

CMAAO New Delhi General Assembly

It was our pleasure to re-visit New Delhi for the CMAAO General Assembly held from 12 to 14 September, 2013 at the Shangri-La Hotel which was hosted by the Indian Medical Association. On this occasion, Dr. Ming-Bing Lee of the Taiwan Medical Association became the Immediate Past President and Dr. Vinay Aggarwal of the Indian Medical Association was inaugurated as President of CMAAO for 2013–2014, the confederation's 31st president. I felt greatly honored to be re-appointed as Secretary General.

The 11th Taro Takemi Memorial Oration was also held, followed by a symposium on the same theme: child abuse. The Memorial Orator was Dr. Rajeev Seth, who gave a general perspective of not only child abuse but also the situations of many of vulnerable children born in our regions. The fortunes of these children are the fate of the future of our societies, and moreover, the future of mankind in coming generations.

The symposium on child abuse was fruitful in obtaining a general perspective on the current situation of each NMA. Following the symposium, a round-table discussion by specialists was conducted to fine-tune the draft of the CMAAO resolution on child abuse.

Accordingly, the CMAAO Delhi Resolution on Prevention of Child Abuse was finalized.

I visited the National Museum where I could see historical monuments and masterpieces of fine art from each era throughout India's long history. Among them, I was especially impressed to see a large round boulder engraved with an edict issued by Ashoka the Great around 3C BC, one of many located throughout the Kingdom propagating social and moral precepts. I felt this was an amazing pioneering concept that could be adapted in our modern era.

It was also a pleasure for me to see the stone statues from the Gandhara era in which I could observe the harmonized coexistence of bilateral cultural influences between the East and West. Even the statue of Buddha maintains a western



Office Bearers and Councilors of CMAAO and the Leaders of NMAs (Left to right: Dr. Rai, Dr. Shin, Author, Dr. Aggarwal, Dr. Kumar, Dr. Lee and Dr. Haikerwal)

appearance with the elegant folds of his clothes, and this coexistence could even be observed in the decorations of some autumnal festivals, with Bacchus enjoying wine in some instances. Thus, we are able to know that the people of the region have enriched their cultural spheres since ancient times by exchanging their peculiar cultural characteristics.

CMAAO General Assembly participants encountered the vital current culture of India. We were also able to spend time with Dr. Ketan Desai, the Past-President of the Indian Medical Association, whose position as President of the WMA had been suspended until a matter with which he had been charged was resolved in the domestic court, and recently these charges were thankfully withdrawn.

I am sure that we are all facing the same trend of the aging of society and difficult demands for health care in spite of the limited budget in our region. Thus, we need to ensure maintainance of sufficient mutual communication in our era.

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