

# மேதகு. Dr. வடமலையான்



BY  
P. SIVALINGAM





**புத்தகத்தின் தலைப்பு: மேதகு. Dr. வடமலையான்**

**முதல் பதிப்பு - 2025**

**பதிப்புரிமை 2025 © பி. சிவலிங்கம்**

No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the copyright owners.

**Disclaimer**

The author is solely responsible for the contents published in this book. The publishers don't take any responsibility for the same in any manner. Errors, if any, are purely unintentional and readers are requested to communicate such errors to the editors or publishers to avoid discrepancies in future.

**E-ISBN: 978-93-7020-633-5**

**MRP Rs. 160/-**

**Publisher, Printer & Distributor:**

Selfpage Developers Pvt Ltd.,  
Pushpagiri Complex,  
Beside SBI Housing Board,  
K.M. Road Chikkamagaluru, Karnataka.  
Tel.: +91-8861518868  
E-mail: info@iipbooks.com

**IMPRINT: IIP Iterative International Publishers**

**For Sales Enquiries:**

Contact: +91- 8861511583  
E-mail: sales@iipbooks.com

## Preface



It is a privilege and honor for me to bring some aspects of the Biography of Dr. P. Vadamalayan. In those days the General surgeons were real general surgeons, doing surgery in all cases of Orthopaedic, Spine, paediatric, Gynec, etc. in addition to general surgery. Dr. P. Vadamalayan treated all medical conditions also.

The interest he had in general surgery which includes Ortho, Paediatric, and Gynec can be appreciated by the number of operations he had witnessed in the USA and UK. Though he might have done many Gastric, and thyroid surgeries, etc., he has witnessed the surgeries done by the great surgeons in that field for the improvements in his surgical technique. But nowadays, it is the period of specialization and more subspecialties in surgery and medicine have been established.

On the weekends he goes for sightseeing in various places like museums, gardens, and shopping complexes by city tour bus.

In short, he spent four months as a research scholar and Surgeon in different specialties at that time (1950s) and as a tourist. He made use of his professional tour for himself and the patients in Tamil Nadu. Dr. P. Vadamalayan after returning from his

professional tour made up his mind to establish a new Hospital in Madurai with all modern equipment.

Dr. Vadamalayan wrote about his professional tour to America, England, and Europe in the 1953 diary. He made well-pre-planned programs for his visit to the famous Hospitals and to see the Surgeries done by internationally renowned Surgeons in those days. He got many letters of introduction from the doctors in India as well as from the doctors of Indian origin working in the above countries. Dr. W. Happer Col.IMS., (Retired Superintendent of Government Erskine Hospital Madurai) helped him a lot during his visit to America, and Dr. Mannadi Nayar, once Surgeon General, Madras, then Additional Medical Advisor to the High Commissioner of India in London helped him in England.

The handwritten particulars of the professional tour of the great surgeon Dr. P. Vadamalayan to computer-typed one is taken as a challenge. In the meantime, I got some more information about Dr. P. Vadamalayan.

When I have gone through some of the events that occurred in Dr. P. Vadamalayan's speeches given during the latter half of his life, and the felicitation given by the notable publics of Madurai and the Souvenir released on that occasion made me think of taking up the challenge to bring at least the latter half of his Biography of the great Surgeon Dr. P. Vadamalayan. Since I have been in the USA and UK, I have seen all the medical institutions he has visited.

After seeing the working conditions of the hospitals and operation theatres in those countries, he decided to construct a hospital parallel to the developed countries with modern operative equipment of that time. His ambition was fulfilled in 1957. In those days, this modern hospital was the biggest private hospital in the Southern part of Tamil Nadu and was inaugurated by Mr K. Kamaraj, then the Chief Minister of Madras State (now Tamil Nadu) on 15<sup>th</sup> Sept 1957. In the speech on this occasion, Dr. P. Vadamalayan narrated how he was forced to start a private

practice in Madurai, how he worked as an Honorary assistant at the government Headquarters Hospital, Madurai, and later as an Honorary Surgeon in Government Erskine Hospital (now Rajaji Hospital). His name was on the hospital name board showing the names of the heads of the Departments in various departments of Govt Rajaji Hospital as senior consulting surgeon and a large size black and white photo in the newly constructed operation theatre complex. This Biography came out based on the particulars available to me. I know that this work on his Biography is incomplete. But I thought something is better than nothing. I hope somebody may add more in the future.

