

INDIA CARES

A Reflective Space Focused on India's Children

If we are to teach real peace in this world
And if we are to carry on a real war against war
We shall have to begin with children.

M.K. Gandhi

About INDIA CARES

A Reflective Space Focussed on India's Children

India Cares is a new forum created under the auspices of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Peace Leadership and Development (MGIPLD)

Its objective is to create a shared space for listening, reflecting, and engaging in action in order to serve the best interest of India's children. As part of this forum, leading minds will be invited to share their aspirations for the progress and protection of children in India. This event is organized every year on or around the eve of Children's Day.

India Cares was launched on 6th of November 2014.

Padma Vibhushan. Professor M. S. Swaminathan delivered the inaugural oration on the title '**Hunger free India as a legacy to India's children**'.

Leaders and children from around 50 organizations, each year, are part of the invited audience. The talk is shared with a wider audience through social media and print.



"When the lives of children are at stake, there can be no silent witnesses."

You are cordially invited to listen to the
'INDIA CARES' 2021 oration delivered by

Dr. Bhoomikumar Jagannathan

Director and Consultant Child Psychiatrist,
The Center for Child and Adolescent Mental Health, Cambodia

On the topic

Prioritizing Children's Mental Health in the Backdrop of COVID-19:

The lessons I draw from my leadership experience, expertise in psychiatry and interactions with children



The 2021 edition of INDIA Cares is being coordinated by:

Shanti Ashram's DPAC observance,
International Centre for Child and Public Health (ICPH),
Kumaraguru College Liberal Arts and Science,
PSG Institute of Medical Sciences & Research,
Arigatou International,
Gandhigram Rural Institute Deemed University,
Masonic Medical Centre for Children,
Rotary Club of Coimbatore Green City
Apex Lab and
The Indian Academy of Paediatrics





Virtually on the 30th of January 2021

3.00 to 4.30 pm

INDIA CARES

Programme:

- 3.00 pm** Assembling & Call to Dialogue
- 3.05 pm** Context Setting:
Dr. Subhadra Iyengar, Coordinator, Public Health Desk, ICPH &
Mr. G. Vijayaragavan, Head, Youth Leadership Program, Shanti Ashram
- 3.10 pm** **Children and youth rendering of 'Bharathiyar's poetry'**
- 3.15 pm** **Unveiling INDIA CARES 2021**
Shri. Shankar Vanavarayar
Joint Correspondent, Kumaraguru College of Technology
- 3.20 pm** **Introducing the speaker**
Dr. Karthikeyan,
Practicing Physician & Senior Volunteer, Shanti Ashram
- 3.25 pm** **INDIA CARES ORATION 2021**
Dr. BHOOMIKUMAR JAGANNATHAN
Director and Consultant Child Psychiatrist
The Centre for Child and Adolescent Mental Health, Cambodia
- 3.55 pm** Q&A with children and leaders
Led by **Ms. Ramya Devaraj**, Intern, Shanti Ashram
- 4.15 pm** Honouring **Dr. BHOOMIKUMAR JAGANNATHAN** for his service to
children's mental health
Led by the Indian Academy of Paediatrics (IAP) &
International Centre for Child and Public Health (ICPH)
- 4.20 pm** Concluding thoughts
Dr. Kezevino Aram,
President, Shanti Ashram

Register your participation with devika@icphhealth.org and

View the session on our Facebook page facebook.com/shantiashramcoimbatore

Dr. Bhoomikumar Jagannathan

Dr. Bhoomikumar Jagannathan is the Director of The Centre for Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CCAMH) in Cambodia and a consultant child psychiatrist and paediatrician. He joined the Centre in October 1996, and over the past 25 years has helped build the infrastructure to service the needs of children with neuro developmental disabilities and psychological needs in Cambodia. Dr. Bhoomikumar has developed the Caritas-CCAMH into a premier institution that provides quality medical care through a public-private partnership between the Ministry of Health, Royal Government of Cambodia and Caritas Cambodia, which has been supported by organisations like the India Brazil South Africa (IBSA) Trust Fund and recognised by The Association of Asian Congress of Psychiatry with the 'Centre of Excellence Award' for the quality and importance of their service. Dr. Bhoomikumar himself has been the recipient of several awards from the Royal Government of Cambodia for his work and service.



He earned an MBBS degree from Stanley Medical College, Madras University, after which he was influenced by the writings of Carl Jung to take up psychiatry, and eventually shifted to social paediatrics while working with NGOs implementing community health in India. The writings of Prof. David Morley took him to public health, and working with school teachers on mental health issues developed his interest in child psychiatry. Dr. Bhoomi earned Post Graduate Diplomas in Child Health, Psychological Medicine and Public Health from Madras University between 1983 and 1989 as his interests continued to grow. Inspired by the lives of Albert Sweitzer, the Swiss physician who spent his life time in Africa providing health care, and Dr. Kotnis, the surgeon from India who served in China, Dr. Bhoomikumar resolved not to practice medicine for private gains, not to work for governments nor apply for a job. This resolve took him to many countries and resulted in lifelong learning, as after completing another diploma program in Child and Adolescent Mental Health at Maudsley Hospital in London in 1994 as the 'Fellow of the Common Wealth Countries', he went on to complete a Master's in Public Health in 2008 and a PhD in Psychiatry from Umea University in Sweden in 2014.

He is an avid researcher, with publications in global journals that focus on the primary and secondary prevention of mental health problems among children and young people, particularly suicidal behaviour among vulnerable and marginalised children and young people. He also holds decades of teaching experience, both as a physician and a child psychiatrist, and has taught paediatricians, physicians, nurses, psychologists and teachers on a slew of topics that range from Child and Adolescent Mental Health to community-based rehabilitation. He also taught and audited classes in the School of Public Health in San Diego State University and the County Health Department in San Diego in 1995. Since 2014, Dr. Bhoomikumar has been a visiting guest lecturer at the School of Public Health in Umea University, Sweden, where he teaches on the topic of Global Mental Health.



2014: **Padma Vibhushan Professor M. S. Swaminathan** delivered the inaugural oration on the title 'Hunger free India as a legacy to India's children'.

2018: **Senior Paediatrician Dr. M. Ramaswamy** delivered the oration on the title 'Who cares for India's children? An Opportunity for the health care community to reflect and curate a better tomorrow for our children'.

