



## President's Message



### Welcome to January-April 2018 Issue

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It is always a pleasure when a new issue of the Journal goes into print. One can visualize the faces and expression of the authors, many of whom may be publishing their first papers. Indeed, the Journal has always encouraged budding scientists and researchers to publish. The Asian Journal of Pharmacognosy hopes to become one of the premier scientific journals in the near future and to reach that point encourages all young and experienced researchers to publish in the Journal. Asia remains from the floristic point of view, a still unexplored continent. Apart from Brazil, two of the floral hotspots of the world are in India and Indonesia. Indian and Chinese traditional medicinal systems are among the oldest medicinal systems. Thus record of the therapeutic properties of plants goes back in India and China to at least 5,000 years ago. After a hiatus of several hundred years, the world has started to recognize the values of phytotherapy and traditional medicinal systems. Along with a paradigm shift from allopathic to holistic medicine has come new questions. How can herbal formulations be standardized given that plants grown in different locations can vary widely in both the quantitative and qualitative sense in their phytochemical content? How can safety of herbal medicines be assured given that plants need qualified experts for proper identification? Are herbal medicines safe, especially if they contain heavy metals? There are a lot of questions to answer, which can be done only with proper research. This is where pharmacognosists and other allied scientists can be useful and the Journal can help disseminate the results. On behalf of the Journal staff and more so the Chief Editor, I wish everybody success.