



From: Dr. Bradford Shingleton

Sent: 09 February 2022

*... I simply want to express my profound appreciation for the many positive interactions I have had with the entire Aravind team over the years. We make our donation because of the great impact Aravind has had on me personally and professionally.*

*Some of you may not recall that I first came to Madurai in 1981 when I was a senior resident at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary. Along with my Boston mentor, Dr. B. Thomas Hutchinson, we gave a course on cataract and glaucoma and I stayed on for six weeks of clinical work. Dr. Christine Melton was there at the same time. I spent a good deal of time with Dr. Venkataswamy and this clearly was one of the highlights of my visit. It was also a superb surgical and clinical experience. I learned the Simcoe irrigation/ aspiration technique for cortex removal and have continued using this technique in my cataract surgery for the past 40 years!*

*My wife, Barbara, and I have had the privilege of sharing time in our Boston home with many Aravind doctors. We greatly respect the clinical excellence of all the Aravind doctors and we are very thankful for the opportunity of getting to know so many of you personally.*

*Three years ago, Barbara and I had a lovely visit to Madurai, Chennai, Pondicherry and Tirunelveli. It was amazing to see, in person, the extraordinary growth and changes made since my visit in 1981. You are to be commended on building such a superb eye care system. You truly have become one of the world wide leaders in the delivery of eye care. In addition, our hosts in each city provided us with a delightful tour of many spectacular sites. It was very special for me to return to Chennai since I had lived there as a boy in 1961-62. The visit brought back many fond memories for me. One in particular stands out, as we went to the Madras Christian College School which I attended. I felt transported back to the time when I wore khaki shorts and a white shirt in the 6th Standard at MCCS. What a treat!*

*It is impossible for me to fully describe the remarkable impact all of you and the entire Aravind Eye Care System have had on my life. It started with Dr. V and it has continued in so many positive ways. I greatly value the surgical skills I learned, the collaborations on lectures, manuscripts and book chapters we have had together and most importantly, I treasure the friendships that have been forged over the past 40 years. It is a privilege for me to count all of you as colleagues, mentors and friends. I know that our donation to Aravind will be used wisely and invested in serving the eye care needs of many people in India and around the world.*

*Once again, I thank you for welcoming a young resident in 1981 and then collaborating with me in so many ways since that time. The stamp of Aravind is indelibly etched into the fabric of my career and I am a better ophthalmologist because of it. I wish you all the best for 2022 and many years to come.*

*Most Sincerely,*

*Brad Shingleton*

