



Mrs. Thirumagal Ketharanathan, B.A

Among the teachers of Velanai Central College, some were trail blazers all throughout their career from start to finish with a distinct place not only in the community but also and adored and respected by all.

There is no doubt in our minds that Mrs. Ketharanathan was one such icon, a sheet anchor, she together with her husband, a Science graduate who ended up as the Principal of the school were a rare combination. Our noble school achieved tremendous improvement in both education and discipline in an unprecedented manner during their tenure.

It is worthy to note that she was a student of our school from 1945 to 1950 and later served as a teacher from 1958 to 1983. Further, she functioned as the **Deputy Principal** from 1983 till her retirement in 1986.

She became a popular figure and her efforts were recognized and appreciated by all stakeholders of our school- students, parents, past pupils, and the staff. She has always been honest and sincere; she is still engaged in promoting the welfare of the school through her advice and encouragement to the Old Students Associations.

Her father, late Pundit Maruthainar (former chairman of Velanai Village Council), himself was an educationist in the Kayts electorate and he was a genesis that inspired the Ketharanathans. *Staying true to her heritage*, Mrs. Ketharanathan continues to offer her services even after retirement for the benefit of our school.

As teacher of Maths, Economics, and Political Science, she was unique and many of her students recall her services with pride. Her leadership to the senior girl students was too well-known. To every Principal of the school, she proved to be an able assistant and helped the smooth administration of a massive school like Velanai Central College. Her contribution to the college will be remembered with gratitude.

In short we the old students (alumni) of the school recall with pride and privilege her abiding link with the school and wish her a blessed retirement with health and happiness.

By S. Elancheliyan