Obituary

Prof Dr Ashok A. Mahashur
(14 December 1948–29 August 2022)

Clinician par excellence, Teacher of teachers, Astute researcher, and Stem administrator

Dr Mahashur left us for heavenly abode on 29 August 2022.

After completing his MBBS from Nagpur University, he did his MD in Pulmonary Medicine from Bombay University in 1976.

He joined Seth G S Medical College and KEM Hospital as a lecturer in Respiratory Medicine in 1977 and gradually shouldered the responsibility of Professor and Head, Department for Chest and TB at GS Medical College and KEM Hospital from 1990. He was also the Chief of Intensive Respiratory Care Unit and In-charge of Environmental Pollution Research Centre at KEM Hospital. He was a visiting physician to Sewri TB Group of Hospitals for over 20 years as well.

After bestowing 25 years of his life to medical college, he joined P D Hinduja Hospital as a Senior Chest Physician and DNB teacher in Respiratory Medicine.

Teaching was his passion and he was involved in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching. He was an examiner for both undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Respiratory Medicine as well as an examiner of CPS course in Respiratory and Industrial Medicine. He was also a PhD examiner at Osmania and Indore universities.

He made his academic mark outside the medical colleges and teaching institutes by serving various professional organizations and associations in various decision-making capacities. He was on the editorial board of various journals of national and international repute such as JAMA, BIOMED journals, Tuberculosis Update Current Trends, JAPI, Indian Journal of Chest Diseases, Lung India, and Thorax (India).

In appreciation of his immense contribution to science and services to the community, he was rightfully awarded by various fellowships and honors of national and international decency. Fellowship of American College of Physicians, Royal College of Physicians, National College of Physicians, and Indian College of Physicians are a few of the notable recognitions of his herculean activities. He was also awarded many national orations at medical conferences and his lectures have always been best crowd-pullers and most attended.

He also contributed his expertise by writing multiple chapters in various medical textbooks. He was also widely published for his humongous research work he had to his credit.

On a personal note, I had the chance to work under his leadership for about 25 years. He was a perfect guide, teacher, clinician, researcher, and at times a true friend. His capacity to give time and importance to juniors and students was astonishing. His humble attitude and down-to-earth behavior added extra flavor to his magnanimous personality. He was always available and just a phone call away for his students and patients.

Dr Mahashur’s contribution to Pulmonary Medicine, Tuberculosis, and Environmental Illnesses is unparalleled and unequivocal. Teachers like Dr Mahashur Sir never leave us, they are immortal with their gracious presence in our lives. He will always live in the hearts of his thousands of students and millions of patients.

Dr. Agam Vora
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Hon. Gen. Sec. National API