

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON DYSLEXIA AND OTHER LD

1st and 2nd December 2012

Hotel Tuli Imperial, Ramdaspeth, NAGPUR

Profile of Speakers

1) Dr.Swaroop Sampat Rawal

Educationist; Dramatist, Mumbai

M.A. (English); PhD (Education), University of Worcester, UK.

Topic: 'USING DRAMA TO ENHANCE LIFE SKILLS IN CHILDREN WITH LEARNING DISABILITY'

Dr.Swaroop Sampat Rawal is deeply concerned with the trauma faced by the children in the prevalent educational setting in India. The foundation of her research work was laid when she saw the children in need suffer due to outdated teaching practices and uncooperative peers and family. Her thesis is based on her work at a Mumbai school on the role of drama in enhancing life skills in children with specific learning disabilities. After schooling from the elite Cathedral and John Connon School, Mumbai, Dr.Swaroop studied applied arts, Special Education and Counseling.

Swaroop Sampat, Miss India 1979, is an accomplished actor, her lead role in the most successful TV comedy 'Yeh Jo Hai Zindagi' and in various plays performed not only in India but also in USA, UK, Belgium, New Zealand, Australia and East Africa were highly appreciated.

Dr.Swaroop is on the committee for National Vocational Educational Qualification Framework of AICTE and Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India. She is a Consultant for UNICEF in Gujarat for facilitator-training and teacher-training for Life Skills enhancement programs for Children and Adolescents. She also conducts teacher-training sessions for Gujarat Council for Educational Research and Training, and is also a consultant for Save the Children program in Maharashtra.

Dr.Swaroop is a Council member of AICTE and is a faculty in various schools and colleges in Mumbai. She is author of the book 'Learning Disabilities in a Nutshell' and has published and presented various papers.

Dr.Swaroop Sampat Rawal is Honorary Member of Inner Wheel Club of Mumbai West. She is a recipient of Award for Vocational Excellence in Educational Field from Rotary Club Bombay Sea face.

Apart from Drama and Education, her interests include Jazz dancing, Painting, Pottery, Dress making, Embroidery, Quilting and Patch-work, jewelry making and gardening.

2) Mrs.Lalitha Ramanujan

Founder Director, Trustee, Alpha to Omega Learning Centre, Chennai.

M.A.; M.Phil (Psychology); Trained Instructor Strategic Model (Kansas University, USA); Feuerstein Instrumental Enrichment Program (Israel)

Topic: 'WAYS TO COPE WITH COGNITIVE AND ACADEMIC DIFFERENCES IN UNDER ACHIEVERS'

Mrs. Lalitha Ramanujan is Founder, Director of Alpha to Omega Learning Centre, Chennai. She is a Trained Instructor in Strategic Model, from Kansas University, USA and in Feuerstein



Instrumental Enrichment Program (Israel). Mrs. Lalitha has worked in the field of specific learning difficulties as a teacher, teacher trainer and as a psychologist, for more than two decades. She is an expert in explaining the devastating effects specific learning problems like dyslexia, dyspraxia or attention deficit can have on a child's education. Mrs. Lalitha says that Children, when they initially come to Alpha to Omega, have low self esteem with a great sense of inadequacy of how to learn. The methods her Learning Centre uses have given parents the confidence to say 'our children can learn' and help erase the label "underachiever". She believes the solution is to give them a 'level playing field' by putting the children in schools like Alpha to Omega Learning Centre which is not a special needs school, it is main stream in structure but specialist in nature to nurture the needs of the students. The deep belief of Mrs. Lalitha Ramanujan is that every child can be mediated to achieve better.

3) Mrs.Chetana Keni

Director, Aurinko Academy, Bangalore.

M.Com; M.A.(Psycho); Diploma in Counseling; Diploma in Learning Disabilities.

Topic: 'SOLUTION FOR DYSLEXIA—AURINKO ACADEMY, SCHOOL FOR THE GIFTED, SHOWS THE WAY.'

Mrs. Chetana Keni has double Masters in Commerce and Psychology. She also holds an International Diploma in Guidance and Counseling along with a Diploma in Learning Disabilities. She has about 10 years of IT experience which she gave up to start The Chetana Keni Institute, five years back. She entered the field of LD because when her son, although with high IQ, at age 5 was diagnosed as dyslexic, she could not find proper schools to deal with the special education required, so she had to home school her son.



After extensive work with children, parents and teachers in the field of learning disabilities, Chetana started Aurinko Academy in the year 2011 to protect and nurture these children who are considered as misfits in the mainstream curriculum.

Chetana is a visionary, a good employer and an energetic teacher. She is a mentor, a friend and a loving authority at the same time to teachers, students and their parents. People come from far and wide to get an opinion from her to help their children.

Chetana is also trained in Pranic Healing and combines it with the unique Aurinko Methodology to create an out of the world experience for the children under her care.

