



Jaffna Teaching Hospital



Jaffna Medical Faculty

JMFOA

11th AGM & Scientific Session

Venue

JC's Banquette Hall, 1686 Ellesmere road,
Toronto, Ontario, M1H2V5



Canadian Rockies

July 18, 2015



Palmyrah Trees

Toronto Canada



Completion of 10 years of JMFOA...



It is just another milestone for JMFOA since its inception. It was Dr.Santhakumar, Dr.Sivaraji and few others in Toronto hatched the plan of establishing a Foreign Alumni. Dr.Santhakumar from the very First Batch of our Alma Mater is a practicing GP in Toronto had visited Jaffna Medical Faculty around March 2004. This coincided with the Silver Jubilee celebration & Medical Exhibition, commemorating 25 years of existence since its establishment in 1978. During his visit he was emphasized about the void of a Foreign Alumni to support the Alma Mater.

On return Dr.Santhakumar set out without any delays, executed the plan of having our First Inauguration/ Silver Jubilee celebration in Toronto on August 21, 2004. The event was a resounding success with more than 100 participants with cultural shows. More than that we had an opportunity to meet our batch mates and friends from the medical school after several years and some of them after our graduation almost 20 years ago.

During our First Inauguration/Silver Jubilee celebration, our organization was born with the election of the very first committee with me being the president. The committee worked very hard to lay down its foundation including its name that is **Jaffna Medical Faculty Overseas Alumni (JMFOA)** and its constitution. First it was registered as a business entity and then obtained its charitable status (501-C3) in USA - Tax ID 20-198676.

Telephonic conference call system and the Yahoo group discussion forum (<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/JMFOA/info>) were established for easy communication among the committee and its members. The most informative web site was created later. (www.jmfoa.org) Close links were established with our Alma Mater as well as the Local Alumni and the MSU (Medical Student's Union) to facilitate our fledgling projects.

The very first Annual General Meeting with CME/Scientific session was held in New York on July 1st and 2nd, 2005 with more than 200 participants enjoying the fun of meeting our friends and their families. During the event stronger commitment was pledged by the members towards our goal. Since then, our activities and commitments continued to grow with hardworking committee as well as its committed members and well wishers.

Since our maiden event, several AGMs, CME/Scientific sessions and Post AGM tours were held in various cities around the world including Toronto, Canada twice (2006 & 2010), London, U.K twice (2007 & 2011), New Jersey, USA (2008), Auckland, NZ (2009), Los Angeles, USA (2012), Sydney, Australia (2013) and finally in Jaffna Sri Lanka last year. (2014) (See the highlights)

The torch was passed from me to several committed presidents and its working committee including Dr.Nanthakumar (4th Batch), Dr. Selvaratnam (1st Batch), Dr. Norman (4th Batch) and finally to the current president Dr. Ravichandran (4th Batch) who worked/working very hard towards the goals established earlier.

During the initial stages there were several Jaffna graduates, staff and well wishers and their families participated and helped our activities in North America got involved in spreading its wings to other countries including UK, New Zealand and finally Australia making it as the largest and most committed foreign alumni amongst the other medical faculties in Sri Lanka.

It was mentioned by Prof. Sivapalan the former Dean of our faculty in one of the inter medical faculty meetings when he elaborated about the activities of JMFOA, which made him very proud but made the other medical faculty Deans very envy of our Alma Mater.

This shows the importance of our organization to the Alma Mater and its future activities. Keeping this in mind we will work even harder and stay stronger towards our commitments in years to come.

Dr. Andy Somesan, (2nd Batch)
Founder President & Current Associate Editor, JMFOA - NA



11th AGM/Scientific Session JMFOA

July 18, 20 & 22, 2015



Venue: Toronto, Vancouver & Banff Canada

Course Director: Andy Somesan, M.D

Toronto: July 18, 2015 (8 am – 12.30 pm)

'Recent Advances in Cancer treatment.'

Dr.Jasotha Sanmugarajah, Associate Professor of Medicine, Griffith Director of Medical Oncology, Gold Coast Hospital and Health Services, Southport QLD, Australia.

drjaso@hotmail.com

'Re-designing Emergency Care – UK perspective and Resuscitation Skill Development in Sri Lanka.'

Dr.S.Premachandran, Consultant in Emergency Medicine & Chief of Emergency Directorate, Firmley Health NHS foundation and trust, UK

prem.san@virginmedia.com

'Physicians leading healthcare'

Dr.Srisala Navaratnam, CEO, Cancer Care, Manitoba, Canada.

snavaratnam@cancercare.mb.ca

'Aortic Valve disease and Treatment: A Paradigm Shift.'

Dr.Ganesh Raveendran, Associate Professor of Medicine, Chief Clinical Cardiology, Director Cardio-Vascular Fellowship Program, University of Minnesota Medical School, Minneapolis, MN, USA

ravee001@umn.edu

Vancouver: July 20, 2015 (6pm – 8pm)

'Practical approach in diagnosis and Management of Benign Positional Vertigo.'

