KOONANKURISHU PILGRIM CENTRE-MATTANCHERY ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX KOONANKURISHU PALLY & HISTORICAL MONUMENT Historical place of the Koonankurishu Oath Malankara Marthoman Nasraanis dated 3rd Jan. 1653 AD.



His Holiness Baselios Marthoma Didymus I, the 90th Catholicos of the East appointed a council presided by the Supreme Head of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church, His Holiness Baselios Marthoma Paulose II, the 91" Catholicos of the East and 21" Malankara Metropolitan to renovate the Koonankurishu Pally and establish a Pilgrim and Heritage Center at Mattanchery.

A master plan was finalized by the Mattancherry Koonankurishu Pally Council to complete the project in several phases and work is in progress. This is the most prestigious project for any Malankara Orthodox Syrian Christian in the recent times as it is for preserving his heritage and it coincides with the Catholicate Centenary celebrations.



Admin and Personage Block as on 27 Oct 2012

The Mattancherry Koonankurishu Pally is an A grade Church directly under His Holiness and the project aims to declare it as a Pilgrim and Heritage Center.

The St. George Orthodox Koonankurishu Pally has added importance as it preserves the Holy Relics of St. George. The plan is also to house the relics of Parumala Thirumeni and Vattasseril Thirumeni, the declared Saints of the Malankara Orthodox Church at this Pilgrim center.



Vaults under construction

The construction project comprises of an Administrative Block including the offices and Parsonage for the Clergy which is almost complete; renovation of the old Church without changing the original structure is in progress. The building to house the Heritage Center consisting of a Museum, library and research center which will provide the history of the Malankara Marthomman Nazranies since AD 52 for the coming generations is planned in the next phase. The Church is being renovated in the 15th century architecture with eco friendly green construction principles in line with the Malankara Orthodox Church's commitment to mother nature.



Verandha renovation

Very less cement and no steel is used. Burn bricks are not used to reduce CO2 emission. Compressed Stabilized Earth Bricks (CSEB) are used for construction under the guidance of UNITED NATIONS CENTRE FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (UNCHS -HABITAT) and the Auroville Earth Institute, Pondichery (www.earth-auroville.com). importance is given for natural lighting and air circulation to save energy.

The Koonankurishu Oath is heading to its 360th anniversary and the aim of the council is to submit the renovated Koonankurishu Pally to the Malankara Orthodox Church as the anniversary gift. Plans are in place to celebrate the 360th anniversary with great pomp and to educate the masses on the rich Malankara Orthodox heritage.



Proposed Commemorative Medallion

A limited edition of serial numbered Commemorative Medallion is planned for release on the occasion of the 360th anniversary to generate the required funds for the project.

The Malankara Nazrani Sangamam on the finale of the Catholicate Centenary is scheduled to be on 25th Nov 2012 at the Marine Drive, Cochin. Please be a part of the Sangamam to show your solidarity with the Malankara Orthodox Church and take the opportunity to visit the Koonankurishu Pilgrim Center construction site to get the blessings of St. George and our forefathers who fought for our Church and make us proud of our heritage.



Church renovation progress as on 27 Oct 2012

Please visit the web site www.koonankurishu.com, and join the "Friends of Koonankurishu Pilgrim Center"; post your suggestions and propagate to the masses the necessity to preserve the Marthomman Nazrani heritage.

Jai Jai Catholicos

Jai Jai Malankara Orthodox Church