Mrs. Chetana Keni was main faculty at 3 day workshop on Dyslexia and other LD held at Nagpur in 2010 under the 'Mrs.Khadija Iqbal Maimoon Memorial Project'.

4) Dr. Anjali Joshi

Occupational Therapist, Director Training and Research, Ummeed Child Development Center, Mumbai; Narottam Sekhsaria Foundation Fellow.

M.Sc.O.T. (Mumbai University); Trained Sensory Integration Therapist, USC (USA).

Topic: "CLUMSINESS IN CHILDREN: AN EARLY PREDICTOR OF LEARNING DIFFICULTIES?"

Dr. Anjali Joshi has masters in Occupational therapy from Mumbai University and a Trained Sensory Integration therapist from University of Southern California. She has a clinical experience of over 30 years in OT and was formerly associate professor at Occupational Therapy School and Center, K.E.M hospital, Mumbai. Dr.Anjali is Director of Training and Research at Ummeed Child development Center, Mumbai, a



not for profit organization working with children.

5) Dr. M.C.Mathew,

Professor and Head of department of Developmental Paediatrics and Child Neurology, Pondicherry Institute of Medical Sciences, Puducherry.

Formerly, Professor and head of Developmental Paediatrics Unit, Christian Medical College, Vellore, for 11 years.



M.D. (Paed.); PhD (Neuro); D.N.B. (MCH); D.C.B.R. (Lon); P.D.D.F.D.R.; P.G.D.F.D.R.

Topic: a) 'IDENTIFIABLE AND TREATABLE NEURO-BIOLOGICAL CO-MORBIDITIES IN CHILDREN WITH LEARNING NEEDS.'

b) 'CLASSROOM SETTING AND ORGANISATION FOR CHILDREN WITH LEARNING NEEDS.'

Dr.Mathew is author of 2 books and has 32 articles published in peer reviewed journals. He has a post graduate teaching experience of 17 years and has been a research guide for 4 PhD candidates at the Dr.MGR TN Medical University, of which he was an Inspector for post-doctoral fellowship programme in Paediatric Neurology. In this subject he was also examiner at AIIMS, New Delhi. Dr. Mathew has been a member of the core committees of Indian Academy of Paediatrics on Learning disorders in children, Autism Spectrum disorders in children and school curriculum planning for pre-school children. Dr. Mathew has held the posts of Dy.Director CMC, Vellore for 3 years and Associate Director for 2 years. He is founder, trustee of ASHIRVAD, Child development and research Centre, Chennai. He also served on the Governing Board of two Medical Colleges.

Dr.Mathew's various research interests include Sleep Rhythm Dysfunction in children, Children in Dysfunctional Families, Communication and Social behavior of pre-school children, Co-morbidities in developmentally disadvantaged children, Parenting skills, Post traumatic stress disorders in pre-school children, Social adjustment crisis of adolescent children, Neuronal Migration Disorder in children, Electrical Rhythm Disturbance of EEG in children , Muscle relaxants for spasticity in children, Phenotype of Pre-school children with Autistic Spectrum Dysfunction, Neuro-motor developmental Screening of High Risk Infants.

Dr.M.C.Mathew is a member of British Paediatric Neurology Association; Indian Academy of Neurology; Indian Academy of Paediatrics; British Childhood Disability Association, etc.

Dr Mathew received the Best Teacher award, Christian Medical College, Vellore, in 2008. He was Key note speaker at British Paediatric Neurology Association conference at Edinburgh in 2006 and many national and regional meetings.

6) Dr. Preeti Verma

Associate Professor, Director In charge, Centre for Special Education, SNDT Women's



M.A.(Edu.);M.A.(Psycho);PhD. Special Education(LD).

Topic: ---- To be decided

Dr. Preeti Verma, Clinical Psychologist, Associate Professor in the Center of Special Education, SNDT Women's University, Mumbai since 1998, is also Officiating Director since 2008. She teaches Special Education, Educational Psychology and Human Development, Research Methods and Statistics, Learning Disability and Intellectual Disability. Dr. Verma has done research in the fields of Learning Disability, Psychometric Testing, Curriculum Development, Measurement & Evaluation, Teacher Education, HRD and Inclusive Education. She has various publications including 'Learning Disability: challenges in assessment and diagnosis' , 'Cognitive Process differences among Learning disabled and Non-Learning disabled children' and 'Cognitive and motivational differences among early and late

detected children' to her credit and is a recognized guide for PhD.

Dr. Preeti Verma was awarded Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholarship to Australia in 2010.

She is a member of various professional and academic bodies including Curriculum Committee of Mumbai University and RCI expert panel for inspection of training institutes.

Dr.Verma is India representative for Northern Ireland component of UK National Health Service for recruitment and technical assistance activities.

7) Dr. Nisreen Maimoon

Founder In charge of Resource Centre of 'Mrs. Khadija Iqbal Maimoon Memorial Project for Dyslexia and other LD, Nagpur

M.Sc. (Home Management), PhD (Home Science).

