

Nizamuddin playing *mashak*, a goat skin bagpipe at Rajasthan *Kabir Yatra*

What Laila Majnu
looked like reality
vs fantasy



Interiors of Laila Majnu Mazar (tomb)

This Valentine's Day, we stumble upon an offbeat monument of love on the Indo-Pak border during our visit to Rajasthan *Kabir Yatra*



Sri Lanka has announced its digital nomad visa, valid for one year and renewable annually



Dubai has launched RT6 driverless taxis, bringing autonomous rides to key tourist areas

newindianexpress.com

LANDMARK OF LOVE

ANURAG MALLICK &
PRIYA GANAPATHY



IGHT was fading fast as we trundled on a dirt track past fields of wheat and cotton towards the India-Pakistan border. Our hearts were pounding with excitement. We couldn't believe it when we first saw 'Laila Majnu Mazar' on Google Maps, just short of Fort Abbas in Pakistan, beside unin-

telligible squiggles in Urdu. Agriculturists from Punjab who had been resettled in this tract of Sri Ganganagar district of Rajasthan, gawked as we rushed past, raising dust. Near the fenced border, a BSF (Border Security Force) guard stopped us. 'Laila Majnu Mazar', Laila Majnu Mazar,' we chirped like lost lovebirds. We were reprimanded for our suspiciously speedy approach and redirected to the correct location.

Having survived the crosshairs of the BSF, by the time we reached the

tomb, caretaker Mahinder Singh was ready to lock up. We entreated him to leave the site open and rushed past the milestone marker 'Laila Majnu'. We had seen movies, heard songs and read tales about the legendary lovers... never in our wildest dreams did we imagine were real people. A signboard mentioned that the bodies of Laila-Majnu were interred here. The original *makbara* (tomb), supposedly 800-years-old, was renovated by the BSF. The love story is believed to be older, dating back to the 7th century.

Laila bint Mahdi, daughter of Nazir Shah, belonged to a wealthy family. Qais ibn al Muhallah, a young Bedouin poet, was from humble background and fell madly in love with her, earning the nickname Majnu ('possessed by Jinn,' in Arabic). The star-crossed lovers ran to escape the wrath of Laila's family and the village community, all the way from Sindh province and across the Thar desert where they died in the village of Purana Binjaur near Anupgarh. It's unclear whether they died of thirst or were killed by their pursuers. The BSF has marked a nearby Border Outpost as Majnu BOP! While the legend of Laila-Majnu, the 'Romeo-Juliet of the East' is well entrenched in Arabic/Persian folklore, the 7th century tale also has

links to Laila Aftaj in Najjad, Saudi Arabia. Locals believe Laila died heartbroken in a cave where Majnu carved verses to her before he perished in the wilderness nearby. Others believe the legendary lovers from Sindh crossed the tortuous Thar desert to escape their families and died at this spot. They ran away to be together... in death, if not in life. Before the Kargil War, many young couples came from Pakistan to this 'sacred spot' to seek blessings for everlasting love. Newly married locals and lovers rekindle their vows at an annual fair on 14 June in the peak of summer. They offer *chadar*, perform vows and wish-filling fertility rituals like tying strings and bangles. If a relationship can survive a trip in that season, it can survive anything!

We prayed at the shrine and while perambulating the tomb, an image of a couple caught our eye. A framed photo supposedly of Laila Majnu! Majnu resembled a long-haired Biblical character while the oblong-faced Laila looked like his Brokpa grandmother from Ladakh! Quite a letdown after the movie versions.

It was dusk when we headed back past Laila Majnu Chauraha to Chhattargarh to rejoin our music caravan of *Rajasthan Kabir Yatra*.

KERALA STATE CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.

REGIONAL OFFICE, PALAKKAD, MALAPPURAM CPC, PB NO.8, MANJERI ROAD, UPHILL,

MALAPPURAM, PH. 0483 2734853, 2734928, 2734260, E-mail : mlpcpc@keralabank.co.in

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES [See Proviso to rule 8(6)]

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public, in general and particular to the Borrowers(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged / charged to the Secured Creditor for Constructive/Physical possession which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Kerala State Co-Operative Bank Ltd. (secured creditor), will be sold on below date As it is where is 'Condition for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Kerala State Co-Operative Bank Ltd. From the below mentioned Borrower(s) & Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder.

