



Magazine of the Grand Lodge of India

THE SQUARE AND COMPASSES



*"We are all temporary in this world,
but we can build institutions which are permanent.
We can resurrect organisation which can stay eternal".*

Padmashri R.W.Bro. T.N.Manoharan, OSM

JULY 2025
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On Monday, 4th August 2025, a photo of Padmashri R.W.Bro. T.N. Manoharan, OSM was installed at the front entrance of the Freemasons' Hall, Chennai. M.W.Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM, M.W. The Grand Master, along with Brethren and administrative staff, paid their respects on this solemn occasion. The photograph will remain on display for a few more days to enable Brethren to offer their tributes.

M.W.Bro.Gutha Krishnan Selvarajan O.S.M

M.W.The Grand Master

Grand Lodge of India

MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE

It is still unbelievable to think that R.W.Bro. T.N.Manoharan R.W. the Regional Grand Master of Southern India is no more with us.

His sudden tragic end has come as the rudest jolt and shock to the Masonic world.

Throughout my travel with him for the past 20 years, from the day he became the Master of his Lodge, till the day we spent together, just 24 hrs before his demise, my admiration for him grew day by day. What a man he was!

His never ending profile was full of superlative accomplishments on multiple fields. There can be no man parallel to him who has accomplished so much in such a short time.

He valued personal integrity and purest virtues of righteousness, more than anything else and practised them in his daily life.

Always with smile and sweet tongue, he never had any negative thoughts on anyone.

For him, time is God and considered it as the greatest treasure. He valued time, both of his and of others in equal measures.

He loved life in full, he loved all his fellow men intensely and professed and practiced all the virtues and principles throughout life with sincerity and devotion.

An Avid traveller, I have never seen a Mason who travelled so extensively throughout the Region and met so many masons in such short time.

A born orator and motivator, his inspirational speeches with a tinge of humour were always looked forward to, by all sections of society especially masons.

He planned every minute of his life, but unfortunately he never planned his end.

Though he is not with us in physical form, he shall live with us in our thoughts and memories for ever and ever.

MAY HIS GOOD SOUL REST IN PEACE.

Yours Sincerely

G.K. Selvarajan

Grand Master

Grand Lodge of India



ARUN CHINTOPANTH OSM



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M.W.Bro. Arun
Chintopanth, OSM
Past Grand Master

In Memory of Late R.W.Bro. Padmashri.T.N.Manoharan
Who departed to the Grand Lodge Above on 29th July, 2025.

MANOHARA means winning the heart. I cannot even imagine that there would be any one in this World who has met T.N.Manoharan and not lost his heart to him.

How true this upright Freemason has been to his own name.

In the Srimad Bhagawad Gita, Lord Krishna says:

"Yad yad acarati sresthas
Tad tad evertaro janah
Sa yat pramanam kurute
Lokas tad anuvartate" (3.21)

It means, "Whatever action a great man performs, common men follow. And whatever standards he sets by his exemplary acts, all the world pursues."

Taking a little liberty and reading this verse in a reverse direction, it would imply that if people have been following a certain person and attempting to reach the standards set by him, then, indeed, such a person is a 'Sresthah' a respectable leader.

Going by the number of us who have followed, admired and tried to emulate R.W.Bro.T.N.Manoharan, he was indeed a 'Sresthah' - a leader among us - a colossal one at that.

The inevitable has happened. Though, in my opinion, prematurely and untimely. Death has called R.W.Bro.T.N.Manoharan to its abode leaving us all behind grieving.

I was with him just a couple of days before his demise and he was enquiring about my well being! How ironic. He also mentioned to me about the articles written by him in a Tamil magazine, which he said, he had sent to Asha for her comments.

And when she did compliment him on the article, this was his message, "Thank you so much Sir and beloved MW Bro for sharing Madam's encouraging feedback. My pranams to both. Warm regards, TNM A

Indeed, humility was his essential qualification.

Our vedic hymn says "Mrutyorma Amrutamgamaya". From mortality to immortality. R.W.Bro.T.N.Manoharan may have left us. But his memory in our hearts will remain forever.


ARUN CHINTOPANTH



M.W.Bro. Anish Kumar Sharma, OSM
Immediate Past Grand Master

I am deeply saddened after hearing the untimely and sudden shocking demise of R.W.Bro. T. N. Manoharan RGM SI, all of us looked in him a great leader who could lead the Grand Lodge in time to come. I have no words to express my grief, Almighty granted me the Wisdom to confer on him the Order of Service to Masonry in Goa, in recognition of his excellent services to Masonry in time. I pray almighty to grant eternal peace to the soul of R.W.Bro. T. N. Manoharan.

Anish K Sharma



M.W.Bro. Vasudev J. Masurekar, OSM
Past Grand Master

R.W.Bro. T. N. Manoharan, OSM was a man of many talents and passions, but above all, a man of extraordinary kindness. He was welcoming and warm, with whom everyone felt loved and accepted.

He was a Chartered Accountant by profession, but his influence extended far beyond. Patience, kindness, empathy, courage - these were the tenets he lived by, and instilled in everyone around him.

As we bid farewell to our dear friend and brother, let us not lose ourselves in the sorrow but find comfort in the memories we shared, Let us remember him not with sadness, but with the joy he brought into our lives, the lessons he taught us, and the love he shared with us.



R.W.Bro. Arvind Prasad Chitra, OSM
Deputy Grand Master

I am at a loss for words to react to the tragic and sudden passing of our revered R.W.Bro. TNM. We have lost a great mason, an eminent public figure and above all a family man who could redefine what humility means. I have lost a personal friend with whom I had the pleasure to interact personally for such a long time. Both the Grand Lodge of India as well as the Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India now have a large void to fill at the very top. My sincere condolences to his family members and I pray that the Almighty gives them strength and courage to overcome this sudden shock. Om Shanti

R.W.Bro. Arvind Prasad Chitra, OSM
Deputy Grand Master



R.W.Bro. Pervez S Kaikobad
RW The RGM - EI

moment, but one that revealed the essence of the man: his humility was not an affectation but a deeply held virtue. From him, I learnt that true humility is the foundation upon which prudence, temperance, fortitude, and justice naturally follow.

His sudden passing has left me numbed. A gentle soul, who still had so much more to offer, has been called to the Grand Lodge Above. It is a grievous loss-for his family, for Freemasonry, for our nation, and for all of humanity.

May his immortal soul rest in eternal peace in the abode of the Great Architect of the Universe.

R.W.Bro. Pervez S Kaikobad
Right Worshipful The Regional Grand Master

Condolence Message for Our Late Padmashri R. W. Bro. T. N. Manoharan, OSM

I first met R. W. Bro. T. N. Manoharan at the Grand Festival in Kolkata in 2022, when our names were announced as Regional Grand Master Designates for the South and East respectively. From that very first encounter, I was struck by his gentle humility-an enduring trait that defined him throughout.

It was only later that I came to fully appreciate the breadth of his accomplishments-across his professional life, his public service, and his deep dedication to Freemasonry. The more I learned, the more I held him in profound respect and admiration. He was my senior in every sense: in age, in Masonic experience, and certainly in public and professional stature.

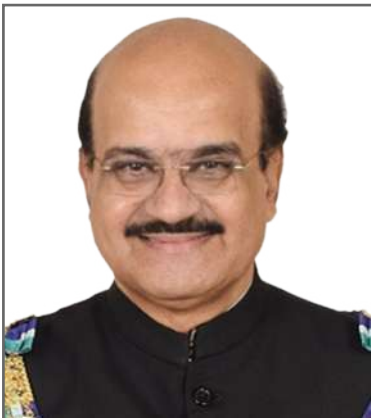
We were installed as Regional Grand Masters just a few days apart. As fickle fate would have it, my installation preceded his, and by Masonic custom, that made me the senior. I recall vividly our first meeting thereafter-I asked if he would lead, but with characteristic grace he replied, “No Brother, you are senior.” It was a simple

moment, but one that revealed the essence of the man: his humility was not an affectation but a deeply held virtue. From him, I learnt that true humility is the foundation upon which prudence, temperance, fortitude, and justice naturally follow.

His sudden passing has left me numbed. A gentle soul, who still had so much more to offer, has been called to the Grand Lodge Above. It is a grievous loss-for his family, for Freemasonry, for our nation, and for all of humanity.

May his immortal soul rest in eternal peace in the abode of the Great Architect of the Universe.

R.W.Bro. Pervez S Kaikobad
Right Worshipful The Regional Grand Master



R W Bro Subhash L Saraf
RW The RGM -WI

We are deeply saddened by the sudden passing of R.W.Bro. T. N. Manoharan RW The Regional Grand Master of the Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India, who was my colleague in office, which came as a very shocking and unbelievable news.

