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CMJI

CHRISTIAN MEDICAL JOURNAL OF INDIA

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46th

**BIENNIAL
CONFERENCE**

12-13 Nov 21 (Virtual)

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- CMAI is the health arm of the National Council of Churches in India(NCCI).

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Building a just and healthy society

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COME JOIN US AS MEMBERS

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



LETTERS / ARTICLES FOR CMJI

We invite your views and opinions to make the CMJI interactive and vibrant. As you go through this and each issue of CMJI, we would like to know what comes to your mind. Is it provoking your thoughts? The next issue is on the Healing Ministry theme "Let us Consider...". Please share your thoughts with us. This may help someone else in the network and would definitely guide us in the Editorial team. E-mail your responses to: cmai@cmai.org

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SPECIAL ARTICLES

CMAI welcomes original articles on any topic relevant to CMAI membership - no plagiarism please.

- Articles must be not more than 1500 words.
- All articles must preferably be submitted in soft copy format. The soft copy can be sent by e-mail; alternatively it can be sent in a CD by post. Authors may please mention the source of all references: for e.g. in case of journals: Binswanger, Hans and Shaidur Khandker (1995), 'The Impact of Formal Finance on the Rural Economy in India', Journal of Development Studies, 32(2), December. pp 234-62 and in case of Books; Rutherford, Stuart (1997): 'Informal Financial Services in Dhaka's Slums' Jeffrey Wood and Ifftah Sharif (eds), Who Needs Credit? Poverty and Finance in Bangladesh, Dhaka University Press, Dhaka.

- Articles submitted to CMAI should not have been simultaneously submitted to any other newspaper, journal or website for publication.
- Every effort is taken to process received articles at the earliest and these may be included in an issue where they are relevant.
- Articles accepted for publication can take up to six to eight months from the date of acceptance to appear in the CMJI. However, every effort is made to ensure early publication.
- The decision of the Editor is final and binding.

LETTERS

- Readers of CMJI are encouraged to send comments and suggestions (300-400 words) on published articles for the 'Letters to the Editor' column. All letters should have the writer's full name and postal address.

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- Authors are requested to provide full details for correspondence: postal and e-mail address and daytime phone numbers.
- Authors are requested to send the article in Microsoft Word format. Authors are encouraged to use UK English spellings.
- Contributors are requested to send articles that are complete in every respect, including references, as this facilitates quicker processing.
- All submissions will be acknowledged immediately on receipt with a reference number. Please quote this number when making enquiries.

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EDITORIAL

46th BC ...

‘Fear Not, Hope – A call for integrity’



Editor

Why do we talk about integrity so often in Mission hospitals? One important reason is that it is naturally and humanly possible to be otherwise. Integrity is an internal quality which cannot be easily assessed in the outside world. Both at a personal level and at an institutional level the need of this quality is undisputed. All of us know that this quality is such an important one and yet not willing to be committed to this always.

What could be an attraction or incentive to be with integrity? Or is there any disincentive when someone has compromised integrity? The most important one is an approval from the Lord. The Lord desires His creatures to be with integrity since it is with this image and likeness He created us. While sharing about an event, a leader from another faith testified saying “I studied in a Christian School and was brought up in its ethos; I cannot accept bribe”. That leader understood that ‘not giving/getting bribe’ is an expression of integrity which has its deep roots in the Christian educational institution where he studied. Christian faith encapsulates integrity in such a way that it has become synonymous with this quality in certain occasions.

In a recent conversation, a Christian leader in a hospital, while sharing experience, expressed how bribes had to be given for getting approvals/permissions to some persons/offices. This great witness of ‘integrity’ is needed in our world today more than ever. Whatever healthcare professional we are, it is an uncompromisable asset we need to possess.

This issue of CMJI comes like a report of the 46th Biennial Conference we had in 2021 in the midst of so many challenges. We had to adopt new methods to accomplish this conference since it was held in an online platform due to the pandemic. However, it turned out to be a blessing to so many people who attended. It is our expectation that as you read this journal you will be inspired by the devotions, reports and write-ups this carries. Both as individuals and as institutions, may we take this opportunity to revisit our calling to be with integrity in order to witness Christ’s love in this world through the healing ministry.

CMoses

Dr. Christopher D. Moses

“WE NEED GOD TO REVEAL HIMSELF TO US, TO SHOW US HIS HEART, TO SHOW US HIS CHARACTER”

CMAI 46th Biennial Conference, Day 01 Devotion By Prof John Wyatt



Thank you very much for that warm introduction, it's a real privilege for me to be able to take part in this wonderful conference using the amazing technology that God has given to us. And so I'm going to share a little, particularly looking at some verses in Exodus and if you have a Bible, you can turn to Exodus Chapter 34, and I shall read it out so it's not necessary if you don't have a bible available. But just by way of introduction, as is already been said, so many of us have had an extraordinarily painful and difficult period over the last more than 18 months since the pandemic started. And here in London, we have seen terrible waves of infection and close friends have died, many people have been bereaved and the health professionals working in hospitals have experienced enormous levels of stress, pressure and difficulties. And I'm aware that many people taking part in the conference will also have experienced some very painful losses and so on. The message laid on my heart is that we need a fresh vision of God, when we are confronting such painful and difficult times. Above all, we need God himself to

reveal himself to us, to show us his heart, to show us his character and in Exodus 34 we have these remarkable few verses where God chooses to reveal himself in a special way to Moses and many scholars have said that in some ways this passage in Exodus 34 represents the highest pinnacle in the entire Old Testament where God chooses to reveal himself in a very direct way, he chooses to show his heart, he chooses to show what he's like. I'm just going to read the passage Exodus 34 starting from verse 5. "The Lord descended in the cloud and stood with him as Moses there and proclaimed the name of the Lord. The Lord passed before him and proclaimed the lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious. Slow to anger and abounding in his steadfast love and faithfulness. Keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin. A tool by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquities of the fathers on the children, and his children's children to the third and fourth generation. And Moses quickly bowed his head towards the earth and worshipped.

So, as I've said, this is arguably the most complete description that God gives of himself in the entire Old Testament. It is how God chooses to reveal himself, it's a description of his personal character of what he's like. And we know it in Hebrew and in the Bible the name of someone is very significant, the name encapsulates the character of the person. And so, God chooses his covenant name which in the old English translations was given Jehovah. A more literal translation of the four Hebrew words is Yahweh, but this is God covenant name, and what does that name mean, what is the character of God? God chooses five Hebrew words to describe his character. And each of those Hebrew words is very profound and rich and deep in meaning and those five Hebrew words recur throughout the whole of the Old Testament. And pretty well, whenever they occur, bible scholars say that they are a reference back to this passage, exodus 34. They act as the sort of hyperlink throughout the text of the Old Testament. Whenever we come across these words, they're meant to direct us back to the character of God.

So what are those five words? Well, there they are in verse six, and they are: merciful, gracious, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and faithfulness. Those are the five words that God chooses to reveal himself, to reveal his name, to reveal his character. And what is very striking to me is that here in exodus, God does not describe himself in very abstract terms. He doesn't describe himself as the infinite God, as the powerful God, as the self-sufficient God and so on. He chooses to describe himself in highly relational and intimate terms.

And these five relational characteristics that show us the heart of God, that God chooses, are without exception positive. They portray God as overwhelmingly compassionate and caring, patient, and forgiving, utterly reliable and consistent in his commitment and love for his people. And now if you just stop and think about it, if you know your bibles, this incident where God reveals himself in Exodus 34, comes just after the incident of the golden calf. The people had created, just two chapters earlier where it comes in Exodus 32, the people of Israel had created an idol, a horrific idol, a golden calf. And they bowed down and worshipped this horrific idol and they celebrated this abomination. It was a flagrant rejection of the living God. And just after this incident, God reveals himself to Moses but he doesn't reveal himself as a

God of vengeance and judgment. Yet as we saw, he is going to hold the guilty accountable but primarily he reveals himself as merciful, gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

In other words, God reveals himself to Moses in order to explain why he's chosen to have mercy on his rebellious and wayward people. God has chosen to have mercy even in the face of Israel's flagrant rejection of him. Why? Because this is what He is like. This is his character. This is the sort of God he is. Isn't that wonderful? That God is revealing the way he is and he is merciful and he's gracious and he is faithful and he is abounding in steadfast love and he's slow to anger. I just want to pick two of those Hebrew words and just a little bit more about

They portray God as overwhelmingly compassionate and caring, patient, and forgiving, utterly reliable and consistent in his commitment and love for his people.

them. And the first word is the word that God used to describe himself, and it's sometimes translated as merciful, it's sometimes translated compassionate. And the Hebrew word is *rahoom* and this is a remarkable and unexpected word that God should use to describe himself. Why is that? Because most Bible scholars say that the word *rahoom* is derived from the Hebrew for womb, *wahem*. In other words, God's compassion is like a mother's love for her child. God's compassion is that of a motherly father. It's an expression of wonderful and inexhaustible

tenderness and gentleness. And you remember right at the end of the Bible in Revelation 21, there's this beautiful picture where it says God himself will wipe away every tear from the eye. Many of us have had tears in our eyes over these last months and years. And God himself promises that he himself is going to wipe away every tear from our eyes. And you know, that picture is- I find that a very moving picture because it is not a picture of the awesome and wonderful and supreme God. No, it's a picture of a mother's lap and a child sitting on this lap and a tear stained face and gentle fingers wiping away the tears. And that's our God, that's what he's like. That's the God of compassion. And the second word I want to focus on is the fourth word, abounding in steadfast love. And again, if you know your Bibles, you will know that that phrase steadfast love occurs repeatedly throughout the Old Testament. And the Hebrew word is *hesed*, and it has a beautiful meaning because *hesed* is covenant love, and it's the love of the bridegroom for the bride. It's the bridegroom who says to the bride "I have chosen to love you and whatever happens, and however you reject me, and however you ignore me, and however you push me away, I will continue to love you. I give myself to you

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until the end of our life” that’s what the human bridegroom says. Of course, our divine bridegroom says the love will go through beyond the grave into the new heaven and the new earth. That is hesed, that’s the way that God reveals himself. Covenant, commitment love.

And I said that these wonderful Hebrew words recur through the Old Testament. I want to briefly turn to Jeremiah and to the verses from which our conference theme is taken. Jeremiah 30 verse 17. Again we know that the context of Jeremiah is of terrible judgement on God’s people and terrible suffering, but here we have this one little promise, Jeremiah 30 verse 17 “for I will restore health to you and your wounds I will heal”, declares the lord. And if you just go down to the next verse, thus said the Lord “behold I will restore the fortunes of the tents of Jacob and have compassion”, there’s the word again rahoom. I’m going to have compassion, says God. Again because that’s his character. And if you just look across, to Jeremiah 31, verse 3. One of my favourite and most wonderful verses in the Bible, where God says, literally what the Hebrew says is, “from everlasting I have loved you and I have drawn you to me with hesed”, with steadfast love. And he again says “I will build you again and you shall be built of virgin Israel”

Now you know in the language of the relationship, of the love of God for his bride, the people of Israel, she hasn’t been a virgin. She has been unfaithful, she has gone after other Gods. and yet, what the bridegroom love says is that I’m going to restore you, and again you’re going to be my virgin bride, in holiness and purity. Let’s go back to exodus 34 - here God knows that his people are battered,

they are weary, they feel hopeless and despairing. And if the truth be known, some of them are rebellious, and secretly angry. Where is God? Why does he allow these terrible things to happen? Doesn’t he care? Why doesn’t he show himself? Does this sound familiar? I think many of us are asking those questions - where is God? Many of us are feeling battered and weary. Some are feeling hopeless, even despairing. And so God chooses to declare, out of his graciousness, to show his heart. And this is what God is trying to say to us today. And this is the message that he’s laid on my heart. We need to see a fresh vision of the compassionate God. Rahoom, filled with compassion, the motherly father. Hesed, covenant love. The unbreakable love of the bridegroom for the bride. And what God is saying to us is ‘never forget, this is what I am like. This is who I am. This is my unchangeable character. From everlasting to everlasting. And so, how should we respond when we catch the heart of God? The wonderful, compassionate heart of God to his faithless and rebellious people? Like Moses, in verse 8 of chapter 34, we too should bow down and worship the unchanging God who has loved us with an everlasting love, and who is continuing to draw us to himself with covenant love, with hesed. May God help us to see more of his heart today as we seek to serve him in the world of healthcare and to him be the glory, Amen.

