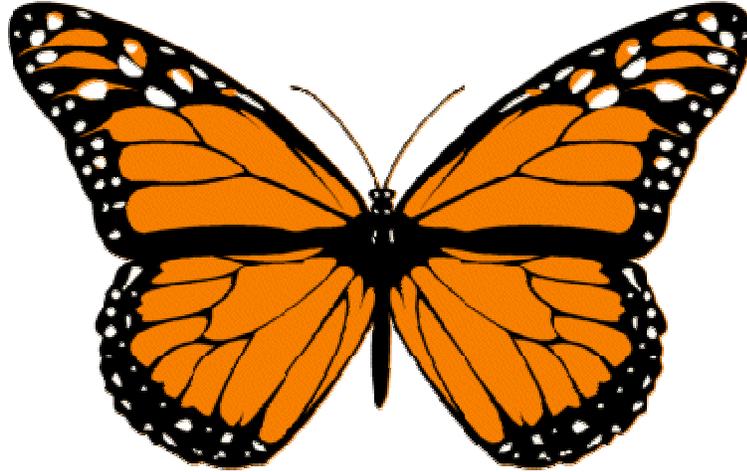


മലയാളം
പഴഞ്ചൊല്ലുകൾ

സമാഹരിച്ചത്

പി. ആർ. രാമചന്ദ്രൻ



Malyalam Proverbs

Complied by
P.R. Ramchnader

Malayalam Proverbs

Compiled and illustrated by P.R. Ramachander*

മലയാളം പഴഞ്ചൊല്ലുകൾ - സമാഹരിച്ചത് പി. ആർ. രാമചന്ദ്രൻ

Introduction - അവതാരിക

Proverbs are called "Pazham chollugal" in Malayalam. Literally that means ancient sayings. It is well known that Proverbs reflect the culture of the people and their language. These have been coined based on centuries of human experience and are used very effectively by people to drive home very important point while they are speaking or writing. People who have lived in Kerala villages would know that effective conversation is highly regarded by all people regardless of their financial status and caste and religious differences. Most of the old people used to illustrate their conversation by using stories or proverbs, in a very effective manner. Slowly this culture is being replaced by a different culture, where people talk only, to the point and are in a hurry to end what they are trying to say. Most of the time, they leave their audience unconvinced. I am giving below a compilation of Malayalam proverbs. These popular proverbs themselves have been taken from a Malayalam book by Sri Velayudhan Panikkasari entitled, "Pathinayiram Pazhamchollugal (Ten thousand proverbs)". The idea of translating and explaining them was given to me by my very intellectual friend and former colleague Dr.C.P.Ananthasivan. I would like to express my gratefulness to him.

In every proverb, I have first given the transliteration in to English of the proverb, then English translation followed by a story to illustrate the usage of the proverb. I have used names of common people of Kerala and stories are from the Kerala context. I hope that you all , would after reading this say "Pazham chollil Pathirilla (There is no chaff among the proverbs)"

1.Akapettavannu Apathu, Odi poyavanu bhagyam. (അകപ്പെട്ടവൻ ആപത്ത്... ഓടി പോയവൻ ഭാഗ്യം)

Danger for one who is caught and luck for the one who has escaped.

There were two friends, Rama and Krishna. Both of them liked mangos very much and they did not have money to buy mangos. So they decided to steal mangos from farmer Paramu's garden. One night when every body was asleep, they entered the garden and started plucking mangos. Unfortunately farmer Paramu visited the garden that night and he raised hue and cry. Rama ran fast and managed to escape, with some mangos. Krishna was caught and thrashed. When Rama later shared his mangos with his family they told, "Akapettavannu Apathu, Odi poyavanu bhagya.."

2.Akale ulla bandhuvinekkal, aduthulla sathru nallathu. (അകലെയുള്ള ബന്ധുവനെക്കാൾ അടുത്തുള്ള ശത്രു നല്ലത്)

Enemy who is near is better than relation who is far away.

Sankaran was a nice man who happened to go to Bombay to earn a living. All his relations were in his native village, which was very far away. He had a very morose neighbor, who always shouted at him. Sankaran always considered this neighbor as his enemy. One day, while Sankaran had gone to work, his daughter fell before a car and was injured. The morose neighbor saw this, and immediately took the girl to the hospital in his car. He also spent money for her urgent treatment. When Sankaran came to know of this he told, "Though I have lot of relations in my native place, what is the use. Akale ulla bandhuvinekkal, aduthulla sathru nallathu"

3.Ikkara ninnal akkara pacha. (ഇക്കരെ നിന്നാൽ അക്കരെ പച്ച)

Grass is greener on the other side of the river.

Sankunni was a poor farmer in a village near Ernakulam. He had a friend who was working in Mumbai. Whenever that friend used to come to the village, he dressed nicely and came with lot of gifts for every body including his friend Sankunni. He always painted glorious picture of his life in Bombay. Because of this Sankunni always wanted to leave his job and wanted to go to Bombay. Once without informing his friend, he arrived at the address given by his friend in Bombay. To his shock, he found that his friend was living in a hut in a slum. Also he worked from dawn to dusk to make both ends meet. When asked his friend told, "Yes, I did not want this to be known to my family and so I used to take loan and buy all those presents .". Sankunni thought, "Ikkara ninnal akkara pacha"

4.Angavum Kanam, thaliyum odikkam. (അങ്കവും കാണാം താളിയും ഒടിയ്ക്കാം)

We can watch the match and also we can do our work

Literally, "We can watch the fight and also pluck the shampoo leaves."

Chacko was a clerk in an office. He was very fond of watching cricket tests, wherever India was playing. He used to put leave to his office and go to watch these matches. Thus even for necessary jobs, he was not able to take leave. His friend, Alex one day brought him a small pocket transistor and told him, "you can hear running commentary of all the cricket tests where our country is playing using this transistor. You need not put leave to the office to watch the matches taking leave." Chacko was not convinced but decided to give it a trial. Next time he did not take leave but took the transistor to his office and heard the commentary. He was very happy. He phoned to Alex and told, "using your transistor, Angavum Kanam, thaliyum odikkam"

5.Angadiyil thottal ammayodo. (അങ്ങാടിയിൽ തോറ്റതിന് അമ്മയോടോ)

Show the anger at disappointment in loosing a fight towards one's mother.

Kunhali was a very nice person who lived with his family in a small town in Kerala. His boss in the office was a bad man, who used to trouble him unnecessarily. Since he was the boss, Kunhali had to always keep patient. But when he returned home, he used to get angry with his wife and children unnecessarily. They were perplexed by his behavior. One holiday, when Kunhali was in a good mood, they asked him, the real reason for his anger. Kunhali told them the fact. Then Kunhali's wife told, "this is very bad,"Angadiyil thottal ammayodo."

6.Achaniyillatha theru muchan odugayilla. (അച്ചാണിയില്ലാത്ത തേൽ മുച്ചാൺ ഓടുകയില്ല)

Charriot without axis will not run even three steps.

Paraman was the breadwinner of the family. Because of his very hard work, his family members used to lead a nice life. His children were getting educated and some of them were given in marriage in good families. Once, in the office, Paraman fell ill and was brought to his house. The illness prolonged and Paramu's family was in dire straits. One-day Paramu's wife went and met the manager of his office and requested for help. Then the officer asked why they needed help. She told, "Paraman was the axis of our family, Achaniyillatha theru muchan odugayilla"

7.Achan anappuram eri yengil, Makanum undagumo athazhumbu. (അച്ഛൻ ആനപ്പുറത്ത് കയറിയാൽ മകൻ തഴമ്പുണ്ടാകുമോ?)

If the father rides the elephant, will the son also have that scar on his back?

Achyutan was a very great musician and also a good scientist. He had only one son, who did not study properly. He always used to waste time. But some how Achyuthan forced him to study and he some how passed out of the college. After passing out, he applied for a job in the research station, owned by his father's friend. He got the job easily, because the Director of the Institute thought that, being Achyuthan's son, he also would be extremely intelligent. But after some days, he realized that he has done a mistake. He then told one of his friends, "I thought, being Achyuthan's son, he would also be intelligent. Now I realise, Achan anappuram eri yengil, Makanum undagumo athazhumbu"

8.Adakka madiyil vekkam, Adakka maramo? (അടയ്ക്കാ മടിയിൽ വെയ്ക്കാം അടയ്ക്കാ മരമോ?)

You can keep one betel nut in your pocket, but will it be possible to keep a betel nut tree?

Kochu Raman and Sitha had a very pretty daughter. Kochu Raman was very strict in upbringing his daughter but Sita was not. Their daughter fell in love with an undesirable man. Sita managed to hide this from Kochu Raman. But things further progressed and their daughter became pregnant. At that time Kochu Raman's wife thought, "Adakka madiyil vekkam, Adakka maramo?"

9.Adi kondu valarna kuttium, adachu ventha kashayamum. (അടി കൊണ്ടു വളർന്ന കുട്ടിയും അടച്ചു വെന്ത ക്ഷായവും)

The boy who has been grown under great discipline and the medicine prepared strictly according to formula.

(In case of one medicine called Kashayam in Ayurveda, herbs have to be continuously boiled over time in large quantity of water in a closed vessel.)

Chakkunni and Rahim were neighbors working in the same office. Chakkunni had a son called Mathew and Rahim a son called Mammooti. Mammooti and Mathew were of the same age and went to the same school. While Rahim was a disciplinarian and chided for Mammooti's mistakes, Chakkunni never bothered about his son. Even if Mathew does some mistake, Chakkunni laughed over it. After so many years, while Rahim became an IAS officer, Mathew became a small time thief. One day when Chakkunni met Rahim, he cried and told that his son was so bad. Then Rahim told, "Adi kondu valarna kuttium, adachu ventha kashayamum."