The Biography of Dr. P. Vadamalayan is brought in six headings:

1. His childhood and family.
2. Presidential speech given by him in the annual meeting of Nadar Mahajena Sangam at Virudhunagar in 1950.
3. His professional tour to America, England, and Europe from 19.4.1953 for four months. The particulars are taken from the diary written by Dr. P. Vadamalayan himself in his own words in English and the events of the tour are analysed in different ways.
4. Inauguration of the New Hospital in Chokkikulam on 15.09.1957.
5. Felicitation functions for his 50 years of medical service and release of Souvenir at Madurai in 1971 which is in English.
6. Mr. Soundara Rajan's writing about Dr. Vadamalayan.

He has witnessed 78 operations in the USA and 57 operations in the UK, a total of 135 operations. He witnessed a very rare surgery of separation of 41-year-old Siam twins, done by Dr. Lahey on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1953. In Europe, he could not see any operation because the surgeons to whom he got introductory letters were on leave and he could not get an introduction letter for surgeons in Europe.

Dr. P. Vadamalayan has seen the surgery done by Prof. Ian Aird in Hammersmith's post-graduate school, Subtotal thyroidectomy, Radical Mastectomy, etc., and had lunch with him in the hospital. Prof. Ian Aird had written a Postgraduate book on surgery (single author) 'Companion in Surgery' with references on all pages (950 pages without an Orthopaedic section) without a Photo and illustrative diagram. The only photo was of cleft palate repair. This book was considered the 'Bible for Surgeons' in the 1960s.

Dr. Vadamalayan has seen experimental Physiology in the science building in Mayo's clinic, went to Mayo's Hospital Anatomy and Pathology museum, saw the specimen prepared in the middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and the original specimen of Addison's Suprarenal, Bright's kidney, and Hodgkin's glands. He has seen the Surgical Research lab in St. Mary's Hospital and saw Prof. Rob's collections of slides of arterial grafts for the Atheroma of the popliteal and common iliac artery. He made use of his professional tour for himself and the patients in Tamil Nadu. Dr. P. Vadamalayan after returning from a professional tour has implemented modern techniques in Surgery in his practice.

After seeing the working conditions of the hospitals and operation theatre, he decided to construct a hospital parallel to the developed countries with modern operative equipment of that time. His ambition was realized in 1957. This modern hospital was the biggest in the Southern part of our state in those days and was inaugurated by Thiru. K. Kamaraj, then the Chief Minister of Madras State (now Tamil Nadu) on 15th Sept 1957. In the speech on this occasion, Dr. P. Vadamalayan narrated how he was forced to start a private practice in Madurai, how he worked as an Honorary assistant at Government Headquarters Hospital, Madurai, and later, as an Honorary Surgeon in Government Erskine Hospital (now Rajaji Hospital). He was responsible for bringing Madurai Medical College and the conversion of Government Erskine Hospital into a teaching institution. When the hospital was made a teaching institution, he continued as Honorary Senior Consulting Surgeon in Government Rajaji

Hospital till his death. His name was on the hospital name board showing the names of HOD in various departments of Govt Rajaji Hospital as senior consulting surgeon and a large size black and white photo in the newly constructed operation theatre complex.

He is responsible for bringing Kamaraj University and served as a Syndicate member of that University for two teams. In addition to his professional activities, he has given training to many younger generations, from in and around Madurai.

