു

നസ്റായാ ച്ച്പ്പ്

فِكْفِنْ കൽദായാ

كذبتن دهال

യാക്കോബായാ

ആവാ 2 ച്ചു

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g) Ecclesiastical Names

അഷെസ്ക്കോഷാ 2 മ്മ്മൂ

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h) Liturgy

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ചഠുദീസാ كْخَرْجْمْدْ

دوعضا റൃശ്മാ ഓശാനാ ഏവൻഗലിയോൻ بوككون ഹല്ലേലുയ്യാ ഹൈക്കലാ പെസഹാ അന്നീദാ ദുക്റാനാ ആമ്മേൻ തക്സാ ഖബ്റാ ഹശ്ശാ ഹുസായാ മാറാനായാ തുക്കാസാ ഖ്യാംതാ ബാവുസാ സെദറാ

ഈറോ

സ്ക്കീഷാ

| | മൗത്വാ | مَحْمِحُونِ |
|------------|----------------------|---|
| | ബാറെക് മാർ | جَڌِھ مِجِ محمحہ |
| i) | Liturgical Seasons | |
| | സൂവാറാ | ھە بْ د2 |
| | ദെനഹാ | <u>ڊ</u> ھيّـ2 |
| | സ്തീവാ | ي كبني |
| | ശ്ളീഹാ | عكبشع |
| | ഏലിയാ | 242 |
| | മുദ്രേ | مخخر |
| | കൈത്താ | 24.4 |
| <u>j</u>) | Bible Quotations | |
| | തലീസാ ഖും | ىكىنې 2 مومى |
| | എസ്പസഹ് | سخفج؟ |
| | ഏൽ ഏൽ ല്മാ ശബഖ്ത്താൻ | بېك بېك كغه نجستمس |
| | മാർ വാലാഹ് | معجب وزكوت |
| k) | Divine Office | |
| | റംശാ | ذمخ |
| | ലെല്യാ | يك |
| | വ്രാ | المحمدة المحمدة المحمدة المحمدة المحمدة المحمدة |
| | സോസാ | عِكُمْ عُدِي |
| | മസ്മോറാ | مَدومدهُ دُ |

| | മർമ്മീസാ | ئىدە ىپ ئەد |
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| 1) | Names of Institutions | |
| | തൃവാനീസ | ₹ەخەنە2 |
| | ഉർഹാ | كمخمد |
| | ശാലോം | غكفح |
| | റുഹാലയ | ذوشك |
| | ബർ മറിയം | بد بعنبح |
| | ദയാ | ڋٮڎؙ٤ |

m) Liturgical Vestments

| കൊത്തീനാ | حفهبغ |
|----------|------------|
| സൂനാറാ | ومِفْدُ2 |
| ഊറാറാ | ٤٥خُخُ٤ |
| wers | وْعَدِدٍ 2 |
| പൈനാ | فعف |
| കാഷാ | خف |

All these words are clear examples of the influence of Syriac Language on the Malayalam Vocabulary. These loan words are still alive among many Christians in Kerala as a remnant of the centuries-old presence of Syriac here.



XIII. A. Make a comparison between different scripts of Syriac

Estrangela

East Syriac.

West Syriac

- XIII. B. Make a project on the Syriac loan words in Malayalam.
- XIII. C. Prepare a study on the ancient Syriac inscriptions in Kerala
- XIII. D. Find out some of the famous Syriac works and their authors.
- XIII. E. Prepare a paper on the Golden age of Syriac literature.
- XIII.F. Give your opinion and evaluate the influence of the following in the Kerala culture.
 - 1. Aramaic Language during the time of Jesus Christ
 - 2. Origin and Development of Syriac
 - Two centers of learning which helped the development of Syriac
 - 4. Similarities and differences between East Syriac and West Syriac
 - 5. Origin of vowel system in Syriac.
 - 6. Pre-eminence of Syriac
 - 7. Syriac as a liturgical language
 - 8. Syriac loan words in Malayalam

Lesson 14

SYRIAC TRADITION IN INDIA

The Church in India, which is as old as Christianity itself existing in the heart of Asia, has a unique apostolic heritage. Its existence outside Greco-Roman world helped her to safeguard the uniqueness of the early Christian traditions free from the politico-religious reality of the Roman Empire. Western influence started with the arrival of the Portuguese and it became dominant during the Latin rule over this church from 1599.