*Prof. John Wyatt
Emeritus Professor, Neonatal Paediatrics,
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GOD WHO CREATED US, GOD WHO CHOSE US, GOD WHO WE SERVE IS A LOVING GOD

CMAI 46th Biennial Conference, Day 02 Devotion By Rev. Dr. T. Arul Dhas



I express my gratitude to CMAI HQ for the welcome. It's a great joy for me to share God's word at this very important occasion in the life of Christian Medical Association of India - 46th biennial. What a joy it is to gather for every biennium to praise God, to ask ourselves where God is guiding and leading us.

This year we have chosen 'Renew & Restore' as the theme for this conference and many reflections and small conferences are to follow in the near future. I would like to share from the passage taken from Jeremiah 30:17a "I will restore you to health". This was the statement God shared with the people of Israel and Judah through the prophet Jeremiah. We know that prophet Jeremiah, son of Hilkiah, was called as a weeping prophet and he went through tough times in his personal life for the sake of fulfilling God's commandments. He made sure that he did whatever the Lord has told him to do. And he was another

priest of Anathoth in the territory of Benjamin. In the earlier part of this chapter Jeremiah 30, we read God telling the people of Israel and Judah "I will break the yoke of their necks, I will tear off their bonds. No longer will foreigners enslave them". What comforting words they are! He was also telling "they will serve the Lord their God". These people of Israel and Judah will serve the Lord our God. Others will no more control them or enslave them; they will serve the Lord their God.

And later on, God assured them "I will surely save you, and Jacob will again have peace and security, no one will make him afraid. I am with you and I will save you". What a comforting and assuring words from the Lord when people are going through tough times, pain, suffering and oppression. The Lord also said "Your wound is incurable, your injury beyond healing, no remedy for your sore, no healing for you. You are forgotten, nobody cares for you".

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In this context, God spoke “I will restore you. I will restore you to health”.

Dear friends, this afternoon as we are together as ministers of healing to think about God’s direction in our lives, in our individual, institutional, and organisational lives, I am asking this question to all of us. What are the areas in which we need restoration today? God is telling us to have restoration. God is assuring us that we will have restoration in specific areas. I’m sure each of you will think about and reflect on different areas where we need restoration. What are the areas CMAI needs restoration? What are the areas CMAI individual members need restoration? What are the areas CMAI institutional members need restoration? Our Lord, when he was doing his ministry, looked at religious people, ritual people of his time and he identified there were many areas where they needed restoration.

In the next few minutes, I would like to share three important areas I believe God is guiding us towards restoration.

Restoration in our understanding of God. How do we understand God our creator? What is my understanding, our understanding of God whom we serve. Most of us will quickly say yes, we know whom we are serving – God is a just God. God is a righteous God. But is the one who is ready to punish when we go astray? Well, they all have different dimensions which are to be understood and accepted. There is a need for restoration on the understanding of God, Jesus communicated to his disciples “You know who God is? God is your loving father”. He even taught his disciples with a prayer “Our Father, who art in heaven”. God who created you, God who created us, God who chose us, God who we serve is a loving God.

In addition, God is a just God, but with a slant towards the poor, with a slant towards the marginalized. We see this again and again as explained in the parables in Bible. It is not only as we consider what is just, but it is the way God considers justice. The way he considers justice is connected to the history, connected to the future, connected to what is happening from a larger point of view. Therefore, sometimes our understanding of God and our understanding of justice is very poor, very mismatched. God is a loving father, God is a just God.

Not only that, God is a self-denying God. Quite often, we have an understanding “if we are God’s children, we’ll continue to grow to the extent no one can stop. Probably

there is some truth in it. But the way we see God in our Saviour, Our Lord, is that he was giving himself. He was giving his own life for others. So, there is a self-denying dimension in God.

As CMAI members, do we continue to understand God in this manner? God is a loving God, God is a just God, God is a self-denying God. Someone who is willing to give away his prerogatives for the sake of others. There is a need of restoration in the way we understand God.

Secondly, I would like to share that there is a need for restoration in our relationships. In our relationship amongst each other, with all the creatures, and all of creation. When we talk about this word - Relationship, sometimes many people don’t like it. Because many of us feel uncomfortable. It involves different kinds of relationships. My relationship with my family members, my relationship with the people whom I work with, my boss, people in the society, people in the margins. Relationships include everything.

The way he considers justice is connected to the history, connected to the future, connected to what is happening from a larger point of view.

I remember reading a book entitled “People Pleasing Pastor”. We, who are pastors, have a tendency to please people, to do whatever they require from us. Not to do whatever the Lord asks us to do. We do whatever pleases people. Very painfully, that is not the one that God is asking us to do. We are sometimes so overwhelmed, with having good relationship with no truth in it.

What sort of relationship restoration God is asking us to have? When I was thinking about this word ‘relationship’,

I want to ask in which context. I am not talking about the people in the world, I’m talking about people in the Christian community, people in the Church, people in the Christian fellowships. Do we need restoration in the area of relationships? Or will God say “your relationships are beyond redemption, beyond restoration”? Would he say that? No. There is a hope, in CMAI’s theme for this year. There is a hope, a hope for restoration. Your relationships will be restored. Your relationship with your family members will be restored, with your colleagues will be restored. Your relationship with different partners in the work will be restored. Our Lord went to the extent of giving himself to restore healthier relationships. In Isaiah chapter 30, verse 17, there is a second part “I will restore you to health and heal your wounds.

Finally, Restoration of our strength to do good work. Initially I said restoration in the understanding of our God, restoration in our relationships, restoration in our

good work. We, who are in CMAI, are committed for good work. There is no doubt about it. We are all in the ministry because we believe in good work, because we would like to do something good. In the recent pandemic, there is clear witness for that. As individuals, as institutions, as CMAI, we went all the way out to do good works. Praise God for that. So many people are blessed with our good work. The world is a witness for the good work that we, with our Christian faith, were able to demonstrate through this pandemic.

Are we tired today? Are we exhausted? Some of us are really tired. Particularly after doing some good work, we feel like that. We wish giving up, we feel as if enough is enough. Let us remember Elijah as one of the powerful prophets, saying "It's enough O Lord, I am no better than my forefathers." As Jonah or like Elijah, many of us are going through a downward slope in our good work. I'm talking about our Christian institutions, I'm talking about Christian professionals, I'm talking about Christian faithful. Our Lord is willing to restore our good work. Once we did, praise the Lord. Today there is a need for much more good work than ever. The world is looking for good work, how will it come? Where it'll come from? It will come only from Our Lord. He inspires us. His Spirit inspires us, to do good work.

Recently we were focusing on one scripture so that we will be equipped to do every good work. It's a scripture, do everything so that we are ready to do every good work in this world (II Timothy 3:17). As we continue our conference today, as we continue our healing ministry in our country today, in this year and the years to come,

shall we remember God is inviting us for a restored life, a renewed life. Restoration of our understanding of God himself. Restoration in our relationship with one another. Restoration in the good work. Shall we look to the Lord in prayer?

Loving and gracious Father, we thank you and praise you for this beautiful time to look at the scripture and to understand your calling in our lives. We thank you for enabling Christian Medical Association of India to reflect on this theme of restoration. Thank you, Lord. Forgive us that we have gone so far away from your expectations. Restore our understanding, O God, understanding of your love, understanding of your justice, understanding of your sacrifice and self-denying love. Lord we pray that you may restore our relationships with one another, in our homes, in our working place, in our institutions. Let there be love in our relationship; let there be understanding; let there be consideration; let there be forgiveness in our relationships. Lord, we commit the area of good work where there is need for restoration. Restore us, O Lord to do your good work with your spirit. With the power of your strength continue to use us. In your merciful, caring hands, we commend all of us. In Christ's precious name we pray. Amen.

*Rev. Dr. Arul Dhas T.
Head of Chaplaincy
Christian Medical College, Vellore*

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OVERVIEW

46TH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE



Pre-Conference - November 9 - 11, 2021

Main Conference - November 12 - 13, 2021

Virtual

With the ongoing pandemic and the restrictions around meeting physically, the 46th Biennial Conference of CMAI was held virtually. The challenge of having the conference virtually was to ensure that the joy of fellowship, the amazement at hearing experiences, the learning, sharing and our connect was not hampered in anyway. We reached out to our membership to find out what kind of biennial conference the membership would prefer through a survey. There was an overwhelming response to have the essential session virtually this and to have the fellowship sessions next year physically whenever possible.

The 46th Biennial Conference was divided in two parts, the pre-conference and the main conference, the pre-

conference sessions were scheduled from November 9 to 11, 2021 and main conference were held on November 12 & 13, 2021. The theme of the conference was "Renew & Restore" based on Jeremiah 30:17A.

There were almost 1500 participants who registered for the conference. We had representation from Australia, Canada, England, Libya, Nepal, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, and United States apart from India who joined us for a time of fellowship, renewal, and reflection. Over 180 institutions were represented during the conference.

Dr Priya John, General Secretary welcomed all the participants who joined the 46th Biennial Conference of CMAI virtually. The **opening prayers** was offered by Dr Sudhir Joseph, Director of St Stephens hospital Delhi, which was followed by **Welcome Address** by Dr Jeyakumar Daniel, the President of CMAI after that Dr Priya John, General Secretary CMAI recognised the all

the network partners who have helped and supported CMAI over the years.

The main conference started with the **Thanksgiving service** led by Ms Imtinenla Ayer, the ex-Chaplain Section Secretary. The nurses from Dr Norman Tunnel hospital Jowai, Meghalaya led the worship. Professor John Wyatt, University College London and President of the UK Christian Medical Fellowship took the Devotion. He shared from the book of Exodus chapter 34. Keeping in mind the extraordinarily painful and difficult period over the last more than 18 months since the pandemic started, Prof Wyatt shared how we needed a fresh vision of God, when we are confronting such painful and difficult times. How we need God himself to reveal himself to us, to show us his heart, to show us his character and through these remarkable few verses in Exodus 34, God chooses to reveal himself in a special way to Moses. He shared how these passages represents the highest pinnacle in the entire Old Testament where God chooses to reveal himself in a very direct way and He chooses to show His heart, show what He is like. Prof Wyatt emphasised on the unchangeable character of God from everlasting to everlasting. He called us to be like Moses, in verse 8 of chapter 34, we too should bow down and worship the unchanging God who has loved us with an everlasting love, and who is continuing to draw us to Himself with covenant love as we seek to serve Him in the world of healthcare.

As part of the Thanksgiving Service, the Regional Sectional Secretaries of the Chaplain Section from all the 13 Regions of CMAI joined for an Intercessory prayer and offered prayers in their regional language. The session was closed with a prayer by Rev JD David Rajan, the Chairperson of the Chaplain Section.

The next session was the **Keynote address** which was introduced by Mr John Manohar of St Stephens hospital. The Staff of Bangalore Baptist hospital opened the session with a worship song. Dr Jeyakumar Daniel, the President of CMAI introduced the Keynote speaker, Dr Laji George Varghese. Dr Laji was born in a Syrian Orthodox family in Alleppey. He was greatly inspired by his Aunt Dr Mary Mathews who was in Christian Medical College, Ludhiana, she motivated him to take up medicine as a vocation. His desire to serve God, took him to several rural areas, where he saw the enormous need for surgical skills in the rural population and he decided to take up Surgery. He heard about Lady Willington hospital in Manali that was about to close due to the lack of doctors. He decided to postpone his higher studies and followed God's leading

and joined in Manali, where food was offered for work and no salaries. But he and his wife Dr Shiela stayed back and revived the hospital, and it became one of the prominent healthcare providers of the region. He retired in the year 2012 and continued to live in Manali. Currently, he is helping a small NGO called Himalayan Friends Trust, he continues to see patients and do surgeries. He is involved in teaching the local church, involved with team.

In his address, he highlighted words of Jesus, when He said, *"if anyone serves me, he must follow me."* He also said, *"whoever wants to be great, whoever wants to be a leader, first he should be a servant or a slave to all."* Some of the very difficult sayings of Jesus Christ. He addressed the issue of how everyone wants to be a Leader, how there are so many Leadership seminars on how to be effective, how to influence, how to make followers and even Christians were not immune to this desire and wanting to be a Leader and at the same time, also wanting to serve God, or serve Jesus. He gave examples of when people came to Jesus wanting to serve, and Jesus put a stop to that request, and said, *"follow me, watch me and learn from me how I serve."*

Dr Laji invited all and said, maybe it is the time for all of us in CMAI to look at Jesus Christ who is calling us to follow him, to learn how to serve. He said, we all like to be served; but how do we treat those who serve us, he asked rhetorically. He also shared the desires of his own heart, to be served, to be in control, someone to listen to him and obey his words.

