



**Architects of  
imagination,  
builders of  
futures**  
Editorial



**71st National  
Film Awards**  
Current Affairs



**Building the  
Heart of a  
Nation**  
Teachers' Corner



**Childhood**  
Students' Corner

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# AVENIR

THE CHRONICLE OF TOMORROW'S THINKERS

# Beyond Technology: The Timeless Power of Teachers

## The Timeless Role of the Teacher

Every year, on the fifth of September, India celebrates Teachers' Day to honor the noble role of educators in shaping lives. This date marks the birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, an illustrious philosopher, statesman, and teacher who believed that "teachers should be the best minds in the country." In truth, beyond the ceremonies, speeches, and floral tributes, Teachers' Day compels us to reflect on a question that resonates more strongly in our times than ever before: What is the enduring value of teachers in a world increasingly shaped by Artificial Intelligence and digital transformation?

Teachers have always been anchors of stability in turbulent times. From the gurukul system of ancient India to the modern digital classroom, the essence of a teacher's role has remained largely unchanged. They are not mere conveyors of information but sculptors of character, torchbearers of values, and silent architects of society. The traditional world relied heavily on the personal

bond between teacher and student, a bond that shaped not only the intellect but also the heart. Today, with the rise of AI-driven platforms and digital education, some people question whether teachers will become less relevant. Yet, the reality is profoundly different: in both traditional and AI-driven worlds, teachers remain indispensable.

## The Teacher as a Human Bridge

In the traditional world, the teacher was regarded as a second parent, sometimes even more revered than one's biological parents, because of their role in opening the eyes of students to knowledge, values, and wisdom. Students looked to their teachers for more than just subject mastery—they sought guidance, encouragement, and moral clarity. The respect given to teachers was rooted in the recognition that they held the power to shape lives, to awaken the dormant potential within, and to guide children towards their destiny. In the gurukuls, madrasas, and monastic schools of earlier centuries, the role of the teacher extended far beyond the classroom.

EDITORIAL

**Afzal Kolari**  
Executive Director, IAME

# Architects of imagination, builders of futures

When we think of teachers, the first image that comes to mind is a classroom—a teacher at the blackboard, books in hand, and students listening. Yet, the role of a teacher stretches far beyond chalk and talk. As we celebrate National Teachers' Day, it is the perfect time to reflect on the creative roles teachers play—both inside the school and outside in the world beyond.

Within school walls, teachers are more than subject experts. They are storytellers, bringing history to life with vivid imagination; scientists, turning ordinary objects into experiments that spark curiosity; artists, using creativity to explain even the most complex ideas; and mentors, guiding students not just

toward exams, but toward life itself. Their creativity turns learning into an adventure rather than a routine, making every lesson meaningful.

Beyond school gates, teachers continue to inspire. They become community builders, leading social awareness campaigns; motivators, encouraging parents and students during challenging times; and lifelong learners, showing by example that education never ends. Their creativity shines through cultural programs, community service, and even in simple acts of kindness that touch lives outside the classroom.

The heart of a teacher's creative role lies in one simple truth: they see the potential in every child, even

when the child does not see it themselves. By nurturing talents, encouraging questions, and celebrating individuality, teachers plant seeds that grow into future leaders, thinkers, and compassionate citizens.

As students, the best tribute we can offer is to recognize and respect these efforts—not just on September 5, but every single day. Let us carry forward their lessons, live their values, and honour their creativity through our actions.

This National Teachers' Day, let us celebrate teachers not only as educators, but as creators of hope, carriers of wisdom, and architects of the future.

They lived with their students, observed them closely, and nurtured not just their learning but also their character, discipline, and humility.

Fast forward to the twenty-first century, and the classroom has changed dramatically. Digital boards have replaced chalk, tablets have replaced slates, and AI tutors are making inroads into learning environments. But even in this world of algorithms, automation, and machine learning, the presence of a teacher remains the bridge between knowledge and wisdom. Artificial Intelligence can deliver content faster, adapt lessons to student pace, and even provide instant answers. But what it cannot do is replicate the lived experience of a teacher, the warmth of a smile, the authority of encouragement, or the subtle art of

motivating a child who has lost faith in themselves.

