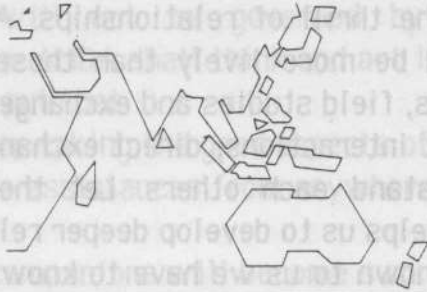


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AMDA NEWSLETTER

Association of Medical Doctors for Asia

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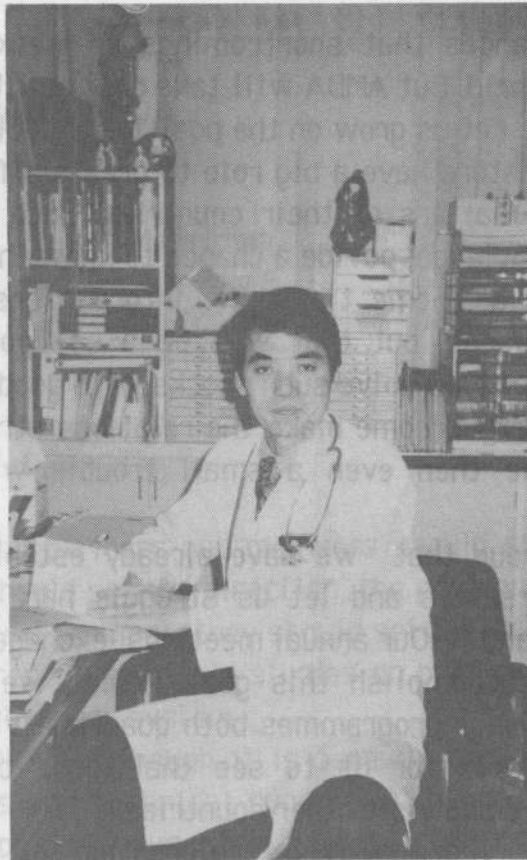
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AMDA President's message



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Dr. Shigeru Suganami,
President of AMDA, in
the out-patient clinic
of his Suganami Hospital

There was a time when Asians were lacking real understanding of each others because, all important media agencies were either western based or western governed and thus interpreting everything with a western tint. This showed us the necessity to have more of our own ways of knowing each others without western intervention.

Because, medicine is a powerful tool it is easier to develop better and real understanding among each of us Asians. AMDA has established and is trying to establish more and more friendly relations among us Asians directly by ourselves.

Moreover, mass media is not the proper tool to enhance good human relations. Unlike person to person relations, mass media lacks the human factor. If there is no human factor there is no wisdom. It is always face to face contact which gives the thrill of relationships. And the informations coming from humans would be more lively than those coming from mass media. AMDA annual meetings, field studies and exchange programmes provide us the chance to have direct interactions, direct exchange of ideas and first hand experiences to understand each others. Let there be new, strange experiences but everything helps us to develop deeper relations.

If there is a world not known to us we have to know it. The way to know the unknown world is to mingle with persons of the unknown world. We shall act on the basis of the known to improve the relations with the known and the unknown.

There were instances that shortcomings or weaknesses were used to introduce the new world. But AMDA will take only abilities and special points to introduce the new. Let us grow on the positive aspects.

Regional co-ordinators have a big role to create affectionate relations by introducing various matters of their countries. Such informations, besides giving technical knowledge, provide a chance to know the cultural specialities and national identities. Some times the informations may create cultural shock or embarrassment, but that will be a key point to grow the best friendly relations when we solve such shocks with good motivation. I believe, small problems when overcome make the relations stronger. If no trouble at all for a long time then even a small trouble will end the relations permanently.

We must feel proud that we have already established a good friendly relations among ourselves and let us struggle hard to develop it, let us struggle hard to expand it. Our annual meetings, exchange programmes and field studies help us to accomplish this goal. I feel, we should now think to progress in the exchange programmes both quantitatively and qualitatively. It should become possible for us to see that more can participate in the exchange programmes and visit other countries.

Two years later there will be celebration of tenth anniversary of AMSA-AMDA in Japan. At that time we have to conclude our achievements done till then and we should prepare plans for the future activities.

To develop AMDA, we should first be serious about our own developments. Gathering of unsuccessful, dissatisfied members is bound to breed unhappiness. Only the joyful, successful members make the organization successful. In this view all young AMDA companions must attend to their personal responsibilities and achieve success. A Japanese saying is that:

"Happy bird twitters happily and other birds come near to a happily twittering bird". When the members make good achievements individually they can contribute a small part from their resources to the progress of AMDA. Successful men can channellize the proper resources to make AMDA grow. Then only it is possible to reach our goal " Better Medicine for a Better Future". When we accept the support from other agencies we should be clear that our activities will not be governed by outside powers, either Governmental or private. AMDA shall think and act independently.

To conclude, let me put that:

1. AMDA shall develop taking the good aspects of everyone.
2. AMDA may receive assistances from anywhere but she will maintain her independence.
3. First, the AMDA companions will become successful then they will make AMDA successful to realize " Better Medicine for a Better Future".

shigeru suganami

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THUS WE THINK ABOUT AMDA....

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AMDA Chairman,
Dr. Francisco P.
Flores, M.D., Philippines
(seated in the center)



"MAGANDANG ARAW!" (Good Day!)

AMDA is a DREAM! The officers and members should strive to make it a REALITY! The officers should set the direction, the program of activities, and the supporting structures. Foremost, they should set the EXAMPLE! They should not only organize conferences and field studies on primary health care. They should be in primary health care system.

AMDA is INTERNATIONAL! Although it is a newly organized body without definite source of funds and technical support, although its membership is still limited, AMDA should always strive to maintain the INTERNATIONAL STANDARD in its principles and activities.

Regarding meetings - where it is accessible and when it is convenient to majority. Agenda should center on program planning so we can easily implement them when we go back to our respective countries. Let's stop talking and start doing!
'pancho'

(..... see next page)



THUS WE THINK ABOUT AMDA....

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AMDA member,
Dr. Nipit Piravej, M.D.,
Thailand

My impression about AMDA - I always believe that meeting is the most effective way for people to know and understand each other. And mutual understanding among people from different countries and cultures is so essential for the maintenance of peace among the people themselves. A very special thing about our meeting is that it is not a very formal one. Thus the communication among the members or participants is always very sincere and direct forward. I don't think that we can find this kind of atmosphere in many other meetings or conferences.

About AMDA, I believe that it will continue to grow up to be a strong association with its own very particular characteristics and impact to the society. AMDA started from a rather personal relationship among several young medical students from Asian countries. I think that personal relationships usually bring about stronger links between the members, and hope that the AMDA will continue to maintain this special characteristic.

About the next meeting in 1988, I am certain that it will be another good opportunity to get together with the old and the new members. We have tried to work and achieve some meaningful things for our society for many years. In the next meeting, we should try to summarize what we have done and to plan what we are going to do in the future.

'nipit piravej'

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EVENTS:

□□ Dr. A. Husni Tanra, Regional Co-ordinator of AMDA - Indonesia visits USA for short-term training in anesthesiology. Dr. Tanra, a doctorate in Anesthesiology from Hiroshima University Medical School has also rendered his service to Anesthesiologists association of Indonesia as the president.



<<<< Dr. Tanra (right) sitting with Dr. O.P. Daa, officer in charge, CCHP, Laguna of Philippines is enjoying Japanese traditional green tea in Korakuen Garden of Okayama, when they visited Japan for special training in their field.

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