

Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand Newsletter

August 2012



President	Vice President	Secretary & Treasurer	Executive Members
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Imm. Past President		Trustees	
Dr. T. Chandraprakasam		Prof. G. Balakrishnan Dr. G.N. Malaviya Prof. Bhaskaranand Kumar	

On the threshold of a fresh take off.....



Dr. S. Raja Sabapathy
President ISSH

I have chosen this title for this Presidential letter because Indian Hand Surgery is poised for a fresh growth now. This stems from the opportunity we have, to host the Combined Congress of the International Federations of the Societies for Surgery of the Hand and the Societies of Hand Therapy this coming March. I say this for the following reasons.

1. This congress will bring in the thought leaders in the field of Hand Surgery from all over the world to India, for us to experience their great work. It should be stimulating to the younger generation.
2. It will be an opportunity for us to showcase our work to the world.
3. If we run a successful congress, we may be able to make some savings which will help promote teaching and training and further research in Hand Surgery and Hand Therapy.

Growth in surgical specialties usually occurs in spurts. Throughout history we have seen this happen in every specialty and in all countries. We had a great surge in the practice of Hand surgery in India, when our pioneers Prof Antia, Prof BB Joshi, Prof Venkataswami, Prof H Srinivasan, Prof Palande, Prof. Fritchi took to Hand surgery. There is a common thread linking all of them. They all tried to provide solutions to problems with process innovation, taking up fresh challenges, solving them with new ideas and succeeded because of their commitment. Dr Joshi did it with external fixators, Prof Venkataswami did it by introducing Micro surgery and setting up an organized Hand surgery service, and other pioneers did it with their innovative work in

surgical rehabilitation of patients afflicted with Hansens disease. All that they did was new at their times. Now we need to reinvent that magic.

The present challenge is two fold. One is to make the accepted advances available to the masses. The second is to widen the base of our practice, keeping in mind the future needs of the community. There is still a great unmet need for hand injury services throughout the country. Paradoxically even the facilities available are not being utilized to the capacity. Even if services are offered free, it does not mean it will be utilized. Access is still a problem. Because of limited access, acceptability of the services is sub optimal. Universal access, high quality of service and affordability are the key issues. The solution is that we need more well trained hand surgeons who will deliver predictable good service. Only that will make the specialty grow and be recognized. That is the challenge.

Hand society is addressing these issues by running Hand courses throughout the length and breadth of the country. They help local surgeons to do better and also could serve to initiate young surgeons to take up the specialty. Dr Bhaskaranand Kumar has to be congratulated for this initiative. Each of us have to reach out to the younger generation by serving as a good role model. The ISSH is also offering both international and national traveling fellowships. We request the members to apply for these travel grants.

The second challenge is to increase our practice base. Currently Hand surgery is almost synonymous with Hand injuries. This will change. We see this changing in our own practice. Major injuries which we saw from carding machines, blow room machines and dyeing industries in the nineties have thankfully reduced now. In India also, safety measures and enforcement are catching up. I am sure in a decade we will see a great decline in the incidence of Hand

Central Secretariat :

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injuries. The pace of reduction may vary depending upon the general development index of the state.

We will also see a greater incidence of Brachial plexus injuries, spastic hands, wrist problems, surgery for arthritis and the profile of the patients will become the same as it is in the west. We need to be geared up to that by increasing our capability. To do that again, participation in IFSSH meeting is a must for all of us. You can never have it so easy or economical. It is great value for your money and time.

Finally I have had a great time, being the President of our association. By a strange twist of circumstances I have been

as member of the council, Secretary or President for quite some time. Looking back I am happy at the things that we have achieved. More must be possible and I invite the next generation to take it forward. On behalf of all of you I thank our secretary Dr Santhosh Rath for putting up an extra year of service.

