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EDITORIAL

Man is, in his imperfect way, at odds with the world around him. 37 years ago, when we started editing and publishing 'Pakistan Oral & Dental Journal, only three medical Journals namely 'Pakistan Armed Forces Medical Journal', Journal of Pakistan Medical Association and Journal of Pakistan Medical Research Council were being published.

In 1981 when the publication of Pakistan Oral & Dental Journal was started, there was no infrastructure, finances were very limited and there were no authors. Too many hurdles had to be crossed. In the word of poet Muneer Niazi;

ایک اور دریا کا سامنا تھا منیر مجھ کو
میں ایک دریا کے پار اُترا تو میں نے دیکھا

(I crossed a river with difficulty and I had hardly travelled a short distance when I found another river flowing in front of me)

The truth is that people had to pass through opposite substance. When we wanted to see space, we fought gravity and travelled to the moon. When we wanted fish, we built boats.

First issue of the Journal consisted of only 32 pages and was printed on small sized thin paper. Circulation was limited. Now Journal has large circulation and there are at least 40 articles (original research articles, review papers and very interesting and rare case reports). There are papers from foreign countries. This Journal is now also published online (Electronic publishing: www.podj.com.pk). It was a bi-annual publication now it is quarterly.

We are living in rapidly changing world. We have to keep pace with the moving time and for that we have to pass through opposite. Poet philosopher Allama Iqbal has very nicely described this phenomenon;

ستاروں سے آگے جہاں اور بھی ہیں
ابھی عشق کے امتحاں اور بھی ہیں

(There is vast universe beyond the visible stars, to get there, we have to put in lot of efforts and have to cross many hurdles).

AHMAD IQBAL

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