Dr Laji reminded us of what Jesus said in the book of Matthew, *"son of man came not to be served but to serve"*, and Jesus give his life as a ransom for many. To serve is to give away one's life for the sake of the other. So, Jesus says *"if you want to serve me, follow me, follow my actions, my reasons, my attitudes. I serve by giving my life away. I don't try to save my life, but to be broken, to be poured out, and freely I give my life."* With these verses, Dr Laji appealed to the listeners, can we drink this cup of servanthood? To be honest, and to look deep inside us, do we want to be a servant? And not for a selective group of people, but servant of all. And called for all of us in CMAI to be servants of each other, not leaders. He emphasised on the term Servant Leader, and felt that, it is just a word to cover up our real desire to be leaders, just that the word 'servant' was added there.

Taking a cue from Peter, who wrote, if we want to serve, it should be done only by the strength of God, not by our own strength." Servants needs to draw their strength

OVERVIEW



CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP HOSPITAL ODDANCHATRAM, DINDIGUL, TN

from God. The renewal of power comes from God, the energy comes from God. Those who wait upon God, He shall renew their strength.

Dr Laji then went on to share what it means to serve and felt that the role of CMAI should be of to serve, to nurture, to provide a fullness of life. And ask for CMAI to move towards truly becoming servant of all, so that all may have life in its fullness.

And he finally blessed all those who have part of CMAI and who are working in different parts of this country, in difficult situations. And desired whatever may be, let our heart be a servant's heart that we will learn to serve each other with no attachment to money and power and position and prestige.

After the Keynote address the **Business Session** was held where the reports of the General Secretary, Treasurer and Editor were presented and received by the Assembly.

The final session of day one was the **Cultural evening** which was hosted by Ms Indira Kurapati showcasing the talent and creativity within the CMAI member institutions. The performances were presented by:

1. Song by Believers Church Medical College, Thiruvalla

2. Lavani dance by Salvation Army Evangeline Booth Hospital, Ahmednagar
3. Song by The Leprosy Mission Hospital, Purulia
4. Skit – The Everlasting Love of Christ by Christian Medical College, Ludhiana
5. Jerusalema dance by Campbell Hospital
6. Odia Song by Christian Hospital Bissamcuttak

The second day of the conference began with the **opening prayer** by Rt Rev Pradeep Samantaroy, Bishop of Diocese of Amritsar, CNI. The **Praise and Worship** was led by the Fellowship Department of CMC Ludhiana.

Rev Dr T Aruldas led the **devotions** on the second day and spoke on the theme of the Conference "Renew & Restore" from Jeremiah chapter 30. He said, it was a joy to gather every biennium to praise God, to ask ourselves what God is guiding us, where God is leading us. To think about God's direction in our personal and organisational lives, what are the areas we need restoration? What are the areas CMAI needs restoration? What are the areas CMAI individual members need restoration? What are the areas CMAI institutional members need restoration?

He shared three important areas in which God is inviting us and guiding us towards restoration:

1. Restoration in the understanding of God.
2. Restoration in our relationship.
3. Restoration in the area of good work

As Rev Aruldas reflected on the theme, he thanked God for enabling CMAI to reflect on this theme of restoration. He called for restoring our understanding, understanding of God's love, understanding of God's justice, understanding of His sacrifice and self-denying love.

He called to restore our relationship with one another, in our homes, in our working place, in our institutions, to have love in our relationship, to have understanding, to have consideration, to have forgiveness in our relationships.

He committed the area of good work in the Lord where there is need for restoration. Restoration of His good work with His spirit, with the power of His strength and called upon the Lord to continue to use us to extend the healing ministry in our country in the years to come.

Rev Asir Ebenezer, General Secretary, National Council of Churches in India brought **felicitation from NCCI** for the occasion. He said it was an apt theme in the current situation, a time to renew the commitment leading to restoration. He called us to be agile while being fragile. He also acknowledged the joint initiatives taken by CMAI and NCCI during the pandemic and thanked the CMAI Leadership and thanked all the healthcare workers and their families for all the hard work during the ongoing pandemic.

Reports from Sectional Meetings were read out by Sectional Secretaries.

- Doctors Section – Dr Abhijeet Sangma
- Nurses League – Mrs Shimy Mathew
- AHP Section – Mr Lyric Abraham
- Administrators – Mrs Elsy John
- Chaplains Section – Dr Priya John

The Second **Business Session** was conducted smoothly and the Officer Bearers of CMAI proposed by the nomination committee was accepted and approved by the Assembly. The Office Bearers of CMAI for the period of 2021 – 2023 are

- President: Dr Jeyakumar Daniel
- Vice President: Dr Vathsala Sadan
- Treasurer: Mr Albo Jason
- Editor: Dr CD Moses

Investiture Ceremony was anchored by Mrs Priyadarshini Pearl John, Regional Secretary of Maharashtra Region. It is solemn and significant part of the Conference where

we give gratitude for God's faithfulness in the past, and the hope we have in Him for the future regardless of the circumstances.

We took this opportunity to celebrate the lives of the outgoing GB Members and welcome the incoming GB Members for the next biennium (2021-2023). Ms Deepti Singh, Finance Manager, CMAI made a photo presentation of the all the outgoing and incoming members and offered special appreciation to the outgoing GB members for their contribution during their term.

To celebrate their contribution, we asked few of the outgoing members to share snippets of their experience. The following outgoing GB members shared their experience of being part of the General Body of CMAI:

- Dr Anbu Rajan – Regional Secretary Tamil Nadu and Puducherry
- Ms Manjula Dheenam - Chairperson of Nurses League
- Ms Jancy Johnson – Secretary, Nurses League
- Mr Thampy Mathew – Treasurer, CMAI

It was wonderful listening to the sharing, their conviction for CMAI as a God raised ministry, collaboration with varied components of CMAI and contribution to the cause of CMAI are incredible constituents that shall stay with CMAI for very long time. Dr Sujay Suneetha rendered a special prayer for the outgoing GB members.

Dr Arpit Mathew, Medical Superintendent, Madhipura Christian Hospital, dedicated a special song, a hymn – Faithful, with very meaningful words for the occasion which was composed and arranged by him. It was performed by two vocalists with Dr Arpit in piano.

Rev Dr Roger Gaikwad, Ex General Secretary of NCCI currently the Director of Theological Education Mission and Evangelism in the Diocese of Northeast, Church of North India presented an exhortation on Commitment to serve as the General Body of the 45th Biennial Conference of the CMAI hand over the torch of Christian medical service to the new General Body of the 46th Biennial Conference. He highlighted that the outgoing members were not relinquishing their commitment to Christian medical service and health care, but that they are passing on the responsibility of governance to a new body, with whom they will continue to partner in ministry.

Talking on the significance of the Biennial Conference "Renew and Restore." Rev Roger called upon to make this commitment and in particular he invited the new members of the GB and encouraged them to be catalysts of the process of renewal and restoration.

OVERVIEW

“We are Christian healthcare professionals promoting medical care in communities.”

Referring to the home page of the CMAI website (www.cmai.org) which opens with the tag line: ‘Building a Just and Healthy Society.’ He called upon the staff and the members of the GB in particular to facilitate the commitment. And as disciples of Jesus Christ, he called all of us to affirm the Nazareth Manifesto (Luke 4:18-19): “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed to preach good news to the poor, release to the captives, sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free....”

He also mentioned another tagline from the CMAI website which declares: “We are Christian healthcare professionals promoting medical care in communities.” And highlighted the term “Christian healthcare professionals” in this declaration and called the doctors, nurses, administrators, chaplains and allied health professionals in CMAI are not only to be persons who are qualified, skilled, and efficient in their service, but also persons who are accountable and those who update themselves in their respective professions and contextually relate their expertise.

He reminded us of the words of Jesus to his disciples, “You did not choose but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last ...” (John 15:16) this profession is also a vocation. And called for on-going renewal by taking up the cross daily as commitment to Christ, giving up our hopes, dreams, possessions, even your very life, if need be, for the cause of the gospel. Only if we willingly take up our cross may we be called His disciple (Luke 14:27).

And he finally said, people who are being renewed will also bring in renewal in the world. As God says, “See, I am making all things new.” (Rev.21:5), He called CMAI to be an instrument in heralding that new creation and commit ourselves to restore and to renew!

All the GB members who responded to the call to serve were commissioned to service by Rev Dr Roger Gaikwad by leading them to take oath by making a declaration.

- To **acknowledge** that we called to engage in Healing Ministry in the Spirit of Christ.

- To **recognize** that Christian healthcare service is built on the strong foundation of the commitment and sacrifice of those who have gone before.
- To **commit** to continue to provide affordable, ethical, compassionate and quality healthcare services to the poor, marginalized and disadvantaged communities.
- To **endeavour** to remain relevant and accessible to, and respectful of, all those who seek our help, including the community, the government, non-governmental organizations and social organizations.
- To **render** our time, talent and service in the General Body to the best of our ability, God being our helper.

All the GB members took the oath by repeating the declaration as Rev Roger read it out, after which he closed the Investiture ceremony with prayer.

Dr Priya John, General Secretary of CMAI offered the **Vote of Thanks**, acknowledged the presence of all the members of CMAI who registered and attended the conference virtually, all the Office bearers and the GB member for their support, the staff for their work in organising the conference virtually.

The two day virtual 46th Biennial Conference of CMAI concluded with the **closing prayer** by Rev Dr Roger Gaikwad.

“ All the GB members who responded to the call to serve were commissioned to service by Rev Dr Roger Gaikwad by leading them to take oath by making a declaration.



*Dr. Abhijeet Sangma
Convenor - 46th Biennial Conference
Secretary - Doctors Section*

TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER STARTS AT HOME

Keynote Address by Dr Laji George Varghese



I would like to thank CMAI for this opportunity to share as we all gathered together to celebrate 46 years of CMAI. When Dr Priya John, General Secretary-CMAI asked me to give the keynote address, I was reluctant because I'm not really involved with CMAI nowadays but I think she insisted that I talk so here I am. So let me straightaway go into the keynote address.

Jesus said "if anyone serves me, he must follow me." He also said "whoever wants to be great, whoever wants to be a leader, first he should be a servant or a slave to all." Very difficult sayings of Jesus Christ. And then Peter says something different. He says "anyone who serves, he must or should do it with a friend god provides" So I want to look at these words which Jesus and Peter shared with the disciples and with others who believed. We live in a world where the educated and people who got resources, money wants to be in a position of power. Power in today's world is all about control and domination. Everybody,

even the Christians circles wants to be in leadership. Especially doctors and nurses and other workers, even pastors, church people. They all want to be leaders. That's why we have so many leadership seminars and talking about how to be effective, how to influence, how to make followers, and the world is full of leaders. And Christians unfortunately, also taking up this desire to be leaders. At the same time, we also want to serve god, or serve Jesus. So when some people, some disciples wanted to come and they came to Jesus and said "lord we want to serve you", he put a stop to that request. And he said "follow me, watch me and learn from me how I serve." And maybe it is the time for all of us in the CMAI to look at Jesus Christ who is calling us to follow him, to learn how to serve. In our culture, servants are not treated great. How many of us in our own homes, invite our servants who help us in our home, house maids to share a meal with us at the dining table? Just a question, just think about it. How many of us allow our children to play

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

with the servant's children? As a rule, they are treated with less dignity, they are only expected to obey orders, without questioning. And Jesus was very much aware of this in his time. This is how the Romans treated the slaves. They were property, they were tools to be used by the master. The master had absolute power over them. Yes, there were some exceptions here and there, but as a rule, slaves had no voice. It's natural for us to dream of becoming leader or masters or bosses. It is good to be served, I would like to be served. It's good to have people under us who just obey us without questioning, without challenging us. It gives us a sense of who is in charge. We feel superior when we are in power. We feel great, so we want someone to do our biddings, we use servants. This is accepted norm in the world, and Jesus very specifically said "it shall not be so among you". Very powerful statement. You cannot act the way that the world acts. In our institutions, in our places of work, in our churches, it shall not be so among you. It cuts across our desire to be god. Even in our own homes, there is always the desire to be served by the other person. In Matthew Jesus said "son of man came not to be served but to serve" we all know these words. And to give his life as a ransom for many. To serve is to give away one's life for the sake of the other. So Jesus says "if you want to serve me, follow me, follow my actions, my reasons, my attitudes. I serve by giving my life away. I don't try to save my life, but to be broken, to be poured out, and freely I give my life."