We look forward to seeing you all at Amritsar. In Dr Ravi Mahajan we have a combination of a good surgeon and a great organizer. The way we could help him is by being there. Let us meet in Amritsar in September

Dr. S. Raja Sabapathy
President

Message from the Secretary



Dr. Santosh Rath

Dear Members of Indian Society for Surgery of Hand,

I'm honoured with the responsibility for continuing as Secretary for another year and it will be my pleasure to hand over charge to Dr. Vikas Gupta, Secretary elect. I thank all the members for their support to accept the EC suggestion for administrative reforms.

Administration of ISSH now will be streamlined and easy with the new arrangement for an ISSH office at Ganga Hospital, Coimbatore and introduction of Secretary Elect. My thanks to the team at Ganga Hospital to offer this service to ISSH free of cost and the support for secretarial work. New membership applications this year has been very low. I appeal to you all to encourage surgeons who are regularly operating on Hands, to apply for ISSH membership. Our financial situation will definitely improve post IFFSH meeting and the society will increase the opportunity for training and fellowships to members. Enrolling younger members and supporting their training and improving quality of care will be our top most priority in the future years.

This is indeed the most exciting year for ISSH, preparing for the combined IFSSH - IFSHT meeting in 2013. I request all

the members to actively participate in the preparation of the congress, submit good quality abstracts and prepare outstanding presentations. It will be an opportunity for all younger colleagues to present their papers at the ISSH meeting in Amritsar and improve the presentations further for the IFFSH meeting. Please attend the ISSH meeting at Amritsar in large numbers. Please be available for the AGM on 29th evening, as we have important issues to discuss and decide. Dr Ravi Mahajan is organising an exciting meeting with plenty of social activities. Do come to Amritsar with your family to visit the Golden temple and enjoy the Punjabi hospitality.

I take this opportunity to thank you all for electing me as Secretary ISSH and for the support during the past years. It has been a great experience to work with my fellow EC members and our dynamic president, Dr Raja Sabapathy. Join me in conveying thanks to the EC members and others who have contributed to the smooth functioning of ISSH, Let us all welcome the new ISSH members to the Hand Surgery fraternity.

I look forward to welcoming you and your families in Amritsar soon.
Best wishes

Dr. Santosh Rath
Secretary & Treasurer

Notice of the Meeting of the Executive Council of the ISSH

Notice is hereby given for the meeting of the Executive Council of the ISSH to be held at Amritsar at Hotel Radisson Blu, Amritsar at 6 pm on Thursday the 27th September, 2012. All members are requested to attend the meeting. Many important issues including the details of the forthcoming IFSSH –IFSHT 2013 needs to be discussed and hence please do not miss it.

Notice of the Meeting of the General Body of the ISSH

Notice is hereby given for the meeting of the General Body of the ISSH to be held at Amritsar at Hotel Radisson Blu, Amritsar at 6 pm on Thursday the 29th September, 2012. All members are requested to attend the meeting. Many important issues including the details of the forthcoming IFSSH –IFSHT 2013 needs to be discussed and hence please do not miss it.

Election of Members to the Executive Council of the ISSH

1. One post of Vice President
2. Two members for the Executive Committee

Please send your nominations to the secretary ISSH before 15th September 2012 to our secretary at handsurgery.rath@gmail.com

Brief Note about 36th ISSHCON at Amritsar, 28th - 30th September, 2012



Dr. Avtar Singh
Organising Chairman,
ISSHCON 2012



Dr. Ravi Mahajan
Organising Secretary,
ISSHCON 2012

Greetings from the Holy City of Amritsar

We extend a warm invitation to all of you for the 36th Annual Conference of Indian Society for Surgery of Hand to be held at Amritsar from 28th - 30th September 2012. It is going to be a great academic event with the participation of renowned national as well as international faculty members. We hope all of you will book these dates in your calendar and will benefit from the early bird registration. Please visit the website www.isssh.org to know further details.