10.Adicha vazhiyil nadanillengil, poya vazhi adikkuga. (അടിച്ച വഴിയെ പോയില്ലെങ്കിൽ പോയ വഴിയെ അടിയ്ക്കുക)

If one does not walk in the cleaned path, clean the path that he walks.

Kamala got married to Sankaran. Kamala was very fond of keeping a neat house but Sankaran never obeyed her wishes. So though daily Kamala used to clean her house nicely and arrange things properly, Sankaran, never used to remove his shoes while coming in and also kept on disturbing all her arrangement. One day while Kamala was crying over this, her mother told, "Adicha vazhiyil nadanillengil, poya vazhi adikkuga."

11. Achikku konchu paksham, Nayarkku inji paksham. (അച്ചിക്ക് കൊഞ്ചു പക്ഷം നായർക്ക് ഇഞ്ചി പക്ഷം)

The wife 's pet dish is clam and the husband's pet dish is ginger.

(Nairs are one of the very important communities of Kerala. But here Nair is used in place of husband)

Sankunni's father arranged him to marry Sunitha. From the first day of life they discovered that they were definitely not made for each other. They held different opinions on each and every aspect of life and quarreled a lot. One day Sankunni's father visited them and could not understand the state of affairs. He felt very sad about it. When he returned home, he told his wife, "By arranging the marriage of Sankunni, I have committed a mistake. Both of them are very miserable because, Achikku konchu paksham, Nayarkku inji paksham."

12. Adi Thettiya anayum veezhum. (അടി തെറ്റിയാൽ ആനയും വീഴും)

Even the elephant will fall, if it misses a step.

Zacharias was a very rich man of Kottayam. All people were very jealous of him. He had the bad habit of investing in companies promising very high returns. (These are called blade companies in Kerala). Initially he got very high returns. Whenever his friends advised him against such investments, he used to point out that he was very rich. Once when he had invested huge funds for an unusually high rate of interest. Next day to his surprise he found that the company owner had vanished along with his money. He cried and wept. His friends told him, "Adi Thettiya anayum veezhum."

13. Aduthal nakki kollum, akannal jenkki kollum. (അടുത്താൽ നക്കി കൊല്ലും അകന്നാൽ ജെക്കി കൊല്ലും)

If one goes near her, she will kill by licking and if one tries to go away, she will kill by strangling.

There was a bad man in a village near Trivandrum, called Kochunni. He was a very bad man. He used to trouble the villagers at the least opportunity. Ramunni, who was a stranger to the village, came to the village as the new village officer. He befriended Kochunni against the advice of all other villagers. Though Kochunni initially was a good friend, he started to bring bad news to Ramunni by taking bribes from others on his behalf. When this was brought to the notice of Ramunni, he became very angry and cut off all his relations with Kochunni. But Kochunni wrote to the government that Ramunni has taken a lot of bribes and should be punished. Ramunni lost his job. The villagers told him, "We advised you not to have any relations with Kochunni, but you did not listen. He is a vicious man and we knew, that he is of the type that would Aduthal nakki kollum, akannal jenkki kollum."

14. Andiyodaduthale, mangade puliyariyu. (അണ്ടിയോട് അടുത്താലെ മാങ്ങയുടെ പുളി അറിയും)

Only when one nears the stone of mango, one realises the sourness of the mango. (The flesh nearer to the stone is usually sourer than the flesh near the skin in case of mango)

Vanaja fell in love with Raman Namboodiri. Her family was against this affair. They told Vanaja that Mr. Namboodiri was a poor, bad and irresponsible person. But Vanaja's experience was to the contrary. Raman Namboodiri fulfilled all her wishes and agreed to each and every proposal of hers. He gave her costly presents and always helped others in front of her. Vanaja one day eloped with Raman Namboodiri along with her jewels. Their life started nicely. Raman Namboodiri one day came and told her that, he needed some money to invest immediately. Vanaja willingly gave all her jewels. After this Raman Namboodiri started ill-treating her. And he asked her to approach her parents for more money. Vanaja met her father and explained

everything to him. He told her, "I advised about this long back .At that time you were in love. Now do you realize, Andiyodaduthale, mangade puliyariyu."

15. Annaan kunjum thannal ayathu. (അണ്ണാൻ കുഞ്ഞും തന്നാലായത്)

Even a squirrel can provide the help that he is capable of.

(This proverb is based on a story in Ramayana. When Lord Rama was building a sea bridge, a small squirrel took whatever small stones it could and gave it to the monkeys who were bringing huge stones.)

There was a big earthquake in Tamil Nadu. Lot of people lost their properties and even their life. All the people of Kerala wanted to help them. It was in such a situation that fund collection drive was started in the office of Pichu Kutti. Pichu kutti was a very poor man and held a very small job. He also wanted to help. As per his income he could contribute only about one rupee. All his office people laughed at him and refused to accept his contribution. Pichu Kutti became very sad and sent his contribution to the Chief Minister directly. After a few days, the Chief Minister who was passing through the village specifically wanted to meet Pichu Kutti and sent for him. In front of all the big people of the village he told, "This poor man wanted to contribute only one rupee. You did not accept it. But remember because he donated one rupee, he went without food for a day. His donation is much greater than yours. Annan kunjum thannal ayathu."

16. Athazham mudakkan, Neerkoli mathi. (അത്താഴം മുടക്കുവാൻ നീർക്കോലി മതി)

Even a water snake can make you go without dinner.

(It is believed in Kerala that if a water snake (non-poisonous) bites you, you should not take food for that day.)

Kunjakko Mudalali was a very rich man. He was very proud of his riches and had a very poor opinion of the poor people. He always used to laugh at them and say, "What can this poor people do to me?". Saying this he always ill-treated them. Kunjakko mudalali was negotiating to arrange a marriage of his daughter. The groom's party had acquaintance with a very poor man of Kunjakko's village. This man happened to go to the Groom's village in search of some money. When talking to the Groom's party, he told, "ofcourse, Kunjakko is a good man. But he is cruel". The groom's party based on his comments dropped the alliance. Kunjakko told, "Athazham mudakkan, Neerkoli mathi"

17. Adhikamayal Amruthavum Visham. (അധികമായാൽ അമൃതും വിഷം)

When taken in huge quantities, even nectar will act like poison.

Mamooty got a stomachache and suffered badly. When he went to the doctor, the prescribed a tablet and told him to take half tablet three times a day for two days. Mamooty was cured of the stomachache. But again he got stomachache next month and he had an urgent work. Mamooty purchased the same medicine from the shop and took two tablets at a time so that he could get cured quickly. Instead of getting cured he went in to a coma and suffered a lot. When his doctor came to know about this he told, "You should not have done that for "Adhikamayal Amruthavum Visham."

18. Ammayude madiyil irikkugayum venam, Achande koode nadakkugayum venam.

(അമ്മയുടെ മടിയിൽ ഇരിക്കുകയും വേണം അച്ഛന്റെ കൂടെ നടക്കുകയും വേണം)

You desire to sit in your mother's lap and also you want to walk with your father at the same time.

Ramesh Nair was a brilliant son of Parameshwaran, who was a very poor clerk. Parameshwaran spent all his small wealth to educate his son. Ramesh also studied well. He appeared for IAS examination and completed it. When he was about to join the IAS, he got an

offer for a very well paying job in USA. Both were very attractive offers and Ramesh wanted to join both. Parameshwaran told him, "You are thinking, Ammayude madiyil irikkugayum venam, Achande koode nadakkugayum venam. This is not possible. Make up your mind quickly."

19.Ammakku prana vedana, makalkku Veena vayana. (അമ്മക്ക് പ്രാണവേദന മകൾക്ക് വീണ വായന)

Untold suffering for mother and the daughter is playing Veena (A musical instrument)

Nani amma was a noble lady. She looked after her family exceedingly well. Her children grew up as fine youngsters. Out of them her daughter Saudamini, some how hated her mother. She fell in love with a boy of a different caste. Nani amma was dead against the marriage. Though Saudamini married the one whom she wanted, her life was not happy. She always considered that this was due to the curse of her mother. Once Saudamini Amma's eldest son Paramu was involved in an accident and she wanted money urgently. Since no body could lend her sufficient amount, she approached Saudamini. Saudamini not only refused but also jeered at her mother. The entire town told, "Ammakku prana vedana, makalkku Veena vayana."

20.Ammayi udachathu Man Chatti, marumagal udachathu pon chatti.(അമ്മായി ഉടച്ചത് മൺ ചട്ടി മരുമകൾ ഉടച്ചത് പൊൻ ചട്ടി)

The pot broken by mother in law is made of clay and the same pot if broken by daughter in law was made of gold.

Bhaskara Verma got married to a poor Nair girl called Vilasini. Verma's mother who was rich did not like this alliance at all. So when Bhaskara Verma brought Vilasini home, his mother started troubling her. Daily when Bhaskara Verma returned from office his mother will have a list of complaints about Vilasini. One day she told that Vilasini was unnecessarily spending money by employing a maidservant. Bhaskara Verma, who knew that his mother used to employ another maidservant with double the pay concluded, "Ammayi udachathu Man Chatti, marumagal udachathu pon chatti."

21. Alpannu aiswaryam undayal, ardha rathrikku koda pidikkum. (അല്പൻ ഐശ്വര്യം ഉണ്ടായാൽ അർദ്ധരാത്രിയും കൂട പിടിയും)

When an insignificant man gets sudden wealth, he will hold umbrella at mid night. (In olden times, when kings used to go for a walk, a servant accompanied them holding an umbrella)

Basheer was a poor barber who used to eke out his living some how. He never had even a radio in his house. Basheer was in the habit of purchasing Lottery tickets. Once he got a prize of one crore rupees. His life style changed. He wanted to have every thing in his house, which no one had in the village. One of them was a 57 inches TV with Mega sound system. Though he was not that interested in watching TV, he used to watch TV with very loud voice even at night. All his neighbors could not sleep properly. One of them told to the other, "Alpannu aiswaryam undayal, ardha rathrikku koda pidikkum."

