

***Faculty Of Medicine
University Of Jaffna
Silver Jubilee Celebration***



***Overseas Alumni Inauguration
August 21st, 2004 - Saturday
Toronto - Canada***

**FACULTY OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF JAFFNA
OVERSEAS ALUMNI INAUGURATION**



- Venue :** Monte Bianco Banquet Hall - Smallroom
Mississauga, Ontario - Canada
- Date :** August 21st 2004 - Saturday
4:00 p.m. - midnight
- Programs:** 4.00-4.30 Registration Social
4.30-5.30 Alumni Inauguration
Discussion / Presentation
5.30-6.00 Social
6.00-8:00 Welcome Entertainment Programs
8.00-9.00 Dinner
9.00-10.00 Guest Speeches
Photo Presentation Vote of Thanks
10.00 Floor Dance

In our Remembrance.....

***Prof. A. A. Hoover**

(Dean (1978 - 1981) & Professor of Biochemistry.

***Prof .N. Saravanabavanathan**

(Professor, Forensic Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Jaffna)

***Prof.V. Karunainnathan**

(MBBS (Cey) FRCS (Edin), Professor of Surgery)

***Dr.A. Sivapathasundram**

(Consultant paediatrician, Teaching Hospital - Jaffna)

***Dr. (Mrs.) Rajini Thiraganama**

(Senior Lecturer, Dept.of Anatomy, Faculty of Medicine)

***Dr. S. Ponnampalm**

(Consultant surgeon, Teaching Hospital, Jaffna)

***Dr. (Mrs.) S. Mahendran**

(Senior Lecturer, Dept.of Biochemistry, Faculty of Medicine Jaffna)

***Dr. P. Upillai**

(Senior Lecturer, Microbiology, Faculty of Medicine, Jaffna)

***Dr. S.Vellauthapillai**

(Visiting Lecturer, Dept. of Microbiology)

***Dr. Miss. P. Sinnappa**

(MBBS(Cey), D.Path (Lond)

***Dr. M. K.Ganesharatnam**

(1st batch student, Faculty of Medicine, University of Jaffna)

***Dr. A. Arulanantham**

(4th batch student, Faculty of Medicine, University of Jaffna)

***Dr. A. Sasikanthan**

(9th batch student, Faculty of Medicine, Jaffna)

***S.Pirathaban** (6th batch student)

***S.Sivakumaran** (7th batch student)

***S.Sivasankar** (9th batch student)

***K.Satheeskumar** (9th batch student)

***T.Sathyendra** (10th batch student)

***G.Nicholas** (14th batch student)

***R.Sureshkumar** (21th batch student)

***N.Ravisankar** (17th batch student)

Message From The Dean.....

It gives me great pleasure to send this message for the occasion of inaugurating of an alumnus of our faculty at the silver jubilee year of the faculty. Our faculty has gone through ups and downs, during this period, but we have survived through very hard times because of cooperation from students and hard work from the staff. For students, their hardships and sufferings took them to the very limit of their tolerance. The years they spent in the war torn Jaffna, in private boarding houses and unceasing torture of the faculty and clinical staff, would have created a kind of phobia towards Jaffna. On the other hand, the teachers, in their concern to maintain standards and their dedication to medical education have found the facilities for teaching grossly inadequate and the only way was to force the students to study hard.

Even though I joined the faculty in 1981, I came to understand the difficulties the first few batches underwent in the initial days by discussing with the teachers and students. The problems and difficulties united the teachers and students and we achieved a good standard of education and good amount of socialization. The parties, cultural programs and exhibitions definitely brought unforgettable memories.

Some of the teachers were little frustrated to see our students leaving the motherland without serving the suffering people. Other teachers found happiness in hearing about the achievements of our students all over the world. We now hold the view that every person has a built in ambition; ambitions and expectations of parents, relatives and spouses; circumstances that challenge their existence; and other needs

to be placed where they are. Just as much need for someone to go abroad, there are others who need or wish to stay in the motherland and serve their people.