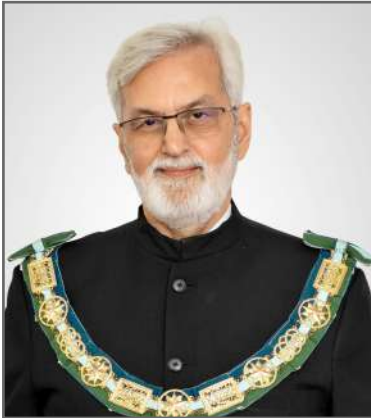
His unwavering dedication and commitment have been instrumental in shaping the vision of Freemasonry in general and Grand Lodge of India and Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India in particular.

This is not just a loss to The Grand Lodge of India but to our Country as a whole as this pious Soul was a Visionary and headed many Corporate and financial institutions of the Country in an exemplary manner. He was a proud receipt of prestigious award of Padma Shri by Government of India for his contribution to turn around Satyam into Tech Mahindra.

His values and contributions will continue to inspire us as we carry forward the work he so passionately believed in. His book will continue to inspire all times to come.

On behalf of the Regional Grand Lodge of Western India and my own personal behalf, extend my heartfelt condolences to his family and all the Brethren of Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India and Grand Lodge of India in general, whose lives he touched.

In grief
R W Bro Subhash L Saraf
RGM -WI



RW Bro Puneet Sohal
RW The RGM - NI

The Regional Grand Lodge of Northern India records with deep sorrow the passing to the Grand Lodge Above of RW Bro TN Manoharan, OSM, RW the Regional Grand Master of the Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India. His life was a shining example of leadership, integrity, and unwavering dedication to the Craft. His contributions, both in Freemasonry and in public life, have left an indelible mark. RW Bro. Manoharan's wisdom, leadership, and fraternal spirit will be remembered. His memory will live on in the hearts of all who had the privilege to know and serve with him.

His passing away so soon has left a big void not only in Freemasonry but the whole of country. It will be very difficult to fill the gap.

On a personal note, I always admired his compassionate nature and humility. I would carefully listen to his speeches on various platforms whenever I got chance and read his stories in the Newsletter of the Southern Region like a mentee. His thoughts and actions have inspired me immensely and will always keep on guiding me even when he is not around.

I extend my heartfelt condolences to his family and loved ones. May the Great Architect of the Universe grant them strength and solace in this time of grief. May his noble soul rest in eternal peace. Aum Shanti.

RW Bro Puneet Sohal,
RW the Regional Grand Master,
Regional Grand Lodge of Northern India



It is with profound sorrow and disbelief that I received the news of the sudden and untimely passing of our beloved, learned, and respected Right Worshipful the Regional Grand Master of the Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India, R. W. Bro. T. N. Manoharan, OSM. His departure has left a void in our hearts and in the Craft that can never truly be filled.

A Mason par excellence, a visionary leader, and a man of great humility, R. W. Bro. Manoharan exemplified the highest ideals of Freemasonry. From the moment he was installed as the Regional Grand Master on 11th March 2023, he articulated a clear and noble vision for the Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India, built on four foundational pillars: **Benevolence through Charity, Ritual Excellence through the Masonic Academy, Stability through Infrastructure Development, Sustainability through Family Bonding.** Among his most cherished contributions was the institution of Mother's Day celebrations to honour mothers for their selfless sacrifices to their families and society. He urged every Masonic centre in the Region to commemorate International Mother's Day each May-an initiative that was met with heartfelt enthusiasm and became a remarkable success during his tenure. Another significant milestone of his leadership was the timely and consistent publication of the "Mason South" monthly newsletter, released in the first few days of every month. It served as a vibrant chronicle of lodge activities and the dynamic growth of our region under his stewardship.

R.W.Bro. T.N. Manoharan led by example-with integrity, dignity, and unwavering dedication to the principles of Freemasonry. His warmth, strength, and compassion touched the lives of every Brother he encountered. His contributions to the Craft, both within and beyond the Southern Region, have been truly transformative and will remain an enduring legacy.

I bow in reverence to his memory and pray to the Great Architect of the Universe to grant his noble soul eternal rest in the Grand Lodge Above. He lived respected and departed regretted.

With sorrow,

D Dhamodharaswamy, Deputy Regional Grand Master in Charge



UNITED GRAND LODGE
OF ENGLAND

RW Bro Ajay Bhargava
Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of India
Freemasons' Hall
Janpath
New Delhi - 110001
India

Our Ref: ER/PRE/KB

31 July 2025

Dear Brother Ajay,

I was very sad to receive news of the sudden and untimely death of RW Brother T. N. Manoharan OSM who was such a distinguished and warm hearted Brother whom I had greatly enjoyed meeting in person in Chennai. We were grateful of the opportunity to be well represented by our DGM at the funeral earlier today.

On behalf of my MW Grand Master and all the Brethren of the UGLE, please convey our condolence and best wishes to Brother Manoharan's many friends and family.

Yours very sincerely and fraternally,

Paul R. Engeham
Grand Chancellor

Freemasons' Hall, 60 Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ

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Late Padmashri R.W.Bro. T.N.Manoharan, OSM



R.W.Bro. T.N. Manoharan is the youngest child of Shri T. L. Narayanasamy and Smt. Saradha Ammal, a family of agriculturists. His late father was a staunch freedom fighter and was honoured by the government of Tamilnadu for his valuable contribution in the freedom struggle. He is a Chartered Accountant by qualification and also a Law Graduate. He has to his credit several books on taxation addressing the needs of both professionals and students. He has a rich background of imparting education to aspiring Chartered Accountants. In true masonic spirit of charity, in every batch, R.W.Bro. T.N. Manoharan

has aided students from the poorest strata of society by imparting education free of cost. His students and trainees are now leaders in their own right, and like Masonry, are spread across the four quarters of the Globe, thanks to his mentoring.

He served as the President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India during the year 2006-07.

He was part of the Government nominated Board for revival of Satyam Computer Services Limited. With the benefit of his wisdom, the company did a spectacular turnaround and R.W. Bro T. N. Manoharan has

chronicled this journey of excellence in his book titled “TECH PHEONIX - SATYAM'S 100 - DAY TURNAROUND”, co-authored with V. Pattabhi Ram, got released on 5th November, 2022.

He served as Chairman of the committee on Accounting Standards and Taxation of Confederation of Indian Industry during 2009-2011. R.W.Bro. T.N. Manoharan was also a visiting faculty in BIM in Trichy, RBI Staff college in Chennai during the 1990s. He has addressed training programs at Nagpur Academy on Direct Taxes; Reserve Bank of India Staff

Late Padmashri R.W.Bro. T.N.Manoharan, OSM

College and for Income tax Appellate Tribunal Members at the Judicial Academy. He has addressed renowned Institutions including Reputed Foreign Universities such as Chicago University in USA, Warwick University in UK and Southern Queensland University in Australia.

He served as the Chairman of Canara Bank for five years up to August, 2020 and as the Administrator of Lakshmi Vilas Bank during November, 2020 till its merger with DBS Bank. R.W.Bro. T. N. Manoharan is currently a member of the Reserve Bank of India Standing External Advisory Committee for evaluating applications for Universal Banks and Small Finance Banks. He is currently Chairman of IDBI Bank, He is on the board of Mahindra & Mahindra, Tech Mahindra and National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development.



FAMILY

R.W.Bro. T. N. Manoharan is married to Dr. Sujatha, a Dental Surgeon.

They are blessed with two Daughters:-

Malavika, a Chartered Accountant, married and settled with two kids.

Sahini, a B.Com. Graduate, now doing CA final course.



AWARDS

- Presented with "Life time achievement" award in 2005 by Rotary International.
- "Super Achiever Award" in 2006 by the Lions International.
- "For the Sake of Honour" award in 2007.
- Received "Business Leadership award" from Hon'ble Finance Minister of India under the aegis of NDTV-Profit as part of the Satyam revival team in October, 2009.
- R.W.Bro CA. T.N.Manoharan is recipient of the CNN IBN "Indian of the Year 2009" award from the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India in December, 2009.
- R.W.Bro. T.N.Manoharan was conferred the civilian honour "Padma Shri" award by the President of India on 7th April, 2010.
- Dronacharya award in 2022 by the Rotary Club of Madras East.

Late Padmashri R.W.Bro. T.N.Manoharan, OSM

Masonic Career

- **Name of Lodge and the Year of occupying the Eastern Year:**

W. Master of Lodge Accountants No. 194 during 2005
Zerubbabel of Chapter Accountants No.104 during 2013
W. Master of Lodge Mark Accountants No.101 during 2016
WCN of RAM Mount Lodge No.50 during 2019-20

- **Recipient of The Order of Service to Masonry (OSM) -**
Bestowed by MWBro Anish Kumar Sharma then MW the Grand Master in September 2024 at Goa

- **Awards won in Ritual Working Competition:**

Best Master and Best Lodge in the Region in RWC-2005 in craft;
Best Zerubbabel in the Region in 2013
Best Mark Master and Best Mark Lodge in the Region in 2016.
Best Installing officer trophy in both Chapter and Mark degrees

- **Other Honours received :**

Outstanding Mason award from GLI for the year 2019 presented at Grand Festival held on 30th November, 2019 at Trichy.

