



eyelights



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Retina Summit 2016

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Fifteenth Dr E Vaithilingam Memorial Scientific Session

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VIBS Valedictory function

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Colloquium on Laboratory Diagnostics

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Retina Summit 2016



Launch of critical children's eye care initiative marks 70th Independence Day celebrations at Sankara Nethralaya





Recognitions & Awards

ICICI - Lombard CNBC TV 18 Award



The ICICI-Lombard CNBC-TV-18 'India Healthcare awards' for the 'Best Single Specialty Hospital (Ophthalmology)' for the year 2015-16 was conferred on Sankara Nethralaya. The award was given by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra Shri Davendra Fadnavis and received on behalf of the institution by Dr. Pramod S.Bhende, Director Medical Affairs, Sankara Nethralaya.

'Eyelights' the popular in-house newsletter of Sankara Nethralaya wins recognition from ICE awards



Australia Endeavour Executive Fellowship to Optometry Stars



Ms. Rashima



Ms. Rizwana

Researchers at Sankara Nethralaya bestowed Doctorates



Dr. A. Shabna, Ph.D. Scholar in L & T Microbiology Research Centre has successfully completed her viva voce examination on the Ph.D thesis entitled "Invitro evaluation of the scope of an indigenously produced Poly hydroxy alkanate based co-polymer developed from Pseudomonas MNNG-S in cell culture and virology" on 18th July 2016 at BITS Pilani Hyderabad Campus. Her Ph.D. Supervisor was Dr. H.N.Madhavan, Director of L&T Microbiology Research Centre & Co-Supervisor Dr. Suman Kapoor from BITS Hyderabad Campus.

Mr. R. Bhuvanandar from R.S. Mehta Jain Department of Biochemistry & Cell Biology has successfully defended his final Ph.D. viva voce, titled "Structural and functional characterization of human Lysyl Oxidase through molecular cloning, expression and in silico studies" conducted on 30th June 2016 at BITS, Pilani, Hyderabad campus (Mentor: Dr. K.N.Sulochana Co-guide: Dr. Deepa PR).



Ms. M. Bharathselvi, Junior Scientist from R.S. Mehta Jain Department of Biochemistry & Cell Biology has successfully defended her final Ph.D. Viva voce, entitled "BIOCHEMICAL MECHANISMS OF HOMOCYSTEINE AND ITS ROLE IN RETINAL VASCULAR DISEASES" through the Viva Voce examination conducted on 24th May 2016 at BITS, Pilani. This thesis work was carried out under the guidance of Dr. K.N.Sulochana HOD, Dept of Bio-Chemistry.

Ms S.Vidhya from the R.S. Mehta Jain Department of Bio-Chemistry & Cell Biology has successfully defended her thesis paper titled 'Understanding the role of adiponectin in pdr; design and development of therapeutic molecules' in the final Ph.D viva voce conducted on 25th July 2016 at the BITS Pilani, Hyderabad campus. She was ably assisted in her doctoral work by her guide Prof K.N. Sulochana and Co-guide Suman Kapur from BITS Pilani, Hyderabad.



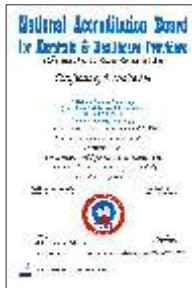
Dr. Srilatha Jasty, Ph.D Scholar from L & T Ocular Pathology Department has successfully defended her PhD thesis titled "To identify and characterize the retinal stem/progenitor properties of human iris pigment epithelial cells (IE) and ciliary epithelial cells (CE) in-vitro," at the qualifying viva voce conducted on 30th May 2016 at BITS Pilani. She was guided by Dr. S.Krishna Kumar, Prof. & HOD of L & T Ocular Pathology, Nano Biotechnology & Stem Cell Department.

M.Arun, researcher from the R.S.Mehta Jain Department of Bio-Chemistry & Cell Biology, Kamalnayan Bajaj Institute for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology, the research arm of Sankara Nethralaya was awarded a Doctorate by the Dr.MGR Medical University for his well researched thesis on Ocular Angionesis, titled 'Design and development of modulators for Lysl Oxidase to regulate Ocular Angionesis'. He was ably assisted in his doctoral work by Professor K.N. Sulochana, Head of Department Bio-Chemistry.



