

# PhD in Theology

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Regulations for the  
**Doctoral Research**

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## **ALPHA INSTITUTE** **OF THEOLOGY AND SCIENCE**

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# **ALPHA INSTITUTE**

## **OF THEOLOGY AND SCIENCE**

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# **ALPHA INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY AND SCIENCE**

*Alpha Institute of Theology and Science* offers comprehensive Christian theology courses and research opportunities in Studies in Asian Christianity and Judeo-Christian Scriptures. It shall organise the studies with an interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary approach. Courses are guided by renowned scholars of international reputation whose academic excellence and theological insights have shaped deep insights through various courses. The scholars who have done their studies in Judeo-Christian Scriptures, Biblical Archeology, Theology, and Philosophy and obtained doctorate from Indian and foreign state universities like Sorborn, Louvain and Gregorian University (Rome) have been offering courses in the respective subjects from 2007 through contact classes and television channels attracting large clientele across the country and abroad. There were over 3000 students the courses for which Diplomas were awarded by the Calicut University through the Chair for Christianity. The Bachelors and Masters courses of the Institute are approved by Sai Nath University. This proposal is for the approval of a PhD research centre in Theology. The following articles provide a comprehensive vision of the Doctorate in Theology offered by Sai Nath University through Alpha Institute.

## **ARTICLE 1: Aim of the Doctoral Programme**

**§1.** The Doctorate in Theology offered by Sai Nath University through Alpha Institute aims at broadening and deepening doctoral students' knowledge and ability to produce scholarly research in theology or religious studies.

**§2.** The research programme is oriented to assist students to make personal contribution to scientific and theological research through the writing of a dissertation, which is to be accomplished under the guidance of a competent professorial staff, within a reasonable time-limit.

**§3.** The candidates study in depth and specialize in one specific theme, without neglecting the over- all comprehension and mastery of the vast field of theology.

**§4.** The research programme will be especially geared toward preparing a doctoral dissertation, within a reasonable timeframe. The dissertation should constitute an innovative contribution to the area of theological research.

## **ARTICLE 2: *Modus Operandi***

**§1.** The Doctoral Programme in Theology consists of an interrelated and coherent combination of educational and other study activities. Components of the Doctoral Programme can be followed at other national or international universities and institutes for scientific research, especially those with which Alpha Institute has established collaborative agreements.

**§2.** The Doctoral Programme consists of obligatory and optional elements which aim at broadening knowledge and experience by way of methodological reflection, systematic guidance, discussion with other doctoral students, contact with professors from one's own area of research, the presentation of research results, international contacts, preparation of publications, supplementary formation through the study of languages and other specialised courses, and team work.

**§3.** Participation in the Doctoral Programme is a compulsory condition for obtaining the doctoral degree. As a rule, this implies a residency requirement of two years of full-time study. In very exceptional cases candidates may be exempted from the requirement to participate in the Doctoral Programme. In such cases an alternative assignment will be imposed (For details see ARTICLE 8 below).

## **ARTICLE 3: Eligibility**

In principle, admission to the Doctoral Studies in Theology demands a valid Master's Degree in Theology (MTh) with at least a high second class, the validity of which will be adjudged by the competent authorities of the Institute. In case of necessity, the student should pass a qualifying examination conducted by the Institute.

**§1.** Candidates, who meet the following conditions for admission, may be admitted to the doctoral programme in Theology conducted by the Alpha Institute:

01. The candidate has obtained the degree of Research Master of Advanced Studies in Theology and Religion awarded by the Alpha Institute of Theology and science. A candidate who has obtained an equivalent Masters degree in Theology from another Indian or a foreign university may also be admitted to the doctoral programme in theology. Such applications are assessed by the doctoral committee. The committee evaluates the content of the various course components of the second-cycle degree that the applicant followed. Should it become evident that the said programme is not equivalent to that required for the Research Master of Advanced Studies in Theology offered by the Institute, no direct admission to the doctoral programme in theology will be granted.

02. The candidate can present adequate study results and has obtained at least 50% for the whole of the master programme(s) and a level of 70% for the Research Paper.
03. During the assessment of the application for admission, the total period of time the student needed to obtain the study points for the master programme(s) is also taken into account.
04. The candidate submits a doctoral project in the field of theology which (a) fits into the research profile of the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, (b) is accepted by a supervisor (and/or co-supervisor) belonging to the Faculty of Alpha Institute, (c) and is approved by the concerned research unit of the Faculty of Alpha Institute.

**§2.** Besides English, the Doctoral Candidates should have an advanced knowledge of the classical languages, such as Hebrew, Greek and Latin as may be required by the nature of the research and also a working knowledge of at least one of the modern languages, such as, German, Spanish, Italian or French.

**§3.** Candidates are required to submit a detailed doctoral project – on the form provided for this purpose and signed by the supervisor – to the research secretariat before the dates indicated on the faculty calendar of the year in which they wish to be admitted to the doctoral programme.

01. During the first two weeks of June/September, the members of the tenured academic personnel of the research units will evaluate whether the proposed projects fit into the research profile of the research unit. Particular attention should be paid to methodological skills, including the doctoral student's capacity to read the primary literature necessary for his/her research in its original language.
02. The coordinator of the research unit sends the results of the assessment to the doctoral committee. The doctoral committee considers these findings and decides whether the submitted doctoral projects meet the requirements.
03. The Secretary of the Doctoral Committee stores a copy of the proposed project, signed by the Research Unit's coordinator, the promoter (and, if necessary, co-promoter) and the candidate, in the candidate's file

**§4.** Those who have obtained a Masters Degree in Theology from another Indian or a foreign university may also be admitted to the Doctoral Programme in Theology providing they meet the conditions for admission outlined above. Applications are assessed by the Doctoral Committee, whose composition is constituted according to the regulations of the Faculty. The Committee evaluates the content of the various course components of the second-cycle degree that the applicants followed. Should it become evident that the said programme is not equivalent to that required for the Master of Advanced Studies in Theology and Religion offered by Alpha Institute, no direct admission to the Doctoral Programme in Theology will be granted. The Committee then passes the file on to the Faculty Admissions Committee.

## **ARTICLE 4: Duration**

Regarding the duration of the research programme the norms and regulations proposed by Sai Nath University will be followed. Doctoral Students require spending at least six semesters (three years) in research work, in regular contact with the Institute. The duration of the doctoral programme may be extended up to seven years, in which case starting from the fourth year, registration should be renewed and the library fees should be paid every year. At the end of this period of seven years, the student loses his/her registration. He/ She cannot re-register for another term with the same topic of dissertation.

## **ARTICLE 5: Fee Structure and Intakes**

Alpha Institute will precisely follow the fee structure instructed by Sai Nath University. Taking the library facilities and the availability of the research guides into consideration, Alpha Institute of Theology and Science has the competence to admit up to 50 doctoral research candidates annually.

## **ARTICLE 6: Promoters**

The research will be conducted under the guidance of a Promoter chosen by the candidate and approved by the Board of examiners appointed by Sai Nath University. Depending on the nature of the research, the Board, if it deems it necessary, can suggest the second promoter already at the time of the registration of the topic. The first promoter should be a qualified member of the faculty of the Institute or any eligible professor approved by the Institute.

**§1.** The promoter forms the pivot of the doctoral training, in which the doctoral student's research project occupies a central position. As such, he or she is responsible for the material and intellectual climate in which the doctoral student develops and carries out his or her research. The role of the supervisor is therefore not limited to the initiation of the research. He or she also plays a stimulating, coordinating and evaluating role throughout the doctoral process. The supervisor must also ensure that the doctoral student can acquire other skills in the context of his or her training that are essential to enabling him or her to switch smoothly to another position after the doctoral training, inside or outside the academic world.

**§2.** A good supervisor possesses the necessary qualities to ensure the correct guidance and support of each of his or her doctoral students:

01. The supervisor is an active researcher and has acquired a sound reputation. This can be deduced, for example, depending upon his or her length of academic service and the research domain, from academic publications, citations, invitations to contribute to conferences and the acquisition of significant research financing.

02. The supervisor has built up his or her reputation in a research domain that is sufficiently related to the field in which the doctoral student is carrying out his or her research to enable him or her to give the requisite supervision
03. The supervisor is responsible for the quality of the doctoral research plan of the doctoral student.

**§3.** The supervisor provides intensive supervision. The supervision ensures that there is adequate provision for the doctoral student to consult with qualified researchers about the planning, execution and results of the research. Research units and supervisors consult on how the doctoral student can receive effective and high quality supervision. Regular formal and informal contacts between the doctoral student, the supervisor and the supervisory team form the basis of good supervision. The contacts between the doctoral student and the supervisor are set out in the work arrangements that are made following the annual appraisal interviews.