ISSH Orations of 2012

Established in the year 1998 and 1999 respectively, the orations in the name of Prof R Venkataswami and Prof BB Joshi have given us the opportunity to invite thought leaders in the specialty to be with us during the annual meetings. Over the years this has proved to be an outstanding feature of the Congress. This year is going to be no exception for we have two great surgeons delivering the orations.

Prof. R. Venkataswami Oration



Orator: Prof. Jin-Soo Kim

Title: 'Free Flaps for Hand'

Present Position:

Chief of Department of Plastic and Reconstructive surgery and Hand Surgery, Gwang-Myeong Sung-Ae General Hospital, Seoul, South Korea since March, 1997. Chairman of Medical Insurance Committee, The Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons. Chairman of Information & Communication Committee, The Korean Society for Microsurgery, Director of Board examination Committee, The Korean Society for Surgery of the Hand.

Prof. B B Joshi Oration



Orator: Prof. Steven Hovius

Title : 'Operating on the Hand: What I used to do and what I still do'

Present Position:

Head of the Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery and Hand Surgery at the Erasmus MC University Medical Centre Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Brief note on ISSH meet at Manipal, 2011

The Department of Orthopaedics, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal successfully conducted the 35th Annual Conference of the Indian Society for the Surgery of the Hand, 'ISSHCON 2011' at Manipal, Karnataka from November 25th to 27th, 2011 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Bhaskaranand Kumar and the organising secretary Dr. Anil K. Bhat.

The conference was attended by 192 delegates from all over India and also from United Kingdom, UAE, Bangladesh and Russia. The conference was inaugurated uniquely by the invited dignitaries and also children who had undergone Pollicisation at the unit of Hand and Microvascular Surgery, KMC, Manipal. The programme started with a CME on "Current concepts in Hand surgery" in the morning session of first day and in the same afternoon had two workshops.

1. 'Distal radius LCP fixation and Scaphoid fixation' on saw bone models which was conducted by Dr. Sharath Rao, Dr Anil K. Bhat and Dr. Monappa.
2. 'Cadaveric hand flaps dissection' was conducted by Dr. Sudhir Warriar and Dr. Anil G Bhatia. The conference included a rich scientific programme comprising of symposiums, orations, guest lectures, video demonstration sessions, teaching sessions and free papers and poster presentations.

The Dr R Venkataswami Oration was on 'Super Microsurgery of Nerves' delivered by Dr Aymeric Lim,

Associate Professor, Senior Consultant, Department of Hand & Reconstructive Surgery and Chairman, Medical Board, National University Hospital, Singapore

The Dr B. B. Joshi Oration was on 'Carpal instabilities with emphasis on Scapho-lunate injuries' delivered by Dr. Wolfgang Huber, Consultant Trauma & Hand Surgeon, UKH Linz Trauma Centre, Austria

The Hand therapists were a part of this conference and both physiotherapists and occupational therapists practising hand therapy participated in large numbers. They had parallel workshops and CME apart from common sessions with the Hand Surgeons.



Colourful inauguration by Dr Ramdas Pai, and it had a thought provoking speech by Dr. M.V. Kamath, From L to R: Dr. Anil K Bhat, Dr. Bhaskarananda Kumar, Dr. M.V. Kamath, Dr. S. Raja Sabapathy, Dr. Ramdas Pai, Dr. Sreepathy Rao and Dr. Santosh Rath.



Felicitations to Prof Aymeric Lim after delivering the Prof R Venkataswami Oration



Felicitations to Dr Wolfgang Huber after delivering the Prof BB Joshi oration.

Minutes of the General Body Meeting held at Kasturba Medical College, Manipal on 26th November, 2011.

Minutes of General Body Meeting

The General Body Meeting of the Indian Society for Surgery of Hand was held at Hotel Valley View, Manipal on 26th November 2011.

President Dr. S. Raja Sabapathy chaired the meeting. He was accompanied by Secretary Dr. Santhosh Rath, Vice-President Dr. V.S. Patil and Managing Trustee Prof. G. Balakrishnan on the dais.