So the question is - can we, each one of us, can we drink this cup of servant hood? be honest, and look into your own hearts. Do I want to be a servant? Not for a selective group of people, but servant of all. Servant to all. Servant may be mistreated, punished, but they should always be available. Many times, they are not appreciated or rewarded. They have no rights. They are not honoured at all, many times. How many of us talk about our servants at home to others? How wonderful they are, how kind they are. We don't talk about our servants to anybody, because they are taken for granted. Are you willing to be that kind of a servant? These are painful questions. I look into my own heart and see there is a desire to be served, to be in control, someone to listen to me and obey my words. There are some servants who can rise to a place of honour due to their honesty and efficiency, wisdom. God may allow that, yet in the true servant's heart, there is always this attitude of Jesus. And what are some of the

qualities of the servant? I think all of us in CMAI should try to be servants of each other, not leaders. Because this, we have, we come with a very funny word called servant leader. And I think that is just to cover up our real desire to be leaders, just add that servant there. Servants are servants, there is no question about it. And Jesus said "be a servant" A servant never takes credit for what he does, because he represents the master. I hope that we'll all become uttam. In hindi, uttam sevak, uttam das. So friends in CMAI, if your goal is to become a true servant of all, following the footsteps of Jesus, or you want to be leaders, who wants to be obeyed and they have plans to be accomplished, many times servants are not included

in the decision making process. Many hospitals I have seen, apart from 2 or 3 people at the top, nobody else knows the decisions. Because they are not part of that. And we want them to just obey without even knowing their role in the whole institution. Serve with the power of god, power that god gives. Peter says "if you want to serve, will be, should be done only by the strength of god. Not by your own strength." Servants need to draw their strength from god. The renewal of power comes from god. The energy comes from god. Those servants who wait upon god, shall renew their strength.

Servants are called to do everything with love. Servants do not seek glory, applause. But sometimes it comes. God gives that extra grace sometimes. What it means to serve? Serving means to esteem the other. To nurture the other.

Look at the mother, she serves the baby to a fuller life. I think that's what CMAI stands for. Our serving should bring life to all, with all its fullness. To provide a fullness of life, through service, ought to be the mission of CMAI. Everyone that we meet, can we serve them in such a way that they experience fullness of life? Jesus said "blessed is the servant, who is faithful and wise. Whom the lord will find doing so when he comes." Nowadays it is a fashion to move from one job to the other constantly. So you have no commitment to the institution, you have no commitment to the work of god, you are looking for green pastures all the time. There is no commitment to the place where we work, we have contract. There's no commitment.

So one of the qualities of a servant is to be faithful. Our institutions are, Christian institutions are full of various degrees of corruption. Even leaders are corrupt. There

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**Through healing ministry, through education, through teaching,
all these kinds of things are expressions of love. But the
question is when the expression of love becomes a tool, to
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an ugly thing.**

are many leaders who don't want to give up their position. We have made it very sure that till they die they will sit on the chair. Because it's their work, it's not God's work. To be faithful, to be wise, to be good. These are parables he talks about the good and faithful servant.

Are we good people, are we becoming good people? Do we strive to become faithful? Do we strive to become wise in our places of work? Are we diligent? So I will stop here because the call to servanthood starts at home. If you can't be a servant at home, you cannot be a servant elsewhere. To serve one another starts at home. I have been working for last 42 years as a doctor, and I have seen what power and leadership can do to each other. How this heart of a servant is missing in many many people in the institution. They want everything the world can offer plus Jesus Christ. Somehow, they don't go together well. If you truly believe that Jesus Christ is the lord, and his words have eternal value, and what we do with his words has consequences. We truly believe that this world is not our home. All that we are doing, to various activities is basically to expand the possibilities of love, that he told us to love one another. In various ways, how can we love. Through healing ministry, through education, through teaching, all these kinds of things are expressions of love. But the question is when the expression of love becomes a tool, to exercise and control power and to control each other, then it's an ugly thing. I hope CMAI will move towards truly becoming servant of all, so that all may have life in its fullness. I want to bless all of you who have part of CMAI who are working in different parts of this country, in difficult situations. But whatever may be, let our heart be a servant's heart that we will learn to serve each other. With no attachment to money and power and position and prestige.

May god bless you as you continue your conference. Thank you so much.

Dr Priya John said: "Doctor Laji, I must say from the bottom of our hearts, thank you very much for that reminder that a servant is a servant. And it's interesting that you said

that this servant leader is just a cover up. And it kind of hit me hard because we use that word a lot, we use that phrase a lot. But as you have reminded us, the heart of a servant is a servant. And we need to understand that good, faithful and wise is what we need to strive to be, because that is what our lord called those who are faithful to him. When they were entrusted with something, either small or big in talent. Good and faithful was the way he appreciated them. And that is the reminder you gave us today.

Thank you very much, Dr Laji Sir for your time. Thank you Very much for allowing us to see a bit of your heart, and it is nice that you sent a message saying that when you were preparing for this keynote address, you were looking into your own life and into your own heart. Thank you for being vulnerable with us and thank you for sharing from God's word and from your experiences of walking the talk. Thank you once again and we will be planting a tree in your name in a small certificate which you can monitor from wherever you are. We will be sending it to you by email, and this tree will most probably be in the state of Karnataka, your tree will be growing. So thank you once again Dr Laji and I hope you bless us as we continue our conference.

Thank you.

*Dr. Laji George Varghese
Doctor Incharge, Sahayak Surgical Center.
Himalayan Friends Trust, Himachal Pradesh*

GS REPORT FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2021

Held virtually on 12th & 13th November 2021



The Lord is good, and He is good all the time.

It is my privilege to present the General Secretary's report to the General Body of CMAI. The reporting period is the last two financial years – 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2021. Although it seems like the first 3 months of 2021 calendar year defined the entire reporting period. The SARS Coronavirus 2 pandemic caused much destruction along its path and the scars left are many despite being on the slow road to recovery. The importance and the significance of the healing ministry cannot be more real in this situation.

Healing is a wholesome word. A word that brings much comfort. Ministry is a word that motivates us in different ways. A work, a vocation, a calling, a responsibility, a job; whichever definition we choose the outcome is the same. To give our best every day. To be available. To reach out. To support. To promote values that edify and bring healing to a hurting community. To be a witness of a hope like no other. As much as the pandemic redefined almost everything, this reporting period has been an exciting one in its own right.

The key focus areas of CMAI remained unchanged during the pandemic and our reinventing and repurposing was more at a daily operational level rather than at an organisation mission/vision level. The way we worked and achieved our goals changed. Timelines shrunk as decision making processes had to shift to fifth gear. Opportunities that came could not be mulled over but grabbed. We had to be on our toes because our membership was working overtime and we had to keep pace.

The first wave was a quiet one across our member institutions and the time was well spent in preparedness activities and innovations. The second wave which hit in April -June 2021 was different and it engulfed all the states with no exception.

What our membership saw as an advantage - The support CMAI extended during the pandemic to help them prepare and manage the 2 waves. About 40% - 90% of our membership attended, responded, and benefitted from our various activities. 40+% respond to surveys and emails requesting information but more than 90% attend focused meetings.

GENERAL SECRETARY' REPORT

- Platforms to share their experiences as CEOs and Administrators
- Surveys asking for information from the ground and addressing some of the challenges
- Documents and access to staff who could help them implement important procedures related to FCRA account opening, renewal, receiving of funds, CSR registration, FCRA amendments,
- Receiving equipment to manage the Covid Care at one of 3 levels namely Covid Care Centre, Dedicated Covid Health Centre, Dedicated Covid Hospital
- Regional Committee meetings to express challenges and solutions
- National conferences to strengthen the sections and gain from continuing education activities
- More cohesion between institutions and awareness of other important partners engaged in health in their regions. Cross learning channels opened up which was new and very useful.
- A CMAI Regional Coordinator and staff nominee who bridges the gap between the Headquarter and the region and acts as their champion, leading to better communication.
- Confidence in their preparedness with strengthened protocols and systems
- Access to CMAI website with information on innovations and stories from the extended membership
- Hand holding to achieve NABH accreditation and improved quality of their hospital systems
- CMAI certified training in Hospital Management and Laws applicable to healthcare, CMC Vellore certified Diploma in Hospital Administration, St. Johns Hospital , Bengaluru certified training in Materials Management.
- Knowledge on Prevention of Sexual Harassment of women at the workplace Act

and how to implement it for their institution

- Access to donors to help with equipment, PPE, salary, Oxygen plants etc through proposal writing help, promotion on CSR platforms like *Indiadonates*, connecting one to one with interested donors.
- Prayer support on a daily basis.
- Understanding the importance and increased need for Home based Care, Palliative Care, Mental Health and Preventive/Promotion of health models.
- Better knowledge of government insurance schemes for Covid 19 care, especially for the migrant labourers
- Engaged with government for reimbursement and pricing for Covid 19 care for mission hospitals.
- The value of the CMAI network partners who were part of their regional meetings -Christian Coalition for Health, Mission department of CMC Vellore, EMFI and The Centre for Bioethics

CMAI STRATEGY PLAN FOR 2020-2025

Graphic 1. Reminder of CMAI and its mandate



GENERAL SECRETARY' REPORT

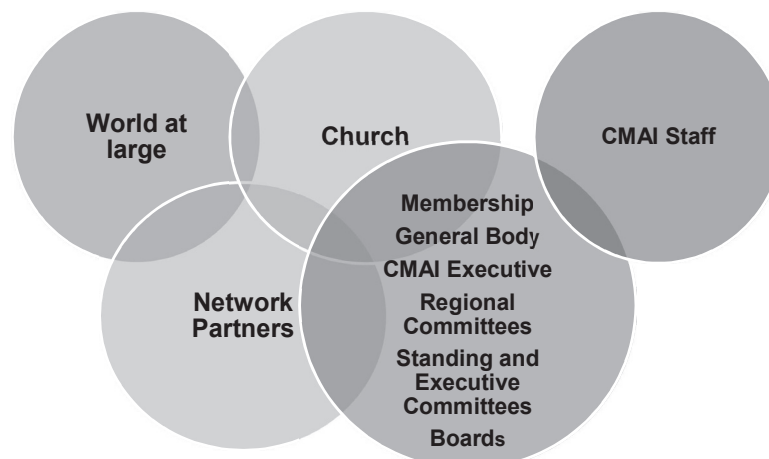
Alignment of CMAI focus area, Objects of the Association and approved Strategic Goals for 2020-2025

Primary Object of CMAI as per our Memorandum of the Association The prevention and relief of human suffering and the pursuit of measures for the promotion of health in the spirit of Christ in the extending of the Kingdom of God.		
Key Focus Area	Aligned to Objects of the Association	Strategic Goal 1
1. Membership Strengthening 2. Leadership Development	(a) To be a means of mutual help among Christian doctors in carrying on and securing greater efficiency in their work. (d) To promote the organization of provincial area branches of the Association and to maintain relationship with them in carrying on the work of the Association on their areas. (k) In the name of the Association or otherwise in consonance with primary objects of the Association, to carry on a business to ensure the supply of pure, unadulterated, standardized, and reliable drugs and other requisites at reasonable rates for Christian hospitals and institutions.	Prevention and relief of human suffering Empowered to serve in the Spirit of Christ
3. Education	(e) To be in communication with the Nurses' Auxiliary (Nurses League) of the Christian Medical Association of India regarding matters of common interest to the Christian Medical and Nursing professions.	Prevention and relief of human suffering Empowered to serve in the Spirit of Christ
4. Church Partnership	(f) To be in communication with the National Christian Council regarding such matters as call for consideration or action from the point of view of Christian Medical work	Health Promotion measures
5. Policy Engagement	(n) To enter into any arrangement with any government or with authorities supreme, local, municipal or otherwise, in pursuance of the objects of the Association, to obtain from any such government or authority all rights, concessions and privileges that may seem conducive to the objects of the Association.	Prevention and relief of human suffering Health Promotion measures

GENERAL SECRETARY' REPORT

6. Networking and Expanding	<p>(b) To Provide for the holding of conferences, public meetings, and exhibitions</p> <p>(j) To promote and contribute to any enterprise whether conducted by individuals or associations, present and future, which shall have for its objectives the managing or doing of any works or things conducive directly or indirectly to the objects of the Association.</p>	Empowered to serve in the Spirit of Christ
7. Cross cutting areas are Communication and Fund Raising	<p>(c)To publish, distribute and sell periodicals and literature related to the work of the Association</p> <p>(l) (m) (o) carry on any other business which will further the primary objective</p>	<p>Prevention and relief of human suffering</p> <p>Health Promotion measures</p> <p>Empowered to serve in the Spirit of Christ</p>
8. CMAI as an organisation	<p>(g) To employ whole -time or part-time officers as the work of the Association may demand.</p> <p>(h)To acquire by all lawful means immovable and movable property and to apply both the capital and income thereof and the proceeds of the sale or mortgage thereof for or towards the primary object of the Association.</p> <p>(i) To sell, manage, mortgage, lease, exchange, dispose of or otherwise deal with all or any part of the property of the Association.</p>	<p>The prevention and relief of human suffering and the pursuit of measures for the promotion of health in the spirit of Christ in the extending of the Kingdom of God.</p>

Graphic 2. Spheres of Influence



GENERAL SECRETARY' REPORT

CMAI Staff and functioning as an organisation

The diagram puts into focus our main spheres of influence as the organisation, CMAI and the report will follow this line of focus. CMAI saw its leadership change hands in the month of July 2019. Having started my term in the 2nd quarter of the financial year 2019-20, the statutory compliances were the first to get addressed. Finance and Administration departments got on the job to reset important processes to accommodate a new name and all-important KYC. This whole process was done seamlessly.