**§4.** The specific tasks of the supervisor and the supervisory team are:

04. to help the doctoral student in the planning, execution and, if necessary, the adaptation of the research,
05. to help the doctoral student to place the research in a broader context,
06. to assist the doctoral student in the interpretation and analysis of the results obtained from his or her research,
07. to encourage the doctoral student in presenting his or her work by regularly attending presentations and giving the doctoral student feedback on his or her performance,
08. to introduce the doctoral student into the research world (*i*) by involving him or her in the research of the research group (*ii*) by bringing him or her into contact with other researchers within the research domain, e.g. by encouraging active participation in conferences or by a stay in another research institution,
09. to encourage the doctoral student to publish his or her work, point out publication opportunities and assist in preparing publications. The supervisor and the supervisory team bear an important joint responsibility for the doctoral process and also for the publications arising from the doctoral research. They give the doctoral student the maximum opportunity to valorize the work performed as the first author listed on publications.

**§5.** The supervisor creates a research environment in which the integrity of academic practice (e.g. good data management, responsible authorship, ...) is the norm. In addition, the supervisor clarifies what is to be regarded as lack of the integrity of academic conduct within the context of the research domain

01. The supervisor draws up jointly with the doctoral student a schedule for the doctoral training. The supervisor informs the doctoral student about the training on offer at the Alpha Institute and discusses with the doctoral student the content of the doctoral training. The supervisor further draws the doctoral student's attention to interesting possibilities for taking up additional training or education both within and outside the ALPHA INSTITUTE. The supervisor ensures (together with the dean or head of department) that the doctoral student's teaching commitments and other tasks are so organised that the completion of the doctorate within the anticipated time limit is not put at risk.

02. The supervisor is jointly responsible for the efficient progress of the doctoral process. The supervisor encourages the doctoral student to finalise his or her doctorate within a reasonable term, ensuring that the 4 to 6-year financing period for financed doctorates is preferably not exceeded.
03. The supervisor is jointly responsible for creating a pleasant professional work environment. This means, inter alia, that account is taken of personal factors that can have an impact on the research.

**§6.** A proactive attitude is expected of the doctoral student. It is the doctoral student him or herself in the first instance who develops his or her research and it is the doctoral student who is expected to contribute increasingly actively to the planning of the research and the interpretation and analysis of the results as the doctorate progresses. He or she also ensures that any problems are communicated as quickly as possible (to the supervisor and the supervisory team in the first instance) so that an appropriate solution can be sought. The development of a proactive work attitude and of the necessary skills to think and communicate about problems with a view to solving them is essential to enabling the student to develop into an independent researcher. The supervisor therefore encourages the doctoral student to develop these skills.

**§7.** The (faculty) doctoral committees vouch, in collaboration with the supervisors and the supervisory committees, for the admission and/or follow-up of doctoral students. The quality of the supervisor must therefore be a point of special interest for these committees. Supervisors can be helped to adjust how they carry out their supervision with the advice of the committee and in consultation with all concerned.

## **ARTICLE 7: Participation**

In the first year of the research the student is to attend the Methodology Seminar and the Inter-Disciplinary seminar organized by the Institute and validate the specialized courses prescribed by his/her promoter in consultation with the concerned Head of the Department. Doctoral Students have to participate in all the doctoral program organized by Alpha Institute. These program are aimed at extending the candidate's knowledge and experience through-in –depth and scientific methodological training, systematic guidance, discussion with fellow researchers, consultation with professors in their areas of specialization, presentation of the results of research, publications and the development of further progressive skills through workshops, learning of source- languages and hermeneutic and analytic intellectual pursuits. Participation in the doctoral program is a *sine qua non* for obtaining the Doctor's Degree in theology. The work can be done in the form of courses, seminars or paper of specialization determined by the concerned departments.

## **ARTICLE 8: Progress Reports**

**§1.** The first progress report takes place at the latest one year after the start of the doctoral period and consists of an oral or written presentation on the research undertaken or still to be done. The results determine whether the doctoral programme and the preparation for the thesis can be continued or not. The evaluation takes place on the basis of two criteria: (1) the progress made in



the doctoral research, and (2) the advances made in academic ability and research maturity by the PhD researcher.

**§2.** Subsequently, the PhD researcher reports on an annual basis on the progress of the doctoral research.

**§3.** Every progress report is validated by the supervisor and any co-supervisors, and assessed by the other members of the supervisory committee. The result is substantiated and recorded in writing and sent to the PhD researcher and the doctoral committee.

**§4.** Each year, before the date indicated on the calendar of the Institute, the PhD researchers submit to the supervisory committee a progress report (on the standard form) signed by the PhD researcher and the supervisor. The progress report of the first, the third, and subsequent years will be sent to the supervisory committee for evaluation and approval. On the dates indicated on the faculty calendar, the members of the supervisory committee discuss the progress of each PhD researcher and report their recommendations to the chair of the doctoral committee.

01. If the supervisor, the supervisory committee, or the doctoral committee find that the research work has made insufficient progress, the doctoral committee holds an evaluation of the relevant doctoral project. The chair of the committee invites the supervisor(s) (and, if necessary, co-supervisor(s)) and the members of the supervisory committee to take part in the discussion. The doctoral committee can decide not to renew the permission to register for the doctoral programme.
02. The doctoral committee can also conclude that the progress report is missing. In that case, the PhD researcher is given two weeks to remedy the situation. After two weeks the chair of the doctoral committee verifies if the PhD researcher concerned has rectified the situation. If this is not the case, permission to re-register cannot be given.

**§5.** Two years after starting a doctorate an officially organized evaluation of the progress of the research must take place. This evaluation is undertaken by the members of the supervisory committee. As a rule, for the second year evaluation, the PhD researchers must also submit a chapter of their doctoral dissertation for assessment by the supervisory committee. A meeting takes place with the PhD researchers and their supervisory committees on the date indicated in the faculty calendar. During this meeting the PhD researchers give a short explanation regarding their research and the members of the supervisory committee have the opportunity to ask the PhD researchers questions about the chapters submitted and the general progress of their work. After having heard the PhD researchers, the committee members deliberate and come to one of the following evaluations: good, sufficient with certain recommendations, or inadequate. In the case of “inadequate”, the doctoral committee is to hold an interim evaluation of the relevant doctoral project. The chair of the doctoral committee invites the supervisor(s) (and, if necessary, co-supervisor(s)) and the other members of the supervisory committee to take part in the discussion. The doctoral committee can decide not to renew the permission to register for the doctoral program

## ARTICLE 9: Doctoral Program

§1. The doctoral programme is obligatory and must be successfully completed before the PhD researcher is permitted to submit the thesis and defend it publicly.

§2. The doctoral programme consists of a *truncus communis* (see art. 15) and a supplementary part (see art. 16). The PhD researcher can only complete the doctoral programme if all the elements of the Common Mandatories (*truncus communis*) are completed. The doctoral committee can on an individual basis grant a (partial) exemption of the doctoral programme or set a substitute assignment, on the basis of a motivated application by the PhD researcher and in consultation with the supervisor. If the doctoral research is multi- and/or interdisciplinary, the doctoral committee can give permission for elements of the *truncus communis* (see ARTICLE 9) to be replaced by course components from another doctoral programme, on the basis of a motivated application by the PhD researcher in consultation with the supervisor.

§3. The PhD researcher reports to the doctoral committee on the progress made within his/her doctoral programme. On the basis of this report, the doctoral committee will decide whether the PhD researcher has completed the doctoral programme.

## ARTICLE 10: Content of the *truncus communis*

§1. The *truncus communis* consists of at least the following elements:

01. The writing of at least one scientific publication at an international level or a similar achievement at an international level. By a publication at international level is meant: a peer-reviewed contribution (journal article, contribution to a book, conference proceedings, patent, design) about his/her own research and written in the language of the discipline. The contribution is aimed at an international audience. In order to be able to successfully complete the doctoral programme, the contribution must be published or be accepted for publication,
02. Giving at least two seminars, either about his/her own research, or on a more general theme,
03. Giving at least one oral or poster presentation at an international scientific conference,
04. following at least one seminar series or course component specifically organised for PhD researchers,
05. The course component ‘Scientific Integrity for starting PhD’ is mandatory for PhD researchers during the first year of the doctoral programme.
06. Reporting on the progress of the doctoral research as specified in ARTICLE 7.

