



**Indian Doctors Association**

**Greater Houston**

September 2021 Edition

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## President's Message



Who knew how COVID-19 would affect us all both professionally and personally?

These are the challenging times, high burnout rates among physicians, allied health professionals and especially our young minds; our students and residents. Such times remind us of the value of our support systems, our family, friends and colleagues.

Let's pull together this year and promise to take care of ourselves and others. I promise, IDA will always provide a platform to serve its members.



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*Atasu Nayak, MD  
President*

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## MEMBERS CORNER



*Lifetime Member  
Pranav Loyalka, MD*

My name is Pranav Loyalka and I currently work as a cardiologist in Houston. My amazing family includes: my wife Alpana, and our children Niyati and Shreyus, and our dog Cosmo.

As far as my career, I have had the great pleasure of working at the Texas Heart Institute for 7 years and then moving to Memorial Hermann/University of Texas-Houston in 2012 and starting the Heart Transplant and Mechanical Support Service program. In 2018, I moved to HCA as the Cardiovascular Medical Director for the HCA Gulfcoast Region (Houston, Corpus Christi, McAllen and Brownsville), which includes 17 hospitals. I am also currently a Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of Houston Medical School.

I have a wide range of interests: Interventional Cardiology, Structural Heart Disease, Adult Congenital Heart Disease, Heart Failure, and Transplantation. I enjoy treating patients with complex and difficult cases. I participate in a number of groundbreaking research trials for cardiovascular disease.

I am excited to be a part of IDA Houston. IDA does a lot for the Indian American physician community in Houston by providing a great platform to meet colleagues, by serving the Houston community, and by offering ancillary support for the physicians and their families

with informative seminars on a variety of financial and educational topics. IDA has always had excellent leadership and I am particularly excited that my good friend Dr. Atasu Nayak is the president this year. He is an amazing person and dynamic leader who I have known for almost 30 years. I look forward to being an active member of this truly outstanding organization!

**Pranav Loyalka, MD, FACC, FSCAI**

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## MEMBERS CORNER



*Annual Member*  
**Keshava Rajagopal, MD,  
PhD**

Keshava Rajagopal, M.D., Ph.D, is a cardiac surgeon and scientist. He is the Surgical Director for Mechanical Circulatory Support and Thoracic Organ Transplantation for HCA Houston Healthcare, and a Professor of Clinical Sciences at the University of Houston College of Medicine. Keshava grew up in Pittsburgh, and having completed high school at the age of 13, received his B.S. in Chemistry (magna cum laude, and FBK) from the University of Pittsburgh.

Thereafter, he undertook medical and graduate education at The University of Chicago, as a student in the Medical Scientist Training Program. He received his Ph.D. in Immunology, and his M.D. with Honors. After this, he undertook residency training in General Surgery, and subsequently Cardiothoracic Surgery, at Duke University Medical Center. Since then, prior to his current position, he has been an Assistant Professor at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and Medical Center, after which he was an Assistant and then Associate Professor at the McGovern

Medical School, University of Texas-Houston. There, along with his colleagues, he initiated a program in lung

transplantation. For the last 1.5 years, he has been in his current position. Keshava and his wife Shilpa, who is a pediatrician, have been married for over 19 years, and have 3 children: Hari (16), Leela (13), and Shriram (11). He looks forward to contributing to the mission of IDA.

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## MEMBERS CORNER



*Lifetime Member*  
**Khaja Moinuddeen, MD**

Khaja Moinuddeen, MD FACS, with HCA Houston Healthcare and Houston Heart is Board Certified by the American Board of Thoracic Surgery and the American Board of Surgery. Dr. Moinuddeen specializes in Adult Cardiac surgery, Thoracic surgery, Peripheral Vascular, Endovascular surgery, aneurysms, minimally invasive carotid surgery and limb salvage surgery.

Dr. Moinuddeen completed his medical degree from Hubli , Karnataka, India, surgical training from the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh and King Edward Memorial Hospital, Mumbai, all premier and tertiary care centers in India. He completed general surgical residency in Pennsylvania. His residency training in Cardiovascular and Thoracic surgery and fellowship training in heart transplantation was at Yale University Hospital, New Haven, Connecticut. He gained his expertise in Endovascular surgery from the Arizona Heart institute, Phoenix, Arizona and Germany.

Dr. Moinuddeen is a member of the American College of Surgeons, Society of

Thoracic Surgeons, American Heart Association, Yale Surgical society and American Medical Association. He has numerous publications in esteemed medical journals including Circulation, Chest, Japanese Annals of thoracic Surgery and European Journal of Cardiothoracic Surgery. He has presented at many national and international conferences including the Clinical Congress, American College of Surgeons, Society of University Surgeons, American Heart Association and Society of Vascular Surgery.

Dr. Moinuddeen has held several leadership positions in training and was the Medical Director of a cardiovascular surgery program in West Virginia. He has been practicing in the Houston area since the year 2011.

In his leisure time, Dr. Moinuddeen enjoys bicycling and reading. He has held an adult leadership role in the Boy Scouts of America for the past 10 years and his son will soon be an Eagle Scout.

