

# Navrathan

A  
TRIBUTE TO  
FOUNDING FACULTY  
OF

**Government Dental College &  
Research Institute**

*Bangalore*



**Dr. S. Ramachandra Birth Centenary Celebrations**  
**GDCRI Bangalore Alumni Association**



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**Dr. S. Ramachandra Birth Centenary Celebration  
GDCRI Bangalore Alumni Association**



**This Book is published as a  
part of scientific activity of  
Silver Jubilee Celebrations of RGUHS**



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## **FOREWORD**

The year 2020 is of great significance for the dental profession in the country. It is a pleasant coincidence of two important events in the history of dental education in India. It is the centenary year of starting of the first dental institute by Dr. Rafiuddin Ahmed, the father of modern Indian dentistry and the birth centenary year of Dr. S Ramachandra, the father of dental education in Karnataka.

Both these great personalities had common qualities - vision, goal, selfless service, dedication, and devotion to promote dentistry as an important aspect of the health care system. They laid a strong foundation on which the profession is built now producing thousands of graduates who have rendered yeoman service in the field of oral health sciences as faculty, researchers, and service providers across the globe. Their legacy is continued by the present generation to take the profession to greater heights.

After independence Government of India had to grapple with many issues. Visionary administrators had drawn a plan to improve health and medical education in the country. One such plan was to establish dental institutions in the government sector in all the states and to enact the Dentist Act 1948 for the smooth functioning of dental institutions and the profession.

Accordingly, the Government of Mysore started Government Dental College in the year 1958 in Victoria hospital premises and the Principal of BMC, Legendary Dr. V. R. Naidu was entrusted with



the responsibility of nurturing the nascent institute. He identified five medical graduates who were in state Government service to undergo training in dentistry to be founding faculty. They were Dr. S.Ramachandra, Dr. B.K.Venkataraman, Dr. C.G.Raju, Dr. K. R. Devanath, and Dr. H. R. Narayana. Four dental graduates Dr. N. Rajeeva Shetty, Dr. B Govardhan Hegde, Dr. A Rajendra Prasad, and Dr. Mohandas Bhat joined them.

The nine members of faculty are aptly called "NAVRATHAN" -Nine gems of our Alma Mater. Their contributions have been highlighted in this book. It is presumed that their life and achievements will inspire the future generation of students to carry forward their legacy.

Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka, a premier health university with thirty-eight affiliated dental colleges is at the forefront of promoting dental education in the country. RGUHS is celebrating its silver jubilee year. This book is published as a part of its silver jubilee celebrations. We, the members of Dr. S Ramachandra Birth Centenary Celebration Committee, express our sincere thanks to Dr.S.Sacchidanand, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka, Dr Kiran Kumar N, Syndicate member and Member, Publication Committee and all the members of the Syndicate. We also thank all the contributors and donors for enabling us to bring out this book. We hope that this book will act as a guide to the future students of this great institution to live up to the noble tradition set by their predecessors.

**Chairman and Members,  
Dr S Ramachandra Birth Centenary Celebration Committee**



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**Government Dental College and Research Institute Bangalore**

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## **Government Dental College and Research Institute Bangalore - Premier Dental Institute of the Country**

It is my privilege as Dean Cum Director of Government Dental College and Research Institute Bangalore to give a brief account of the accomplishments of this great institute. This is one of the Premier Dental Institutes of the country which has many pioneering achievements to its credit.

- In 1965, Dr.A.A. Botero, WHO consultant from Columbia framed a new curriculum and syllabus incorporating subjects like Anthropology, Bio-statistics, Genetics, Nutrition and Dietetics, Preventive and Social Dentistry. In 1967-68, the expert committee of WHO after visiting several institutions throughout Southeast Asia chose this college to implement a newly developed curriculum.
- Service clinic were established in the college to serve the community and cater to the oral health needs of the people especially rural population.
- First to start Post graduation in South India with Orthodontics in 1965
- Public Health Dentistry and Oral medicine were introduced as subjects in BDS and MDS in the years 1970 and 1971 for the first time in India.
- Dental Mechanic and Dental Hygienist courses were introduced in the college in 1966-1968

- 1st National Conference of Association of Oral Surgeons of India was held as back as 1969
- Currently, post-graduation is available in all nine specialities and also recognized as a Ph.D. centre in nine specialities by Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka
- Central Government, State Government, and Indian Army have deputed their personnel to pursue post-graduation.
- The Institute has been figuring in the top ten colleges in India and has been sought after by NEET aspirants
- The alumni and teachers of this institute have occupied higher echelons, notably Dr B K Venkataraman and Dr N Sridhar Shetty went on to become President of Dental council of India. Dr N Rajeeva Shetty, Dr Shivaratna C Savadi and Dr S Ramananda Shetty occupied the prestigious post of Director of Medical Education in Karnataka. Dr S Ramananda Shetty later went on to occupy the coveted post of Vice Chancellor of prestigious RGUHS. I am proud of their respective achievements.

GDC Bangalore had a humble beginning in 1958 and over the years grew steadily and continues to become a model dental institution. GDCRI has witnessed a lot of developments since then. The institute managed to maintain uncompromising discipline and unparalleled quality established by founding teachers. In 2007 it was converted into an autonomous institute and became known as Government Dental College and Research Institute Bangalore.

The institute has state of Art Equipments and research facilities. A new floor has been constructed to accommodate Surgical Wards and Research Wing. Lecture halls including Prof. Dr. B K Venkataraman Scientific hall were upgraded with generous support by alumni members. Multispeciality gymnasium for the benefit of staff, students, and patients has been developed.

Faculty members are periodically trained in the Teacher training program. Research and publication are encouraged among faculty, PG and UG students. State and National level CDE/WORKSHOPS/ Webinars conducted for the benefit of the dental fraternity. Free

dentures are provided to the elderly below the poverty line under 'Danta Bhagya Scheme'. Yearly Free denture camps in the remote rural areas are held for the elderly. Dental Satellite Clinic at Chandapura, Anekal Taluk has been established. Oral Health Outreach programs are conducted through the Fully Loaded Mobile Dental Unit.

During Covid Pandemic, the Institute geared up to face the challenge of oral health care by providing continuous emergency and urgent care. More than 200 members of GDCRI including Teaching faculties, Nursing officers, Paradental staff, PG students, and interns provided yeomen service as observers, nodal officers, contact tracers, members of critical care support team and received appreciation as Corona Warriors. Covid Care Centers across Bangalore were taken care of by GDCRI staff and students as frontline health care workers

The Institute celebrated its Golden Jubilee in 2008. The Golden Jubilee of starting PG courses and Paradental Courses in 2015 and Diamond Jubilee in 2018 with great magnificence. The GDCRI alumni association has extended its support for the above activities wholeheartedly.

With the continued support of the benevolent Government of Karnataka and the able administration of successive Principals and Directors, this college has remained a leader in the field of Dental Education and oral health Services. I, as the Dean Cum Director, would follow the footsteps of my predecessors and strive hard to take it to greater heights.

**Dr Girish B Giraddi**

Dean Cum Director

GDC Alumnus BDS 1990 MDS 1996





GDCRI Bangalore Alumni Association

## **Service of the Alumni Association to Alma mater**

As a president of Government Dental College and Research Institute Bangalore Alumni Association it gives me immense pleasure to present a brief account of the contribution of our Association towards the growth and development of our Alma mater

Government Dental College Bangalore Alumni Association was established in the year 1999. The founder President of this prestigious Association is Dr (Mrs) Shivaratna C. Savadi, Hon. Secretary Dr. K. S. Nagesh and Hon. Treasurer Dr. Mohamed Faizuddin. The Association's main objective was to improve the infrastructure of the college for the benefit of students and patients. In the initial days, the Alumni Association conducted the Continuing Dental Education programme by our eminent Alumni regularly. There was a rolling shield instituted for the cultural champion every year. The Scientific hall was renovated with the new carpet and seating arrangements, lighting and installation of Air-Conditioners. GDC Alumni Association started a newsletter "Alma Mater" highlighting the activities of the association and the

college. Alumni Association got its new bylaws and members Directory was printed. The Association contributed towards the installation of a new generator to have an uninterrupted power supply for the benefit of the patients and the students.

The association conducted a few family tours. The Badminton Court was renovated and CCTV cameras were provided to the college. When Dr. S. Ramananda Shetty, an Alumnus of GDC, became Vice-Chancellor of Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka, he started the Prologue Programme, an orientation program for the first MDS students of Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka. This programme is jointly conducted by the Government Dental College Bangalore Alumni Association and Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka. We recently conducted the 12th edition of Prologue which was online due to Covid 19 on the Igesia platform, a contribution by one of our alumnus Dr. Reena Kumar. Also, another major event of GDCRI Alumni Association is the annual free denture camp conducted at Chikkanayakanahalli, Kanakapura, Koppal, Gundlupet, Sindhanur, Shravanabelagola and, Tiptur under the able guidance of Heads of Dept of Prosthodontics Dr. D. R. Prithviraj and Dr. Sounder Raj. Over 1000 dentures were delivered free of cost.