Dr. Vimalin Jeyalatha, Ph.D Scholar from L & T Microbiology Research Centre has successfully defended her Ph.D thesis titled "Prevention of Corneal Limbal Epithelial Cell Death during Collagen Crosslinking and the Pathogenic Mechanisms Involved in Progression of Keratoconus" at the qualifying viva voce conducted on 30th May 2016 by BITS- Hyderabad. She was guided by Dr. J.Malathi, Asso. Prof. at the L & T Microbiology Research Centre and Co-supervisor was Prof. Suman Kapur, Dean, Research and Consultancy Division, Professor, Biological Sciences Dept., BITS, Hyderabad.

Third Sankara Nethralaya centre wins highest accreditation in the country for hospitals and healthcare providers.



We take great pride and pleasure in sharing with all of you that the CU Shah Sankara Nethralaya has been granted accreditation by the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers (NABH), making it the third in the list of SN centres to receive the highest certification in its category, after the Main Sankara Nethralaya campus on College Road and Jagadguru Kanchi Sri Chandrasekerandra Saraswathi Nethra Nilayam (JKCN) located on Pycrofts Garden road, Nungambakkam. The institution is accredited under the category 'Small Healthcare Organization' (SHCO) and comes into effect from the 3rd of July 2016.

Sankara Nethralaya rated as Best in category by leading Healthcare marketing company



Fabrication of ocular prosthesis wins high recognition



Dr. Mohamed Shahid Alam, Associate Consultant, Department of Orbit Oculoplasty, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Services was awarded the 'Nataraja Pillai Best Free Paper' award for his paper on '3-D Ocular Prosthesis Fabrication' at the SN Alumni meet held on 17th July 2016.

Kolkata Optometry Conference 2016



The poster titled 'Treatment of symptomatic convergence insufficiency with office based vision therapy' authored by Ms. Debjani Roy and co-authored by Mr. Arnab Banerjee was awarded the 1st prize at the Kolkata Optometry Conference (KOC-2016) held on the 16th and 17th of April 2016 at the Science City Auditorium and Milan Mela ground.

WCOA-2016 Meet



An in-vitro study titled "Effect of lignocaine concentration on human fibroblasts growth in eyes undergoing trabeculectomy" by Dr. Maduravasal Janani was awarded the First Prize at the "World Congress of Ophthalmic Anaesthesia" (WCOA-2016) held on 4th September 2016 at Chennai.

Award at Retina Summit 2016



An insightful poster on post malarial impact on the retina, titled "Demonstration of microemboli with FFA (Fundus fluoresceine Angiogram) in a case of proliferative retinopathy secondary to falciparum Malaria" by Dr. Aditya Verma, Consultant at the Vitreo-retinal dept was awarded the 'Best Poster' award at the recently concluded Retina Summit- 2016, held at Chennai.



A novel process titled 'A mannequin based system for real-time view of ophthalmic regional blocks' presented by Mr. Nimal Kumar from the Dept of Electrical Engineering, IIT-Madras and co-authored by Dr V.V. Jaichandran was awarded the second prize at the World Congress of Ophthalmic Anaesthesia (WCOA-2016).



A comparative assessment on the occurrence of macular edema among diabetics titled 'Correlation between the volume of macular edema on SD-OCT with the ischemic areas on FFA in Spectralis, in treatment naive diabetic macular edema patients' by Dr. Chanda Gupta from the vitreo-retinal dept was chosen as the 'Best Poster' at the Retina Summit 2016.

CME on Ocular Imaging



At the quiz conducted by Radhatri Nethralaya on "Ocular Imaging", SN's team of Dr. Gondhale Harshal Pradeep, Dr. Pranoti Nagevekar and Dr. More Pritesh Sakharam won the 'Runner Up' prize.

Award at EYECAN 2016



Dr Nisar Sonam Poonam, Fellow at the Oculoplasty department was adjudged "Runner up for the Best paper" at the recently held EYECAN 2016 conference at LVPEI, Hyderabad for her fascinating presentation on "Epibulbar Schwannoma".