1 Branch: Malappuram Main; Loan No. 090016015020192

Name and address of the Borrower/Guarantor: 1) Sri. Rafeeqe Ahammed Kuruniyan, S/o Chekku Kuruniyan, 2) Smt.Ayisha, W/o Chekku Kuruniyan, 3) Smt.Rajila, W/o Rafeeqe Ahammed Kuruniyan, 4) Smt.Nusrath,A, W/o Noushadali Kuruniyan, 5) Smt. Seena.K W/o.Abdul Gafoor, 6) Smt.Shahalath, W/o Ashiq Babu both are residing at Kuruniyan (H), Panskkad, Patterkardavu, PO 678519, Malappuram.

Total Liabilities: Rs. 59,36,815/- (Rupees Fifty Nine Lakhs Thirty six Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifteen only) as on 30.01.2026 plus further interest, cost thereon from 31.01.2026

Details of properties: All that part and parcel of land 11 Cents of land in Re Sy.No. 169/1pt, Anakkayam Village, Eranad Taluk, Malappuram District. **Boundaries:** East : Owned by Kuruniyan Noushadali wife Nusrath, South : Owned by Joseph,West : Owned by Kurunyan Chekku daughter Shavilath North : Owned by Kurunyan Chekku wife Ayisha.

Details of properties: All that part and parcel of land 32 Cents of land in Re Sy.No. 168/5, Panthalur Village, Eranad Taluk, Malappuram District. **Boundaries:** East : Owned by M.V.Joseph, South : Owned by Kurunyan Chekku daughter Shavilath & Rafeeqe Ahammed with Rajila, West : Owned by Antoni, North : Owned by Kurunyan Chekku wife Ayisha.

Details of properties: All that part and parcel of land 40.33 Cents of land in Re Sy.No. 169/1pt, Panthalur Village, Eranad Taluk, Malappuram District. **Boundaries:** East : Owned by Kurunyan Chekku daughter Shavilath, South : Owned by Achankkal Joseph, West : Owned by Achankkal Joseph, North : Owned by Kurunyan Chekku wife Ayisha.

Details of properties: All that part and parcel of land 32 Cents of land in Re Sy.No. 168/5, Panthalur Village, Eranad Taluk, Malappuram District. **Boundaries:** East : Owned by MV. Joseph, South : Owned by Kurunyan Chekku daughter Shavilath, West : Owned by Kurunyan Noushadali wife Nusrath.

Details of properties: All that part and parcel of land 14 Cents of land in Re Sy.No. 169/1pt, Panthalur Village, Eranad Taluk, Malappuram District. **Boundaries:** East : Owned by Kurunyan Rafeeqe Ahammed, South : Owned by Kurunyan Chekku daughter Shavilath, North : Owned by Kurunyan Chekku wife Ayisha.

Details of properties: All that part and parcel of land 49 Cents of land in Re Sy.No. 168/5, Panthalur Village, Eranad Taluk, Malappuram District. **Boundaries:** East : Owned by Kurunyan Rafeeqe Ahammed, South : Owned by Kurunyan Chekku daughter Shavilath, North : Owned by Kurunyan Chekku wife Ayisha.

Details of properties: All that part and parcel of land 14 Cents of land in Re Sy.No. 169/1pt, Panthalur Village, Eranad Taluk, Malappuram District. **Boundaries:** East : Owned by Kurunyan Rafeeqe Ahammed, South : Owned by Kurunyan Chekku daughter Shavilath, North : Owned by Kurunyan Chekku wife Ayisha.