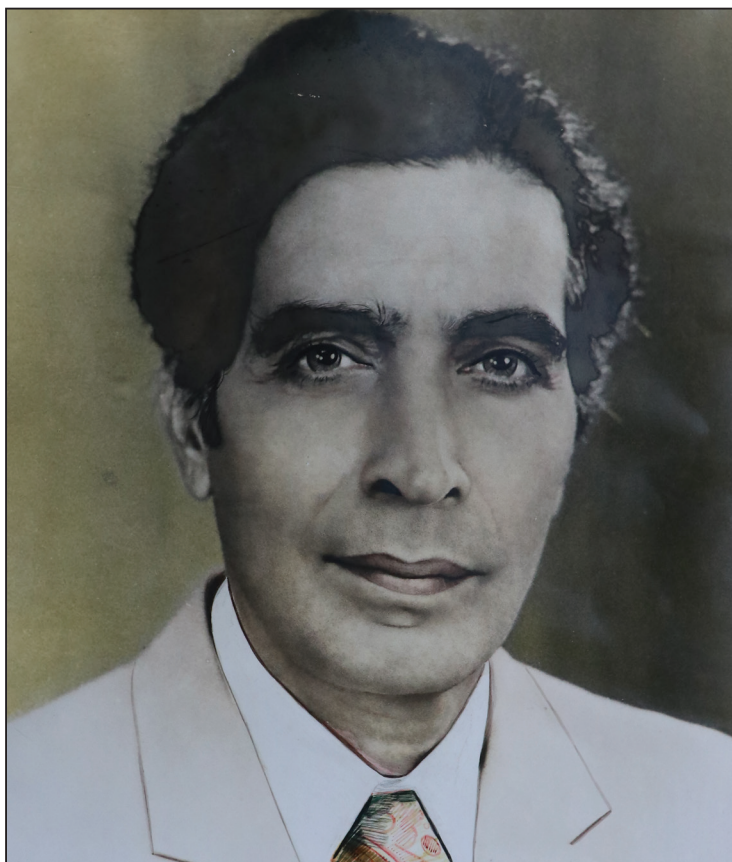
The Association also supports blood donation camps conducted at GDCRI. We actively participated and immensely contributed to the Golden Jubilee Celebration in 2008, the Golden Jubilee Celebration of PG Courses and Paradental Services in 2015, and also Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of GDCRI in the year 2018. GDC Alumni benevolence Foundation, a brainchild of Dr. C. V. Mohan and Dr. Nalini Mohan, was established in the year 2018. It is providing the college fee, examination fees, hostel fees, books and, instruments to well-deserving candidates of GDCRI with the generous contribution of Alumni members.

I take this opportunity to thank these Alumni-namely Dr. B Sagunathy, Dr. Mrutunjaya Y, Dr. Lakshman Prasad, Dr. A. V. Ramesh, and Dr. M. S. Bharathi for their generous contribution towards the development of infrastructure. I also thank all the alumni who have contributed to the welfare of the association and I will

be failing in my duties if I don't thank all the previous Presidents, Secretaries and EC members, and Former Principals, Dean Cum Directors of GDCRI Bangalore.

**Dr. M. V. Ramachandra Prasad**

President, GDCRI Bangalore Alumni Association  
GDC Alumnus BDS 1976 MDS 1994



**Dr. S. Ramachandra, MBBS, DMD**

**Dr. S. Ramachandra, MBBS, DMD**  
**Professor Emeritus**  
*Father of Dental Education in*  
*Karnataka*

Dr.S.Ramachandra's contribution to dental education and the development of Government Dental College Bangalore remains unparalleled. Due to his pioneering efforts to promote dental sciences in the state, he is fondly remembered as the Father of Dental Education in Karnataka.

Dr. Ramachandra was born on 18th December 1919, hails from a lower-middle-class family from Channapatna. He did his schooling in Temple Town of Melkote. He pursued LMP from Mysore Medical School and later obtained MBBS from Mysore Medical College. He joined Mysore Government Health Services and worked in Mysore Medical College and K. R. Hospital, Mysore.

After Independence, the Central and State governments emphasized importance of medical education. As a result of this, the Government of Mysore opened Government Dental College in the year 1958.

Dr V R Naidu, the Principal of Bangalore Medical College was asked to prepare a road map. His foresightedness resulted in the birth of G.D.C with ten students in 1958. Dr. Naidu identified Dr.Ramachandra and sent him to Tufts University, Boston to acquire higher training in Dentistry. After his return, he bore the responsibility as a first full fledged Principal to build the institution and served it till his

retirement in 1974. He lived up to the expectation of Dr.V.R.Naidu. Dr. B.K. Venkataraman, Dr. C.G. Raju, Dr.K.R. Devanath and, Dr. H.R. Narayana were sent to Bombay University for training in Dentistry. These faculty members along with Dr. N.Rajeeva Shetty, Dr. B Govardhan Hegde, Dr. A Rajendra Prasad and, Dr.Mohandas Bhat established the Departments and nurtured them to grow. Also, the services of Dr.Padmanabhan, Dr.Pani, Dr.Achamedi, Dr.Venson and, Dr. Ramananda Hegde as Honorary faculty should be acknowledged.

Dr. S Ramachandra was a very attractive, smart and dynamic personality. Starting with ten students, he was instrumental in increasing the BDS admission to forty. He is also responsible for starting post-graduation for the first time in South India. Orthodontics, Oral Surgery, Periodontia, Oral Medicine and Radiology, Preventive and Social Dentistry were started during his tenure.

Government of India used to depute five students to B.D.S course every year from north and northeastern states where there were no dental colleges. These students after graduation would go back to their respective states to establish dental services. Some of them have joined the Armed forces and have made a name in National and International Arena. This scheme was the brainchild and foresightedness of Dr. S. Ramachandra.

He played an important role in collaborating with the World Health Organisation for the exchange of faculty. Teaching staff from GDC were sent to W.H.O for training. Similarly, well-known academicians visited this institute. Notable among them were Prof. Pindborg internationally renowned oral oncologist, Dr. Esther, Prof. Ludlow. He also got a grant from W.H.O to develop the college. The College was the first to install Orthopentamograph in India. He convinced Government to depute the second line of faculty for M.D.S course. The concept of service clinic was introduced by him for better services for the public and to provide job opportunities for dental graduates.

As he was from a rural background and was aware of problems of rural folk he convinced the Government to establish dental department in



district and taluk level Government hospitals. This scheme provided job opportunities for nearly all graduates.

The upper echelons of the government like the Governor, Chief Minister, Ministers, IAS Officers, and other VIPs used to come to college for treatment along with family members. Dr. Ramachandra utilized their goodwill to get an additional grant for the college.

His services were not confined to GDC Bangalore. He also held coveted posts in apex bodies like the Dental Council of India and Karnataka State Dental Council and played an important role in improving the standard of education and streamlining dental practice. He retired in December 1974 on superannuation. After retirement, he was the chief medical officer in Bangalore University Health center till 1980. In the year 1980 Bangalore University honoured him with the title of Professor Emeritus. Later he was appointed by the State Government as an advisor to GDC Bangalore, a post which he held for a short period. He spent his last days in Bangalore. Dr. Ramachandra was married to Smt Alamelamma. They had 4 sons namely Parusharam, Sitaram, Subramanya and Sampath Kumar. Two of his sons are settled in the U.S.A.

Thus Dr. Ramachandra's association with the dental college dates back to the foundation of the building and lasted till he retired. He always maintained a pleasant and cordial relation with everyone irrespective of the cadre. He was very compassionate to the patients visiting the college. Because of these qualities he is loved and remembered not only by his students but also his colleagues and patients forever.

I thank the centenary celebration committee for giving me an opportunity to share my experiences about this great personality Dr. S Ramachandra.

**Dr K S Nagesh**

GDC Alumnus BDS 1964 MDS -1973



**Prof. Dr. B.K.Venkataraman, MBBS, BDS, MS**

**Prof. Dr. B.K.Venkataraman, MBBS, BDS, MS**  
*Father of Oral Medicine in India*

We deem it an honour and privilege to write a brief note on qualification, achievements and contribution of Dr.B.K.Venkataraman towards the development of Government Dental College, Bangalore.

He lived and taught throughout his life with his incredible educational and professional experience. He was quite extraordinary, impressive, intellectually exhilarating and a bit daunting. We all know that as a teacher he was a legend, disciplined, and unfailingly prepared and tough.

He has always been a great source of inspiration to many students who did post-graduate course under his guidance. We have deep respect and admiration for this able and dedicated teacher. He was an asset to the Government Dental College, Bangalore.

Dr. B. K. Venkataraman. son of Late Dr. B. G. Krishna Swamy, was born in the year 1923 in Hiriyur, Chitradurga District. After graduating from Mysore Medical College, he served in Mysore Medical College to start as a lecturer in Ophthalmology and later as Assistant Surgeon in that department.

Deputed to study Dentistry by Mysore Government, he graduated from Sir C.E.M. Dental College, Bombay in 1961 and joined the staff of

the newly started Government Dental College, Bangalore. Deputed to the U.S.A. on a W.H.O. Fellowship in 1963, he obtained his M.S. Degree from the University of California – U.S.A. Later he had training in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in London, West Germany and Holland in 1965. Back in Bangalore he joined Government Dental College, Bangalore as Professor and Vice-Principal.

Dr.Venkataraman was selected by W.H.O. for higher training in Oral Medicine in 1970 at Edinburgh. After securing Fellowship- FDS from Edinburgh he rejoined Government Dental College, Bangalore as its first Professor in Oral Medicine. Government Dental College, Bangalore was the first college in India to start Oral Medicine as a speciality subject both for under-graduate and post-graduate degrees. Thus he was the first Professor of Oral Medicine in the country in 1971. Today many of the Senior Professors in Oral Medicine in India are his post-graduate students.

