

# **“HALITOSIS (FETOR - ORIS)”**

## **- A Review**

*I hereby certify that the Library Dissertation entitled "Halitosis (Fetor - Oris) - A Review" is a record of work done by Dr. Sanjay Kaul in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Dental Surgery in Periodontics during the period of study at S.D.M. College of Dental Sciences & Hospital, Kanchi Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Dharwad, under my personal guidance, supervision and to my satisfaction.*

*A Library Dissertation*

*By*

*Dr. Sanjay Kaul*

*Dr. T. R. Gururaja Rao*

*M.B.B.S., M.D.S., B.S.D., F.I.C.D.*

*Professor & Head*

*Department of Periodontics*

*S.D.M. College of Dental*

*Sciences & Hospital*

*Dharwad*

**In partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of**  
**MASTER OF DENTAL SURGERY**  
**in the speciality of Periodontics**

## **Introduction**

Halitosis is a general term denoting unpleasant breath arising from psychological and pathological causes from oral and systemic sources.

Under normal conditions the human breath is free of offensive odours, but it does have a characteristic slightly sweetish odour, sometimes termed as the “human odour”. It has an aroma similar to the scent of blooming chestnuts ! Restoring this aroma is a sought after goal for millions of people who suffer from Halitosis which creates a barrier between them and their friends, family and co-workers.

Halitosis is one of society’s oldest and most troublesome social maladies. It has been recorded in literature for thousands of years. It has mention in **The Bible** and was also described by the Jews, Romans, Greeks, Chinese, Arabs etc., but modern literature was published only in 19th Century by **Home**.

Congent discussions about the terminology of this condition are found in dental literature. Other terms that are used for halitosis are Bad breath, Oral malodour, Fetor-oris, Fetor ex-ore etc., Irrespective of which term is chosen, patients or those around them often perceive this condition as socially unacceptable. At least 50% of population suffer from chronic halitosis and approximately half of these individuals experience a severe problem that creates a personal discomfort and social embarrassment.

An important clinical feature of Halitosis is that patients are unaware of their own bad breath. People may spend their entire life unaware that their breath is offensive. Conversely many others suffer from **Halitophobia**, a highly exaggerated fear that they suffer from bad

---