- **Current Rank in Grand Lodge of India:**

Past Deputy Grand Master

- **Active Office held in the Regional Grand Lodge:**

RGM 11th March 2023 to 30th July 2025

ARGMM during 2022

ARGM during 2016

- **Active Office held in the Grand Lodge (in the past):**

In Craft: Grand Chaplain during 2019

Assistant Grand Master during 2021;

Third Grand Principal in Grand Chapter during 2022

25 Years Long term Service Jewel received on 17th Dec, 2019



Resolution of Sorrow

At the Memorial Service Meeting of Lodge Accountants No. 194, of Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of India, held in Chennai, on July 20, 2025, the following Resolution was unanimously adopted:

Whereas it has pleased the Great Architect of the Universe to remove Right Worshipful Brother Lakshmiraghavan Sukumar, from our midst; and
Whereas it is but just that a fitting recognition of his many virtues should be made, it is therefore

Resolved, by Lodge Accountants No 194 on the register of Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of India, that while we bow with humble submission to the Will of the Most High, we mourn no less for our brother who has been taken away from us on the Twenty-Eighth day of June, 2025.

Resolved, that in the passing of Right Worshipful Brother Lakshmiraghavan Sukumar, our Lodge has lost a brother who was selfless in helping, a true paropakari, a gentleman committed to keeping one's word as a matter of honor and integrity. A Benefactor who placed others' needs, particularly his family and community, before his own. A Mason who prioritized interpersonal relationships, hospitality, and generosity as primary virtues to be imbibed.

Resolved, that the heartfelt sympathy of our Lodge Accountants be extended to his family in their affliction.

Resolved, that these resolutions be entered into the records of the Lodge and a copy thereof be transmitted to the family of our departed brother.

Worshipful Master, Wardens & Brethren of
Lodge Accountants No. 194 of Grand Lodge of India.

Late R.W.Bro. Lakshmiraghavan Sukumar

LAKSHMI RAGHAVAN SUKUMAR

Born on 20. 5 1955.

Went to Vidya mandir Mylapore
Chennai

Did his Bcom in Bangalore

Passed CA in 1984

He married Vaidehi in 1986, and
they have two children:

Sharanya, a CA, and Ashwin, a
computer graphics specialist
based in the UK.

Professionally, Sukumar had his
own practice, partnered with
Alladi Krishnan Kumar CAs, and
later founded L Sukumar & Co.

Was a member of lodge
accountants and as a dedicated

Freemason, Sukumar served as
Worshipful Master in 1999 and
held high offices in the Royal
Arch Chapter, Mark, and RAM
degrees. He held various active
ranks in the Regional Grand
Lodge of Southern India,
including Assistant Secretary and
Regional Grand Lodge Secretary
from 2012-2017. He also held
ranks in GLI and was a special
officer in GLI at the time of his
passing away.

Sukumar touched the lives of
many in a very gentle way

To those who knew him , he was
the person you could fall back at
any time.

He was not given to aggression

but always made his point in his
own quiet way.

Sukumar was known for his
gentle nature, kindness, and
quiet strength, prioritizing family
and caring for his bedridden
mother in his later years.

He will be deeply missed, but his
family will find support from
those who knew him.

We will miss him but we will also
be a source of support to his
family .



Resolution of Sorrow

At the Memorial Service Meeting of Lodge Om Vighneswara No. 218, of Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of India, held in Chennai, on July 13, 2025, the following Resolution was unanimously adopted:

Whereas it has pleased the Great Architect of the Universe to remove Right Worshipful Brother Annapragada Suryanarayana Rao, from our midst,
and

Whereas it is but just, that a fitting recognition of his many virtues should be made, It is therefore

"Resolved by Lodge Om Vighneswara No 218 on the register of Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of India, that while we bow with humble submission to the Will of the Most High, we mourn no less, for our brother who has been taken away from us, on the Second day of July, 2025.

"Resolved, That in the passing of Right Worshipful Brother Annapragada Suryanarayana Rao, our Lodge has lost a brother who was ever ready to proffer the hand of aid and the voice of sympathy, to the distressed and the needy of our fraternity; an active member of our society, his utmost endeavours were exerted for its welfare and prosperity; a friend and companion, who was dear to all; a citizen whose noble life was but a standard for emulation to his fellows.

"Resolved, That the heartfelt sympathy of our Lodge Om Vighneswara be extended to his family in their affliction.

"Resolved, That these resolutions be registered in the records of the Lodge and a copy thereof be transmitted to the family of our deceased brother."

Worshipful Master

Lodge Om Vighneswara No. 218 of Grand Lodge of India.

Late R.W.Bro. Annapragada Suryanarayana Rao



R.W.Bro. Annapragada Suryanarayana Rao - 1939 - 2025

R.W.Bro. Annapragada Suryanarayana Rao has been a close friend mentor and guru for me for over forty five years. It is my privilege and honour for me to deliver this message of remembrance and homage to this great personality.

Although he had great resources at his disposal he chose a very simple lifestyle, and he was a man of very high ethical standards. He traveled only in an auto rikshaw and he never had air- conditioners in his house.

On Wednesday the 2nd July 2025, he left for his heavenly abode and was called to the grand Lodge above so suddenly that all of were in disbelief.

Brethren and friends I thank you for your presence here today to remember and celebrate the life of a person who was one in a million.

He was a brilliant science graduate and he first started his career as an industrialist.

Eventually he had to take on the responsibilities of Stree Seva Mandir as the vice president in

which role he excelled and brought many laurels to the institution.

He has touched the lives of thousands of his staffs and students and masonic friends and others in such a manner that all of us feel a void that cannot be filled. His kindness and generosity knew no bounds. He extended all help comfort and strength to innumerable people. We remember him with full of gratitude in our hearts and will never forget all the good he has done to us all.

His kindness extended to even the animals and till his last days, he saw to it that the dogs in the campuses were well fed. I remember some years back he used to carry a wounded kitten in a box and bring it to his office every day for about three months till the kitten was fully healed. He took it to the Government veterinary hospital for treatment and when he found out that they lacked an X ray machine he donated the funds for them to acquire the machine.

We in the masonic fraternity know his readiness to contribute to the good causes very generously over many years.

He has funded the education fees for innumerable students who will be ever grateful to him.

He inculcated a work ethic that has trained his staff to be meticulous in their duty.

One of the most wonderful attribute of his was his vast and deep knowledge in any field.

His understanding of the subject was thorough and complete to even baffle the specialists. He was also a keen connoisseur of music.

He has been a very great influence in the lives of countless people. We remember him with great awe and reverence and we will strive to carry on his legacy. He was a paragon of virtue and will ever remain in our hearts. At this forum we humbly express our farewell to this great soul and pray to the almighty to keep him in peace and we pray that He will continue to inspire us with his values.

As we bid adieu, we thank you Sir, for touching our lives.

Thank You.

From The Grand Secretary's Desk

EDITOR

W.Bro. R K Kanthimathinathan

MEMBERS

R.W.Bro. T.R. Mohanakrishnan
Chennai

R.W.Bro. K.S. Rekhi
New Delhi

R.W.Bro. Shantanu Mazumdar
Kolkata

R.W.Bro. Varghese Mathews M
Bengaluru

R.W.Bro. Samir Desai
Ahmedabad

V.W.Bro. V.R. Raguraman
Chennai

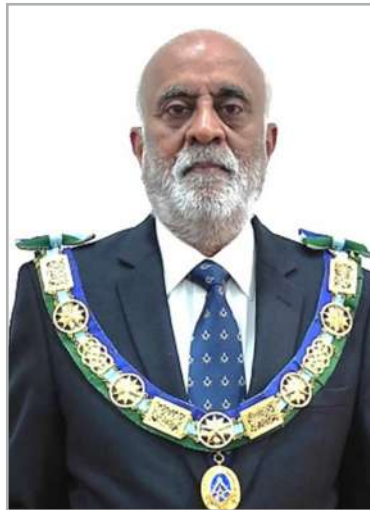
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New Delhi

W.Bro. Vikram Balakrishna
Bengaluru



ABOUT THE COVER

Late
Padmashri
R.W.Bro. T.N. Manoharan, OSM



Dear Brethren,
Fraternal Greetings!

We are all deeply shocked by the sudden demise of Padmashri R.W.Bro T.N. Manoharan, OSM, R.W. The Regional Grand Master of the Regional Grand Lodge of South India. A towering personality and an exemplary leader, his passing is an immense loss to our fraternity and to all who had the privilege of knowing him.

This issue of The Square and Compasses carries a heartfelt eulogy to our departed Brother, along with a concise reflection on his life and Masonic journey. I

earnestly request all Lodge Secretaries to ensure that this July edition reaches every Brother, so that we may together honour his memory and draw inspiration from his exemplary service.

In addition, this edition highlights the presentation of 50-Year and 60-Year Long Term Service Jewels to ten senior brethren—an enduring testimony to the dedication, experience, and legacy of Indian Freemasonry. These milestones remind us of the rich heritage we have inherited and the responsibility we bear in carrying it forward.

Our magazine is now easily accessible through multiple digital channels—our official website, mobile app, email, and WhatsApp—ensuring that brethren can stay informed and connected anytime, anywhere. I encourage all Brethren to make use of these platforms to keep abreast of the activities, values, and vision that unite us.