## The AI Era: Promise and Paradox

Artificial Intelligence has undeniably transformed education. Adaptive learning systems can analyze data on student performance and tailor lessons to individual needs. Virtual classrooms allow students in remote villages to access lectures from global experts. Chatbots can solve math problems instantly, while digital tutors can explain complex concepts with unmatched precision. This is the

The AI world and the traditional world are not adversaries; they are two dimensions of the same educational journey. Together, they can create a more powerful, inclusive, and dynamic learning ecosystem

promise of AI: personalization, accessibility, and efficiency.

Yet here lies the paradox. AI can teach but cannot inspire. AI can provide answers but cannot instill curiosity. AI can recommend career options but cannot understand the subtle aspirations of a child who dreams beyond metrics. A teacher is not only a transmitter of knowledge but also a cultivator of imagination, empathy, and ethical reasoning. Machines can calculate, but they cannot care. They can simulate intelligence, but they cannot simulate compassion.

In fact, the rise of AI has only made the human role of the teacher more critical. The danger of over-reliance on machines is the risk of reducing education to information processing, where students may know facts but



lack wisdom, may master tools but forget values, may achieve skills but fail to understand purpose. Teachers are needed more than ever as custodians of humanity in an age of machines.

### The Teacher as Custodian of Values

Education is never only about information; it is about transformation. In the traditional world, teachers transmitted values through parables, storytelling, discipline, and lived example. They were role models of honesty, perseverance, humility, and respect. Students imbibed not just lessons but also lifestyles from their teachers. In many ways, a teacher's silence taught more than their words.

Today, in the AI-driven world, the importance of this moral dimension has only increased. A child surrounded by gadgets, algorithms, and instant solutions risks becoming detached from human values if not guided carefully. Here the teacher's role as a moral compass becomes irreplaceable. Teachers teach children the value of patience in a world of instant gratification, the dignity of effort in a culture of shortcuts, the responsibility of empathy in a society that often rewards competition over compassion.

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam once reminded us that the purpose of education is to make good human beings with skill and expertise. Enlightened human beings can only be created by enlightened teachers. No matter how advanced AI becomes, it cannot create enlightened human beings. It can train skilled workers, but only teachers can shape responsible citizens who live with integrity and compassion.

### Challenges and New Responsibilities

The digital age is not without its challenges for teachers. Students today are exposed to an overwhelming



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flood of information. Attention spans are shrinking, distractions are multiplying, and the authority of the teacher is sometimes challenged by the vast universe of Google searches and YouTube tutorials. Many teachers also fear that AI will replace their traditional role, automating grading, lesson delivery, and even feedback.

But rather than seeing this as a threat, it must be understood as an opportunity. Teachers now have the chance to redefine their roles—not as transmitters of information, but as facilitators of wisdom. They are no longer expected to compete with machines in speed or memory. Instead, they are called to nurture what machines cannot: creativity, ethical reasoning, and emotional intelligence. The modern teacher is a guide, a mentor, a facilitator of dialogue, and a cultivator of critical thinking.

The classroom of the future must be a symphony, where AI and teachers collaborate. AI can take over repetitive tasks such as grading or personalized practice, freeing teachers to focus on meaningful human interactions. Teachers can then spend more time mentoring students, understanding their unique struggles, and encouraging their hidden talents. The classroom becomes not just a place of instruction but a space of inspiration.

### The Eternal Teacher

The contributions of educators past and present, we must affirm one eternal truth: the teacher remains irreplaceable. Technologies may evolve, tools may change, methods may shift, but the essence of teaching endures. It is the art of touching lives, awakening minds, and shaping the future of society.

The AI world and the traditional world are not adversaries; they are two dimensions of the same educational journey. Together, they can create a more powerful, inclusive, and dynamic learning ecosystem. But the heart of this ecosystem must always be the teacher. Without the teacher, education becomes mechanical. With the teacher, education becomes human.

As we move forward into a future shaped by innovation and uncertainty, we must never forget that teachers are the torchbearers of light. They carry forward not just information but wisdom, not just skills but values, not just answers but the courage to ask questions. To every teacher, past and present, this Teachers' Day is a reminder that your value is timeless, your influence is immeasurable, and your legacy is eternal.