22.Allalulla pulayie chullalulla kadariyu. (അല്ലലുള്ള പുലയില്ലേ ചുള്ളിയുള്ള കാടറിയു)

Only a Pulayi who is poor, will know where in forest you get fallen wood.

(Pulayi is a lady belonging to a very low caste. Poor people in Kerala go to the forest, collect firewood and sell it in the nearby town)

Kunchacko and Mathayi were friends and classmates. While Kunjakko belonged to a very rich family, Mathayi belonged to a very poor family. Kunchacko used to visit all the hotels in the

town. One day when he was accompanying his parents in a car, he saw, Mathayi working as an assistant to a black smith. Next day, he jeered at Mathayi who replied, "Allalulla pulayiye chullalulla kadariyu. Similarly how can a rich man like you know about how we earn our living."

23. Alayil chavuttiyal, cherayum kadikkum. (അളയിൽ ചവട്ടിയാൽ ചേരയും കടിക്കും)

If you step on a snake pit, even a rat snake will bite.

(It is believed a rat snake is afraid of human beings and would try to run away.)

Rama Iyer was a very poor man who was a priest in a small temple in Kerala. He never used to bother any body and kept to himself. Some modern youngsters used to make fun of him, while he was proceeding to the temple in the priestly dress. But Rama Iyer never used to bother and used to go his way. One day these youngsters went to the temple where Rama Iyer was a priest and threw some dirt on the deity. This infuriated Rama Iyer and he thrashed the youngsters . People whom new Rama Iyer told, "Alayil chavuttiyal, cherayum kadikkum."

24. Azakulla Chakkayil Chulayilla. (അഴകുള്ള ചക്കയിൽ ചുളയില്ല)

There is no fleshy fruit in a pretty jackfruit.

Kinaraan was a well-qualified young man who was employed abroad. When his parents brought many alliances of very decent girls, whom, they knew well, he rejected them all, saying the girl was not pretty. Ultimately he fell in love with a very pretty girl and married her. Unfortunately this girl was a born shrew and made his life as hell. One day he complained about her to his parents. They told, "Did we not warn you, that beauty is not everything. Now you have realized, Azakulla Chakkayil Chulayilla."

25. Arayil aadiye, arangathu aaadavu. (അറയിൽ ആടിയേ അരങ്ങത്ത് ആടാവൂ)

Only after practice in the house, one should dance in the stage.

Ammu Kutti was very proud of her voice. She started to learn music under a well-known teacher. But the teacher was always finding fault with her. Ammu Kutti did not like this. A friend of Ammu Kutti was a well-known politician. Through his political influence he arranged for a stage performance to Ammu Kutti. But her teacher said that Ammu Kutti was not still ready to give independent performances. Against her advice Ammu Kutti gave a performance which was a thorough flop. Then Ammu Kutti's teacher told, "Arayil aadiye, arangathu aaadavu."

26. Adariyumo angadi Vanibham. (ആടറിയുമോ അങ്ങാടി വാണീഭം)

What does a sheep know about the business in a shop?

Sundar, who was a learned professor, used to make fun of his friend Abdullah, who was a mechanic in a Automobile workshop. Abdullah definitely resented this but never used to retort, because he thought that he himself was not a learned man. One day, while Sundar was going to his college, his car broke down. He called his friend Abdullah for help. Abdullah told him that it was a major repair and the engine needs to be changed. Sundar did not believe it. He took the car to another big workshop, where he had to pay double the money quoted by Abdullah. When Abdullah came to know of this, he told, "Adariyumo Angadi Vanibham."

27. Aana koduthalum, Aasa kodukkurathu. (ആന കൊടുത്താലും ആശ കൊടുക്കരുത്)

You can give an elephant as present but you should never give "hopeful longing " as present.

Ahmad Kutti was a poor driver who lived near a village. He was some how managing to make both ends meet somehow. His friend, Kadar was working in Dubai. He used to bring costly presents to all his family members, He also used to tell Ahmed Kutti, and about the lavish life he was leading. Because of his words. Ahmed kutti, sold all his property and gave the money to an

agent to get him a job in the Middle East, But the agent deceived him. He lost all his money. His family members were soar at Khader. They told that "Aana koduthalum , Aasa kodukkurathu."

28.Aana melinjalum thozhuthil kettumo? (ആന മെലിഞ്ഞാലും തൊഴുത്തിൽ കെട്ടുമോ..?)

Even if an elephant becomes thin, can he be tied in a cow-shed?

Rama Verma belonged to a princely family of Kerala. In his young age he was very rich and led a life of luxury. But with the march of democracy in the country, his family lost all his wealth. Rama Verma had to get a job, to make ends meet. One of his friends suggested that he should start a black marketing business. But Rama Verma refused. He told, "All my life I have learnt that honesty is the best policy. Just because I am poor , I cannot change myself. Aana melinjalum thozhuthil kettumo?"

29.Aal eriyal, Pambu Chavilla. (ആളുകളേറിയത് പമ്പു ചാവുകയില്ല)

Just because large number of people have assembled, it does not mean they can kill a snake.

Velayudhan was a rich politician. People did not like him because he was very selfish. But due to his political influence, many people were there always with him. One day, he was moving from one village to another. At that time lot of bad elements decided to attack him. But Velayudhan thought he was safe because lots of people were with him. But when the bad elements came with sticks, all people who were with Velayudhan ran away leaving him to be beaten by the bad elements. An elderly respected politician in the village told, "Even if you have with you, one man who is devoted to you, you will be safe but not just with many people. Aal eriyal Pambu Chavilla."

30.Aariya Kanji pazham Kanji (ആറിയ കഞ്ഞി പഴങ്കഞ്ഞി)

Very cold gruel is just old gruel.
(Kanji or rice gruel is a common food in Kerala.)

Mithran was a very lazy individual who never used to do any thing in time. Though he planned everything well, he never used to start anything when he is enthusiastic. Mithran planned to help his sister's family who were in real monetary trouble. But he went on thinking about it. One day he went to his sister's house with sufficient money. His sister told, "When we were in real trouble, we expected you will help. But you did not. Now we have managed to solve our problems. Please know that Aariya Kanji pazham Kanji"

31. Arkkanum vendi ookkanikkuga. (ആർക്കാനും വേണ്ടി ഓക്കാനിക്കുക)

Act like having nausea, for the sake of some one else.

Mathu Kutti was a very selfish individual. But he wanted to become popular. One day while walking in the road, he saw a huge crowd. When he enquired with some one in the crowd, they told that the police caught his neighbor who was his enemy, while stealing . Acting as if he was concerned, Mathu kutti started shouting and crying loudly, taking the name of his neighbor. Suddenly his neighbor came out of the crowd and told him, , " Arkkanum vendi ookkanikkuga, I am perfectly all right. It is your son, who has been caught stealing."

32.Aattil kalanjalum alannu kalayanam.(ആറ്റിൽ കളഞ്ഞാലും അളന്നു കളയണം)

Even if you throw some thing in the river, you have to measure and throw.

Madhavi was a vain lady who used to spend lot of money unnecessarily and without keeping an account. Her husband, Mukundan always used to tell her not to be like that. Their next house was vacant and a very rich family moved in. After that Madhavi started trying to imitate their neighbor in each and everything. She without bothering spent all her savings on buying luxuries like them. She also bought many things on installment basis. One day Mukundan fell ill and had to be admitted in hospital. But there was no money at home. He asked Madhavi, "you were buying unnecessary things recklessly without knowing how much you spend. This has resulted in this situation. You should know, Aattil kalanjalum alannu kalayanam."

33. Irikkum kombu murikkaruthu (ഇരിയ്ക്കുന്ന കൊമ്പു മുറിയ്ക്കരുത്)

You should not cut the branch on which you are sitting.

Chandra Hasan was a government servant. Being attracted by luxurious living, he used to take lot of bribes, though his elder brother advised him, "your only source of income is your job, Irikkum kombu murikkaruthu." But Chandra Hasan did not care for this. After some time he was caught by the vigilance squad and lost his job. When he was starving, he remembered the words of his brother.

34. Irunitte kaal Neetavu. (ഇരുന്നിട്ടേ കാൽ നീട്ടാവൂ)

Only after sitting, you should extend your legs.

Ittoop was a middle class farmer with sufficiently good income. His brother was a rich officer in the nearby town. Ittoop wanted to live like his brother. So he went on purchasing lot of luxuries on loan. When the installment for his debts were due, he was not able to pay them. He took more loan and slowly lost all his property. His brother told him, "you definitely could afford all this but you should have saved money and purchased them. If you had known the proverb, "Irunitte kaal Neetavu." all this would not have happened to you."

35. Irumbum Vidhyayum irikke kedum (ഇരുമ്പും വിദ്യയും ഇരിയ്ക്കേ കെടും)

Iron and knowledge will get spoiled, if they are not used.

Rasu Mani was the son of a rich Brahmin family. He was given the best education possible. But after getting qualified, he decided that he need not work because he was rich. Over time things changed. Suddenly due to the reform of ownership of landed property, Rasu Mani lost all his wealth. At that time Rasu Mani tried to get a job based on his qualification. But because his knowledge has rusted he was not able to perform well in interviews. One of his prospective employers told him, "You would have got this job easily, had you been using your knowledge, But now I cannot give it to you, because Irumbum Vidhyayum irikke kedum."