Dr.T.Nandakumar, Consultant Neurologist, Director Stroke Unit, Jamaica Hospital, Queens, NY, USA

tnandaku@gmail.com

'Geriatric Rehabilitation an update'

Dr.Andy Somesan, Consultant Geriatrician/Rehab Medicine Director Memory Disorder Clinic, Pensacola, FL, USA

somesan99@gmail.com

Banff: July 22, 2015 (6pm – 8pm)

'Clinical approach on Varicose Vein and Venous Insufficiency: an update'

Dr.Ram.Ravichandran, Consultant Phlebologist, Vein Clinic, Cleveland, OH, USA

ramcravi@yahoo.com

'Night Owls or Narcolepsy.'

Dr.S.Sujanthy Rajaram, Associate Professor of Medicine, JFK Medical Center, Teaching Hospital for Seton Hall University, Edison, NJ, USA.

sujanty@gmail.com

"This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint sponsorship of the Medical Educational Council of Pensacola (MECOP) and JMFOA. MECOP is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians and takes responsibility for the content, quality, and scientific integrity of this CME activity".

JMFOA 11th AGM/ CME/ Fundraising Dinner

July 18, 2015

Venue: JC's Banquet Hall, 1686 Ellesmere road
Toronto, Ontario M1H2V5
Phone: 416 290 6186



Chief Guest: Dr. & Dr. Mrs. Vetpillai

Agenda

Morning

Registration	8.00am- 8.30 am
Scientific session/ CME	8.30am- 12.30pm
AGM	12.30pm- 1.30pm

Evening

Registration:	6.000pm – 7.00pm
Welcome by Master of Ceremony:	7.00pm – 7.05pm
Cultural program:	7.10pm – 7.20pm
NA president:	7.20pm – 7.30pm
Cultural program:	7.30pm – 7.40pm
UK president:	7.40pm – 7.45pm
Cultural program:	7.45pm – 7.55pm
Australia president:	7.55pm – 8.00pm
Cultural program:	8.00pm – 8.15pm
Chief Guest address:	8.15pm – 8.30pm
Dr. S.Rajaram's Book introduction:	8.30pm - 8.35pm
Member comments:	8.35pm - 8.45pm
Vote of thanks.	8.45pm - 8.50pm
Dinner/Dance:	9.00pm – 12 am

Registration fee for CME and Dinner

Individual: \$100.00 Couple: \$175.00 Family: \$250.00

Registration: Can Buy Tickets prior to the event from Ravichandran (USA) - 440 225 3808 and Dr.Santhakumar - 905 273 7946 or shall be paid on site prior to CME activities or dinner.
Please pay preferably by cash or personal checks. We now accept credit/debit card payments as well as Paypal

Post AGM Tour

The Canadian Rocky Mountains (Vancouver to Banff) from July 19 - July 26

(4 hrs CME will be provided during the activity.)

Contact Siva Karunakaran (Canada) 306 584 0697/ skarunakaran65@hotmail.com

Malathy Varatharajah (USA) 513 793 0804/ rajah@zoomtown.com



Message from the Chief Guest...

The President,

Executive Committee and

Esteemed Members of the Jaffna Medical Faculty Overseas Alumni,



On behalf of my wife, I wish to express our sincere gratitude for the distinct privilege of being invited as chief guests to the 11th annual general meeting in Canada. We consider it an honour to participate in what is sure to be an exemplary occasion.

We fervently admire your continued commitment to support the Jaffna Medical Faculty. By virtue of your earnest endeavours, the education and training facilities within the institution have been significantly enhanced. Moreover, through financial aid, the JMFOA have rendered it possible for desperate students caught up in the recent tempestuous period in Northern Sri Lanka to access high quality medical edification. This is testament to the admirable calibre of the alumni who continue to cultivate their roots in recognition of their routes to success.

My wife and I reflect upon our period as lecturers at the medical faculty as the golden pinnacle of our careers, for nowhere is teaching more rewarding than where learning is ardently sought. It fills us with immense pride to participate at your annual convention and we wish the JMFOA unremitting success in assisting its beloved alma mater.

Dr M Vetpillai FRCS

Former Senior Lecturer,
Faculty of Medicine, University of Jaffna

Dr (Mrs) S Vetpillai MBBS DCpath

Former lecturer in Microbiology
Faculty of Medicine, University of Jaffna





President's Message JMFOA -North American chapter

Dear Colleagues and well-wishers,

I am presenting this message with great pride as a Jaffna Medical Faculty Alumni and as the President of JMFOA North America. It is a privilege to be a member of such a committed organization where we work together to improve our Alma Mater and establish it as one of the most prestigious medical faculties in the world. I would like to commend our colleagues for their services locally in Sri Lanka as well as abroad. I also congratulate them for their achievements in their professional careers.

On behalf of the alumni, I take this opportunity to sincerely thank our parents, teachers and well-wishers for their guidance, dedication and sacrifice towards our betterment. Understanding and acknowledging all that they did will serve to compel us to repeat the same effort to help others in need.

Since the inauguration in Toronto in July 2004, JMFOA has spread its wings around the globe and has provided various services to our medical faculty and students. Most of our activities are listed separately in this 11th AGM Souvenir book for you to review. Given the situational improvements in Jaffna, we are slowly expanding to help other places in need. We are grateful to each and every one of you who contributed in so many ways despite of your busy lifestyles. We are confident that you all will continue to be involved and contribute in various ways to our organization, so that we can assist our Alma mater and other communities in need. You are invited to steer the direction of our undertakings by actively participating at any level in our organization.

We are glad to be back in Toronto for our 11th Annual General Meeting this year and we thank you for attending this event with your family. These meetings enhance our comradeship and create a spirit of unity.

