



UNION CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Aluva - 683102, Kerala, India (Estd. 1921)

(Re-accredited with 'A' Grade by NAAC)



CENTENARY PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

INAUGURAL LECTURE

Topic : Nationalism, Pluralism and
the Future of India's Democracy

Date : 17-03-2022

Time : 7:00 PM

Dr. Shashi Tharoor

Hon'ble Member of Parliament,
Thiruvananthapuram

VIEW LIVE ON  **YouTube**
www.youtube.com/uccmedia



About the College

Union Christian College (UCC), Aluva was founded in 1921 as an ecumenical Indian Christian initiative in the field of higher education in Kerala. The college was founded by four young visionaries – Shri. K.C. Chacko, Shri. A.M. Varki, Shri. C.P. Mathew and Shri. V.M. Ittyerah, who were alumni of Madras Christian College. Providentially inspired by their Christian faith and commitment, they envisaged the institution based on the values of integrity and social commitment, promoting learning and culture. Affiliated to Madras and Kerala university in its early years, and currently to Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, the institution has emerged as a pacesetter in academic excellence and research potential. The college has 18 academic departments, with around 2500 students and 160 faculty members. Rated with an 'A' Grade by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), the college is a unique centre of higher education in Kerala with an ecumenical character and cosmopolitan outlook.

Heritage

The college is honoured to inherit the proud heritage of accolades and endorsements from various eminent leaders of the nation who visited the institution in the past. Mahatma Gandhi visited the college on March 18, 1925 and recorded in the visitor's diary his appreciation for the conducive environment he witnessed here thus, "delighted with the ideal situation".

The college was honoured by the visit of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore in 1922, who acknowledged in his address to the community his joy at witnessing here, the quintessential spirit of his Shantiniketan. In the same year the college was visited by Lord Irvin, the then Viceroy of India.

The list of eminent international teachers who have associated with the college in the past includes stalwarts like Canon W.E.S. Holland, Rev.L.W. Hooper, Malcom Muggeridge and Rev.B.G. Crowley. The other prominent personalities who visited the college during its formative years include Shri Ram Manohar Lohia (1950), Shri.K.P Kesava Menon (1953), Shri. Jayaprakash Narayan (1954), Shri. Morarji Desai (1957), Dr Stanley Jones (1958), Shri. C. Rajagopalachari (1960), and Shri.V.K. Krishna Menon. The legacy has continued since then with other luminaries like Shri.V.V. Giri, Shri.Shankar Dayal Sharma, Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam honouring the college with their presence on its various jubilee milestones.

As Union Christian College reaches the centenary milestone, the college community, along with its well-wishers celebrates its glorious past and with a firm commitment to uphold the vision of its founding fathers, prepares to take bigger strides into the future.

About the Speaker

Dr Shashi Tharoor is a former international diplomat, renowned author and seasoned politician. He is currently a third-term Lok Sabha MP from the Thiruvananthapuram constituency and Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology. Previously, he has served as the Minister of State for Human Resource Development and Minister of State for External Affairs in the Government of India. Prior to his entry in Indian politics he had an illustrious career at the United Nations where he served as a peacekeeper, refugee worker and administrator at the highest levels, and as Under-Secretary General during Kofi Annan's leadership of the organization. A noted critic and columnist, Dr Tharoor has authored 23 books including both fiction and non-fiction, the latest in line being *Pride, Prejudice and Punditry* released in November 2021. A recognized authority on India, he writes prodigiously for newspapers and magazines on a wide range of subjects such as current economy, globalisation, freedom of the press, human rights, literacy, culture, foreign affairs, and cricket.

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Date : 17/03/2022 Time : 7:00 PM

Welcome	: Dr Thara K Simon Principal
Keynote address	: Dr Shashi Tharoor
Interactive session with students	
Concluding Remarks	: Rev. Thomas John Manager