The staff connect was made during the staff retreat held in August 2019. They gave me space to express myself and talk about my vision for the organisation. To work better as a team with easier communication and administrative protocols, office software for our payroll and attendance and Microsoft teams 365 was invested in and the decision was a very apt, timely one given the turn 2020 took with the pandemic.

Within a week after we had our Board of Management/ Executive meeting in March 2020, we went into lockdown. Administration swung into action and ensured all of us could work from home and even punch in our attendance from our homes. The decision to purchase Microsoft 365 was also a divine intervention and slowly communication within the organisation became structured despite the different working environment. An in-house training for MS teams was done and staff were able to adapt quickly. The Zoom online platform to conduct meetings was purchased on an annual basis.

The Finance transactions and approvals were all done online, and the payments were processed without unduly delays. Statutory compliances for the Charity Commissioner, Income Tax and other Government authorities was achieved with the challenges of the lockdown. A note of appreciation to the Administration Department, Finance Department for ensuring these important systems are in place. The Information Technology department went into overdrive with the increased demand on technology and machines. Appreciate the efforts of the IT Department as well as the staff who supported the in-house training.

CMAI implemented work from home initiative from the 19th of March 2020. As we settled into our daily routines, the importance of calendars to share our activities and reporting to our teams became very important. Daily devotions, with an average attendance of 45 staff is being conducted every day and I am thankful to Chaplains section for putting much effort into this important start for the day.

With the support of the staff and approval of the BoM/ Executive of CMAI, we started the process of Workload analysis to achieve 2 main objectives

1. CMAI Staff understand their roles to ensure deliverables are aligned with the CMAI strategy, vision and mission and
2. CMAI is a team, and as a team we understand our contribution to the organisation and its mandate in the bigger picture.

The Lockdown brought with it a boom in online trainings. Staff underwent different trainings as per their perceived need during the lockdown and this proactiveness was much appreciated.

Each staff has pitched in to contribute to the smooth running of processes and I am very appreciative of each one's contribution to upholding and maintaining CMAI.

The staff strength of CMAI was 174 till the close of the CARE Amanat Jyoti Project. The present staff strength of CMAI is 70 (Male- 43 Female- 27). Head office has 27 staff, Bangalore office 12, MIBE Nagpur 5, Orissa Berhampur (Maternal Health, Malnutrition and Mental Health Project) 1, Regional Coordinators 12 (10 RCs appointed under BFW Project), GSN Indore 10, ICMDA 2, Consultant - 1.

By God's grace, we have been able to pay salaries during the lockdown and are thankful for the resources provided at the right time. GS, Administrative, Finance, IT and secretarial staff have started coming to office on a rotation basis. Programme staff are predominately working from home.

Achievements-

1. Workload analysis of all the staff
2. Revision of the Staff structure and Organisation Development Exercise with CIM as consultants
3. Revision of the Salary by the appointed Salary Revision Committee, Personnel Committee and Finance Committee
4. CMAI Policies: Total of 24 new policies and revision of existing policies were presented. 23 were passed on 16th July 2021 GB. Two new policies drafted - Fund Raising and Travel Policy and shared with Personnel Committee. Policies were incorporated into the HR manual and then into the Staff Service rules. Adv Mark Presly Mathai helped in this mammoth task along with CMAI Admin and MC. Admin to explain/ introduce each policy to staff and rollout the same.
5. Inspection by MHA in April 5-9 2021 at CMAI Hq. FCRA utilisation inspection for 3 years done by

GENERAL SECRETARY' REPORT

4 consultants over 5 days. On October 5th 2021, another 2 hour inspection at the CMAI Hq by an IB consultant for FCRA inspection of CMAI. Executive Committee members also verified physically.

CMAI as a Membership Association -The main functions of CMAI towards its membership revolve around these 4 focus areas (Helping the Church has been – 1. Fellowship and Communication with all structures of governance and membership 2. Education 3. Consultancy and 4. Advocacy

1. Fellowship and Communication with all structures of governance and membership –

CMAI as a secretariat gives priority to the representatives from our membership who make up the Governing structure for CMAI. The immediate sphere of influence for us are these structures which help us serve our membership better and give us a focused direction towards our mandate. During the reporting period we have completed all 13 CMAI Regional orientation meetings with the newly elected Regional committees. The main purpose of these meetings was to orient the committee on their roles and responsibilities and introduce them to the Regional Facilitator and Staff nominee to their respective regions. Challenges and suggestions were also documented to help us plan for the strategy of CMAI.

Following the lockdown, CMAI took up the challenge of interacting with each CEO of its member institutions. CMAI Member institution CEO meetings were conducted from June-August 2020 – 41 meetings conducted. 231 invited out of the 269 in our database (85.8%). Out of the 231 invited, 172 attended the online meetings (74.45%).

All the Executive Committees of the 5 sections have met and inputs recorded for the Section secretaries to take forward.

13 regional Conferences conducted in this last 3 months. Very effective and informative sessions. Much of the learning has translated into the 3 preconference themes for the 46th Biennial.

2. Education

Update on AHP Recognition efforts:

1) In Ministry of Health & Family welfare:

National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill 2021 was passed in parliament on 24th March 2021.

- a) Dr Priya General Secretary and AHP Secretary met the MOH/AHS Additional Secretary Mr. Anil K Gupta on the same day in MoH, New Delhi.
- b) As per Ministry of Health , The interim council

will form within 3 to 4 months after floating the rules and regulations. The Interim council formed in 22nd September 2021. Now the NC AHP will form a national registry for the allied health professionals and will include the existing AHP professionals as part of the sunset clause. CMAI candidates are meeting the criteria of 2000 hours of training and nomenclature of the course matching, to register in the national registry.

2) In Kerala Govt:

- a) AHP Secretary visited Kerala Chief Secretary Dr V.P Joy and Health Minister Smt Veena George on 22nd June 2021, and submitted a fresh petition pointing out the provision in the new NC AHP Bill 2021. Also followed up on the Mass Petition submitted to last Govt.
- b) We got positive response from Chief Secretary, he informed that will study the matter and respond.
- c) 3rd August 2021 did a follow up visit to Kerala Health Minister office and Chief Secretary, however the petitions are not moved further. From the AHS section they informed us to visit once the government sends the notification of forming the proposed Allied health Council
- d) 31st August 2021 we had a zoom meeting with the CEOs of CMAI_CEB training centres in Kerala, around 10 institutions participated. We discussed about the latest status of recognition and updated them regarding the new NC AHP Act 2021 and decided to approach the Kerala state government and submit a collective petition to Kerala Chief Minister.

3) In Delhi State Dept of Health and Directorate of Health Service.

- a) Dr Priya , Dr Anuvinda Varkey, Executive Director CCH and Dr Sudhir Joseph CEO St Stephen hospital visited Principal secretary health Dr Vikram Dev Dutt on 23rd June 2021. The State government is yet to form the paramedical council.
- b) AHP Secretary visited DHS Delhi NCT on 21st October 2021, Mr Sanjay Gupta Asst Director informed us to send an RTI to DHS in same line with Dataflow RTI. He also told us to send all the details regarding the courses.

4) In Maharashtra Government

On 21st and 22nd January 2021 visited DMER office in Mumbai, Maharashtra and Maharashtra Vidhan Sabha to submit request to get our Allied health Courses of CMAI to recognize by Maharashtra state. The meeting

GENERAL SECRETARY' REPORT

was arranged through Dr Vilas Shende Chairman of AHP Section, with reference from Retired IAS officer Mr Sanjay S Deshmukh we were able to meet DMER joint Director Dr Ajay Chandanwale. He offered his support for the same.

What we can look forward too:

1. As per the NC AHP Act 2021, our students will be able to register in the state or National registry based on the 2000 hours criteria.
2. Make CMAI_CEB as an educational entity and try for recognition in Delhi state.
3. As per Dr Madan Gopal of Niti Ayog, approach each state council stating the courses are running by the respective institutions under aegis of CMAI_CEB.

Education through formal and informal trainings is a key function of CMAI and we are the pioneers in this for healthcare professionals. It serves two purposes – it keeps our members updated and aware of the changing times, available schemes and relevant policies and brings in some income for the organisation as well the training institution.

CMAI aggregates information on these trainings and supports the institutions to implement them. Bringing in the right expertise through consultancies and partnerships is also done. The main ongoing example being NABH accreditation preparedness for 34 hospitals. Sections have started exploring more opportunities for different short course trainings depending on the felt need. All these activities serve as one revenue channel. Our priority through education, is to help youngsters from underprivileged backgrounds have a shot at a career pathway in the area of healthcare. Decisions by our Nursing boards, Sections and CEB will all align with this primarily.

The need of the country which varies from state to state and lobbying with the right government authorities at every level are crucial responsibilities of CMAI. The lobbying is done keeping in mind the need of the Member Institutions serving in resource constrained areas. The demand for recognised courses either by a university or the government has taken precedence over CMAI certifications and this is realized and being acted upon proactively despite the challenges.

Student Empowerment and Enrichment Directive (SEED) – This is an initiative focusing on students doing Allied health, Administrative, Nursing, Theological and Medical courses to achieve the following objectives: Introduce the work in mission and motivate to join. Hear experiences from Stalwarts in the mission, Skill build in specific areas like Soft skills etc, Create a platform for support and dialogue for students. We have conducted

over 6 such programmes and have planned more and will involve others like EMFI, SCM etc.

Community Health Committee (CHC) discussions provided much excitement on the role and direction the Community health department (CHD) will play in the promotion of health through relevant and sustainable community programmes implemented by our members.



CHD also mentors and directs the 12 Regional facilitators and coordinates regional activities with the sections and other departments.

Communication Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings with the new Communications Lead and the communication team brought in much discussions on visibility, revamping of website and social media presence. The new initiatives to keep the member institutions in focus, improve quality and timeliness of CMAI publications and projecting the CMAI identity are very promising and we look forward to an invigorated connect with our membership and key stakeholders.

Admin has helped to get the CMAI acronym trademarked and registered. We are now trying for the CMAI Logo too.