My humble request to the expatriate students is to have some reserve of passion to the Motherland, mother faculty and to those students and staff who work tirelessly here. Think of the good moments you had with the institution and forget the bad ones. Please remember that our faculty has survived because of expatriate well wishers. Their concern has been a source of comfort and courage for the staff of our faculty at times of great difficulty. Their help- moral support and small scale funding- continues to be the source of hope for us. From now our past students should be our main strength.

We always wanted the Jaffna graduates to learn good social behavior through the extra curricular activities and develop good friendship and fellowship. Wish you all success in all your endeavors.

Good Luck & Best Wishes

Dr. K.Sivapalan.

*Dean,
Faculty of Medicine.*

Message From Prof. Parameswaran

We are pleased to note that you will be soon inaugurating the North American branch of the Overseas Alumni of the Jaffna Medical Faculty. I was really happy when the initiative came from you and at the prompt follow up action in getting down to business. Some of other alumni who visited us are very enthusiastic about this venture. I am sure this meeting will be much more than just a get-together. This should be the first step in a long journey. There may be drop outs on the way but this should not dampen your enthusiasm to help the alma mater which is crying for help. As we discussed at our meeting here, the alumni is expected to be proactive and be of assistance in strengthening the alma mater so that the less fortunate students of this faculty could reach high academic standards, despite the constraints prevailing in the faculty. I wish the Overseas Alumni (North American Branch) success in all their efforts to forge a healthy link between the alumni and the alma mater.

Good Luck & Best Wishes

Prof. S. V. Parameswaran
Dept. Of Physiology

Message From Prof. Sreeharan

Dear Colleagues,

I am delighted to send this message of good wishes to the launch meeting of the Faculty Alumni being held in Toronto. I very much regret my inability to attend this inaugural event. I remember with nostalgia my period at the faculty and the exemplary relationships and goodwill that existed between the staff and students. In spite of the turbulent nature of the external environment, the faculty was able to establish an environment of excellence in Medical Education and produce high quality medical graduates who have been able to establish themselves successfully in many parts of the world. The outstanding attributes that you have brought to the global health care environment is something that makes all of us very proud indeed. It is obligatory that the Alumni continues to support the growth and rejuvenation of the Faculty. This support can come in a variety of different forms: financial, provision of personal resources and just being available to give moral support to the current staff and students. It is also important that, as an expatriate group, we are sensitive to the environment in the North and East and be understanding of the period of great trauma that our people have undergone over the past several years. We should provide our support in a spirit of 'service' and 'humility' responding to their needs rather than imposing our knowledge and will. Although I am unable to be present on this occasion, my thoughts are with you all. I will always be available to give whatever support and advice that is required to make the alumni a strong and effective organisation.

Good Luck and Best Wishes

Dr. Sreeharan

Oveseas Alumni

Inaugurated August 21 2004 in Toronto,Canada .

The membership constitutes of all past students,teachers and well wishers of the Jaffna Medical Faculty living overseas

Objectives

To promote unity and cooperation among the members overseas and to foster a close & cordial relationship between the overseas & local alumni.

To further the interest & welfare of the Jaffna Medical Faculty by coordinating with the current faculty staff,Medical Students Union etc .

Alumni Executive Committee Members in Sri Lanka

<i>Patron :</i>	<i>Prof.P. Balasundrampillai</i>
<i>Vice patron :</i>	<i>Dr. K. Sivapalan</i>
<i>President :</i>	<i>Dr. S. Raviraj</i>
<i>Vice President :</i>	<i>Dr. T. Peranantharajah Dr. S. Navaneethan</i>
<i>Secretary :</i>	<i>Dr.(Miss).Gowry Selvaratnam</i>
<i>Assistant Secretary :</i>	<i>Dr. N. Sriskantharajah</i>
<i>Treasurer :</i>	<i>Dr. M. Karunakaran</i>
<i>Assiatant Treasurer :</i>	<i>Dr. Kumaraval</i>
<i>Editor :</i>	<i>Dr. D. C. Ambalavanar</i>
<i>Committee Members :</i>	<i>Prof. S. V. Parameswaran Dr. S. Jeyaratnam Dr. K. Sivapalan Dr. D. Gunarajasingam Dr. (Mrs.) G. Bavani Dr. (Mrs.) Valatmathy Ambalavanar Dr. K. Kannathasan Dr. S. Partheepan Dr. K. Ilangogneeeyar</i>

Our Beginning

From a first batch student

In the year 1978, the university grant commission made a decision to start more medical faculties in Sri Lanka. This brought great news to Jaffna.

