

THE DAMIEN-DUTTON AWARD



The Damien-Dutton Award was presented during the Official Banquet of the XI Congress to Dr. Fernando Latapi in recognition of his outstanding contribution and life-long dedication to integrating leprology and dermatology.

The award was established in 1953 by the Damien-Dutton Society for Leprosy Aid, Inc., to honor those persons or organizations who have made an outstanding contribution towards the conquest of leprosy either through medical care, rehabilitation, research, education or philanthropy. The award is in the form of a bronze medallion mounted on a wooden plaque with a bronze plate stating the name of the recipient and the reason of the recognition.

Dr. Latapi, a native of Mexico City, received his Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Mexico 51 years ago. Five years later he was appointed director of the Centro Dermatologico Pascua. For over 40 years Dr. Latapi has been fighting against leprosy and prejudice against persons afflicted with leprosy; he developed revolutionary ideas concerning leprosy control and compulsory isolation of patients. In 1948, Dr. Latapi founded the Mexican Association Against Leprosy, a voluntary agency which helps him in his work. Dr. Latapi's commitment and compassion have made a decisive contribution to the welfare of persons with leprosy in Mexico and throughout the world.

La Casa Blanca
Washington
8 de noviembre de 1978

Al Dr. Fernando Latapí:

Lo felicito a usted por ser quien recibe el Galardon Damien Dutton 1978, y aplaudo sus notables contribuciones al tratamiento y control de la lepra.

Es sumamente apropiado que la presentación que se le hace de este honor coincida con el XI Congreso Internacional de la Lepra que se lleva a cabo en su país. Hace 41 años, en 1937 usted fundó el Centro Dermatológico Pascua, y en 1948, la Asociación Mexicana de Acción Contra la Lepra. Bajo su dirección, estas organizaciones han llevado la atención de la lepra a gran número de sus gentes, incluyendo a aquellos que viven en regiones apartadas y difíciles de alcanzar.

Debe darle gran satisfacción el ver sus esfuerzos reconocidos internacionalmente, y en particular, en el momento en que su país es la sede de este importante congreso científico.

Es un placer para mí unirme a los sentimientos que le serán expresados y deseárselo felicidad y éxito en el futuro.

Sinceramente,

Jimmy Carter

Previous Recipients of the Damien-Dutton Award

1953 Stanley Stein, USA	1966 Peace Corps, USA
1954 Rev. Joseph Sweeney, KOREA	1967 Dr. Howard A. Rusk, USA
1955 Sister Marie Suzanne, FRANCE	1968 Dr. Franz Hemerijckx, BELGIUM
1956 Perry Burgess, USA	1969 Dr. Victor George Heiser, USA
1957 John Farrow, USA	1970 Dr. Dharmendra, INDIA
1958 Sister Hilary Ross, USA	1971 Dr. Chapman H. Binford, USA
1959 Dr. H. Windsor Wade, PHILIPPINES	1972 Dr. Patricia Smith, VIETNAM
1960 Mgr. Louis Joseph Mendelis, USA	1973 Dr. Jacinto Convit, VENEZUELA
1961 Dr. Kensuke Mitsuda, JAPAN	1974 Dr. José N. Rodriguez, PHILIPPINES
1962 Rev. Pierre de Orgeval, FRANCE	1975 Dr. Oliver Hasselblad, USA
1963 Eunice Weaver, BRASIL	1976 Dr. Yoshio Yoshie, JAPAN
1964 Dr. Robert G. Cochrane, GREAT BRITAIN	1977 Drs. Paul and Margaret Brand, USA
1965 John F. Kennedy, USA (Posthumous)	