



President
Prof J.G. Kannappan

Dr. J.G. Kannappan was born on 26 December, 1934, in Coimbatore, to Capt. Dr. J.S. Gangadharan & Smt. Shenbagavalli. The fourth son amongst eight brothers, he received his basic education from St Joseph's College, Trichy, before pursuing dentistry at the prestigious Madras Dental College. Having secured his Masters in Dental Surgery in Orthodontia & Paedodontia from G.S. Nair Dental College, Mumbai. He returned to his native Tamil Nadu and rose up the ranks in the state's Medical/Dental Service and served as the Dean, Madras Dental College, and was eventually appointed Professor Emeritus by the Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, Chennai.

He taught countless dental and medical students for the over 50 years and furthered the cause of dentistry, orthodontics, forensic odontology and dental research. He routinely delivered invitation lectures in many countries and authored and edited 32 books in medical and dental subjects and made major contributions to Tamil literature (he guided MPhil students, too!).

During the service of the Tamil Nadu Government, he rendered dental relief in villages across the state thro' a mobile dental van service, which was donated to the Tamil Nadu Government by then Vice President of India, Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. For this service, Dr. Kannappan is considered as a pioneer in ambulatory dentistry.

Dr. Kannappan performed the postmortem examination of the head at the site of assassination of former Prime Minister of India, Rajiv Gandhi, in May 1991. Also, Dr. Kannappan formulated classification of dental appliances for cleft palate patients. He performed many more studies, including research in leprosy where he declared that leprosy is preventable and curable. Another noteworthy research of his is about oral nutritional deficiency ulcers where the symptoms are due to GIT worms, he claimed.

As part of the Government of India's Five-year plans, Dr. Kannappan was supported in a one-year training programme – the Liverhume Fellowship – in the United Kingdom. As a token of his gratitude to the Government of India, Dr. Kannappan established many endowments in the universities, schools and colleges for the benefit of the youth.

He was conferred with several noteworthy awards, namely:

1. Dr. B.C. Roy National Award in 1982
2. Hari Om Ashram Alembic Research Award in 1992
3. Prof. H.D. Gupta award from King George Medical College in 1989
4. First Medical TANSa Award from Tamil Nadu State council for Science and Technology in 1994-1995
5. Two Rotary club awards (a.) for the sake of Honour 1993-1994 and (b.) Outstanding Teachers award in 2004
6. Periyar Award in 1998
7. Centenarian Seva Rathna Award in 1998
8. ISDR Founder's Award in 2003
9. Prof. Kanakaraj ISDR senior researcher ward in 2006
10. Diamond Jubilee DCI Award in 2010
11. Life Time Achiever Award during post centenary platinum jubilee year celebration of Madras Medical College in 2010
12. DSc (Hon Casua) degree of the Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, by His Excellency Shree Surjit Singh Barnala, Governor of Tamil Nadu

Dr. Kannappan headed various organisations, including the Indian Orthodontic Society, and Indian Society of Dental Research, and served as Vice President of Forensic Science Society of India. He is survived by his wife, and three children.