§2. The executive committees can add more specific provisions or additional components to the *truncus communis* in their Particulars:

01. (a) PhD researchers attend, during their programme, the compulsory info and formation sessions organized by the doctoral committee for all students. Those unable to attend are expected to inform the chair of the doctoral committee.
02. (b) Research courses, courses and seminars on the doctoral level with evaluation (max. four)

**§3.** Doctor in Theology: each year each specialization/major organizes one research course for the doctoral programme. In the first and second year of his/her doctoral programme, the PhD researcher is obliged to successfully follow the research course organized for his/her specialization/major. If he/she has already followed this course, he/she can propose to the secretary of the doctoral committee to replace that course by a research course taken from the Research Master of Advanced Studies in Theology and Religion\* to meet this obligation. A PhD researcher who is immediately admitted to the doctoral programme must follow, in addition to the two research courses organised by his/her specialization/major, two supplementary courses from the Research Master of Advanced Studies in Theology and Religion (proposal to be submitted to the secretary of the doctoral committee). All (research) courses have to be successfully followed (including examinations) before they can be counted towards the completion of the doctoral programme. Exceptions to this rule can only be granted by the doctoral committee. Requests for any exception(s) must be submitted to the secretary of the doctoral committee before October 5.

**§4.** The PhD researcher can, in connection with his/her own research project, include a maximum of two other research courses or advanced language courses from the Research Master in Advanced Studies in Theology and Religion in his/her programme. Doctoral level courses/seminars from other programmes and universities can also be included in the programme. The doctoral committee decides if the aforementioned courses/seminars meet the required doctoral level and must give permission for inclusion of these into the doctoral programme.

**§5.** PhD researchers admitted to the doctoral programme become full members of the research unit that has accepted their research project (Judeo-Christian Scripture Studies, Systematic Theology and Study of Religions, Theological and Comparative Ethics, History of Church and Theology, or Pastoral and Empirical Theology). As members of a research unit, candidates participate in the meetings to which they are invited. Those unable to attend are expected to inform the coordinator of the research unit. They are also expected to participate in the conferences and lectures organized by their own research unit and to report on their participations in the yearly progress report.

## **ARTICLE 11: Thesis**

The thesis is an exam piece that must allow the examination committee to assess the quality of the doctoral research.

**§1** The regulations with regard to PhD thesis copyright must be respected. The regulations on intellectual property rights on research results including copyright applies, and non-salaried PhD researchers must sign a written agreement at the beginning of their doctoral research as specified in this regulation if the results of the doctoral research have to be protected.

### **§2 Language and form of the dissertation**

01. PhD researchers enrolled for the doctoral programme can write their dissertation in English, Malayalam or other Indian Languages. The doctoral committee can give permission for the dissertation to be written in other foreign languages.

02. The length of the dissertation must be appropriate to the topic that it treats. As a rule, topics must be selected in such a way that they can be treated in a scholarly way in no more than 175,000 words (including footnotes). Well-motivated exceptions, when supported by the research unit, can be approved by the doctoral committee.

**§3.** It is also permitted to defend a doctorate on the basis of a series of articles accepted and/or published in International journals. In this case, one must however make sure that there is a thematic unity, made explicit in an extensive introduction and/or conclusion, and that the length complies with the general expectations for a doctoral dissertation.

**§4.** The Dissertation should be typed in white paper of good quality and sufficient opacity. All sheets of paper used should be of the same quality. Manifold paper should not be used. An “A4” size paper should be used for dissertation. The text of the dissertation should be typed with 1.5” line spacing, except in the case where quotations are given in indent. A space of 1.5” on the left margin and a space of 1” on the right margin should be kept. A space of 1” should be kept on the top and the bottom of the page. Dissertation should be typed only on one side of the paper. The cover page shall have the format approved by the Institute. The detailed description of the methodology to be used in doctoral dissertation is available in the handbook *Methodological Guidelines for Doctoral Dissertations* published by the Alpha Institute and made available on our website (alphathalassery.org). A dissertation, which is submitted without following the prescribed requirements, will not be accepted.

## **ARTICLE 12: Submission of the Doctoral Dissertation**

**§1.** PhD researchers who fulfil the following requirements may submit the manuscript of their doctoral dissertation:

01. A. Doctor in Theology: They have been holders of the academic degree of Research Master of Advanced Studies in Theology and Religion for at least two years, or were granted direct admission by the faculty to the doctoral programme.
02. Those who have successfully completed the prescribed doctoral programme of the faculty.
03. Those who have submitted their publications by means of verifying the copy rights..

**§2.** A hard copy of the unbound manuscript of the dissertation is to be submitted to the research secretariat; moreover, an electronic copy is submitted to the research secretariat for the systematic monitoring of plagiarism. Every dissertation is screened for plagiarism with the help of a plagiarism control system.

**§3.** Within two weeks after the submission of the dissertation, the PhD researcher submits, with the approval of his/her supervisor, a summary of (maximum) 500 words at the research secretariat. The summary will present the research in a clear and easily accessible manner. In addition to the summary the PhD researcher will submit a maximum of three main theses in which the main results of the doctoral research are summarized. In addition, one or (maximum) two theses are to be added that demonstrate the significance of the dissertation for theology/religious studies as a whole, for domains outside of the area of specialization of the dissertation, for other sciences, or for the church and/or society. All theses together are not to exceed 200 words. The administrative secretary will, after verification of the make-up and the size of these texts, immediately distribute these to the members of the examination committee.

**§4.** Report of the Reading Committee: A copy of the unbound manuscript of the dissertation accompanied by a letter from the Dean and/or Vice-Dean for Research with the submission date for the reading report is sent to the members of the examination committee.

01. The administrative secretary sends a message to the members of the examination committee with a series of proposed dates for the meeting of the examination committee and – on the condition of ‘*placet*’ – possible dates for the defence.
02. Within six weeks after the constitution of the examination committee, vacation periods excluded, the members of the examination committee submit a written evaluation of the dissertation and the theses to the research secretariat for the attention of the chair of the examination committee. For this they use the guidelines provided to them by the research secretariat. Vacation times include Christmas vacation and the period from the conclusion of the second ordinary examination period to the beginning of the third ordinary examination period. If due to exceptional circumstances, the need arises to deviate from this procedure, a request for an exception to the rule has to be submitted to the doctoral committee, which will reach a decision on the matter.
03. The members of the examination committee each, independently of one another, write a report according to the faculty guidelines and explicitly mention a motivated final assessment (*placet*, *placet iuxta modum* or *non placet nisi corrigatur*). All members of the examination committee are expected to electronically submit their evaluation report on the dissertation, before the stated deadline, to the research secretariat for the attention of the chair of the examination committee. After all reports have been received, these are sent electronically by the research secretariat to all members of the examination committee including the chair.

## **ARTICLE 13: Evaluation by the Examination Committee**

**§1.** The members of the committee first briefly discuss their evaluation reports. Then the PhD researcher is invited to join the committee. The committee members present their questions and objections to him/her, and the candidate is given the opportunity to respond. After this, the committee deliberates, without the presence of the PhD researcher, on the evaluation. *Placet* means that the dissertation is accepted for defence. *Placet iuxta modum* means that the dissertation is, in principle, accepted for the defence, but a number of corrections must first be made. *Non placet nisi corrigatur* means that the dissertation will only be accepted for defence on the condition that the PhD researcher thoroughly revises the dissertation according to the requirements set out in writing by the examination committee.

**§2.** Whenever it is deemed appropriate, the chair will consult the members of the committee on the desirability of the (form of the) manuscript’s publication. Then the chair will examine whether or not the results of the research can be made available for research-PR and scientific communication. When the latter is the case, the research secretariat will take all steps deemed appropriate, in consultation with the student and the supervisor.

**§3.** The examination committee’s evaluation of the dissertation is communicated in the following way:

01. *Placet*: In the case of a *placet*, the chair of the committee receives the PhD researcher, together with the supervisor(s) at the end of the predefense, and reports on the decision of the examination committee. The supervisor(s) provide(s) the candidate, within three days, with a summary report explaining the committee's decision. The candidate is free to follow suggestions made by the examination committee before submitting the bound copies of the dissertation.
02. *Placet iuxta modum*: In case of *placet iuxta modum*, the supervisor(s) provide(s) the candidate, within three days, with a written summary report explaining the decision and summarizing the required modifications. When the candidate is of the opinion that the revised dissertation meets the stated requirements, he/she resubmits, with the written agreement of the supervisor(s) (and, if necessary, the co-supervisor(s)), within a maximum period of three weeks, the revised part/parts of the dissertation to the chair of the examination committee, who then presents it to the examination committee. A new meeting of the examination committee is only required if one or more members reports a (new) problem regarding the revised text. As a rule, the members of the examination committee may express their opinion on the acceptability of the revised part/parts of the dissertation via e-mail. They must do so before the deadline determined during the initial meeting of the examination committee.
03. *Non placet nisi corrigatur*: In the event of an evaluation of *non placet nisi corrigatur*, the following procedure is to be followed. Immediately after the examination committee has concluded its deliberations, the chair of the examination committee informs the PhD researcher of this decision. Within a week, the supervisor and correctors provide the PhD researcher with a joint written report in which the readers' evaluation is thoroughly explained and which presents the requirements for the revision of the dissertation. On the basis of this report, the PhD researcher reworks the dissertation during a period of maximum six months.
04. When the PhD researcher is of the opinion that the revised dissertation meets the stated requirements, he/she may, with the written agreement of the supervisor(s) (and, if necessary, the co-supervisor(s)), resubmit the dissertation and the revised summary and list of annexed theses to the chair of the examination committee, who then presents it to the members of the examination committee. As a rule, the committee meets again after a maximum of six weeks to deliver a definitive evaluation on the acceptability of the work. All members are expected to electronically submit, within the predetermined time, a supplementary report with a motivated final evaluation to the research secretariat for the attention of the chair of the examination committee. The final evaluation can only be *placet* (accepted) or *non placet* (not accepted).