In 1971 to commemorate his 50 years of dedicated service in the medical profession and released a souvenir in which many people both medical and educational personnel, praised the services of Dr. P. Vadamalayan. Some of them were listed in this Biography in English. In 1970. I am sure that those who go through this short Biography of Dr. P. Vadamalayan will appreciate the work he has rendered for the Medical profession in those days with minimal resources.

Prof. P. Sivalingam. M.S; M.N.A.M.S;  
Retired Prof. and HOD of Surgery.  
Madurai Medical College.  
Colorectal Surgeon  
Govt. Rajaji Hospital.  
Madurai.

**Email: [drpsivalingam@yahoo.com](mailto:drpsivalingam@yahoo.com)**

Cell: 88700 55855

Date. 25. 02. 2025.

# **Acknowledgement**

I sincerely thank Mrs. Swarna Velshankar for giving the details of Dr. Vadamalayan's ancestors and her father Mr. Soundarajan (who is the son of Mr. Vennar Alagappa Nadar) who wrote some aspects of the biography of Dr. Vadamalayan which were included in this Biography. She also gave old black-and-white photos.

I also thank Mrs. Niraimathy Renganathan for giving detailed particulars about Mrs. Rajaparamesvathi Vadamalayan's ancestors-W.P.A. Family about 4 years back.

I thank my better half Dr. Balasaraswathi for persistent encouragement in completing her father's Biography.

I thank Mr. Jothikumar who has scanned the previous 60 years' photos for this Biography.

I thank the publisher for elegantly publishing this book

Prof. P. Sivalingam. M.S; M.N.A.M.S;  
Date. 25.02.2025.

# Contents

Sl. No.	Description	Page no.
1.	சாத்தங்குடி	1
2.	Dr. வடமலையான் குடும்ப வரலாறு	5
3.	ராஜபரமேஸ்வரி குடும்ப வரலாறு	12
4.	Dr. ராஜகோபால் திருமணம்:	15
5.	Dr.வடமலையான்: ஆரம்ப கால மருத்துவ தொழில்.	25
6.	நாடார் மகாஜன சங்கம் 20 வது மகாநாடு, மதுரை	27
7.	<b>Professional Tour of Dr. P. Vadamalayan</b>	29
8.	டாக்டர் வடமலையான் "புதிய ஆஸ்பத்திரி திறப்பு விழா:"	63
9.	<b>Dr. Vadamalayan Activities in Education</b>	70
10.	<b>Felicitation Functions for Dr. P. Vadamalayan</b>	72
11.	திரு. சவுந்தரராஜன் வடமலையான் பற்றி எழுதியது	85
12.	<b>Doctors Worked as Dr. Vadamalayan's Assistants.</b>	98

13.	மதுரை மருத்துவக் கல்லூரி தொடக்கம்	100
14.	மதுரை பல்கலை கழகம்.	102
15.	<b>Conclusion Remark</b>	105

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



**Prof. P. Sivalingam** is a retired Professor and H.O.D of Surgery at Madurai Medical College and Colorectal Surgeon Govt. Rajaji Hos-pital Madurai. Governing council member of The Tamil Nadu Dr.M.G.R. Medical University for 3 years from August 2000. Trained in Colorectal Surgery under Common Wealth Medical Fel-lowship. Elected as president of the Association of Colon and Rec-tal Surgeons of India 1995-96. Appointed as Director of Surgical Studies in Association of Surgeons of India for 3 years (2001-2003).Chairman of Fellowship Examination of Association of Co-lon and Rectal Surgeons of India (2008-2011).Member of 13 Aca-demic bodies in the medical field. Faculty Member in 35 seminars and 10 workshops. Lectures were given in 29 Continuous Medi-cal Education programs in various parts of India. Eight chapters were contributed to different Medical books. Published 12 books including one autobiography. Lifetime Achievement Award from the Asian Federation of Coloproctology (2009), the Association of Colon and Rectal Surgeons of India (2009), and the Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University (2012).



Selfypage Developers Pvt Ltd

E-ISBN : 978-93-7020-633-5



MRP Rs 160/-