
Short Communication

Significance of Lamp Lighting

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On May 12th, 1820, Florence Nightingale was born in Italy. She was the daughter of a wealthy landowner William Nightingale who taught her statistics, language, history, and mathematics. Her father provided her reputable education which was uncommon for Victorian women of the time. At 17, she started to visit sick people at home. In 1851 her father gave her permission to get formally trained as a nurse during the Crimean war that happened between Turkey and Russia. In this war, France and England were helping Turkey from 1854 to 56. After the war, British soldiers in Turkey started to die from cholera and malaria. At that time Russia and France were having religious sisters to take care of their wounded while England had only trained men. At that time Florence Nightingale received a letter of appeal from the Minister of War, after which she took 38 nurses with her and went to the hospital where 5 to 6 patients were sharing one room. At night she used to carry a lamp while taking rounds from room to room to look

after her patients. This earned her the affectionate title of the lady with the lamp. The lamp Lighting ceremony is an auspicious occasion in every nurse's life with reverence to Florence Nightingale. Nursing is the only profession that follows lamp lighting ceremonies. Here light not only symbolizes knowledge which removes ignorance and is a lasting wealth by which lots could be achieved but it also signifies the enlightenment, experience, hope, love, comfort, and positivity – driving away from the negativity that darkens everything. The oath taken by every nursing professional signifies the discharge of their duties with complete honesty, and integrity and without any discrimination. It is stated that lighting a lamp for someone else can also lighten your path, and there are only two ways to distribute the light: by becoming the candle or by reflecting it in a mirror. I salute all the Florence's of our nation and wish you a very Happy Nurses Day.