**§4.** In the case of a *placet*, the chair of the examination committee will immediately inform the PhD researcher of this decision. In the case of a *non placet*, the non-acceptance of the dissertation is explained to the PhD researcher by the chair and the members of the examination committee.

## **ARTICLE 14: Public Defense**

**§1.** Between the examination committee and the public defence, there is a period of maximum six weeks. The PhD researcher finalises the text of the dissertation, has it bound, and delivers six

bound (book format, recto verso) copies (in case of a co-supervisor, seven copies) of the dissertation at the research secretariat. Each of the bound copies contains at the front a signed original Declaration of Originality/Plagiarism Declaration. At the same time he/she electronically submits a summary and his/her list of theses to the research secretariat. He/she uploads a PDF-file of the final version (via ALPHA INSTITUTE), after he/she has enrolled for the doctoral defense at the ALPHA INSTITUTE student administration. The proof of submission of the dissertation, both printed and electronic, serves as the official admission to the public defense.

**§2.** As a rule, the supervisor(s) (and, if applicable, the co-supervisor(s)) and the correctors receive a definitive bound copy of the dissertation ten days before the defence. Before this date, the dissertation must also be electronically archived via ALPHA INSTITUTE. The candidate discusses the mode of accessibility of the doctoral dissertation in Lirias with his/her supervisor.

**§3.** The supervisor(s) (and, if applicable, the co-supervisor(s)) and the correctors are to submit their individual evaluation of the submitted dissertation in writing to the research secretariat for the attention of the chair of the examination committee, at the latest two working days before the defense. This evaluation applies to the work in its definitive form and is expressed in the form of a mark out of a total of twenty points.

**§4.** As a rule, the public defense of the dissertation and the annexed theses takes place in the University's Promotion Hall or the faculty's conference room within six weeks after the placet has been granted by the examination committee. Defenses can take place from the beginning of the third examination period up to and including the day of the proclamation of the second ordinary examination period.

**§5.** The public defense proceeds as follows:

01. First, the candidate gives, in a fifteen minute presentation, the main research results. The supervisor then presents a fifteen minute evaluation and laudatio. In the event that there is a co-supervisor, he/she may arrange with the supervisor to offer an evaluation of the dissertation within the time allotted to the supervisor(s). The three correctors are each allotted about fifteen minutes for discussion with the candidate.
02. A brief summary of the dissertation together with the theses is made available to the public.
03. After the defense, the examination committee adjourns for deliberation. The examination Committee determines a mutually-agreed-upon mark. This mark is given based on the dissertation in its definitive form and the defense. The sum of this mutually-agreed-upon mark and the individual evaluations of the supervisor(s) (and, if necessary, the co-supervisor(s)) and the correctors expresses the final result. This result is expressed as a percentage. No grade is awarded.
04. Doctor in Theology: The chair of the examination committee announces the promotion to Doctor in Theology (Ph.D.).
05. Within one month after the promotion, the newly promoted Doctor receives a letter with the percentage obtained, pending the finalisation of the official documents associated with the official degree of Doctor.

§5. The examination committee deliberates immediately after the public session and decides whether or not the PhD can be awarded the degree of doctor. A report is drafted and signed by all members of the examination committee present. The result is announced in public immediately after the deliberation.

## **Article 15: Appeal procedure**

§1. According to the procedure below an appeal is possible against the following decisions of the doctoral committee and the examination committee (Higher Education Codex Art.I.3 69°):

01. the discontinuation of the doctoral programme,
02. the discontinuation of the preparation of the thesis,
03. the final result of the public defence.

§2. A PhD researcher who judges that a decision as mentioned above has breached his/her rights, can launch an internal appeal with the Vice Rector for Student Affairs. The PhD researcher is informed of this possibility. If the Vice Rector for Student Affairs is an interested party, he/she is replaced by the Vice Rector for Research Policy.

§3. The PhD researcher must submit the appeal by e-mail within five calendar days from the day after which the decision of the doctoral committee or the examination committee was made known. In his/her complaint the PhD researcher includes at least a factual description of the invoked objections.

§4. The Executive Director for Student Affairs hears all parties in question and in each case the PhD researcher. The internal appeal procedure results in:

01. The motivated rejection of the appeal on grounds of unacceptability or unsubstantiated claims. This decision is brought to the attention of the PhD researcher by e-mail within fifteen calendar days from the day after which the internal appeal was launched.
02. A new decision by the Vice Rector for Student Affairs. The Vice Rector together with the Research coordinator of the group in question or the ZAP member appointed by him/her tries to find a solution. If no consensus can be reached, the Vice Rector takes an autonomous decision. The new decision must be taken within fifteen calendar days, starting from the day after the internal appeal was launched with the Vice Rector for Student Affairs and is also made known to the PhD researcher within this period. The e-mail address which the PhD researcher used to submit his/her appeal is used for this purpose.
03. The internal appeal body can inform the PhD researcher within the time available to them that it will make a pronouncement at a later date. In that case the term for external appeal only starts the day after that date.

In the event of disputes between the PhD researcher and the ALPHA INSTITUTE apart from the Appeals *Council for Study Progress Decisions*, only the Indian courts have jurisdiction.



## **ARTICLE 16: Marks and Grading System**

§1. The grade is determined taking into consideration the aggregate of the marks obtained from the Seminars, Courses, and the Dissertation in the following proportions:

Research Papers, Seminars and other courses:	20%
Written Dissertation:	60%
Public Defense:	20%

§2. Grading of the Doctoral Degree will be as follows:

40%	=	Pass Mark
41%-59%	=	Third Class
60%-69%	=	Second Class
70%-79%	=	First Class
80% and above	=	Distinction

## **ARTICLE 17: Availability of Internal / External Research Supervisors**

§1. Together with the existing faculty of Alpha Institute of Theology and Science, we will get guidance with eminent scholars like Professor Dr. M.G.S. Narayanan, (Ancient History, formerly Chairman of ICHR and Head of the Department of History, Calicut University) Professor Dr. K.S.Mathew (Indo-Portuguese History, formerly head of the departments of History in the Central Universities of Hyderabad and Pondicherry and member of ICHR) Dr.M.J.Mani (Malayalam, formerly principal of Nirmalagiri College,) Dr. Joy Varkey French History, selection grade lecturer , NAM College, Kallikkandy ), Dr. Marykutty Alex (English, Nirmalagiri College), Dr. T.K. Sebastian (Economics), Dr.Ousephachan,(English) Dr. Gracy(English, Nirmalagiri College) ,Dr N.J. Saleena (Economics, Nirmalagiri College,) Dr. T.K. Sebastian (Economics, Nirmalagiri College) and Dr. Jose Lazar(Political science, Principal Nirmalagiri College).