We have many budding talents in our Alumni. We would like to have better participation from our younger generation and request that they take on more of a leadership role.

As the new generation embraces social media, we are improving our presence in it. Please participate and contribute to our multiple social media sites to communicate about us and also to have our voices heard.

Moving forward, through coordinating our activities with our colleagues around the globe, we will be reaching out to our Alma mater and other places in need to provide educational activities, local community health awareness programs, disaster relief and other social improvement programs.

"A tree is known by its fruit". We, the product of Jaffna Medical Faculty, should continue to prove to the world that we are trained and prepared to be in the forefront of health care and social improvement. I challenge all of us to do our best and work with JMFOA to achieve this goal.

Best wishes,

Dr. Ram. Ravichandran, (4th Batch)



JMFOA Inauguration - Toronto Canada August 21, 2004



25th Year of Graduation 4th Batch
Negambo, Sri Lanka Dec 23, 2012



Physiology Quiz 2014 an interesting and exciting experience.

Reproduction of this article appeared in MSU News Letter November 2014 Volume 2, Issue 2

In the early part of 2014, the Dept. of Physiology conducted an exam to select the participants for the Quiz. Elankumaran, Subaharsan, Mihiran, Sivomiya and myself from 34th batch were selected. I have a great interest in studying Physiology. I believe that understanding the human physiology is indispensable because it is the foundation upon which we build our knowledge on what life of a human is, how diseases develop, how to treat diseases and how our body responds to stress from different environments. I got excited and was getting ready for the quiz, which was held in June. Unfortunately the 3rd MBBS part I exam was also conducted in June. So I was pushed into more stress. And even though I mostly concentrate on the part I exam, I revised Physiology with other participants.

After Part I written exam, as planned already, the quiz team, Prof.K.Sivapalan, Dr.B.Manthanki and some of my batch mates went to Colombo to participate in the quiz, which was held in the University of Kelaniya. Because of the part I exam our quiz team couldn't complete the revision of Physiology. So we decided to target a win at least in the first round – not to win the championship. At the same time we are 3rd year students and we were not familiar in Physiology like the 1st & 2nd year students. And we heard that most of the opposite teams are 1st and 2nd year students so it made us more stress and fear on the competition. The quiz competition was held as a one day event on 7th June. The quiz was organized by the Physiological society of Sri Lanka and was founded by the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya together with the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation (SPC) Sri Lanka. The competition was held in three rounds-preliminary, semi finals and finals. The competition started with grouping of the participating teams via a lottery into 3 sub groups for the preliminary round. An important aspect in grouping was that the first team to be selected into a particular sub group will face the first question; the second team the second question and third team third question. The winner team and runner up team at a particular stage of the competition advance to the semi-final of the competition and the winners of semi-finals play the finals.

Our team was selected first into group 1 and we faced the 1st question. I got so nervous and palpitation. But the questions were easy to answer not like what I expected. We performed well so did the other teams. Finally we achieved the goal that is winning the first round. Afterwards we relaxed and enjoyed the remaining 1st round.

After tea break semi-final was started, but our team did not have any expectations so we faced questions without nervousness but you don't believe that fortunately our team reached the final round, which was more than what I expected. I felt like this as a dream.

After lunch, in the final round, our team and other two opposite teams did well. Nobody could judge that who will be the winner until the result came. But the result was that Peradeniya Medical Faculty and we got same points – top two teams of final. So judges decided to conduct a tie break round. And finally we achieved. Yes we became the champions. I could not believe and did not realize what was going on at that moment. Our professor was so happy and proud of us. After the prize giving, I got lot of wishes from opposite teams, lecturers and audience. I never expected that in my life.

When we came back to Jaffna, my batch mates, seniors and juniors appreciated our victory and gave warm welcome. And Professor. Sivapalan Sir had arranged a lunch party at the physiology Dept. We thank him for that and his encouragement throughout. This made us to be confident on Malaysian quiz (IMSPQ). There were tow months for the Malaysian Quiz. So we planned to do revision on Physiology better than before what we did for the Sri Lankan Quiz. At the same time we got trouble in getting funds for the Air tickets and travel expenses and Visa. But finally we came across the barriers successfully. And I want to tell that we could have never reached beyond the obstacles without the Medical Students' Union. Their help was so valuable at that moment and they were always with us.

Inter- Medical School Physiology Quiz (IMSPQ) is a medical physiology quiz competition among medial students from universities around the world, organized annually since 2003 by Department of Physiology, University of Malaya. This year (2014), the 12th IMSPQ has attracted more than 90 teams from 24 countries including England, Australia Mexico, Taiwan, China, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore, India, Sri Lanka and others.

IMSPQ 2014 was a 2-day event in which the first day was written quiz and 2nd day was oral quiz. Participating in this quiz gave me a great opportunity to know medical students from various countries, and by talking to them I shared my medical student life experience with them and know their study methods in their university. There was a cultural night organized during the first day of the event. We enjoyed seeing performances by participants from different countries. Such as Chinese Fan Dance and some singing. Students from University of Malaya did perform some cultural dances and singing. We felt respected among the international Medical students.