Dr.Venkataraman became Principal of Government Dental College, Bangalore in 1974 after Dr. S Ramachandra and proved to be the worthy successor of great personality. He was elected to the Executive Committee of Dental Council of India in 1974 and subsequently was elected President, Dental Council of India in the following year. As president of the Dental Council of India, he initiated the revision of the Curriculum of both B.D.S and M.D.S courses.

He was Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Bangalore University from 1975 to 1978. During this period he was instrumental in starting of many new courses such as M.Ch, Paediatric Surgery, M. Ch, Urology, M.D. Aviation Medicine, M.D. Ayurvedic Medicine, M.Sc., Nursing and also affiliation of Command Hospital to Bangalore University for M.D. General Medicine and M.S. General Surgery Courses. He was also instrumental in starting a Bachelor's Degree in Unani Medicine.

He along with other Heads of the Departments worked relentlessly for the development of the infrastructure of GDC Bangalore and also in maintaining high standards of education.

After retiring from the Government Services in 1979 he took up an assignment as Professor of Oral Medicine and Chairman of the departments of Oral Medicine, Radiology and Periodontia in the Faculty of Dentistry, Al-Arab Medical University, Benghazi Libya. Even after resigning from that post, he continued as a visiting Professor and examiner to that University till 1987.

Invited to help to start a Dental College, he was the first Principal of M.R.A. Dental College, Bangalore. He contributed his best to make M.R.A. Dental College the premier college in the private sector, among the 20 Dental Colleges of Bangalore University. He was able to get the permission of the Dental Council of India for M.R.A. Dental College, to start 3 P.G. Courses in 1992. He resigned from this post in November 1992 to lead a retired life. However, it could not be so, as the management of Sri. Siddhartha Dental College, Tumkur prevailed upon him to take over the newly started college in January 1993.

He was keenly interested in Research programmes. He was instrumental in starting a Ph.D. programme in Oral Medicine and Radiology, under the aegis of Dr. B.K.Venkataraman Education Society for Higher Education in Dental Sciences, which is affiliated and recognised by Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences in the year 2001.

Even though Professor B.K. Venkataraman is no more physically present with us, his ever-enthusiastic guiding spirit and legacy will continue to inspire us.

### **Dr. K S Ganapathy**

GDC Alumnus BDS-1968 MDS-1977

### **Dr. C V Mohan**

GDC Alumnus BDS-1975 MDS-1982



**Prof.Dr. C.G. RAJU, MBBS, BDS, MDS**

**Prof. Dr. C.G. RAJU. MBBS, BDS, MDS**  
***Father of Oral and Maxillo facial Surgery***  
***In Karnataka***

Professor C. Gurubasavaraju was well known to all as Dr.C.G.Raju. It is my honour and privilege to write about my respectful and beloved teacher. I was fortunate to be his undergraduate and postgraduate student. Dr.C.G.Raju was the first professor in the Department of Oral Surgery at Government Dental College, Bangalore. A very simple and honest man, he was very sincere to the profession and a teacher of the highest order. Above all, he was a very good human being. For most of us, he was a mentor, guide, and advisor.

Hailing from a not so well-to-do background, Dr. Raju did his schooling and intermediate at Tumkur and then joined Mysore Medical College and completed his MBBS degree in the year 1951. The Mysore Government health services appointed him as Medical Officer between 1954 to 1959 at Civil Hospital Srimangala Coorg District and Beggars Colony Hospital Bangalore to serve the poor and needy. In 1959 he was deputed by the State Government to do the condensed BDS degree course at Sir C.E.M Dental College Bombay along with



three other medical graduates namely Dr. B.K. Venkataraman, Dr. K.R. Devanath, and Dr. H.R. Narayana. After completing BDS in 1961, he was appointed as Lecturer in the Conservative Dentistry Department at Government Dental College, Bangalore. Subsequently, he was deputed by the State Government to do his post-graduate course in Oral Surgery at Dr. A.L. Nair Hospital Dental College under the guidance of Dr. M.S.N Ginwalla who was considered the father of Oral Surgery in India. After completion of his MDS degree in the year 1966, he was posted as Professor and Head Department of Oral Surgery at Government Dental College, Bangalore.

Dr. C.G. Raju was instrumental in establishing the Department of Oral Surgery and started MDS degree course in Oral Surgery in the year 1967. During those times it was difficult to train post-graduate students as the facilities to perform major surgeries were limited. I was in the second batch of postgraduate students.

Professor Raju was liked both by undergraduate and postgraduate for his simplicity and good guidance. A man of few words, he taught the profession, the art of surgery meticulously in a clean and disciplined manner. He was extremely patient with all of his students. He insisted all his students to learn by themselves to tackle difficult situations in Exodontia and Major surgery. All of us still remember his encouragement - in his own words - "If you don't learn now, when will you learn". That is the greatest thing we all learnt from him.

Prof. Raju was very well known among all his colleagues and fellow members of the National Association of Oral Surgeons. He was very keen to attend all conferences to keep abreast of current knowledge. I had the opportunity to accompany him to many of these conferences. To mention a few of his professional achievements, he was the President, Mysore Medical College Students union in 1950, President Indian Dental Association Bangalore Branch in 1967 and 1973, President Indian Dental Association Karnataka State Branch 1976-1977. He was the organising secretary of the 1st National Conference of Association of Oral Surgeons of India in 1969 at Government Dental College Bangalore.

Dr. C.G. Raju retired from service at Government Dental College as Professor and HOD in the year 1976. After his retirement, he continued his passion for academia and served as Principal JSS Dental College, Mysore for a few years and then Bapuji Dental College Davanagere. Dr. C.G. Raju had the privilege of visiting the USA after his retirement. The visit was sponsored by a few of his students who are settled in the USA as a token of gratitude and respect to their beloved teacher.

As his student, I bow to him with all respect for his humility, honesty, patience, and dedication to the profession.

**Dr. S.V. Kumaraswamy**

GDC Alumnus BDS-1961 MDS-1968



**Prof. Dr. K R Devanath, BSc, MBBS, BDS, MDS**

## **Prof. Dr. K R Devanath, BSc, MBBS, BDS, MDS** *Father of Periodontology in Karnataka*

Prof. Kalkunte Rangachar Devanath was a distinguished member of the founding faculty of Government Dental College and Research Institute, Bangalore. He was an excellent teacher, a freedom fighter, and the pioneer of Periodontology in Karnataka. He was a simple, gentle, humble, and honest human being with conviction and commitment.

Dr.Devanath was born on the 13th of October 1926 in a conservative lower-middle-class family to a religious couple Smt. Devamma and Sri.Rangachar. He had three siblings, an elder sister and, two younger brothers. When he was nine years old, his mother died of pleurisy due to lack of adequate medical attention. That incident had a lasting effect on him. He determined to become a doctor so that he can serve those in need of healthcare.

In the year 1942, when he was a 16-year-old student, he took part in Quit India Movement. He was arrested and imprisoned at Bangalore central jail. When his father approached him to get him out on bail, he refused to do so telling that it would be against his principles. Later he was transferred to Mysore central jail where he had to spend a few months. Dr. Devanath obtained his BSc from Central College, Bangalore. Later he joined the MBBS course at Mysore Medical College. After his graduation, he was teaching at Bangalore Medical College as a lecturer in Anatomy.

In the year 1958, the Government of Mysore established the first Dental College in Bangalore and deputed Dr.Devanath for two year condensed BDS course at Sir CEM Dental College, Bombay. He graduated in the year 1961 and was appointed as Lecturer at GDC Bangalore.

In 1964, Dr.Devanath was deputed for the MDS degree course in Periodontia. He obtained the MDS degree under the guidance

of Dr.G.B.Shankwalkar, a legend, and doyen of dentistry from Bombay University in the year 1966 to become the first Periodontist of Karnataka state. In 1967 Government of Mysore decided to start MDS course in Periodontia at GDC, Bangalore. He was recognized as a postgraduate guide and given the responsibility of establishing a first-ever Department of Periodontia in the state. Dr.Devanath, a sincere and silent worker, accomplished this task with ease and grace, without much ado. In the year 1969, on WHO fellowship he proceeded to the USA and obtained a certificate in Periodontics from Michigan University School of Dentistry under able guidance from Prof. Ramfjord.

We, the 1966 batch of BDS students, came in his contact when we were in the final year. We were surprised to see a highly qualified Professor and HOD so simple and student-friendly. He was easily approachable and accessible to the students. Dr.Devanath was a committed teacher. He believed that knowledge is the greatest gift of God to mankind and should be shared with fellow beings for the betterment of humanity. He not only believed in it but made it a mission of his life. Teaching was his passion, he was not only a good teacher but an excellent human being too. He was very kind and courteous to his patients and expected the same from his students and subordinates. He was a broadminded person, believed in equality and dignity of labour. He was above the class, caste, and creed distinction.

In 1979, a few months after I joined MDS, he sought voluntary retirement and proceeded to Libya. Dr.Devanath joined the Dental faculty of Al Arab Medical University, Benghazi, Libya as Professor of Periodontia. After returning from Libya, he worked as the Principal and Professor of Periodontics at Bapuji Dental College, Davangere, M S Ramaiah Dental College, Bangalore and Krishnadevaraya Dental College, Bangalore. He contributed immensely to the growth and development of these colleges during their formative years. It is due to his vast experience, diligence, dedication, and administrative acumen that these colleges have emerged as leading dental institutions in the country.