A summit on the retina transmits the light of knowledge from the Gurus!



The retina is commonly understood as a part of the eye that transmits the light to the brain as images or information, even by those uninitiated into the science of ophthalmology or optometry. Retina-2016 the annual topical seminar on this most critical part of the eye started quite aptly with deference to the 'Gurus' who just like the retina let the 'Light' of knowledge and wisdom into our lives. The institution which came into being as the fulfilment of the holy command of a 'Guru' and the institution with great deference to the centuries old glorious 'Guru-Sishya' Parampara, held the three day 'Retinal Summit-2016' on the week of Guru Purnima, a period marked by reverence, adulation and acknowledgement of Teachers, with the theme 'Guru Devo Bhava' which exalts the Guru to the status of the creator.

The proceedings started with a most spirited introductory talk touching topics as diverse as the retina being an electro physical wonder, his mentor Dr. SS.Badrinath, the unique financial model of his institution and how it was a shining example of public-private partnership beneficial to both, his institution's impact on research, academics and patient care by Dr.Pramod Bhende, Director, Medical Affairs, Sankara Nethralaya and Program Director-Retina Summit-2016. Following the introductory speech Dr Tarun Sharma, Director, Bhagan Mahaveer Vitreo Retinal services gave a wonderful note on the qualities that made the 'Guru' the most important person in one's life, he underlined that as the Teacher he taught and as the mentor he brought out the best in his Sishyas. He followed his definition of a true Guru with a query to the audience if they knew a Guru who met all these parameters, which was answered with a thunderous single voice response resounding the name 'Dr SS.Badrinath!!

Speaking on the occasion the man whom the gathering adulated as the perfect Guru gave a profound interpretation to the word 'Guru' he explained that a Guru is not a person who had influence only on the knowledge and learning of his sishyas but a person whose ideals, philosophy and example had a significant impact on their beliefs, values and life.

Launch of REACH programme marks 70th Independence Day



Orbis International launches "REACH" program on Independence day

The ophthalmic institution passionately committed to providing physical and financial independence by reviving lost vision observed the nation's 70th Independence Day with customary patriotic fervour and launching of a critical eye care initiative to benefit rural children. The day's proceedings started with a warm welcome to the Chief Guest of the Day, Justice S.Jagadeesan and the distinguished dignitaries from ORBIS the institution's partner in service for more than 2 decades by Dr.T.S.Surendran, Vice-chairman. He gave an interesting account of the legal giant's brilliance in his field and his many achievements and had a high word of praise to the service partner with whom ORBIS Reach the new initiative targeted at screening children in Kanchipuram district was being launched, he underlined that the SN-ORBIS partnership had successfully trained 72 professionals comprising paediatric anaesthetists, nurses and optometrists.

Speaking on the occasion Shri Rahul Ali, India Country Director, ORBIS gave an insight on its activities in Latin America, Africa and Asia. He had a high word of praise for the Qatar Development Fund, the funding agency of the project being launched, which through the 'Qatar Creating Vision' project supported cost free eye camps across the world. He explained that ORBIS-Reach project being launched would be involved in correcting refractive errors as also pave way for better medical management for children with complications in their vision. The India Country Director, ORBIS had a high word of praise for the Sankara Nethralaya-ORBIS team for developing a project on 'Indian Preferred Practice Pattern' for paediatric ophthalmology. The momentous occasion ended with the distribution of meritorious, annual performance awards for employees and departments of Sankara Nethralaya by the Chief Guest.

Sankara Nethralaya Alumni congregate over a dynamic session

“The Alumni ensemble at Sankara Nethralaya symbolizes a unique feature for it encompasses a gathering for a scientific know-how exchange”, the opening statement by Dr. Mohan Rajan, Secretary, Sankara Nethralaya Alumni Association captured the spirit of the 27th Sankara Nethralaya Alumni meet on 19th July 2016. Dr Jyotirmay Biswas dedicated the day's proceedings in memory of Dr. Surbhit Choudhry, Director, Eye Health Centre, Noida, a Vitreo Retinal expert groomed by Sankara Nethralaya, and recalled his versatile personality.



