

Special mission in KK Toastmasters meeting

Mary Chin

KOTA KINABALU: Trainer, Executive Speech Coach and Inspirational Speaker, Dr Dilip R. Abayasekara, from the United States has a special mission to accomplish in the forthcoming KK 2012 Toastmasters District 87 Annual Convention hosted by the Kota Kinabalu Toastmasters Club from May 18 to 20.

As a keynote speaker, he wants to show the participants the big picture of what Toastmasters do – the meaning in what they do as Toastmasters.

"I will challenge them to break through obstacles to their own development, and also help others develop into the persons they could be.

By the time I am done, I want my audience to see the Toastmasters Programme with a whole new viewpoint – a viewpoint that attracts them to make the best of their Toastmasters journey," he said in a pre-convention interview.

On reports that he has trained and inspired thousands of people in many different industries in almost every State in the USA and in seven different countries since 1994, Dr Dilip said his special knack is to inspire an audience.

"As a speaker, my main focus is to give value to my audience.

I don't call myself a motivational speaker because motivation must arise from within each person.

"However, what I do is inspire my listeners so that they recognise possibilities within themselves and want to reach within and light their own candles of motivation," he shared.

One of his favourite quotes is: "If you want to change the world, don't wait for the world to change; just look at the old world with new eyes."

According to Dr Dilip, this quote is based on the truth that what we believe within, we project to the world outside.



Dr Dilip

"Our interpretations of the world outside are coloured by our internal lens of belief.

So if you want to change the outside, start with the inside.

"If you believe that the world is full of evil and people are out to get you, you will find evidence for that.

"Similarly, if you believe that there is goodness and love in the world, and that there are plenty of people who could help you, you will find evidence for that also.

"As you change, so will your world. As Mahatma Ghandi said, 'Be the change you want to see in the world,' he rationalised.

On how he has helped thousands of people discover their "new eyes", Dr Dilip said this was achieved through his private customised speech coaching, seminars and workshops in the areas of communication and presentation skills, creative thinking, relationship building, customer service, leadership and spirituality, apart from his inspirational keynote speeches.

Dr Dilip was born and raised in Colombo, Sri Lanka but had his higher education in the USA. He has a doctorate in Organic and Polymer Chemistry. After working for 12 years as an industrial scientist, he relinquished this role in favour of his avocation – connecting, influencing and enriching others through the power of the spoken word.

The focus of his company, Dr Dilip, LLC (And Speaker Services Unlimited, the Coaching Division) is to enable individuals and organisations to unleash their communication and performance potential.

Asked how much he knows about Malaysia, and Sabah in particular, Dr Dilip said: "I know only that which I have gleaned from an Internet search. So, I am looking forward to getting to know first hand something about the beautiful

"Land Below The Wind".