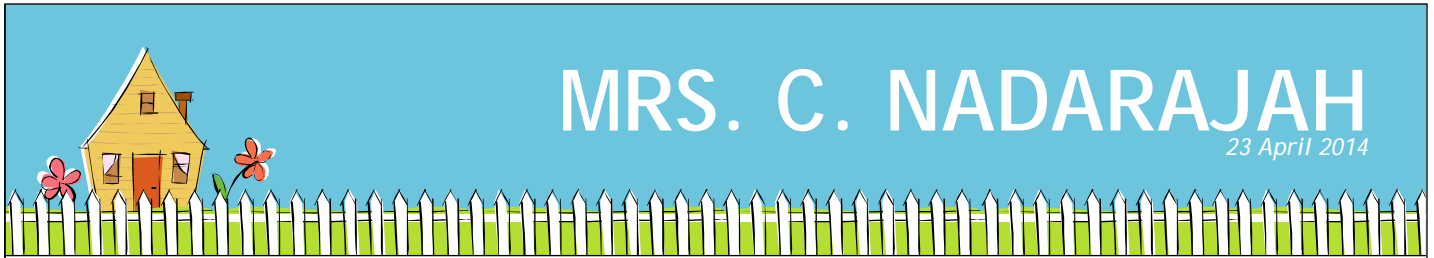




# Pearls in the Sands of Time

Mrs. C. Nadarajah:  
An appreciation by former students



# MRS. C. NADARAJAH

23 April 2014

## SHANTHA THOMAS

Dear Mrs. Nadarajah,

I am Shantha Thomas, one of your students from St Agnes Convent Matale. I'm so pleased to have the opportunity to say a few words on the occasion of your 80th birthday. I like to recall one of the many incidents I remember of you as my Teacher. You taught me Tamil and Social studies from Grade 6 to Grade 10. According to the new syllabus (NCGE), we had to do a scrapbook and it was marked out of 20. Social Studies was not one of my favorite subject, but fortunately it was my mother's. So, every night my mother would go through magazines and books to find suitable pictures and information. I'll be falling asleep around 9 pm, but my mother would continue her research. Next morning, she would tell me how excited she was with the information she had got, and would wait for me to come after school to make me sit down with her to paste pictures and write something about it which I had to translate from English to Tamil.

In year 10, for some reason you were told that you were not allowed to give me a full mark for this scrap book. You brought this matter up with another Teacher, who told you to give me a 19 out of 20. You sat at your desk a bit disappointed about it. When I got my scrapbook back, I found you had given me a  $19\frac{1}{2}$  out of 20 ☺

I thank you for being an excellent Teacher in every way. Your patience and quietness under any circumstances were exceptional and your passion for your subjects was incredible. I wish you the best for your 80th birthday. May God bless you with peace and good health for many more years to come. Happy Birthday Mrs Nadarajah!



## AMBIHAI SIVALINGAM

### A LETTER TO THE TEACHER.. AFTER 30 YEARS

It is is wonderful to realize that my teacher is celebrating glorious 80 years of life, and I am so thankful for getting an opportunity to write this letter.

I am 46 years old now and travelled, lived in many countries however the life in Matala was the best period.

It is unbelievable to most when I say I am in touch with my primary school teachers. But it is only natural because, I have been blessed with so many beautiful, adoring, caring people around me since my birth. It is indeed difficult to describe how caring and affectionate they were and I just cannot pass my days without thinking about them. My teacher is one of these guardian angels of my wonderful childhood.

Teacher!

You gave me not only knowledge but made me to realize how important good discipline is in life .I want to recollect a very important incident in school. I found a letter written by my friend to her boy friend. I used to be very naughty then and I showed to all other girls. We had good fun reading the letter without realizing the consequences. Our teacher always somehow knew what was going on!

I was suddenly asked to meet you one day and I had no clue as to the reason. You gave me good, long lecture why it was such a serious mistake and I was asked to return the letter! You explained the issue so kindly and in such simple perspective. It made such a lasting impression and I learned to be more sensitive to other people's feelings. And to think twice before poking fun at others.

Truly I feel that was a Pivotal moment in my life.

It also opened my eyes to the other side of my teacher, I realized how caring she was and the time and effort she put in for our welfare beyond school time .I had found someone to whom I could talk to when I needed it.

Thank you teacher for everything.

The good discipline for which I am respected by many people now was given to me by you.

I am blessed with a very beautiful family- wonderful husband, extremely loving and humble children, 18, 17 and 15yrs.

My wonderful mother passed away suddenly few years ago.

My father is turning 80 years this year and keeping fine. My two brothers married and have two girls each.

Have a very blessed and memorable 80th birthday.

