

IASTAM

INDIA NEWSLETTER

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Connecting Systems; Bridging Disciplines

Ayurved Yoga Unani Siddha Asian Medicine

*“Understanding languages and other cultures
builds BRIDGES.*

*It is the fastest way to bring the world closer together
and to Truth.*

*Through understanding, people will be able to see
their similarities before differences.”*

Suzy Kassem

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PRE NOTE

12 Issues of Newsletter, Now In New Form

Dr. Narendra Bhatt

We completed regular publication of 12 monthly issues of the Newsletter. This is not a big achievement. I am aware of several others published over number of years. At IASTAM it is definitely an important milestone. Since our inception, I have been a witness and even part of efforts several times that did not succeed for consistency as desired. The need to have a monthly in place of quarterly communicate was mainly to reduce cost as per norms by postal department. I am happy that we could do it. The credit goes to our team of *Dr. Manasi Deshpande, Dr. Vandana Kozarekar and Ms. Anagha Vaidya.*

We are a multidisciplinary organisation. We have a wide range of readership; AYUSH profession and academic fraternity, scientists representing pure and applied sciences, clinicians from varied systems and scholars from humanities.

An effort is made with this issue to present the newsletter in a new form. The design is made more colourful. The features are revamped.

With interdisciplinary objectives having very limited cross section interest the challenge is to keep the interest alive. We have worked on internal editorial guidelines so as to provide interesting matter and use space with diligence.

History is important. One of the serious accusations in Indian context has been poor documentation of history and reluctance to truly recognise the commitment and contribution of stalwarts to serve a purpose or develop an organisation or an activity. In an ever-changing world the objectives and requirements of our objectives and activities are required to be dynamic; but there is always much to learn from the history and from the earlier contributors to understand the meaning of purpose and methods. Two separate features are designed to provide an interesting perspective. ‘*Our Aspirations*’ will cover profile of those who founded and helped nurture our association; the other feature ‘*Dialogue*’ will put questions to experts from different disciplines

involved with our association to present their perspectives on IASTAM an interdisciplinary platform. The section 'Review' will provide readers with an overview, commentary or insight on recently published books, articles and such matters observed on electronic media. In coming days, we will keep on adding more features for interesting reading.

We will adhere to our theme of 'Connecting Systems; Bridging Disciplines'.

This 'Pre Note' will update you of our activities and happenings by and around; while occasionally addressing some of the contemporary subjects related to AYUSH and Asian Medicine. The editorial will take a new form that, while commenting on contents will also analyse briefly an important issue or happening related to our objectives in a compact manner.

While the editorial team will make efforts to search for new subjects and items of interest; we will be happy to have contributions from members and readers.

I hope you will like this new form and shape; your feedback will encourage us.

We have received better than before response for *BVDU* and *Baidyanath Awards* and applications for new proposals. We will be busy in December to finalize the outcomes.

The preparations for the oration & award function are in full swing. Travel and stay arrangements for IASTAM awardees have already been made. Practically all members of the managing committee have confirmed and travel-planned their participation. We are considering a combined meeting of the managing committee and of the National Advisory Council during the event. Elaborate efforts are being put in by DPSRU to organize a productive meet covering different subjects related to AYUSH and natural products. We are working on having highly experienced speakers not only from India but abroad as well for the benefit of our participants.

As the date is nearing I once again suggest those interested to register and plan their travel soon to avoid disappointment with higher rates. ○○○

DIALOGUE

Prof. R. K. Mutatkar
in conversation with **Dr. Manasi Deshpande**



Formulation of IASTAM

Q: Origin of IASTAM India:

In 1978, an 'International Seminar on Medical Anthropology' was organized at Pune. Pandit Shiv Sharma presided over the plenary session on Ayurved. Prof A. L. Basham, the great Indologist, author of the classic book, 'The Wonder That Was India' seized the opportunity to meet Charles Leslie, Pandit Shiv Sharma and others to discuss about the ICTAM that was held in September 1979 at Canberra, Australia. Thought behind the organization of ICTAM was WHO health policy to initiate studies on alternative approaches with the use of traditional medicine and the ALMA-ATA Declaration of 'Health for All' by 2000 A. D.

