

Tradition of Chettinad comes to Chennai



Chettinad cuisine is about the masalas. Spices ground into powder, mixed with every dish transform it into the perfect delicacy. The city of Madurai is famous not only for its temples but for its array of Chettinad hotels; the one in particular, Kumar Mess, has opened its door in Chennai.

The restaurant located in Vadapalani serves traditional items like Nattu Kozhi, Kola Urundai, Varutha Kari and many more.

"When I visited Madurai, Kumar Mess was my go-to place for lunch. When they opened in the city, I was eager to go. The food tastes the same. Their biryani is one of the best. The kalaki and chicken chukka fry are unique. The only problem is the pricing and quantity. Most of the dishes are priced above Rs 200 and quantity is less for the price. If it is corrected then the restaurant will become the best in Chennai for Chettinad food," said Kalai M, a food blogger



The restaurant clearly states that they don't use ajinomoto and artificial colouring. They also serve various types of omelettes like nandu, chicken, mutton and fish. Kumar Mess speciality is their dove, quail and rabbit chops gravy which is best eaten with steamed rice. The menu was vast. Chicken biryani, nalli roast, kola urundai and chicken omelette with buttermilk is a complete meal.

The nattu kozhi biryani oozes Chettinadu taste as the spices are blended well with the rice. It is not too dry and you



definitely need buttermilk for this one. The nalli roast is made with fresh mutton and the meat is perfectly cooked. It is slow cooked that the marrow retains its juice. Kola urundai is small in size but perfect with a handful of biryani.

Unlike other restaurants where cardamom is added to the minced meat, here it has been avoided. This lets the taste of the meat remain. The chicken omelette is definitely the best dish. Minced chicken is topped with eggs and fried with oil. The dish melts in your mouth as you start eating it. All in all Kumar Mess is a must try for all Chettinad food-lovers.