Participants at the 27th SN Alumni meet

The day's sessions, themed “Debates and Discussions in Ophthalmology” started on a vibrant note with discussions and presentations on challenging topics like “Globe Rupture precedence over orbital fracture”, “Vitrectomy – therapeutic role in Uveitis disease control”, “Dry Eyes and artificial tears”, “Diabetic macular edema and its treatment” by a host of specialists on a platform for knowledge transfer.

Delivering the SN Alumni Oration Dr. Anita Agarwal, Professor of ophthalmology at the Vanderbilt Eye Institute and the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, the proud author of the Fifth Edition of the Gass Atlas of Macular Disease and recipient of 2014 J. Donald M. Gass Medal for outstanding contributions in understanding Macular diseases awarded by the Macula Society and the 2015 Optic (UK) Lecture Medal awarded by the Royal college of Ophthalmology UK, paid rich encomiums to her mentor Dr Prof J Donald M Gass - through a talk 'A Genius and traversal through his journey'.

The day witnessed interesting talks by members participating in the “Nataraja Pillai free paper session”, the prize for the best talk was bagged by Dr Mohamed Shahid Alam, Associate Consultant, Department of Oculoplasty for his exciting lecture on “3-D ocular prosthesis fabrication”. The event also witnessed felicitation to Dr. D. Ramamurthy, AIOS President and concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr Mohan Rajan.

Fifteenth Dr E Vaithilingam Memorial Scientific Session



Enthusiastic participants at the 15th Dr E Vaithilingam Memorial Scientific session

Dr. E Vaithilingam Memorial Scientific session was successfully conducted by the Elite School of Optometry for the 15th time on the 6th and 7th of August 2016 at Sri V D Swami Auditorium. Around 325 delegates participated including 103 delegates from 12 different schools of Optometry located across the country.

The highlights of this year scientific session was ESO-SN's Log MAR & IPVS (illuminated Pocket Vision Screener) charts that were released by Dr T S Surrendran, Vice Chairman and Dr Pramod Bhende, Director – Medical Affairs. Free Paper session, Clinician to Researcher, E-Poster sessions were held. The E- Abstract book which was introduced received good applause from the participants. The Guest speakers, ESO Alumnus Dr Hema Radhakrishnan, Senior Lecturer & Deputy Associate Dean, University of Manchester, UK gave a talk on “Peripheral Refraction & Myopia progression” and Dr. Richa Verma, Lecturer from Deakin University, Australia conducted the workshop on “Advanced Teaching and Learning methods in Optometric Education” with innovative concepts of team based learning (TBL) and problem based learning (PBL).

On the Second day, Dr Sumathi Narayanan President, Creative Communication & Management Care and faculty of ESO gave a wonderful talk on “Compassionate Communications for Clinicians”. The Scientific Session came to an end with Quiz, distribution of travel grants, best paper and best poster presentation awards.

The crusaders against blindness adulate the champions of light and hope



Helen Keller Remembrance day at Sankara Nethralaya

Helen Keller Remembrance Day was observed with reverence on Tuesday, 7th June 2016, from 5.30.PM at the Sri. V.D. Swami Auditorium, by the Lions Club of Central Madras in association with Sankara Nethralaya.

The function being held as a honour to the indomitable courage and hope of a person who had over the years become an iconic figure for the vision impaired and crusaders against blindness started aptly with a quote from her talk "Life is either a daring adventure or nothing. The highest result of education is tolerance", 'the only thing worse than being blind is having sight but no vision' – quoted the Chief guest of the day MJF Lion S. Rajendran, President, Lions Club of Central Madras in his welcome address adding that the Lions Club International was proud to observe Helen Keller day every year for over 17 years. Felicitating Vice Chairman Sankara Nethralaya Dr T. S. Surendran for his remarkable achievement of being conferred the FRCS, the Chief guest of the day, gave away the "I" (EYE) care awards to the Mobile Eye Surgical Unit, Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai and Lions Sight First Eye Hospital, Loresho, Nairobi, Kenya for their institutional contribution in serving the downtrodden and the under privileged. The 'Knight of the Blind award' was presented to Mrs. Sudha Srinivasan, a visually impaired bank official with several international certifications to her credit and a motivational speaker, 'Dr. G.Sitalakshmi Gift of Sight' Award in memory of Dr. Sitalakshmi, a phenomenal cornea surgeon, was presented to Dr.Jyotee Trivedy, Lions Sight First Hospital, Loresho, Nairobi, Kenya by Lion Andal Rajaram who paid rich laurels to the yeoman service rendered by the young doctor with over 45000 successful cataract surgeries to her credit, at remote corners of the dark continent.

