

Editorial:

PAKISTAN CARDIAC SOCIETY - LIVING OR DEAD?

What characterizes the living and differentiates it from the dead is the ability of the living to respond to its environment, to assess its needs and to grow. Every part and every molecule of the organism works towards this effort to thrive, to fulfill its needs (goals) and to surmount extinction. If these are the criteria of the living, then, whatever I have seen of the Pakistan Cardiac Society in the past three years makes me wonder. The occasional spurt of activity that occurs says that the society is not dead but what occurs in between proves that it certainly isn't living.

Should there be such a Society because other countries have one? Should there be such a Society because everybody wishes to rotate being an office bearer? Or, is it possible that the Society was formed to fulfill a need and further a cause? If such a need exists then what has been achieved in the years since the Society has existed? Has there been any stock-taking? Has there been any re-affirmation of our goals and direction setting? No? But of course there have been elections and office-bearers! There have been occasional conferences and attendant parties! Some achievements! Some goals!

I have a proposal! Since we as a country love conferencing—sitting, chatting and eating rather than doing anything—let us at the forthcoming Congress have a "Special Conference". At this conference let us honestly do some stock-taking. All members, new and old, should clear their minds as to what this Society is all about and set clear, humanly achievable goals for the next two years. Let such stock-taking be repeated at each Congress and let every member be responsible for the achievement or lack of achievement of those set goals. This may work or it may not work. But at least we shall be reminded that we are not doing what we should, that an organization without constant, consistent work is a farce.

I know it in my heart that our Society is made up of good people—some of the top brains in the country are here. Though we may not be living we certainly are not dead—only a jolt is needed to bring us out of this state of suspended animation.

— EDITOR.

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