Topic: 'EXPERIENCES IN RUNNING AND OUTSIDE SCHOOL RESOURCE CENTRE.'



Dr.Nisreen Maimoon, a Gold Medalist has been a Lecturer in various subjects at LAD College and Department of Home Science, Nagpur University and a Counselor for IGNOU, Delhi. She is a recognized guide for M.Sc. students and has been an examiner for PG courses in Home Science Resource Management. Dr.Nisreen has done extensive studies in health of female tribals and also of Middle income group home makers and School Teachers. She has various publications to her credit. Dr.Nisreen is a member of Rotary Club of Nagpur and has handled the responsibilities of organizing Rotary Foundation activities and guiding Rotract Club members and projects under Nutrition and Child Care.

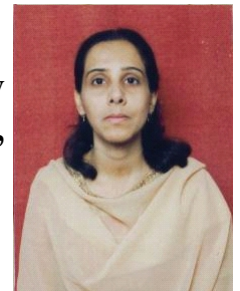
The Resource Centre of 'Mrs.Khadija Iqbal Maimoon Memorial Project for Dyslexia and other LD', Nagpur is under her care.

8) Dr. Mrs. Sofia H. Azad

Asst. Professor and Clinical Supervisor at the Occupational Therapy School Center, Government Medical College and Hospital, Nagpur, Honorary Consultant, Resource Centre, Nagpur.

M.Sc.O.T. specialization in Orthopaedics ;(B.Th.O) Occupational Therapy.

Topic: 'SENSORY MOTOR STIMULATION IN LEARNING DISABILITIES'



Dr. Sofia H. Azad is, since 1988, responsible for assessment and evidence based treatment for patients with upper extremity based trauma, spinal injuries and lower extremity trauma. She also has experience in neuro-paediatric conditions and early diagnosis & intervention of developmentally delayed cases at Govt.Medical College and Hospital, Nagpur.

Duties & responsibilities of Dr.Azad have included treatment of various neuro-paediatric cases like Down's syndrome, cerebral palsy, learning disabilities, autism, by using, techniques like neurodevelopment therapy & sensory integration therapy. She has also assisted in planning individualized educational programme for Learning needs children who were regularly attending the schools. She has also been a member of the teams of medical & paramedical professionals, going to the rural areas & identifying disabilities in children & recommending them for special treatment Dr. Azad is involved in conducting lectures for undergraduate students, case discussions, seminars, tutorials & giving expert guidance for dissertations to interns which is a part of completion of degree course. At the university level she is involved in setting papers, paper valuation, and internal, external examiner.

Dr. Sofia Azad is a Supervisor for postgraduate students of M.Th.O by Research and Postgraduate recognized Guide of Maharashtra University of Health Sciences. She has presented papers 'Psychosocial aspects of physical disability related stress' and 'Effect of drugs plus occupational therapy in anxiety disorders'. Dr.Azad has organized camps for I.Q.Testing, LD and Autism screening. She has designed the Screening form for Dyslexia for the 'Mrs.Khadija Iqbal Maimoon Memorial Project for Dyslexia and other LD' and is Honorary Consultant for the project.

Dr. Azad has been awarded 'Fellow of Ergo medicine' by Ergo medicine Research Academy.

9) Dr. Anindita Chatterjee

Clinical Psychologist, (HOD) of Out-patient dept, Manovikas Research & Rehabilitation Institute, Kolkata.

B.A.(Psycho); M.A.(Applied Psycho); PhD.

Topic: 'LEARNING DIFFICULTIES; SPECIFIC LEARNING DIFFICULTIES; IDENTIFICATION, ASSESSMENT AND REMEDIATION.'



Dr. Anindita Chatterjee is a Clinical Psychologist, working in Manovikas Kendra. Consultant for development of services for child development to Non-government organizations Research & Rehabilitation Institute, Kolkata for the last 14 years. For the past six years, she has also been a Consultant Psychologist at the Apollo Gleneagles Hospital, Kolkata. She is also attached with Peerless Hospital and B.K Roy Institute, Kolkata. She was a Postdoctoral Scholar at the Roe Hampton University, London and Fontys University, Netherlands. She holds a B.A. in Psychology, an M.A. in Applied Psychology, and has studied autism as part of her Ph.D. at Kolkata University. Prior to her current position, she has been a Consultant Psychologist at the Spastic Children Association of Selangor & Federal Territory, Malaysia and a Counselor at the Lady Irwin College, Department of Special Assistance, India, among other roles. She is also an External Examiner of Roe Hampton University. She has vast experience in teaching and research in the field of learning disabilities. She has undergone professional training on PECS (Picture Exchange Communication System) to overcome communication difficulties at Milton Keynes, London and Audiblox (developmental program to overcome learning disability) in Singapore. She is also a master trainer in Pearson Empanelled trainer at Pearson Clinical Assessment and she is also an External Examiner of International Baccalaureate, UK.