To make the occasion more significant, the Lions club extended their helping hands by giving Two Digital Magnifier Devices, NICCI, CC TV to two visually impaired persons, Mr. George Cooper and Mrs. Kasturi Priyadharshini to help them in pursuing their studies to qualify for the Banking profession.

PMJF Lion G.M. Balaji Rathnam, Dist. Governor, Dist.324A1, and PMJF Lion Dr. S.S. Badrinath, Chairman Emeritus, Sankara Nethralaya, MJF Lion G.V.Raman Lion Dr. K.S.Lakshmi, PDG Dist. 324A1, Lion B.R.Rao, PMC, MD316, Hyderabad, Past Dist. Governor, MJF Lion SR Muruganandham, MJF Lion K.Jayaraman, Lion H.Raghothaman graced the occasion. MJF Lion S.N. Harinarayanan, Chairman Sight First and Manager –Projects, coordinated the program and Lion Abirami Rajendran proposed the Vote of Thanks.

VIBS – Valedictory function of Hands-on Summer Training programme



VIBS Hands on training program

The annual Hands-on-summer training programme conducted by the Vidyasagar Institute of Bio-Medical Science (VIBS) a Unit of Medical Research Foundation, with an objective of imparting real time knowledge and experience to post graduate students in their chosen fields, was held this year between 11th May and 31st May 2016. A total of 9 PG students from all over the country including one overseas student participated in this year's hands on training program.

The participants were from the B.P.Koirala Institute of Health Sciences, Dharan, Nepal (1), Saveetha Medical College & Hospital, Chennai (2), The American College, Madurai (1), Bharathiyar University, Coimbatore (2), Central Research Lab, IMS & SUM Hospital, Odisha (1), MGM Medical College, Navi Mumbai(1) & A.C.Tech.Campus, Anna University, Chennai (1). Dr. K. Lily Therese, coordinator, VIBS conducted the valedictory function on 31st May 2016. The certificates were distributed to the students by the respective HODs/Faculty. The function concluded with a warm Vote of Thanks by Dr. N.Angayarkanni, HOD, R.S.Mehta Jain Department of Biochemistry & Cell Biology.

Sankara Nethralaya Pays Glorious Tributes to Sri Maha Periyava



Maha Periyava Jayanthi celebration at Sankara Nethralaya

With jubilation all around, Jagadguru “Maha Periyava's”, 123rd Jayanthi Utsava was celebrated with reverence at the Sri VD Swami Auditorium, on 26th May 2016. Sri N Vijay Siva, the seasoned vocalist of the DKJ music lineage, in his mellifluous rendition, invoked the blessings of Lord Shiva, through the composition of Saint Manikavasagar.

Introducing the Chief Guest of the day, Col Raghavan, Advisor – Projects, remarked that he felt proud to have Brahmasri B Sundar Kumar, an erudite scholar on Advaita philosophy and scriptures, exponent of Srimad Ramayanam and the first doctorate awardee from Sastras to be addressing the gathering. Sri Sundar Kumar spoke of the greatness of Aadhi Kavya Srimad Ramayana stating that all scholarly wisdom brewed with it and hence it was a repository of knowledge that needed to be studied with all humility.

Sri Maha Periyava had a subtle way of pointing to errors said he, when a historian who had chanted Ramayana 107 times and sought blessings for the 108th Chanting from Periyava, with a grandly printed invite that had a larger font for the “Printer's address”, Maha Periyava, glancing this, queried if the historian had a faint idea about the spokes on Sri Rama's umbrella, to which Sri Periyava himself answered quoting Ayodhya Kanda, that spoke of Sri Rama's radiant face under the umbrella with 100 ribs that glittered like the rain water froth.