1. Apostolic Origin of the Church of St Thomas Christians



The origin of Christianity in India is the result of the apostolate of St. Thomas, one of the twelve apostles of Jesus Christ. According to traditions, after preaching the gospel in Persia, Media, Bactria and other places, St. Thomas came to India. He landed in Malyankara, near Kodungalloor in 52 A.D. St. Thomas preached the gospel in important centers

of Kerala and established the churches in Niranam, Quilon, Chayal, Kokkamangalam, Kottakkav, Kodungalloor and Palayur. In order to sustain the apostolic succession he ordained a prince by name KEPA as the bishop and entrusted the administration of the church to him. Leaving Malabar, he went to the eastern coast of India, especially to the present Tamilnadu region. He was martyred in 72 A.D. and was buried in Mylapore.

For genuine historians the apostolate of St. Thomas in India is an undeniable fact. In the words of Dr. Mingana, "There is no historian, no poet, no liturgy, no Breviary, no writer of any kind, who having had the opportunity of speaking about St. Thomas, does not associate his name with India." Dr. Farquar, cardinal Tisserant and many other historians firmly assert the historicity of the apostolate of St. Thomas in India. The existence of a community of Christians by name 'St. Thomas Christians' (Marthomma Nazranikal) is a living testimony to the works of St. Thomas in India. "What may even today be seen and heard in such places as Palayoor, Paravoor, Kokkamangalam and Niranam cannot be easily dismissed as absolutely legendary, since these places point to the definite spots and families related to St. Thomas." (Podipara P.J.)

II. Ancient Writings and Art Forms

II.1. Acts of Judas Thomas

This is a Syriac book written towards the end of second century A.D. in Eddessa. It speaks of the works of St. Thomas in India, especially in the kingdom of Gundapher. According to the Acts of Thomas St. Thomas came to India with Haban an officer of the Indian king Gundapher. While Haban was searching for an architect to build a beautiful palace for the king Jesus Christ

himself introduced Thomas to him as an architect. As soon as they reached India Thomas was entrusted with the task of building the palace. He got a large sum of money from the king and distributed it to the poor and the needy. Thomas was arrested and put in jail for this offence. By this time the younger brother of the king died due to a serious illness. Apostle Thomas revived him miraculously. The boy had a vision in which he saw a beautiful mansion in heaven built by St. Thomas. The king was convinced that by distributing the money to the poor Thomas was actually building a beautiful palace in heaven. The king and many of his subjects received Christian faith. He then proceeded to another kingdom of Masday and preached the gospel there also. The book ends with the glorious martyrdom of the Apostle.

Recent escavations brought to light coins and inscriptions bearing the name of king Gundapher. This adds to the credibility of the 'Acts of Thomas'. It is probable that the name Gundapher is another version of the king Kandaper to whom Malabar tradition connects St. Thomas. Though many of the details in the book are legendary the central theme i. e. the apostolate of St. Thomas in India is historical.

II.2. Rampan Pattu (Thoma parvam)

The living tradition of the apostolate of St. Thomas is given in the Rampan pattu written by Niranath Maliekal Thoma Rampan a disciple of St. Thomas. A summary of the original was written by a priest by name Thomas of the same family (48th in the line of succession of Thoma Rampan) in 1601. This is the song now available under the name 'Rampan pattu'.Rampanpattu gives a very ancient narration about the apostolate of St. Thomas in India. It treats extensively about the journey of St. Thomas. According to Rampanpattu, St. Thomas landed in Malyankara(Cranganore) with Haban the merchant. St.

Thomas worked great miracles and established a church in the town of Kodungalloor. Then he went to Mylapore where he preached the Gospel of the Lord and embarked for China. He returned to Mylapore again. The son-in-law of the king of Thiruvanchikulamcame to Mylapore and requested St. Thomas to return to Malabar. The king, his family and many of his subjects received Christian faith. Rampanpattu also speaks about the seven churches founded by St. Thomas.

II. 3. Margamkali Pattu

Margamkali is one of the ancient group dance of Kerala practiced by Saint Thomas Christians (also known as Syrian Christians or Nasrani). The songs used in this dance are of very ancient origin. It is almost similar to 'Rampan Pattu' (Thoma Parvam) in content. "Margam" means path or way in Malayalam, but in the religious context it is known as the path to attain salvation.



