



# REFLECTIONS

SPRINGER NATURE JOURNALS EDITORIAL OFFICE

ADITYA IYER . SARVAGNAN SUBRAMANIAM . ABDUL HAKKIM

SRILAKSHMI PATRUDU . SIVAKANI JAYAPRAKASH

# 2017!

புத்தாண்டு வாழ்த்துக்கள்

APRIL 2017



# GUEST EDITORIAL



I am glad to have had an opportunity to train the JEO team once more. My last training for the JEO team was conducted in the November 2013. When I saw the training group on the day of pre assessment, it was evident that most the participants from 2013 were missing. In fact there was no one from that batch. I noticed a few familiar faces who had come for one-off training programs like telephone etiquette. However, what struck me was the similarity in the vibes the group gave me. The current crop resembled the 2013 group in terms of energy and attitude. Credit to Sivakani for keeping the attitude cheerful. In many way the group is a reflection of Sivakani himself. In 2013 I had asked the participants to write a page on 'the leader who inspired you the most'. To my pleasant surprise many had written about Sivakani. One of the write ups was almost an 'Ode on Sivakani'. Interestingly Sivakani always gives credit to his team for success. Mutual respect between the Management and the employees is impressive.

In my first discussion prior to the training, Sivakani had apprised me on the requirements. He wanted me to provide some fine tips on 'how to improve effectiveness over the Email' to the participants. Additionally he wanted me help the participants improve their etiquette over the phone. Sivakani also provided relevant material to make the program effective. One of the most striking features of the training day was that most of the participants were at the venue 1 hour prior to the actual start time. Wow! We started the training at half past 9. It was the first time in my training career I had started 30 minutes prior to the scheduled time.

The session exploded into life with some interactive icebreakers. As we dived into the core training objectives many interesting discussions popped up. I made a conscious effort to keep the training specific to the JEO context; to make it as relevant as possible. This helped as most participants were able to identify the issues with their day to day mails. Some discussions were very intriguing and they brought to light many possible responses to tricky emails. Several questions were raised and the suggestions provided were enlightening to the participants. The group was very prompt with time and so we could complete the Morning session at 1pm.

The post Lunch session was surprisingly very energetic. This was mainly due to the fact that most of it was activity driven. The role plays and live demos clearly illustrated the errors some of them committed during calls. The correct call handling practices were rehearsed to enrich the telephone etiquette of the participants. The participants also made a few live calls to their colleagues in the Nungambakkam office. A real time activity was conducted at the end to ensure there was fun through learning. We finished at around 5:45 pm. Little did I realize that we had completed a very eventful day without having to look at clock labouringly. Credit has to go the group for displaying enthusiasm and initiative. I am very hopeful that the training would be translated into success in the forthcoming months. It was a great pleasure working with the JEO Team. Hope to meet you again. All the best

**Mr. Swapnesh Sebastian, Business Consultant & Trainer, Chennai**



2017

இனிய  
தமிழ் புத்தாண்டு நல்வாழ்த்துக்கள்.



Tamil New year, or Tamizh Puthaandu as it is known in Tamil, is celebrated on the 14<sup>th</sup> of April by Tamil people all over the world. What is special about it is that Tamil people have a specific culture that we are very attached to. On this day, household items are cleaned, the entrances of houses will be decorated, people go to temples and worship the almighty, they greet others by saying 'Tamizh Puthhaandu Vaazhthukkal' or "happy Tamil new year", they meet relatives and friends, and they get blessings from their elders.

Another thing to note is that although the Tamil calendar has 12 months, they are in a different cadence from those in the Gregorian calendar. It starts with Chithhirai which happens from 14<sup>th</sup> April to mid of May, followed by Vaikaasi, Aani, Aadi, Aavani, Purattasi, Aippasi, Kaarthigai, Margzhi, Thai, Maasi and ends up with Pankuni. Our ancestors have advised to follow some good practices in all these months. Some of this advice is that during the month of Purattasi, that is from the middle of September to the sometime in the first half of October, people should avoid eating meat. This is advised due to the excessive heat during this time. There are many practices such as this that our elders have passed on to us. Tamil New Year is the time during which we can sit with our elders and obtain their wisdom on these matters.

