



MEDIA RELEASE

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ELAA - IV Latin American Ayurveda Conference, Sao Paulo

Consulate General of India, Sao Paulo and Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre co-organised the IV Latin American Ayurveda Conference organised in Sao Paulo from 11 – 13 December 2020. The main organiser of the conference was Ms. Margarete Mota, an Ayurveda expert from Brazil. This year the conference paid tribute to Padmashri Late Dr. P. R. Krishnakumar ji for his contribution to Ayurveda especially for his significant contribution in collaborative research at the International level.

2. The three day conference started by invoking Lord Dhanvantrii the Lord of Ayurveda and the embodiment of healing and wisdom. Dhanvantri Puja, with Mantras and Homa was telecasted from the Shree Dhanvantri temple in Coimbatore. Ambassador of India to Brazil, Mr. Suresh Reddy gave the opening remarks and spoke about how Ayurveda is an evidence based science having far reaching effects beyond the medicinal aspects. The special guest for the conference Mr. Pramod Kumar Pathak, Additional Secretary, Ministry of AYUSH presented the keynote address and elaborated on the research happening in India in the field of Ayurveda to deal with COVID-19. Speaking about the major activities been undertaken by Ministry of AYUSH to deal with COVID, Mr. Pathak shared the clinical research work being carried out by Ministry of AYUSH to improve the immune system of Police Personnel in India to help protect them from various infections. Mr. Pathak also shared the clinical research being carried out at the international level where Brazil is also playing a key role.

3. The first day of the conference had speakers from various Latin American countries who made presentations on diverse aspects of Ayurveda and indigenous medicines from their countries. Monica Quiroga from Argentina made an engaging presentation on the '*Use of medicinal plants from the perspective of Ayurveda and the native Peoples and Peasants of Argentina*'. Similarly Dr. Paul Hersch Martinez from Mexico and Dr. Leonor Gallardo from Nicaragua shared the role played by Ayurveda in the Health care systems of their countries. An interesting talk by Catarina Nimbopyrua a member of the Tupi-Gurani indigenous people of South America, gave insights into the

experiences of the Gurani people and how they dealt with COVID-19 through the locally available indigenous plants. The presentations of the day ended with a beautiful musical presentation by the children from Tupi-Gurani indigenous tribe.

4. the 2nd day of the conference had some eminent Ayurveda experts from India, which included known names like Dr.Rammonohar P; Dr.L.Mahadevan; Dr.Ajayan Sadanandan; Dr.G.G.Gangadharan and Dr.Radha Priya. All the experts touched upon various dimensions of Ayurveda, ranging from '*The importance of evidence in the Ayurveda tradition*' to '*Ayurveda as a Pramana Sastra: The inbuilt evidence base in Ayurveda*'. Case studies were shared where evidence based clinical Ayurveda practices were used for the treatment of diseases like Urustambha and Diabetes. There was also a presentation from Dr. Jorge Berra from Argentine who talked about the Medicinal plants in Brazil and Argentina and the significance of the Protocols issued by Ministry of AYUSH for the Management of COVID-19. He explained how some of the medicinal plants mentioned in the Protocol are found locally and have been very useful in the treatment of COVID.

5. The 3rd day of the conference had a round-table conference between the Ayurveda experts from India and Brazil on '*Ayurveda Medicine and Indigenous Medicine – Possible Dialogues*'. Dr. Ajayan Sadanandan and Dr.Vinod Kumar T.G.Nair represented India and Dr. Catarina Nimbopyrua and Ms. Margarete Mota represented Brazil. Some very interesting facts and co-relation between the Indian and Brazilian medicinal herbs were revealed and discussed about during this round-table. Another important presentation on day three was made by Dr. Ricardo Ghelman, President of Brazilian Academic Consortium. Dr. Ghelman spoke about the role of Ayurveda in the Integrative Health System in Brazil. For the closing ceremony a documentary '*Ayurveda, a possible cure*' which is the first documentary on Ayurveda made in Latin America was screened.

6. Consul General, Mr. Amit Kumar Mishra attended the closing ceremony and congratulated the organisers and the participants on the success of the conference. He highlighted the growing interest of Ayurveda in Brazil and promised of continued support from the Consulate and Cultural Centre.

Few photographs of the event are attached herewith.









Patologias Digestivas

Medicina Moderna & Ayurveda

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