36. Ila mullil veenalum, mul ilayil veenalum , kedu ilakku thanne. (ഇല മുളളിൽ വീണാലും മുളള് ഇലയിൽ വീണാലും കേട് ഇലക്ക് തന്നെ)

Whether the leaf falls on the thorn or the thorn falls on the leaf, only the leaf will get damaged.

Mary was a rich man's daughter living in Bangalore. Like all her friends, she used to have several boy friends. In spite of her parents advice she used to move with them very closely. One of her boy friends made her believe that he was going to marry her. One day Mary eloped with this boy. The boy took her to Madras and they lived together in a hotel for a few days and the boy vanished. Mary had to come back to her parents but no one else was prepared to marry her. At that time she remembered the proverb her mother used to tell daily, "Ila mullil veenalum, mul ilayil veenalum, kedu ilakku thanne."

37. Irakkam undengil, ethavum undu. (ഇറക്കമുണ്ടങ്കിൽ ഏററവും ഉണ്ട്)

If things come down, they would also definitely go up.

Raman Nambiar was a good man. He went on suffering a lot in life. There were only disappointments. He used to feel extremely sad .He even attempted to commit suicide. But his close friend Verghese used to tell him, "Irakkam undengil ethavum undu." Raman Nambiar used to laugh at this. But one fine day, things started looking up. The investments that he had made earlier looked up. He got promotions. The sickness to all members in the family vanished. At that time Raman Nambiar, told his friend Verghese, You were right and I was wrong.

38.Unda choril Kallidaruthu (ഉണ്ടു ചോറിൽ കല്ലിടരുത്)

You should not put a stone in the food that you have taken.

(You should be grateful)

Rama Varrier belonged to a very poor family but was extremely intelligent. His family had a great friend, Krishnan Mudalali, a rich man of the village. Krishnan Mudalali, helped Rama Varrier to pursue his higher studies. With lot of hard work and the help provided by Mudalali, Rama Varrier completed his IAS and was appointed as the collector of the district in which his village was located. By that time Krishnan Mudalali has become an old man. His son, who was not good in studies, needed some help in getting a job. When Krishnan Mudalali approached Rama Varrier, he refused saying that according to his principles, he cannot do that. Krishnan Mudalali got very angry and told Rama Varrier, "Unda choril Kallidaruthu."

39. Undavanariyilla Unnathavante visappu. (ഉണ്ടവനറിയില്ല ഉണ്ണാത്തവന്റെ വിശപ്പ്)

The man, who has taken food, does not know the pangs of hunger of one who has not eaten.

Salim was a very devout Muslim. He had many friends belonging to the other religions. When Salim used to observe the fast of Ramadan (Not taking a morsel of food when Sun's rays lit the earth) , his friends used to make fun of him, saying that he compensated it at night and it was a meaningless fast. One day Salim told his friends, " We are observing this fast , so that each of us know how difficult it is to be hungry, as this will make us give food to any one who is hungry. Has it not been told, "Undavanariyilla Unnathavante visappu".

40.Ullapol onam, illathappol pattini.(ഉള്ളപ്പോൾ ഓണം ഇല്ലാത്തപ്പോൾ പട്ടിണി...)

When you have money celebrate Onam, when you do not have money starve.

(Onam is the greatest festival in Kerala)

Appu asan was a very old man. He was a teacher in a small school. He had only one son-Kinara Appu Asan and his wife struggled hard to help their son come up in life. After their son got a good job in a near by town , they arranged marriage of their son, with Yamini , daughter of a locally rich man. Yamini was a spend thrift and went on the spending the decent income of Kinara. Once when Appu Asan visited them, he felt bad about how the life of Kinara and Yamini was going on. He advised them, that it was very important to live within our means and it is also important to save for a rainy day. He said," Do not follow the proverb,. Ullapol Onam, illathappol pattini."

41.Unnan Koduthal ammavan, illengil kummavan.(ഉണ്ണാൻ കൊടുത്താൽ അമ്മാവൻ, ഇല്ലേൽ കമ്മാവൻ)

If you give food he calls you uncle, if not, a useless fellow.

Mithran, though brought up in a good family, learnt many bad habits. Due to them, he was always very poor. He had a friend called Verma, who was also having his same level of income. When Mithran was in difficulty, he used to ask help from Verma. Normally, he used to lend him money. Those times Mithran used to praise Verma and even fall at his feet. But once due to family responsibilities, Verma was not able to lend Mithran any money for a few months. Mithran started abusing Verma in Public. When Verma heard this he told, "It is but natural. Mithran is of the type who says, "Unnan Koduthal ammavan, illengil kummavan."

42. Unniye kandalariyam, oorile panjam. (ഉണ്ണിയെ കണ്ടാലറിയാം ഉറിലെ പഞ്ഞം)

If we see the child, we can conclude about the famine in his village.

Lathika was a very pretty girl from a middle class and cultured family. After getting educated, she joined a company as a clerk. Mohanan was the manager of the company. Even though they were not friends, One day, Mohanan called Lathika and asked her whether she will marry him. She in turn told him that such decisions are made by her family and asked him to meet them. Mohanan came to their house and right from the time he entered there he was showing off his riches. He also taunted Lathika's brothers, insulted their family friend and also talked rudely to her grand mother. After Mohanan's departure Lathika's father told, "Unniye kandalariyam, oorile panjam. This boy does not have a cultured back ground and we do not want him to marry in to our family."

43. Utharathil irikunnathu edukugayum venam, Kakshatil irikunnathu pogayam aruthu, (ഉത്തരത്തിൽ ഇരിയുന്നതു എടുക്കുകയും വേണം കക്ഷത്തിൽ ഇരിയുന്നതു പോകുകയും അരുത)

You should take the thing from the top of the attic and you also want to hold on the thing that you are having in your armpit.

(Without stretching arms, it is not possible to reach the attic)

Sanku was working in a bank in his village. Though he was a good worker, he never got a promotion. One day his boss called and told him that they have decided to post him in their branch which was in another village 1000 miles away and also give him promotion as manager. Though he wanted to become manager, he started pointing out the several problems his family would face if he was transferred out. Then his boss told, "you are like the person who thinks, Utharathil irikunnathu edukugayum venam, Kakshatil irikunnathu pogayam aruthu."

44. Uppu thinnavan vellam kudikkum. (ഉപ്പു തിന്നവൻ വെള്ളം കുടിക്കും)

The man, who eats salt, will drink water.

Alex was an income tax officer in a small town. He wanted to live a luxurious life but was not able to do it within his means. So he started taking bribe. One day based on the information given by a taxpayer, the house of Alex was raided and he was arrested. His father who was an old honest man, told, " It is well known that Uppu thinnavan vellam kudikkum. I told Alex long back not to take bribe and now he is suffering."

45. Uralu chennu Maddalathodu sangadam parayuga. (ഉരലു ചെന്നു മദ്ദളത്തിനോടു സഖടം പറയുക)

The mortar going and complaining to the two sided drum.

(While the drum receives beatings on both sides, mortar is hit only one side.

Sasidharan though well placed always used to complain about everything to his friend. Abdullah Kutti. One day he told him, "See, I making only this much money. I have two kids and also have to look after my father. You only tell me what to do?" Abdullah laughingly told him, "I have seen you complaining about everything. But this is too much. I have a salary same as you, and have to look after four kids and both my parents. It is like, Uralu chennu Maddalathodu sangadam parayuga."

46. Ullil onnu, Nakkil Onnu, Kayyil onnu. (ഉള്ളിൽ ഒന്ന്, നാക്കിൽ ഒന്ന്, കൈയിൽ ഒന്ന്.)

In mind some thing, in tongue some other thing and in hand yet another thing.

Joseph Ettan was a rich man in Kottayam .He had several daughters to give in marriage. Due to the fact that he was busy he had to rely on marriage broker, Abraham to suggest suitable alliances. Once the marriage broker suggested a good groom for his first daughter. The broker told that the groom was very rich, had a very well paying job and also was having all sterling qualities. With all these information the marriage was celebrated. Later they came to know that broker has only told lies. The groom was a poor, unemployed drunkard. Then Joseph Ettan told about the broker, "Ullil onnu, Nakkil Onnu, Kayyil onnu."

47.Urvasi sapat upakaram. (ഉർവ്വശി ശാപം ഉപകാരം)

The curse of Urvasi, became a divine blessing.

(This proverb is based on a mythological story. Arjuna, one of the pandavas was cursed by a celestial maiden to become an eunuch for one year because he repelled her advances. Later When Arjuna was forced to live in Ajnatha vasa(Living in hiding), he used this curse , and this curse became useful to him.)

Mathai was working for a big company in Bombay. He was a very good worker and others were jealous of him. One day for some silly reason, his Boss got angry with him and ordered him to be transferred out of Bombay. Fortunately for him he was posted in a town near his native place. This made Mathai think, "Urvasi sapat upakaram."

48.Ethatha Mundiri pulikkum (എത്താത്ത/കിട്ടാത്ത മുന്തിരി പുളിയും)

The grapes, which you cannot reach, are sour.

Padmanabhan wanted to marry a very pretty girl called Veena, who was also rich. But that girl was in love with some body else. Disappointed by this, Padmanabhan told his friend, "Veena thinks, she is the only pretty girl .To tell the truth, she is not pretty at all. ".His friends then replied, "Ethatha Mundiri pulikkum."

49.Ellavarum pallakkil eriyal chumakkan all illa,(എല്ലാവരും പല്ലക്കിലേറിയാൽ ചുമക്കുവാൻ ആളില്ല)

If every body climbs in to the palanquin, there would not be any body to carry them.