#### **Office locations**

450 Medical Center Blvd, Suite 600A  
Webster, TX 77598  
Phone: 281 332 4596

3801 Vista Road, Suite 360  
Pasadena, TX, 77504  
Phone: 713 359 2221

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## **MEMBERS CORNER**



*Annual Member*  
**Neeti Reddy, MD**

Neeti Reddy was born in Hyderabad, India and immigrated to the United States when she was 4. Her roots are in the Rio Grande Valley. She attended the University of Texas at Austin, double-majoring in Middle-eastern Studies and Human Biology, and graduated Phi Beta Kappa. She went on to attend medical school at the University of Texas McGovern Medical School. She completed a residency in Internal Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine, a fellowship in Cardiovascular Medicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, and an advanced fellowship in Advanced Heart Failure and Cardiac Transplantation at UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, TX. When not treating patients, she enjoys reading a variety of genres, writing short stories, and archery.

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## **Odisha Society of America Health and Wellness Certificate of Appreciation**



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## Bike Around the Bay

October 23 and 24, 2021



IDA has partnered with Galveston Bay Foundation for a new wellness initiative. Scheduled for October 23 and 24, the Cyclic AMP Team will be riding around Galveston Bay in the 15th annual Bike Around the Bay cycling event. The 2021 Bike Around the Bay, is a one-of-a-kind opportunity to see and experience Galveston Bay on a bike, all while supporting a great local cause: the preservation of Galveston Bay for years to come. Don't miss out on this chance to help support a great cause and further your wellness journey.



**Bike Around the Bay Interest Details:**

### Dr. Jignesh Shah

Director, Medical Staff Affairs, Memorial Hermann SouthEast and Pearland Hospitals  
[Jignesh.Shah@memorialhermann.org](mailto:Jignesh.Shah@memorialhermann.org)

### Dr Jerry Thurman

Medical Director Hospitalist, Memorial Hermann SouthEast and Pearland Hospitals  
[Jerry.Thurman@memorialhermann.org](mailto:Jerry.Thurman@memorialhermann.org)

[http://support.galvbay.org/site/TR/Events/General/1311605468.jsessionid=00000000.app30119b?pg=team&fr\\_id=1230&team\\_id=4793&NONCE\\_TOKEN=5B21A85F72679F25296A5A18D65E831D](http://support.galvbay.org/site/TR/Events/General/1311605468.jsessionid=00000000.app30119b?pg=team&fr_id=1230&team_id=4793&NONCE_TOKEN=5B21A85F72679F25296A5A18D65E831D)

**Team: Cyclic Amp**

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## India Ministry of Culture: Ajanta Caves



Located about 107 km from Aurangabad, the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Ajanta Caves are a famous cluster of 32 Buddhist caves. The rock-hewn caves at Ajanta are either chaityas (shrine), chapels or prayer halls, or viharas (monasteries) or residential cells.

Caves 9 and 10 are chaityas, which contain the earliest known remnants of paintings in India. Caves 19, 26 and 29 are chaityas of the Mahayana period and all the other caves are viharas. Ajanta displays the Gandhara and Mathura schools of art from the Kushana period; the Sarnath school of art from the Gupta period; and the Amaravati school of art from the late Satavahana and Ikshvaku periods.



*The Ajanta paintings recount the life of Lord Buddha, including his previous earthly experiences and the Jataka tales. The caves are divided into two chronological phases, the early Buddhist caves (2nd century BCE to 1st century CE) and the Mahayana caves (5th century CE).*

*Since Ajanta is located on the ancient trade route of Dakshinapatha, the early phase of Ajanta was funded mostly by traders. The second phase received patronage from the Vakatakas. Stories of these donors are inscribed and painted. The narrative murals about Lord Buddha, Avadana stories of Bodhisattva, Jataka stories and panels based on Mahayana themes from Vipulya Sutras are extremely interesting. The monasteries were in operation till the 8th century CE but were lost and forgotten till 1819.*

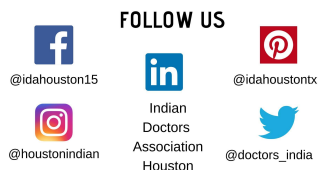
For more information, [click here](#).

## IDA Officers and Board

**Board Officers:** Atasu Nayak, MD • Ashima Chauhan, MD • Arvind Bhimraj, MD • Jignesh Shah, MD

**Board Members:** Vanitha Bala, MD • Arusha Bavare, MD • Subodh Chauhan, MD • Manish Gandhi, MD • Prashant Gajwani, MD • Neeta Hiray, MD • Prasun Jalal, MD • Pushan Jani, MD • Swati Joglekar, MD • Apurva Pancholy, MD • Nilesch Patel, MD • Nirali Patel, MD • Paresh Patel, MD • Sangeeta Saikia, MD • Uttam Tripathy, MD  
**Executive Administrator:** Puja Shah

## IDA Social Media



Members and events are highlighted on our social media channels.

## IDA Speakers Bureau

Please update your membership profile on [idahouston.org](http://idahouston.org) if you would be interested in becoming a motivational speaker for IDA at our future events.

## IDA Physician Specialty Awareness Videos



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