<i>Name of the Person and Designation</i>	<i>Qualifications and Specializations</i>	<i>Teaching Experience (UG &amp; PG)</i>	<i>Area of Research</i>	<i>Research Publications</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Dr. Joseph Pamplany	Ph. D in Christian Studies	9	Judeo-Christian Literature	19 books & 15 papers	KU Leuven, Belgium
Dr. Sajumon Mathew	Ph. D Christian Studies	8	Christian Dogmatics	2 books and 5 papers	Urban Rome
Dr. Augustine Thomas	Ph. D in Philosophy of Science	6	Science and Religion	12 Books 30 Articles	Bombay University
Dr. Antony Tharekadavil	Ph. D in Sacred Scripture	7	Bible and Theology	3 Books 12 Articles	PIB Jerusalem
Dr. George Kudilil	Ph. D in Sacred Scripture	15	Bible and Theology	5 Books 15Articles	Gregorianum Rome
Dr. Thomas Padiyath	Ph. D in Philosophy	6	Indian and Modern PhilosoHy	2 Books and 10 Articles	KU Leuven, Belgium
Dr. Alex Tharamangalam	Ph. D in Philosophy	15	Modern Philosophy	5 Books 13 Articles	Rome
Dr. Tomy Kakkattuthadathil	Ph. D in Philosophy	16	Philosophy	6 Books 12 Articles	KU Leuven
Dr. Shaji Mathew Mundaplackal	Ph. D Medical Ethics	7	Moral Theology	2 books and 5 papers	KU Leuven
Dr. Vincent Kundukulam	Ph. D in Comparative Religion	12	Theology of Religions and Religious Harmony	7 Books 21 Articles	Paris University

**§2. Faculty of the Alpha Institute of Theology and Science:** The following members constitute the faculty/counselors of the centre of Theology and Science:

**History of the Evolution of Christian Theology**

Dr. Joseph Pamplaniyil (PhD, Leuen Unniversity, Belgium)

Dr. Thomas Kochukarottu (PhD, Urban University, Rome)

Dr. Thomas Melvettom, (PhD, Rome)  
George Puthumana (MPhil, Paris)  
Dr. Thomas Neendoor (PhD, Kottayam)

### **Ethics and Ethos**

Dr. Shaji Mathew Mundaplackal (PhD, Leuven)  
Dr. Joseph Pathiyottil (PhD, Rome)  
Dr. Thomas Kozhimala (PhD, Leuven)  
Dr. Thomas Chittilapilly (PhD, Rome)  
Dr. Jose Poovannikkunnel (PhD, Kottayam)  
Dr. Poovathanikkunnel (PhD, Leuven)  
Dr. Mathai Kadavil OIC (PhD, Leuven)  
Dr. James Thoppil (PhD, Rome)

### **Canon Law**

Dr. Santy Joseph Urumpukattil (PhD, Rome)  
Dr. Joseph Varanath (PhD, Rome)  
Sajan Thomas Thengumpally (Mphil, Bangalore)  
Benny Thomas Mundanattu (Mphil, Bangalore)  
Dr. Sr. Siby CMC (PhD, Rome)

### **Ancient Judeo Christian Literature**

Dr. Joseph Pamplaniyil (PhD, Leuven)  
Dr. Jacob Chanikkuzhy (PhD, Leuven)  
Dr. Antony Tharekkadavil, (PhD, Jerusalem)  
Dr. Michael Karimattom, (PhD, Rome)  
Dr. George Kudilil (PhD, Rome)  
Dr. Sr. Mary Panthappilly SH (PhD, Kottayam)  
Dr. Sr. Tessy SH (PhD, Bangalore)

### **Sociology and Social Work**

Mani Melvettam (MSW)  
Joseph Poovatholil (MSW)  
Mathew Pottemplackal (MA)  
Dr. Joseph Karinattu (PhD, Innsbruck)  
Dr. Kuriakose Alavely (PhD, Rome)  
Sebastian Palakkuzhy (Mphil, Pune)  
James Chellamkottu (MSW)

**History**

Dr. Thomas Kuzhuppil (PhD, Rome)  
 Dr. Jose Vettickal (PhD, Rome)  
 Martin Parappalliath MA (Research Scholar)  
 Dr. George Kanjirakkattu (PhD, Oriental Institute, Rome)

**Philosophy**

Dr. Thomas Pattamana (PhD, Angelicum University Rome)  
 Dr. Augustine Pamplany (PhD)  
 Dr. Thomas Padiyath (PhD (Leuven)  
 Dr. Alex Tharamangalam (PhD Gregorian University Rome)

**Psychology**

Dr. Sr. Treesa Palackal (PhD)  
 Dr. Joseph Karinattu, (PhD, Innsbruck)

**ARTICLE 18: The Major Areas of Research**

§1. The following are the major areas of research included in the doctoral programme of the Alpha Institute of Theology and Science.

01. Judeo-Christian Literature: *The Old Testament in the Hellenistic and Roman Period*: Various Books of the Hebrew Bible, Biblical Hebrew Poetry, Wisdom literature, The Jewish Torah, Jewish Exegesis, Hebrew Bible and Ethical Questions - Women's Studies; Exegesis - Bible and Human Sexuality; Bible and Gender Issues; Synchronic exegesis - Hebrew Bible and Literature - Contemporary Approaches to the Hebrew Bible.
02. The Inter-Testamental Period, Literatures of the Jewish Second Temple Period, Apocryphal Writing
03. New Testament Greek literature, Historical-Critical and literary analysis of the Various books of the New Testament, Hellenistic and Roman Back ground of the New Testament Book, Biblical Archaeology, History of Palestine.
04. Quest for Historical Jesus, Historicity of the Gospels, New Testament Concepts of Church and Priesthood.
05. Pauline Literature, Literary Genre of epistle, Salient features of Pauline Literature
06. The Apocalyptic literature and the Book of Revelation
07. Bible and Bhagavat Gita, Bible and Gitanjali, Bible and Modern Literature, Bible and Art.

08. Fundamental theology, with special attention to theological epistemology and hermeneutics (including negative theology, religious discourse, God-talk), and to the relations between philosophy and theology, between theology and postmodernity, between theology and tradition, Theo-logy (creation, salvation, grace, sin, theodicy, eschatology)
09. Theology of Religions: omparative (religious) ethics (e.g. a cross-cultural definition of morality; relationship religion/ethics in a particular culture), contemporary religious Pluralism in India , defining religion (cross-culturally), Emergence of new religious movements & sects (e.g. Pentecostalism & Revivalism in the Caribbean, Jehova's Witnesses), Theological understanding of dying, death and afterlife in various religions and cultures, life rituals in world religions, (bio-)ethical issues in world religions - euthanasia, palliative care: ethical, religious & cultural aspects (e.g. history of the concept and practice of euthanasia in Europe; religious attitudes toward end-of-life issues, history of palliative care in India.
10. Judeo-Christian Ethics: undamental theological ethics, theological anthropology, theology and aesthetics, political theology, liturgy and ethics, spirituality and ethics
11. Indian Christian Theology: Exploring the works of the Major Indian Christian Theologians: Brhama Bandav Upadyay, Amaldoss, Sebastian Kappen, Reimundo Panikkar, Leslie Newbigin et al.
12. Ecclessiology: Ecumenism, Philosophy of Religion and Theology in the Period of Modernity,
13. The Dialectical Relationship between the Quest for the Historical Jesus and Christology.
14. Theology and culture, Theology and philosophy, Theology and postmodernity, Hermeneutics and truth, , Christian faith and politics, science and religion, Christianity and psychoanalysis, history of the Western concept of God
15. History of theology and Christianity: Renaissance & Humanism, Reformation history, Council of Trent and Catholic Reformation, History of Theology in the early modern period, History of the theological Faculty in the sixteenth century, Theology and romanticism, Speculative theology , The Bible in the fifteenth and the sixteenth century , Reception of Augustine in the early modern era, History of the Catholic missions, particularly in India
16. Indian Church History: Arrival of St. Thomas, Commercial Contact between India and Palestine, Contact between the Indian Church and Persian Church, Arrival of Knai Thoma, Dymper Council, Koonan Cross Oath, Padruado-Propaganda Regime in Indian Church, Various non-Catholic Churches in India.
17. Sacramental Theology: General sacramental theology, The Eucharist, Symbol theories in Sacramentology, Christian initiation Rites,
18. Midieval Schools of Theology: Thomistic Theology, Various branches of Scholastic theology
19. Liturgical studies:, Liturgical theology, Evolution of Various Anaphoras: Anthiochian, Alexandrian, Byzantine, Roman etc.
20. Various Schools in Theology: Anthiochian, Alexandrian, Byzantine, Tubingen , Scandinavian, Leuven

21. Liberation Theology: Liberation Theologies, Theologies of Encounter, Globalisation, Theological Writings of Gustavo Gutierrez, John Segundo, John Sobrino, Leonardo Boff *et al.*
22. Patristic Theology: Studies on the Writings of Early Church Fathers, St. Syprian, St. Augustine, Tertullian, Orige, St. Jerome, St. Iraneus *et al.*
23. Research on the Works of the Great pillars of Modern Theology: Karl Rahner, Balthasar, Edward Schillebeeckx, Hans Kung, Joseph Ratzinger, Avery Dulles, Yves Congar *et al.*

## **ARTICLE 19: The Library Facilities**

### **§1. Alpha Central Library at Thalassery**

The Students can make use of the library facilities available at Alpha research centre. An extensive collection of books on various branches of Theology is available at the central library of Alpha research centre.

### **§2. Collaborating Libraries**

Besides the library facilities available at the Alpha Centre, the research scholars of the Alpha centre have access to the following nationally reputed libraries of the various theological centres all over India.