In the assembly elections held in Goa with 41 members, there was no majority for any party. So they cobbled up an alliance of small parties so that the coalition will get majority. But in the first join meeting they found that all the 21 members of the majority alliance wanted to become chief minister of the state. Then one political pundit told, "Ellavarum pallakkil eriyal chumakkan all illa"

50. Eliye pidikkum, ennal Poocha kalam udakkum. /Eliye pikkuvan Aarengilum Illam chudumo (എലിയെ പിടിക്കും എന്നാൽ പുച്ചു കലമുടക്കും.... എലിയെ പിടിക്കുവാൻ ആരെങ്കിലും ഇല്ലം ചുടുമോ...)

The cat will catch the rat, but it will also break the pot. To catch a rat nobody buns their house

There was a big uncontrollable agitation for lowering price of rice in Kerala. The strike became very violent. A stage came when the police force of the state was not sufficient to control the agitation. So the ruling party brought police forces from out side the state. They did control the agitation but became a liability, as they started troubling innocent people, since they did not know the local language. Then Chief Minister thought, "Eliye pidikkum, ennal Poocha kalam udakkum."

"To get a small gain or a thing we are not prepared to lose everything we had...."

51. Ellu muriye panithal pallu muriye thinnam. (എല്ലുമുറിയെ പണിതാൽ പല്ലു മുറിയെ തിന്നാം)

If you do back breaking work, you can eat till your teeth break. (If you work hard you can live without poverty)

Kochu was a rich farmer and had vast property, which was managed by him. He earned a lot of money, which was deposited in the bank. He had two sons-Achyuthan and Krishnan. Achyuthan was a very hard worker and Krishnan a very lazy one. When Kochu died, Krishnan preferred the money in the bank to the vast properties because he was not prepared to work. A few years later, Krishnan lost all the money and Achyuthan became prosperous by hard work. The people of the village when they were talking of Achyuthan used to say, "Ellu muriye panithal pallu muriye thinnam."

52. Kaduku chorunnathu kanum, aana chorunnthu kanilla. (കടുകു ചോരുന്നതു കാണും എന്താൽ ആന ചോരുന്നതു കാണില്ല)

One takes note of when mustard is lost but does not bother when an elephant is lost. (People see small losses and never see big losses)

Kutti Asan was very strict with his wife's spending. He used to question her a hundred times before she spent even a small amount. Their children grew up and Kutti Asan was very fond of them. All his children were spend thrifts and because of his love, Kutti Asan never chided them. A stage came when they lost majority of their earning. Then Kutti Asan's wife told him, "Kaduku chorunnathu kanum, aana chorunnthu kanilla. It is because you never bothered about the huge spending of our children, this came about."

53. Erinja kallum paranja vaakum thiruchedukkan avilla (എറിഞ്ഞ കല്ലും പറഞ്ഞ വാക്കും തിരിച്ചെടുക്കുവാൻ ആവില്ല... / കൈ വിട്ട അസ്ത്രവും വാ വിട്ട വാക്കും തിരിച്ചെടുക്കുവാൻ കഴിയില്ല)

You can't take back, the words that you speak or the stones that you throw.

Kannan was a small official in Kerala. His father died when he was 25 leaving a 10-year-old brother to look after. His name was Raja. Raja was brought up well because of the sacrifices of Kannan and his wife. He became a software engineer in USA earning a lot of money. Kannan had a little daughter and he was struggling to finance her education. Once when Raja was on a visit to India, Kannan asked Raja, whether he can support his daughter's education. Raja not only refused but also told Kannan, "Why should I do it? I want to become a rich man." Kannan became very agitated and wounded. After a few years, over time Raja realized his mistake. But it was too late. Kannan wrote to him, "You say you are sorry but you should know that Erinja kallum paranja vaakum thiruchedukkan avilla."

54. Echu kootiyal muzhachirikkum. (ഏച്ചു കുട്ടിയാൽ (കെട്ടിയാൽ) മുഴച്ചിരിയ്ക്കും)

If one thread is joined to another, there will be a bulge.

Mohammed was an elderly retired man. His son Aboo married a girl and brought her to their home. Her name was Eisa kutty. Eisa Kutty did not like her father in law and troubled him a lot when Aboo was away.

Mohammed being a cultured individual never complained about this to anybody and always told everyone how much he likes his daughter in law. Once Mohammed's sister paid a visit. She could easily find out the strained relation. She told Mohammed, "You are acting as if there is nothing wrong. But I can see there is problem because, Echu kootiyal muzhachirikkum."

55. Ettile pasu pullu thinnukayilla (ഏട്ടിലെ പശു പുല്ലു തിന്നുകയില്ല)

The cow in the printed page will not eat grass.

Mathai kutty was a small time politician. The party that he belonged was ruling over Kerala. They used to produce large books in which the prosperity of each village was described. Mathai Kutty's village was very backward and did not have any facilities. But one day Mathai Kutty was telling his friends, quoting the government book that their village was a very developed one. One of his friends told, "friend, you should not quote those figures. You and I know that there is no development here in this village. You know that Ettile pasu pullu thinnukayilla."

56. Ikyam mathyam maha balam (ഐക്യമേവ മഹാബലം)

Unity is great strength.

Koran master was a wise man of a village. He was sad that the village was having people who belonged to various political parties. If any proposal was made for the betterment of the village by any one, people belonging to the other party opposed it. Because this, there was no high school in the village and children used to walk long distances to get educated. One-day Koran master, who respected by all, called all the political leaders to his house and impressed up on them the necessity of unity in this matter. He told them that if they do not agree the entire village would boycott all political parties. This impressed all of them and they jointly fought and got a new high school for the village. Koran master was very happy and told, ".Ika mathyam maha balam."

57. Onnugil asande nenjathu, allengil kalarikku purathu. (ഒന്നുകിൽ ആശാന്റെ നെഞ്ചത്ത് അല്ലെങ്കിൽ കളരിക്ക് പുറത്ത്)

Either on the chest of the teacher or outside the school.

(Asans were village teachers in Kerala and Kalari was a school teaching the great art of self-defense called Kalari Payithu.)

Balan was a fifteen-year-old boy of a rich family. He was not at all disciplined and very poor in studies. He used to quarrel and disrespect his teachers in school and most of the time, told lies in the house and absented himself. For his activities outside the house he needed money. This he got by stealing in his own house. But one day when he was trying to steal some body else's purse he was caught and taken to police station. The teachers when they came to know told Balan's parents, " Though you are rich and cultured, you did not discipline your son properly. He was Onnugil asande nenjathu, allengil kalarikku purathu. And this is the result."

58. Onnu cheenjal matunninu valam. (ഒന്ന് ചീഞ്ഞാൽ മറ്റൊന്നിന് വളം)

When some thing rots, it becomes manure for the other.

Ousep was a poor farmer. He had a very brilliant son called John. Ousep struggled very hard to educate his son. When the son started attending college, he realized how much Ousep was suffering due to poverty. Then Ousep told him , "It is all right . Out of the sacrifice of mine, you would become great. Don't you know the proverb, "Onnu cheenjal mathe onninu valam."

59. Onne ullu vengil olakka kondu adikkanam. (ഒന്നേ ഉള്ളുവെങ്കിൽ ഉലക്കകൊണ്ട് അടിയ്ക്കണം)

If you have only one child, he has to be beaten with the pestle.

Dorai was the only son of a rich Brahmin family in Kerala. He got whatever he wanted from his parents. All his wishes were fulfilled. Slowly he started learning all bad habits including drugs. Then his parents they cried a lot. Their well-meaning neighbors told them, "You did not bother to discipline Dorai because he was your only child and this is the result. You should have known that Onne ullu vengil olakka kondu adikkanam."

60. lam kombil pidichalum pulim kombil pidikkanam. (ഇളം കൊമ്പിൽ പിടിച്ചാലും പുളിക്കൊമ്പിൽ പിടിയണം)

If you decide to catch for support on a light branch, you should catch the branch of a tamarind tree.

(It is believed that Tamarind tree stem and branches are the strongest)

Narayanan Kutti was a youngster, who did lot of social service. People in general liked him. Eventually he wanted to become a politician. He thought that he can start a party of his own and he did. But soon he realized that his following was not sufficient to generate funds or get votes. He then joined a slightly popular party, Due to his popularity he was made an office bearer of the party. But he soon realized that that small party could not do much to him. At this time he met a political savant who knew about his good work. That savant told him, "Narayanan Kutti, what you have been doing has not been right. If you were interested in joining politics, you should have joined one of the premier political parties of Kerala. Only they would be able to project your good work and get you the importance you are dreaming about. Has it not been told, Oru kombil pidichalum pulim kombil pidikkanam."

61. Orumayundengil ulakka melum kidakkam. (ഒരുമയുണ്ടങ്കിൽ ഉലക്കയിലും കിടക്കാം)

If you have unity, you can even sleep on the top of a pestle.

(In this proverb they assume that when you are united you would be prepared to adjust.)

Kamala and her husband Subbaraman were always quarreling, as they were not able to adjust. Though Subbaraman earned sufficiently, both of them will fight from dawn to dusk as what has to be bought and what need not be bought. Though they had money and willingness to spend, their life became miserable. Once Kamala's father Ananthu paid a visit to their home. He could very easily grasp the situation. He told Kamala that essence of a home is unity, which leads to adjustment and sacrifice. He told, "If only both of you had realized this you would have lived happily. You should know that Orumayundengil ulakka melum kidakkam."

62. Ozhukku vellathil azhukkill (ഒഴുക്ക് വെള്ളത്തിൽ അഴുക്കില്ല)

There is no dirt in flowing water.