I extend my sincere thanks to all contributors and correspondents for their timely reports, which ensure that The Square and Compasses continues to be a vibrant, relevant, and inspiring platform for our Craft. Your dedication is instrumental in the ongoing success and reach of our magazine.

With Fraternal Regards,
Ajay Bhargava
Grand Secretary

Letter From The Editor



Dear Brethren,
Fraternal Greetings!

With heartfelt gratitude to the Great Architect of the Universe and to our Most Worshipful Grand Master, M.W.Bro Gutha Krishnan Selvarajan, OSM, I present this July 2025 edition of The Square and Compasses. This month's issue is both a solemn tribute and a vivid chronicle of Masonic life—an edition shaped by moments of deep loss and inspiring fraternal action.

The first half of this issue stands as an Eulogy to Padmashri R.W.Bro. T.N. Manoharan, OSM, R.W. The Regional Grand Master of RGLSI, whose sudden demise has left an irreplaceable void in our fraternity. For me personally, his passing is the loss of a Guru, Brother, and constant guide in my Masonic journey. His visionary leadership, exemplary ritual proficiency, humility, and boundless energy inspired all who had the privilege to work alongside him. Beyond the Craft, he mentored countless Chartered Accountants, bankers, and entrepreneurs in India and abroad, and served the nation with distinction as President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, Chairman of Canara Bank and IDBI Bank, and as an

independent director in several prestigious institutions. His memory will live on in the many lives he touched, both within and beyond Freemasonry.

This month also saw the passing of two other senior brethren—R.W.Bro A. Suryanarayana Rao and R.W.Bro. L. Sukumar—whose dedication and contributions to Freemasonry will be fondly remembered by all.

The second half of this edition captures the hectic and inspiring itinerary of our Most Worshipful Grand Master across India. His travels included the presentation of 50-Year Long Term Service Jewels to eight brethren, 60-Year Jewels to two brethren, and the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of Lodge General Williams. The dedication of M.W.Bro. H.P. Mathur Hall during the Delhi visit, along with the Masonry Visible initiatives in Northern India, reflected the Grand Master's unwavering commitment to honouring tradition while embracing outreach and visibility in the modern era.

This issue is a heartfelt reminder that Freemasonry is both a deeply personal journey and a collective endeavour—where we share in each other's triumphs, support one another through trials, and uphold the principles that unite us as brethren.

In closing, I extend my deepest thanks to all contributors, correspondents, and brethren who have helped shape this issue during a period of both grief and gratitude. May we continue to labour with love, unity, and purpose—building upon the legacy left to us by those who have gone to the Grand Lodge Above.

With Fraternal Love,

W.Bro R.K. Kanthimathinathan

Editor

—

Tribute: Padmashri R.W.Bro T.N. Manoharan, OSM

A visionary leader, exemplary ritualist, and true brother who served the Craft and the nation with distinction. His guidance, humility, and dedication will inspire generations of Freemasons to come.

—



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Grand Lodge Of India

July Month Grand Master's Sojourn

4th July 2025

50 Years LTSJ - Lodge Srinivasa Gopala No. 190

11th July 2025

50 Years LTSJ - Lodge Sahyadri No. 351

12th July 2025

Diamond Jubilee Celebration of Lodge General Williams No. 165 & LTSJ

19th July 2025

50 Years LTSJ - Lodge Waltair No. 56

20th July 2025

60 Years LTSJ - Chapter Jaipur No 168

25th July 2025

50 Years LTSJ - Lodge Mayur No. 333

50 Years LTSJ - Chapter Swaran Mayur No 147

26th July 2025

MW Bro HP Mathur Hall, Centre of Masonic Learning

Make Masonry Visible - LED screen at Freemasons' Hall

27th July 2025

60 & 50 Years LTSJ - Hyderabad

The Holy Royal Arch - A Workshop on Ritual Excellence

Most Worshipful The Grand Master

SPEECH DELIVERED BY M.W. The GRAND MASTER at the LTSJ Jewels Presentation Ceremony at Lodge Srinivasa Gopala No.190 held on 4.7.25 at Chennai

W. Master, R.W. The Regional Grand Master, distinguished recipients of the long-term service jewels and my dear brethren,

I am indeed happy to be present here today and join you in celebrating this joyous occasion, where five distinguished Brethren have been adorned with Long-Term Service Jewels. Each of them has achieved remarkable milestones in their personal lives and brought great honour not only to themselves but also to the institutions they are associated with.

Among them, one is a war veteran; another is a Past Rotary Governor known for his deep commitment to service above self. A third is a Past Lions Governor and a respected educational wizard. The fourth is a prominent business magnate, and the fifth serves as President of a Rotary Club. Each has carved a unique path to success.

LTSJ AWARD IN MASONRY AND LONGEVITY OF LIFE

My brethren, this ceremony is not only a recognition of long-standing membership-spanning 25, 40, and 50 years-but also a celebration of the virtue of longevity, both in Masonry and in life.

Our ritual beautifully echoes this sentiment. In its opening lines, it declares that the length of life is a gift bestowed by the Great Architect of the Universe upon the righteous. The second portion, taken from Psalm 90 in the Old Testament and attributed to Moses over 2500 years ago, reflects: "The days of our years are three score and ten (70); and if by reason of strength, they be four score (80), yet is their strength labour and sorrow."

Thus, while the average span is said to be 70 years, longevity beyond that is seen as a divine heritage granted to those who lead righteous lives and live in reverence of the Lord.

HOW MUCH IS LONG ENOUGH?

What truly defines the length of life? Is there a universal yardstick to measure longevity? History reveals that life expectancy has varied across ages. During the Tamil Sangam period, it was around 32 years, and dying young on the battlefield with honour was considered glorious. In contrast, biblical figures like Noah lived for 950 years, and Methuselah for 969, though wise King Solomon lived only 59 years.

In Hindu tradition, 60 years is marked as a milestone with the celebration of Shashtiapthapoorthi. Modern science, however, tells us that with a disciplined lifestyle, human life can extend well beyond 100 years-potentially up to 120.

A living example exists in the village of Ogimi in Japan, known as the "Village of Longevity", where many centenarians live active, peaceful lives. Studies show their secret lies in lives rooted in discipline-moral, ethical, emotional, and physical. In our rituals, this is defined as righteousness.

One of today's honourees is R.W.Bro. Brig. Mohan Bharathan, aged about 85. A decorated officer, he served the Indian Army with distinction and continued to thrive in civilian life post-retirement. He is a member of two Lodges named after legendary Masons-Archibald Campbell and Srinivasa Gopalachari-both of whom led long, exemplary lives devoted to Masonry and public service.

Archibald Campbell, an I.C.S. officer, introduced administrative and riparian reforms in Andhra Pradesh and served as District Grand Master of Madras for 10 years. He lived up to 87 years.

Srinivasa Gopalachari, a revered lawyer from Tiruchirappalli, served Masonry for nearly 60 years and was the first Regional Grand Master of Southern India. He also lived up to 87 years.

These stalwarts embodied the ideals of discipline and righteousness, and their lives continue to inspire.

The recipient of the 50 Years Jewel, R.W.Bro. Mohan Bharathan, is a stickler for discipline. The youthful precision with which he saluted the Worshipful Master today-at 85 years of



M.W.BRO. Gutha Krishnan Selvarajan, OSM
Most Worshipful The Grand Master

Most Worshipful The Grand Master

age-reflected the soldier's heart and a Mason's spirit. There is a profound connection between disciplined, righteous living and longevity. Our rituals recognize this truth. They urge us to live so that, in our twilight years, we may reflect with pride and joy on a life well spent.

This is the true essence and lesson we learn from our senior brethren-Masonry not only adds years to life, but life to those years.

Thank you.

*Excerpts from the Speech by M.W. The Grand Master
At the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of Lodge
General Williams No.165 at Pune on 12.7.2025*

A Legend in Masonry

General Harold Williams was a legend in Masonry.

Born Irish, Harold Williams graduated in engineering in England and served the British Army as a valiant officer. He was posted in India during WWII and led the Burma front. He became inseparable in Indian political history, as well as in British and Indian Masonic history.

He was one of the founders of IIT Roorkee, the first IIT to be started in India.

Known for impeccable integrity and honesty, General Harold Williams played a vital role soon after India obtained independence.

Both the British and Indian Governments had so much abundant faith in his integrity that they entrusted the sensitive but onerous responsibility of working out and suggesting the modalities of sharing the Indian Army personnel, weapons and resources. His suggestions were accepted by both Governments fully without any modification.

He held very high ranks, both in the British Army, as well as in the Indian Army, respectively as Major General and Lt. General, a very unique honour indeed.



He was an ardent and committed Mason too.

When the idea of starting an independent and autonomous Indian Grand Lodge was mooted, the three parent Grand Lodges of England, Scotland and Ireland jointly appointed a committee to formulate the proposal and General Williams was appointed as the Chairman. Gen. Williams had submitted a comprehensive report well before the time

granted and the report was accepted by the parent Grand Lodges without even the slightest modification.