This dance involves 12 people and they dance around a Vilakku in a circular manner. The 12 members in the group are considered as the 12 Apostles of Jesus Christ. The lighted lamp represents Jesus Christ. The song which is sung during this play is

very old probably before the time of the Portuguese invasion. It has 14 strophes and about 450 lines. It is the leader of the dance group called as the Asan who sings the song. The other members in the group sing the chorus. The language used for the song is a combination of both Malayalam and Tamil.

In the olden times, this dance was a source of entertainment or a recreational activity for the Christian soldiers. But now it is considered as a compulsory performance in the Syrian Christian wedding and other auspicious occasions. This dance is seen commonly in the districts Kottayam and Thrissur. Traditionally only men perform this art, but now women also started to perform this dance. It is now performed in stages and also as a competitive dance. The costume of the performers is a white dhoti and they wear a peacock feather on their turban. The women wear the traditional dress of the Christians which is the Chattayum Mundum.

II. 4. Parichamuttukali



Parichamuttukali is a martial art form performed by the Christians of northern and central Kerala. The participants use sword and paricha (a kind of offensive weapon). The steps are similar to the margamkali but they are in quick tempo. The costumes of participants are similar to the warriors of old age. There are separate parichamuttukali songs. They may consider as folksongs praising God and St Thomas, the apostles of Christ.

The group is usually headed by a leader called Asan around whom the rest of the dancers perform. The Asan sing songs to the chimes of a bell. Musical accompaniment is restricted to ilathalam and the din made by the rhythmic clapping of swords and shields. As the pace of the dance gradually heightens, the music also reaches a crescendo.

It is a group dance with the dancers holding sword and shield made of wood in their hands, following the movements of sword fight, leaping forward, stepping back and moving round. The dancers are usually dressed in a white loin cloth with red wrist-bands and sing in chorus as they dance. They dance according to the rhythm of recital.

Usually boys between the ages of twelve and twenty one take part in Parichamuttu.. The steps of the dance and the themes of the songs have martial art connotations and the dance form is believed to be older than the famous martial art of Kerala known as Kalarippayattu. .

II. 5. Veeradian Pattu (Pananpattu)



Veeradian or panan is a Hindu caste. Panan means one who sings. They go from house to house singing for which they may get some remuneration. When the Panan goes to Hindu homes he would sing Hindu song whereas in Christian houses they would sing Christian songs and sing certain songs praising St. Thomas

the Apostle. These songs describe the activities of St. Thomas, the arrival of Thomas of Knai (knai Thomas) and the religious tolerance.Dr P A Thomas in 1936 printed

a few lines of Panan pattu under the title *Panan varvum Panan pokkum* in his book 'History of Christians in India'.

III. Martyrdom and the Tomb of St. Thomas at Mylapore



The Church at St.Thomas Mount

St Thomas was martyred while praying on the top of a hill near Mylapore in 72 A.D. and was buried in Mylapore. Mylapore was a center of trade in the first and second centuries of the Christian era. This town was also known as 'Kalamina'. For example, Isidore of Seville (638 A.D.) uses the word Kalamina for Mylapore. Probably this name comes from the Syriac word 'galmona' which means little mount (Chinna mala) which is closely associated with the martyrdom of St. Thomas. This name was in common use up to the 12th century.

There are two places in Mylapore which is associated with the martyrdom of St. Thomas – the Periya mala (St. Thomas Mount) and the Chinna mala (little mount). Periya mala is about 10 kms from Madras. St.

Thomas was martyred while he had been praying on the top of this hill. Chinna mala is about 3 kms away from the St. Thomas Mount. There is a cave on this hill where St. Thomas used to pray. On the walls of the cave we find a cross, believed to have been carved in stone by St. Thomas himself.





Christians from different parts of India especially the St. Thomas Christians of Malabar used to make pilgrimage to the tomb of St. Thomas. The history of this pilgrimage goes back to the first century. It is a valid proof that St. Thomas died in Mylapore. In the fourth century St. Ephrem the great father of the church speaks about the tomb of St. Thomas in (Mylapore) India. It is recorded that in the 6th century A.D. Theodore a Syrian pilgrim visited the tomb of St. Thomas in Mylapore. In 833 A.D. Alfred the great king of England sent a group of pilgrims with offerings to the holy tomb of St. Thomas in Mylapore as a thanksgiving for the victory he gained over the Danes. In the 9th century a few Arab travelers visited the tomb of the Apostle. In their writings they address Mylapore by the name 'Beth Thoma' (House of Thomas). Marco Polo the Venitian traveler visited the tomb in 1293. He says, "The tomb of St. Thomas in Mylapore is as famous as that of St. Peter in Rome." There are

many similar historical records which also show that St. Thomas the Apostle was buried in Mylapore.