Kochu Mon had two sons – Mathai and Xavier. Both of them were married and were living with Kochu Mon. While Mathai was an extremely lazy man who spent all the time doing nothing, Xavier was a very industrious individual who was always engaged. During the course of time, Mathai started finding fault with the running of the house. He said that his father was partial and he was a bad man. Xavier was surprised at these allegations. Kochu Mon called both his sons and told, "Mathai, you are telling all these words because of the accumulated dirt in your mind. This came there because, you are lazy and never kept your mind engaged. You try to be like your brother Xavier and prove, Ozhukku vellathil azhukkill."

63. Onam pirannalum, unni pirannalum, korannu kumbilil Kanji. (ഓണം പിറന്നാലും ഉണ്ണി പിറന്നാലും കോരൻ കമ്പിളിൽ കഞ്ഞി)

Whether it is a festival Onam or whether a child is born, Koran takes his rice gruel using a leaf spoon.

(Onam is the most important annual harvest festival in Kerala and by Koran what is indicated is a very poor man. Kanji is rice gruel, which is popular in Kerala. Leaf spoons using leaf of Jack tree are also very common)

Politicians carry out reforms for the general public. They also shout from the treetops as to what they have done. One politician called Govindan once gave a talk in a village. He told how the per capita income has increased and how the inflation index has been brought down. Two poor people. Koran and Nanu were hearing this talk. Koran asked Nanu, "What is he telling about? There has been no end to our suffering even now. We do not find any improvement. "

Then Nanu told, "Onam pirannalum, unni pirannalum, korannu kumbilil Kanji. All these words are not for common people like us."

64.Olam ninnitu kadalil irangamo? (ഓളം നിന്നിട്ടു കടലിൽ ഇറങ്ങാമോ)

Can we get in to the sea, after the tide stops?

Krishnan had the bad habit of postponing every important decision. One day he told his wife Malini, " You have been always complaining about my not purchasing new cloths and jewelry for you. You should know that there is inflation now. I am just waiting for the inflation to subside. As soon as it comes down, the first thing we will do it is to go to the shop." Then Malini replied, "Olam ninnitu kadalil irangamo?"

65.Kadannal kootil kaalu eriyaruthu.(കടന്നൽ കുട്ടിൽ കല്ലെറിയരുത്)

You should not throw stones at the gnat hive.
(If you throw, the gnats will get agitated and bite you)

Raman Kutti was a well-educated man and had a good job. Though he used to do his job sincerely, he always used to speak of his rights and the rights of others. This irked his bosses. Once one co-worker committed a big mistake and was removed from his job. Raman Kutti could not tolerate it and started fighting with his bosses. They told him, "we have done the right thing. We have to tell you that Kadannal kootil kaalu eriyaruthu and that you will loose your job by this unnecessary act."

66.Kadalil chennalum naya nakkiye kudikku.(കടലിൽ ചെന്നാലും നായ് നക്കിയെ കുടിയ്ക്കും)

Even if the dog goes to the sea, it will only lick and drink.

Kuttan was a very poor man. He struggled hard all his life. Because of this he thought several times before buying anything. Eventually, his children grew up and became rich. They gave lots of money to Kuttan. But his habit of thinking and rethinking on every purchase continued. His wife got bored of this and told, "Kadalil chennalum naya nakkiye kudikku."

67.Kandal ariyathavan kondal ariyum.(കണ്ടാൽ അറിയാത്തവൻ കൊണ്ടാൽ അറിയും)

One, who does not know when he sees, will understand when he experiences.

Narayanan was a rich man. He traveled normally in his chauffeur driven car. Narayanan was very fond of speed. He always used to order his driver to go fast. That driver, who was a sober man, told that he would not do it as it may lead to accidents. Narayanan changed his driver because of this. The new driver was a speed fiend. Two days after he took up the job, Narayanan's car dashed against a tree and Narayanan was hospitalized with several serious injuries. The old driver came to see him and Narayanan told him, "What you were giving me the right advice. I did not realise it for Kandal ariyathavan kondal ariyum."

68.Kathunna purayil ninnu oorunna kazhukkol labham.(കത്തുന്ന പരയിൽ നിന്നും ഊരുന്ന കഴിക്കാൽ ലാഭം)

The rafter taken out from the burning roof is also profit for some people.

Gheeverghese was living with his five daughters in Kottayam. Every time he had to give his daughter in marriage he was forced to give huge dowry. Since he was not rich this made him very poor. His first son in law was Ouseph who was a very rich man. Gheeverghese had one more daughter to give in marriage but no money at all. He approached Ouseph for a loan. Ouseph refused point blank. Then Gheeverghese sold his small house and took loan at back breaking interest and arranged the marriage of his last daughter. He invited Ouseph for the marriage. At the marriage Ouseph started demanding a diamond ring as Gheeverghese was

giving his last daughter in marriage. Gheevghese protested and Ouseph insisted. The people of the village told about Ouseph, "he is an extremely avaricious individual. He considers Kathunna purayil ninnu oorunna kazhukkol labham."

69. Kakka kulichal kokku akumo?(കാക്ക കുളിച്ചാൽ കൊക്ക് ആകുമോ?...)

Will a black crow become white like a crane if it takes bath?

Koran was a barber of the village. Over time his children worked very hard and became very rich. Koran wanted to get a girl from a family, which was for several generations a noble family. That family laughed at Koran and his wish to marry a girl from their house for his son and told, "Kakka kulichal kokku akumo?"

70. Kakkakkum than kunju pon kunju.(കാക്കക്കൂട്ടം തൻ കുഞ്ഞു പൊൻ കുഞ്ഞു)

Even for a crow its baby is a golden baby.

Choman was a very poor man and eked out living by begging in his village. He had few children, all of whom suffered a lot. Once a tsunami came to the village and Choman's one son was killed. At that time one rich man of the village told, "It is Ok because that boy even if he is alive would have suffered like Choman." Hearing this Choman got very wild and shouted at the rich man., "Do not be so rude. My son, in spite of all my hard ships is as dear to me as your son is to you. Kakkakkum than kunju pon kunju."

71. Kadi ayalum moodi kudikkanam.(കാടിയാലും മുടി കുടിക്കണം)

Even if you are drinking a cheap gruel, you should drink it without public announcement.

Savithri and Gayathri were neighbors. While Savithri was poor, Gayathri was rich. Savithri used to go on complaining about her poverty and how she was not able to buy even essentials to Gayathri. Gayathri in turn told to all her friends. People started making fun of Savithri's family. Savithri's husband got very upset because of this and told Savithri, "Yes, because of our bad luck we are poor. What is the point in telling this to all your friends? They would not pity you but only laugh at you. Don't you know the saying, "Kadi ayalum moodi kudikkanam."

72. Kattile thadi, Thevarude aana, valiyeda vali. (കാട്ടിലെ തടി തേവരുടെ ആന വലിയടാ വലി..)

The log from the forest, God's own elephant, why do you bother, pull it as you like.
(The temple elephants are used in dragging logs of wood from rivers in Kerala.)

There was a big flood in a village. Lot of poor people got affected. Many rich people as well as the government rushed to help the affected villagers with supply of food, cloths money etc. Kutti Narayanan who was a rich man and who was the president of the local body of the village was in charge of the distribution. Kutti Narayanan did not like the poor people and went on wasting the aids received and also supplied it to people who were not affected by the flood. The chief minister came to know of this .He called Kutti Narayanan and told him, "Do you think, that all this aid is Kattile thadi, Thevarude aana, valiyeda vali. What you are doing is a sin .I am immediately removing you from your post."

73. Kanam Vittum, Onam Unnam.(കാണം വിറ്റും ഓണം ഉണ്ണണം)

Even by selling your land , you should eat the Onam feast.

(Onam is the most important festival of Kerala.)

Velayudhan was a very poor labourer. He had several children. During a particular year, he had one bad luck after the other and was in great difficulty. The Onam festival came. He told his wife Sumathi, "This year, I do not have any money to celebrate Onam." Then she told," That may be

the case but Onam is our only major festival. If you do not celebrate it, our children will be disappointed. So take some loan and we will celebrate Onam." Velayudhan agreeing with her asked, "Kanam Vittum , Onam Unnamo?"(should we celebrate Onam even by selling our land?)

74.Kala Petennu Kettu Kayar edukkuga! (കാള പെറ്റൻ കേട്ടയുടൻ കയർ എടുക്കുക)

Like taking a rope to tie the calf, when you hear that the Ox has given birth.

One day Rama Iyer was hearing the news in the radio. They announced that there was going to be a big flood from the river in Chithur and they should immediately start taking precautions. Rama Iyer became extremely agitated and started shouting to his children and wife to move to the upstairs with all their material. Then his wife told him, "What nonsense are you talking. That Chithur must be a different place because for at least 20 miles we do not have a river near our village. You are acting like, Kala Pethennu Kettu Kayaredukkuga!"

75. Kittiyathine vittitu, parakkunnathine pidikkuga.(കിട്ടിയതിനെ വിട്ടിട്ട് പറക്കുന്നതിനെ പിടിയുവാൻ ശ്രമിയ്ക്കുക)

After leaving out what you have in your hand, try to catch that which flies.

Pisharody was a very ambitious youngster. He completed his graduate degree. He applied for several jobs. For some time he did not get any response from anywhere. After about a year, he was summoned for an interview for a small job, and got it. But when he was about to join the job, their neighbor Mathulla told Pisharody, "I can easily get you a very well paying job in Saudi Arabia. Only you have to give me some money to help you get that." When Pisharody told this to his father, he told him. "Do not be foolish. What you are suggesting is like. Kittiyathine vittitu, parakkunnathine pidikkuga."

76. Kudul edulthu kanichalum, Vazha Naru.(കുടൽ എടുത്തു കാണിച്ചാലും വാഴ നാൽ)

Even if you take out your liver and show it, he thinks it is banana fiber.

