

The first South Asian cosmetic and aesthetic dental congress

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Fig. 1 _Inauguration of the SAAAD meeting with the lighting of the traditional Nepalese lamp.

Fig. 2 _Participants.

The South Asian Academy of Aesthetic Dentistry (SAAAD) held its first biennial scientific meeting *Minimally invasive cosmetic dentistry—A holistic approach* from 28 to 29 November 2009, at Radisson Hotel in Kathmandu in Nepal. The conference, which was organised in collaboration with the Asian Academy of Aesthetic Dentistry (AAAD), Sri Lanka Academy of Aesthetic and Cosmetic Dentistry, Bangladesh Academy of Aesthetic Dentistry and Nepalese Academy of Cosmetic and Aesthetic Dentistry, was attended by 225 South Asian delegates.

Japan, Malaysia, Nepal and Singapore presented clinical talks on various aspects of aesthetic and cosmetic dentistry.

The SAAAD was founded in 2005 as the first online, regional professional academy in South Asia. The academy is dedicated to advancing the art and science of aesthetic dentistry and to promoting high standards of ethical conduct and responsible patient care, by institutionalising a standard continuing professional development programme through the provision of a relevant accreditation (fellowship) process.

Fig. 3 _From left to right: Dr Sandesh Mayekar (India), Dr Vijayaratnam Vijayakumaran (Sri Lanka), Dr Sim Tang Eng (Malaysia) and Dr Sushil Koirala (Nepal) after receiving their SAAAD inaugural fellowship.

The meeting was inaugurated by the presidents of the AAAD, SAAAD and Nepal Dental Association by lighting the traditional Nepalese lamp. The President and Prime Minister of Nepal, Dr Ram Baran Yadav and Madhav Kumar Nepal, offered their best wishes for the conference. As a conference memento, the SAAAD published *Dentistry South Asia*. Speakers from Bangladesh, Greece, India,

At the gala dinner, the SAAAD awarded its inaugural fellowship to Dr Sushil Koirala (Nepal), Dr Sandesh Mayekar (India) and Dr Vijayaratnam Vijayakumaran (Sri Lanka) for their outstanding contribution to the promotion of aesthetic dentistry in their respective countries. The next SAAAD biennial meeting will be held in Sri Lanka in May 2011.

Fig. 4 _Japanese delegates singing a Japanese song at the gala dinner.

Fig. 5 _AAAD President Dr Sim Tang Eng with traditional Nepali cap.



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