Dear Reader,

_ Mahatma Gandhi_ once said, “Live as if you were to die tomorrow; learn as if you were to live forever.” Learning, thus, is a never-ending process, more so in dentistry and particularly in endodontics. In this present era, knowledge is just a click away; however, the authenticity of such information is not always reliable. Literature plays a vital role in the shaping of a dentist into a concept-driven clinician. Apart from textbooks and journals, various educational forums where knowledge and clinical skills are shared without barriers contribute to the field of dentistry. One such online forum is Roots, which has been passionately educating and motivating young general dentists and endodontists. It has welcomed all those who have a passion for endodontics into its fold.

The majority of the advancements in endodontics are technology driven. Complete dependence on gadgets, however, without application of basic concepts makes us technicians, not endodontists. These tools can only be useful adjuncts to good theoretical knowledge and clinical skills. What better place to obtain the best of both, the latest in technological advancements and the training to use them to enhance your concept-driven clinical acumen, than dental meetings? Roots Summits have been held in various parts of the world. The last one was held at Foz do Iguaçu in Brazil in 2012. This year’s Roots Summit will be held in Asia for the first time, in Mahabalipuram, a peaceful beach town near the southern city of Chennai in India. The organising committee has been working tirelessly to make this summit a memorable one. An array of national and international speakers are working on presentations, including the complexities of the root canal, the management of separated instruments, and regenerative endodontics, which are critical areas in today’s clinical scenario in endodontics. To add to this, there are more than a dozen pre-summit workshops to choose from for those who wish to gain first-hand experience. This will be a golden opportunity for all dentists from Asian countries and from far to meet in India to further enhance their knowledge and skills in a positive way. To learn more about the technological advancements, there is no better place than the summit, where there will be a plethora of dental companies showcasing the latest in the field of endodontics.

 Roots magazine has always been known for its superior quality, in its articles, illustrations and print. This issue too covers topics that will offer insights on instrument retrieval, pre-endodontic restorations, conservative root canal instrumentation and phototherapy, among others.

I wish to sign off with an invitation to every reader and member of the Roots community to attend Roots Summit 2014 and contribute to its success.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Sekar Mahalaxmi
Head of the Department of Conservative Dentistry and Endodontics
SRM University, College of Dentistry, Chennai, India