Dr. Raja Sabapathy welcomed the members and in his introductory speech explained about the forthcoming

international congress in March 2013 and the steps that are taken by the association to further the cause of Hand Surgery in India. Dr. Raja Sabapathy also spoke about the immense contribution of Dr. A.G. Selvapandian, and Dr. Ernest Fritchie who passed away last year. The House rose in silence for a minute as a mark of respect for the departed souls. He then handed over the proceedings to the secretary Dr. Santhosh Rath and following were the discussions:

1. Dr. Santhosh Rath first detailed the decisions taken in the Executive council meeting on 24th Nov, 2011 and presented

the accounts for the year 2010 which was passed by the house.

2. The secretary informed the house of the expected contribution of Rs.55,000/- from Dr. Rajendra Nehete as surplus from Nashik ISSH meeting in 2010. The amount has not been received yet and once it is received will be handed over to the trustee Prof. G. Balakrishnan

3. Inland Travelling Fellowship: From 1998 we have been having the ISSH- Ethicon Travelling Fellowship which got discontinued in the year 2008. Presently the society itself wanted to re-start the fellowship and it will be termed as ISSH Inland Travelling Fellowship. The fellowship would be worth Rs.20,000/- and will be available for a member to visit a centre of excellence in the country for a period of 3 weeks. Members interested are invited to send in the application to the secretary.

4. Dr. Raja Sabapathy informed the house the collection of Rs.59,000/- as the sale proceeds of Dr. Acland Books in the past one year. This amount would be added to the Acland Travelling Fellowship Fund.

5. Trustees Report

Prof. G. Balakrishnan presented the trustee report and he explained the reason for the shortfall that happens towards the commitment in Acland Travelling Fellowship and in the preparations of medallions for the orators of the annual orations. Permission was given by the General Body to the trustee to utilise the unused funds to make good the shortfalls this year. The House thanked Prof. G. Balakrishnan for his excellent services to maintain the finances of the society in a healthy state.

6. Elections

Dr. Santhosh Rath proposed that we elect the secretary one year before he takes office so that the organisation could be aware as to who would be doing the secretary's job on completion of the tenure of the existing secretary. This would enable smooth transition in the functioning of the secretary's office.

7. He would be called as secretary elect. Dr. Rath also proposed that the outgoing secretary could continue to attend the Executive Council for the next one year. After a good amount of discussion the following points were agreed:

- a) Secretary will be selected one year before the end of the tenure of the existing secretary.
- b) The person elected will take office the following year after the election and the term of office will be 3 years. In case, any incumbent secretary wishes to be re-elected for another term, the intention should be conveyed one year before the completion of tenure and provided the House agrees, he could be re-elected.
- c) Name of the secretary elect will also be put in the website to be of information to the members.

- d) Past secretary to be part of the Executive Council for one year after his terms is over.

8. Central Office for ISSH

Difficulty in maintaining the documents of ISSH and the cumbersome transfer of these documents at the change of secretary and risk of losing the documents during travel was expressed by the secretary and the senior members. It was decided to have a central office of ISSH where all the original documents of the society and its proceedings will be maintained.

This will also enable to gather and maintain the documents and memorabilia pertaining to growth of Hand Surgery in India and it can also function as a resource centre of Hand Surgery.

Dr. Raja Sabapathy offered to create and maintain the central office at Ganga Hospital, Coimbatore. After due deliberations, the House unanimously agreed to the proposal to set up the Central Office of ISSH at Ganga Hospital, Coimbatore. As per Dr. Chandraprakasam's suggestion, it was agreed to try this arrangement for 10 years.

9. Mid-term Executive Committee Meeting

It was felt that the executive council members must meet at least once in-between the annual meeting which coincides with ISSH conference. The proposal for mid-term executive committee meeting was accepted by all. It will be held at a location convenient to all EC members. Re-imburement of travel expenses was discussed with members and it was agreed that they would be paid an amount equivalent to train fare in Second AC coach.

