The Jhirad Oration was started in 1985 in honour of Dr. Jerusha Jhirad. Dr. Jhirad had a number of firsts including being the first Bene Israel woman to qualify in medicine, and being the first Indian to be appointed Superintendent of Cama and Albless Hospital in Mumbai in 1929. She was a founding member and President of the Association of Medical Women in India.

Traditionally the Jhirad Oration is given at MWIA International Congresses. It consists of a silver plaque and an Indian ceremony. As it has become prestigious there have been many enquiries as to how to apply for this award.

Following deliberations, the MWIA executive has decided that the Jhirad Oration will go to the person who will become immediate past president at the end of the congress at which it is awarded. This makes the awarding of the Oration transparent and takes away the need to have nominations and a selection committee.

As 2019 is MWIA’s centennial, an exception is to be made and the only two recent past presidents who have not received the prize will do so in 2019. Subsequently, there will be one recipient each congress.

The only stipulation is that the awardee must deliver a presentation at the congress. It does not need to be a keynote address but can be the presentation of a paper.

Thank you to the Association of Medical Women in India for their ongoing support of the Jhirad Oration.