Right from his childhood, he had compassion for the poor and underprivileged and wanted to serve them particularly those who need medical care. As a founding member and as a President (1975 to 1977) of Bangalore North Lions' Club, he was instrumental in starting many health schemes. He also played a pivotal role in the establishment of a free clinic for the benefit of the poor. He was a member of the Dental Council of India and president of Karnataka State Dental Council and founder member of the Indian Society of Periodontology. He was a down to earth person and was averse to ostensibility and pretension. He never hankered for name and fame. He always maintained a low profile.

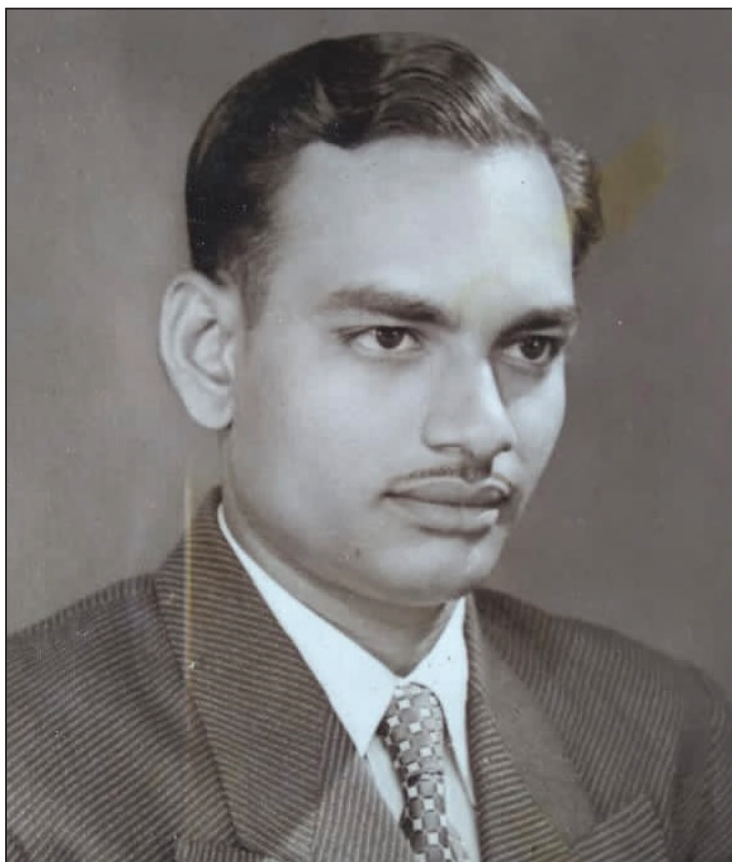
Because of his pioneering efforts for the promotion and propagation of Periodontics in the state, he is rightly considered as the "Father of Periodontology in Karnataka". In appreciation of his contribution towards the freedom struggle Government of India had granted him a pension. He was very proud of it and considered it as a recognition of his humble service to motherland. In appreciation of his immense contribution towards Periodontics, Bangalore Academy of Periodontology has instituted a Gold medal in his name at Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka for the best outgoing PG student in the subject of Periodontology.

Dr.Devanath breathed his last in the wee hours of 26th January 1999. May his soul rest in peace. Though he is not amidst us today, through his doctrines and deeds he lives in our memory forever and would be a beacon for future generations. He is survived by his wife Mrs. Lalitha Devanath, son Raghavan, an engineer settled in the USA, and daughter Jyothi Raghuram, a journalist and an art critic who lives in Bangalore and looks after her aged mother.

I thank Dr.S.Ramachandra centenary celebration committee for giving me an opportunity to express my gratitude and pay my humble tribute to Prof.K.R.Devanath, a teacher par excellence.

**Dr Mohamed Faizuddin**

GDC Alumnus-BDS 1966 MDS 1979



**Prof. Dr. H R Narayana, MBBS, BDS, MS**

**Prof. Dr. H. R. Narayana, MBBS, BDS, MS**  
***Father of Oral Pathology in Karnataka***

Great Teachers build character and confidence, motivate students, and changes their life." A teacher affects his eternity and can never tell where his influence stops" - Henry Brooks Adams.

The above words and quote express my sincere gratitude and respect to Dr. H. R. Narayana, a renowned Oral Pathologist of our country. I met Sir as my teacher in Oral Pathology in 1977-78. He was open-minded, supportive, and fair to all. He encouraged individual talents and strength for every student and tried to bring the best in them.

My favorite teacher Dr. H. R. Narayana, founding Professor and Head of Department of Oral Pathology, Government Dental College



Bangalore, Son of Shri. Hoskote Ramaiah and Smt. Nanjamma was born on 1st April 1930 at Victoria Hospital Bangalore. His early education was in Fort High School, K R Road, Chamrajpet, Bangalore. He was awarded an MBBS degree from Kasturba Medical College, Manipal in 1953, and a BDS degree from Bombay University in 1961. He joined Mysore Health services and later joined Government Dental College, Bangalore as faculty.

It was a gleaming factor to join the Dental Profession in Bangalore. His proficiency in English and excellent extempore lectures and his friendly nature towards students identified him as the best teacher. Dr. S Ramchandra, the Principal of GDC, deputed him for further studies under a Leverhulme Trust Program in Birmingham, London. Further, he proceeded to Alabama USA. With prestigious Masters degrees in general Pathology and Oral Pathology, he returned to India in 1969 to rejoin GDC and founded the Department of Oral Pathology.

As a teacher, he respected and understood the student's problems and raised their self-esteem. He taught the students in-depth in Oral pathology and laid a strong foundation for students to move on. In 1982, I was privileged to join as faculty in the department as his junior. His great intelligence and an extraordinary ability to explain, his passion to teach, a unique knack for identifying and diagnosing the Pathological slides left an indelible impression on me. Further involving me in teaching methods and reading slides encouraged me to pursue my career as an Oral Pathologist. I learnt that metaphors are essential to teaching. He sculpted me into an Oral Pathologist and what I am today is because of him.

After 1983 his reputation soared to the international level. He resigned from Government service and joined the Ministry of Health, Saudi Arabia. He returned to India in 1990 and served various Institutions such as VS Dental College Bangalore, JSS Dental College Mysore, Bangalore Institute of Dental Sciences and Hospital Bangalore. He came out as a disciplinarian in the profession and as a human being. Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka felicitated him for his achievement and contribution to the field of Dentistry.

I thank you Sir for all your guidance, your values, personality, and blessings for what I am today. You are an inspiration for generations of teachers to come. I remain indebted to you forever.

**Dr. Hemavathy S**  
GDC Alumnus BDS-1975



**Prof. Dr. N Rajeeva Shetty, BDS. MDS**

**Prof. Dr. N. Rajeeva Shetty, BDS. MDS**  
***Father of Conservative Dentistry in Karnataka***

It's indeed an honor and a rare privilege to be writing about a magnanimous personality Dr. N Rajeeva Shetty, an eminent teacher, beloved senior colleague, former Principal, and the first Director of Medical education from our fraternity.

He is indeed an embodiment of a true leader, teacher, and trainer with an indomitable spirit. He is a rare amalgamation of academic excellence, administrative acumen, and clinical competence.

Dr. N Rajeeva Shetty, born on 25th April 1933 hails from a respectable family with roots in coastal Karnataka. He completed his primary and secondary education in Kundapura evincing a keen interest in learning and being a bright youngster was sent to Madras to pursue higher education.

Dr. Shetty graduated from Madras University in the year 1957 and soon after joined as Lecturer in the newly established Government Dental College (GDC) Bangalore as the first Dental professional to join the institute. His sincerity, passion, and diligence made him a popular teacher amongst his students and paved the way for the Government of Mysore to depute him for higher education. He secured his Master's degree in Operative Dentistry from the Bombay University.

Dr. Rajeeva Shetty returned triumphantly as the first-ever Conservative Dentist of the state and was promptly promoted as an Assistant Professor in the Department. He was responsible for establishing, nurturing, and developing the first-ever department of Operative Dentistry and Endodontics in Karnataka at GDC, Bangalore.

Dr. Shetty was promoted as Professor and HOD of the Department where he continued to drive, guide, and coax his junior colleagues to excel in offering to teach, training to the students, and treatment to the needy patients.

The year 1973 saw Dr. Shetty achieving recognition from the WHO, securing a fellowship for a certificate course in Endodontics and Pedodontics at the University of Pennsylvania. On his return, he was solely responsible for and instrumental in starting the postgraduate course in Operative Dentistry in the state of Karnataka. It's to him that we owe today for the growth and progress of Conservative Dentistry and Endodontics at GDC primarily and in the state of Karnataka. In the year 1979, he was promoted as the principal of GDC Bangalore. His administrative abilities are par excellence. During his tenure as a principal, he brought about several notable improvements in the infrastructure of the institution, acquired modern and sophisticated equipment and instruments, and started new postgraduate courses in various specialties. As the Principal, his strict disciplinarian attitude, supportive guidance, and mentoring are remembered even now. In recognition of his administrative abilities and management skills, the Government of Karnataka elevated him to the post of Director of Medical Education Government of Karnataka. He is the first person from the dental fraternity in the country to be elevated to such a coveted position. He occupied the position with dignity and demonstrated his acumen working untiringly for the betterment, progress, and development of medical and dental education in the state.

Dr. Rajeeva Shetty superannuated in the year 1991 from Government service and he continues to practice dentistry along with his children. During his spare time he enjoys the company of his grandchildren, play golf, or watching cricket.