01. **St. Joseph's Pontifical Library, Alwaye** - More than 80000 Books in Christian Theology and Jewish Christian literature.
02. **St. Thomas Paurasthya Vidhyapeedam Library, Kottayam** – More than 70000 Books in various branches of Christian Theology.
03. **Good Shepherd Major Seminary Library, Kunnoth, Kannur** – More than 30000 books on various branches of Christian Theology.
04. **Jnanadeepa Vidya Pidam, Pune** - More than 100000 Books on various branches of Christian Theology in English, French, German, Italian Languages
05. **Dharmaram Vidykshetra Library** - More than 100000 Books on various branches of Christian Theology in English, French, German, Italian Languages.

## **ARTICLE 20: Seminars and Conferences of the Academic Year 2014-2015**

Alpha Institute is organizing various seminars, colloquia, symposia etc. on regional, national, and international level. The doctoral students can make use of these events as part of their doctoral programme. They are also provided with opportunities to present scientific papers in these events. The following events were arranged by the Institute in the last academic year.

01. 'Regional Seminar on the Development of Malabar and the Christian Contribution' was held at Tellichery August 1-3, 2014 in connection with the centenary celebration of Mar Sebastian Valloppilly, the architect of Malabar.
02. 'National Seminar on the Emerging Challenges of Religious Life and Its Impact in the Indian Context' was held at Kunnoth, Sept 24-25 in Collaboration with the Good Shepherd Major Seminary.
03. International Seminar on the "Challenges of Modern Family Life" held at Bangalore, from July 7 to 10, 2014.
04. Regional seminars on the Socio-Political Impact of the Proposals made by Law reform Committee headed by Justice V. R. Krishna Iyer', was held at 15 centres of Kannur and Kasargode districts during the 5-20 Sept.2011.
05. International Seminar on the "Challenges of Announcing the Unicity and Universality of Christ and the Church in the Pluri-Religious Context of India" to be held at Bangalore, from July 8 to 10, 2015.
06. Regional Conventions on the Emerging Ethical Challenges in Family Life in Collaboration with Family Apostolate of the Arch Diocese of Tellicherry.
07. Regional Conventions on the Christian Contribution to Nation Building
08. Regional Conventions on the Life Based on Biblical Morality
09. Regional Conventions on "the dangers of religious fanaticism."

## **ARTICLE 21: Interested and Eligible Candidates for the Proposed Research Programme in Theology**

The Following applicants are eligible for the doctoral programme, according to the criteria suggested in our proposal.

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone No</b>	<b>E-mail ID</b>
1	Dr. Joy_ Franacis	0482 2210319	pjbinvital@gmail.com
2	Kishor P.T	9387405733	<a href="mailto:kishorpt@gmail.com">kishorpt@gmail.com</a>
3	Jasmine Mathew	9747963112	Rosejesmi252@gmail.com
4	Sebastian Mathew	9446801483	Sebastianum2011@gmail.com
5	K.D Sebastian	9446859395	
6	Sr.Kusumam CMC	0484 2624270	<a href="mailto:kusumamkuriyakose@gmail.com">kusumamkuriyakose@gmail.com</a>
7	Indu M.J	0480 2735008	indumjoseph@gmail.com
8	Alice Kurian	9605271315	<a href="mailto:Alicekurian9@gmail.com">Alicekurian9@gmail.com</a>
9	Jacob C.O	0484 2312571	<a href="mailto:cojacob138@gmail.com">cojacob138@gmail.com</a>
10	M.A Joseph	04822281102	<a href="mailto:josephtheekoy@gmail.com">josephtheekoy@gmail.com</a>
11	V.K Alias	0485 2823858	
12	Joseph Mathew	0487 2373850	josephm@kvasu.ac.in
13	M.A Salomi	9497800685	
14	Rosakutty E	0478 2583188	

15	T.K Jose	9447665769	joskthattil@yahoo.co.in
16	Abraham K Koshy	0491 2832697	<a href="mailto:Graci.koshi@gmail.com">Graci.koshi@gmail.com</a>
17	Suja M	9497757223	bijujoseph@gmail.com
18	M.D Davi	0480 2741196	davimanjookaran@gmail.com
19	Aji. S	0479 2473931	alexmuthukulam@gmail.com
20	E.J Jose	9400516409	
21	Antony Thommen	0484 2216702	antonythomman2003@yahoo.com
22	Dr. Alphonsa George	04822 272086	dralphonsageorge@gmail.com
23	Lt.Col.K.J George	04822 272086	lt.col.georgeedathil@gmail.com
24	P.P Cyriac	0484 2700860	<a href="mailto:cyriacpurakkat@gmail.com">cyriacpurakkat@gmail.com</a>
25	Barbara chacko	04829 236381	
26	Augustine K. Chalil	9895429068	<a href="mailto:augehalile@gmail.com">augehalile@gmail.com</a>
27	Sr. Hassina S.H	04862 200304	shhpaynkulam@gmail.com
28	Aleyamma George	080 23683716	
29	Navy George	04822 280008	
30	Lissy Kuriachean	0480 2788763	
31	T.K.Reji	07891182046	
32	Sampreeth John Kuriachen	0480 2788763	mksampreethjohn@gmail.com
33	P.R Antony	0487 2252037	antonypalakkare@gmail.com
34	Fr. George	09415216265	
35	Mathew Kurian	9142771983	
36	Roshni Kurian	9447763514	roshnikurieni@gmail.com
37	Mathukutty.M	9446637064	
38	M.C. Varghese	9846284613	
39	Thomas V Mathew	04822-260355	
40	Sr. Jancy Edasseril S.H	9645125310	srjancysh@gmail.com
41	Jose Kachappilly	0484 2497026,	
42	Tessy Robert	9895350457	tessyrobot@gmail.com
43	Lovely Shaju	9961630525	lovelymathew8379@gmail.com
44	Dr.Molu Varghese	8547256359	drmolvarghese@gmail.com
45	Klarah. M.T (Sr. Clereesa)	0487 2279506	clereesam@gmail.com
46	C.L.Jose	0484 2349893	josecherumkal@gmail.com
47	Varied K.L	9495068335	vareethkallikkadav@gmail.com
48	Maggie Babu	9446628188	maggiebaboo@gmail.com
49	Jescy T Raphael (Sr. Jeslin Rose)	9249676566	srjeslin@yahoo.com
50	Dr. Benny Augustine	9447440654	drmamplam@gmail.com
51	Sr. M. Veronica	0484 2494208	
52	Cecily C.J	9446474875	



## **Appendix 1: Brief CV of Dr. Joseph Pamplany**

### **Current position held and address:**

Director, Alpha Centre of Theology and Science  
Thalassery , Kannur. 670701.

### **Address for correspondence.**

Sandesha Bhavan, Hollow Way Road,  
Thalassery , 670 101, Kannur, Kerala  
Tel. 9495335872. [jpamplany@gmail.com](mailto:jpamplany@gmail.com)

### **Academic Achievements:**

M.A.(Religious Studies), Leuven University, Belgium (Distinction),2001  
M.Phil (Judeo-Christian Literature), Leuven University, Belgium  
(Distinction),2003.  
Ph.D.( Judeo-Christian Literature). Leuven University, Belgium, 2006.  
P.G. Diploma (2 years, German), Leuven University, Belgium2003.  
Delhi,1975  
P.G. Diploma (2 years, Hebrew). Leuven University, Belgium2004.  
P.G. Diploma (2 years, Greek). Leuven University, Belgium2003.

