



By Dr. Naomi P. Harris, M.B.B.S., Founder



AIM

TO INTRODUCE 'THE RAJAKUMAR MOVEMENT' – THE WONCA ASIA-PACIFIC REGION WORKING PARTY FOR YOUNG AND FUTURE FAMILY DOCTORS TO ITS SISTER ORGANISATION, THE VASCO DA GAMA MOVEMENT, TO WONCA EUROPE AND TO THE WORLD OF FAMILY MEDICINE.

PURPOSE

THE RAJAKUMAR MOVEMENT HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY ENDORSED BY THE WONCA ASIA-PACIFIC COUNCIL AND ALSO OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED AT THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE IN HONG KONG ON JUNE 5TH 2009. THE MOVEMENT IS MODELLED ON THE VASCO DA GAMA MOVEMENT WHICH HAS BEEN A SUCCESSFUL WORKING PARTY FOR NEW AND YOUNG GENERAL PRACTITIONERS WITH WONCA EUROPE FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS.

DESIGN

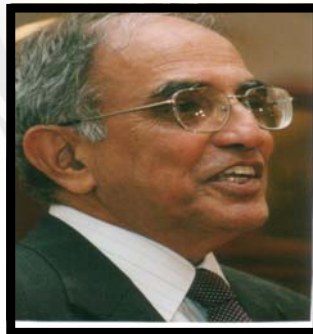
IN AUGUST 2008, PROF MICHAEL KIDD PLANTED THE SEED IN MY MIND OF ESTABLISHING A SISTER ORGANISATION TO THE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL WONCA EUROPE VASCO DA GAMA MOVEMENT. WHEN RECENTLY ASKED WHY HE CHOSE MYSELF TO APPROACH REGARDING THIS HE ANSWERED – 'BECAUSE YOU CAN'. AFTER EXTENSIVE RESEARCH, THE RAJAKUMAR MOVEMENT IDEA WAS CONCEIVED. IN SEPTEMBER 2008 DR RAJAKUMAR PROVIDED PERMISSION FOR HIS NAME TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH THIS NEW DEVELOPMENT IN OUR REGION OF THE WORLD. HE EXPRESSED HIS CHARACTERISTIC HUMILITY AND ALSO HIS DELIGHT AT LENDING HIS NAME TO OUR NEW MOVEMENT. THE RAJAKUMAR MOVEMENT IS DESIGNED AND AIMS TO:

- FOSTER MENTORING BETWEEN CURRENT AND FUTURE LEADERS IN FAMILY MEDICINE IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION
- PROMOTE CONTINUITY OF REPRESENTATION BY YOUNG FAMILY MEDICINE LEADERS IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION
- ALLOW YOUNG AND FUTURE FAMILY DOCTORS AN AVENUE TO EXPLORE THE GREATER DEPTH OF OUR CLINICAL DISCIPLINE
- EXPOSE YOUNG DOCTORS TO THE CULTURAL DIFFERENCES IN FAMILY MEDICINE AND IN TRAINING TOWARDS BECOMING A QUALIFIED FAMILY DOCTOR BY ALLOWING LEARNING FROM THE DIVERSE, OLD AND YOUNG COUNTRIES IN OUR REGION WHERE THERE ARE MANY MODELS OF FAMILY MEDICINE
- PROVIDE AN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE ON TRAINING IN FAMILY MEDICINE AND ENABLE US TO WORK TOGETHER WITHIN OUR REGION TO STRENGTHEN THE ROLE OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE IN EACH OF OUR COMMUNITIES
- CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW STRUCTURES TO SUPPORT HIGH QUALITY PRIMARY HEALTH CARE WITH IDEAS FROM THE FUTURE FAMILY MEDICINE WORKFORCE.
- PROMOTE FAMILY MEDICINE AS A SPECIALITY, AND ALSO TRAINING IN FAMILY MEDICINE IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION



WHO IS DR. M.K. RAJAKUMAR?