During his 31 year-long government service, he also held many prestigious positions in various academic and professional bodies - a member of Dental Council of India, Syndicate member of various universities, President of Federation of operative dentistry of India, Fellow-International College of Dentist, Member of Karnataka dental council, etc. He has represented India as a Guest of honor at various international forums such as International Congress for Dentistry for Handicapped in Stockholm at Sweden, WHO regional meet of chief Dental officer at Chan Mai Thailand, International Dental Conference Bombay, and Asia Pacific Congress of dentistry held in New Delhi.

With gratitude and appreciation for his exemplary contribution to the dental fraternity and health services, several awards and accolades have been conferred on him. Prominent amongst them are:

Honored at the silver jubilee function of the international congress of dentists for outstanding achievements in the field of dentistry-1988

Honored by Asia Pacific Federation for sincere and dedicated services rendered to the field of operative dentistry- 1989

Honored by Federation of Operative Dentistry of India for his excellent service and enhancement of the profession-1992

Lifetime achievement award- for his dedicated and outstanding service to the cause of dentistry in Karnataka for more than 40 yrs by the Indian Dental Association -2002

Honored by the Pierre Fauchard Academy of Dentistry India – 2003

Felicitated by the Dental Council of India for his outstanding contribution-2009

Rajyostava Award by the Government of Karnataka in appreciation of his contribution to the field of Dentistry and Health Services in 2005

In recognition of yeoman services, the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences- Karnataka on 25th March 2015 honored him by conferring upon him Honoris Causa-Doctor of Science - March 2015.

In summary, Dr. Shetty is a determined, disciplined, and dedicated Dental Doyen who is an affable teacher, guide, and mentor, and has excelled in moulding the character and career of his students to carve a niche for themselves and true to his name “Rajeeva” he has seen many lotuses blossoming and I can proudly claim to be one among them. As a token of respect and gratitude to one of the pioneer greats who have shaped our Alma mater GDCRI –Bangalore, we pray for his happiness, peace, and good health.

**Dr Roopa R Nadig**

GDC Alumnus BDS 1978 MDS 1988





**Prof. Dr. B. Govardhan Hegde, BDS. MDS**

## **Prof. Dr. B Govardhan Hegde, BDS. MDS** *Father of Prosthodontics in Karnataka*

Dr. B. Govardhan Hegde, former Professor and Head, Department of Prosthodontics, Government Dental College, Bangalore hailed from the famous “Basrur family”. He was the son of Mummbettue Sanjeeva Kurla Hegde and Basrur Rukamani Hegde. He completed his school education in Mangaluru, and both Bachelor of Dental surgery and Master of Dental surgery degree from Bombay University studying at Nair Dental College, Bombay.

It was the year 1962, I was studying in 2nd BDS. One morning two young, handsome and smartly dressed gentlemen walked into our classroom. They were introduced to us as newly appointed lecturers. A short tough looking one was Dr.B.Govardhan Hegde and the tall, jovial-looking one was Dr.H.Ramananda Hegde. Dr.Govardhan Hegde after serving as a lecturer for 2 years proceeded to Bombay once again in 1964 to pursue his master's degree in prosthodontics. On completion of MDS, he rejoined for duty at our institution in 1966. He was the First prosthodontist of Karnataka.



Dr. Hegde was put in charge of the prosthodontics department. His first concern was to update the department requirements of space, equipment, and requirement of all types of dental materials, for student training and patients treatment. He was concerned with improving students' teaching and patients management. He made a sincere attempt, charted programme of completing preclinical and clinical teaching of 1000 hours in prosthodontics, spread through four years of the BDS course. He streamlined the teaching of clinical and non-clinical prosthodontics. There were no Dental technicians available. He persuaded to start the dental mechanic course. He introduced Tutorials, followed by demonstration for students by lecturers before each practical exercise in the pre-clinical practical classes and also during the students' clinical postings. He was rigid without any consideration with regards to required attendance and completion of the required prescribed quota in practical and clinical requirements. Students were streamlined with discipline.

It was a pleasure and enthusiastic to work under him. He inspired his faculty by frequently interacting and guiding us for the teaching of prosthodontics as well as for helping us in the treatment of patients. He made every faculty member in the department a leader after assessing each one their capabilities, knowledge, and skill. He gave full independence and responsibility to every faculty member in the department to complete their duties. He was a diligent examiner. His concern was the only appropriate answer, both in theory and viva voce. Students passed examinations only with their knowledge, skill, and merit. Maxillofacial prosthesis Clinical practice for rehabilitation of cleft patients and other maxilla facial defects were introduced and we the staff members were trained to treat various types of complex patients. His lectures were excellent. He made informative special lectures on Esthetics and occlusion. Full mouth oral rehabilitation was a popular lecture in the department. I had the opportunity to work under Dr.Hegde for 5 years and gained a lot of clinical experience. Prof.Hegde inspired me and prompted me to go for further studies in prosthodontics. As a result, I sought admissions in MDS in 1970. During my post-graduation, Dr.Hegde used to guide me and give me useful suggestions and also helped me in selecting the topic for my dissertation.

In the year 1972, Dr.Hegde went to the UK on a WHO exchange programme and obtained MSc in Dental Material Science and joined back to duty after one year. He continued his services as Professor and Head of the Department and enriched the students' knowledge with his experience abroad

Principal Dr. N Rajeev Shetty was appointed as Director of Medical education. Dr. Hegde took charge as Principal on 1st Feb 1988. My meeting with Dr. Hegde was confined only to official activities. We used to meet at Meetings of the Dental Council of India and also as co-examiners. During his tenure as a principal, he was able to start the post-graduate programme in prosthodontics.

Dr Govardhan Hegde had an excellent professional career, was highly respected in the profession and was revered by his students. He never showed extravagance in life despite his richness. On his retirement, he was concentrating on his private practice. It was sad to learn in 6 months after his retirement, our dear Professor and mentor Dr Govardhan Hegde passed away on 30thsep 1992 because of a scooter accident after serving for 30 years at our premier institution Government Dental college Bangalore Karnataka India. He is survived by his wife Nailady Vasanthi Shetty and three sons, Dr. Rajesh, Adharsha, and Mithun.

Prof (Dr) Govardhan Hegde's name shall be inscribed in the history of our premier institution Government Dental College, Bangalore as founding head of the department of prosthodontics who built and nurtured the department of Prosthodontics to name and fame.

**Dr N Sridhar Shetty**

GDC Alumnus BDS 1958



**Prof. Dr Mohandas Bhat,** BDS, MDS. MPH

## **Prof. Dr Mohandas Bhat, BDS, MDS, MPH** ***Father of Public Health Dentistry in India***

Dr. Mohandas Bhat initiated Public Health Dentistry in the late 1960s in India. Public Health Dentistry has witnessed a lot of developments since then. His life and journey have been exemplary on many counts and shall inspire many generations to come.

Dr. Bhat was born in Mangalore in 1935 to Smt Sumithra and Dr. Ramanath Bhat. His father was practicing dentistry in Coimbatore. He studied at Canara High School in 1950 and completed two-year Intermediate Science at the St. Aloysius College, Mangalore.

Dr. Bhat studied at the Nair Hospital Dental College, Bombay, and obtained LDSc in 1956. After approximately two years, he returned to Bombay and enrolled in a newly minted semester course at Nair Hospital Dental College, Bombay to obtain his BDS degree in 1959. Later, under the five- year plan, when the first batch of MDS in various specialties of dentistry was organized at the Bombay University, he obtained a sponsorship through the Mysore Government to study Orthodontics. The Mysore Government had established the Government Dental College in Bangalore in 1958, which needed MDS trained faculty.

After graduation, Dr. Bhat joined the faculty of GDC in 1962 as a founding faculty member and established the first Orthodontic Dept. and clinic in entire South India. Moving teeth within the jaws, those days, was considered almost miraculous. The orthodontic clinic functioned only in the afternoon, as the mornings were devoted to the exodontia clinic, where the pressure of patients seeking extractions was tremendous. This set Dr. Bhat thinking that unless something was done to prevent dental scourges like caries, periodontal diseases, and tooth attrition, abrasion, causing rampant loss of teeth in the population, the daily lines for getting teeth pulled will never come to an end, even after a thousand years. Unfortunately, preventive dentistry was an unheard-of concept, let alone dental public health, in India during that time.

A WHO-India 208 project was conceived by a Brazilian Dr. Mario Chaves, who was the Dental Director of WHO, in Geneva. He wanted to focus on one budding dental college as a model to deliver an up-to-date, modern dental curriculum in India, including the teaching of Preventive Dentistry and Dental Public Health. Dr. N.N. Berry the then president of the Dental Council of India/Dental Advisor to the Government of India chose GDC Bangalore as the site for this wonderful experiment in modernizing dental education in India. Dr. S. Ramachandra, the founding Principal implemented this program, which started in 1965. The semester system was introduced, the curriculum was revised and several foreign scholarships were granted to the faculty. Quite a few visiting professors from Europe, North and South America came to GDC to teach various specialties. Dr. Bhat, who had been sensitized to the pressing need for Public Health and Preventive Dentistry in India, volunteered to study dental public health in 1966. The WHO chose the University of Pittsburgh for this study.