Like English new year , the tamil puthhandu definitely holds a place in the heart of every Tamil person.

Tamizh puthhandu vaazhthukkal!

Mr. Naveen Parthiban, Journal Editor, SPS JEO Chennai





## THE EXPENDABLES - BACK FOR FUN

Be Silly, be fun, be different, be wacky, be you, because life is too short to be anything but happy!

We work together; we walk to office day in and day out and as the boys amongst the sheer number of women in the JEO, we have always been known for the unity, talent, and fun we have inside the JEO team. As the quote says, 'People rarely succeed unless they have fun in what they are doing'.

We had planned to extend our mantra to a day off too. On thinking about having fun as a team, and what came to mind? The best escape anyone could have; the beach. The place where there are no watches, no worries, no cares, and no deadlines. We planned to go to Marina beach to enjoy the ambience, play, and definitely have a lot of fun together.

In the early morning, we gathered at Marina. Everything starts with the sunrise and we started our day with the beauty of nature that defeats darkness and spreads light. We started walking to the shore, teasing each other, and exploding with laughter with our own style of humour. Luckily, one of our buddies brought a camera with him. With the fun that results from a group of boys, fabulous lighting, early morning sunrise with a beach background, we started taking pictures with funky poses with some turning out really well. At last we played with the waves and had some refreshing juice as we concluded the outing before the day turned humid.

The outing turned out to be a massive hit. The result was not only being together and having fun, but also building a bond between us that continued at work too. We unfortunately missed a few buddies this time as they could not make it. We hope to continue this and have fun with more outings with the boys.

**Mr. Magesh Murugappan, Journal Editor, SPS JEO Chennai**



# Potluck

The word 'Potluck' always electrifies our taste buds and also our mind. We usually think about the delicious food, especially the ones made at home during this kind of occasion. In March, our team recently had a wonderful lunch in our cafeteria.

Each and every person contributed different dishes toward making the lunch a really colourful and appetizing one. The menu included all kinds of dishes, some of them being noodles, biriyani, tandoori and pepper chicken, curd rice, veg pulav, lime juice and ice-cream. Many of us learnt the secrets behind making each of these foods. We all had a very good meal and an even better conversation during this time. We enjoyed the lunch from the starting breath up until the very end, when we finished our lunch with the most delightful kulfi. We were also able to identify the foodies in the team.

At the end, we had a good photo session to cap off the memorable day. Potlucks are not always only about the food but also about building a very strong relationship in the team which was once again true this time. We are eagerly waiting for the next team potluck to build our relationships even more.