### **Professional and Administrative Experience.**

Assistant Lecturer cum Research Scholar in Sacred Scripture ,  
Leuven University, Belgium (2004 -2006).  
Lecture in Judeo Christian Studies, St. Joseph's Pont. Institute  
Always (2006 -)  
Associate Professor Good Shepherd Major Seminary, Kunnoth,  
Kannur (2006 -)  
Founder Director, Alpha Centre for Theology and Science (2006- )

### **Publications**

9 Books  
15 Research Articles in National and International Publications

### **Membership in Academic Editorial Bodies**

Chief Editor, *Alpha Bible Commentary: The First Exhaustive Bible  
Commentary in Malayalm in 8 Volumes*  
Editor, *Malabar Theological Journal*, Kunnoth, Kannur  
Chief Editor, *The Shepherd*, Homiletic Magazine of the Department of  
Bible Apostolate, Thalassery  
Chief Editor, Malabar Vision, Kannur  
Chief Editor, Religious Text Book Serial for Regular Schools

### **Research guide:**

St. Joseph's Pont. Institute Always  
Good Shepherd Major Seminary, Kunnoth, Kannur

### **Other Assignments:**

Convenor, Syro-Malabar Synodal Commission for Media  
Member, Doctrinal Commission of KCBC  
Member, Archeparchial Consultors Body, Thalassery

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## **Appendix 2: CV of Dr. Sajumon Mathew**

- Current position held and address:** Dean of Studies, Alpha Centre of Theology and Science  
Thalassery , Kannur. 670701.
- Address for correspondence.** Sandesha Bhnavan, Hollow Way Road,  
Thalassery , 670 101, Kannur, Kerala  
tele. 9495650747.  
[sajumonkochu@gmail.com](mailto:sajumonkochu@gmail.com), [tkochukarottu@hotmail.com](mailto:tkochukarottu@hotmail.com)
- Academic Achievements:** M.Phil(Dogmatic Theology), Holy Cross University, Rome,2003  
Ph.D.( Dogmatic Theology). Urban University, Rome, 2007.  
P.G. Diploma (1 year, German), St. Thomas Aquinas University,  
Rome.
- Professional and Administrative experience.**
- Associate Professor Alpha Institute of Theology and  
Science,Thalassery Kannur (2007 -)  
Dean of studies, Alpha Centre for Theology and Science (2007)  
7 books and 5 Research Articles in National and International  
Publications
- Membership in Academic Editorial Bodies**
- Managing Editor, *Alpha Bible Commentary*: The First  
Exhaustive Bible Commentary in Malayalm in 8 Volumes  
Managing Editor, *The Shepherd*, Homiletic Magazine of the  
Department of Bible Apostolate, Thalassery  
Managing Editor, Religious Text Book Serial for Regular  
Schools
- Paper Presentation :** Theological Formation of the Laity, in the American Seminars  
on Laity Formation held at Huston April 6-9, 2011; Chicago  
April 10-15, 2011; New York 18-22 April 2011.
- Other Assignments :** Convenor, Vigilance Committee, Archdiocese of Thalassery  
Director, AKCC Archdiocese of Thalassery  
Director, Pastoral Center Archdiocese of Thalassery
-

### **Appendix 3: CV of Dr. Antony Tharekadavil**

Title: Doctor in Biblical Sciences and Archeology (DSSA)  
Present Address: Dr. Antony Tharekadavil  
Good Shepherd Major Seminary  
Kunnoth, Kiliyanthara P.O.  
Kannur, Kerala, India 670 706  
Ph.: 0091 - 490 - 2494849

University: MA, LSS, DSS  
Studium Biblicum Franciscanum: Faculty of Biblical  
Sciences and Archaeology; Flagellation, Via Dolorosa 1,  
tel: 00972-2-6270485, 6270444; Fax 00972-2-6264519.

Title of the Ph D thesis: Monotheism Redemption and the Formation of Israel as the  
Servant of Yahweh: A Rhetorical Reading of Isaiah 40-53  
Defended on: 29 March 2007

Present Assignments: Professor of Old Testament and Biblical Languages in  
Good Shepherd Major Seminary Kunnoth, Kiliyanthara  
P.O., Kannur, Kerala, S. India.

Chief Editor, *Malabar Theological Review*, Kunnoth

Published seven Books and 10 Articles in National and  
International Journals

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## **Appendix4 : Professor Dr.K.S.Mathew**

**Current position held and address:** Hon. Director, Institute for Research in Social Sciences and Humanities. Affiliated to Kannur University and Indira Gandhi

National Open University, (IRISH) [www.irish-meshar.org](http://www.irish-meshar.org),  
Nirmalagiri , Kannur. 670701.

**Address for correspondence.** Kuzhippallil, Kurumulloor P.O, via Kanakkary,  
Kottayam Dt. 686632.  
tele. 9447087076 e mail. [ksmtry@hotmail.com](mailto:ksmtry@hotmail.com)

**Academic Achievements:**

M.A.(History), Poona University(first Class),1973  
M.Phil(History) J.NU. Delhi ,1975  
Ph.D.(Indo-Portuguese History). JNU. Delhi,1979  
P.G. Diploma (2 years, Portuguese) JNU. Delhi,1975  
P.G. Diploma (2 years, German).M.S.University, Baroda,1980

**Professional and Administrative experience.**

Lecturer in History, M.S.University of Baroda  
Reader in History, M. S. University of Baroda till 1984  
Professor & Head, Central University of Hyderabad 1984-86  
Professor and Founder Head, Pondicherry Central University  
(1986-2003)  
Founder Director, IRISH (2004- )

**Assignments abroad**

Visiting Fellow: Wisconsin University, Madison, USA one  
Semester  
Visiting Professor, Ottawa University (Two semesters),Canada  
Visiting Professor, Bordeaux University,France  
Visiting Professor, MSH, Paris

**Publications**

21 Books  
105 Research Articles in National and International Publications

**Awards**

Post doctoral Fellowships from Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon  
Post doctoral Fellowship from Oriental Foundation, Lisbon  
Post doctoral Fellowship, Full Bright, USA  
post doctoral Fellowship from ICHR  
National Fellowship for Eminent Professors, From UGC  
(two years)  
Emeritus Fellowship of UGC (2004-2006)  
Senior Research Fellowship, ICHR, 2007-2009)  
Senior Academic Fellowship, ICHR (2010 – 2012)

German Academic Exchange Programme with Heidelberg University Germany.

**Membership in Academic Bodies**

UGC Panel member of History and Archaeology (two terms of three years each)

Member of Indian Council of Historical Research, Ministry of Human Resources Development, Govt. of India (Three years)  
Associate Academic Fellow of Ministry of Marinha, Lisbon

**Successful guidance of Ph.D:**

19 Ph.D. theses (Degrees awarded)

**Research Projects completed :**

Sponsorship. ICHR, UGC, Indian National Science Academy:10

**Academic Visits abroad:**

Research {2 years for Ph.D and 1 year Postdoctoral) in Portugal, Germany, UK, Spain, Italy and Spain)  
Seminars. Belgium, Portugal, France, Germany, Norway, Hongkong, Australia, Holland, USA. Canada.

**Appendix 6: CV of Dr. Augustine Thomas**

**Name:**

Rev. Dr. Augustine Thomas Pamplaniyil

**Address:**

Little Flower Seminary, Aluva – 683 101, Kerala, INDIA

**Date of Birth:**

11.4.1972.

**Academic Profile:**

M.Ph. Jnanadeepa Vidyapeeth, Pune 1998

I Class (Pontifical Institute for Philosophy and Religion) (Dstn)

Research Topic: The Metaphysics of Quantum Physics

M.Sc. (Psychology) Madras University 2003 I Class

M.A. Erasmus Mundus Master in Bioethics

Katholieke Universiteit, Leuven Belgium; Radboud

University, Netherlanda; University of Padova, Italy.

Ph.D Open International University, Columbo. (Distinction)

(Ph.D in Philosophy)

Thesis: Eco-Vision of Reality: Towards a Scientific and Mystical Integration of God, World and the Human  
Unclassified

Ph.D Research Fellow: Dublin City University, Ireland  
(2010-), The Ethics of Geoengineering.

***Teaching Experience:***  
*Resident Lecturer (2000-)*

Institute of Philosophy and Religion, Little Flower Seminary, Aluva.

Subjects Taught: Science and Religion, Philosophy of Science, Indian Philosophy, Scientific Cosmology

*Guest Lecturer*

Palacky University, Olomos, Czech Republic, 2006-  
Dublin City University, Ireland, 2009-  
Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, India, 2008-  
Jnanadeepa Vidyapeeth (Pontifical University), Pune, 2000-  
St.Joseph's Pont. University, Aluva 2000-  
Paurastya Vidyapeetham, Kottayam 2003-  
Mary Matha Major Seminary, Thrissur 2000-

***Administrative Experience***

1. Dean of the Department of Philosophy 2000-2003, 2006-07, Little Flower Seminary.
2. Founder Director, 2000-, Institute of Science and Religion, Little Flower Seminary, Aluva.
3. Vice Rector/Vice Principal (2003-), Little Flower Seminary, Aluva
4. Rector/Principal (2010-)

***Awards and Fellowships***

1. The Philosophy-Knowledge (Darsanika-Vaijnanika) Award of the Kerala Catholic Bishops' Conference in 2007.
2. Best Doctoral Thesis Award of the period from 1965-2007 in the Science and Spirituality section from the Open International University, Colombo, in 2007.
3. Fellowship from the European Commission for *Erasmus Mundus* Master in Bioethics from Katholieke Univerisiteit, Leuven; Njimegen, Holland and Padua University, Italy) in 2006.