ICTAM led to formulation of IASTAM at Canberra with Prof Basham as President, Pandit Shiv Sharma as one of the Regional Vice-Presidents and Prof Charles Leslie as the Secretary General. Dr. K.M. Parikh of Zandu in consultation with Pandit Shiv Sharma and in the presence of Prof Basham convened the first meeting in 1980 to initiate IASTAM-India at Mumbai, followed by a meeting at Pune University to formalize the Constitution and elect the first office-bearers with Pandit Shiv Sharma in Chair.

Q: Main Objectives of IASTAM:

Retaining the Preamble of IASTAM-International, recognizing the use of traditional medicine by the people as an aspect of respective cultures, IASTAM was projected as a multidisciplinary organization,

ideologically promoting the inputs from subjects like Sanskrit, Botany, Philosophy and Anthropology with clinical Traditional Indian Systems of Medicine.

The objectives of IASTAM-India have been to promote the study of traditional systems through teaching, research, publications and by organizing seminars, symposia and conferences; thus networking the scholars from various disciplines.

Q: Which was the turning point for IASTAM?

India staked to organize second ICTAM. However, not crest-fallen with the selection of Surabaya, Indonesia. Dr. Parikh took initiative to organise an Asian Conference at Bombay during March 1983. This helped to forge solidarity and strengthening of a new platform in India which addressed to the relevance of traditional systems, subjugating the narrow professional interests of the practitioners. This conference also equipped us to organise the third ICTAM in January 1990, with great efficiency and on a very large scale.

Q: What is medical anthropology and its role or importance for AYUSH sector?

Although, Anthropology is a 'Holistic Science of Man', due to historical reasons and focus on tribal studies. Ethnomedical studies are undertaken about the health beliefs, practices and traditional herbal practitioners, rituals in therapeutics, behavioral issues in such conditions as leprosy, TB, HIV. Reproductive and Child Health continue to be practiced by lay people according to traditions which are rooted in AYUSH systems. Anthropology deals with people in their homes and is good at micro understanding of people's behavior and practices.

AYUSH can use their theory and methodology to reach out to the people to become the mainstream health care system of the country. Although national health care is supposed to be based on modern medicine through Primary Health Centre, in the homes, it is delivered by the paramedics and such personnel as Anganwadi worker and ASHA, not by the allopathic OPD doctors. AYUSH training modules for these ground workers are required. Anthropology and Medical Anthropology have not developed since; they continue to focus on description of ground level practices of the tribal communities. Medical Anthropologists like Charles Leslie studying India and Arthur Klienman studying China went beyond tribal people. Public Health is the crux of health care at national level, addressing people and not patients. Pregnant or lactating women, children or old people are not patients, but people who have to be prevented from becoming millions of patients.

Q: What are your expectations from IASTAM?

It is an institution for the study of traditional systems at local, national and global level. We have to provide the knowledge base for policy planning and implementation of people-centric system. There was a great resistance to the word 'Tradition' as if tradition is non-science or anti-science. If that was so, our traditional or ancient sciences of astronomy based on mathematics, architecture, metallurgy, PNC practices of oil massage and special diets followed even by lady doctors from all systems of medicine in their own maternal practices, across Indian diaspora would have to be written off while the western people wanted to adopt it.

IASTAM has to move from event based organisation to taking up interdisciplinary, multi-centric research projects that will also provide young manpower to the organisation. We will have to be proactive in reaching out to individuals and institutions towards this endeavor. Establishment of independent AYUSH Ministry has provided a good environment for IASTAM to forge ahead its inter-disciplinary agenda.

Prof. R.K.Mutatkar pioneered teaching of Medical Anthropology in India at the University of Pune in 1974. He is the Hon. Director of AYUSH in Public health and The Maharashtra Association of Anthropological Science [MAAS], supported by Government of India. He was the first General Secretary and the third President of IASTAM India. He received special award for lifetime contribution to IASTAM India in 2015.



OUR ASPIRATIONS

Prof. Arthur Llewellyn Basham

(1914 – 1986)

**World Renowned Indologist
Who Initiated IASTAM**



Prof. Arthur Llewellyn Basham was the founder of the International Association for Study of Traditional Asian Medicine.

Traditional systems of medicines are always questioned for their scientific validity. IASTAM was established in 1979 at Canberra. The aim of IASTAM was to initiate the dialogue between the scholars, scientists and experts from various disciplines to understand the different paradigm of the traditional systems thereby to help them to sustain and grow with better understanding of their knowledge and practices.

