

Alumni Address

Batch of 2019 Inauguration, LICET – 24th July 2019

Febin M Thomas

Hello, yepadi irrikinga elarum? Vandhiriku yedom superu, suma pataya kelapulam. Indha dialogue yenakaga solala, ungalukaga sonaen. Yen peru Febin Thomas. I currently work as an Associate Consultant at Kaar Technologies - Kaar with a 'K' and a double 'aa' as a short form for Kaarmegam, denoting Clouds. Like I mentioned earlier, I was part of the 5th batch of LICET, the batch of 2014 and was from the Information Technology department.

At LICET, I completed about 15 projects which include a triplet of Android Apps on Google Play Store and Amazon App Store, an irrigation project at IIT Madras which appeared as an article in the Education Express edition of the New Indian Express newspaper and an automated air conditioning project, again at IIT Madras, as part of the Carbon Zero Challenge. At LICET, I was the Cultural Secretary, the student head of the Innovation Club and also an NSS Volunteer. Though I wasn't as active in sports as I would have liked to be during my time at LICET, with the exception of being an integral part of my department's Basketball and Cricket teams when it won the respective tournaments, I was more active in these fronts in school. Ever since I graduated from LICET, I have been mentoring students with their projects at LICET, VIT Vellore and elsewhere. I have also delivered counselling sessions, technical sessions and lectures at VIT Vellore and both my Alma matters LICET and DAV Gopalapuram. My current major hobby includes doing an independent study on Philosophy and Psychology by both reading and contemplating them thereby resulting in writings of my own.

So, enough is enough about me. This day, the 24th of July 2019, as you would all want to remind me of, is not about me, it is about you, the budding engineers. Hence, let me take this esteemed opportunity to enlighten you with lessons that perhaps life attempts to teach us all at some point of time or the other.

The first and foremost teaching that I wish to share with you based on my experiences would be to BE GOOD! To BE GOOD is the simplest yet highly successful command that you can have for yourself because the need of the hour in today's world are not geniuses, as they have often come and gone without troubling the history books, but rather good hearts that can understand God's purpose for them here on earth and courageously carry it out.

Secondly, I want each and every one of you to be careful. It is highly essential that we always be two to three steps ahead at all points of time in our life. Though I want you all to be careful, I also want you to be fearless as achieving the latter will help you be courageous at all fronts.

BE ECCENTRIC, in that, you must be the best there is at what you do and always look towards learning and expanding your areas of expertise. Spend enough alone, thinking, working and analysing the world around you and believe me, if you can power these lonely times with good prayers and conversations with God, you can do the impossible without any shadow doubt. There is a big confusion about hard work and smart work, well I didn't like that discussion very much though my analysis has made me realize that both of it will combine all by itself

just with some dedicated work. A committed soul, in any field of their interest in this world, is unbeatable and you can take my word for it.

Be willing to make mistakes and Never, Ever, Give Up. At all times in life, remember to look at the Big Picture. Even if you are having a tough time currently, imagine yourself about 10 or 20 years down the line and I am sure that no human will envision themselves to be in the same hell that they are in currently as it is a trait of God's creation in us humans to survive the tough times and be the king of all circumstances in the end. As Rudyard Kipling mentions in his poem, 'If', 'If you can deal with triumph and disaster, and treat those two imposters just the same ...'

I have full confidence in you all my dear brothers and sisters. All that is needed from your side, like I had mentioned earlier is dedication. So, you as one good soul with correspondence with one great Creator, can indeed change the world and all of these activities that you participate in like Education are just tools to win this war by being on God's side, against forces that try to control and manipulate this world unjustly.

"I see a beautiful city and a brilliant people rising from this abyss. I see the lives for which I lay down my life, peaceful, useful, prosperous and happy. I see that I hold a sanctuary in their hearts and in the hearts of their descendants, generations hence. It is a far, far better thing that I do, than I have ever done. It is a far, far better rest that I go to, than I have ever known."

All the very Best my dear students, may God bless you all abundantly in this venture and all your future endeavours. Ungalakum seri, yepakum seri, Ithu mudivilae, ithu thaan aarambam. Thank You.

Your clock's ticking my dears, tik tok, tik tok, tik tok