4. GPSS (Global Perspectives on Science and Spirituality) Fellowship from the Interdisciplinary University, Paris and the Elon University, USA in 2005.
5. Publication Award of the Institute for Research on Unlimited Love, Philadelphia, USA, in 2003.
6. Science-Religion International Course Award from the Centre for Theology and Natural Sciences, Berkeley, California in 2002. Course Title: Science and Mysticism – Towards an Integral Vision of Reality.
7. John Templeton Foundation's International Student-Essay Award in 1997 (Topic: Can Scientific Research Enhance Theology?)
8. John Kachiramattam Foundation's Award for All Kerala Young Literarists (1994).

**Publications:**

**Publisher:**

Managing Editor and Publisher, *Omega – Indian Journal of Science and Religion*, published by the Institute of Science and Religion, Little Flower Seminary, Aluva, Kerala, India. (Omega - Indian Journal of Science and Religion is the first of its kind in India.)

**Books**

1. (Editor), *Evolution and Theology* (New Delhi: Serial Publications, 2011)
2. (Editor) *Re-humanizing the Human – Interdisciplinary Essays on Human Person in Context* (Aluva: Little Flower Seminary, 2006).
3. *Theological Mysteries in Scientific Perspective* (Bangalore: Asian Trading Corporation, 2005)
4. (Editor) *Jeevarahasyangalile Darsanikatha* (Philosophical Perspectives in Bio-mysteries) (In Malayalam) (Aluva: Institute of Science and Religion, 2006).
5. *Cosmos, Bios, and Theos- Introduction to Philosophy of Science, Scientific Cosmology and Science-Religion Dialogue* (Aluva: Institute of Science and Religion, 2004).
6. *East-West Interface of Reality - A Scientific and Intuitive Inquiry into the Nature of Reality* (Pune: ASSR Publications, 2003). Co-authored with Dr. Job Kozhamthadam.
7. (Editor) *Isvarasamvedhanam Sastrayugathil* (Divine Perceptions in an Age of Science) (In Malayalam) (Aluva: Institute of Science and Religion, Aluva, 2002).

**Articles (Select)**

*Published about 30 academic articles in national and international Journals.*

1. Compendium on Global Bioethics Atlas – “India,” Springer Publications, London, 2012
2. “Moral Responsibility Beyond Compatibilism – An Analysis of Libet’s Findings,” in *Journal of Consciousness Studies*

3. "Poetically Dwells Man on the Earth," in Augustine Pamplany (ed.), *Rehumanizing the Human – Interdisciplinary Essays on Human Person in Context* (Aluva: Little Flower Seminary, 2006).
4. "The Indian Epistemic Equilibrium - A Catalytic Paradigm for Global Science-Religion Dialogue," in Kuruvilla Pandikattu (ed.), *Together Towards Tomorrow – Festschrift for Prof. Dr. Job Kozhamthadam* (Pune: IISR Publications, 2005).
5. "Beyond the Big Bang – A Scientific Hermeneutic of the Biblical Nihil," in *Omega – Indian Journal of Science and Religion*, Vol. 3. No. 2, December 2003.
6. "Epistemological Integrity for an Ontological Proximity between Science and Religion," in *Living Word*, November 2002.
7. "Postmodernity – Transition from the Newtonian Paradigm to the Relativistic Quantum Paradigm," in *Jnanadeepa – Pune Journal of Religious Studies*, Vol. 5, No.2, 2001.
8. "Science and Theology – Conflict Between Truth and Truth?" in *Living Word*, May-Aug. 2000.
9. "Science and Religion – Epistemological Foundations of Dialogue," in Job Kozhamthadam, ed., ASSR Series 1. Pune, 2001.
10. "The Earth as God's Poem," in *Jnanadeepa*, Vol.2 No.2, 1998.
11. "Eco-Vision of Reality, Towards Cosmotheandric Integration," in Job Kozhamthadam, ed., *Interrelations and Interpretations*, New Delhi: Intercultural Publications, 1997.

### **Journalistic Publications**

1. Regular columnist on Science and Faith in *Sathyadeepam* – The most circulated Christian Weekly in India.
2. Editorial Advisor to the Online Science-Religion Journal of the Metanexus Institute Philadelphia.
3. Book Reviewer to the Magazine, *Science –Theology News* by the John Templeton Foundation.

### **Paper Presentations (Select)\***

\*Presented Papers in over 50 International, National and Regional Conferences and Symposia.

01. "The Epistemic Challengers from Science for Philosophy," Banaras Hindu University, September 23, 2011.
02. Gods' Particle and the Dimensions of the Absolute; Key-note lecture at the UGC Symposium at Zakir Husain College, Delhi University, March 21, 2012.
03. "Vision of Nature as Metaphor of Reality - Science and Religion in the Indian Context," in the International Symposium on Visions of Nature: Putting Science and Religion in its Place," held at St. Ann's College, Oxford University, organized by the Ian Ramsey Centre, Oxford, July 13-16, 2006.
04. "Indian Medical Tradition – A Conceptual Catalyst for Science-Religion Dialogue," in the International Workshop on Global Perspectives on Science and Spirituality, organized by the Interdisciplinary University, Paris and the Elon University, USA, held at Pavilion Henry IV, July 26-30, 2006



05. "Indian Scientific Legacy: An Epistemic and Religious Hermeneutics," in the GPSS International Workshop organized by the Interdisciplinary University, Paris and the Elon University, USA, held at Mount Chateau Hotel, Paris, July 17-21, 2005,
  06. "The Advaitic Epistemology of Hinduism: An Eastern Hermeneutical Tool for Science-Religion Enterprise" in the International Science-Religion conference Held in Philadelphia, USA on June 15-20, 2002, organized by the Metanexus Institute for Science and Religion.
  07. "A Scientific Hermeneutic of the Hindu Mysticism of Cosmic Love," in the International Conference in Villanova University, Villanova, Organized by the Institute for Research on Unlimited Love. June 11-15, 2003
  08. "Philosophical Assumptions of a Technological Ethics," Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi. January 21, 2006.
  09. "Modern Cosmology: Towards a Cosmic Vision of Spirituality," in Mumbai World Congress on Science and Spirituality, January 28-31, Russian Cultural Centre, Mumbai.
  10. Biotech Revolution – Challenges to Society, Religion and Ethics," National Conference on Science and Society and Ethics, Ashirbhavan Cochin, September 2004, Organised by the Zoroastrian College, Mumbai.
  11. "Molecular Information and Divine implications," in the National Philosophical Symposium on Human Person in Context, organized by Little Flower Seminary at Cochin, Jan. 17-19, 2003.
  12. "The Scientific Worldview and the Eastern Religions," Regional Conference on Science, Technology and Values, held at Ashirbhavan, Cochin, organized by the ASSR of Pune in preparation to the CTNS-SRCP Regional Workshop in Pune.
  13. "Science and Religion: Historical Background and Contemporary Opportunities," Key note Address in the Science-Teachers' Workshop on Science, Religion and Values in Cochin.
  14. "A Scientific and Philosophical Hermeneutic of Love and Compassion," - Key-note address in the regional conference on Science and Religion organized by the Catholic Teachers' Guild, Archdiocese of Thrissur, Jan.31, 2004.
  15. "Recent Developments in Cosmology – Some Philosophical and Religious Implications, Seminar on Christian Faith in an Evolving World of Science," Organised under the Aegis of the CBCI-CSRS, held at Chaitanya Pastoral Institute, Kottayam, Sept. 28-29, 2005.
  16. "Developments in Technology: A Philosophical and Religious Appropriation," International Workshop on Future Technologies held at Vimala College, Thrissur. September 2005.
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## **Appendix 7: Professor Dr. Mathew Illathuparampil**

**Current position held and address:** Professor, Pontifical Institute of Theology and Philosophy,  
Aluva

**Address for correspondence.** Pontifical Institute of Theology and Philosophy,  
Mangalapuzha, Aluva , Ernakulam 683 102  
tele. 9447277299 e-mail: [Illathuparampil@hotmail.com](mailto:Illathuparampil@hotmail.com)

**Academic Achievements:**  
MTh. (Theology), KU Leuven ,1998  
Ph.D.( Theology), KU Leuven ,2002

### **Professional and Administrative experience**

Lecturer in Theology, Pontifical Institute of Theology and  
Philosophy from 2003 to 2011  
Professor in Theology, Pontifical Institute of Theology and  
Philosophy from 2012  
Associate Professor in Business Ethics, at Macfast, Tiruvalla,  
Kerala from 2004 onwards  
Associate of Dean, Dept. of Theology, Pontifical Institute of  
Theology and Philosophy, from 2010

### **Publications**

11 Books  
25 Research Articles in National and International Publications

### **Academic Visits abroad:**

Research {6 years for MTh. & Ph.D) in Belgium  
Seminars in Belgium, Holland and Italy

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