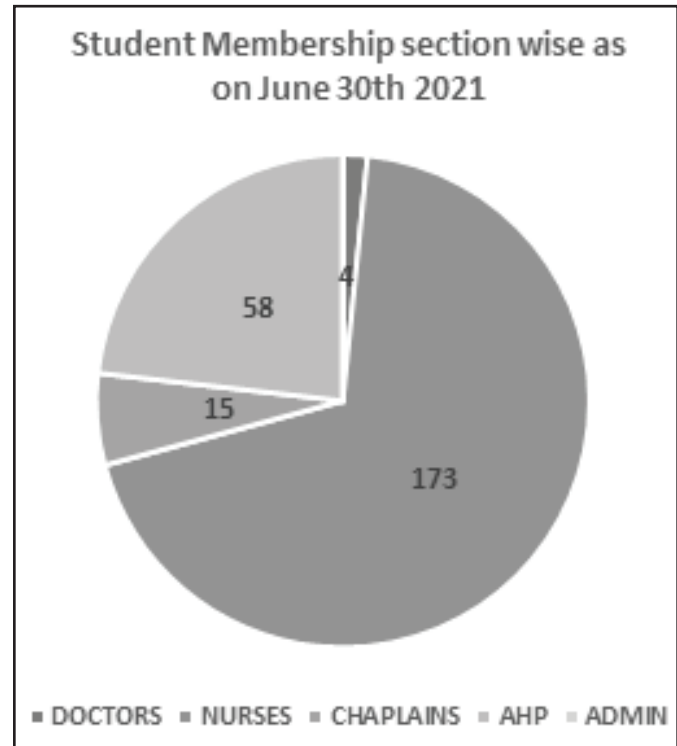
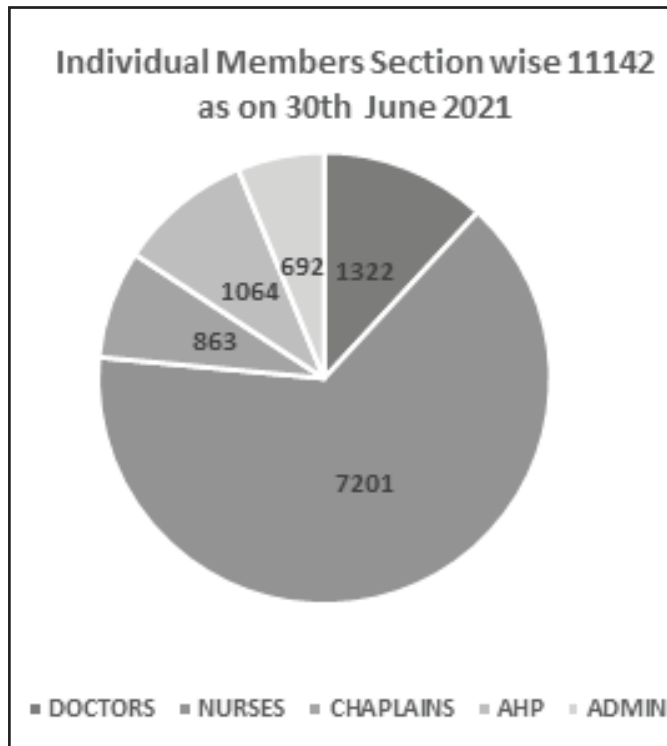
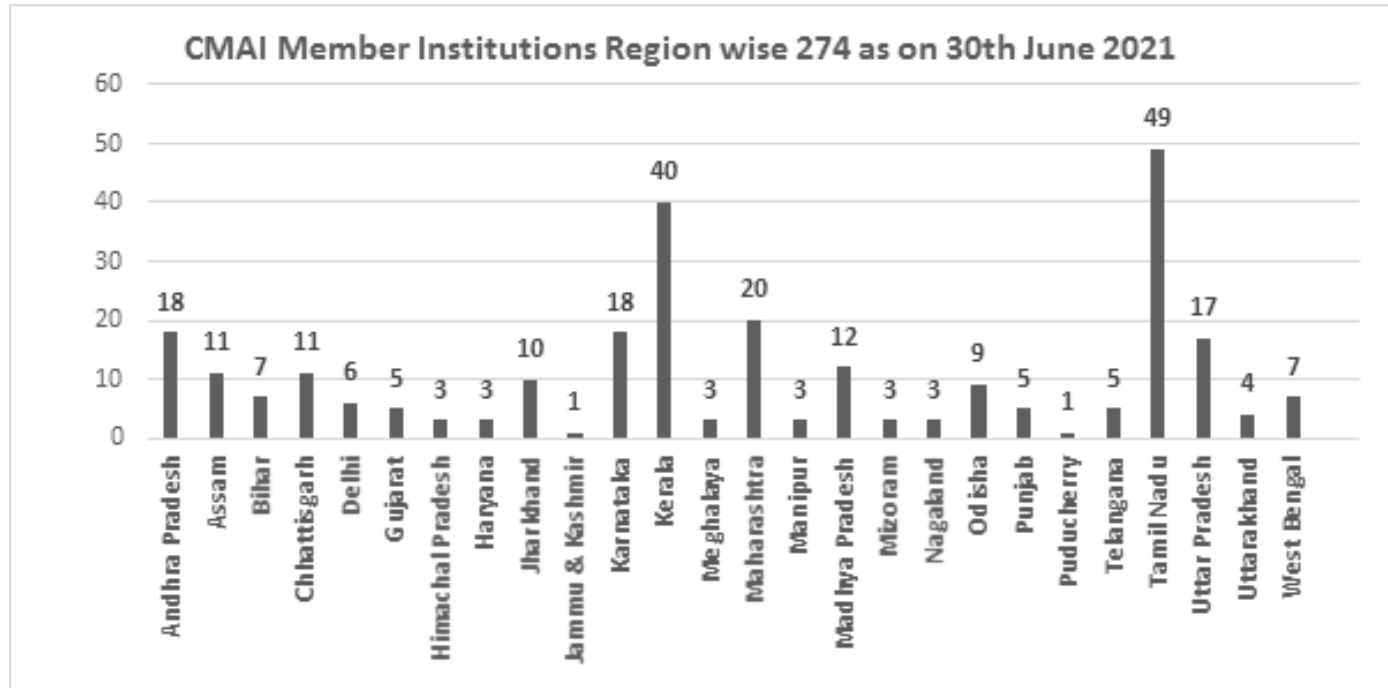


**Christian
Medical
Association of
India**

Lot of appreciation for the Communications efforts.

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CMAI Membership details



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We have 272 member institutions in our active database and 91(33.5%) have paid their annual membership fees for the calendar year 2019. For the new financial year, we have not sent out the letters for membership fees keeping in mind the challenges our member institutions are going through.

Sent out letters in 2021 for institution membership fees.

CMAI and the Church

The National Council of Churches in India with its leadership are met with regularly by the leadership of CMAI and have been partnering in various programmes as technical experts especially for the pandemic. NCCI along with the SBHS organised a consultation in the month of February 2020 to address challenges of the hospitals under the CNI Synod. A similar consultation was held earlier for the CSI church affiliated hospitals. CMAI was a part of both these consultations.

CMAI will soon organise meetings with the Church leaders with the help of NCCI to take forward the challenges that have been presented by our church affiliated members institutions. The strength of NCCI in policy advocacy for the Christian community is recognised and we will support their statement. Youth and Mental health are other ongoing areas of involvement. We as CMAI find strength in this partnership and understand its importance in upholding our member institutions in their mission of health, healing and wholeness. CMAI was able to document more than 90 churches who stepped out to help their respective communities in this time of need.

What the Church saw as an advantage – CMAI as the technical help for the church in their health-related activities as part of their healing ministry

- Providing resource persons for various webinars. Partnering with NCCI to build capacity of the church leadership to deal with Covid 19 pandemic. Issues related to Women, Adolescents, Children and Youth, Mental health, Vaccination dilemma etc were addressed on different platforms. Some with the Synod, SCMI and other with NCCI.
- Setting up a tele-counselling helpline including bereavement support
- Linking the church with the hospital for support
- Aided the church to supply rations for the community in need
- Part of an initiative which brought about 45 volunteers for managing the helpline (started on 23rd April 2021). Averaging about 180 calls a day
- Started a logistics helpline with churches across all denominations (2nd May 2021)
- Coordinating efforts for accompaniment for burial, oxygen cylinder refill, or just a presence for someone who has no help
- CCH in partnership with NCCI and EFI, bringing together many organisations engaged in excellent models of service to the community
- Writing proposals with NCCI for community-based projects and for other churches as Covid 19 response

Network partners, Government and Fellowship networks

CMAI will work strategically with our network partners to ensure that shrinking spaces are made into synergised platforms to provide sustainable services to our membership

1. Government has called us to be resource persons giving importance to our expertise.
2. At the national level - Christian Coalition for Health, EMFI, ENFI, The Centre of Bioethics, Mission Department of CMC Vellore, Distance Education Department of CMC Vellore, CIM, CHAI, Alliance for Immunisation and Health (secular), any others which align with our mandate
3. At the international level – CCA, CCIH, WCC, PWSD, ELCA and ICMDA

ICMDA - At present we are implementing a CMAI-ICMDA project. Mainly training activities. The Family Medicine division – IPGDFM (International PGDip Family Medicine CMC/ICMDA/Loma Linda U).The online training unit (<https://training.icmda.net/>).Online repository of various training resources and videos. CMAI promotes ICMDA Webinars, blogs, and other publication work. The finances received are used only for the activities based in India.

What the Government saw in the CMAI membership

-CMAI as part of the Christian Coalition for Health and a strong support in providing healthcare services in the remote parts of the country. Serving the poor, vulnerable and marginalized community who trusts them implicitly.

- Strong support for human resource for training the government healthcare workers
- Gold standard Curriculum for Allied Health training serving the nation for over 90 years
- Engaging with government for policies related to healthcare delivery, education of healthcare professionals, healthcare insurance, healthcare systems
- CMAI member institutions supporting the local government in Covid care

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- Submission of daily reports to different authorities
- CMAI member institutions supporting the central government in the fight against Covid
- Member institutions supporting the vaccination drive by:
 - through procurement of vaccines from private companies and registering on the Cowin App
 - Getting free vaccines from the Govt and adding momentum to the vaccine roll out (more during the first wave, around 72)
 - Providing space and trained personnel for Govt to use as vaccination centres

What the network partners, donors and well-wishers saw

- A membership of hospitals trusted by the community they serve. Understanding about the capacity of our institutions to provide Covid care at different levels.
- A legacy of committed trustworthy healthcare services
- A well-coordinated effort to reach and support as much of the membership as possible
- Accountability of resources given
- A good understanding of the FCRA Act, its amendments and implementation of activities within those boundaries
- Understanding of the CSR funding channels and importance of hospitals being made visible to access these funds.
- Quick response to queries
- Professional proposals and detailed budgets with little room for revision.
- Partners for implementation of projects – CMC Vellore -Hospital Utilization for Covid 19
- Presenting evidence-based data at regular intervals to aid decision making in a fast-changing pandemic scenario
- Expertise of CMAI staff in various Governing bodies – The Centre for Bioethics, Alliance for Immunisation and Health, Presbyterian World Services, Member Institutions, MSF,
- Expert on various advisory committees /boards- College of Nursing Vellore editorial, Greenbanyan, Barnabas Fund UK, ICMDA, EMFI
- Master Trainers for Bioethics (ICMDA), Nursing

education, Allied Health training

- Christian Conference for Asia, World Council of Churches, Christian Connections for International Health all reached out to do joint activities or just catch up and ask how we were doing
- Covid Care Response – the whole CMAI team working effortlessly together to present a coordinated effort towards the pandemic response. Very proud of this effort which was recognized by other organizations. Very thankful.

Fund Raising – Many new partnerships. A good foundation database to build on with round table meetings for future fund raising. God has provided.

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Donor connected to and through CMAI	Donors connected directly to the CMAI Member Institution
Church in Action through NCCI	Bihar Action Aid, Save the Children
Health Serve Australia	MP Oxfam
TATA	CG Oxfam, Mr Anand Mathew
Sony Pictures Network	JH Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiative (APPI)
Lutheran World Relief	OR APPI
Presbyterian World Service	OR Tata Trust, IAS Subroto Bagchi, APPI
Barnabas Fund	MH APPI and Govt
Delhi Bible Fellowship	Assam APPI
International Justice Mission -Germany, Mumbai and Gujarat	TS Collective Power One International
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America	MH Minority Society
Indiadonates	AP Stewards Association in India (Brethren Church)
Australia Alumni	JH Several donors
Inter Collegiate Prayer Fellowship	GJ Methodist Medical Mission Australia, Church and Ambassador's Fellowship for South Asia, Govt
Individual Donors – Locally and Globally	KA CSI
USAID for TB – in process	TN Tata Trust
UNAIDS for HIV with NCCI- in process	MH Govt
Bread for the World	MP MLA
CARE USA	KA Stewards Association in India (Brethren Church)
Tearfund UK	KL Stewards Association in India (Brethren Church)
ICMDA	

Concerns and Challenges

- 1. The amendments of the FCRA and the long-term implications.** Few solutions given were taken forward. Advisory group to discuss the possibility of setting up a Section 8 not for profit Company in addition to the Trust of CMAI.
- 2. Identity of CMAI for recognition of its Allied Health Courses**
 - a) We are not an Educational Society, as asked by the Principal Secretary of State, Delhi. He will go through our documents and get back. Grateful

to Ms Anuvinda for setting up this meeting. Dr Sudhir Joseph also attended.