*Mr. Mashood Mangalore, Head of Academics & Projects, IAME*

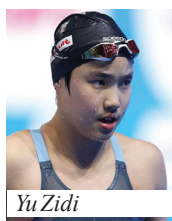
**ISSET CORNER / CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**AUGUST**

1. Appointed as the Deputy Chief of Army Staff? – **Lt. Gen. Pushendra Singh**
2. Country that developed the Bluebird communication satellite? – **United States**
3. Selected as the Director General of SSB? – **Sanjay Singhal**
4. Appointed as Director of VSSC? – **Dr. A. Rajarajan**
5. Youngest ever (12-year-old, Chinese swimmer) is a medal winner at World Swimming Championships? – **Yu Zidi**
6. Winner of 2025 Women's Copa America football title? – **Brazil**
7. Recipient of the 43rd Lokmanya Tilak National Award? – **Nitin Gadkari**
8. Kerala govt. scheme to help aided-college students pursue higher studies in top Indian & foreign campuses? – **Dhanush**
9. Author of *Our Living Constitution*? – **Shashi Tharoor**
10. Uttarakhand village hit by flash floods after cloudburst in Aug 2025? – **Dharali**
11. Longest-serving Union Home Minister? – **Amit Shah**
12. Which Indian space-tech startup's first commercial satellite mission is LEAP-1? – **Dhruva Space**
13. Cyclone that struck the UK in Aug



Dr. A. Rajarajan



Yu Zidi

**DHRUVA**  
SPACE

2025? – **Cyclone Floris**

14. Country that developed the Dark Eagle hypersonic missile system? – **United States**
15. Mascot of the 71st Nehru Trophy Boat Race? – **Kakkatampuratti rowing a boat**
16. First corporation in Kerala to present a Green Budget? – **Thiruvananthapuram Corporation**



**71st National Film Awards**

- **Best Actor** – Shah Rukh Khan (Jawan), Vikrant Massey (12th Fail)
- **Best Actress** – Rani Mukherjee (Mrs. Chatterjee)
- **Best Malayalam Film** – Ullozhukku
- **Best Director** – Sudipto Sen (The Kerala Story)
- **Best Supporting Actor** – Vijayaraghavan (Pookkalam)
- **Best Supporting Actress** – Urvashi (Ullozhukku)

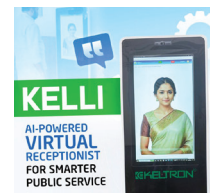
17. OpenAI's latest AI model? – **ChatGPT-5 (Indian Office – Delhi)**
18. Which Indian Navy warships were commissioned at Visakhapatnam on August 26, 2025? – **INS Udaygiri and INS Himgiri**
19. Winner of the 2025 World School Chess Championship? – **Velammal Vidyalaya, Chennai**
20. Winner of Kerala's highest science honour, Kerala Science Award? – **Dr S. Somanath**
21. AI receptionist developed by

Keltron for Secretariat (Minister P. Rajeev's office)? – **Kelli**

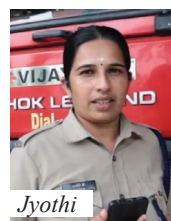


Dr. S. Somanath

22. First state in India to begin drone-based artificial rain experiments? – **Rajasthan**
23. Mascot of Kerala government's internet provider K-FON? – **Fibo**
24. India's 89th Chess Grandmaster? – **Rohit Krishna (Tamil Nadu)**
25. Mascot of the 1st Khelo India Water Sports Festival? – **Himalayan Kingfisher | Winner of the fest – Madhya Pradesh**
26. First state to achieve complete digital literacy? – **Kerala**
27. First AI robotic lab in a govt. school? – **Puthur GUPS, Malappuram**
28. AI-powered tool launched to generate structured minutes of Gram Sabha meetings? – **Sabhasaar**
29. Winner of C. Achutha Menon Memorial Award for best local body (Agriculture Dept. awards)? – **Meenangadi Grama Panchayat**
30. Winner of V.V. Raghavan Memorial Award for best Krishi Bhavan? – **Tanalur Krishi Bhavan (Malappuram)**
31. Kerala Fire Force's first woman driver? – **Jyothi**