Elections to the Executive Committee

The post of secretary and 2 posts of EC members were noted to be elected.

Secretary: Dr. Vikas Gupta from New Delhi was the only applicant to the post and he was unanimously elected. Later it was found that Dr. Vikas Gupta has one more year to complete his executive council post and as per tradition it was felt that secretary must have completed the EC term. Hence his election was withdrawn. Prof. G. Balakrishnan, Managing Trustee suggested that the present secretary Dr. Santhosh Rath could continue to function for one more year and Dr. Vikas Gupta could take over from him at the next ISSH meeting. This proposal was accepted by everybody. Dr Santhosh Rath, the present secretary will continue for one more year.

10. Executive Committee Member:

Dr. Jagannath Kamath was proposed by Dr. Hari Venkatramani and seconded by Dr. Mukund Thatte. Dr. Ashwath Acharya proposed by Dr. Jagannath Kamath and seconded by Dr. Chandraprakasam. Since there were only two names for the posts, Dr. Jagannath Kamath and

Dr. Ashwath Acharya were elected for post of Executive Council for a 3 year term, till the 2014 ISSH conference.

11. Dr. Acland & S&T International Travelling Fellowship – 2011-2012

The only applicant for this fellowship was Dr. Anil K Bhat of Manipal. The secretary informed that his application was in order. Dr. Acland & S&T International Fellowship was awarded to Dr. Anil K Bhat for the year 2011 – 2012. Dr. Anil K. Bhat was requested to send in his travel plans to the secretary.

12. Preparation of 'Blue Book'

The standard procedures to be followed in conduction of meetings. The President and the secretary explained to the members the need for adhering to certain directives and procedures in conducting the national conferences and the subsequent submission of accounts so that it would benefit both the delegates and the society. The President Dr. Raja Sabapathy was requested to formulate these set of guidelines for a "Blue Book" that explains the protocols and standards to be maintained in conducting ISSH conferences. This will be prepared by Dr. Raja Sabapathy and circulated by email to the EC members for their opinion and later adopted by the General Body.

13. Utilisation of Corpus

Dr. G. Balakrishnan had informed that the corpus was nearing the proposed 10 lakhs and a discussion was held as to how to utilise the interest from the corpus fund. One of the suggestion noted was towards conducting the Mid-term Executive Committee Meetings and to add it to the funds that need supplementation.

14. IFFSH-IFSHT Congress – 2013

Dr. Raja Sabapathy discussed in detail the progress made and about the change in venue from Hotel Ashoka to the Expo Centre for the congress. He also explained that we would be meeting all the important people at Coimbatore on December 18th 2011.

15. Report of Dr Bharath Kadidi

Dr. Bharath Kadidi was the receipt of the Dr Acland– S&T international travelling Fellowship for the year 2010. He gave a good power point presentation on his experience in visiting the Pulvertaft Hand Centre at Derby and other centres in UK. The utilization report submitted by him was well appreciated. Since there was no other matter, the President adjourned the meeting expressing appreciation to Dr. Bhaskaranand Kumar, Dr. Anil K Bhat and their team for conducting a great conference at Manipal.

Fellowships of ISSH

Dr Robert Acland – S & T Overseas Travelling Fellowship award

The Robert Acland-S&T overseas traveling fellowship is intended for senior ISSH members who have shown a commitment to Hand surgery and are capable of projecting Indian Hand Surgery in an international forum. The corpus was built by the sale of the Manual of Microvascular Surgery, the copyright of which was donated to the Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand by Prof Acland. The ISSH also thanks Mr. Markus Springler of S & T for making the overseas distribution possible.

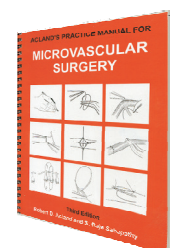
The conditions of the award are given below. Application could be sent to the Secretary at handsurgery.rath@gmail.com by 15th September 2012.