The University of Jaffna got the approval to begin work for the medical faculty and to enroll the first batch of nearly 75 Tamil students. They were given the task of finding a place and organizing this in a very short time.

The new Ayurvedic College building in Kaithady was chosen as the temporary location. Late **Prof. Hoover** (Biochemistry) was appointed as the first Dean of this faculty. He got to work immediately and organized the lecturers & the facility in a short time. We remember and thank him for his great work. He also simplified Biochemistry for us. Mr. Sivanathan the past Director of Education –Jaffna under took the position as the first Registrar of this medical faculty.

We were blessed with a number of committed and experienced teachers from other medical faculties. Some of them stayed with the faculty for a long time with dedication like Drs. Parameswaran(Prof), Sivapalan, Sivasooriya(Prof), Sivagnanasundaram(Prof) , Sivarajah, Mrs.Ganeshamoorthy, Dr.&Mrs.Saravanabawanathan(Prof), Balasubramaniam (Prof), Sreeharan(Prof). They carried through with their commitment during the most difficult times of the faculty- we salute them.

Clinical medicine from the basics from Prof. Sreeharan - none of us will ever forget and some of us still carry his concise notes!

Many others came with commitment and contributed their best to the faculty. Drs Karunainathan(Prof),Ambihapathy, Sathiyathan, Chandrakumar, Naveenan, Dr.& Mrs Varman, Narendranathan, Nageswaran, Dr&Mrs.Vetpillai,Dr&Mrs.

Ramadas(Prof) .We really appreciate and acknowledge their timely contribution.

With limited resources and lot of hardships, we began our journey. But we were proud to be the first batch of medical students prepared to face the challenges in Jaffna.

We were a mix of students from various parts of Sri Lanka shared hardships and made our way through. Kaithady is a quiet and very conservative village. It took a while for them to accept the faculty and our presence there. Initially it was extremely difficult to find an accommodation there. So most of us traveled from other places. Some rented houses and made these into hostel-Sarvothayam is a good example for those of us who remember this place! This little lonely house in front of the faculty is a living reminder of our fun.

We faced an unexpected welcome by our fellow Jaffna university students on the very first day. We thought, since we were the first batch we will have none of this. They surprised us in a big way and made us remember this for the rest of our life. We were paraded through Jaffna town barefoot in the hot sun and given a great welcome in Thirunelvely!!. We patiently waited for an year and shared some of this experience with our juniors-I am sure many of them remember this also!

Like many we also hoped for a “real university experience & environment” when we got into the University. But we accepted Kaithady –a hot hazy humid environment in the midst of a traditional village. But we brought that university experience there within a short time. Yes! We definitely had a good time! If you don’t believe me, just count the number of couples who stemmed from the first few batches? We used all the excuses to have fun. Once we went to Nedunthivu with Selva and had a great time. On the way back , we brought

a goat hidden on a CTB bus and had a feast in the famous Sarvothayam!

At another occasion we traveled all the way to Batticaloa using the excuse of a bad news (one of our batch mate's father met with an accident and passed away). In our eagerness to get out, we did not even wait for the confirmation. To our surprise, when we reached there, this father greeted us. We swallowed this embarrassment and made this a vacation to the East! At one point, even our teachers didn't buy our stories and continued classes with a few committed students! There are many more stories I can share like this-I am sure every batch has many more stories like this.

With limited books in the library & limited equipments in the labs, our teachers helped us learn by improvising. At the beginning we were really short of cadavers for dissection and four groups worked on each limb at one time - but surely we learnt our Anatomy!

While having fun, we kept the university administration accountable- so that they build the actual medical faculty as promised on time in Thirunelvely. We had to make protest marches, "Shramadana" etc to get work on this building. We are proud that the building is now complete and the trees we planted 25 year ago are now a great scene for the faculty. In this, we remember the late **Prof Vithiyanthan** for keeping his commitment.

