

1998 PAUL HARRISON AWARD

DR. SOSAMMA PHILIP

Dr. Sosamma Philip was a young widow teaching in a school when she felt the call to pursue medical studies. Despite a great personal tragedy at a young age in the loss of her husband she had the courage to do medical course when women's education was not easy. She joined Christian Medical College in 1945 and completed house surgeoncy in 1952.

Her first assignment was to work in a small rural Mar Thomas Mission Hospital in Kerala started by her late husband. After that she served in various mission hospitals of the Mar Thoma Church in Kerala till 1959. She had an opportunity to do residency training in Chicago for 4 years. On her return she resumed her services with the Mar Thoma Medical Mission. Wherever she served she has revived failing hospitals rendering sincere and selfless service to the needy people.

In 1967 she was asked to go to Ashram Hospital in Sihora, a very remote village in the Madhya Pradesh. She continued to give the best of care in this hospital for 18 years when again her services was requisitioned to revive a sick hospital in Kerala.

She returned to Sihora in 1988 and continues to serve in the Ashram. The octageneration has served selflessly and untiringly, continuing to render excellent care in her quiet and confident way. She is remembered as a steadfast, patient, competent and kind doctor who always put the welfare of the patient before all other considerations. Her friendly and humble services have been an inspiration to generations of doctors, nurses and paramedical workers motivating and training them for service in rural and needy areas of the country.

In recognition of her faith, fortitude and singleness of purpose in dedicating her life in selfless Christian Service for the needy and for inspiring generations of the Youth to pass on the torch of the Alma Mater “Not to be ministered unto but to minister”, the Paul Harrison Award 1998 is conferred on Dr. Sosamma Philip.

Vellore

Director

Principal

5 October 1998.