Recipients of the Fellowship

2009-10 Dr. Jagannath B Kamath, Mangalore.
2010-11 Dr. Bharath Kadadi, Bangalore.
2011-12 Dr. Anil K Bhat, Manipal

Country Visited

Korea
U.K.
Hong Kong



Fellowship Guidelines

1. Each year one candidate will be chosen for the Fellowship and it carries an award of Rs. One Lakh.
2. The awardee must have done considerable work in Hand Surgery and must serve as an ambassador for Indian Hand Surgery.
3. The applicant must have been a member of the ISSH for at least 7 years.
4. He must have attended at least 3 annual meetings of the Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand in the past 7 years.
5. The fund could be utilized by the Fellow for attending an International Hand & Microsurgery meeting to present a paper and / or spend a few weeks in a reputed centre with prior concurrence of the Executive Committee of the Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand.
6. 50 % of the sum would be made available for the candidate before the departure. On completion of the Fellowship, the Fellow must send in a report to the Secretary, ISSH to become eligible for the disbursement of the remaining amount.
7. The Overseas Traveling Fellow will make a presentation about his experience in the subsequent annual meeting when the award will be given during the Inaugural Ceremony.
8. The selection of the fellow will be done by the Executive Committee of the Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand.

ISSH Inland Fellowship 2013

Selection criteria for ISSH inland fellowship

1. Life member of ISSH
2. Should have attended at least 2 annual ISSH meetings after full membership
3. Identified the institution for attachment during the fellowship
4. Minimum duration of 3 weeks
5. Submission of utilization report
6. Report to be presented at the annual ISSH meeting
7. Fellowship award will be presented to the applicant following submission of report
8. The EC can waive this requirement in exceptional circumstance only if the member submits in writing to the Secretary the reasons for not attending the ISSH annual meeting

Basic Hand Courses of the Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand

The Bureau of Indian Society of Surgery for Hand for Medical Education (BISSHME), which is the academic wing of Indian Society of Surgery for Hand (ISSH) under the chairmanship of Dr. Bhaskarananda Kumar, has been conducting hand courses at various parts of our country. This is to encourage young surgeons to develop interest in the speciality of hand surgery and deliver acceptable levels of care to hand injury patients.

Courses were held at SRMC, Chennai, Gandhi Medical College, Secunderabad and Nasik Medical college this year.

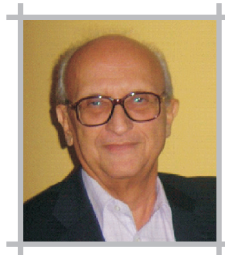
Courses are planned at Kholapur, Nepal and Madurai this year.

With Fond Memories

I asked him if I should take up Orthopaedics after completing my MBBS. His reply was to make a profound impact on my life! He told me that Orthopaedics would be exciting and challenging in the years ahead. I would have a happy and comfortable life, but I should not expect to become another K.T. Dholakia! Honest, balanced, far sighted and humorously humble.

Dr J.C.Taraporvala breathed his last on 28.7.2012 following an illness he endured with the dignity that he lived his wonderful life. He headed the Department of Orthopaedics at the JJ Hospital and Grant Medical College and Presided over all the Professional bodies of which he was a member.