Dr. Bhat studied for MPH, majoring in public health practice, in Pittsburgh during 1967-68. Soon after his return, he lost no time in setting up the Dept. of Preventive and Social Dentistry, at GDC, the first such department in India. He initiated the first outreach program for dental students in India by borrowing an American Peace Corps van to take students to the nearby villages, once a week, for providing dental treatment. Later on, a minibus was acquired for this purpose, through a Central Government grant. He recalls telling his students that we were like the first men on the moon, as the villagers had never seen a dentist before. The subjects like Anthropology, Biostatistics, and Sociology were introduced for the first time in the Dental curriculum. The GDC by then had started MDS programs in some specialties. This gave an impetus for Dr. Bhat to start MDS program in Preventive and Social Dentistry in 1970 for the first time not only in India but in the entire South-East-Asia with the intake of five students. In 1972, the first batch of MDS students graduated.

In 1972, he took a leave of absence from GDC and went to the U.S. However training of both undergraduate and postgraduate students in

Preventive and Social Dentistry continued with all activities. Dr. Bhat went to States and obtained a Doctorate in Public Health, majoring in Oral Epidemiology, a program just started at the University Of Michigan School of Public Health in 1975. Dr. Bhat undertook many projects across the globe and rendered yeoman service to the field of public health dentistry

In 1980, Dr. Bhat permanently migrated to the United States and joined the faculty of the Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) Dental School in Cleveland, Ohio. In 1985, he joined the National Institute of Dental Research (now National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR), in Bethesda, Maryland, where he worked from 1985 to 1995. By 1995, Mohandas had worked for nearly 40 years in the field of dentistry and was 60 years old when he started working in the field of radiation epidemiology at the Department of Energy. He retired as Senior Science Advisor from the DOE at the beginning of 2008.

In April 2010, he was recognized and honoured by the Indian Association of Public Health Dentistry for his pioneering contribution of ushering Public Health Dentistry in India at their annual conference in New Delhi. Later, the GDCRI also felicitated him in Bangalore, where it all began

Dr. Mohandas Bhat passed away on 27th of August 2018 survived by his wife Chitra and three children and four grandchildren, all of whom live in the U.S

Dr. Mohandas Bhat laid a strong foundation for this speciality to grow and prosper. As a result, GDCRI enjoys a proud position as a Birthplace of Public Health Dentistry in India and Dr. Mohandas Bhat as a father of Public Health Dentistry in India. Now about 85 Colleges are running the post graduate training programs in Public Health Dentistry, across the country.

**Dr M R Shankar Aradhya**, GDC Alumnus BDS 1961 MDS 1970

**Dr S S Hiremath**, GDC Alumnus BDS 1968 MDS 1977



**Dr. A Rajendra Prasad Chouta,** BDS. MDS

## **Prof. Dr. A Rajendra Prasad Chouta, BDS, MDS, *Father of Post Graduate Dental Education in South India***

Dr. Rajendra Prasad, whose full name is Attavar Rajendra Prasad Chouta was Professor and Head of the Department of Orthodontics at Government Dental College, Bangalore. He was an extremely simple and well-grounded person. Professionally he was always expecting the best from his students and was ready to help them whenever legitimately necessary. His demeanour was just perfect most of the time and for most of the occasions.

Prof. Prasad had the uncanny ability to identify and pick talented people around him either amongst students, office staff, or technicians. He had a unique way of communication. It was always brief and to the point. Another word for the brevity of expression was Prof. Dr. Prasad. Rarely was there a need to ask him to repeat his words.

He was the first Professor and Head of the Department of Post Graduate Studies at Government Dental College, Bangalore, and had the credit of being the first Professor and Head in entire South India. A lot depended on him as to the way he would organize and nurture the department. He did it with deft touches and unseen tact. He took care of the department needs from Books, Instruments, Equipment,



and identifying the people of value to assist postgraduate students in allied subjects such as Anatomy, Physiology, Genetics, and Statistics. The execution was perfect. Even during Post Graduate seminars, he would extract maximum out of his students rather than talking all the time. He would interject only when a blunder was being committed. The foundation he laid to establish the department and later nurture it was strong and full of substance. Such was his influence passed on to his students very quietly though, without fanfare and being exhibitionistic. These two traits were never there in his system.

He put in his best efforts to nurture the Post Graduate training to reach a quality level accepted by all standards. The PG Department of Orthodontics was known for quality in the field of Orthodontic training in South India has been the first college to start the programme. Five years after starting the department Prof. Prasad decided to quit the department and emigrate to Australia. Perhaps it could be his hunger to reach much greater heights than he had already achieved. It was a great and irreversible loss for the department and students that he relinquished the post.

The students of the first three batches whom he guided and trained have done very well in their lives. All of them always recollect their association with Prof. Prasad. Thus some of his values that he incorporated in his life got etched in our memory. He was my post-graduate guide during my MDS course during 1968-70. If I am an orthodontist today I owe it to Prof. Dr. Rajendra Prasad and my elder brother Venkatesh. I remember him as a teacher who took responsibility for student's growth, a Guru who made you responsible for your growth. At post-graduate level, he was a perfect Guru who questioned your answers. In conclusion, I would call him an Acharya who practiced what he preached.

**Dr D K Sudhindra**

GDC Alumnus :BDS-1962 MDS 1968



## REMINISCENCES

## **Dr. A. Kumar reminiscences Dr S. Ramachandra**

**“VARNA MATRAM KALISIDATAM GURU”**

As I pen these words, my memories go back half a century to those days when I was a student, in one of the best-run government dental colleges in the entire country. Because of space restraints, I confine myself to mention only what I observed and remember about the respectable and sincere teachers we were lucky enough to have during those early days of our training.

Amongst all the senior faculty members, one man stands out tallest for his simplicity, dedication to his chosen profession, straightforwardness, and an honestly holistic approach to the health of his patients, as well as his students and he, was the first principal of the institution Dr. S Ramachandra. Every morning he used to arrive at the college by about 7 AM. Then he used to do his daily rounds of the entire college building. He used to run his fingers along the window ledges and corners and if he finds even a little dust on his fingers, he would take the housekeeping staff to task. He used to visit the college at night to check the security.

During his time, any patient coming to the college would go back satisfied that his dental problems had been genuinely taken care of. Even those in the highest post in the government and well known public leaders and their families visited the college for dental treatment. He used to visit the Oral Diagnosis Department whenever he was free and examine a few patients. There is one incident that occurred in 1968 when I was a student which is etched in my mind permanently. While Dr. Ramachandra was in the department, an elderly and respectable looking Tamil gentleman, with huge three-pronged caste markings on his forehead, came for his treatment. Because of his advanced age, he was wearing thick glasses and was hard of hearing. He needed assistance to get into the examination chair. He complained that one of his upper teeth was very loose and slightly painful. Dr. Ramachandra, who examined him, looked at the loose tooth for a second and gently tapped it with the mouth mirror. The tooth was so loose that it just fell into the patient's mouth. The patient was so delighted that the painful tooth was out. Dr. Ramachandra pointed his hand at the waste bucket placed next to the examination chair and told the patient gently to spit the tooth into the bucket. But the patient failed to understand what Dr. Ramachandra is trying to convey. He just lifted his head and spat out the tooth which fell at a distance. Dr. Ramachandra seemed to lose his cool for a second and we were thinking that the patient would get a tongue lashing. But he recovered his composure in a minute and gently admonished the patient telling him that surrounding cleanliness is as important as his personal cleanliness. The patient received this advice in a happy mood.

It was a simple but valuable lesson taught to us on the way a doctor should interact with his patients under all circumstances. That incident has left its indelible impression on my mind and even today I can only picture Dr. Ramachandra, the then principal of The Government Dental College, Bangalore, in the 1960s and 1970s, with mouth mirror and probe in his hands and his reading glasses perched on the tip of his nose.

**Dr. A. Kumar**

GDC Alumnus BDS-1965 MDS 1987

## **Dr B K Chandramohan reminiscences Dr S Ramachandra**

Dr. S Ramachandra was the first dually qualified Dental Surgeon in the state at that time. He was very popular amongst colleagues, students, and patients. He was a good sportsman and used to encourage the young medicos to pursue sports apart from their studies. Though he was soft-spoken in general, he was very witty and humorous. Whenever a medical student went for some dental treatment with a lot of pain and anxiety, he would make them relax by diverting their attention with his soft talk and jokes, ask them to close their eyes, while he injected the LA and remove the tooth. After placing a cotton ball for the pressure pack, he would draw a mush on the upper lip for the boys or a heart on the cheek for girls with Mercurochrome dye or gum paint or tincture benzoin.

He was very handsome, and many lady doctors in Mysore used to compare him with Rock Hudson the popular Hollywood star those days. He was a staunch promoter of Family Planning. He never missed an opportunity to talk about family planning to the students.

If any student was getting married early before completing the studies, he/ she had it. Those students used to think twice and try to gather enough courage to meet him before they would present their wedding invitation card since they would be lectured for another 10 minutes on Family planning.

Dr. Ramachandra was very disciplined, punctual, and believed in the dignity of labour. We had seen him cleaning his car, his bicycle (which he is to bring occasionally), his office, and even the toilet by himself. He would never miss an opportunity to advise the students on personal hygiene and toilet manners in the common rooms.

All the old students of GDC who had the opportunity to know him would agree with me that when I say Dr. S Ramachandra was responsible for what we are today. Not only he gave a solid foundation to the college building, which he used to supervise during its construction but also he has given a firm foundation for our profession and our lives.

**Dr B K Chandramohan**

GDC Alumnus BDS 1960

## **Dr. R. K. Chetty reminiscences**

### **Dr S Ramachandra**

It is my honour to share memorable moments in my life. I met Dr Ramachandra in a small room at Bangalore Medical College which was his chamber. Told him I have got admission to Dental college and expressed that I need financial assistance to pursue studies otherwise not possible. He was gracious and kind-hearted. He called the manager and asked him to include my name in the Scholarship Committee Meeting. To my surprise following day Mr.Gokul came to my room and informed me I have been selected for free ship. I did not pay the fee for the entire course.