On the first day, the quiz started off with written quiz, which consisted of 100 T/F questions in which negative marking was implemented. It was an amazing test I ever experienced. I was nervous since I was not really sure of some answers. Scores of each participant from the same team will be averaged and only the top teams will move on to the oral quiz competition on the next day. Unfortunately our team did not manage to get into the oral quiz. The oral quiz competition was rally exciting and it got more intense as it progressed to the final round. This was a great experience to all of us. It didn't beat down our confidence, but instead our spirits were further heightened up and now we are very eager to encourage our junior students to join the next IMSPQ.

Malaysia is the first country I visited. And we also visited some places like Twin towers, KL tower and Batu caves and the Murugan temple. Through these both competition, I experienced the different ways in thinking and studying. It fosters good student-teacher relationship and changed student attitude towards learning Physiology. I have learned how to apply the physiology knowledge especially during the clinical settings.

I had lot of fun, interesting and inspiring events. As medical students, we must study comprehensively and it will be better if we know even the small detail of a physiological mechanism, so that we can analyze the pathological basis of disease even better. And for whoever wants to join IMSPQ/ Sri Lankan Quiz, I would say you must be good at your knowledge on basic Physiology.

Mr. Kajananan, 34th Batch



Medical Students' Union

Jaffna - Sri Lanka

யுத்தரவ மாணவர் ஒன்றியம்



It's my great pleasure to address as the president of Medical Student's Union, Faculty of Medicine, University of Jaffna, for the souvenir of the Jaffna Medical Faculty Overseas Alumni for their 11th AGM and scientific session. We, the students never forget the 10th AGM and scientific session, which was held, in our faculty last year. I'm using this great opportunity to thank our members of JMFOA for tremendous help and support to our students for many years.

You have done numerous helps to our students in various ways even though I would like to mention some of them. You are helping our students financially to travel overseas to participate in the Inter Medical School Physiology this year. Further, you have done an excellent help in rejuvenating our Canteen, Information Technology Centre as well as in development of sports and aesthetics activities. Also you are providing monthly scholarships to financially needy students through the Jaffna Alumni Association for last many years. Finally, as visiting lecturers, you are doing a big role in our educational activities. On behalf of our students I'm really appreciating as well as thanking your efforts to enhance our students' wellbeing. I assure to JMFOA that our students will produce their maximums in future and make our faculty proud.

I wish the organizing committee of this year session for its success.

Thank you.

Mr. Nageswaran Kiriyan (34th Batch)

The president
Faculty of Medicine,
University of Jaffna,



Medicos' fiesta 2014 Final day of Medicos week
May 12, 2014



Talent show Medicos Week 2015 - April 10
Winners of Music competition -35th Batch



Medical Student's publications



Talent show Medicos Week 2015 - April 10
Winners of Dance competition -34th Batch



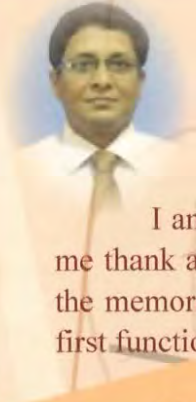
Welcome of the 37th Batch Jan 12, 2015

Highlights of 10th JMFOA AGM/ Scientific Session Held in Jaffna on July 18 & 19, 2014



- The 10th JMFOA AGM/ Scientific session was held at the newly constructed Hoover Auditorium at the Jaffna Medical Faculty. The event was organized jointly by all the chapters of JMFOA as well as the Local Alumni.
- The Chief Guest was Professor Jane Dacre, BSc. MBBS, MD, FRCP, FHEA elected President of Royal College of Physicians UK, who delivered the 'Hoover Memorial Lecture on July 18, 2014.
- The Scientific Session was held successfully with Lectures and Panel Discussions on various important topics by speakers in their expertise field locally and internationally.
- Cultural show was beautifully performed by talented Medical students as well as children of the overseas alumni.
- Recognition awards as well as prizes were given to the speakers and major contributors as well as winners of the scientific paper/poster presentation. Medical Students who won the 2014 Carlo Fonseka Physiology challenge were also recognized with cash awards.
- The event came to the end with tasty dinner and gala gathering at the Green Grass Hotel at Hospital Road, Jaffna.





Message from the Dean...

I am happy to give this message for the occasion of 11th AGM of JMFOA. First of all let me thank all of you for supporting me almost throughout my tenure. I am delighted to recapture the memories of the International conference and AGM of JMFOA in July 2014, which was the first function at the full-fledged Hoover auditorium, fulfilling my dream.

We are proud to know about the sense of ownership you express towards Alma Mater. In view of the fact that alumni will never fail to support less fortunate students of the faculty, I made a fervent appeal to you all to financially support us to purchase a land adjoining the medical students hostel at Jaffna town and I am grateful for considering my appeal positively.

I wish the overseas alumni success in all their efforts to build a strong link between the alumni and the alma mater.

Finally I would like to gently remind you all that I made an appeal from Hoover auditorium in 2014 to have this function at the Faculty once in four years, will you?

Good Luck and Best Wishes!

