

Obituary

In the history of Dental College, Trivandrum, we see Dr. Jacob Zachariah as a rising star who remains dazzling in the horizon for a decade till the cruel hand of fate has put out this brilliance on 19th July 1977. "Dr. Zac", that is how his friends called him, had a meteoric rise in his career.



Dr. Zachariah who was an Associate member of our association had his undergraduate studies in the Nair Hospital Dental College, Bombay. He distinguished himself in the clinical field and won the gold medal for operative dentistry. After passing B. D. S. he spent one year in the Dental Department, Christian Medical College Hospital, Vellore. Later he joined as a research scholar in ICMR project under Dr. Om P. Gupta in the Dental College, Trivandrum. This new field attract-

ed the untiring and persuasive nature of Zachariah and people found him spending long hours in the research lab. He took up Oral Pathology as his field of specialisation. His untiring energy, sagacity and foresight was responsible for bringing the Oral Pathology Department of the Dental College to the prestigious status it now occupies. The original contribution which he made in the field of oral submucous fibrosis won him international recognition. He was an authority in this field and had been frequently consulted by many research workers all over the world.

It is a pity that Jacob Zachariah is nibbed away from our midst, when many of his cherished dreams did not materialise. His sudden and untimely demise has created a void which can hardly be filled by any in the near future.