Reserve Price: Rs. 45,91,000/- **EMD:** Rs. 4,59,100/- Account number to which E.M.D. should be paid: 090002201800301 IFSC Code: IBKL0209M01

2 Branch: Malappuram Main; Loan No. 090016015020192

Name and address of the Borrower/Guarantor: 1.Sri. Sabin, S/o, S/o,Hussain Kunji, Uppudathil (H), Mankada Pallippuram, Tirurakad. PO .679321, Malappuram 2) Ibrahim CT S/o,Abdu Haji, Cheikattukathundi (H) Thirurakad PO

Total Liabilities: Rs. 16,88,161/- (Rupees Eighteen Lakhs Sixty six Thousand One Hundred and Eighty one only) as on 30.01.2026 plus further interest, cost thereon from 31.01.2026

Details of properties: All that part and parcel of land 10 Cents of land in Re Sy.No. 31/03/136pt, Kuruvu Village, Perinthalmanna Taluk, Malappuram District. **Boundaries:** East : Panchayath Road, South : Owned by Thayyil Kunjumohamed and Aranganwadi Building, West : Owned by Karuthod Abdu Rasikat, North : Owned by Thayyil Abu rahman, Chovankunnu Paramb

Reserve Price: Rs. 11,25,000/- **EMD:** Rs. 1,25,000/- Account number to which E.M.D. should be paid: 090002201800301 IFSC Code: IBKL0209M01

3 Branch: Malappuram Main; Loan No. 09001604282001

Name and address of the Borrower/Guarantor: Sri. Shabek,K, S/o,Hamza, Karukamannil (H), Keezhmuri, Downhill, PO. 676519, Malappuram.

Total Liabilities: Rs. 91,21,962/- (Rupees Ninety One Lakhs Twenty one Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty Two only) as on 31.12.2025 plus further interest, cost thereon from 01.01.2026

Details of properties: All that part and parcel of land 10 Cents of land in Re Sy.No. 27/3pt, Puzhakkattin Village, Perinthalmanna Taluk, Malappuram District. **Boundaries:** East: 10. 8 feet pathway, South : Owned by Parakuzhi Appu, Parakuzhi Yusuf, Shahajan, West : Owned by Cherukattil Moideen, Parakuzhi Appu, Unais

Reserve Price: Rs. 21,51,000/- **EMD:** Rs.2,15,100/- Account number to which E.M.D. should be paid: 090002201800301 IFSC Code: IBKL0209M01

4 Branch: Ponnani Main; Loan No. 090056015120002

Name and address of the Borrower/Guarantor: Sri. Jafar Ali,K, S/o,Moideen Kutty, Koottattavalappil (H), Near MI Boys School, Ponnani South, PO .679586, Malappuram.

Total Liabilities: Rs. 15,39,305/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs Thirty Nine Thousand Three Hundred and Five only) as on 30.01.2026 plus further interest, cost thereon from 31.01.2026

Details of properties: All that part and parcel of land 7.056 Cents of land in Re Sy.No. 82/42,18/21A/82/18Ap1, Ponnani Nagaram Village, Ponnani Taluk, Malappuram District. **Boundaries:** East : Panchayath Road, South : Owned by Kurikkal Ahamed Hajil, Details of properties: All that part and parcel of land 14 Cents of land in Re Sy.No. 168/5pt, Panthalur Village, Eranad Taluk, Malappuram District. **Boundaries:** East : Panchayath Road, South : Owned by Anchanikkal Joseph, West : Owned by Anchanikkal Joseph, North : Ponnani Nagaram Village, Ponnani Taluk, Malappuram District. **Boundaries:** East : Panchayath Road, South : Owned by Kurikkal Ahamed Hajil, Details of properties: All that part and parcel of land 14 Cents of land in Re Sy.No. 168/5pt, Panthalur Village, Eranad Taluk, Malappuram District. **Boundaries:** East : Panchayath Road, South : Owned by Kurikkal Ahamed Hajil, Details of properties: All that part and parcel of land 14 Cents of land in Re Sy.No. 168/5pt, Panthalur Village, Eranad Taluk, Malappuram District. **Boundaries:** East : Panchayath Road, South : Owned by Anchanikkal Joseph, West : Owned by Kurunyan Rafeeqe Ahammed, North : Kurunyan Chekku wife Ayisha.

Reserve Price: Rs. 25,52,000/- **EMD:** Rs. 2,55,200/- Account number to which E.M.D. should be paid: 090002201800301 IFSC Code: IBKL0209M01

5 Branch: Nilambur Main; Loan No. 090066019520060

Name and address of the Borrower/Guarantor: Sri. Prakash.P,Nair, S/o,Prabhakaran Nair, Karakulam (H), Hospital Hill, Nilambur, PO ,676542, Malappuram.