We also remember our best clinical teaching staff at the Jaffna hospital who taught us with dedication. We are proud that our presence raised the profile of the hospital to **Jaffna Teaching Hospital**. This hospital continues its great services to our community in spite of all the difficulties. During our clinical years, this hospital had the complete cadre of the best clinical staff in all the departments. We also remember Dr.Gunanathan for his extra tutorials.

Many of us never thought about leaving our land. But one way or other we are here working in foreign countries. With the solid foundation we received in spite of all the hardships, most of us are able to compete with the foreign nationals and come up in life. Many even hold faculty/prestigious positions and pursuing teaching here.

The initial problems with GMC recognition put us through hardship & frustration. Anyway we are now happy that because of this many of us made our way to North America/Australia/New Zealand. Of course there are many who overcame these difficulties in the UK and successfully practicing there.

We are proud to call ourselves the **Pioneers of the Jaffna medical faculty-BATCH 1.**

We remember, salute and thank all of those who helped us and guided us in the process.

We remember our colleagues who committed to stay and work in Sri Lanka-We really appreciate them. **Dr. Pathmalogini.K** and many others who dedicated their life to serve the neediest in the Northeast, you are the real heroes. In this we remember one of our great colleagues **Dr.Ganesharatnam** who lost his life in this process. **Dr. Ganeshan** also sadly departed us recently. We also remember **Dr. Ketheeswary**

I am delighted to recapture this memory at this special occasion after 25 long years.

Forgive me if I have missed out on any other important information/person. I had to prepare this on a short notice and now I am also 25 years older!

Lets unite and pledge our support to continue the good work at the Jaffna Medical Faculty

Dr.V.Santhakumar-FamilyPhysician
On behalf of the first batch students.

நிலவென்று என்னை.....

வெள்ளி நிலாவினிலே
விரிகடலின் ஓரத்திலே
நிலம் மலரும்
நிலவொளியில் - என்னை
நிலவு என்று ஏன் சொன்னாய்?
உன்னைத் தான்
உன்னை மட்டும் தான்
உள்ளத்தில் இருத்தி வைத்தேன்
நிலவைப் போல் பல
நீல் ஆம்ஸ்ரோங் வந்து போக - என்
இதயக் கதவினை நான்
இடைக்கிடை திறந்தேன்?
இல்லவே இல்லையே! - பின்
நுரை சிந்தும் கடலருகில்
நீந்தி வந்த நிலவொளியில்
நிலவென்று என்னை
நீயென் அழைத்தாயோ?

உன்னைச் சுற்றியே
உன்னை மட்டும் சுற்றியே
உலவிய என் நினைவுகள்
உன்னுடன் தானே பரிமாறிக் கொண்டேன் அந்த
செம்மதியைப் போல சுற்றிய
செய்மதிகட்கெல்லாம்
சேதி - சொன்னேனா? - பின்
செந்தாழை மணம் பரவும்
செங்கற் பொழுதினிலே
செவ்வானக் கடற்கரையில்
சேர்ந்த நிலவொளியில் - உன்
செவ்வாயாலென்னை
நிலவு என்று
நீ ஏன் தான் சொன்னாயோ?
என் அன்பு என்றும்
என்றென்றும்
வளர்ந்து வளர்ந்து - உன்னால்
ஊட்டம் பெற்றுத் தானே

ஊறிவளர்ந்து

அந்த நிலவினைப் போல்
தேய்ந்து வளர்ந்திடக் கண்டாயோ? - பின்
கலையிலும் கடற்கரையிலும்
அலையுரைகள் தாலாட்ட
அலர்ந்து வந்த நிலவொளியில்
நிலவென்று என்னை ஏன்
நின் வாயாற் சொன்னாயோ?

நிலவினிலே பள்ளங்கள்
நிறைய உண்டென்று
சமூகக் கல்வியிலே - அன்று
சப்பியதாய் ஞாபகம் - ஆனால் என்
உள்ள வெளியினிலே
உள்ள பள்ளமெல்லாம் - உன்
நினைவு வெள்ளத்தால்
நிரப்பி விட்டேனே - பின்
ஊதிய தென்றலிலே
ஊரிக் கடற்கரையில்
உருண்டு வந்த நிலவொளியில்
நிலவென்று உன்னை
ஏன் தான் அழைத்தயோ?