A devoted teacher with an undying passion to impart the knowledge that he so continually and enthusiastically gathered, he left an impression on every student he tutored. They came from far and wide. From all the Medical Colleges of Mumbai, from Maharashtra, from Gujarat and Goa too. Every Saturday, for six Saturdays, twice each year. Each session would have the hall packed to the rafters and yet each of us would cringe and try to hide. Never wanting to be picked out to "take" a case and present all the clinical signs and discuss the management as if in an examination. In his unique style he led you on, misled you and then finally brought you around to understand the case and all the differentials and the options of management! JCT could rip you apart no matter how well prepared you were! And he did. Accompanied by his innocuous chiding and humorous sarcasm we were guided into the realms and realms of Orthopedics. And just so that he was fair to all, including his favorite registrars, he brought us the googlies from his private practice. I distinctly remember the Hurlers syndrome (mucopolysaccharidosis!!) patient he had brought for me from Bombay Hospital! Thanks to the immediate recall of his accurate miming and descriptive lectures, I guessed right! Every Wednesday, as the minute hand swept over the half hour after seven in the morning, he would breeze into the Trauma ward with his little leather bag, donning a perfectly tailored safari suit and the most gleaming shoes, come hell or high water! The entire department including the physiotherapist, the prosthetician and the pathology technician would be waiting for his white Fiat to



Dr J.C. Taraporvala

turn into its parking lot! The rounds were never hurried and we could never hide anything from him. Not for want of trying, to be sure. He always caught us out if we lied! An unconvincing description of a wound status would prompt him to request to be shown the wound! Every wrong plaster had to be redone and every erroneous fixation had to be explained and then corrected under his supervision on the next operating day. JCT had evolved the perfect system of supervised and staged surgical independence. We received 'cutting' work after we proved our mettle in managing the wards. Then he would base our further progress on our abilities. He abhorred unsupervised surgeries and forbade us from taking up complex cases in the middle of the night. He was then considered by some as being too fastidious. Over the years, his approach has been established beyond doubt as the best way to ensure uniformly good outcomes!

My first surgical case developed a tourniquet palsy owing to my slow speed and fumbling technique. In those days we used the Esmarch tourniquets. He was considerate and taught us about the safety limits and proper use of tourniquets. He also insisted that the patient stayed until he showed definite signs of recovery. He recovered completely. On yet another occasion, one of our house-surgeons had passed a long screw from fixing both the malleoli of the ankle. The patient was a paanwallah from across the street. It became our duty to check on the paanwallah each week! He had warned him not to bear any weight until the offending screw was removed once the fractures had healed soundly. He cared. For every patient, irrespective of their station in life.

He had the rare capability to laugh at himself and that gave him the right to point out the humor in any and every little thing around us! We learned to see beyond the helplessness of the Government and the plight of the hapless patients. Not that he accepted easily the bureaucracy and red tape that bound the progress of the Department, quite to the contrary, he utilized everything at his disposal to its fullest potential. He was obsessed with record keeping. He checked the Registrars notes (not the House-surgeons!) on every case paper. He wanted every x-ray to be maintained in chronological order in the file. All interesting cases were photographed and cataloged in his registry. The Bone tumor

registry and the Hand Clinics at JJH thrived in his tenure. The myriad publications and theses that adorn his CV were based on these immaculate records. He insisted that each one of us present the work done for our dissertations as a free paper in the WIROC conference first and then at the National level. The preparations for these started a good two months before the event and each week we rehearsed and edited the paper till it was perfect! He did the same, mind you, for every lecture and every paper he presented.

The Follow Up clinics on Fridays was legendary. Even more so, the Hand Clinics on Wednesdays. He had use the very limited resources from the Government with exemplary frugality, bolstering it with kindly donations from time to time! Unshakeable in his devotion to his duties, he had little to fear from the powers that be.

He was well read, socially conscious and quite involved in the academic and professional bodies he was associated with. He presided over the Bombay Orthopaedic Society and the Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand. When he decided to contest the elections for the president's post of the Indian Orthopaedic Association, he insisted that all his registrars enroll as members of the association. He won by a single vote! His first invitee to the Department as a Visiting Dignitary was his worthy opponent! Another lesson for us about healthy competition and the grace of a victor! He traveled abroad frequently and interacted with great personalities. He shared every little nugget of information on his return. He was a true ambassador of Indian Orthopaedics and projected a dignified and respectable image wherever he went. He invited many visitors to our department and we were fortunate to interact with them. Such encounters were sowing seeds in our impressionable minds about future academic pursuits. Little wonder then that his students have risen far beyond his achievements, presiding over important associations all over the world! He took immense pride that his 'boys' were doing so well. Every time I spoke to him, in the past few months, he never failed to enquire about each one of us!