THE LATE DR RAJAKUMAR WAS A HIGHLY REGARDED, WELL RESPECTED WONCA ELDER. RAJ WAS A WONCA WORLD PRESIDENT AND A RESPECTED LEADER OF FAMILY MEDICINE IN MALAYSIA AND THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION. ACCORDING TO DATUK DR DANIEL THURAIAPPAN, A LIFELONG FRIEND AND COLLEAGUE OF RAJAKUMAR 'THE MAN WHO HAS DEVOTED HIS ENTIRE LIFE TO THE DEVELOPMENT AND BETTERMENT OF THE GENERAL PRACTITIONER BY PROMOTING THE DISCIPLINE OF FAMILY MEDICINE THROUGH EDUCATION ... HE CONTINUES TO INSPIRE US THE WORDS OF RALPH WALDO EMERSON ARE APT TO DESCRIBE HIM AS FOLLOWS: TO LEAVE THE WORLD A BIT BETTER, WHETHER BY A HEALTHY CHILD, A GARDEN PATCH OR A REDEEMED SOCIAL CONDITION, TO KNOW EVEN ONE LIFE HAS BREATHED EASIER BECAUSE YOU HAVE LIVED. THAT IS TO HAVE SUCCEEDED... IT IS HOPED THAT EVERYONE WILL BENEFIT FROM HIS FAITH, HIS HOPE AND HIS CHARITY FOR THE WORLD'. DR RAJAKUMAR IS AN EXEMPLARY ROLE MODEL FOR ALL IN OUR REGION – ESPECIALLY THOSE OF US JUST COMMENCING OUR JOURNEY THROUGH THE JUNGLE OF FAMILY MEDICINE.



A MESSAGE FROM DR. M.K. RAJAKUMAR

DEAR DR NAOMI HARRIS, I AM BOTH HONOURED AND EMBARRASSED BY YOUR INITIATIVE IN MY NAME. I AGREE TO THE USE OF MY NAME, BUT AS YOU KNOW, WE ALL WORKED TOGETHER AND CONTRIBUTED TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF HEALTH CARE IN THE COMMUNITY THROUGH GENERAL PRACTICE. YOUR OWN EMERGENCE FROM STUDENT TO BECOME A LEADER OF THE PROFESSION IS TESTIMONY TO OUR EFFORTS. OUR REGION IS FERTILE FIELD FOR YOUR EFFORTS. I SHALL BE FOLLOWING CLOSELY YOUR ENDEAVOURS FOR THE HEALTH OF OUR PEOPLE. BEST WISHES, SINCERELY, RAJAKUMAR

METHODS

ON OCTOBER 4TH 2008, AT WONCA ASIA-PACIFIC 2008 IN MELBOURNE (AUSTRALIA), A MEETING WAS HELD TO BEGIN FORMING THE RAJAKUMAR MOVEMENT – A WORKING PARTY FOR YOUNG AND FUTURE GENERAL PRACTITIONERS. THE BACKGROUND WORK IS BEING COMPLETED BY DR NAOMI HARRIS. DR. HARRIS IS A GENERAL PRACTICE REGISTRAR (TRAINEE) IN VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA AND IS INVOLVED ON LOCAL, STATE, NATIONAL AND NOW INTERNATIONAL LEVELS OF GENERAL PRACTICE REPRESENTATION. THE FOLLOWING ITEMS HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED OVER THE FIRST TWELVE MONTHS OF THE RAJAKUMAR MOVEMENT. A GRAPHIC ARTIST HAS DESIGNED THE LOGO FOR THE RAJAKUMAR MOVEMENT. THIS WAS VERY GENEROUSLY FUNDED BY GENERAL PRACTICE REGISTRARS AUSTRALIA LTD. THE DESIGNER FELT THAT SHE HAS OFFERED A YOUNG, BRIGHT LOGO WHICH REFLECTS THE MEMBERSHIP AND REGION APPLICABLE TO THE RAJAKUMAR MOVEMENT. AN ARTICLE AND LOGO WERE INCLUDED IN THE WORLD WONCA NEWSLETTER. ALL MEMBER ORGANISATIONS AND ALSO THE ATTENDEES AT THE MELBOURNE AND HONG KONG MEETINGS HAVE BEEN RECEIVING REGULAR EMAILS WITH ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS. DR. HARRIS TRAVELLED TO KUALA LUMPUR TO MEET THE RAJAKUMAR FAMILY AND SPEAK TO THE ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS OF MALAYSIA. I WAS PERSONALLY INVITED TO ATTEND THE WORLD WONCA WOMEN IN FAMILY MEDICINE MEETING IN NORWICH, UK. THIS INVITATION WAS EXTENDED DUE TO MY WORK WITH WONCA TO ESTABLISH THE RAJAKUMAR MOVEMENT. MY GP REGIONAL TRAINING PROVIDER AND THE AUSTRALIAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGEING VERY GENEROUSLY ATTENDED TO SPONSOR ME. UNFORTUNATELY FOR PERSONAL REASONS I WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND. AT THE WONCA ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL CONFERENCE IN HONG KONG THE RAJAKUMAR MOVEMENT WAS LAUNCHED ON JUNE 5TH 2009 BY ARJUNA AND KIREN RAJAKUMAR. THERE WAS ALSO A WORKSHOP TO COMMENCE TRULY REGIONAL INVOLVEMENT. DR. HARRIS IS ATTENDING THE VASCO DA GAMA MOVEMENT PRE CONFERENCE WORKSHOP IN BASEL ON SEPTEMBER 15TH 2009 AND ALSO THE WONCA EUROPE CONFERENCE IN THE SAME LOCATION WHERE SHE WILL PRESENT A POSTER TITLED – INTRODUCING THE RAJAKUMAR MOVEMENT. APPROACHED TO WRITE A CONTRIBUTION TO A BIOGRAPHY ON DR RAJAKUMAR AND WHY HE HAS BEEN CHOSEN TO BE HONOUR IN THE ESTABLISHMENT ON THE RAJAKUMAR MOVEMENT. ALL ASIA-PACIFIC MEMBER ORGANISATIONS ARE INVOLVED, AND PLANNING IS UNDER WAY FOR INCORPORATION OF THE RAJAKUMAR MOVEMENT INTO WORLD WONCA CONFERENCE

