

**AWARD OF THE NATIONAL ORDER  
OF MERIT  
TO  
Dr. JOHN MERCIECA,  
MOM, DSc (Hon Causa), DDS.**



On Monday, December 13, 1993, at the Investiture Ceremony held at the Palace in Valletta, on the occasion of Republic Day, the President of the Republic of Malta, Dr Censu Tabone, bestowed the coveted decoration of Member of the

National Order of Merit (MOM) on our President, Dr John H. Mercieca, in recognition of his many and varied contributions to his country extending over a span of more than half a century.

Amongst these we find that Dr Mercieca, last March, completed 50 successive years as a Member of the Medical Board and the Medical Council of Malta. In 1944, Dr Mercieca was elected a member of the Medical Board at the Department of Health, on which he served for 15 successive years and in 1959, when this Board was raised in its status and became the Medical Council of Malta, he was elected a Member of this Council, which held its first sitting at the Palace Valletta on March 2, 1959, and was re-elected every three successive years up to the present day, in all 50 consecutive years.

In appreciation and in recognition of this all-time record of continuous service on any board or council in Malta, the President of the Medical Council Judge M. Caruana Curran on behalf of the Council, presented to Dr Mercieca an appropriate parchment card signed by all the members of the Council as well as a beautiful silver plate on which was inscribed his name, dates and all other relevant data.

Since the year 1957, Dr Mercieca has also served and is still serving as a Member of the Stamp Design Advisory Board at the Department of Posts, an appointment he still holds to the present day.

Throughout this span of over half a century, Dr Mercieca has served his profession for 13 years as Secretary and 21 years as President of the Dental Association of Malta, following which he was unanimously elected Honorary Life President. For over 40 successive years he also served as Examiner in Oral Medicine and Surgery and other subjects at the University of Malta. During the Second World War, Dr Mercieca served in the Royal Army Dental Corps in the rank of Captain.

Dr Mercieca was a founder member of the Federation of Professional Bodies and for many years a Council Member and Vice-President. For more than eight years Dr Mercieca was a member of the Hospital and Clinics Wages Council and also of the Advisory and Executive Board at the Department of Health.

For his academic contributions connected with his profession and on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Foundation of the Course of Dental Surgery and his graduation as one of the seven first ever dental students from the University of Malta, the University of Malta, on October 10, 1987, conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa).

Dr Mercieca, who is a Founder Member of the Philatelic Society of Malta, has served as President since 1971 for 23 consecutive years, which office he still holds to the present day and was very instrumental in the organisation and the celebrations of the 10th, 20th and 25th Anniversary of the Society.

Besides Dr Mercieca has served as an official or member on several other civic and professional Councils and committees.

The Philatelic Society of Malta congratulates Dr Mercieca on his well-merited Award and wish him "Ad Altiora".