He was my mentor and encouraged me to go abroad. He supported and nurtured not only my career plans but also the lives of my children. He was easily approachable. I looked up to his simplicity and punctuality. I always look up to Dr.Ramachandra and Dr. B.K.Venkataraman as my mentors.

I am grateful to college and teachers for giving me the best education.

**Dr. R. K. Chetty**

GDC Alumnus BDS 1965 MDS 1971

## **Dr. V. Ramaprasad reminiscences**

### **Dr S Ramachandra**

Dr. Ramachandra was a close friend of our family. He used to come home often when he was working in Mysore at KR hospital. My father died in March 1962. Dr. Ramachandra came home in May 1962 along with Mr. Srikantiah of CFTRI, my father's friend, to see my mother. He asked me as to what I was doing. I told him that I was doing BSc. He asked me about my marks in PUC, (87%). He asked me to apply for BDS! I got BDS admission in December 1962! We were 7 and were called December batch students.

Later in 1965, Dr. Ramachandra, the Principal was to go on a foreign tour under the WHO program. Some of the students planned a dinner for our Principal. That was a time when Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri had given a call to the nation to skip a meal per day as India was facing an acute shortage of food. Dr. Ramachandra was reluctant to attend the dinner. Hence he called me and asked me as to whether this could be stopped. I said that I would try. I wrote an anonymous inland letter to the Principal stating that it would go against the will of our PM if the dinner is arranged. The money in turn can be given to the defense fund! He put the letter on the notice board in front of the ladies' common room. Dinner was cancelled. This was a shock to all our friends. Everyone was angry. They tried to track the handwriting!

Those were the days! Dr. Ramachandra was a Great man!

**Dr. V. Ramaprasad**  
GDC Alumnus 1963



**Dr. L. A. JAVEED reminiscences**  
**Dr. S Ramachandra**  
**And**  
**Dr. B K Venkataraman**

I Dr. L A Javed belong to the 1970 batch of BDS. My association with GDC Bangalore was till 1987 as UG, PG student, and Assistant Dental Surgeon. I had an opportunity to take part in a teaching program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery under Dr. R M Hebbali.

In 1971, I was selected to the Bangalore University football team and Karnataka A division football team. As I had to attend training camps I had a shortage of attendance. I approached Dr. BK Venkataraman, Vice Principal, and brought my problem to his notice. He was very kind and asked me to speak to Dr. S Ramachandra, the principal. I hesitantly approached him and he asked me to come to the office at 10:30 AM.

Next day he discussed the problem with Dr. BK Venkataraman and immediately instructed the office manager to inform all the concerned departments to be considerate to me as I was representing our college at University and state level. Because of his help and encouragement I played for Bangalore university for four years and two years for Karnataka A division and as sports secretary I had the opportunity to attend All India University Coaching Camp. I always remember Dr. S Ramachandra and Dr. B K Venkataraman for their help and pray Almighty to grant them Paradise(Amen). I also take this opportunity to thank Dr. N Sridhar Shetty, Chairman sports committee for his continuous encouragement.

**Dr. L. A. Javeed**  
Alumnus BDS 1970 MDS 1982

## **Dr. B. K. Chandramohan reminiscences Prof. C G Raju**

Offering my humble pranams to all the teachers, I will write a few lines about my Param Guru Prof. C G Raju MBBS BDS MDS Prof. C G Raju was a student at Mysore Medical College in the early 1950s. After his MBBS and worked in the Coorg district under Coorg Medical service. He obtained BDS in 1961 and MDS in Oral Surgery, which he accomplished under the guidance of Dr. MSN Ginwalla (father of Oral Surgery in India) at Nair Hospital Dental College, Bombay. Dr. MSN Ginwalla had a lot of respect and love for Dr. Raju. One of the reason was that MBBS degree, that Dr. Raju had which he did not have and was proud of the fact that he was teaching an MBBS graduate. During social gatherings and AOMSI meetings, Dr. MSN Ginwalla used to address him jokingly as “Sir from No.10 Downing street” because Dr. Raju’s address was # 10 Akkipet.

After MDS he returned to GDC and took charge of the Oral Surgery department. MDS in Oral surgery was started in the year 1967. Dr. Raju was responsible for the birth of our Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons of India in the year 1969 and the first conference of the association was held under his Chairmanship. Later in the year 1982 when Dr. Raju was the president of AOMSI, I had the privilege of organizing the annual conference in Mysore. After his retirement, he was principal of Davanagere Dental college for a short time and in the year 1986 became the first Principal of JSS Dental College, Mysore.

Prof. C G Raju was a gentleman to the core. He was a very simple and humble person but very disciplined. During his student career in Mysore, he took part in many student activities, also was a member of the student union. He was very kind-hearted, helpful to the students, and the patients. On many occasions’ Dr. Raju had offered financial help to needy patients. He always had a smile on the face and lovable

person amongst the colleagues. We were lucky to have had such a devoted teacher par excellence. He will continue to live in our hearts.

I consider Dr. C G Raju as my Guru, even though I was not his student for my MDS, nor did I work in GDC after my MDS. I came to know more about Dr. Raju from his old friends and classmates during my service in Mysore Medical college (from 1969-1977). I learnt from him to have patience, to be calm, to be disciplined, to be punctual, to be honest, during my long association with him in our AOMSI and in JSS Dental college, Mysuru, where he entrusted with me all the responsibilities of teaching.

With my humble Pranams and regards again to the Parama Guru.

**Dr. B. K. Chandramohan**

GDC Alumnus BDS 1960

## **Dr. Vandana K.L. reminiscences**

### **Dr.K.R.Devanath**

I was fortunate to do post-graduation under Dr.K.R.Devanath, who was also a friend, philosopher, and guide to me. In those times, there were not many PG qualified teachers in dental faculty, and those who were there were not easy to deal with.

The years 1986 to 1988, taught me what it is to be a human. Dr.Devanath was amongst a select few who was dual qualified with both medical and dental degrees and American Returned, which was a feather in the cap that would have created a sense of audaciousness. But Dr. Devanath proved all those assumptions baseless.

He was a gentle soul where his nicety at times was embarrassing level. He was meticulous and methodical in his teaching. He was an avid listener and allowed us to state our views and make our points. He had curious views on research and encouraged us to take up research.

I completely changed my perception of periodontics and be ever thankful to Dr.K.R.Devanath for being the guiding light.

**Dr.Vandana.K.L**

GDC Alumnus: BDS 1979

## **Dr. D A LATA reminiscences**

### **Dr N Rajeeva Shetty**

It is a pleasure to write about my beloved teacher Dr. N Rajeev Shetty. He was my teacher during BDS and my guide during MDS. After joining as a lecturer in 1968 I was posted to the Department of Operative Dentistry from 1970 onwards. I was fortunate to work under him for nearly 2 decades. Being a close associate I would like to share a few thoughts about this great personality.

He was a strict disciplinarian and expected punctuality and sincerity among the staff and students alike. Though he was strict, he is a kindhearted person helping the students during their time of need. He is an adept clinician and I learnt many finer aspects of treatment by observing his work. On his return after successfully completing the WHO fellowship program, he was instrumental in implementing the latest concepts of clinical Endodontics in the department.

Though there was a shortage of staff, the teaching and clinical program went on very smoothly under his supervision and guidance. Having assumed the post of Principal, he was instrumental in making many positive changes in the institution so as to benefit students and patients.

He was the first person from the dental stream to occupy the post of Director of Medical Education, Government Of Karnataka. I considered it as my good luck to have worked with him and Dr. Jagadish. I wish him good health and happiness always.

**Dr D A Lata**

Alumnus BDS MDS 1965

## **Dr K H Shaikh Hyder Ali reminiscences Dr. B Govardhan Hegde**

Staff, students, and alumni of Government Dental College Bangalore cherish the memory of Dr. S Ramachandra on the happy occasion of his birth centenary year celebration. He was a great man and due to his tireless efforts, Government Dental College Bangalore emerged as one of the premier dental institutions in South East Asia. Dr. Ramachandra was supported in his endeavor by a band of young, enthusiastic, and well-qualified teachers heading various departments. To this band of teachers belonged Dr. B Govardhan Hegde.

Dr. B Govardhan Hegde was Professor and HOD of Prosthodontics and I was one of the fortunate ones to be associated with him throughout my career except during my PG course. Dr. Hegde also had advanced training in the UK which broadened his prosthetic knowledge. He was one of the thinking Prosthodontists. He was a hardcore disciplinarian who used to appear very tough and strict, which I suppose is necessary to make students learn prosthodontics due to its laborious nature. In fact, the newly recruited teachers those days were first posted to prosthetics so that they may be disciplined.

Dr. Hegde considered dental labs are the backbone of dentistry, especially prosthodontics. The department had organized and well maintained dental labs both for clinics and for the training classes. We had a versatile dental mechanic-Mr. Ganesh was greatly helpful to the staff and students. Later Mr. Jagdish Hallikeri a humble person came in. He was a clean and neat working individual who proved to be an asset to the department in many ways.