In recognition of the invaluable contribution made by Gen. Williams, the Grand Lodge had consecrated a Lodge in his name in Roorkee in the year 1962 called Lodge General Williams No.162. Again, another Lodge called Lodge General Williams No.165 was consecrated in Pune in the year 1965. It is a rare coincidence that there are two Lodges bearing the name of the same person.

He served as the Regional Grand Master of Northern India from 1969 to 1971. Perhaps he is the only non-Indian who served the coveted office as the Regional Grand Master after the formation of the Grand Lodge of India.

Gen. Williams Polyclinic was started in the Regional Grand Lodge office at New Delhi in a small way and over the years, it has grown to be a big medical facility, which includes a full-fledged medical centre, eye care clinic, testing lab and operation facilities. The medical centre caters to the public at subsidised rates and offers great service to society.

After Indian independence, his family from Ireland wanted him to return home, but Gen. Williams refused and preferred to stay back in Roorkee and serve the poor.

He had multiple interests. A passionate mountaineer, he led a few delegations to the Himalayas. He was a keen bird watcher too.

He stayed a bachelor and died in 1971 at Roorkee aged 74.

Gen. Williams was indeed a legend in Masonry.



M.E.COMP. Gutha Krishnan Selvarajan,
Most Excellent The First Grand Principal

Most Worshipful The Grand Master

Excerpts from the Speech made by M.W. The Grand Master On 19.7.2025 in Lodge Waltair during the 50 Years LTS Jewel Presentation

My dear Brethren,

I stand before you with mixed feelings of happiness and sorrow. I am happy because I am back in Vizag after a long gap of about 20 years and meeting my old friends here. I am rather sad too since, except my old friends, I do not see any other new faces. This is not a very encouraging sign for Vizag Masonry. At this juncture, I could not help recalling and sharing with you a Japanese story which I read many years ago.

The caption of the story is: LIGHT HOUSE

The story had three parts. First Part: There was a beautiful island in Japan. It was very unique since it had all the bounties of nature. On the one hand, there were hills and on the other, there was a seashore with a long shoreline, geological formations of millennia-old caves, and dense forests with green vegetation all around. There was an abundance of wealth and prosperity. The people were very friendly with each other, generous, and lived a harmonious life.

Sometimes the ships coming close to the island lost their way and there were occasional shipwrecks. So the islanders decided and pooled money and built a big lighthouse on the shore with bright light spreading all around and helped the ships to find their way. Soon the island and the lighthouse became very famous and many foreigners used to visit and stay on the island. Soon the island became famous.

Second Part: As the people on the island became wealthy, there used to be petty squabbles among them. Slowly, the differences became larger and deeper.

The foreigners also instigated them with ulterior motives. Men were driven by egos and selfish ends. Groups were formed, small and big, and there was disharmony. Soon the lighthouse came to be neglected. No periodical maintenance and almost went into disuse. As a result, the island lost all the glory it used to enjoy earlier.

Third Part: As the years went by, wisdom slowly dawned on the people. They realised their follies and decided to bring back the old glory and fame. They worked hard, rebuilt, renovated, and refurbished the lighthouse and made the island brighter. Men sat together, talked openly, settled the differences, and brought back unity.

Again, the island and the lighthouse became famous. The glory started shining as bright as the bright light in the lighthouse. They lived happily ever after.

My Brethren,

When I was here two decades ago, Vizag Masonry was like the first part of the above story. Beautiful hills, seashore, natural bounty. The Masonic temple was so beautiful. Brethren were happy, hospitable, and loving. There was so much homogeneity among the brethren.

Now I find all the beauty and glamour of Vizag Masonry is slightly faded, though the town is still blessed with natural bounty of hills and beaches.

The maintenance and upkeep of the Masonic temple is very much desired. There seems to be a sense of ownership prevailing over the general interests of Masons and the necessity of upkeep of the premises.

The temple requires urgent and total renovation to save the monumental heritage structure, instead of piecemeal repairs. I also find a lack of interest and enthusiasm, and egoism and groupism are ruling the day. Sadly, today's Vizag Masonry reminds me of the second part of the story.

But knowing the brethren of Vizag and their passion and commitment, I am confident that the day is not far off when Vizag Masonry gets back on track; the brethren shed all their differences, vested interests are eliminated, new blood is brought in, and brethren work together with unity and harmony.

I am confident that the Masonic lighthouse of Vizag will soon get back its shine and throw light all around in Indian Masonry.

I am confident that the day is not far off when Vizag brethren will enact the third part of the Japanese story in a grand manner and bring back their pride which they are justly entitled to.



M.W.BRO. Gutha Krishnan Selvarajan, OSM
Most Worshipful The Grand Master

50 Years LTSJ - Lodge Srinivasa Gopala No. 190



Bro. Brigadier Mohan Barathan, with M.W.Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM, MW The GM

4th July 2025 marked a red-letter day for Lodge Srinivasa Gopala No. 190, as five of its distinguished brethren were honoured with Long Term Service Jewels (LTSJ) in recognition of their dedicated service to the Craft.

Bro. Brigadier Mohan Barathan,

a decorated military veteran who served in the 1962, 1965, and 1971 wars, was presented with the 50 Years Long Term Service Jewel by M.W.Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM, Most Worshipful the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of India.

R.W.Bro. T.N. Manoharan, OSM,

Right Worshipful the Regional Grand Master of the Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India, presented V.W.Bro.

Chinnaswamy Jayakumar with the 40 Years Long Term Service Jewel, Bro. I.S.A.K. Nazar, W.Bro. Anil Chopra, and W.Bro. D.B. Reddy with the 25 Years



Lodge Srinivasa Gopala No. 190 Group Photo

50 Years LTSJ - Lodge Srinivasa Gopala No. 190



M.W.Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM MW The GM & R.W.Bro. T.N. Manoharan, OSM, RW The RGM with recipients Bro. Brigadier Mohan Barathan, V.W.Bro. Chinnaswamy Jayakumar, Bro. I.S.A.K. Nazar, W.Bro. Anil Chopra, W.Bro. D.B. Reddy

Long Term Service Jewel

The solemn and dignified ceremony was witnessed by a distinguished gathering of R.W., V.W., and W. Brethren, with over 70 brethren in attendance. The meeting was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Ethiraj Salai, Chennai.

Bro. Brigadier Mohan Barathan
Recipient of the 50 Years Long
Term Service Jewel

Born in 1940 in a small town in Kerala, Saw the light of Freemasonry in the Knight Lodge No. 3918 of the English Constitution, located at Devlali in Maharashtra on 7th April 1973. He was passed on 5th May 1973 and Raised on 19th May 1973. He joined the Archibald Campbell Lodge No. 1998 of the EC at Chennai in 1993. He then joined the Millennium Lodge No. 327 at Chennai on 23rd June 2001 and joined Lodge Srinivasa Gopala No. 190 on 4th April 2003.

Bro. Brigadier Mohan Barathan had a traditional upbringing enriched by a dynamic and well-rounded education. A high

achiever from an early age, he excelled both academically and in extracurricular pursuits. He represented Kerala in cricket, Kerala University in basketball, and actively participated in elocution, fine arts, NCC, and social service activities.

In 1960, he topped the All-India Merit List of the Services Selection Board and was commissioned into the Regiment of Artillery in December 1962, after graduating from the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun.

Early in his military career, he was recognized for his leadership and courage during civil unrest in Kashmir following the Hazratbal incident, and for conducting hazardous patrols near the Pakistan border.

He served in active combat during both: Operation Ablaze (1965) in Punjab, Operation Cactus Lily (1971) in the Western Sector

A graduate of the prestigious Defence Services Staff College (1975), he held numerous command, staff, and

instructional appointments over an illustrious 31-year career, 17 years of which were spent in high-altitude and operationally challenging zones. His final appointment was a pinnacle achievement for any artillery officer-commanding the 3 Artillery Brigade in Ladakh, considered one of the most demanding postings for a Brigadier in the Indian Army.

In 1993, he opted for premature retirement due to personal reasons and transitioned to a second career, joining his family's Clearing and Forwarding business, which was recognized with awards at the Madras Port Trust. Outside of his professional life, Bro. Brig. Mohan Barathan has been a passionate traveller, having visited over 70 countries.

He currently resides in Alwarpet, Chennai, with his wife Latha, Their son, Dr. Sridhar Barathan, is a practising Ophthalmic Surgeon in Chennai and is currently serving as the Ruling Master of Lodge Archibald Campbell.

50 Years LTSJ - Lodge Sahyadri No. 351



M.W.Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM MW The GM & R.W.Bro. Subhash Laxman Saraf RW The RGM with recipients W.Bro. Suresh Shaha and W.Bro. Arvind Marathe,

11th July 2025 was a landmark day for Lodge Sahyadri No. 351, consecrated in 2007, as it hosted a memorable ceremony for the presentation of 50 Years Long Term Service Jewels to two senior and highly respected brethren. The ceremony was graced by the august presence of M.W.Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM, Most Worshipful the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of India.

