

The College Motto award 2011

DR. JYOTHULA JOSEPH SAMUEL

The College Motto Award, instituted by the class of 1949, recognises and acclaims each year a graduate of CMC whose life and work, within 25 years after graduation, has best exemplified CMC's motto, "not to be served but to serve". In this sixth year after its institution, this award is presented to Dr. Joseph Samuel of the class of 1986. The Greek root of the Biblical term 'minister or serve' – '*diakonia*' – encompasses an array of actions which include vital ingredients of a healing physician: service with humility, the expression of care and compassion and a regard and concern for fellow beings. Thus the College motto is a challenge to lives embodying faith, love and action. Such has been the life of Joseph Samuel.

Among his contemporaries in CMC, Joseph was affectionately called "Brother". His voice and personality personified this through innate attributes of *joy*, *love* and *self control*. His academic thoroughness earned him awards such as the Neurology and Cardiology prizes. His sincerity and dedication earned him respect as an intern. In 1992, Joseph worked at the Lutheran General Hospital in Rajahmundry as Medical Officer. In 1994, he returned to his Alma Mater for postgraduate training in General Surgery. His surgical skill and *kindness* to those in need stood out. During this period Joseph faced a time of illness, uncertainty and adversity. Despite this, his *patience* and assuredness, his *faithfulness* to God, and his *goodness* towards fellow beings were evident to all.

Faced with a tunnel and no light in sight, Joseph stood steadfast to the motto. From 1997, he served in mission hospitals in remote parts of the country. He was Medical Officer at the Makunda Christian Leprosy and General Hospital, Assam and the Lakhnadon Medical Hospital, Madhya Pradesh, often serving under very difficult circumstances. He later worked at Duncan Hospital, Raxaul, Bihar, as Medical Officer. He led various community projects, and nurtured people without access to healthcare. He also served as Medical Superintendent.

In 2004, a unique opportunity arose to serve people who suffer not just physically, but mentally, socially, economically and spiritually. At Chandrakal, interior Andhra Pradesh, Joseph helped revive the Joyce Meyer Methodist Hospital into one of the few missions focussing on PLWHA (persons living with HIV/AIDS). His work rekindled the light in people experiencing darkness. From 2007, Joseph has continued this mission mode as Senior Medical Officer at the ART clinic in Ongole, giving hope to those with none and serving those whom few serve. Thus while contributing to growth of five mission hospitals, Joseph has reached out especially to those desperately in need of healing.

For his life of steadfast faith in the face of adversity and for translating that faith into significant service in the spirit of his alma mater, the CMC Alumni Association is honoured to present the College Motto award of 2011 to

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Awarded at the Annual Alumni Reunion in Vellore on the 13th of August 2011