Dr.S.Balakumar
**Dean
Faculty of Medicine
University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka**

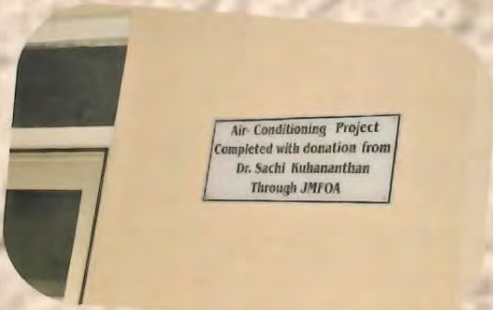


JMFOA-10th AGM - Jaffna, Sri Lanka



JMFOA-9th AGM - Sydney, Australia

Ongoing & Completed Projects/ Contributions by JMFOA - North America



Air Condition Project



Air Condition Project



Lecture hall opening ceremony May 29, 2012



Lecture hall opening ceremony May 29, 2012
Panel discussion on Geriatric Care



Fully equipped Lecture Hall



Fully equipped Lecture Hall



Hoover Auditorium Beautification



Hoover Auditorium Beautification

Ongoing & Completed Projects/ Contributions by JMFOA - North America

- Contribution for purchase of land for the Medical student's hostel project
- Sponsoring Medical students to part take in International Physiology Quiz Contest in Malaysia.
- Participation with JMFOA - UK Visiting Lecture Program at Jaffna Medical Faculty.
- Provided funding for landscaping for the new Hoover Auditorium Beautification project
- Provided scholarship fund for the needy students at Jaffna medical school.
- Provided funds for Medical Student's Union Web site project.
- Provided funds for Jaffna Medical Faculty web site project.
- Completed the Air- condition project to the student's lecture hall at the Medical Faculty.
- Completed the project to furnish the Clinical Lecture hall in front of the Jaffna Teaching Hospital with state of the art equipments. This was done in collaboration with JMFOA-NZ chapter.
- Purchased Spirometer Calibration syringe to Department of Medicine and Department of Physiology.
- Helped displaced Vanni students during the time of need.
- Supported Dean's emergency fund.
- Donated equipments including laptop computers, projectors, stethoscopes, anatomy models, posters etc.
- Supported Jaffna Teaching Hospital Fund for Emergency expenses.
- Helped to fund Dengue equipment purchase project.
- Contributed for artificial limb project in Mannar.
- Contributed for Autism Foundation USA.
- Contributed to School of Nursing Library at Jaffna Teaching Hospital.
- Funding provided to Hari Children Fund in Batticaloa.
- Contributed towards Medical Student Baheerathan's renal fund.
- Provided Fund to Nepal Earth Quake charity.



Message from the President JMFOA- UK chapter

I am honoured to have the opportunity to write this message, on behalf of JMFOA-UK on the annual celebration of the former students and teachers and well-wishers of Jaffna Medical Faculty who have settled across three continents. I thank JMFOA-NA, the hosts of this 2015 meeting, for inviting JMFOA-UK and, in particular, for honouring Dr and Dr Mrs Vetpillai as chief guests.

JMFOA-NA is the fore-runner of JMFOA-UK, and we have worked together for the past 11 years. Since the inception of JMFOA-UK we have concentrated our efforts mainly on Education, whilst also contributing to infrastructural projects and developing a Resuscitation Project. I have absolute conviction in Education – as a means of broadening the mind and equipping it for the challenges of an ever-changing world, not least of all in Medicine. Nothing but Education has the power to lift a whole family, and all its subsequent generations, out of poverty and disease. I believe that we must embrace the changes in Information Technology, both in the way we practice medicine and how we teach it. Sri Lanka, too, has evolved considerably in the last ten years, and it is important that JMFOA acknowledges, embraces and adapts to that change. As uncomfortable as the thought may be to us alumni, it is possible that in the near future our faculty and hospital may not need us as much as in the past. I therefore believe that it is important for us to start helping other hospitals in Sri Lanka and to extend our education programme to support those who would benefit most from it, such as other educational establishments and our colleagues in the nursing profession.

I was privileged to have been selected as the second JMFOA-UK president in November 2014. I am proud to be part of this cohesive team which upholds such a strong work ethic and is motivated by the sincere ethos of public benefit, not personal gain or fame. But one of my priorities is to increase our membership, especially from the more junior batches, because we need younger blood to continue and evolve what we have started. My other pledges are to preserve our foundation as a non-political organisation, and our culture of being a family which supports and helps each other. Our family extends to our sister organisations around the world, and I am deeply encouraged by the co-operation and collaboration between all the international branches of JMFOA. I look forward to what I am sure will be a memorable meeting, and to continuing to work together with you all towards our common goal, of helping our people back home.

Dr. K Parthipan, (4th Batch)



7th AGM, JMFOA London July 21, 2011



Teaching Activities in Jaffna by JMFOA - UK



3rd AGM, JMFOA London July 28, 2007



Message from JMFOA - New Zealand Chapter

சேவகள் நாம் செய்கின்றோம்
உலகின் பல நாடுகளில்
சேர்ந்தே நாம் நினைக்கின்றோம்
கல்வி பயின்ற காலங்களை

அழகிய இலங்கை நாட்டிலே
யாழ் பாடும் நகரினிலே
ஆடியபாத வீதியிலே
யாழ் மருத்துவபீடத்திலே
உருவான மணிகள் நாம்

மருத்துவபீட காலம் அது
இன்பதுன்பம் நிறைந்த நாட்கள் அது
கற்றுத் தந்த பாடங்களால்
நிமிர்ந்து நாம் நிற்கின்றோம்
நல் மனிதர்களாய் மருத்துவராய்

நாடு விட்டு நாமும் வந்தோம்
கடல் கடந்து தான் வந்தோம்
கனவுகளை நினைவுகளை
சுமந்தே தான் வந்தோம்
கை கோர்த்து நிற்கின்றோம்
மீண்டும் நாம் ஒன்றாக