The Worshipful Master W. Bro. Abhay Patil invited W. Bro. Chandrashekhar A. Marathe to conduct the Long Term Service Jewel presentation ceremony. Accepting the request,

W. Bro. Marathe assumed the Chair and proceeded with the ceremonial working.

The Masonic biodata of the two distinguished recipients - W. Bro. Suresh Bhalchandra Shaha and W.Bro. Arvind Govind Marathe - was read by Acting Secretary W.Bro. Udhav Dalvi, following which a prayer was offered for the honorees.

M.W. the Grand Master then personally presented the 50 Years Long Term Service Jewels to W.Bro. Suresh Shaha and W.Bro. Arvind Marathe, warmly congratulating them on their enduring commitment to the Craft.

In his acceptance speech, W.Bro. Suresh Shaha expressed heartfelt gratitude to the M.W. The Grand Master for presenting him the jewel. He reminisced about his early days in Freemasonry, and gratefully acknowledged the guidance and mentorship of brethren who helped him understand and live the principles and tenets of Masonry - guidance that, he said, played a vital role in making him a better man.

W.Bro. Arvind Marathe, reflecting on his Masonic journey of over five decades, expressed that those years were filled with joy, brotherhood, and love

50 Years LTSJ - Lodge Sahyadri No. 351



Release of the 2025 Yearbook of the Regional Grand Lodge of Western India by the M.W. Grand Master.

showered by brethren from various Lodges. He thanked the M.W. The Grand Master for bestowing upon him the honour of the Long Term Service Jewel.

R.W.Bro. Subhash Laxman Saraf, Right Worshipful the Regional Grand Master of the Regional Grand Lodge of Western India, addressed the gathering with a sense of joy and pride. He informed the brethren that Lodge Sahyadri, though a relatively young Lodge, now functions as a full-fledged Masonic Centre with Craft Lodge, Chapter, Mark, and Royal Arch Masonry - and most significantly, now has its own Temple, which is no small achievement.

In his address, M.W.Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM, M.W. the

Grand Master, expressed his happiness at witnessing the remarkable progress and excellent working of Lodge Sahyadri No. 351 since its consecration 18 years ago. He also commended the brethren for their generous donations toward the construction of the Temple, describing it as a true reflection of the spirit of brotherhood that is the foundation of Freemasonry.

As a mark of further recognition, the M.W. The Grand Master conferred the rank of Past Grand Junior Warden on both the recipients of the 50 Years Long Term Service Jewel.

The ceremony concluded with the release of the 2025 Yearbook of the Regional Grand Lodge of Western India by the M.W. Grand Master.

Masonic Bio-Data of W. Bro. Suresh Bhalchandra Shah

- Date in Initiation: 08 September 1973 in Voctoria No. 9 GLI
- Date of Passing: 12 October 1973 in Voctoria No. 9 GLI
- Date of Raising: 04 November 1973 in Voctoria No. 9 GLI
- Joined Lodge Cataract No. 909 Scottish Constitution on 12 October 1985, Joined

Lodge Sahyadri No. 351 as a founder member on 15 April 2007

- Worshipful Master of Lodge Sahyadri No. 351 in year 2010 - 2011
- Received 25 years LTS Jewel on 15 October 2011
- Received 40 years LTS Jewel on 17 December 2014

Masonic Bio-Data of W. Bro. Arvind Govind Marathe

- Date in Initiation: 01 March 1975 in Voctoria No. 9 GLI
- Date of Passing: 07 June 1975 in Voctoria No. 9 GLI
- Date of Raising: 05 July 1975 in Voctoria No. 9 GLI
- Joined Lodge Sahyadri No. 351 as a founder member on 15 April 2007
- Worshipful Master of Lodge Sahyadri No. 351 in year 2017 - 2018
- Received 25 years LTS Jewel on 26 June 2000
- Received 40 years LTS Jewel on 17 December 2014



Diamond Jubilee Celebration of Lodge General Williams No. 165 & LTSJ



M.W. Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM MW The GM Releasing Diamond Jubilee Jewel and the commemorative souvenir

Lodge General Williams No. 165 proudly celebrated its Diamond Jubilee in a grand manner on Saturday, **12th July 2025**, at Shree Mahalaxmi Sabhagriha, 231 Parvati, Pune. The ceremony was graced by the presence of Most Worshipful the Grand Master M.W. Bro. G.K. Selvarajan and Right Worshipful the Regional Grand Master of Western India R.W. Bro. Subhash Laxman Saraf.

The proceedings commenced with R.W. Bro. Darius Sukhia rendering a detailed history of the Lodge, highlighting its foundation, growth, and service to the Craft over the last 60 years. In a symbolic gesture of

harmony and universal brotherhood, brethren read passages from the Holy Bhagavad Gita, Holy Quran, Holy Granth Sahib, Holy Zend Avesta and Holy Bible. The highlight of the evening was the release of the specially crafted Diamond Jubilee Jewel and the release of the commemorative Souvenir. Worshipful Master of Lodge Gen. Williams presented a Diamond Jubilee Jewel and Souvenir to The M.W. Bro. G.K. Selvarajan and R.W. Bro. Subhash Laxman Saraf.

The Most Worshipful the Grand Master then took charge of the ceremony and administered the Oath of Rededication to the

brethren of the Lodge, reaffirming their commitment to Masonic principles and service.

At the event, three eminent Freemasons were honoured for their commitment to the Craft. The celebrations were conducted



R.W. Bro. A.D. Kuthe was decorated with the 50 years LTSJ by M.W. Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM MW The GM



M.W. Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM MW The GM & R.W. Bro. Subhash Laxman Saraf RW The RGM with recipients R.W. Bro. A.D. Kuthe, W. Bro. Gurudatta Tendulkar, W. Bro. Devendra M. Deshpande & their Family members

Diamond Jubilee Celebration of Lodge General Williams No. 165 & LTSJ



In a symbolic gesture of harmony and universal brotherhood, brethren read passages from the Holy Bhagavad Gita, Holy Quran, Holy Granth Sahib, Holy Zend Avesta and Holy Bible

in an open session, attended by about 160 people, including brethren, their families, and friends, creating an atmosphere of warmth and fraternity.

R.W. Bro. A.D. Kuthe was decorated with the 50 years Long Term Service jewel by M.W. Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM, M.W. the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of India, in the presence of R.W. Bro. Arvind Prasad Chitra, OSM, R.W. the Deputy Grand Master and R.W. Bro. Subhash Laxman Saraf, R.W. the Regional Grand Master of the Regional Grand Lodge of Western India. At the event, the Regional Grand Master presented 25 years Long Term Service jewels to W. Bro.

Gurudatta Tendulkar and W.Bro. Devendra M. Deshpande.

Most Worshipful the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. G.K. Selvarajan and Right Worshipful the Regional Grand Master of Western India, R.W. Bro. Subhash Laxman Saraf addressed the gathering and congratulated the Lodge on achieving this milestone. As a gesture of Pune's rich heritage, R.W.Bro. Gopaldas Dawara presented Puneri Pagdi to The M.W.Bro.G.K. Selvarajan, V.W.Bro. Prasad Anant Chikaskar presented Puneri Pagdi to R.W.Bro. Subhash Laxman Saraf.

The celebration concluded with a

vote of thanks and fellowship dinner, marking a memorable milestone in the history of Lodge General Williams No. 165.



Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of Lodge General Williams No. 165 & 79th Birthday Celebrations of M.W.Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM MW The GM

50 Years LTSJ - Lodge Waltair No. 56



M.W.Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM MW The GM & R.W.Bro. T.N. Manoharan, OSM, RW The RGM with recipients R.W. Bro. Santhana Krishnan (50 Years), R.W.Bro. Marthanda Moorthy & W.Bro. Narayana Rao (25 Years)

An eventful day at Visakhapatnam!

The Masonic fraternity of Visakhapatnam and particularly of Lodge Waltair No. 56, one of the Foundation Lodges of the Grand Lodge of India, witnessed an action packed day on **19 July 2025** where R.W. Bro. Santhana Krishnan was presented with the 50 years Long Term Service Jewel by M.W. Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM, M.W. the Grand Master.

Similar jewels for 25 years of service were presented to R.W.Bro. Marthanda Moorthy and to W.Bro. Narayana Rao by R.W.Bro. T.N. Manoharan, OSM, R.W. the Regional Grand Master of the Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India.

Other notable attendees include R.W.Bro. Arvind Prasad Chitra, OSM, R.W. the Deputy Grand Master R.W.Bro. Varanasi Narasimham, OSM, Past Deputy Grand Master, and

R.W.Bro. Pratapkaran Paul, Past Deputy Grand Master.

A brass plaque was unveiled for renovation of the Masonic Temple, including installation of a lift and construction of enhanced facilities.

School bags and books were distributed on the occasion among school children as part of the ongoing community service activities of the Lodge.



