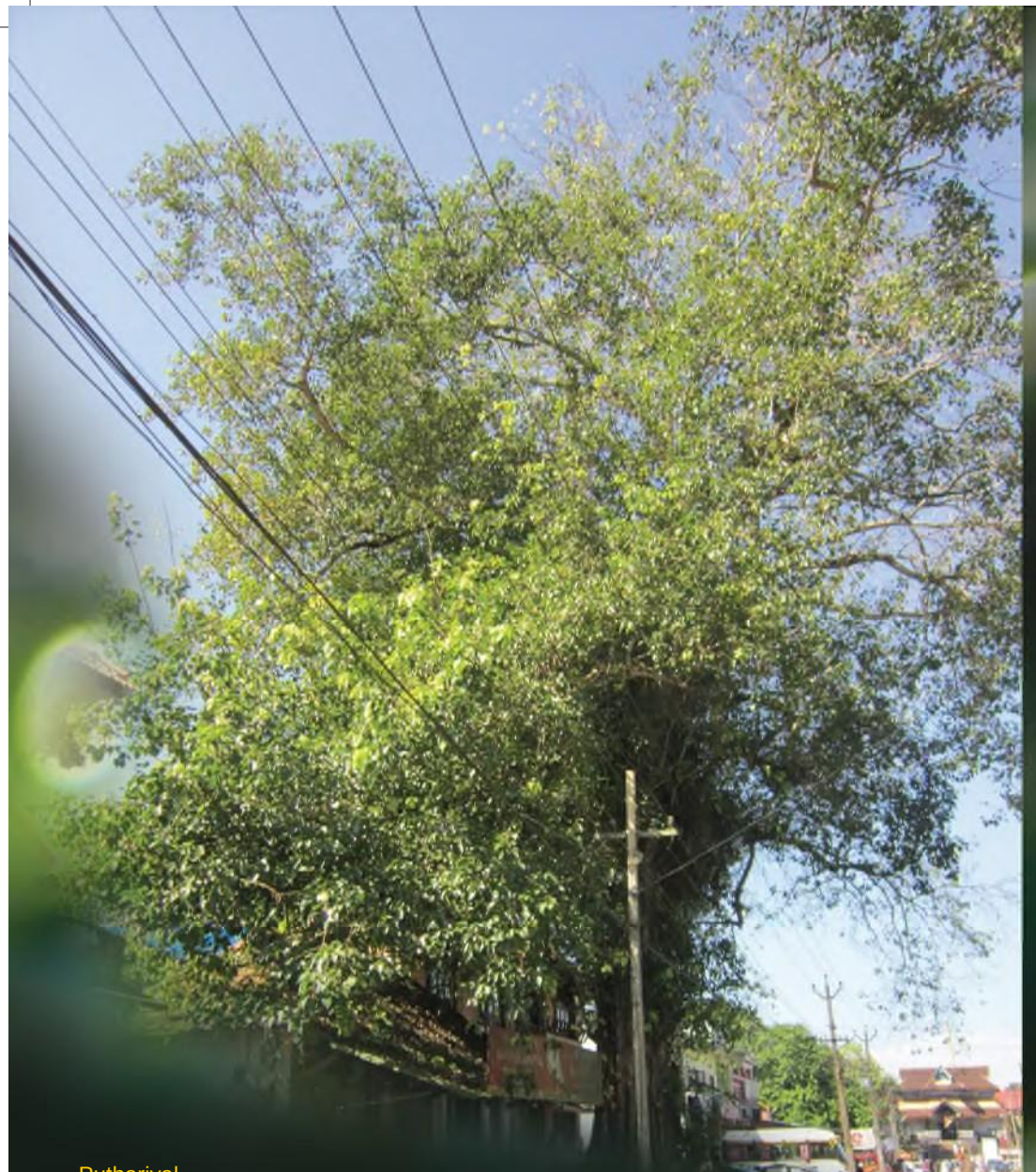
ArAnmulA HeritAge VillAge Project



"The very term "culture" is complex and multi dimensional. Encompassed within it are attitudes and aptitudes, spirituality and religion, thoughts and philosophy, art and aesthetics and their cumulative impact in creating a subtle rhythm of life. With passage of time, they have come to symbolize collectively the HERITAGE of the land itself."

Princess Aswathy Thirunal
Goury Lakshmi Bayi



Puthariyal

An ancient banyan tree seen in front of Aranmula Temple. It is the prestigious symbol of our agricultural tradition (Karshika Samskrithi) where the paddy were placed with devotion by farmers.

