



LATE PROF. (DR) ANUP BHATTACHARYA
(3rd Dec 1955 – 18th Jan 2021)

A Journey to the Sublime

Prof. (Dr) Mrinal Kanti Roy

Dr. Anup Bhattacharya, MBBS, MD, DM (Neuro), FICP, FRCP (Edin.), FACP (USA), an eminent neurologist and astute physician is no more amongst us. He passed away on the 18th of January 2021 for the heavenly abode. Today with a broken heart and bewildered mind, when I sit to reminisce about Late Prof. Anup Bhattacharya, a very close friend and colleague of mine, it becomes very difficult to pen coherently his versatile genius in accomplishing the immense contributions he had rendered in the field of medicine and its practice. He was an excellent academician, a student-friendly teacher, a dynamic person with extraordinary organizational capabilities and above all a human being bound to his moral values, ethics and patient care. Being a person of such magnanimous stature, he was always down to earth towards his colleagues, friends, students and patients.

Younger of two sons, of Late Satyabrata Bhattacharya and Smti. Maya Bhattacharya, he was born at Digboi, Assam on 3rd December 1955. He formally completed his schooling at Amar Krishna Pathshala, Bhatpara in 1971. He had a brilliant academic career in his school days. During his early life he used to play football. He liked reading story books especially thrillers and adventures. He was a great music lover especially Rabindra Sangeet. He spent two years in Siliguri and two years at Bhatpara during his early days before shifting to Naihati. He moved to Kalyani, Nadia in 2007.

He passed MBBS from RG Kar Medical College, Kolkata in 1979, MD (Medicine) in 1984 and DM (Neurology) in 1989 from IPGME&R under University of Calcutta. He joined as a Divisional Medical Officer in BR Singh Rly. Hospital, Kolkata for some time in late 1980s. He worked as RMO-cum-Clinical Tutor and then Assistant Professor in the Department of Neurology in Calcutta Medical College from 1992-96. For a short period he had been to London and had clinical attachment to Queen Square Institute of Neurology-London. He left WBMES and joined as Assistant Professor of Medicine in MGM Medical College, Kishanganj, Bihar in 1996 where he was promoted to Professor of Medicine in due course. He was in charge of Neurology division in addition to his normal duties at the same institute till 2018. Subsequently, he left this college and joined as Professor and Head of the Department of Medicine in Agartala Government Medical College on 27th February 2019 and remained associated till his last breath.

He was awarded the prize for best publication (MCI and Medical Education – JIMA 2015). He was a life member of API, IMA, IAN, MDSI, AAN (American Academy of Neurology), a member of the Editorial Board & Reviews of JIMA (2009–2011), Associate Editor of JIMA (2011–2013), Honorary Editor JIMA (2014–2015), and also the guest editor of several special issues of JIMA. An active member of API WB branch, his contribution to the association will never be forgotten. He served the association in various capacities. He was the Chairman of API WB Bulletin Committee 2012. He took the responsibility to run the prestigious Bengal Physicians Journal as Editor since 2015 until his death. He had written chapters in Medicine Updates (API, 2014) namely 'Association of Clinical Medicine', and an article in the Monograph of Chronic Diarrhoea (ICP-API publication, 2016). He also edited a monograph on Headache (an API publication, 2017). He delivered the prestigious GS Sainani Oration entitled "Newly Diagnosed Epilepsy – What Should I Do?" in 2014 at the Annual National Conference of IACM. He was the President of the 105th Indian Science Congress Medical Section (2017-2018). He was a thesis guide, an adjudicator for MD General Medicine course and also undergraduate and postgraduate examiner of different universities. He took keen interest in various research projects.

He was associated with a number of benevolent activities like Epilepsy Awareness and free health check up camp at Naihati for last twenty years. He was associated with Students' Health Home Kolkata, Nigamananda Ashram Halisahar, Naihati Municipality (MatriSadan), ShahidKhidiram Bose Hospital where he rendered yeomen's service to the suffering people.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Shashvati Bhattacharya and a worthy son and daughter who are accomplished in their own fields.

His passing away has created an irreparable vacuity which is difficult to be filled up. We will all miss a true human being par excellence whose philosophy of life and humanism made him a unique person who will be an abiding source of inspiration for future generations. Man is mortal but the soul is eternal. The spiritual tenet of a person can never be destroyed. It is invincible. Though we mourn his bodily absence his indomitable spirit shall live on in our collective consciousness.

Acknowledgments:

Mr Anirban Bhattacharya (Son)

Ms Sreetama Bhattacharya (Daughter)

Mr Arpan Losalka (Son-in-law)