Vision is believed to be emerged from the spiritual quotient and developed over the period of time with the deep knowledge of the subject leading to clarity in views and ability to understand the utility and application of the subject in the future.

Prof. Basham born in a small town in Loughton; England and as a young boy he had to face the German blitz in the Auxiliary fire service being a conscientious objector. The studies he has undertaken at the School of Oriental and African studies sowed the seed of his future career as the school was organised into faculties of Humanities, Languages and Social Sciences.

The impact of First World War, study in humanities and the socio-political circumstances at that time must have made him interested in Indian philosophy. He has completed the Indo-Aryan studies with first class honours degree as he worked in Indian History. He completed his degree with Ph. D. thesis and also received the degree of D. Lit. for his work in the history of south Asia from the university of London, as well as honorary doctorates from *Kurukshetra* university and *Nava Nalanda Mahavihara* (Buddhists Studies Research Institute). *'The History and Doctrines of the ajivikas'* has become the classic study of an obscure and vanished ancient Indian sect.

His interest in ancient Indian history and Hinduism and Buddhism further developed his interest to study the languages - Sanskrit and Pali and also to study the Indian systems of medicines as both having common understanding of relating the nature as a 'way of life'. The study has gave rise to many interesting writings like *'Studies in Indian History and Culture and "The practice of medicine in ancient and medieval India"*; *'The Civilizations of monsoon Asia'* and *'A Cultural History of India'*; The scholarly publication of 'The wonder that was India' - Survey of Ancient Indian Civilization. (1954) considered as the best general introduction to the history and culture of early India.

He served as a Director of Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland (1964 - 1965) and President of the 28th International Congress of Orientalists and the President of the International Association of Buddhist Studies (from 1981).

Dr. Basham was also an active and astute administrator and organiser; the quality essential to make

people believe and understand the views of the originator and become a part of his dream. He became the prominent figure in the panels of international conferences. *Liberal humanism as well as cultural pessimism were essential parts of his programmes.*

He was used to get so committed to the purpose that he never felt that he could get retired and continued to work until the very end. He delivered a series of five lectures, "*The formation of classical Hinduism*". The goal was to publish the ten-volume Encyclopaedia of Indology, along with the lines of the Encyclopaedia of Islam.

The wide academic experience he has received from over fifteen visiting professorships in his career. Basham's advice encouraged many students and younger colleagues. His genial manner and sceptical common sense impressed all who met him. The generous man he instilled his love for knowledge in many who met him.

The medal instituted in his name by IASTAM International for the two scholars having '*Outstanding Studies in Social and Cultural History of Traditional Asian Medicine*' will keep inspiring to the academicians and scholars to work towards the aim of IASTAM.

'Talent Perceives Differences; Genius Unity!' - William Butler Yeats.

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From the IASTAM - International Newsletter June 1986; www.history.com & Wikipedia.org.

Compiled by Dr. Vandana Kozarekar



New Publication

9th edition of Commentary on Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules, 1945, Medical Devices Rules, 2017 together with Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 and Commentary on Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act, 1954

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or email icajan2018@gmail.com

REVIEW

Book Review - 'Ayurved at Turning point'

Edited by Dr. C. K. Katiyar and Shri C. P. Khare

There has been an increasing interest, acceptance and use of herbal products in India mainly originating from Ayurved. This has also given rise to the issues related to the right use, standardisation and effectiveness of Ayurvedic plants and products.

The book "*Ayurved at Turning Point*" is an important and significant addition to provide historical perspective and information on ayurvedic plants. The book is edited by a passionate learner and herbalist Shri C. P. Khare and Dr. C. K. Katiyar, ayurvedic research scientist who has been dealing with sector particularly Ayurved and herbal products for a long time.

Traditional systems of medicine have gained importance in the health care system of modern society. The Ministry of AYUSH has made a number of important strides in the year 2016 to strengthen and popularise Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha & Sowa-Rigpa and Homoeopathy. The patient-centric approach of the AYUSH systems of medicine holds significant potential for finding solutions to India's public health challenges. The Ministry of AYUSH has continued to make special efforts on Medicinal plants and Classical Ayurved products.

This text enlightens the issues related with the Ayurved medicinal plants. Editors have made extensive efforts to survey, collect and document various aspects of medicinal plants and Ayurved classical products.