Total Liabilities: Rs. 39,67,081/- (Rupees Thirty Nine Lakhs Sixty seven Thousand and Eighty One only) as on 30.01.2026 plus further interest, cost thereon from 31.01.2026

Details of properties: All that part and parcel of land 7.056 Cents of land in Re Sy.No. 82/42,18/21A/82/18Ap1, Ponnani Nagaram Village, Ponnani Taluk, Malappuram District. **Boundaries:** East : Owned by Hameed and Hamza and PWD Road, West : 8 feet pathway, North : Owned by Hamza and PWD Road, South : Balance Chorai, West : Forest, North : Owned by Leena

Reserve Price: Rs. 33,14,000/- **EMD:** Rs. 3,31,400/- Account number to which E.M.D. should be paid: 090002201800301 IFSC Code: IBKL0209M01

6 Branch: Vazhakkad; Loan No. 090246015020473

Name and address of the Borrower/Guarantor: Sri. Unneeran, S/o,Nadikutty, Aminangattuchal (H), Thadaparamb, Omanoor, PO ,673645, Malappuram.

Total Liabilities: Rs. 2,80,819/- (Rupees Two Lakhs Eighty thousand Eight Hundred and Nineteen only) as on 30.01.2026 plus further interest, cost thereon from 31.01.2026

Details of properties: All that part and parcel of land 13 Cents of land in Re Sy.No. 158/2pt, Cheekode Village, Kondotty Taluk, Malappuram District. **Boundaries:** East : Owned by Kottikulay and others, South : Way, West : Owned by Cherukattil Moideen, Parakuzhi Appu, Parakuzhi Yusuf, Shahajan, North : Keeran

Reserve Price: Rs. 1,52,000/- **EMD:** Rs. 15,200/- Account number to which E.M.D. should be paid: 090002201800301 IFSC Code: IBKL0209M01

7 Branch: Pandikkad; Loan No. 090316015020680

Name and address of the Borrower/Guarantor: Sri. Ummer, S/o,Hamza kutty, Alungal (H), Mampuzha, Karavarakund, PO ,676523, Malappuram.

Total Liabilities: Rs. 41,53,365/- (Rupees Forty One Lakhs fifty Three Thousand Three Hundred and Sixty Five only) as on 30.01.2026 plus further interest, cost thereon from 31.01.2026

Details of properties: All that part and parcel of land 50 Cents of land in Re Sy.No. 427/3pt, Cheekode Village, Perinthalmanna Taluk, Malappuram District. **Boundaries:** East : Owned by Muhammad, South : way, West : Owned by Abdulla, North : Owned by Paravetti Muhammad a/s Kunhani

Reserve Price: Rs. 9,00,000/- **EMD:** Rs. 90,000/- Account number to which E.M.D. should be paid: 090002201800301 IFSC Code: IBKL0209M01

8 Branch: Pandikkad; Loan No. 090316015020870

Name and address of the Borrower/Guarantor: Sri. Abdul Azees, S/o,Fathimabi, Pattani (H), Pandikkad, Oravampuram, PO ,676521, Malappuram.

Total Liabilities: Rs. 8,31,785/- (Rupees Eight Lakhs Thirty one Thousand two Hundred and Thirty seven only) as on 30.01.2026 plus further interest, cost thereon from 31.01.2026

Details of properties: All that part and parcel of land 8.75 Cents of land in Re Sy.No. 13/2pt, Cheekode Village, Perinthalmanna Taluk, Malappuram District. **Boundaries:** East: 14 feet Way, South : Owned by Pacheeri Raman, West : Owned by Pacheeri Raman, North : Owned by Puthanparampil Chathan

Reserve Price: Rs. 1,18,000/- **EMD:** Rs. 11,800/- Account number to which E.M.D. should be paid: 090002201800301 IFSC Code: IBKL0209M01

9 Branch: Pandikkad; Loan No. 090316015020882

Name and address of the Borrower/Guarantor: Sri. Hussain.M.P, S/o,Muhammad (Late), Mutuppara (H), Thechingadam, PO ,679325, Malappuram.