சிதறி சென்ற மணிகள் தனை
சேர்த்து எடுக்க தம் கரத்தை
அன்போடு நீட்டிட்டார் எம்
டாக்டர் சாந்தகுமார்

2004 ம் ஆண்டினிலே
ஆவணி மாதம் அதில்
21 ம் நன் நாளினிலே
டொரோண்டோ நகரிலே
டாக்டர் சோமேசன் தலைமையிலே
உதித்து எழுந்தது அங்கு
முன்னாள் மாணவர் ஒன்றியம் ஒன்று

கண்டங்கள் கடல்கள் பல தாண்டி
கிளைகள் பல தான் விட்டு
பெரு மரமாக தினம் தினம் தான்
அழகாக அது வளருது இன்று

வருடா வருடம் நாம்
ஒன்றாக கூடுகின்றோம்
முடிவு பல செய்கின்றோம்
உதவி பல செய்வதற்கு

நன்றியோடு நாமும் அங்கு
நினைத்தே தான் பார்க்கின்றோம்
எம் விரிவுரையாளர்களை

பல கிளையில் ஒரு கிளை தான்
சின்னஞ்ச் சிறு கிளை தான்
பாலோடு தேன் ஓடும்
நன் நாட்டில் வளருகின்ற
நியூசிலாந்து கிளை நம்மது தான்

மறக்கவில்லை என்றும் நாம்
கடந்து வந்த பாதை அதை
செய்கின்றோம் உதவி பல
எம்மால் முடிந்தவை
மருத்துவபீடத்திற்கே

மாதா மாதம் கொடுக்கின்றோம்
ஒரு சிறு தொகை அதனை
மகிழ்வுடனே கொடுக்கின்றோம்
நம் மருத்துவபீட சேவைக்கு என்றே

எம் ஒன்றியம் வளர்ந்திடவும்
எம் பணிகள் தொடர்ந்திடவும்
வாழ்த்து இங்கு கூறுகின்றோம்
நியூசிலாந்து கிளை உறுபினர் நாம்

Dr. Shanthi Jeyaranjan (5th Batch)

President's Message JMFOA NZ Chapter

We were part of the previous projects done by JMFOA, and our recent achievements include donating 100 medical books, which are the most needed to the Medical faculty library and subscribing for online Medical Journals. We have committed to continue this service through NZ chapter. Our best wishes for North America chapter for a successful AGM.

Dr.S.Selvakumar, (1st Batch)



8th AGM Los Angeles, California July 21, 2012

JMFOA - North America - Activities

INAGURATION/ SILVER JUBILEE (AUGUST 2004) - TORONTO



AGM/Dinner - Dance



2nd AGM Toronto 2008



3rd AGM London 2007



4th AGM New Jersey 2008



5th AGM Auckland 2009



6th AGM Toronto 2010



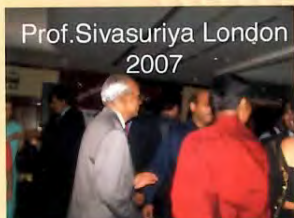
7th AGM London 2011



8th AGM Los Angeles 2012



9th AGM Sydney 2013



Prof. Sivasuriya London 2007



10th AGM Jaffna 2014



Drs. Mrs. Varman & Vepillai Sydney 2013

JMFOA - North America Membership/ Activities

JMFOA web site



LIFE TIME MEMBERS

JMFOA yahoo group



- Varatharasa, Arulanantham
- Sivaruban Kaveri
- Rajasingam, Kandasamy Jamuna
- Anandasivam, subra
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- Varatharajah, Malathy



JMFOA face book page



JMFOA face book



CME Cruise/Caribbean
4th AGM 2008



4th AGM 2008
New Jersey



JMFOA Inauguration 2004
Toronto



1st AGM 2005
New York



3rd AGM London 2007
Post AGM - Europe



6th AGM 2010
Toronto - Committee

**Congratulations
to JMFOA
on
Completing 10 years**

**Kaveri Sivaruban, M.D
Cincinnati, OH USA**

**Rajaratnam Pathmarajah, M.D
&
Sivani Pathmarajah, M.D
Cincinnati, OH USA**

**Palaniandy K. Kougulan, M.D
Saginaw, MI USA**

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CME Adviser: Dr Rajaratnam Mathialagan
Web-site development: Dr T. Sathiyaseelan
Editor: Dr Ula Mahadeva

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Dr.Yogesh Pushparajah
Dr.G.Vignakumar





Message from the President JMFOA- Australian -chapter

On behalf of the JMFOA Australia, I would like to thank Ravi and the organising committee of the North American chapter for organising such an extraordinary 11th AGM event.

These wonderful AGM and dinner gatherings provide us with opportunities to reminisce on our younger years and to socialize and network with old and new colleagues. They have also created a platform through which we are able to help our current and future students. None of this would be possible without the unwavering encouragement and support of our dedicated lecturers.