The Book has *17 chapters* contributed by different authors on various aspects of Ayurvedic medicine especially on historical aspects, plant drugs and researches on medicinal plants.

Historical aspects cover the revival moment of Ayurved in India which covers the period of 1885-1947 by Uma Ganeshan and Ayurved in 18th and 19th century by N. Gangadharan, Indian initiative for the revive of Traditional systems of medicine

and Rationalisation of Medicine in India which as expressed by Col Sir Ram Nath Chopara has also been explained.

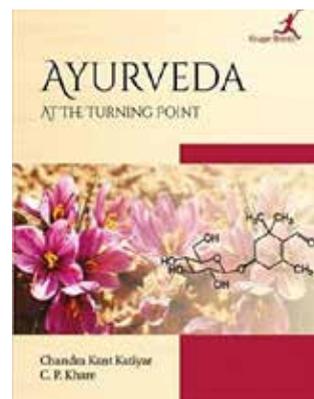
Second important aspect of the book is compilation of research in various aspects of the medicinal plants. Chapters summarizing the contribution of ICMR, CSIR and research on selected medicinal plants published in the Indian journals give immense information about medicinal plants.

Importance is given to the problems and limitations of pharmacopeia standards of Ayurvedic drugs. To standardize plant drugs, authors have highlighted the use of marker and bioactive phyto constituents.

The book has a separate chapter which includes the published abstracts of pharmacological and clinical researches on frequently used medicinal plants. Sincere efforts have been made to provide update information on pre-clinical and clinical studies on selected medicinal plants. Compilation of Ayurvedic pharmacopeia serves as a ready reckoner to the readers.

Applications of modern pharmaceutical principles, challenges in developing pharmaceutical dosage forms of Ayurvedic medicines and herbs drug interaction studies help to understand the formulations with a scientific perspective.

This book will be of much use to AYUSH institutes, pharmaceutical experts, biochemists, students, researchers and industry as ready to use reference guide on various aspects of ayurvedic medicinal plants.



Dr. Manasi Deshpande



UPCOMING EVENT



Delhi Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research University
(DPSRU)
and
Indian Association For The Study Of Traditional Asian Medicine
(IASTAM-India)



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CHALLENGES FOR GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS OF AYUSH AND NATURAL PRODUCTS and IASTAM ORATION AND AWARD FUNCTION 2018 (February 2-4, 2018)

TOPICS FOR SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS

- Translational research in Traditional medicine
- Leads from natural products.
- Ayurveda Pharmacy (Recent trends and Practices)
- Challenges in Classical Ayurvedic Practice
- Drug discovery through biomarker based therapeutic targets
- Modern analytical techniques in the standardization and quality parameters of AYUSH/Herbal products
- Development of suitable courses for AYUSH and natural products to meet global competitiveness
- Product development and biotechnology
- Applications of emerging technologies in AYUSH formulations / Applications of nano-technology in AYUSH formulations
- Biological evaluation of natural products: cell based assays (Application of biotechnology, bioengineering, microarrays)
- Differentiating same plants in different system of traditional medicine.
- Homeopathy, how to get away from the perception of pseudo-effects.
- Innovations and Entrepreneurship in Herbal Pharma sector
- Novel drug delivery systems in the development of herbal formulations
- Funding opportunities/schemes for promotion of AYUSH research
- National and international regulations on AYUSH

ORAL AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Young investigators including faculty members of various institutes in Pharmacy, Ayurved, Unani, Siddha, Homeopathy and Medical institutions are invited to make oral and poster presentations during the conference.

Last date for abstract submission: January 15, 2018 @ Email- dpsruiastam.sci@gmail.com

Registration fee and Fully completed registration forms should be sent along with copy of details of payment @ email - dpsruiastam.reg@gmail.com

Guidelines and Instructions for abstract and registration are available at

www.iastamindia.org and www.dpsru.edu.in

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
CHALLENGES FOR GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS OF AYUSH AND NATURAL PRODUCTS
and IASTAM ORATION AND AWARD FUNCTION 2018
(February 2-4, 2018)**

***All the Awardees have confirmed their participation.
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***Best of Experts in the field will share their
experiences in an open and interactive manner***

***Orations,
Key Note Speeches,
Panel Discussions,
Scientific Sessions***

***3 Oration Awardees,
9 Awardees,
3 National Ayurved Scholar Awardees
3 Research Scholar Awardees***

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