

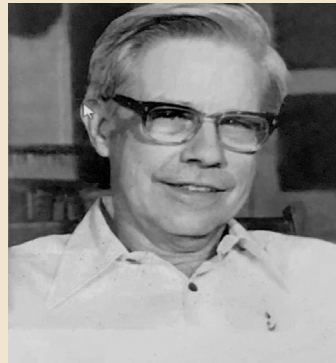
UBF Diary

November 2018

Delivering a Prestigious Oration in Punjab



As the chief guest of the event, Dr P Raghu Ram inaugurated the 4th Annual Conference of the Punjab chapter of the Association of Surgeons of India (ASI) at the Sri Guru Ramdas Institute of Medical Sciences, in Amritsar on November 24, 2018. He also delivered the prestigious Professor Eggleston Memorial Oration instituted in the memory of the distinguished, legendary American surgeon, who spent three decades in India. Dr Eggleston transformed the delivery of surgical care in Ludhiana, leaving behind a lucrative career back home in the USA, to selflessly work for the poor in India. Dr Raghu Ram later planted a sapling in the university campus as well.



Dr Raghu Ram Creates 'Billionaire Moments' at INK 2018 in Hyderabad

This year's version of INK Talks focussed on creating 'billionaires of moments'. In an attempt to redefine success, the theme was around the many great, inspiring moments a person has created for themselves and others. Dr Raghu Ram was invited to speak in the regional language session introduced for the first time at INK. And, the doctor rose to the occasion speaking in his mother tongue—Telugu—about leaving behind a lucrative career in England to start a breast cancer foundation in his mother's name in India, and the landmark initiatives he has introduced to transform the delivery of breast healthcare in India.



INK 2018 BILLIONAIRES OF MOMENTS

“ Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away. ”

This much-quoted mantra for life is the inspiration for the theme of INK Conference 2018: BILLIONAIRES OF MOMENTS. Urging each one of us to be a billionaire of moments – to be hungry for moments that matter, to create them, and amass them. To pause, reflect and redefine success on a new barometer hereon.

Join us in Hyderabad as we create moments that matter

– Lakshmi Pratury, Curator

In his speech, Dr Raghu Ram observed, “Sadly, in this day and age, children in schools have the option of choosing Hindi or any regional language as their ‘third language’ option, and are moving away from speaking and writing in their mother tongue. We must take great pride in celebrating our regional languages—we must actively encourage our children to speak in their mother tongue - otherwise we will lose our identity and relevance in the world.”

In Honour of Dr Chalapathi Rao

Dr P Raghu Ram presented the Prof PV Chalapathi Rao Gold Medal, instituted in his father's name for 2018 to Syeda Asifa, who was adjudged as the best outgoing post-graduate student in general surgery from Osmania Medical College. This medal was given at a function organised by the Osmania Medical College Alumni Association on December 9.

Dr Raghu Ram set up a corpus fund in honour of his father, Dr Chalapathi Rao. The interest generated is being used annually to award the best outgoing under-graduate student in surgery (MBBS final year) at Gandhi Medical College and the best outgoing post-graduate student (MS) in general surgery at Osmania Medical College. These two colleges were chosen as Dr Chalapathi Rao served in both these premier institutions, as professor of surgery for 16 years from 1967 –1983.



Dr Raghu Ram Delivers the Col Pandalai Oration

The highest academic honour for an Indian surgeon

Dr P Raghu Ram, President elect of the Association of Surgeons of India (ASI) and director, KIMS-USHALAKSHMI Centre for Breast Diseases in Hyderabad, delivered the Col Pandalai Oration at the 78th Annual Congress of The Association of Surgeons of India (ASICON 2018) in Chennai on December 27. This is the highest academic honour that can be achieved by a surgeon practising in India. Dr Raghu Ram is the first surgeon from Telangana and Andhra Pradesh in the 80-year-old history of the organisation, to have delivered the association's most prestigious oration.

Attended by close to 10,000 surgeons from all over India and abroad, ASICON 2018 was held at the Chennai Trade Centre in Chennai from December 26–30, 2018. The Association of Surgeons of India (ASI) is Asia Pacific's largest and the world's second largest surgical association that represents the surgical fraternity across the length and breadth of India.

Dr Raghu Ram was felicitated by Shri Bhanwarilal Purohit, governor of Tamil Nadu and by Shree Edappadi Palaniswami, chief minister of Tamil Nadu for having delivered the Col Pandalai Oration during the inaugural ceremony at ASICON 2018 in Chennai.

A surgeon of eminence is hand-picked every year to deliver this prestigious oration based upon a lifetime of transformational initiatives implemented by the surgeon which have made a substantial impact to healthcare delivery.

Speaking on this occasion, Dr Raghu Ram said, "Delivering ASI's most prestigious oration has well and truly been a high point in my life. I thank lord almighty for giving me this distinct honour and unforgettable privilege."



The Oration Theme

Titled 'Transforming Breast Healthcare through Disruptive Innovation', Dr Raghu Ram's oration focussed upon highlighting four landmark initiatives that revolutionised breast healthcare in India:

- Conceiving, designing and establishing KIMS-Ushalakshmi Centre for Breast Diseases at KIMS hospitals, which is south Asia's first comprehensive breast healthcare centre in Hyderabad
- Founding Ushalakshmi Breast Cancer Foundation, a not-for-profit breast cancer charity that has transformed breast cancer from a 'taboo' issue to a commonly discussed issue over the past eleven years through a number of unique initiatives, thus creating awareness about the importance of early detection of breast cancer
- Implementing south Asia's largest population based breast cancer screening programme that has touched over 200,000 under-privileged women spread across 4,000 villages in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh
- Establishing the Association of Breast Surgeons of India, which is south Asia's first dedicated breast surgical society that represents general surgeons, surgical oncologists and plastic surgeons involved in the management of breast diseases, thus paving the path for standardising breast healthcare in India