KELLI  
AI-POWERED  
VIRTUAL  
RECEPTIONIST  
FOR SMARTER  
PUBLIC SERVICE



Jyothi

32. Winner of Kerala Agriculture Department's Best Agri Startup Award— **Fuselage Innovations**



33. State that launched free bus service for women in Aug 2025? — **Andhra Pradesh**
34. Theme of India's 79th Independence Day celebrations? — **Naya Bharat**
35. Waste collection app launched by Local Self-Govt Dept? — **Haritha Mithram 2.0**
36. Scheme announced by PM on Independence Day for formal job creation? — **PM Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana**
37. Indian Ports Bill passed in Rajya Sabha on? — **August 18, 2025**
38. Winner of Miss Universe India crown? — **Manika Vishwakarma**
39. Bill banning all online betting & online lotteries passed in Lok



Sabha on? — **August 20, 2025**

40. Winners of 2025 State Junior Athletics Overall Championship? — **Palakkad**
41. India's first fully IoT (Internet Of Things)-enabled Panchayat? — **Kattakkada, Thiruvananthapuram**
42. Largest river bridge under construction in Kerala? — **Kumbichal Kadavu Bridge**
43. World's oldest living person (2025)— **British woman Ethel Caterham (116 years, 19 days)**
44. District that won the title at Kerala's 5th State Transgender Arts Festival Varnappakittu? — **Thiruvananthapuram**
45. Amoeba species (popularly called "brain-eating amoeba") that caused amoebic meningoencephalitis in Kerala? — **Naegleria fowleri**
46. Appointed Deputy NSA of India in Aug 2025? — **Aneesh Dayal Singh**

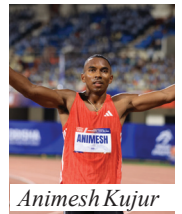


Ethel Caterham

47. Winner of 2025 Durand Cup football title? — **NorthEast United FC**



48. India's 2nd largest tiger reserve? — **Sundarbans, West Bengal**
49. New OTT platform launched by Prasar Bharati? — **WAVES**
50. Microsoft's climate forecasting AI model introduced in 2025? — **Aurora**
51. Elected President of Boxing Federation of India? — **Ajay Singh**
52. First Indian male sprinter to qualify for World Athletics Championships? — **Animesh Kujur**
53. Country devastated by Typhoon Kajiki? — **Vietnam**
54. World's tallest bridge built in China? — **Grand Canyon Bridge (Huajiang)**



Animesh Kujur

## TEACHERS CORNER

# Building the Heart of a Nation



**RAMEESHA**

VP, Crescent English Medium Secondary School, Valappattanam

A nation's future is not built in a day. It begins quietly, in small rooms where dreams are still forming and eyes are still learning how to see the world. It begins when a child is shown how to stand, how to speak, and how to choose what is right over what is easy. Leadership does not suddenly appear - it grows slowly in minds that are guided with care, in hearts that are taught to feel deeply, and in souls that are allowed to rise.

True leadership is not about fame or position. It is about strength of character. It is about being able to carry others when they fall, about speaking the truth when it is difficult, and about doing good when no one is watching. And this strength does not come from textbooks alone. It is shaped through presence, through example, and through the quiet influence of someone who chooses to guide, not by force, but by trust.

When a young person is given responsibility, even in small ways, they begin to understand what it means to lead. When they are encouraged to think, to question, to make decisions, they start becoming more than just learners - they become builders. And what they build first is not power, but purpose.

In every young heart, there is a fire waiting to be lit - a fire to serve, to create, to lead. But that fire needs a



spark. It needs someone who believes in them. Someone who says, "You are capable," even when they are unsure. Someone who shows how to lead by leading with values - honesty, respect, patience, and courage.

The one who stands by them, shaping them quietly, becomes the unseen architect of the nation's strength. Not by commanding, but by walking beside. Not by controlling, but by empowering. Through every small interaction - a conversation, a correction, a gesture of faith - something powerful is built. A new mind that can think clearly. A new voice that can speak bravely. A new leader, rising.

The work is not always easy. It takes time. It takes patience. It takes love. But the reward is beyond measure - because from these quiet beginnings rise the voices that will one day carry the nation forward.

