

Jorhat Christian Medical Centre
Jail Road
PO Borbheta
Jorhat 785004 Assam India

The vision of providing medical services in the plains of Assam and the surrounding hilly regions was greatly felt by the “American Baptist Foreign Mission Society” in 1906 and subsequently a medical missionary Dr. Herbert William Kirby, a qualified homeopath from the Hahnemann Homeopathic Medical College, in Philadelphia, PA. was assigned to Sadiya in Upper Assam.

From 1906 – 1919 a medical educational program under the leadership of Rev. S. A. D. Boggs to train medical personnel was started. In 1919 when Dr. Kirby relocated to Jorhat a dispensary of bamboo walls was built and in the market place a temporary two room location was established. Patients started to come for medications as well as those who had leprosy. Since these patients were not able to go back home Dr. Kirby had “shacks” built for them. A grant of \$10,000.00 was received from a church in Philadelphia and houses were then constructed for these Leprosy patients.

In 1924 the dispensary of bamboo walls became Clark Memorial Dispensary. Patients had come from as far as North East India, Myanmar and China. In 1927, Dr. Jinas August Ahlquist and Dr. Kirby planned and constructed the Treat Memorial Hospital through donations from American Baptist Mr. Milo Clinton Treat.

The care for patients continued to expand doing major surgical procedures as well as cataract surgeries. The first American Baptist Missionary nurse was appointed in 1932, Miss Elna Gustilie Forssel, but the American Baptist Women’s Society. Other American Baptist Missionaries nurses had immense contributions toward the growth and development of the School of Nursing.

By 1938 the hospital had 30 beds and 14 bassinets. During this time an addition of the Tuberculosis Sanatorium was constructed. In 1954 the Christian Leprosy Clinic was opened. Dr. Kirby’s daughter, Dr. Mary Kirby Berry took over as head of the centre until her death in 1957.

The hospital has been growing and has a very good reputation in the entire region. The following services are provided:

Emergency Care
Intensive Care Unit (In partnership with Rotary Club, Jorhat) established in 2006
Laboratory
X-Ray
Ultrasound
Laparoscope unit

Burn Unit
Surgical Unit
Obstetrics and Gynecology
Medication dispensary
Orthopedics
Pediatrics
Women and Child welfare Services
Leprosy Clinic
Community Health

The hospital is also involved in extensively in the community health care and hygiene. They have a permanent centre at Namrupia Village, which is 27 km from Jorhat. Three nurses reside on a rotation bases. A population of almost 5,000 are benefited by this program, where doctors visit every forth night.

The hospital is greatly indebted to International Ministries and the White Cross for all their financial and prayer support.

“The Jorhat Christian Medical Centre (mission hospital) will uphold the expectations of the donors as we strive to live with our motto – “Witness through Service”. May the Lord Almighty bless us all in our partnership to serve the sick and the suffering and the community as a whole. Dr. C. Lawrence, Medical Superintendent