“A comprehensive programme to preserve and promote our rich Heritage”

India in general and Kerala in particular has a rich heritage of which we need to be proud of. While we should be open to accept anything best from anywhere in the world, we need to be genuinely proud of our own heritage including architecture, organic farming, yoga, ayurveda, music, hygienic living, family values, social ethics, nature worship, art, religious tolerance and so on. Since a significant number of our youngsters are living abroad and many of them have become global citizens, Aranmula Heritage Village is aimed at preserving our great heritage and promoting it globally to be preserved for our posterity.

Consequent upon the rapid urbanization taking place in Kerala and the onslaught of real estate lobby supported by self seeking politicians, the great heritage of Kerala is under threat. Severe damage is done to the ecology by flattening hills, encroaching on rivers and forest, blasting rocks, Sand mining, levelling of paddy fields etc..




Thiruvonâthoni



Aranmula Putharikandam

The word ARANMULAis derived from “Arin Vilai” which means fertile land on the banks of river. River Pamba and its streams are flowing all around Aranmula and surrounding villages. In fact many of the villagers such as Mallapuzhassery, Thottapuzhassery, Malakkara, Panniprayar, Nedumprayar, Keezhukara, Melukara etc. are linked with the streams connected to these villages.

River Pamba is the third largest river in Kerala after Periyar and Bharathappuzha. Sabarimala, the hill shrine of lord Ayyappa is situated near pamba. Legend has it that Lord Ayyappa as a child was found on the banks of river pamba. Lord Ram put his foot in pamba and met Sabari, an Adivasi Woman who did penance for decades for Lord Ram’s Darshan. Devotees take a dip in Pamba before and after visiting Sabarimala as Pamba is revered as Dekshina Ganga.



PALLIMUKKAM KAAVU in Aranmula





Parthasarathi temple at Aranmula is one of the 108 Vishnu temples most revered by the devotees. Legend has it that Pandavas after crowning Parikshit, grandson of Arjuna, had set out on Vanavas and Salvation. When they reached Aranmula, they found the bank of river Pampa most suited and serene to set up a temple for Lord Krishna. Arjuna took the responsibility and brought the idol of Lord Krishna through Pampa River in a raft mode of six pieces of bamboos and hence the name Aranmula.

Aranmula also is known for its natural heritage such as flora, fauna, landscape and its natural resources.

One of the world famous item of heritage value is Aranmula kannadi which is a unique mirror made out of alloy metal. The know how for making the mirror is known to only one family in the world and they live in Aranmula.

ARANMULA HERITAGE VILLAGE Project is a comprehensive plan initiated by a group of prominent persons committed to restoring and protecting the great heritage of Kerala.