Such influence does not seek credit. It does not look for applause. It works in silence, knowing that real success is not seen in marks or medals, but in the kind of human being a child becomes. A future citizen who chooses to serve, rather than rule. Who listens more than they speak. Who acts not for self, but for others.

When we guide children with intention and heart, we are not just shaping individuals - we are shaping the future of the nation. Every value we pass on becomes part of the country's foundation. Every life we touch becomes a light in the world.

The work is not always easy. It takes time. It takes patience. It takes love. But the reward is beyond measure - because from these quiet beginnings rise the voices that will one day carry the nation forward. And those voices will carry with them the quiet strength of those who believed in them first.

## STUDENTS CORNER



**Fathima VK - Grade 6**  
Ma'din Public School, Melmuri



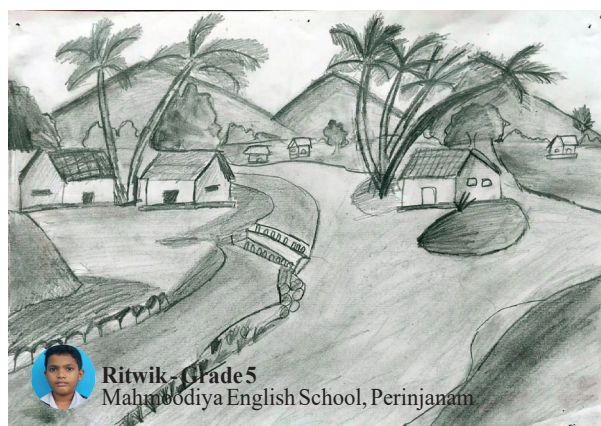
**Asmaa CK - Grade 9**  
Ma'din Public School, Melmuri



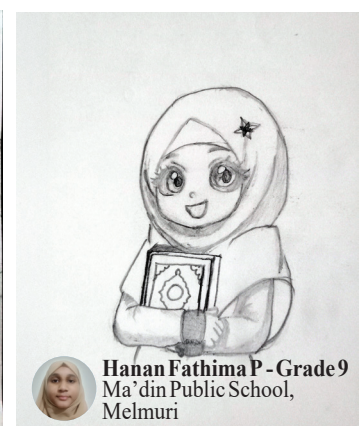
**Zayan Mohammed - Grade 6**  
Markaz Public School, Koyilandy



**Sirajudheen - Grade 8**  
Mahmoodiya English School, Perinjanam



**Ritwik - Grade 5**  
Mahmoodiya English School, Perinjanam



**Hanan Fathima P - Grade 9**  
Ma'din Public School, Melmuri



## STUDENTS CORNER

### Childhood

I'd run through the Meadows  
I'd chase little butterflies  
I'd jump over the fences  
I'd pluck pretty flowers  
I'd make tiny sand castles  
I'd lay beneath the stars

But then...

I'll be busy with my works  
I'll be panicking with my chores  
I'll be drag with my studies  
I'll be engaged in my duties  
I'll have no time to relax  
I'll have plenty of things to do

And busy all over my lifetime



**Fathima Afreen - Grade 6**  
Ma'din Public School, Melmuri



## EVENTS

# IAME Urges Simplified Procedures for Unaided Schools

**Thiruvananthapuram:** The IAME has called upon the state government to urgently address the challenges faced by unaided schools in Kerala, particularly regarding delays in obtaining the No Objection Certificate (NOC) required for CBSE affiliation.

IAME state leaders noted that hundreds of unaided schools are left in uncertainty due to prolonged waiting periods and the absence of clear, uniform guidelines. They demanded that the NOC process be made transparent, time-bound, and single-window based, with provisions for online application and tracking. Unnecessary repeat inspections and excessive documentation, they argued, should be eliminated.

IAME also highlighted the hardships faced by students in unaided schools, including delays in receiving textbooks. The association urged the government to ensure the same timely distribution of textbooks as in government and aided institutions. They further sought parity in Plus One admissions, calling for a centralized



▲ IAME leaders hold discussions with Kerala Minister for General Education V. Sivankutty to address various challenges in the school education sector.

allotment system that provides equal opportunities to CBSE, ICSE, and SSLC students.

The association criticized the excessive taxation on school buildings and vehicles, pointing out that schools used solely for educational purposes are taxed as if they were commercial enterprises. School buses, they added, are charged the same rates as commercial vehicles despite transporting only children.