CONCLUSION

THE WONCA ASIA-PACIFIC REGION MEMBER ORGANISATIONS ARE VERY EXCITED ABOUT FOSTERING THE RAJAKUMAR MOVEMENT.

WHERE TO NOW FOR THE RAJAKUMAR MOVEMENT?

- GUIDANCE FROM THE VDGM AND ESTABLISH STRONG TIES WITH NAMED ORGANISATION
- DEVELOP CONSTITUTION FOR THE RAJAKUMAR MOVEMENT
- ENSURE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION WIDE INVOLVEMENT
- PLAN FOR PRECONFERENCE MASTER CLASSES SIMILAR TO THOSE OFFERED BY VASCO DA GAMA
- ESTABLISH A MENTORING PROGRAM
- SKYPE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN CORE GROUP REPRESENTATIVES FROM EACH MEMBER ORGANISATION
- ESTABLISH WORKING GROUPS AND AN EXECUTIVE
- BUSINESS CARDS AND PRINTED STATIONARY

WHAT DOES THE RAJAKUMAR MOVEMENT NEED?

- SECRETARIAT SUPPORT FROM WONCA WORLD OR WONCA ASIA-PACIFIC REGION
- WEB PAGE WITH DISCUSSION BOARDS, E-NEWSLETTER, FACEBOOK GROUP
- YOUNG FAMILY DOCTORS STREAMS IN ALL WONCA ASIA-PACIFIC AND WORLD WONCA CONFERENCES
- JOINT EVENTS WITH THE VDGM AT WORLD WONCA (STARTING IN CANCUN, 2010)
- WORK TOWARDS HAVING RAJAKUMAR MOVEMENT REPRESENTATIVES ON RELEVANT WONCA ASIA PACIFIC WORKING PARTIES
- A PRESENTATION AT WONCA ASIA PACIFIC CONFERENCES FROM A NOMINATED YOUNG FAMILY PHYSICIAN WHO HAS BEEN CHOSEN IN HONOUR OF CONTINUING THE DEVELOPMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE IN THE SAME ETHOS AS THAT OF OUR NAMESAKE



THE HOPE AND EXPECTATION IS THAT SIMILAR COLLEGIALLY, LEADERSHIP AND KNOWLEDGE MAY BE FOSTERED IN OUR REGION WITH THE FORMATION AND GROWTH OF THE RAJAKUMAR MOVEMENT.