A brass plaque was unveiled for renovation of the Masonic Temple & School bags and books were distributed on the occasion among school children by M.W.Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM MW The GM

60 Years LTSJ - Chapter Jaipur No 168



M.E.Comp. Anish Kumar Sharma, Most Excellent The Immediate First Grand Principal, M.E. Comp. Puneet Sohal, M.E. the Grand Superintendent of the Regional Grand Chapter, Grand, Regional M.E., E, companions with recipient E. Companion Dr. SP Sharma at his residence in Jaipur

A Glorious Milestone: 60 Years in the Holy Royal Arch Chapter

We extend our fraternal congratulations to E. Companion Dr SP Sharma (90), (Chapter Jaipur no 168), who completed 60 remarkable years of dedicated service, unwavering loyalty and commitment to the Holy Royal Arch Chapter.

On Sunday, **20th July 2025**, ME Comp AK Sharma, ME the Immediate Past 1st Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Chapter of India, presented the 60 year's LTSJ jewel to him at his residence in Jaipur. I had the privilege of being present on the occasion.

May his life and legacy continue to shine as a guiding light for all

Royal Arch Masons. We pray the T.A.L.G.M.H. continues to bless him with health, happiness, and the joy of fellowship.

M.E.Comp. Puneet Sohal,
M.E. the Grand Superintendent
of the Regional Grand Chapter,



50 Years LTSJ - Lodge Mayur No. 333



M.W.Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM MW The GM & R.W.Bro. Puneet Sohal, RW The RGM with recipients R.W.Bro. BB Mathur (50 Years), W.Bro. Sanjay Gaurav (25 Years)

Friday, **25th July 2025**,
Janpath, New Delhi

MW the Grand Master,
M.W.Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM,
visited Lodge Mayur No. 333 to
dedicate the banner and present

50 years' LTS jewel to
R.W.Bro. BB Mathur. He was
accompanied by
MW Bro HP Mathur, OSM,
M.W.Bro Arun Chintopanth,
OSM, and M.W.Bro. Vasudev
Masurkar, past Grand Masters.

On this occasion R.W.Bro.
Puneet Sohal RW The RGM
presented 25 years' LTS jewel to
W.Bro. Sanjay Gaurav

50 Years LTSJ - Chapter Swaran Mayur No 147



Friday, **25th July 2025**, ME the 1st Grand Principal,
M.E. Comp. G.K. Selvarajan, presented 50 years' LTS
jewel to ME Comp JP Sharma in Chapter Swaran Mayur
no 147.

It was an honour for us to receive him and the members
of his deputation from the Supreme Grand Chapter of
India.

*M.E.Comp. Gutha Krishnan Selvarajan,
Most Excellent The First Grand Principal,
M.E. Comp. Puneet Sohal, M.E. the Grand Superintendent
of the Regional Grand Chapter,
Grand, Regional M.E., E, companions with recipient
M.E. Comp. JP Sharma*

MW Bro. HP Mathur Hall, Centre of Masonic Learning



M.W.Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM MW The GM dedicated the Centre of Masonic Learning Hall as MW Bro HP Mathur Hall

As Mark of respect and to express our gratitude to MW Bro HP Mathur, OSM, MW the past GM, most loved and revered mentor and Guru to thousands of masons in Northern India, the main temple at Freemasons' Hall, Janpath, New Delhi, was christened - MW Bro HP Mathur Hall, Centre of Masonic Learning.

MW Bro GK Selvarajan, OSM, MW the Grand Master dedicated the Hall in the presence of visibly very emotional MW Bro HP Mathur, MW Bro Arun Chintopanth, MW Bro AK Sharma, the Dy GM, the Asst. GM, the RGM's of the Eastern and Western Regions and many senior brethren on Saturday, **26th July 2025.**



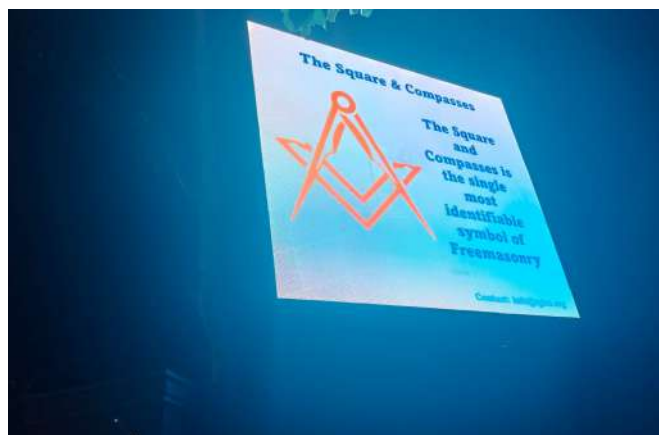
*M.W.Bro. H.P. Mathur, OSM,
M.W.Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM MW The GM &
R.W.Bro. Puneet Sohal, RW The RGM*

Make Masonry Visible - LED screen at Freemasons' Hall



M.W.Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM, MW the Grand Master dedicated the LED screen at Freemasons' Hall, Janpath, New Delhi on Saturday, **26th July, 2025** in the presence of various senior masons including M.W.Bro. HP Mathur (PGM), M.W.Bro. Arun Chintopanth, OSM, PGM, M.W.Bro. A.K. Sharma (IPGM) and R.W.Bro. Puneet Sohal (RGM NI).

The LED screen installed facing a major traffic junction has been installed by the Regional Grand Lodge of Northern India in line with the Grand Master's vision of - Make Masonry Visible



60 & 50 Years LTSJ - Hyderabad



*M.W.Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM MW The GM presented
R.W.Bro. Maj. P.T. Choudhary (60 Years) & R.W.Bro. Col. G.B. Sethi (50 Years)*

Diamonds and Gold.

Freemasonry marked a special day in Hyderabad on **27 July 2025** when R.W.Bro. Maj. P.T. Choudhary was presented with a 60 years Long Term Service jewel, and R.W.Bro. Col. G.B. Sethi with a 50 years Long Term Service jewel by M.W.Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM, M.W. the Grand Master of

the Grand Lodge of India, in the presence of R.W.Bro. Arvind Prasad Chitra, OSM, R.W. the Deputy Grand Master, and R.W.Bro. T.N. Manoharan, OSM, R.W. the Regional Grand Master of the Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India.

Adding charm to the uniqueness of this event was the venue - the Goshamahahal Baradari.

Constructed in 1682 and donated by the Nizam of Hyderabad to the Freemasons in 1872, the Goshamahahal Baradari still serves as an active Masonic centre.



*M.W.Bro. G.K. Selvarajan, OSM MW The GM & R.W.Bro. T.N. Manoharan, OSM, RW The RGM with recipients
R.W.Bro. Maj. P.T. Choudhary (60 Years) & R.W.Bro. Col. G.B. Sethi (50 Years)*

The Holy Royal Arch - A Workshop on Ritual Excellence



*M.E.Comp. Gutha Krishnan Selvarajan, Most Excellent The First Grand Principal,
M.E.Comp. Arvind Prasad Chitra, The 2nd Grand Principal &
M.E.Comp. T.N. Manoharan, M.E. the Grand Superintendent of the Regional Grand Chapter at the workshop*

The Holy Royal Arch - A Workshop on Ritual Excellence and Masonic Understanding

Goshamahal Baradari
Freemasons' Hall, Hyderabad
Sunday, **27 July 2025**

The Supreme Degree of the Holy Royal Arch is widely regarded as the spiritual and ceremonial climax of Freemasonry. In recognition of its profound importance, a dedicated workshop titled "Holy Royal Arch Masonry Demystified" was successfully conducted on Sunday, 27 July 2025, at the historic Goshamahal Baradari Freemasons' Hall in Hyderabad. The majestic, foil-arched backdrop of the Hall provided a symbolically resonant setting for the event, held under the aegis of

the Supreme Grand Chapter of India.

Organised with the primary objective of enhancing ritual proficiency and deepening the understanding of Royal Arch ceremonies, the workshop drew an impressive and enthusiastic response from the Companions across India. The Workshop was formally inaugurated by M.E.Comp. Gutha Krishnan Selvarajan, Most Excellent The First Grand Principal. The event was graced by the presence of M.E. the First and Second Grand Principals, and M.E. the Grand Superintendent of the Regional Grand Chapter of South India.

M.E. Comp. Arvind Prasad Chitra, Chairman of the Organising Committee, delivered the Welcome Address and

outlined the purpose of the workshop. M.E. Comp. T.N. Manoharan then addressed the gathering on the vital role of Masonic education and the importance of such workshops in fostering excellence and continuity.

Demonstrations and Ritual Modules

The day featured two structured Workshop Sessions that showcased key portions of the Royal Arch ritual, demonstrated in modules by an accomplished team of experienced Companions. The team was led by E.Comp. Sudhir Nathan as M.E. Zerubbabel, with E.Comp. Harish Chander Kovoore as H, E.Comp. Hariprasad Kummamuri as J, M.E. Comp. Joe Fernandez as IPZ, Comp.