நினைத்துப் பார்த்து - நான்
நீ கூறிய வார்த்தைகளில்
நிஜத்தைத் தேடுகிறேன்
நினைத்தவுடன் நிறம் மாறும்
நின்னை நான்
நித்திய சூரியனாய்
நினைத்த போது
நான் சுயஒளியைத்
தொலைத்து விட்ட
தேய்பிறைச் சந்திரன் தான்
இன்று இந்தச்
சந்திரனுட் சங்கமமாகும் நினைவுகள் ஒரு
சூரியனாய்ச் சுட்டெரிக்கிறது
நீயோ அதிற் கூடக்
குளிர் காய்கிறாய்

ஆனால் அந்த விரிகடலின் ஓரத்து
வெள்ளி நிலாக் கூட
வெட்கித் தன் முகத்தை
முகில்கட்டும் புதைத்துக் கொள்கிறது.

-சிவானி பத்மராஜா

மூழ்காத TITANIC

தமிழனுக்கு தமிழ் அன்னை மடியில்

ஒரு பீடம்

ஈழப் பல்கலைக்கழகங்களிற்குள்

"MI" வராத இதயம்

கைதடியில் போட்ட வித்து, திருநெல்வேலியில்

மாபெரும் விருட்சம்!

பருத்தித்துறையில் இருந்த அம்பாறை வரை

"DOCTORS" ஐ உருவாக்கும் அட்சயபாத்திரம்

"Consultant" உம் "Surgeon" உம்

பூவாய் மலரும் நந்தவனம்!

Professor உம் Physician ஐயும்

இனப்பெருக்கும் Computer!

Super Sonic என்னும் நரகாசுரனை

வென்ற கலைவாணி!

Land mine சமுத்திரத்தில்

அலை மூழ்காத ஞவநவாழளஉழிந

அரசியல் புயல்களும் PMC பேதங்களும்

மாற்றாத அபூர்வராகம்!

இது என்றும் Century

அடிக்கும் அழியாத கோலம்!

இரண்ட தசாபத்தங்களில் உலக வரலாற்றில்

என்றும் மூழ்காத TITANIC

செல்வி ஹேமா வல்லிபுரநாதன்

Message From Overseas Facilitator

Even though I mooted the idea of organising of our Batch Get Together to mark the 25th anniversary since we entered the Medical Faculty, the great and unselfish efforts of Santha (Dr.V.Santhakumar of Toronto) made this event possible to express our gratitude to our Alma Mater.I feel frustrated by my inability to attend to a Great Occasion of my life time.

I wish all the very best and success to the events of the inaugural meeting and its future proceedings, on behalf of all the Graduates from Jaffna Medical Faculty living in the U.K.

I kindly request you to observe a minute silence to mark the tragic death of Dr.M.Ganesharatnam (affectionately called Ganesh) in 1987,Dr.P.Ganeshan in 2004 and other medical professionals in our Home Land.

Vicky (Dr.V.Vigneswaran,Swansea, U.K)



*With
Compliments
&
Best Wishes
From*



Dr. A. Thangaroopan
Consultant Psychiatrist

*Ajax / Pickering
Health Centre*

*With
Compliments
&
Best Wishes
From*



Dr. V. Figurado
Family Physician

St. Lucia's Medical Centre
3461 Dixie Road (at Bloor)
Suite # 302 Mississauga. Ont.
(905) 206 - 1966

