



“Let Christ be to us the key to all theology”  
Mar Jonas Thaliath, CMI (1919-1981)

Bishop Jonas Thaliath, CMI, the first bishop of the diocese of Rajkot is the founder visionary and architect of Dharmaram Institutions. Instituted in 1997, “Bishop Jonas Thaliath Endowment Lectures,” an acclaimed annual academic event at the Faculty of Theology, DVK, offers a public platform for serious theological dialogue and research in the global and Indian contexts.

DVK, with its Faculties of Philosophy, Theology, the Institutes of Oriental Canon Law and Formative Spirituality, has emerged as an international centre for academic excellence, providing the due Asian ingredients to the Christian theological reflections of our times.

Dear Friends,

We, the Staff and Students of the Faculty of Theology, together with the President of DVK, are happy to invite you to the Bishop Jonas Thaliath Endowment Lectures 2023-2024 on “Jesus Christ, Unique Universal Saviour” by Prof. Dr Sebastian Athappilly on 16 and 17 August 2023. The participation in the programme is open to all. Looking forward to meeting you for the lectures.

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**DHARMARAM**  
**VIDYA KSHETRAM**

Pontifical Athenaeum of Philosophy, Theology, Canon Law  
and Formative Spirituality and Counselling

Faculty of Theology

# BISHOP JONAS THALIATH CMI ENDOWMENT LECTURES 2023-2024

Theme : Jesus Christ,  
Unique Universal Saviour

16-17, AUGUST 2023

9.15 A.M - 12.45 P.M

JBC AUDITORIUM,

DVK ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER

Speaker  
Prof Dr Sebastian Athappilly, CMI



Sebastian Athappilly, CMI has been a teacher of systematic theology from 1985 and Professor from 1998 at DVK, Bangalore. He served also as the President of DVK, Registrar and the Dean of the faculty of theology. He has attended the Synod for Asia as theological expert. He was a member of the Office of Theological Concerns (OTC) of the FABC for 5 years. He served the CMI Congregation as the Provincial of Thrissur Devamatha Province, Procurator General and Postulator General in Rome, Master of scholastics and spiritual director in Dharmaram College. He had his higher studies in philosophy and theology in Pune (JDV), Graz (Austria) and under Karl Lehmann in Freiburg i. Br. (Germany). He has studied also in Sankt Georgen (Frankfurt), Tübingen and Steubenville (Ohio). His doctoral dissertation was on the theology of Karl Rahner and published under the title Glaube und Welt in 1987.

He has taught also in the theological institutes like St Peter's Seminary, Kristu Jyothi College, and CRI Brothers' Institute in Bangalore, St Thomas' Apostolic Seminary and MOC in Vadavathoor, Kottayam. He has written several books and articles in English and German and presented papers at different theological seminars and colloquiums. Presently he is working as hospital chaplain in a University Clinic in Austria and as guest professor at DVK.

## PROGRAMME

### WEDNESDAY, 16 AUGUST 2023

- 09:15 hrs Inaugural Function  
09:45 hrs **Lecture I**  
Pluralistic Fallacy
- 10:30 hrs Tea  
10:45 hrs **Lecture II**  
Unwarranted Assumptions
- 11:30 hrs Break  
11:40 hrs **Lecture III**  
Primacy of Faith over Exegesis  
12:25 hrs General Discussion

### THURSDAY, 17 AUGUST 2023

- 09:15 hrs **Lecture IV**  
Nature of Salvation and of Incarnation
- 10:15 hrs Tea  
10:30 hrs **Lecture V**  
Witness of Liturgy and Scripture
- 11:20 hrs Break  
11:30 hrs **Lecture VI**  
Value of Religions: Universal (General) and Particular  
Covenants, Cosmic Christ  
12:20 hrs General Discussion  
12:35 hrs Concluding Message