Australia has the largest number of Jaffna Medical Faculty graduates outside of Sri Lanka. Following the 9th AGM in Sydney, another successful local AGM was held in Melbourne in 2014. Our membership numbers have seen a steady growth over the years. Through the dedication and hard work of our committee members, we have been able to initiate and accomplish a few key projects so far, including: contributing to the refurbishment of the student canteen and information technology centre of the Medical Faculty; providing funding for various library resources, contributing to the running costs of the 10th AGM in collaboration with the North American Chapter; providing financial support for student participants in the International Physiology Quiz; and committing to the creation of a drop-in mental health centre for students of the University. In doing so, we endeavor to create a legacy for future generations to come!

Best Wishes,

Dr. Vathany Jeyaprakash (2nd Batch)

COMPLETED & CURRENT PROJECTS BY JMFOA - AUSTRALIAN CHAPTER

- Refurbishment of the Student Canteen & IT center at the Jaffna Medical Faculty.
- Document Delivery Service through British Medical Library to purchase articles for Jaffna Medical Faculty Library.
- Conference Funding - Sponsored one Anatomy Lecturer to CMMA held in Singapore July 21-22, 2014
- Providing financial support for student participate in the International Physiology Quiz contest in Malaysia.
- Sponsoring the 10th JMFOA AGM in July 2014 held in Jaffna, Sri Lanka.
- Funding for Drop In Center for Mental Health in Jaffna.(Set up and Ongoing costs)



Australian chapter Inauguration
January 4, 2009



Australian chapter members in Jaffna
August 2, 2014



9th AGM Sydney Australia
August 3, 2013

AS THE SONG GOES "FRINGED WITH RICH MAHOGANIES"

The transition, by courtesy of the brand new railway tracks, from gut-wrenching lurches to a smooth rhythmic trot, heralded the entry into the Tamil heartland. The greenery giving way to arid landscape, studded with hardy palmyra trees; dreary houses demarcated by cajan fences; emaciated beings on bullock carts heaped with coconut husks, spilling all over but suspended in the air all at once, hauled by equally emaciated bulls in yoke. Drying ponds trodden by ever-so-patient egrets; a few paltry green blades of tall grass, against flaxen backdrop, fluttering in the morning wind. Coconut estates, paddy fields with lone palmyra, barren and prairie lands came and went at a kaleidoscopic speed and when ennui began to set in, the train pulled into the brand new station at Jaffna. A tuck-tuck whisked me along the hospital road and in a jiffy the familiar mahogany trees, though sparse now, loomed in front, backtracking my thoughts down memory lane.

Sea breeze swept over the rows of vintage houses, cooling down sultry verandas, swaying the areca nut and coconut trees alike, while carrying the fragrance of jasmine and frangipani, to face the formidable opponent in the majestic mahogany. Upon meeting, the giants simply rustled in its company. Seeds ejected from the canopy parachuted down, each swirling toward its spawning ground with misplaced hope. Thrown into the mix of evergreen mosaic was the white stone steeple, belonging to St. John the Baptist church. The toll of the church bell free of muezzin's cry was not for prayers, muffling and mingling with that of a Hindu temple from afar. The signature shimmy in response to the ferocious gale foreshadowed the storm, brewing on the horizon. And the tight-knit trees, having concealed the overcast sky by their overarching expanse, formed a guard of honor to the forthcoming monsoon season. The Damien in me peered through the thicket to get a glimpse of the spire, fearing the impossible, that was the uprooting of the lightning rod--came crashing down, in the movie Omen.

Or, at twilight, on Christmas Eve, a glance at the grey sky, piercing the canopy, with trepidation, fearing the appearance of Scrooge's partner shackled and floating above, as in the late principle Mr. Anandarajan's preamble for "A Christmas Carol". The freewheeling galavanting, among the boughs of the ethereal forest in the old park, once a year during Jaffna scout jamboree, was the closest I have ever come to experiencing spirituality.

Mahogany trees, for their ubiquity, I daresay, were taken for granted. And I could not conjure up the school without them. Or so I thought until my recent visit to the school and the old park. Alas, what became of them?; it seemed the civil war could not spare anything, even the trees. Or, was it an excuse for marauding?. Concrete jungle had crept into the park that was once bursting at the seams with the precious trees. And the ones left behind on the fringes looked disheveled and decapitated. Disenchanted, I walked through the park and the school's vicinity, and at last I found the missing element; the sense of awe and spirituality was among the victims.

The song "fringed with rich mahoganies" appears ironically somewhat appropriate now, and I hope and pray it won't become an absurdity for posterity.

DRA.GOBIKRISHNA
Cardiologist, NY, USA

June 2015





அமைதிக்கு வழி.....

வந்த வழி தெரிவதில்லை
போகும் வழி அறிந்து சொன்னோர்
உலகினிலே யாரும் இல்லை
வாழும் வழி சொல்லி சென்றோர்
வையகத்தில் பலர் உண்டு

கண்ணன் சொன்ன கீதை உண்டு
தேவன் சொன்ன வேதம் உண்டு
புத்தர் சொன்ன பாதை உண்டு
இன்னும் பல நூல்கள் உண்டு
அவை சொல்லுகின்ற வழி ஒன்று
அது அன்பு எனும் வழி ஒன்று

அழகான உலகம் உண்டு
பல்லாயிரம் உயிர்கள் உண்டு
மழை பொழியும் மேகம் உண்டு
நாம் பிறந்ததற்கு பொருளும் உண்டு
செய்வதற்கு கடமை உண்டு
வாழ்வதற்கு வழியும் உண்டு

இரவு ஆனால் பகல் உண்டு
துன்பம் வந்தால் இன்பம் உண்டு
அழகையிலும் சிரிப்பு உண்டு
பிறப்பு என்றால் இறப்பு உண்டு

உன் மனதை அறிந்து விடு
உன் உணர்வை புரிந்து விடு
உன் மனமே உன் நண்பன்
உன் மனமே உன் பகைவன்
உன் மனதை நீ வெல்ல
உன்னை விட்டால் யாரும் இல்லை
உண்மை இதை அறிந்து விடு

செய்வது எல்லாம் இறைவனுக்கு என
மனதினிலே எண்ணிவிடு
பலன் அதனை மறந்து விடு
அவன் கையில் கொடுத்து விடு
வாழ்வில் அமைதி தானே வரும்

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5th Batch
New Zealand chapter.

