

## Mr. Suntharampillai Kalatharan (93-96)

He hailed from Velanai. He earned his B.A. degree from the University of Peradeniya. He was appointed as Principal of our school in 1993 and served till 1996. During his term, the College found a new site at Kantharmadam, Jaffna, where the classes were conducted in temporary cottages. The situation had reminded the scene which was in 1947. Many of you may have not known that he was called "Principal with out chair" since he never sit at the Principal office in the college building at Velanai.

He was a young fit man of obvious ability to run the college in any situation. If and when the history of this school is written from a displaced pupil perspective, it would be clearly recorded that Mr. Kalatharan's period was a glorious one for the displaced students of the College, all of whom were able to continue their studies even while under such dire circumstances.

During October in 1995, again the entire public was displaced to the Thenmaradchi and Vanni region due to the ethnic war. Mr. Kalatharan and the Golden Jubilee organizing committee had also made arrangements to celebrate the Golden jubilee, which could not be held in 1995 due to the historical displacement. He exemplified as a Principal. Any work done at school will be supervised by him personally. He contacted old students all over the world and requested their immediate help to develop the school. Old students from Canada provided a good amount of money in 1994 to buy an electric generator and built cottages. Old students from other countries such as UK, Australia, and France helped in this regard as well.

His wife, Mrs. Nirmala Kalatharan is also one of the former teachers of our college. He is the first Principal of our college who was elected as the secretary of the Northern Province Principal Association. Now, he is living in Australia with his family.

By: S. Elancheliyan