

## **Very Rev. V. P. Mammen (Kattanathachen), 1876- 1952**

**Published by Thomas John Philip Nalloor**

Mammen was born (b.11 June, 1876) as the son of Valiyaveettil Philipose (Kayamkulam) and Chempakapallil Mariamma (Kattanam). Rev. Mammen had his basic education in his native village. He was a student leader and had shown keen interest in the affairs of the Church even during his student life. After his graduation he started the S. C. Seminary School in Tiruvalla along with his friend K. A .Abraham.

Rev. V. P. Mammen was the General Secretary of the Sunday School Samajam from 1905 to 1952 and from 1919 to 1941 he was the administrative Secretary of the India Sunday school Union.

On 8 January, 1921 he was ordained as a deacon along with George John, K. E Oommen and V.T. Chacko. They were the first four graduates who accepted ordination together in the Mar Thoma Church. They could have secured very lucrative secular posts in the state, but they opted to serve the Church. Mammen became a priest on 18 Dec 1921.

Rev. Mammen spent his life and resources in building up the Sunday school Samajam and he made it one of the best Christian education organizations in the whole of India. For the Sunday school Samajam he started the quarterly magazine "Sandarsini".

He was never a Parish priest. In 1938 he became the Vicar General of the Church .For many years he was one of the translators of the Maramon Convention. He was also the Manager of the M.T. Schools, Advisor of the Mar Thoma Sevika Sanghom, Sabha Council member and the General Secretary of the Evangelistic association. He was called home on 9 March 1952.