Archeological studies made in Mylapore and Arikamedu by the Indian Archeology Department also add to the credibility of the ancient tradition about the tomb of St. Thomas in Mylapore.

IV. The Seven Churches Established by St. Thomas

IV. 1. Kodungalloor



St. Thomas the Apostle landed in Malyankara near Kodungalloor in 52 A.D. Kodungalloor was the most important town in Kerala (Malabar). It was the capital of the Chera Empire. Kodungalloor, known as Musiris in the whole ancient world, and where St. Thomas the Apostle first landed in India, was till the 15th century the "Rome" of India both as the centre of the Indian Church and as its gateway to world-trade through its famous harbour at the mouth of the river Periyar. Many ancient travelers describe Musiris as a glorious city in the East. Jews called Singly (Thiruvanchikulam). It was also known as 'Mahodayapattanam'. Kodungalloor was a port and center of trade. There was Jewish colony in and around the town. Plini calls it the most important center of trade in India. Kodungalloor lost its importance due to the Arab invasion and decline of Chera Empire.

IV. 2. Palayur



When St. Thomas arrived in India Palayur was a predominantly Brahmin area. Brahmins had a temple with a pond near to it. St. Thomas performed a miracle in this pond and 32 Brahmin families believed in him. They include families like Sankarapuri, Pakalomattam, Kalliankavu, Nedumpally, etc. The temple was converted into a church. Palayur was also a center of trade. There was a Jewish colony near to the town. The church at Palayur is unique in that the present church has a continuous history of two millennia and stands on the same spot where Apostle first established it.

IV. 3. Kottakavu



Kottakavu is near the present Paravoor town. This placehad direct contact with Malyankara near Kodungalloor where St. Thomas landed in 52 A.D. It was a very ancient Jewish settlement. Even now there is a Jewish temple here. The historical remnants of the works of St. Thomas and his church can be found even now in this place.

IV. 4. Kokkamangalam



The place is near Thannirmukam, 20 miles from Cochin. It is near the sea cost. In the first centuries of the Christian era ships coming from Kodungalloor to Quilon touched this place. The area was fertile and densely populated at the time when St. Thomas came to India. First it was a Buddhist center. Then it turned to be a Brahmin settlement. After the arrival St. Thomas it became a Christian area. St. Thomas founded a cross in this place. But it was thrown away by his opponents into the sea. It landed near Pallipuram and people of that area refounded the cross and this is said to be the origin of Pallipuram Church.

IV. 5. Niranam



The village of Niranam is in the upper Kuttanad area. In the first and second centuries after Christ it was an internationally reputed center of trade. Plini (of Rome) and Ptolemy (of Alexandria) speak of this place. St. Thomas the Apostle founded a Church in Niranam. The church underwent many reconstructions and modifications. At present, the fourth building is in the place of the original Church that was believed to be founded by Apostle St. Thomas. Roman coins excavated from this region prove the antiquity of this place.

IV. 6. Quilon



From ancient time onwards Quilon was a well-known port. It linked the trade from Burma, China and Indo-China with that of Eastern countries. There was a Chinese colony in Quilon. St. Thomas preached the gospel in Quilon and established a Church. Historical evidence show that there existed a Christian community from the first century onwards. It was strengthened by migration of Christian colonies from Persia under Bishops Mar Sapor and Mar Proth in the 9th century.

IV. 7. Nilackal or Chayal



According to tradition St. Thomas established a church in Nilackal and stayed there for a year. At present Nilackal lies deep in the forest. This ancient town linked Pandya kingdom with the seacoast. A trade route from the Pandya kingdom to the Arabian Sea passed through the town of Nilackal. In course of time Nilackal became a Christian center. The place was abandoned by the Christians due to invasion from outside especially from the Pandya region.

V. THE EARLY DAYS OF MALABAR CHURCH

From the death of St. Thomas till the 4th century very little is known about the Christian Church in India. The most important events that can be traced in history are:-

1. The arrival of Panthenus in India (190 A.D.)

- 2. Transfer of the relics of St. Thomas to Edessa.
- 3.Immigration of Syrian Christians from Persia under Thomas of Cana

V. 1. The arrival of Panthenus in India in 190 A.D.

The Indian Church had to face some persecutions in the early days. The Christians had to confront with the learned scholars of other religious sects. They needed the help of a scholar to defend their faith. This was the circumstance which led to the arrival of Panthenus in India.