Ms. Aishwarya Gokuldas, Journal Editor, SPS JEO Chennai



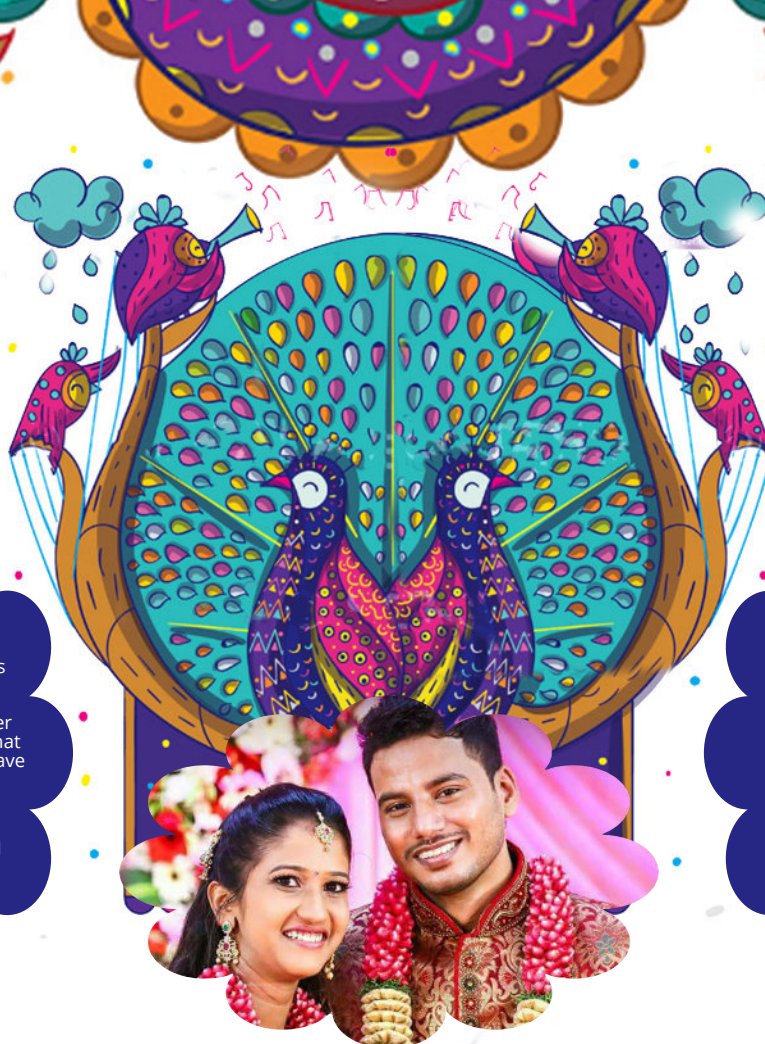


I wish the pretty couple a very happy married life.

As it goes, "A happy marriage is about 3 things - Memories of Togetherness, Forgiveness of mistakes and a promise to never give up on each other". I hope that you would shadow all these to have successful marriage life.

Wish you have the happiness throughout your life and good luck with your new journey with more responsibilities.

Devi Shanmugam



The hope that you hold in your hearts, will become the years of dreams fulfilled

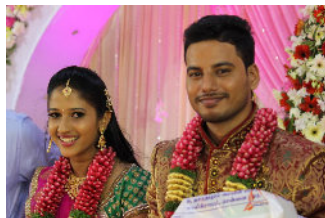
The joy you feel now and then, will grow infinite

The love you celebrate, be the love that cherish for your lifetime.

My hearty wishes for your wedding my team lead.

Ashi Asokan

## *Sathish Weds Aswathi*



Wishing you both a lifetime of everlasting happiness. May your married life be filled with right ingredients: Faith, Trust, Humour, Passion, Understanding and Timeless love.

But still, I will not forgive you for not keeping your promise.

Deepan Selvaraj



OMG!!! It's still dreamlike to believe that my BRO, Sathish is getting hitched to the love of his life, Aswathi. I hope his married life is wonderful and cheerful and they lead a happy life together for many more years to come. - Priya Balamurugan



It is so exciting to see Sathish marry the one that is perfect for him. I can't wait to see the changes it will bring to his work and the way it is bound to complement his personality. Best wishes to Sathish and Aswathi during this special time in life. - Saraswathi Sabapathy

Congrats on the start of another phase of life!!!

Ramya Balu

May the god shower his choicest blessings for you always. I hope your life will be filled with joy, happiness and lots of love. Happy Married Life.

Renuka Nidhi



# SHADES OF REFLECTIONS

Thank you very much for sending on the March edition of your magazine. I will really miss receiving these.

**Ms. Esheeta Mangalpara,**  
Senior Editorial Operations  
Coordinator, BMC London

Who did the cover? It looks very professional. Ideally should be in our Creative team.

**Mr. Venkatesan,**  
Associate Director  
Springer Books, SPS Chennai

Thanks for sharing it. Once again congratulations!!!

I could see the true value of BMC 100 journals.

**Mr. Sanjay Deepak,**  
Manager – Human Resources,  
SPS Chennai

Thanks a lot for this colorful issue.

**Mr. Uwe Schwab,**  
Manager – JEO,  
Springer Nature Germany

Thanks very much for brightening up my day with the latest issue of "Reflections" – always a good read and so nice to see everything you manage do on top of work.

**Ms. Janet Hamilton, Senior Manager – Quality Assurance, Springer Nature Germany**

Pleasure to read the Reflections magazine. JEO CARNIVAL is really thundering and especially Avatar painting is superb. Eager to see the next magazine like BAHUBALI 2.

**Mr. Mahendran, Senior Manager, SPS Chennai**