

DR. S RAMACHANDRA BIRTH CENTENARY CELEBRATION (1919-2019)

Visionary | Father of Dental Education in Karnataka | Founding Principal of GDC

Dr. S Ramachandra

MBBS, DMD

Born in a farmer's family in a small village of *Channapatna*, in Mysore, completed his graduation from Mysore Medical college, Dr S Ramachandra started his career by rendering his services in the department of health, as an assistant surgeon posted in erstwhile state of Mysore.

In 1957, when the Government of Mysore proposed a dental college in its state and began its operations at Victoria hospital, Bangalore in its out patient block, Dr Ramachandra was handpicked and deputed to the Tufts University, USA for undergoing training in dentistry.

Subsequently, the foundation stone of the present stone building, Government Dental College (GDC) at Bangalore was laid in 1958 in the Victoria hospital campus. Upon his return from the US, he was appointed as the Principal of GDC. The building was completed and inaugurated by Dr.(Mrs) Sushila Nayyar, Hon'ble Union Health Minister in 1964.

Founding Principal (1959 to 1974)

During his tenure as the principal he set a tradition of strict discipline, rigorous training, and selfless service leading this institution with missionary zeal towards academic excellence.

He was instrumental in getting Central Government funds for the college, WHO fellowship for the faculty members including WHO projects.



1919-1995

International researchers of fame, viz. Dr Pindborg (Oral Pathology), Dr Eschler (Orthodontics) were invited to GDC for training the faculty and students for a better learning experience.

During his tenure few postgraduate courses were started in Orthodontics (1965), Periodontics & Oral surgery(1967), and Oral Medicine (1971). Also, dental auxiliary diploma in Dental Mechanic (1966) and Dental Hygienist courses were started.

He was instrumental in extending oral health services in the outreach and needy patients by arranging successful dental camps across the state.

He held positions in various academic bodies of Mysore and Bangalore University and Dental Council of India. Post retirement, the Government of Karnataka appointed him as Dental Advisor to Government Dental College for the tenure 1980-81.

Dr. S Ramachandra Birth Centenary Celebration Committee

To recall and remember the greatest services rendered by the multi-faceted personality, the Alumni Association of the Government Dental College and Research Institute (GDCRIAA), Bangalore decided to organise the centenary celebrations.

A committee constituting following members was formed

Dr. K S Nagesh
Chairman

Dr. Mohamed Faizuddin
Co-Chairman

Dr. Manjunath P Puranik
Organising Secretary.



Dr. S Ramachandra Birth Centenary Celebrations - Events

The committee hosted a year long series of events and programs during the year 2020-21.

◆ An MOU was signed with RGUHS, Karnataka, for an endowment lecture that will be instituted every year in the name of Dr S Ramachandra for years to come .

◆ A guest lecture by Dr. Santhosh K. Chaturvedi, Professor of Psychiatry National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Bangalore was held on 7th March 2020.

◆ It was followed by series of webinars that was powered by Igesia.co were held on 5th, 6th and 12th December 2020.

◆ **International Dentist Day and Dr S Ramachandra Birth Centenary Celebrations will be held on the 9/2/2021 at RGUHS at 11 am.**

Dr. K Sudhakar, Hon'ble Minister, Health & Family Welfare including Medical Education, Government of Karnataka has consented to be the Chief Guest, while Dr. S Sacchidanand , Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, RGUHS ,Karnataka will be presiding over.

Program will include the release of the book titled '*Navarathan - Pioneers of Dental Education in Karnataka*' on founding teachers written by students and well-wishers.

The first endowment lecture will be delivered by Dr .Thimmappa Hegde, Neurosurgeon, Director of Narayana Institute of Neurosciences, Bangalore on the topic 'Spiritual Approach to the Problem of Human Suffering'.