न ते शत शलाकेन जल फेन नर्भिन च |

आवृतम् वदनम् वल्गु चत्रेण अभविरिजते || २-२६-१०

This downsized the historian's pride after which he prostrated before Maha Periyava seeking pardon. Sanskrit knowledge would fortify reading Ramayana, remarked Periyava in a sadhas when he spoke of the आनन्द शब्द grammar as quoted in Ramayana. The celebrations concluded with Mangala Arathi and floral tribute to Maha Periyava.

Key advancements mark colloquium on Laboratory Diagnostics

'Emerging trends in Laboratory Diagnostics' Sankara Nethralaya's initiative to discuss the latest developments in diagnostic practice proved to be a mindboggling knowledge exchange for its participants comprising Students from various institutions, Research Scientists, Lab Professionals at the packed hall at Sri V D Swami Auditorium on Saturday, 25th June 2016. Welcoming the gathering, Director – Administration, Ms. Akila Ganesan pointed that it was critical for one to be open to “Learn, Relearn and Unlearn” while paying rich encomiums to the stalwart Dr H N Madhavan, who remained a backbone to the Vision Research Foundation and its developments in critical areas of Micro Biology, Genetics, Bio-Chemistry and Nano Technology.



Seminar on Emerging trends in Lab Diagnostics

In his Presidential address, Dr C N Srinivas, Director of Laboratory Medicine, MIOT Hospitals elaborated on the Journey to quality “I to ISO”, elaborately highlighting essential inputs for Quality, he underlined the need for a Management System that included Quality Assurance, Quality Control, Improvement and Quality Cost.

Dr V K Ramadesikan, a pioneer Bio-Chemist, Professor and Head of Bio-Chemistry Department at the Tagore Medical College and Hospital, in his lecture on “Sample collection in Clinical Bio-Chemistry – common errors and pitfalls” indicated on the critical role of labs in patient care and how to bring in zero level cognitive and non cognitive errors. The brain storming sessions included a wide range of topics including “Recent advances in Laboratory Hematology”, “Urine Automation”, “Basics of Molecular Microbial techniques”, “Advances in Immunohistochemistry” by stalwarts in the field.

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You may kindly send your comments to

balas@snmail.org or eyelights@snmail.org

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For more details, contact

Mr. S Alagiri,

Deputy General Manager, Resource Mobilization

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“Good Hygiene can control infection far more than an anti-biotic can do”

Nobel Laureate and Structural Biologist Dr. Venkatraman Ramakrishnan at his guest talk at Sankara Nethralaya

Sankara Nethralaya's record in post operative infection control far exceeds the prevailing international standards in the same!

Hospital Acquired Infection, a serious health hazard transmitted to patients through exposure to the hospital and its personnel is emerging as a serious threat to their recovery and survival, especially those at the post operative stage. While there are no official figures on the damage caused by hospital acquired infection, the threat nevertheless is 'real and alarming' and is undoing the positive impact of effective diagnosis and treatment by healthcare providers.

Now you can learn effective hospital infection control from the world leader in Hygiene and Post Operative care!

Sankara Nethralaya invites Doctors, Hospital Administrators with medical / paramedical background, microbiologists, Infection Control Nurses and Nursing administrators to an intensive 6 month (Distance Mode) 'Certificate Program in Hospital Infection Control' (HIC) to equip them with the knowledge and real time expertise to ensure the highest levels of infection control at the OT and Wards. For more details on this niche course please contact: **Ms Hannah at 98406 51566** or email cpic@snmail.org

10 October, 2016



Ayudha Pooja/ Saraswathi Pooja



happy diwali

29 October, 2016

Insight- A passion for compassion Read a great book, fulfill a greater cause!

We seek your kind patronage for 'Insight' the poignant narration of Sankara Nethralaya's growth to a world class humanitarian eye care institution and success of a social enterprise by noted biographers Shri. George Skarias, Shri. VV.Ranganathan and Ms Meera Prasad, with interesting inputs from eminent personalities. 'Insight' is a most enjoyable and informative book and a wonderful gifting option for all age groups and occasions. Entire sales proceeds go towards providing cost free eye care to the poor and needy. Please pick your copy of this great literary work of compassion at the SN main centre, Higginbotham's and Rasi Silk emporiums at Anna Nagar, Mylapore and Nanganallur.