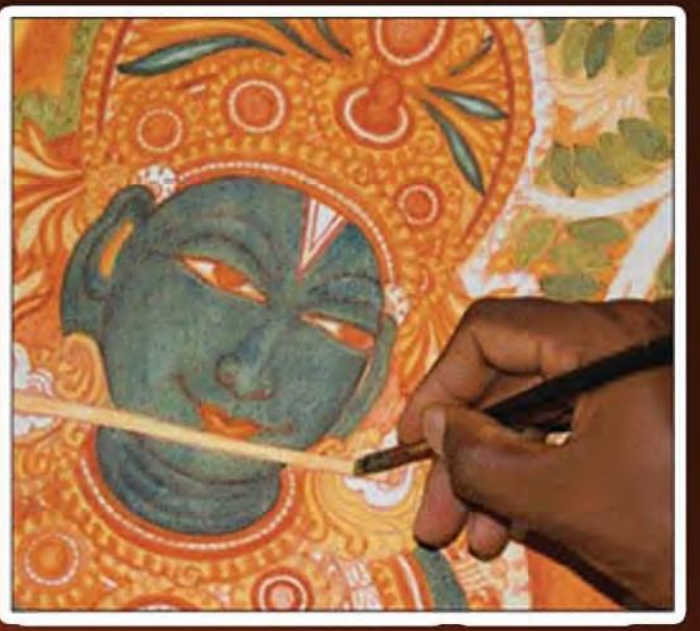


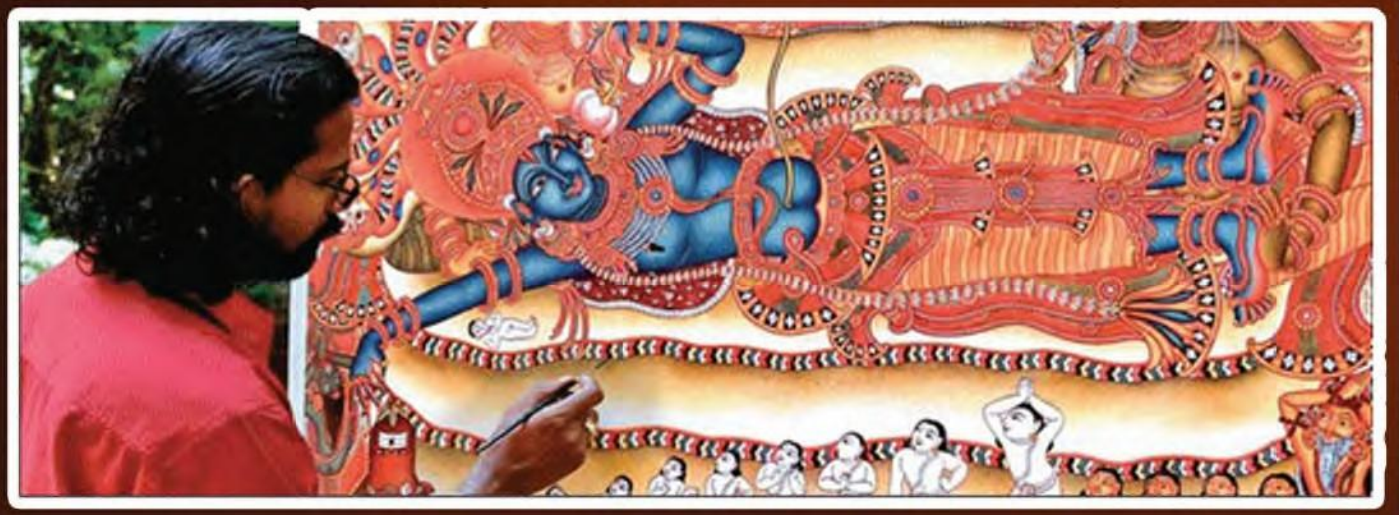
River Pamba
Beautiful sceneries and cultural heritage made Aranmula Village famous and significant.

Madhav Gadgil











Vasthu Vidya Gurukulam - gives education guidance, advice and recognition to all seekers of traditional vasthu vidya. The gallery of paintings attracts many.



Wetland



Making Aranmula Kannadi



Vallapattu



Othara Padayani

PROJECTS fOR IMPlEMENTATION





We have identified few heritage projects for implementation.

Heritage School

We are in the process of taking over a school for developing it as a heritage school. Along with the normal academic curriculum, children from primary school level will undergo a comprehensive education system where equal attention is paid to physical, emotional and intellectual development to make them dynamic and responsible citizens. This will make them meet the challenges of global society while retaining the traditional values. Emphasis is given on extracurricular activity which will help students develop their mind and body. Students exchange programme with heritage schools abroad is also part of our plan.

Heritage College and Institute

Apart from academically oriented courses such as degree, post graduate degrees etc, the plan include professionally oriented courses such as X- Ray technician, healthcare, pharmacy technician, nursing, etc. Appropriate programmes will be designed to inculcate values such as integrity, honesty respect for others, quality consciousness, passion for excellence etc.



Heritage Museum

This will showcase several artefacts of heritage value. Besides items such as Aranmula Kannadi, Thiruvonathoni, Chundan Vallam, Oars, Decorations etc. which are special to Aranmula, the museum will display historical items from various rulers, coins, title deeds in Brass, murals, Paintings etc which the future generation will value immensely. Attached to the Museum will be a library and reading room with collection of books on history, traditions, rituals, culture, archaeology, epics etc. it is our plan to facilitate research on our heritage.

Heritage Treatment Centres

We have an unusually rich method of heritage treatment in the form of Ayurveda. This form of treatment has now received wide acceptance all over the world because of its effectiveness in certain ailments. Besides traditional Ayurvedic treatment, our Heritage treatment centres will provide for:

- Geriatric Ayurveda
- Holistic Medicine
- Psychiatric Rehabilitation
- De-addiction centres
- Fitness and Exercise programme
- Traditional nutrition and diet programmes
- Alternative medicine and therapies such as yoga, meditation etc.





Aranmula Jalotsavam
About 52 palliyodams (snake boats) participate in Aranmula Uthrittathi Jalotsavam.





Heritage festival

Several of our traditional art forms are unknown to the new generation. Not many artists are coming forward to learn and practice several of our traditional art forms. It's our plan to conduct heritage festivals to popularise some of our art forms such as Theyyam, a dance form which is part of cultural heritage of North Malabar, Mudiyettu, a ritualistic and rural performing art, Padayani, a ritualistic art form from central Travancore, Kathakali, Ottanthullal, Koodiyattam, Kooth, Mohiniyattam, etc. The festival also will feature heritage food from various part of India and other countries, exhibition of textiles, paintings and handicrafts.





Sabari Balasramam Aranmula



Weekly Magazine

It's our plan to publish a weekly magazine to propagate nationalism, values, traditions, lessons from history and our Vedic past.