He enjoyed his sabbatical every year! He shut shop and checked into his favorite "Sun-n-Sand" hotel in Mumbai for a few days with his lovely, gracious and ever smiling wife "Matti". I believe that was where he spent time cleaning out each of his cardboard mounted slides with a wisp of cotton dipped in spirit. The old Kodachrome slides in his immense collection always retained their color and clarity. A perfectionist to the core, he led us by example. Nothing but the best ever satisfied him. Anything that did not come up to standard would be ridiculed with his trademark acerbic sarcasm.

Our visits to his wonderful home each term-end, will be fondly remembered by all of us fortunate to be invited. The warmth, the care and the camaraderie are difficult to forget. While Madam made the choicest Parsi dishes and cooked some exotic western fare, he took special care to get his sister-in-law (I think) to make some wonderful gujarati vegetarian food for me and other vegetarians! Attention to detail! His ex-registrars carried on this legacy by having an evening out with him and madam twice a year, until his seventy-fifth birthday. They had genuine concern for each of us and enquired about our progress in our own spheres. Not long after, Matti, ever so gracious in her own battle against an ailment, passed on. Her passing saw JCT withdraw into a shell. I believe he only attended two scientific programs after that. One was at the Jaipur IOA and the other at Nashik.

I last spoke to him a few days before he passed on. I asked him about a book I had sent him a few days earlier. He asked me not to send any more books as it was becoming difficult to laugh! He was battling ever mounting breathlessness and I had sent a hilarious book on Cricket, Pakistan and Politics. Even to the end, he retained his humor and wit. After three minutes of speaking (usually over an hour!!) he asked.

"Sudhir, is it Ok if I stop speaking now?"
Before I could answer, He did. Forever.

Dear Sir, Requiescat in Pace.

- Dr. Sudhir Warriar

Future Meetings

Members are requested to send their bids to host 2013 ISSH annual meetings

IFSSH-IFSHT 2013



Preparations are going on for the Combined 12th Triennial Congress of International Federation of societies for Surgery of the Hand (IFSSH) and 9th Triennial Congress of the International Federation of Societies for Hand Therapists (IFSHT). New Delhi - 4th to 8th March, 2013. Please visit the website www.ifssh-ifsht2013.com. For registrations and enquiries, ISSH members could contact Dr. S. Raja Sabapathy in the email address: rajahand@vsnl.com

36th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Surgery of the Hand (ISSHCON)

Date: 28th - 30th September 2012 | Venue: Radisson Blu Hotel, Amritsar | [Website: www.issshcon2012.com](http://www.issshcon2012.com)

67th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Surgery of the Hand (ASSH)

Date: 6th - 8th September 2012 | Venue: Hyatt Regency, Chicago | [Website: www.assh.org](http://www.assh.org)

9th Congress of Asian Pacific Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand (APFSSH)

Date: 10th - 13th October 2012 | Venue: Hotel Grand Hyatt, Bali, Indonesia | [Website: www.apfssh2012.org](http://www.apfssh2012.org)

47th Annual Conference of Association of Plastic Surgeons of India (APSICON 2012)

Date: 4th - 8th November 2012 | Venue: Lucknow | [Website: www.apsicon2012.com](http://www.apsicon2012.com)

57th Indian Orthopaedic Association Annual Conference (IOACON)

Date: 12th - 16th December 2012 | Venue: Tamilnadu Trade Promotion Organisation, CTC Complex, Nandambakkam, Chennai | [Website: www.ioacon2012.org](http://www.ioacon2012.org)

Ganga Operative Hand Course

Date: 5th - 7th July 2013 | Venue: Ganga Hospital, Coimbatore, India. for details www.gangahospital.com