- b) An Association cannot be given recognition if it is not running its own training centres
- c) Mr Lyric Abraham has approached Maharashtra, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Delhi for recognition at the State level. Appreciate the support he has received from the GB members in this regard.
- d) Our individual alumni will be recognised as per the passing of the National Commission for Allied

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and Healthcare Professionals Bill on 24th of March 2021. This is an answer to prayer.

- e) CMAI course recognition discussion with an Advocate Fr Ravi Sagar who has helped many of our institutions get the Minority status under the National Minority Commission for Education Institutions (NMCEI) Act. Discussion done with him and AHP Secretary online and relevant documents shared. Face to face meeting on 23rd July at 11:30 am in Delhi.

3. Future of the Nurses League Examination/ Education Boards of CMAI with the National Commission for Nursing and Midwifery Bill in the pipeline. The recognition of both our Boards of Nursing under the new Bill when it is passed, is yet to be seen.

Affiliation of our schools to the local State Nursing Councils is also becoming an annual challenge especially for MIBE.

4. Development of CMAI property and finances to support the same. Rental revenue will be a viable source for the additional expenses with the proposed additional expenses.

5. Resignation of key staff – Ms Imtinenla Aier our Chaplains Section Secretary has elevated the section in the arena of academics and put us on the theological map both nationally and internationally. Her networking skills and ability to work with different groups is a much-added value to the section and mandate of CMAI. She has worked remarkably well with the CMAI team, her regions of NE and UP/ UK and of course her section. Would like to record appreciation for Ms Imtinenla for all her hard work. We wish her the very best and God's blessing in her new Church leadership role.

Mr Rakesh Pradhan, our IT specialist, a quiet worker doing much behind the scenes and working with a heart for CMAI will be moving to a new organisation. CMAI records appreciation for his efforts to ensure smooth working of all the IT systems – all software, Server, hardware and website backend and much more. We wish him the very best and God's blessing as he joins a new team.

Retirement of Mrs Jancy Johnson – The Nurses League of CMAI has grown much under the leadership of Mrs Jancy. Her enthusiasm and energy will be missed very much. She has brought new initiatives into the section specially for building the capacity of nurses in the mission hospitals. The CARE project has been the feather in her cap with tireless efforts in recruitment of more than 150

nurses over a period of 4 years. Absolute commitment. CMAI is very grateful for this. She has struck the perfect balance of manging home and work. May the good Lord bless each of those efforts and investments. We wish her every blessing and all the best for a fulfilling retired life.

In Gratitude - Thankful to the Lord for His provisions during the pandemic especially for our Member Institutions. Gratitude for a team that works well together. For the additional work done by many of our staff and their efforts bearing fruit in different ways. Staff who went through a challenging time with Covid 19 but praise God they came through it. Grateful for external consultants who added value to many of our systems through the last year. Our donors have been very accommodating and allowed much freedom in our expending during the pandemic.

Grateful for a supportive CMAI Executive and General Body. Our officer bearers Dr Jeyakumar Daniel, Mr Thampy Mathews, Mrs Onenlemla and Dr Arul Dhas have supported us with their valuable time as well as expertise. Their commitment to CMAI is a God-given blessing for us as CMAI family.

Thank you to the CMAI team, my family and the good Lord for His presence and quiet assurance.



Dr. Priya John
General Secretary - CMAI

SECTION'S MEETING

ADMINISTRATORS

The AGM of the Administrators Section held on 28th October at 4:00 pm.

Opening prayer by Mr. Thomas Varghese, Welcome and Introduction by Dr. Samuel N.J David, Chairperson of the section, followed by Roll call and documentation through a virtual photo by CMAI staff.

Recording Secretary for the meeting was Mrs. Annie Christabel followed by Approval of Agenda. The agenda was emailed to all the participants approved by all the members present. This was then followed by Confirmation of the minutes of the previous AGBM held on 7/11/2020 through the virtual platform was presented by the Secretary of the section to all the members present. Secretary's Report was presented.

New course Initiation by Section in 2021

Certificate course on materials management in hospital associated with St. John's Medical College, Bangalore. Totally 2 batches completed. With the help of the Dept. of Management Studies, St. John's Medical College and CMAI took initiation, to help the Mission hospitals to upgrade their quality of services through NABH Accreditation. We sent 16 Interns to 8 hospitals. Through distance education, CMAI conducted 5 courses. Totally 22 hospitals were visited last year and recorded and presented their needs to the General Secretary.

Matters Arising:

- a. The next Executive committee meeting will be conducted during the next national conference.
- b. The national conference will be tentative during October 2022 at Mercy Hospital, Kolkata
- c. Dr. D.W. Mateganokar award Presentation selection procedure. It was reminded that regional section representatives from the 13 regions will identify eligible candidates from their regions according to the criteria set by CMAI to be presented to the nomination committee.
- d. Sectional Secretary representative Regional Work: It was emphasized in the meeting that the sectional representatives continue the initiation and coordination with the section secretary to improve the regional work of CMAI of the section.
- e. Future for the region: It was discussed that the members of the section will introduce new section members to CMAI. Nomination

committee was formed to appoint the office bearers in place of outgoing office bearers. The General Body unanimously approved the names of the new Office bearers. Dr. Priya John, General Secretary, CMAI introduced the new office bearers to the gathering.

Elected new office bearers:

- Chairperson: Mr. Sunny Kuruvilla
- Vice chairperson : Mr. Peniel Malakar

Dr. Priya John Appreciated the work of Dr. Samuel N.J David for his tireless contribution and Passion towards his work. The General body members welcomed the 2021-2023 Office bearers of the Section.

Any other Matters:

- The sad demise of Mr. Stephen Chinnaswamy was recorded and requested to uphold his family in prayers
- Dr. Samuel N.J. David appreciated Networking between the institutions and organization during this pandemic
- Dr. Samuel N.J. David introduced the book "Treasure of Health Care Finance", 700 pages book to be useful to all the hospitals
- Future planning to conduct Certificate course on Hospital Finance associated with St. John's Medical College. 8 topics have to be covered
- Mr. Justin appreciated Dr. Priya John and team for their work especially during the pandemic

The meeting closed with vote of thanks by the Section Secretary Mrs. Elsy John and closed with a word of Prayer.



Ms. Elsy John
Secretary - Administrators Section

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

The Allied Health Professional Section's AGM was conducted along with the CMAI Biennial Conference on 13th November 2021 at 11:00 AM virtually.

43 Members were present virtually for the AGM, Dr Vilas Shende AHP Section Chairperson welcomed the members. Mr Paul Patrick Vice Chairperson offered the opening prayer.

Minutes of the previous AGM held during AHP National conference on 12th November 2020 was circulated by email and AHP Secretary read the highlights. Minutes confirmed by members after proposed by Mr P Jeyaraj and seconded by Ms Christina.

Matters Arising

The recognition of CMAI_CEB courses is still a challenge and Section secretary requested support and prayers from members for the ongoing efforts for recognition.

Report of the AHP Secretary presented through power point, he updated the members about the AHP Executive meeting held on 3rd November 2021, the CEB meeting held on 26th June, the plan for continuous allied health education, updates regarding the continuing recognition efforts etc.

In Matters arising the members discussed on three points
1) Next AHP Executive to meet in March before BOM
2) National Conference preparation and 3) requested for D.W Mategonkar national award nominations.

Ms Christina John gave a short report about the previous year activities of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana region and Dr Riju Mathew reported about the Kerala region activities.

Election of New Office Bearers for AHP EC.

Dr Vilas Shende the Chairperson of AHP requested Mr Lyric Abraham AHP Secretary to present the Nomination committee report. Considering the active participation and contributions to the AHP section of CMAI and working towards the recognition of CMAI_CEB AHP course in various capacities the nomination committee suggested names of current Chairperson and Vice Chairperson to continue one more term. Seven AHP regional sectional secretaries will be part of the EC as per rotation basis and four names suggested as co-opted members. Mr Soundarrajan proposed the nomination committee report and it was seconded by Ms Aradhana Upadhyay. The assembly unanimously accepted the nomination

committee report and suggested names.

Below are the elected members of AHP Executive for 2021-2023

- Chairperson Dr Vilas Shende
- Vice-Chairperson Mr Paul Patric
- Regional Sectional Secretary – AP & Telangana Dr Lavanya Suneetha
- Regional Sectional Secretary – Gujarat & Rajasthan Mr Solomon David
- Regional Sectional Secretary – MP & Chatisgarh Mr Neeraj Titus
- Regional Sectional Secretary – West Bengal Mr Abraham George
- Regional Sectional Secretary – Odisha Mr Kamalakanta Mohanandia
- Regional Sectional Secretary – TN & Pondichery Mr Packiyaraj
- Regional Sectional Secretary – UP & Uttarakhand Mr Shambu Prasad
- Co-opted Member Dr Riju Mathew
- Co-opted Member Anto Ramesh
- Co-opted Member John Manohar
- Co-opted Member Tracy Seb

AHP Secretary welcomed and congratulated the new members and expressed his gratitude to the outgoing executive members. The section Chairperson Dr Vilas Shende also welcomed all New Office Bearers and had offered his thanks to the committee and other secretary and executives for their continuing support. Mr. A P Berry thanked all section members for continuing support to Mr. Lyric Abraham for executing the responsibilities.

During vote of thanks AHP Secretary thanked Chairperson Dr Vilas Shende for the continuous support especially in the recognition issue and each executive members for their guidance and support. He also requested each member to suggest innovative ways to increase the AHP membership.

The AGM was concluded with prayer by Rev Soundarrajan.



*Mr. Lyric Abraham
Secretary - Allied Health Professionals*

SECTION'S MEETING

CHAPLAINS

**AGM of the Chaplains section
13th november 2021, 11:30 AM**

The Annual General Meeting of the Chaplains Section was chaired by Rev David Rajan and the attendance was adequate for quorum. The previous Chaplains Section Secretary, Ms Imtinenla Aier attended and gave the report for the last biennium.

The foundation she has built to establish the academic activities of the section were very much appreciated and will be taken forward with the help of identified stalwarts for each of the following courses - DCPC, CPE and the Annual Pastoral Care for the Sick and the Suffering.

The partnerships with the Senate of Serampore, NCCI, WCC, CCA and National Associations are excellent models for large scale capacity building of theologians, pastors and chaplains. The main areas of capacity building were Mental Health, Counselling and dealing with Addiction and Substance Abuse, to name a few.

With the help of NCCI and WCC Prayers for Unity and the Healing Ministry were held on a national level with very encouraging response. This was very much appreciated by the network partners and membership.

The Chaplains Executive for the Biennium 2021-23 was elected through proper process. Rev David Rajan and Rev Raju Abraham were elected for one term as Chair and Vice Chair respectively.

The activities and progress of the section under the very able leadership of Ms. Imtinenla and her small team was appreciated on a professional level. She brought in the culture of hard focussed work and engaged with every partner in a very strategic manner, always keeping the big picture of CMAI mandate in mind. CMAI will miss her dedicated efforts but she will continue to support us in key areas even as we find a new Chaplains Section Secretary. CMAI records its deep heartfelt gratitude to Ms Amen.



The partnerships with the Senate of Serampore, NCCI, WCC, CCA and National Associations are excellent models for large scale capacity building of theologians, pastors and chaplains.



*Dr. Priya John
General Secretary - CMAI*

DOCTORS

Report of the AGM of the Doctors' Section of CMAI – 13th Nov 2021.

On the 13th of November 2021, the members of the Doctors Section met for the Annual General Meeting of the Section to discuss its Business, during the 46th Biennial conference. Close to 180 Doctors from different parts of the country registered. It started with an opening prayer by Dr Sujant Singh. The meeting was chaired by Dr Nitin Joseph, the Chairperson of the Section. The names of the members of the section who left us were read out and Dr Sujay Suneetha offered prayers for the departed souls.

The business meeting had presentation of minutes of previous AGM of Doctors Section held virtually during the South Asia Regional Conference of ICMDA and Doctors Section National Conference in November 2020 and minutes of the Executive committee of Doctors Section held Virtually in November 2021. The Secretary of the Section presented the report of the previous Biennium (2019-21).

The election of new office bearers for Doctors Section was held. The Nominations Committee was formed consisting of the following members:

1. Dr Bonam Wesley
2. Dr Esther Liani
3. Dr Deva Japa
4. Dr Abhijeet Sangma (Facilitator)

The Nominations committee proposed second term for both Dr Nitin Joseph as the Chairperson and Dr Rajeev Nathan as the Vice Chairperson. The recommendation of the Nominations Committee was accepted by the floor. And rest of the members for the Executive Committee were also named which are based on rotation from the Regions and four Member representing North, East, West, and South.