Avarachan was a very sincere worker. However, his boss always used to find fault with him. Once when his boss was away on tour, Avarachan had to take a lot of risk, take a risky decision, and save the company. But when Avarachan's boss returned, "Oh, that is all! That is nothing great". Then Avarachan got furious and told his boss, "For you as far as I am concerned, Kudul edulthu kanichalum, Vazha Naru."

77.Kudam Kamizhthi vechu vellam Ozhicha pole. (കുടം കമഴ്ത്തിവെച്ച് വെള്ളം ഒഴിച്ചപ്പോലെ)

Like pouring water in to pot placed upside down.

Sundaresan had a big family but was a spend thrift. Because of this bad habit, he underwent many sufferings. Most of the time money was in short supply in their house .One day his wife had cooked good meals and was waiting for him. He came hurriedly to the house and told his wife, "Today I have decided that we will all eat in the hotel." His wife protested and told, "I have already cooked. All this will go waste. Apart from that where is money with us to spend in a hotel.?" But then Sundaresan started shouting loudly. His wife told, "Whatever I tell you is like Kudam Kamizhthi vechu vellam Ozhicha pole to you."

78.Kuninju kayaranam, jelinju iranganam,(കുനിഞ്ഞു കയറണം... ഞെളിഞ്ഞു ഇറങ്ങണം)

When you enter it should be with bowed head and when you come out it should be with raised head.

Sridharan was a modern day youngster in search of a job. He was very intelligent and was a post graduate .The only problem with him was, that he was very proud of himself. He tried for many jobs and at the interview stage he failed to get them. Somehow, he felt that he did not know how to face an interview. He purchased several books on the subject and took it home. His grandpa Kunju Raman, who was a wise man asked Sridharan, what are those books for. Sridharan replied that experts wrote them on interview. Sridharan's grandpa asked, "Has it been written in the book that for an interview, what is important to know is, "Kuninju kayaranam, jelinju iranganam,". You do not know this and that is why you are failing in all interviews."

79.Kundham poyal kudathilum thirayanam.(കുന്തംപോയാൽ കുടത്തിലും തിരയണം)

When a spear is lost, you should even search in a pot.
(What you are searching may be in a very unlikely spot.)

Paru had misplaced her diamond necklace. She searched for it in her bedroom and bathroom and told her husband, that they should report the theft to the police. But her husband was not convinced that it was stolen. So he started searching for it in the house. At last he found it among his baby's toys. He told Paru, "Don't you know that Kundam poyal kudathilum thirayanam.. This necklace has been removed by our baby from our bedroom and has been mixed with his toys. When you are searching for a thing, some times we may find it in impossible places like this."

80. Kurakkum Patti Kadikilla (കുരയ്ക്കം പട്ടി കടിയ്ക്കില്ല)

The barking bitch does not bite.

Nanu Asan was a very wise man. His daughter who was working in a government office told him that her boss always shouts at her. She told him that she was afraid about loosing her job, Nanu Asan told her, "Kurakkum Patti Kadikilla. Your boss seems to be a bully. Bullies are normally cowards. When you face them with facts, they tend to run away. In fact you should be afraid of others in your office who act as if they are good. For selfish reasons they may even harm you."

81. Kurudante nattil Konkannan Rajavu (കുരുടെൻ്റെ നാട്ടിൽ കോങ്കണ്ണൻ രാജാവു്)

In the land of blind, that one who has a crooked vision is the king.

A new political party was formed in Kerala. All the people who joined the political party were corrupt people. The public was wondering how this new political party will survive. They thought that they will elect the most corrupt among them as a leader. But what happened was they elected Achyuthan, who a second rung leader but who was not known as very corrupt as their leader. Then a news paper wrote," Kurudante nattil Konkannan Rajavu. If any others would have been elected as leader, no body would have voted for them."

82. Mookilla Rajyathu Muri Mookan Rajavu (മൂക്കില്ലാ രാജ്യത്ത് മുറിമൂക്കൻ രാജാവു്)

In the land where no body has a nose, the one with half nose would be king.

This proverb though worded differently is same as the proverb given in S.No. 81

83.Kulikkathe eram chumukkuga. (കുളിയ്ക്കാതെ ഇററൻ ചുമക്കുക)

Carrying wet clothes without taking a bath.

Rasamani was a very honest but garrulous worker. He never was able to keep any secrets. His Boss Velayudhan once took a small bribe from a poor man. This was seen by Rasamani. As was his wont, he told this to many people. A complaint was made by one of the enemies of Velayudhan and he was punished. The office also decided to punish Rasamani, because they

thought he was also involved in taking the bribe, Rasamanis friends told that this was a typical case of Kulikkathe eram chumukkuga

84. Kulippichu kulipichu kuttiye kanathayi (കുളിപ്പിച്ചു കുളിപ്പിച്ചു കുട്ടിയെ കാണാതായി)

By giving bath again and again, the baby vanished.

(Meaning "too much love will spoil the child")

Appu Kuttan and Malathi got a son very long time after their marriage. They loved him a lot. Whatever the baby wanted was given. The baby was not punished for any reason. The baby became spoilt because of this reason. When he grew up he became a very selfish and very bad boy who used to trouble people. One day when was caught and put in the jail, Appu Kuttan and Malathi felt that what they have done is wrong and their uncle told them that, "Kulippichu kulipichu kuttiye kanathayi."

85. Koode kidakkunnavannu Raa pani ariyam. (കൂടെ കിടക്കുന്നവനെ രാപ്പനി അറിയും)

The one who sleeps with you will know whether you had night fever.

Krishnan master was a very strict head master. To bring his school glory he punished wrong doing by all the students, very severely. All students called him as one without any heart. One-day Krishnan master's sister happened to meet one of the students of Krishnan master in a marriage. That girl told her, "Oh you are from that village. Do you by chance know a very cruel man called Krishnan Master." Then Krishnan master's sister told, "He is really a very nice man who used to be very sad in his house because he was forced to punish the children in the school. None of them no about that aspect of him because only, Koode kidakkunnavannu Raa pani ariyam."

86. Kai nanayathe, meen pidikkan pattumo (കൈ നനയാതെ മീൻ പിടിക്കാൻ പറ്റുമോ)

Can you catch fish without wetting your hand ?

(Here it refers to the fisherman who catch fish using nets.)

Pavithra Verma belonged to a king's family in Kerala. Over years the family lost all its wealth. Pavithra Verma who was never used to do any work had to search for a paying job. But he was not qualified or equipped for doing any work. One day one rich cultivator offered a him a menial job in his farm. Naturally the cloths of Pavithra Verma got very dirty When he went home, he told his wife that he will not do that work from that day because he was feeling tired by doing that job. And also his cloths got dirty. Then she asked him, "Kai nanayathe, meen pidikkan pattumo?"

87. Kayooku ullavan Karyakkaran. (കൈയ്യുക്കളുവൻ കാര്യക്കാരൻ)

He who has the ability would be the leader

Abdullah who was very intelligent and capable studied well. After his studies he got a job in a big firm exporting fish. Raman, who was Abdullah's boss, was a very inefficient individual. Both the fishermen who were employed by the firm to catch fish as well as the big buyers preferred to deal with Abdullah rather than Raman. So the company one-day dismissed Raman and appointed Abdullah in his place. Raman went to the managing director and protested. He told Raman, "You know well , how inefficient you are and you also know about the efficiency of Abdullah. In running a firm like this, we strictly go by the saying, "Kayooku ullavan Karyakkaran."

88. Koriya kinatile Uravu ullu. (കോരിയ കിണറിലെ ഉറവയുള്ളൂ. . .)

Only in the well from which water is drawn, the spring will get energized.

Nambisan learnt computer software in Mumbai. He joined a big software company but rarely used his knowledge. Slowly his knowledge got rusted. But one of his colleagues David who was not as qualified as Nambisan worked very hard. He kept on reading books and used his knowledge well. After some time while David got a big hike, Nambisan was left where he was. Nambisan's friend Chacko, one day told him, "Unless you use your knowledge you will never gain more of it. With your attitude, it is definite that slowly you will be thrown out. You should know that, Koriya kinathile Uravu ullu."

89. Koleduthavanokke Marar Akumo? (കോലെടുത്തവനൊക്കെ മാരാർ ആകുമോ...?)

Will, every one who takes a stick, become a drummer?
(Marar is a caste in Kerala who are expert drummers)

Gopalakrishnan studied in the National film institute. Later he worked as an apprentice for many ace directors and became very famous as a film director. His success was mainly due to his hard work and constant learning. Govindan was one of his classmates in the same National Film Institute. He was extremely lazy and was very egoistic. After he completed his course, he directly applied for big positions. He failed miserably. One day he was complaining to his friend, "See that Gopalakrishnan, who is a great director now. He was after all, my classmate. We learned the same thing. I am not lucky while he is." Then his friend replied, "Just because you are his class mate, you cannot be like him. Koleduthavanokke Marar Akumo?"

90. Gathi kettal Puli pullum thinnum. (ഗതി കെട്ടാൽ പുലി പുല്ലും തിന്നും)

If pushed down by misfortune, even a tiger will eat grass.

Raman panikkar was a very proud man. He was from a very rich family of astrologers. Even when he was a child, his family moved outside only in a car. Going by walk or by cycling was unthinkable to him. But slowly bad times came. The family of Raman Panikkar lost all their wealth. One day they were forced to sell the only one car that was remaining. That day Raman Panikkar was forced to go by walk to the neighboring shop to buy some provisions. After he left the shop owner told his assistant, "Do you see the fate of Raman Panikkar. Before this I never believed that Gathi kettal Puli pullum thinnum."

91. Changathi nannayal, kannadi venda. (ചങ്ങാതി നന്നായാൽ കണ്ണാടി വേണ്ട)

If you have a good friend, there is no need for a mirror.
(The friend will point out your defects to you.)