The Holy Royal Arch - A Workshop on Ritual Excellence



Anand Nambiar as Scribe Ezra, E.Comp. Maddulete Gajjala as Scribe Nehemiah, and M.E. Comp. Mohd Fuaad Mirza as Chief Preceptor and Director of Ceremonies. Supporting roles were rendered by E.Comp. Dr. Srirang Abkari as Principal Sojourner, Comp. Aditya Musunuri as 1st Assistant Sojourner, E.Comp. Dr. Ganji Raju as 2nd Assistant Sojourner, E.Comp. Ksheera Sagar Ventrappagada as Assistant DoC, E.Comp. Satyajit Tuljapurkar as Assistant Scribe Ezra, and M.E. Comp. Minoo R. Pilcher as Janitor. Comps. Florizel Leveil Amaldoss and E.Comp. Ram Mohan Kaipa provided valuable assistance during the demonstrations.

The rituals were presented in a fully staged Holy Royal Arch Chapter setting, allowing attendees to experience the flow

and solemnity of the ceremonies in their true form. E.Comp. Subbarao V. Tipirneni, Organising Secretary, moderated the sessions with insightful commentary, along with the Chief Preceptor M.E. Comp. Mohd Fuaad Mirza. They paused at key intervals to offer explanations, share best practices, and answer questions—highlighting both the symbolic meanings and the practical nuances of the ritual work.

Educational Inputs and Preceptors

Short thematic talks preceded each Workshop Session, adding context and depth. Topics included:

- The History of the Holy Royal Arch Chapter
- The Layout of the HRAC Temple

- The 12 Ensigns and Four Banners
- The Symbolism of the Triple Tau and the Platonic Bodies

These presentations were brief yet impactful, offering essential insights to reinforce the ritual content.

The Workshop was enriched by the presence and guidance of distinguished Preceptors:

M.E. Comp. Thirugnana Murthy S, M.E. Comp. Mohana Krishnan T.R., M.E. Comp. Pratap Karan Paul, M.E. Comp. Harish Nayak M, M.E. Comp. J. Jayakar, and E.Comp. Girish Agiwal and E.Comp. S. Krishnan, who added gravitas and depth to the proceedings.

Reception and Participation

The interactive format encouraged dialogue, and many Companions engaged actively

The Holy Royal Arch - A Workshop on Ritual Excellence



with thoughtful queries, all of which were addressed with clarity and care by the preceptors. The event was lauded for its professional organisation, clarity of instruction, and high educational value.

Of the 57 registered participants, 55 Companions attended—a testament to the strong interest in continuous learning and ritual

excellence within the Royal Arch fraternity. Delegates hailed from across India, including Ludhiana, New Delhi, Gorakhpur, Pratapgarh, Kanpur, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Coimbatore, Kanyakumari, Chennai, Warangal, and Hyderabad, among others.

The Road Ahead

The overwhelming success of this

initiative sets a strong precedent for similar programs to be conducted by the Supreme Grand Chapter of India and the Regional Grand Chapters of the four zones. Such efforts are vital to preserving, enriching, and passing on the sacred and symbolic traditions of the Holy Royal Arch to future generations of Companions.



Masonic Puzzle

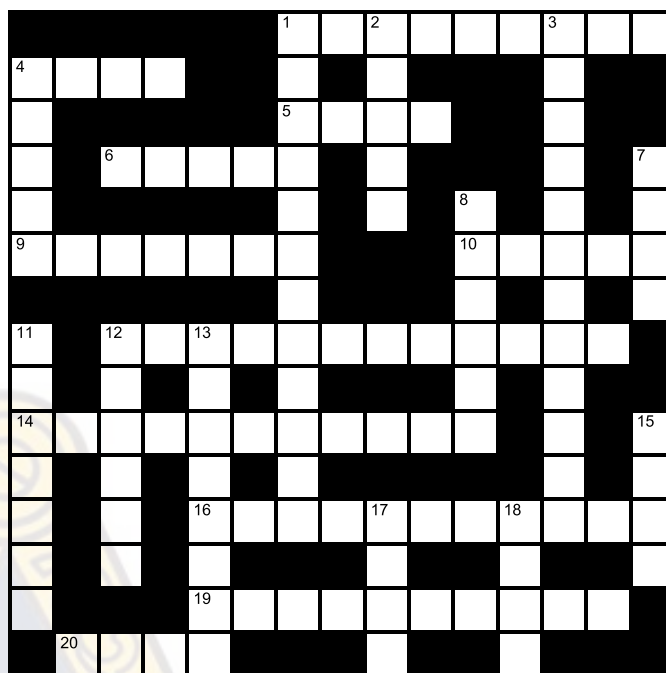
Across

1. Drafting tool that goes full circle (9)
4. Biblical son who avoided getting soaked (4)
5. Where enlightenment traditionally rises (4)
6. Reasoning that keeps arguments square (5)
9. Aromatic offering that rises to the ceiling (7)
10. Biblical brother who spoke for the tongue-tied (5)
12. Dreamy stairway to higher understanding (6,6)
14. Vocal approval without counting ballots (11)
16. Heraldic symbol behind the master (5,6) (5,6)
19. Doorkeeper protecting sacred proceedings (5,5)
20. Grain symbolizing plenty in ceremonial settings (4)

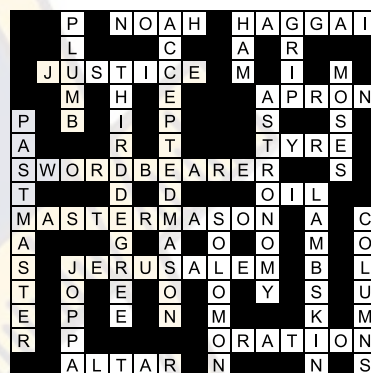
Down

1. Pattern of alternating darkness and light (12)
2. Lawgiver who took a memorable mountain hike (5)
3. Older officer who guides candidates on their journey (6,6)
4. Peak where important rules were chiseled in stone (5)
7. Liquid refreshment served after solemn ceremonies (4)
8. Officer standing watch at a cardinal direction (6)
11. Speech delivered with ceremonial flourish (7)
12. Pillar name established with strength (6)
13. Spiritual guide who opens and closes proceedings (8)
15. Ancient city whose king provided temple materials (4)
17. Scribe who restored forgotten traditions (4)
18. Shipbuilder who weathered the ultimate storm (4)

V.W.Bro. V.R. Raguraman



JUNE 2025 QUIZ ANSWERS:



Following Brother will receive reward for the June 2025 puzzle.

Bro. Vinod Neelanath, Lodge Travancore No 329
W.Bro. Muthuvel Sethu, Lodge Deepam No. 448
W.Bro. Dr. Gautam R. Arora, Lodge Star of India No 118.
W.Bro. Sanjay Ranganathan, Murray Hammick Lodge No. 90

BE A WINNER

Freemasons can submit your Answers to kanthi@themechamps.com along with your details to win exciting prizes for the first 25 all correct entries



Foreign Grand Lodge Events

Sl. No.	Date	Country	Events
1	23rd August 2025	Singapore	District Grand Lodge Of Ivark Tmaster Iuasons Of Singapore 107'h Annual Communication
2	29th September 2025 02 October 2025	Philippines	The Most Worshipful The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Philippines VII Asia Pacific Masonic Conference 2025
3	17th - 18th October 2025	Chisina	Grand Lodge of Moldova Annual Communication
4	17th - 19th October 2025	Macedonia	Grand Lodge of Macedonia Celebration of the 20th Anniversary
5	17th - 19th October 2025	Skopje	The Grand Lodge of Macedonia Celebration of the 20th Anniversary
6	23rd-25th October 2025	Malaysia	District Grand lodge of the Middle East Annual Communications 2025
7	24th - 25th October 2025	Taiwan	Grand Lodge of China 72ttd Annual Communication
8	7th - 8th November 2025	Gabon	Grande Loge Du Gabon à l'Assemblée Générale (The Solemn Installation Ceremony)
9	24th of January 2026	Greece	Grand Lodge of Greece The Annual Communication and The Charity Grand Gala

M/R/V/W/ Brethren interested to attend any of the above Grand Festivals are requested to contact Grand Secretary (Email Id: office@grandlodgeofindia.in) for registration. Past Dy Grand Masters and above are eligible to be the representative of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Grand Lodge of India. All Travel and Boarding expenses are on individuals only. Grand Lodge of India only can facilitate the registration and authorise the brother as a member of Grand Lodge of India.

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

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Hotel Merlin International
Thrissur

Diamond Jubilee Celebrations Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of India Regional Grand Mark Lodge of India



04.00pm : High Tea
04.30pm for 05.00pm : Brethren to be seated in the hall
05.00pm to 07.30pm : Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of Grand
Lodge of Mark Master Masons of India and Regional Grand
Mark Lodge of Southern India
07.30pm : Fellowship and Dinner



www.grandfestivals.in/mark

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Half Yearly Meeting



Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India



LULU INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION CENTRE
by Hyatt Regency, Thrissur

08.00am : Breakfast
10.00am : Convocation of RGCSI
12.30pm : Lunch
02.30pm : Meeting of RGMLSI
03.30 pm : High Tea
05.00 pm : HYM of RGLSI
07.30 pm : Fellowship, Dinner & Entertainment



www.rglisimeetings.in

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