Dr. Hegde always preached and practiced the most conservative methods in prosthodontics. He was a firm believer of prosthodontics fundamental principle of perpetual preservation of the natural tissues while prosthetically replacing missing parts which used to be evident

in his clinical work whether it is removable or fixed prosthodontics. He never abused tissues in any procedure. He was known to be a perfectionist-never to be satisfied with the slightest blemish which is again evident from a number of times he repeated try-in stages. He used to insist on the importance of psychological factors apart from other things. For eg: he worked very hard on aesthetics and biomechanical factors for better acceptance of prosthesis, not just only comfort.

As a man, Dr. Hegde appeared to be tough and strict but actually, he was kind and considerate at heart which was obvious during the university examination of students. Unfortunately, the PG course was not started in Prosthodontics until the tail end of his service. When started, he conducted the course and guided the students successfully. But he could not examine his students. Fate had other plans, the unfortunate accident snatched him away from us. We only pray that his soul rests in peace.

**Dr K H Shaikh Hyder Ali**

GDC Alumnus BDS 1958 MDS 1970

## **Dr Samraj T reminiscences Prof. A. Rajendra Prasad**

When I joined as a First-year BDS student in the Dental Wing of Madras Medical College in 1959 Dr. A. Rajendra Prasad was in the final year. He became very friendly and gave all I BDS books immediately and all other books after he passed out. Later, he joined Christian Medical College Vellore as House Surgeon. After a year, when Government Dental College Bangalore started MDS in Orthodontics as the first College in South India, I joined as an open student in the first batch.

Prof. A. Rajendra Prasad was the head of the Department of Orthodontics and my postgraduate teacher and guide at Government Dental College Bangalore. He had given me special responsibilities in the department i.e., in charge of final year BDS students for case allocation and presentation. This helped me to learn a lot as the students used to present cases to me. In addition, I was in charge of the Departmental Library.

Prof. A. Rajendra Prasad had a good memory and his knowledge in Orthodontics knew no bounds. He was thorough with orthodontic Journals and shall quote easily from them. It used to be a pleasure to attend PG Seminars on Monday to Friday between 8 to 9 am.

Prof. A. Rajendra Prasad was so soft-spoken that you have to listen carefully. He was very strict and disciplined but equally kind to students and easily approachable by students for even personal problems. Once he is out of the College, he was a jovial person and used to spend time with PG students also freely.

Prof. A. Rajendra Prasad was an asset to the Department of Orthodontics and Government Dental College Bangalore. He is responsible for building the PG Department of Orthodontics, which paved the way to start other PG courses in Government Dental College Bangalore easily.



The present Department owes a lot to him for what it is today, because of his foresight and planning. Prof. A. Rajendra Prasad was also one of the favorites of the Principal, Dr. S. Ramachandra.

On behalf of the First Batch of Five MDS Students of Government Dental College, we salute our teacher, Prof. A. Rajendra Prasad. All of us fondly remember and pay our respect to the most humble and respected Principal of Government Dental College Bangalore, Dr. S. Ramachandra.

**Dr Samraj T**

GDC Alumnus MDS 1965

## **Dr. Mary Sundarraaj's dedication to her teachers**

Dr Mary Sunder Raj, alumnus of GDC belongs to 1963 batch of BDS. She served as Dental Surgeon, Government of Karnataka from 1970-75. She was post doctoral fellow, Suny Buffalao and did DDS from NYU and Faculty in Oral Pathology at NYU Dental School,USA. She has dedicated all her awards and publications(Fifteen) in the International Journals to the following Professors :

- |                       |                |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1.Dr S Ramachandra    | Principal      |
| 2.Dr B K Venkataraman | Vice Principal |
| 3.Dr Y Mrutunjaya     |                |
| 4.Dr Rajendra Prasad  |                |
| 5.Dr N Rajeeva Shetty |                |
| 6.Dr R M Hebballi     |                |
| 7.Dr Narayana Rao     |                |

**Dr Mary Sunder Raj**  
GDC Alumnus BDS 1963

## **Dr. K M Srinivasa Gowda reminiscences Dr. S. Ramachandra**

I joined Bangalore Medical College in 1962. Those days the pre-professional classes were being held in Central College and my section, section two, we had both medical and dental students. Those days there was no differentiation between medical and dental students because after the pre-professional course the Anatomy and Physiology courses of first MBBS and first BDS were held together at Bangalore Medical College and literally there was no differentiation amongst us.

But gradually as we completed our pre-clinical courses, we became more aware of the Government Dental College which is located in the Victoria Hospital Campus. And over time we heard about how the Dental College was a cleaner and more well organised centre for dental treatment as well as teaching compared to our own Victoria Hospital. This aroused our curiosity to visit the Dental College and then we became aware of its cleanliness, orderly arrangement of services to patients, and top-class management.

This is when we came to know about Dr. S. Ramachandra who was the principal of this college. He was unmatched in the grip he had over the administration despite his gentle nature, unflashy handsome, simple appearance, and manners that could shame any gentleman.

I have personally seen during the rounds he made of the college to pick up and put them into the waste paper basket, the cotton swabs, waste paper, and other things which the patients would have thrown with absolutely no concern for the cleanliness of the hospital corridors which in more ways than one reflects about the hospital itself.

He was an administrator par excellence and always concentrated and worked in raising the Dental College to a higher degree of excellence. And undoubtedly, he was responsible for grooming successors like

Dr. B K Venkatraman, Dr. Rajeev Shetty, and others.

One important thing I cannot forget after all these years I spent in Victoria Hospital Campus and the Department of pathology was the wonderful Dental College Canteen which we practically visited every day around 11 AM after the completion of our clinical postings.

To conclude, I can easily vouch for the fact that Dr. S. Ramachandra was one of the handfuls of teachers who moulded me in my future career. I can never forget him.

**Dr. K M Srinivasa Gowda**

BMC Alumnus

## **Dr S Ramachandra Endowment Lecture**

Prestigious institutions and universities institute endowment lecture in the name of an individual who has contributed to the development of society. Usually, well-wishers, students, and family members contribute towards endowment fund. We the Alumni of GDC are happy to institute an endowment lecture in the name of Dr. S Ramchandra founder principal of GDC Bangalore and father of dentistry in Karnataka at Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka.

We the members of Dr. S Ramachandra Centenary Celebrations committee appreciate the generous contribution and thank the contributors wholeheartedly.

**Dr S Ramachandra**  
Centenary Celebrations Committee

## List of Donors to Institute Dr S Ramachandra Endowment Lecture

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We wholeheartedly thank all the contributors for sharing their views and nostalgia of founding teachers.

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University of Health Sciences.

**Cover Page Design:**

**Dr Megha Rao**

GDC Alumnus 2013

## CDE PROGRAMS

As a part of Dr. S. Ramachandra Birth Centenary Celebrations, the first CDE program was held on 7th March 2020. Dr Santhosh K. Chaturvedi, Professor of Psychiatry National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences, Bangalore delivered a guest lecture.

Topic: Mentor, Good Mentor and Unmentor.

It was decided to conduct webinars in the light of Covid-19. Dr S Ramachandra Birth Centenary Celebrations Webinar Series were held on 5th, 6th and 12th December 2020. We profusely thank Dr Reena Kumar for facilitating Webinars on Igesia.co

Date	Topic	Speakers
05-12-2020 11am-12:30 pm  Moderator: Dr C D Dwaraknath	<b>Role of Dentist as a member of health care professional team –Part 1</b>	
	Oral health –systemic health connections	Dr Vishal Dang
	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery: An interdisciplinary approach	Dr Girish Rao
	Periodontal Medicine	Dr A R Pradeep
	Pathological value of combined diagnosis	Dr Sahana N S
	Forensic human identification	Dr Shivakumar B
06-12-2020 11am-12:30 pm Moderator:  Dr. Smitha K	<b>Role of Dentist as a member of health care professional team –Part 2</b>	
	Oral Health Policy-A way forward	Dr S S Hiremath
	Sleep Medicine-Role of Orthodontist	Dr Reena Kumar
	Minimal Intervention and tissue preservation	Dr Kiran Kumar N
	Current possibilities in Rehabilitation	Dr Anand Krishna
12-12-2020 11am-12:30 pm  Moderator: Dr DK Srinivas	<b>Ethics in Dentistry</b>	
	Bioethical Issues in Healthcare	Dr Olinda Timms
	Dental Ethics: Role of Universities in its implementation	Dr D K Srinivas
	Dental Ethics: Role of Dental Council of India and Professional Dental Associations in its implementation	Dr Janak Raj Sabharwal
	Dental Ethics: Role of State Dental Councils in its implementation	Dr Rajkumar Alle





**N**avrathan is a collection of articles on the life and times of founding faculty of Government Dental College and Research Institute, Bangalore. The nine members of the faculty are the pioneers of dental and oral health education in Karnataka. They are Dr. S. Ramachandra, Dr. B.K. Venkataraman, Dr. C. G. Raju, Dr. K. R. Devanath, Dr. H. R. Narayana, Dr. N. Rajeeva Shetty, Dr. B. Govardhan Hegde, Dr. A. Rajendra Prasad, and Dr. Mohandas Bhat who are rightly addressed as Navrathan in this book. Navrathan means nine gems and it has a special significance in Indian culture. A jewel with nine precious gems is considered auspicious and harbinger of peace, prosperity, health and happiness. The dedicated team of the founding faculty ushered in a golden period of standard dental education and oral health in the state of Karnataka. Hence they are referred as Navarathan.

Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka which is celebrating its silver jubilee has published this book as a part of scientific committee activity to respect and honour the pioneers of dental education in Karnataka. It is presumed that the life and achievement of these great personalities may inspire the teachers and students of future generations.

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