Panthenus was the Rector of the famous ecclesiastical Alexandrian University. He was very much known for his learning and sanctity. Some of the Christians from India went to Alexandria and requested bishop Demetrius to send them a scholar. In response the bishop sent Panthenus to India. This historical event is narrated in the writings of Eusebius and St. Jerome. St. Jerome has written very vivid about his journey to India. Panthenus could successfully defend the Christian faith before the scholars.

When Panthenus returned to Alexandria the Indian Christians presented him with a very rare and precious book, a copy of the Gospel of St. Mathew. This Gospel was written in Aramaic (Syriac). Most probably the St. Thomas Christians received this book from St. Thomas himself. They used to read this book in their churches. From this it is clear that the Indian Christians were well versed in Syriac and Syriac was their liturgical language from the first century onwards.

V. 2. Transfer of the Relics of St. Thomas to Edessa

It is from the writings of St. Ephrem that we know about the transfer of the relics of St. Thomas the Apostle from India to Edessa. It was done by a merchant called Khabin. The sacred relics were kept in Edessa for a long time and it was afterwards transferred to Orthona in Italy. We do not know exactly the date of its transfer from India to Edessa. But it is believed to have occurred during the 3rd century.

V. 3. Immigration of Syrian Christians from Persia under Thomas of Knai



The St. Thomas Christians of Malabar had trade connections with the Syrians of Persia and Babylon. This relation became more intimate because of immigration of Christians from Persia in the 4th century. In 345 A.D. a colony of Christians immigrated into Malabar under the leadership of a merchant called Thomas of Knai. The group consisted of 72 Christian

families.

According to tradition the Bishop of Edessa Mar Joseph had a vision of St. Thomas who commanded him to send someone to tend his flock in Malabar. Historians say that the real cause of this immigration was persecution of Christians in Edessa under the Persian emperor Sapor II.

With the immigrant Christians it is said there was one Bishop and four priests. They traveled to India in 3 ships from Mesopotamia and landed at Cranganore, the capital of the Chera Empire. Thomas of Knai was a powerful and wealthy merchant. He impressed the Perumal very much with his exceptional qualities. So the Perumal gave him a royal welcome and treated him with great respect. The king assigned to Thomas and his followers extensive lands near his capital city and they settled down there. He also built a Church for them. The Perumal conferred upon the Christians many honours

and privileges. The Christians were made lords of many castes and masters of trade. These privileges were granted to them in a copper plate or 'Cheppedu' Because of these exceptional privileges the Christians were respected and feared by all.

Tradition connects with this group of Christians, which was led by Thomas of Knai, the origin of southist community of Christians in Kerala. The members of this community are called 'thekkumbhagakar' or 'southists'. The name originated as they first resided in the southern part of Kodungalloor. Other Christians who resided in the northern part of Kodungalloor were called 'Vadakkumbhagar' or the 'Northists'. This division exists even today among the Malabar Christians.

Effects of this Immigration

There were many favorable effects to the immigration of Persian Christians.

- 1. It caused a new line of episcopacy in Malabar. Then onwards the Malabar Church came to be ruled by Persian Bishops.
- 2. The arrival of these Christians increased the prestige and strength of the Malabar Church.
- 3. It helped the Malabar Church to carry on commercial relations and trade with foreign countries like Egypt, Venice etc.
- 4. The Syriac language and Syrian liturgy became more popular among Malabar Christians.
- 5. It paved the way for the emergence of two sets of Syrian Christians in India namely the 'Thekkumbhagakar' and 'Vadakkumbhagakar'.



XIV. A. Prepare a project on the ancient folk arts of St. Thomas Christians

Margamkali

Parichamuttukali

Rampan Pattu

Veeradian Pattu

- XIV. B. Write a paper on the Syrian immigrations to Kerala and their contribution to Syriac language and Kerala culture.
- XIV. C. Prepare a project on the ancient tradition of the Knanaya community in Kerala.
- XIV. D. Write a paper on the cheppeds and the religious tolerance of Cheraman Perumal.
- XIV. E. Give your opinion and evaluate the influence of any four of the following in the Kerala culture.
 - 1 Knai Thomas and the First Syrian Immigration
 - 3 Martyrdom of St Thomas
 - 5 Kodungalloor
 - 6 Panthenus
 - 7 Seven Churches Founded by St Thomas