Home for destitute Children

There are several children abandoned by parents for various reasons. They will be adopted and provided a HOME with Love, Compassion and Values making them feel that there are people in the society who care for them and they are wanted. They will be given education and brought up as responsible citizens.

Home for Elders

With the advent of nuclear families, the elders are forced to fend for themselves. According to available statistics, the life span also is increased. The children have to go to other places or countries to make a living while the parents do not like to leave their familiar surroundings. There are conflicts in lifestyle, food habits, behaviour, language and upbringing which make the senior citizen opt to continue independent life. They require love, security, attention and support which we will provide in an atmosphere of heritage.

Home for destitute Women

We will provide shelter, protection and dignified life to women who are deprived of them.
We will provide schemes to empower them.



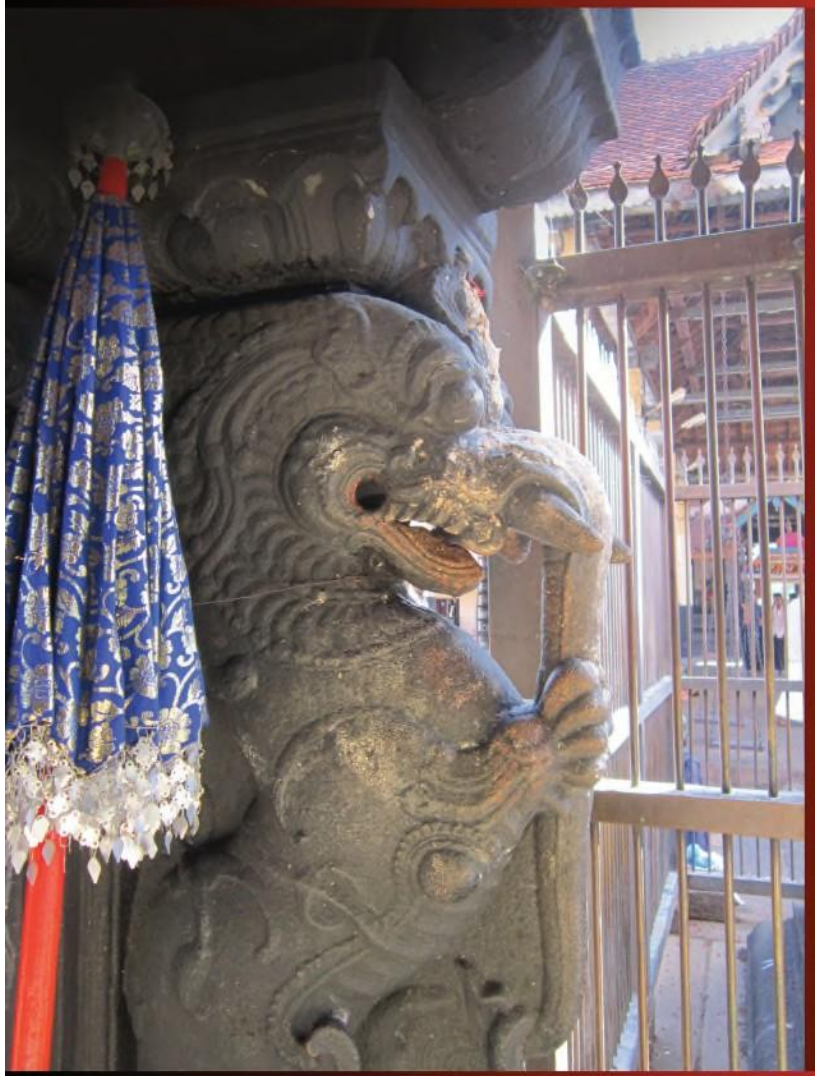


SUSTAINABLE HERITAGE VILLAGE

All the projects mentioned earlier would form part of Sustainable Heritage Village being planned and developed with Aranmula as its focus point. Villages around Aranmula would be brought under the scheme in a phased manner.

Village development involve;

a) Biogas plant to process waste from institutions as well as Household. The plant will generate energy and manure for organic farming.
b) Encourage organic farming.
c) Generate non conventional energy.
d) Keep village clean and hygienic with the help of volunteers from Educational Institutions and Residents.
e) Evolve programs to develop harmony and cooperation among the residents.
f) Preserve and propagate local knowledge on agriculture at treatment, construction social life etc.



Project Cost

Projects being taken up in first phase are ;

(a) Heritage School
(b) Heritage Museum
(c) Sustainable Heritage Village

Other schemes will be taken up in the Second phase.
Cost for first phase is estimated to be about Rs 10 Crores.

Support Required

For successful implementation of the projects we need support in the form of men, materials and money. Support in any form will go a long way in protecting our Heritage for future generation.

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