Narayanan poduval was a big politician and also a very rich man. Since he was very high up in the political hierarchy, he had lot of friends surrounding him. All these friends used to flatter him and tell him that all that he was doing was right. In one of the assembly elections in Kerala, Narayanan Poduval was the candidate for his village for a major political party. His friends told him, that he would definitely win, because of his popularity, but he lost. The leader of his party told him, "I was always thinking that your friends, would tell you about the wrong decisions you made. After all it is only through them, we can find out whether we are popular in the constituency. You should have chosen your friends properly. You possibly do not know the saying, "Changathi nannayal, kannadi Venda.""

92. Chatha kuttiyude Jadagam nokkuga! (ചത്ത കുട്ടിയുടെ ജാതകം നോക്കുക)

Studying the horoscope of a dead child.

Raman Kutty was a district collector of Ernakulam district. He was a very irresponsible man both in social as well as in official life. One day he received a news item from the government saying that there is a possibility of Tsu Nami in his district. He simply did not bother about the message. The Tsu Nami came and several poor people living near the beach died. Raman Kutty then

rushed there and told them that the government has decided to give huge money compensation to the families of those who lost their life. Then they laughed at him and told that his action was like, "Chatha kuttiyude Jadagam nokkuga!"

93. Chavittiyal kadikkatha pambundo? (ചവിട്ടിയൽ കടിക്കാത്ത പാമ്പുണ്ടോ...?)

Is there a snake, which will not bite, when you step on it?

Achyuthan was an extremely soft spoken and nice individual working in a government office. His boss was a born bully. He used to terrorize every body. Achyuthan kept away from his presence. One day his boss suddenly called him and told, "You are useless fellow. You never speak to any body." Achyuthan replied, "No, sir, I normally keep to my job and never bother about others. In fact many people like me." His boss then raised his voice and shouted, "You useless scoundrel, son of a bitch" This irritated Achyuthan too much, "He shouted back, " It is not I but you who are a son of bitch. All people hate you. If you shout at me like this, I will beat you." The boss was terrified and kept quiet. People knowing Achyuthan well told, "Chavittiyal kadikkatha pambundo?"

94. Chirattayile vellam urumbinnu samudram. (ചിരട്ടയിലെ വെള്ളം ഉറുമ്പിൻ സമുദ്രം)

The water in the coconut shell is like ocean to the ant.

Kumaran was a very poor villager. One of his friends, Krishnan got him a small job in a city. Kumaran shifted to the city and was living in a small house. One day while he was returning at night, he saw one old man being chased by few thugs. Kumaran ran after them and chased the thugs away. That old man asked Kumaran's address and went back to his home. Next day a very big car came to Kumaran's house and took him to the old man's office. That old man was the richest man in the town and he gave him a present of ten thousand rupees. Kumaran started weeping and told the old man, "Sir, I have never seen even hundred rupees together. This is too much for me. ". The old man replied, "I understand that Chirattayile vellam urumbinnu samudram. But this ocean like money is like a drop of water for me."

95. Chottayile Seelam Chudala vare. (ചുട്ടയിലെ ശീലം ചുട്ടലെ വരെ)

The habits of childhood will remain till the funeral pyre.

Unni was a rich man's only son. His parents gave him whatever he wanted. They never chided him for any thing. Because of this, Unni got in to several bad habits. One of them was the habit of drinking. All well meaning friends went and told Unni's parents about it. But they did not bother. Slowly Unni became a big drunkard. People of the area were telling among themselves. " Had Unni's parents taught him good habits, he would not have become a drunkard like this. Did they not know that Chottayile Seelam Chudala vare."

96. Choringum, koorangum. (ചോറിങ്ങും കൂറങ്ങും)

Food from this house but devotion to the other house.

Janaki was a pretty girl from a poor family. Nanu , a rich man, married her because of her beauty. Nanu gave her lot of money to spend. Initially she was very cordial to Nanu and his relatives. But as times changed she started hating Nanu's relatives. Not only that, she used to take away money from the safe of Nanu without his knowledge and started giving it to her parents and brothers. One day Nanu caught her red handed and told her, "I never expected this out of you. You have Choringum, koorangum. This cannot continue. "

97. Thathamme Poocha Poocha (തത്തമ്മേ പൂച്ച... പൂച്ച)

Parrot says cat , cat
(Parrot repeats without understanding.)

There was a very great saint, who used to say often, "I am God". One of his half-baked disciples also started saying "I am God", just like his teacher. One day the sage went to a black smith's shop and drank one tumbler of molten iron. Then he offered the same to his disciple. The disciple said, "You are great and so you did it, How can I drink it. I will not even be able to touch it," Then the sage told, "Then why are you repeating, "I am god "similar to what I tell. You are proving the proverb . Thathamme Poocha Poocha". The disciple fell at the feet of the sage and begged his pardon.

98.Thante kannil kol irikke, arante kannile karadedukkan sramikkuga. (തന്റെ കണ്ണിൽ കോലിരിയ്ക്കേ ആരാന്റെ കണ്ണിലെ കരട് എടുക്കുവാൻ ശ്രമിയ്ക്കരുത്)

Trying to remove the dust from other's eyes, when there is a stick in one's own eye.

Chummar was a very big businessman who was corrupt. He was also a well known black marketer. Abdullah was a small servant in his shop, One day , by mistake , he gave one of the customer two Kg of rice instead of one Kg. That customer later came and told this to Chummar. Chummar started shouting at Abdullah in public. He told "You are a liar and I am dismissing you immediately." Then Abdullah retorted. "Sir, I told a lie by mistake but you are a well known liar. Not only you deceive public but you also lie to the government. Your action is like Thande kannil kol irikke, arande kannile karadedukkan sramikkuga.

99.Than kuzicha kuzhiyil thanne vizhum. (താൻ കുഴിച്ചു കുഴിയിൽ താൻ തന്നെ വീഴും)

You will fall in the pit that you, yourself have dug.

One of the small political parties of Kerala thought that exploiting religion would get it lot of votes. So in a small constituency they started canvassing votes of a community and won the election. Other big political parties were watching this. In the next election they also started canvassing votes based on the voters community. The small political party which started it all, was washed out in the elections.. People referring to the small political party told," Than kuzicha kuzhiyil thanne vizhum."

100.Theeyil kuruthatu , veyyilathu vadilla. (തീയിൽ കുരുത്തൽ വെയിലത്ത് വാടില്ല)

That, which germinated in fire, will not wilt in the sun.

There were two rich people in a town dealing with rubber. Raman Nair belonged to a very rich family and improved his fortunes while Tharakan belonging to a very poor family struggled hard and became rich. Both of them were prospering. There was a big slump in the market. While Raman Nair was not able to bear the losses and cracked down, Tharakan laughingly underwent all the troubles. One day when both of them met, Tharakan told Raman Nair, "Theeyil kuruthatu, veyyilathu vadilla"

101.Chakaan Thuninjal Samudravum Muzhamkal (ചാകാൻ തുനിഞ്ഞാൽ സമുദ്രവും മുഴുകാൻ)

Having decided to die, the sea is only knee deep

Kuriakose was a very poor man. He was suffering a lot in the town where he was born. Most of the days he was not taking any food. There were days when he decided to commit suicide , because he was not getting anything to eat. One day he met Major Narayanan, who told him to join the army. He did join the army and to bid good bye he went to his sister's house. She cried a lot and told him that he may die. Kuriakose told her "Chakaan Thuninjal Samudravum Muzhamkal. Had I not joined the army, I would have died of starvation."

102. Chakkuruvi padiyal ellavarum Chakum, Bhagavathar padiyal , chakkurviyum chakum.

(ചാക്കുരുവി പാടിയാൽ എല്ലാവരും ചാകും. എന്നാൽ ഭാഗവതർ പാടിയാൽ ചാക്കുരുവിയും ചാകും)

If Chakkurvi sings all people will die but if our musician sings even Chakkuruvi will die.

(Chakkuruvi is a bird of ill omen. It normally sings at night. People believed that if Chakkurvi sings, some people will die.)

Krishnan Marar was a friend of Damodaran. Damodaran was sick and he used to consult a local Vaidyan (Ayurvedic doctor) whenever he was ill. With the popularity of allopathic system, every body felt that the local Vaidyan was no good. Krishnan marar one day warned Damodaran that he will die if he takes treatment from Vaidyan, and advised him to go to the Super specialty hospital. Damodaran replied, "Chakkuruvi padiyal ellavarum Chakum, Bhagavathar padiyal , chakkurviyum chakum. If poor people like us visit that hospital, not only me but my entire family will die of starvation."

103.Chanja Madil Chadikkum. (ചാഞ്ഞ മതിൽ ചതിയ്ക്കും)

The sloping wall will give way.

Mohammad Kutti consulted his father about joining the business of Mamooti. Then his father told him, Mamooti's business is already tottering. Chanja Madil Chadikkum. If you join him, you would be deceived."

104.Chama mathram undayal Chandanam thodanokkumo? (ചാമ മാത്രം ഉണ്ടായാൽ ചന്ദനം തൊടുവാൻ ഒക്കുമോ..?)

If you harvest only millets, would you be able to touch sandal paste.

(Millets are crops with very poor returns and Sandal paste is normally very costly.)

Ananthan Nair was a peon in a small office. He was struggling to live with his wife and a baby son. But Ananthan was a dreamer. One day he told his wife, "I am thinking of putting our son in the public School, where the rich people are studying." Then she told him, "Chama mathram undayal Chandanam thodanokkumo?. With our earnings, it would be difficult for us even to send our son to a good school. If you are going to dream that way, you have to earn lot of wealth."

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