



CHRISTIAN  
MUSICOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY OF INDIA

# ARAMAIC

To resuscitate an intangible cultural heritage of humanity

# PROJECT



[AP 76 - Dr. Joseph J. Palackal, CMI on Pravasi Channel, USA Manohar Thomas in conversation with Dr. Joseph J. Palackal, CMI.](#)

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<b>Call Number</b>	AP 76
<b>Part Number</b>	<a href="#">Part I – Syro Malabar Church</a>
<b>Title</b>	Dr. Joseph J. Palackal, CMI on Pravasi Channel, USA Manohar Thomas in conversation with Dr. Joseph J. Palackal, CMI.
<b>Duration</b>	1:09:16
<b>Place of Recording</b>	St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, Maspeth, New York.
<b>Date of Recording</b>	3 April 2017
<b>Youtube URL</b>	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a-vUdAbqm88&amp;t">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a-vUdAbqm88&amp;t</a>
<b>Video Segment(s)</b>	AP 76a, 76b

## Notes

[Dr. Joseph J. Palackal, CMI](#) on [Pravasi Channel](#), USA Manohar Thomas in conversation with Dr. Joseph J. Palackal, CMI.

This hour-long interview is interesting because of the wide range of topics that it covers. Manohar Thomas is a well-known social leader among the Keralites in New York, and is well versed in the literary and cultural history of Kerala. It was the [Aramaic Project](#) that caught his attention and led to his decision to interview me. His master plan for the interview helped the flow of this candid and comfortable conversation on topics ranging from my early exposure to music at home, the Christian family background, the inspiration from [Palackal Thoma Malpan](#) (1760-1841), and to my revered Guru, Prof. N. V. Patwardhan. Manohar directed the conversation to situate the relevance of the Aramaic Project in the larger context of the cultural history of India. The question and the answer on my singing OM in my first Long Playing record of “[Christian Bhajans](#)” (1979) took an unexpected turn. I am immensely grateful to Sunil-Tristar, Manohar Thomas and the [Pravasi Channel](#) for organizing this interview and televising it on the [Pravasi Channel](#). I already received many positive feedbacks from viewers in USA and Canada. Publication of this program on YouTube will help reach to a larger international audience. Thank you, Manohar Thomas and Sunil-Tristar.

## Topics

- [6:35](#) Autobiographical. Early exposure to music and Christian stories from mother.
- [10:40](#) On the collateral ancestor, the saintly Palackal Thoma Malpan
- [17:59](#) Connection to the revered Guru, Prof. N. V. Patwardhan
- [21:26](#) The journey to the world of the Aramaic language and music
- [33:15](#) Aramaic language is an essential component of the Indian culture.
- [33:51](#) The urgent need for financial support
- [44:58](#) Interlocking of Syriac and folk melodies in Kerala. Example from Arnos Pathiri's "Genova parwam"
- [50:20](#) Uniqueness of Indian Christianity in connection with Indian history. "India is not a country, but a concept"
- [1:00:24](#) Preserving the Aramaic language is a duty of the Indian Government with the support of UNESCO
- [1:01:30](#) OM and Christianity. "If OM is Hindu, electricity is Christian!"



## Video Segments

- [AP 76a](#) - "India is not a country, but a concept of coexistence." - [Dr. Joseph J. Palackal, CMI](#)
- [AP 76b](#) - "If OM is Hindu, electricity is Christian." - [Dr. Joseph J. Palackal, CMI](#)

Dr. Joseph J. Palackal, CMI

New York

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