News and Notes

LEPROSY: SCIENCE WORKING TOWARDS DIGNITY

An extensive overview of leprosy, from past to present, is covered in this detailed study published by Tokai University Press of Tokyo. It provides an account of the improvements made in controlling leprosy through advances in knowledge and progress in curing those affected with Multi-drug therapy, which allow for greater concentration these days on tackling the social consequences of leprosy.

The opening of this new monograph consists of two chapters: one examines the history of leprosy, and the other its epidemiology. Professor Cairns Smith, Chair in Public Health at the University of Aberdeen and Chair of the ILEP Technical Commission, wrote the second chapter. There are a further three sections on the scientific, clinical and social aspects of leprosy respectively. The chapter on chemotherapy was provided by Dr. Paul Saunderson, Medical Director for the American Leprosy Missions and the International Leprosy Mission and member of the ILEP Technical Commission.

List of Contents:
Leprosy: Science Working Towards Dignity
Edited by Masanao Makino, Masanori Matsuoka, Masamichi Goto and Kentaro Hatano
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WORKING TO OVERCOME THE GLOBAL IMPACT OF NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES

First WHO Report on Neglected Tropical Diseases, 2010

Neglected tropical diseases blight the lives of a billion people worldwide and threaten the health of millions more. These close companions of poverty weaken impoverished populations, frustrate the achievement of health in the Millennium Development Goals and impede global public health outcomes.

This report presents evidence to demonstrate that activities undertaken to prevent and control neglected tropical diseases are producing results – and that achievements are being recognized. By 2008, preventive chemotherapy had reached more than 670 million people in 75 countries.

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