The newly formed Executive Committee was dedicated in prayer by Dr Stanley Macaden. He also offered the closing prayer and the meeting ended with all the participants reciting the Lord's Prayer.

www.ICMDA.net
www.CMAI.org

ICMDA's
South Asia Regional Conference &
CMAI's
Doctors Section National Conference

13th, 14th & 15th November 2020

"Understanding The Times" - 1Chronicles 12:32

Who all can attend:
All Christian Doctors and Dentists working in Mission Hospitals/ Private Practice / Government service are welcome. You can invite your Christian doctor friends. Christian doctors who are not CMAI members are especially welcome.

ICMDA Conference
Hosted by NHCF/NCMDA

Timings:
17:00-21:30 NST

Speakers:
Dr. Arul Anketell
Dr. Peter Saunders

Multiple Breakout Sessions and TOTs:
Bio-Ethics
Discipleship
Saline Process
Leadership
Medical Mission

CMAI Doctors Section National Conference

Timings:
16:45-21:15 IST

This conference will bring Christian Doctors from across India on one platform for fellowship, spiritual & professional enrichment and much more. As Christian doctors who have chosen a path to serve the neglected and needy in India, need an occasional time away to refresh and rejuvenate – spirit, soul and body.

Don't miss this opportunity!
Please Block The Dates, Look Out For More Details In Your National Groups.

CMAI Commis Dept



Dr. Abhijeet Sangma
Secretary - Doctors Section

SECTION'S MEETING

NURSES LEAGUE

Report of the AGM of the Nurses League of CMAI 13th Nov 2021

The Annual General Meeting of the Nurses League of CMAI was conducted virtually on 13th November 2021. The meeting was well attended by senior nurse leaders across the country and students and staff joining in groups from their institution. There were over 400 participants attending the meeting including the student groups from various member institutions. Members appreciated and thanked the former Nurses League Secretary for all her contributions and strengthening the activities of Nurses League. Mrs. Shimy Mathew who took over as the Secretary from July was welcomed and Members assured their support to her. Dr. Pauline Brown, a Canadian Missionary Nurse who has completed 70 years of her service and life to a remote mission hospital network in Jobat, MP was felicitated. She has contributed immensely to the MIBE Graduate School for Nurses, MIBE and Nurses League at various capacities and leadership roles.

The Office Bearers and Members of the Executive Committee for the upcoming biennium (2021-23) were

elected. Mrs. Mercy Quila from Christian Hospital, Oddanchhatram, Tamil Nadu has been elected as the Chairperson of the Nurses League. Both the Boards (MIBE & BNESIB) shared their activities for the last year and challenges they faced in their curriculum completion and conducting examinations during the Pandemic. They have strived to uphold the quality in their systems despite the challenges and have helped the schools through various trainings for the faculty to handle the changes effectively. Three regional Sectional Secretaries (TamilNadu, Odisha and Northwest regions) presented their reports of the activities conducted in their respective regions.

As we look forward to strengthening the membership and activities of Nurses League, we seek your support and prayers.



*Ms. Shimy Mathew
Secretary - Nurses League*

COLLEGE OF NURSING CHRISTIAN MEDICAL COLLEGE, VELLORE – 632 004, TAMILNADU, INDIA

Applications are invited for the following Postgraduate, Post Basic B.Sc, Post Basic Diploma and Fellowship in Nursing Programmes for the academic year 2022 – 2023.

1. M.Sc. Nursing – specialities – Medical Surgical, Paediatric, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Community Health and Psychiatric Nursing
2. Post Basic B.Sc. Nursing
3. Post Basic Diploma Residency Programmes in Nursing – Cardiothoracic, Critical Care, Emergency & Disaster, Neurology, Operation Room, Psychiatry, Geriatric, Neonatal, Oncology, Orthopedic & Rehabilitation, Burns & Reconstructive Surgery Speciality Nursing, Haematology Specialty Nursing including Stem Cell Transplant and Renal Nursing.
4. Fellowship in Nursing – Family Nurse Practice, Respiratory and Paediatric Critical Care Nursing

Dates to remember:

- Access of online application form - 20th April 2022
- Last date for submission of online application with payment - 31st May 2022
- Entrance examination (Computer Based Test) - 22nd July 2022
- Announcement of Final Selection Results - 29th August 2022
- Registration to the Courses - 28th October 2022

Dates mentioned above are subject to change

Visit our Website@ <http://admissions.cmcvellore.ac.in/> for further updates.

Dr. Vathsala Sadan, Dean, College of Nursing, C.M.C., Vellore - 4

TAKING UP THE CROSS DAILY IMPLIES ONGOING RENEWAL

Devotion during Investiture Ceremony

Here we have assembled online at an important juncture in the CMAI biennial conference, where the members of the general body of the 45th biennial conference of the CMAI hand over the torch of Christian medical service to the new general body of the 46th biennial conference.

It is not that the outgoing members are relinquishing their commitment to Christian medical service and healthcare, but that they are passing on the responsibility of governance to a new body with whom they will continue to partner in ministry. So whether we are outgoing general body members or the new incoming general body members, our passion for Christian medical service and healthcare stands firm. May we all be filled with a double portion of the Spirit of God, as the challenges around us are multiplying manifold. This is what makes the theme of the 46th biennial conference significant. Renew and restore.

All of us are called upon to make this commitment. The new members of the general body in particular are being invited and exhorted to be catalysts of this process of renewal and restoration. Following the chronology of the chapters in Jeremiah, I would've preferred the caption 'restore and renew'. Chapters 30 to 33, sometime referred to as 'the book of consolation' have the theme restoration and renewal. In Jeremiah 30 verse 3, it is written "for the days are coming says the lord, when I will restore the fortunes of my people Israel and I will bring them back to the land which I gave to their ancestors and they shall take possession of it". The emphasis here, is on restoration. In Jeremiah chapter 31, verses 31 and 33, it is written "the days are coming, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. This is the covenant I will make," says the lord. "I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their god, and they will be my people." Here, the emphasis is on renewal.

The home page of the CMAI website, opens with the tagline "building a just and healthy society". This is CMAI's commitment and this is what all full time staff and members of the general body in particular are called

upon to facilitate. As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are to affirm the Nazareth manifesto. The spirit of the lord is upon me, and he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor, release to the captors, sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free. Hence, the words in Jeremiah chapter 30, verse 17 are important. God assures the people "for I will restore health to you, and your wounds I will heal", says the lord. Because they have called you an outcaste whom no one cares for.

The outcaste of India, for whom no one cares, are the poor, the tribals, the Dalits, women, children, and several marginalised, oppressed, and exploited people. They need to be restored, to justice and health. The second tagline, in the homepage of the CMAI website, declares "we are Christian healthcare professionals promoting medical care in communities" Note the term: Christian healthcare professionals. As professionals, the doctors, nurses, administrators, chaplains and allied health professionals in CMAI are not only to be persons who are qualified, skilled and efficient in their service, but also persons who are accountable and those who update themselves in their respective professions and contextually relate their expertise. However, this profession is also a vocation. Let us be reminded of the wills of Jesus to his disciples, "you did not choose me, but I chose you and I appointed you to go and bear fruit. Fruit that will love" commitment to Christ means taking up your cross daily, giving up your hopes, dreams, possessions, even your very life if need be for the cause of the gospel. Taking up the cross daily implies ongoing renewal. People who are being renewed will also facilitate renewal in the world. God says "see, I am making all things new"

CMAI is called to be an instrument in heralding that new creation and so this day, let us commit ourselves to restore and to renew, Amen.



*Rev. Dr. Roger Gaikwad
General Secretary, NCCI*

OFFICE BEARERS



Dr. Jeyakumar Daniel
Consultant
Hospital Administration & Finance
President

Dr. Jeyakumar Daniel is a seasoned veteran, following God's call in his life in the development sector. Having started his career in healthcare with administration and finance in rural Bihar, India with The Leprosy Mission- India, he served in different capacities before retiring as the Director for South Asia - The Leprosy Mission International almost four decades later. With a formal education that spanned from Hospital Administration in India to the UK, his real education spanned from the frontlines of grassroots work to national and international-level project and organisational management. As a hands-on leader, his expertise was valued

both within The Leprosy Mission, Woodstock School, Jesus Calls, SEESHA and Karunya University where he mostly fulfilled executive functions but was also invited on boards of numerous national and international educational, advocacy, healthcare, Christian, religious and social organisations in various capacities. The Dr. D. W. Mategaonkar National award was presented to Dr. Jeyakumar Daniel by CMAI in the 44th Biennial Conference held in 2017 for his outstanding service to the Ministry of Healing.

Doctor of Divinity (honoris causa) was awarded by the Madras Theological Seminary & College in recognition of his contribution to community development, social service and Christian ministry. He is also currently serving on the following Boards: SIHRLC, Karigiri, Tamil Nadu - Chairman of the Board and St. Stephen's Hospital, Delhi - Member of the Board & Finance Committee



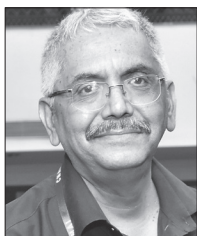
Dr Vathsala Sadan
Dean, College of Nursing,
CMC Vellore
Vice President

Dr Vathsala Sadan is the Dean of College of Nursing at Christian Medical College at Vellore. She has a PhD in Nursing and is Professor & Head of Department in Community Health Nursing at CMC Vellore. Dr Vathsala is an expert in the field of Nursing Education and Community Health in India. She is engaged with many strategic committees at national level. Dr Vathsala's field of expertise is in Nursing Research and to her credit are several national and international studies. Dr Vathsala Sadan resides with her husband and daughters in Vellore.



Mr. Albo Jason
Director Finance &
Administration
EFICOR, New Delhi
Treasurer

Mr Albo Jason Wilson is working with The Evangelical Fellowship of India Commission on Relief as Director-Finance & Administration. For nearly four decades he has displayed noteworthy leadership qualities in finance, audit, tax, general administration, and management. Mr Albo has completed Chartered Accountancy article ship in Tamil Nadu and BCom from Madurai Kamaraj University. In addition to his leadership and varied experience, Mr Albo is invited by many organizations for wisdom on financial guidance and compliances. He presently resides in New Delhi with his family.



Dr. Christopher D Moses
Medical Superintendent,
Jalna Mission Hospital, MH
Editor

Dr Christopher David Moses is presently working with Jalna Mission Hospital in Jalna (Maharashtra) since 1982. He is known as Dr Jalna by his colleagues since his MBBS days in CMC Vellore. He completed his MS General Surgery at Christian Medical College Vellore. He completed his MPhil from BITS Pilani with Tulane University USA, Business Administration and Taxation diplomas from Marathwada University and Diploma in Medico-legal Systems from Symbiosis Institute in Pune. Dr Christopher has helped pioneer various surgeries in Jalna. He is passionate about serving communities through medicine and other social service avenues like Rotary and IMA. The mission statement of Jalna Mission Hospital reads "Serve with Consistency, Credibility and Continuity in Christ's love". Dr Christopher lives with his wife Shobha (consultant gynaecologist and Haggai institute alumnus) at Jalna and his children are settled in different parts of the country.

Are you looking for an opening in a mission hospital?

*Advertise in the Classified Section in the CMAI newsletter – LIFE FOR ALL,
and on our CMAI website: www.cmai.org*

Take bold steps for change. This is what Mahatma Gandhi taught us. Christian Medical Association of India, established in 1905, was one such bold step taken by the missionary doctors who dared to serve this country. Even today, young doctors, nurses, allied health professionals, administrators and chaplains have followed the trodden path of the missionary movement which was started 115 years ago.

One cannot do it alone. But together, we can. If you are a medical or nursing graduate, if you are a professional in the health sector or a theology graduate, you need fertile ground to sprout and bloom.

CMAI is a large Christian membership organisation in the Indian health sector. We offer training programmes, platforms for sharing knowledge, opportunities for leadership building, and avenues to excel in your career.

If you haven't become a member, become one today.

CMAI member institutions work in the remotest parts. You will see a different geography of India where people suffer due to lack of proper medical care, children die of malnutrition and young mothers who need education in rearing children.

Dare to reach out to the place where people with commitment such as yours are needed to make a change.

YES,
It possible! You are needed indeed.

Write to us:
Christian Medical Association of India
cmai@cmai.org

**BE THE
CHANGE
YOU WANT TO SEE IN THIS
WORLD.**
-MAHATMA GANDHI