*With
Compliments
&
Best Wishes
From*



Dr. R. Mohan
Family Dentist

*3033 Palstan Road, Suite # 206
Mississauga .
(905) 949 5656*

*2190 Warden Avenue, Suite# 205
Scarborough.
(416) 716 5694*

*With
Compliments
&
Best Wishes
From*



Dr. G. Mariampillai
Consultant Obstetrician
&
Gynecologist

Suite # 202
2115 Finch Ave. West
416 223 9114

*With
Compliments
&
Best Wishes
From*



Dr. C. P. Giri & Associates
Family Dentist

*3480 Lawrence Ave. East.
Scarborough. Ontario.
(416) 439 5252*

*With
Compliments
&
Best Wishes
From*



Dr. Illango & Associates
Family Dentist

*3852 Finch Ave. East, Unit 303
Scarborough, Ont.
(416) 292 7004*

*3025 Hurontario St. # 102
Mississauga, Ont.
(905) 270 7844*

*With
Compliments
&
Best Wishes
From*



Dr. Gnanendran
Consultant Anesthesiologist
Windsor / Michigan

*With
Compliments
&
Best Wishes
From*



**Dr. C. Kirupanathan
Consultant Obstetrician
& Gynecologist**

**Finch - Midland
Medical Centre
4190 Finch Ave. Suite 316
Scarborough, Ontario.
(416) 609 1199**

*With
Compliments
&
Best Wishes
From*



Royal Bank

Vince Sinnadurai

Senior Account Manager -Residential Mortgages

Cell: 416 917 9462

Mailvaganam Ahilan

Senior Account Manager -Residential Mortgages

Cel: 416 220 1184

Abirami (Abby) Sriharan

Mobile mMortgage Specialist

Cell: 416 818 1633

2250 Midland Avenue (South of Sheppard)

Unit 3, Scarborough.

(416) 438 1688

*With
Compliments
&
Best Wishes
From*



Legacy Medical Centre
Family Physicians & Walk in Clinic

Dr. R. Lambotharan
Dr. Mrs. Aruna Lambotharan
Family Physicians

5637 Finch Ave. East
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*With
Compliments
&
Best Wishes
From*



Dr. A. Selvarajah
Family Dentist

*140 - 10 Gateway Blvd
Donmills. Ontario
(416) 696 2273
416 Own care*

**List of graduates in North America who participated
and gave us commitment for this event**

Drs. Sornarajah, Premini Alfred, Santhakumar, PW. Wickneswaran & Bernada, Sashikala Senthelal, Thevaki Sivakumaran, Somesan, Ananthasivams, Krishnarajah, Dalima D, Lena & Marie, Srisala Sriranjana Ravichandran & Kamaleswary, Bama R, Ramani S, Wignakumars, Selvaranjan, Rajes Logan, Niranjana & Jasotha, Ahilana & Dharani, Nanthakumar & Nanthini, Varadarasa, Norman & Geetha, Malathy Varatharajah, Rajaram & Sujanthya, Jegathesana, Lambo & Aruna, Shanthi Tamilvanan, Kumuthini & Karunakaran, Bavani & Ketheeswaran, Gerard Francis, Sivarajini Indrajit, Pathmarajah & Sivani, Theepa Sivaganesh, Franklyn Vincent, Sivakumar Naga, Jeya Nadarajah, Kaveri S, Sivaruby S.

we have many more Jaffna graduates in North America and spread accross the globe in the UK, NewZealand, and Australia. We would like to include all of them in our overseas Alumni. Many more of our colleagues in the USA have expressed their interest but are unable to be here with us due to visa restrictions. We acknowledge the help of Drs. Vigneswaran & Velalagan in the overseas organizing part even though we have not succeeded in this for this time.

Sincere Thanks To...

* All the graduates for your support-without your support this event would not have been possible.

* Dr.Sivapalan-Dean for making the effort to be with us today and for his message.

*Prof.Sreeharan, Prof. Parameswaran for your support & the message.

*Medical Institute for Tamil members and advertisers for your support.

* Renuka Mohan for your diligent work to get the souvenir out in a short time.

*All the entertainers for your excellent performances.

*Sri at Monte Bianca hall for organizing the banquet facility for us.

*for the initial idea from the faculty Staff, MSU, Drs. Raviraj & Vigneswaran (UK) regarding the urgent need for an overseas alumni.

* Many others who volunteered and helped us to make this a success. Dr. Srisala Sriranjana for her input regarding her recent visit update to Jaffna . Dr. Somasan for the help in the photo presentation.

Drs.Santhakumar & Sivarajini Indrajit

**Best Wishes
for a successful
Silver Jubilee Celebration**

**Dundas Dental Centre
Dr. Vanathy Jeeva
&
Associates**

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