உலகை நீயும் ஒரு முறை பாரு.....

எல்லைகள் இல்லா கடலும் நிலமும்
இயற்கை அன்னை அவளது உடைமை
வேலிகள் இல்லா வானம் இங்கு
கூறுது கதைகள் பலவும் எமக்கு

சுற்றும் சூரியன் சொல்லுது தினமும்
யாவர்க்கும் சொந்தம் இவ் உலகம் என்று
தேய்ந்து வளரும் நிலவும் இங்கு
காட்டுது நிலையே இல்லா வாழ்வை

வீசும் தென்றல் யாரது சொந்தம்
கேட்குது இயற்கை தினமும் உன்னை
தவழும் மேகம் சிந்திது கண்ணீர்
மனித உனது மடமையை எண்ணி

பிரிவு பிரிவு என்னும் எண்ணம்
எங்கனம் உன்னுள் எழுந்தது மனிதா
அன்பும் அறமும் உன்னுள் உள்ளே
எங்கே சென்று ஒழிந்து கொண்டது

உலகம் உனது வாடகை வீடு
இதை பிரிக்க உனக்கு உரிமை ஏது
மண்மேல் பொன்மேல் ஆசை உனக்கு
வந்ததன் விளைவை எண்ணி நீ பாரு

போகும் போது எடுத்து செல்ல
உன்னால் முடிவது எதுவும் இல்லை
வாழும் போது யாவரும் ஒன்றாய்
சேர்ந்து வாழ்ந்திட வழி பல உண்டு

ஒரு கணம் நீ உம் நினைத்தே பாரு
இதயத்தை சூழ்ந்திட்ட இருளை விலக்கி
அன்பு என்னும் கண்களின் வழியே
உலகை நீ உம் ஒரு முறை பாரு

புரிந்திடும் உனக்கு உயிர்களின் அருமை
விளங்கிடும் உனக்கு இயற்கையின் அழகு
மறைந்திடும் உனது பிரிவின் இலக்கு
நிறைந்திடும் உலகில் அமைதி உம் இன்பமும்

© Dr. Shanthi Jeyaranjan
5th Batch
New Zealand Chapter.



Medical Education; expectation and realities

“It is not only the educational experiences, but also the socialization process which occurs simultaneously during the training period that serves to solidify the professional’s unique world view.” - Pippa Hall

Writing this article in a traditional style, would be narrating the history, and the evolution of medical education. But most of us would have realized that learning is an art that continue to evolve; and practicing the medical science in the context of the “present” is the crux of medical education. The past has helped the professions in healthcare, to build experiences, values, and approaches to problem solving, that are expected in the practices of the health care professionals. Learning and accepting the changes, and respecting the moral and ethical principles behind them are rationale for continuing medical education.

The physician’s perspective of medicine is treating illnesses and curing the patient; what would be the patient’s perspective of medicine?

Learning to prioritize the patient’s wishes and choice of care, are agendas included in the learning of the many theories and their application in medicine. Even before the time of Sir. William Osler a North American Physician from Canada who is remembered for his patient oriented practice, the priorities of the physician education were to respect and incorporate the values of the patients. There are reasons that are known and unknown, for the students to choose medicine as a career. Respect, identity, social class, service and desires of the family and society are few in the list. These reasons could dramatically change during the carrier depending on the initial outlook, culture, religious beliefs and family and societal values.

That may bring about another common perception, which is the prerequisite for success in medicine. In my opinion the prerequisite would be to having an open mind, and willingness to change in providing the desirable care and services for the majority of the patients. The medical education not only help in forming the medical professionals; to attend to patients but also builds an institution of service providers; with particular cognitive maps, and models, who could render their culture of profession in many noble activities.

The medical education has an established curriculum in majority of the institutions. The hidden curriculum that offers the culture and the cognitive map, of the profession is taken rather seriously in the medical profession. It is due to the physicians multiple roles that are obvious and subtle as in caring, decision making and rendering emotional support to the patients and their families. It is a highly organized system of education; to shape the minds and visions of the physicians; to be health care providers’, researchers, and educators.

The paternalistic practices gave an overwhelming and authoritative role to the health care providers in the past. With the establishment of Respect for autonomy of patients and changing of practices, the roles of the physicians have changed. Also the patients have become more accessible to literature and research, and knowledgeable in discussing their views and making choices. The goals of the medical education are built on the patients’ and the society’s need, rather than the physician’s choices or expertise. The physicians may acknowledge, “Holistic approach to patient care and socialization process”- leading to “medical endeavors” as the caveat of the medical education, in the current era.

Dr. Rubini .Jeganathan (2nd Batch)