On infrastructure, IAME recommended that the Kerala Building Rules (KBR) be amended to reflect ground realities. They

proposed fixing the required approach road width at 3.6 meters for schools up to the Senior Secondary level, irrespective of building area. They also called for exemption from the mandatory lift requirement for school buildings under 3000 sq. m. and up to four floors.

The IAME demanded the creation of a welfare fund for over one million teachers and staff in the unaided sector. They also insisted that students from unaided and CBSE schools be allowed to participate in state-level arts, sports, and science festivals alongside government school

students, to uphold Kerala's secular and democratic traditions.

Recognizing the space constraints of long-established schools in densely populated cities, IAME urged the government to provide special exemptions enabling them to continue functioning with recognition.

The delegation, including Prof. A.K. Abdul Hameed (General Secretary, Islamic Education Board of India), Sayyid Muhammad Thurab Thangal (State President, IAME), N. Ali Abdulla (Chairman, Orphanage Control Board), A. Saifuddin Haji (Member, State Minority

Commission), K.M.A. Rahim (Member, Waqf Board), and Afzal Kolari (Executive Director, IAME), held discussions with Education Minister V. Sivankutty on these demands.

## IAME Talent Initiative Launched

**Thiruvananthapuram** | The IAME, a collective of English-medium schools under minority managements, has launched the Talent Initiative Programme aimed at nurturing the skills of CBSE school students in Kerala. The initiative is designed to prepare students for high-level competitive examinations such as the IAS and IPS while fostering holistic development.

At the primary stage, the programme will be introduced as LTS (Lower Talent Search) at the LP level and UTS (Upper Talent Search) at the UP level. Students achieving top performance in the International Skill Enhancement Training (ISET) talent search examination, successfully conducted since 2006, will be selected

for this initiative.

The Talent Initiative offers a platform for students to demonstrate academic and extracurricular excellence. Its syllabus is structured in line with the National Curriculum Framework (NCF), focusing on essential competencies for each class. Subjects include General Knowledge, Current Affairs, Mental Ability, Numerical Reasoning, Non-Verbal Reasoning, and Activity-Based Questions. For KG students, special emphasis is placed on coloring and drawing skills.

In the first phase, held at the school level, outstanding performers will be awarded merit certificates and medals, while all participants will receive certificates of participation. Selected



Minister for General Education V. Sivankutty unveils the logo of IAME Talent Initiative Scholarship Programme

students from Classes 4 to 7 will advance to the second phase, where top achievers will be awarded LTS and UTS scholarships.

The ISET Grand Finale, involving students from Classes 6 to Plus Two, will serve as the culminating stage of the programme. Winners in both categories of the Grand Finale will receive a 916 gold coin as recognition of their achievement.

## Brillo Fest '25 Begins with Grandeur

**Kozhikode:** Brillo Fest '25, organized by the IAME in connection with the International Skill Enhancement Project, was inaugurated at Eranjipalam Markaz International School. The state-level inauguration was carried out by IAME President Sayyid Muhammad Thurab Assaqqaf. Director Afzal Kolari presided over the function, and Academics Project Head Mashood Mangalapuram presented the project.

As a prelude to iSET '25, scheduled to be held on November 15, Brillo Fest is being conducted at the cluster level. Designed on a grand scale, iSET '25 will feature initiatives such as Student



Interests & Career Design, Talent Initiative, Grand Finale, Achievers' Camp, and Career Expo.

Renowned career guide and resource person Jafar Swadhiq led an engaging session introducing students to diverse courses, opportunities across Indian universities, and the limitless possibilities offered by international

institutions.

To nurture and inspire future leaders, and to give voice to their ideas, IAME organized the iTalk Program. During the session, Markaz International School Eranjipalam students Shahistha Sara spoke on "The Four C's of the 21st Century" while Muhammad Adish T.T. discussed "Today's Click, Tomorrow's Consequences."

MIS AO Saaduddin Saqqafi, Principal Muhammad Hafis Adani, MEMS International School Principal Muhammad Shafi, Qadisiyya Feroq AO Swadhiq, and IAME BPH Shahrukh Rasheed RP also spoke on the occasion.