I want to thank Ahila for sincerely planning and arranging a memorable day for you. Also take this opportunity to tell Ahila-You are the most intelligent person I ever met and stimulated me to a very great extent. Have a great and blessed 80th birthday celebration.



## RUBASINGHAM SISTERS

### **AN APPRECIATION TO A MOST LOVED TEACHER AT ST. AGNES CONVENT IN MATALE BY TWO GRATEFUL PAST STUDENTS**

It was in year 1960 when we, the Rubasingham sisters - Rajalaxmy and Wijayalaxmy (Meena) entered the portals of St. Agnes Convent in Matale having relocated from Jaffna following the death of our beloved father who was a retired Inspector of Schools.

Our period at St. Agnes from 1960 to 1965 was a memorable one in that we came across many dedicated and hard working teachers who spared no pains in inculcating among us students a high sense of discipline, perseverance and an urge to study.

Mrs. Nadarajah who was a teacher at St. Agnes Convent during our period was no exception and was an outstanding individual who was greatly instrumental in molding our character and also our learning ability.

We the Rubasingham sisters loved her tremendously for her sincere dedication, her kindness and for a loving word in times of despair.

She had a magnanimous heart, full of love and kindness and not hesitating to help others who were in need.

She was totally unbiased and treated all the students equally and without any favoritism. We both adored her for the loving care she always extended, her simplicity, her helping ways and the perpetual smile.

I, Rajalaxmy was so fond of her and she helped me to a great extent in improving my essay writing and in my other subjects. She was always there with a helping hand in guiding us in our studies and encouraged us without flinching. The most significant feature of her

was that she was ever ready to help any student who showed an interest in studies. I, Meena asked for her guidance in subjects like Civics, History and Geography and she never hesitated to oblige. She played a major role in improving the standard of my essay writing as well.

She was extremely happy when I, Meena passed my GCE Ordinary Level examination obtaining credit passes in all the subjects that she taught me. I am totally indebted to her for my success.

We have been informed by reliable sources that Mrs. Nadarajah is now domiciled in Canada and that preparations are being made to publish a booklet to coincide with her 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations in recognition of her dedicated services as a devoted teacher and a humane personality. Needless to say, we will be failing in our duty if we do not place on record our word of appreciation to be included in this booklet.

In conclusion, we take this opportunity to wish her all health, wealth and happiness and may God's choicest blessings be for her always.

RAJALAXMY RUBASINGHAM (PARAMASIVAM)  
WIJAYALAXMY RUBASINGHAM (MEENA JAMES)





MANJULA RAJASOORIYAR

"தமிழுக்கு அமுதென்று பேர்"

We, the students of St.Thomas' Girls' School Matale, understood the meaning of the above words only after we had the great privilege of being the students of Mrs. Chelvarani Nadarajah.

"Nadarajah Miss" as we fondly call her is a genius in the language. Her teaching talent made every student to think that learning Tamil is a pleasure and not a tiresome task. She embedded in all her students a love for the age old language, and we felt that we were feeding on Ambrosia during our Tamil classes. She taught us from her heart and not from the

books. She saw the future of her students in their eyes and made it possible for all of us to learn Tamil whole heartedly. Her students excelled in the Tamil language and literature and scored high grades in Public Exams, and are imparting the knowledge that they gained from Mrs. Nadarajah to the new generation, and serving the world at large. May the good Lord bless our dearest Teacher with Health and Happiness and grant all the desires of her heart. We your students want to thank Mrs. Nadarajah from the bottom of our hearts. But for you there is no Bottom in our hearts. Wish you a very Happy Birthday. May your life be as sweet as the Beautiful Tamil Language.  
With Gratitude,  
Manju Rajasooriyar.

FINAL THOUGHTS FROM TWO FRIENDS AND FORMER COLLEAGUES

MRS. SWARNA RAJANATHAN

Please accept my sincere wishes as you celebrate yet another mile-stone in life's journey. I pray that God bless you abundantly with good health and long life. I recall with joy the happy days spent as staff members of St Agnes' Convent Matale. You were a dear friend & an older sister to me. You were always ready to help us, when we needed your advice. Mr. Nadarajah, Asokan, Ahila, Kavitha & Nalina: you are really blessed to have a wife and mother like her.

So on this great occasion I would like to quote a few lines from the Bible as a tribute to my friend Mrs. Nadarajah. "She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the

bread of idleness. Her children rise up and call her blessed, and her husband also praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but You excel them all." Book of Proverbs 31:27-29.  
Happy Birthday Mrs Nadarajah!  
Sincerely Yours, Swarna Rajanathan.

MRS. AGNES NAVARATNAM

Happy birthday dear Ms Nadarajah. On your great day my thoughts go back to our days of friendship. We are there for each other yet. May God grant you good health and more birthdays to come.  
Mrs. Agnes Navaratnam



