

Obituary

Dr. K. N. Gopalan



Dr. K. N. Gopalan was born on 13th June 1921 at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. He qualified for M.Sc and Ph.D under the guidance of world famous serologist Dr. C. W. Chacko. He had the opportunity to work under two great world recognized persons Dr. C. W. Chacko (Serologist) and Dr. R. V. Rajam (Venereologist) as an assistant Serologist and a Serologist. After Dr. R. V. Rajam's retirement, he worked under the stalwarts of Venereology, Dr. P. N. Rangiah and Dr. C. N. Sowmini. He retired as a professor of serology, Institute of Venereology and in charge of the then central venereal disease reference laboratory.

He was one of the founder members of IASSTD and AIDS and former Secretary and Executive Member for a number of years. He was also instrumental in starting the IASSTD Journal along with Dr. Sardarilal.

He was the recipient of Institute of Venereology Silver Jubilee Oration Award in 1988 at Jabalpur and the prestigious award of excellence for the exemplary services rendered to IASSTD and AIDS and to the profession on 3rd November 2004.

Dr. K. N. Gopalan represented India at the expert committee meeting of WHO on the laboratory aspects of venereal diseases held in Geneva. He was

in the panel of expert committee members of the WHO on venereal diseases for 10 years. He visited Governments of Bangladesh and Myanmar as a WHO consultant serologist to advice on laboratory aspects of S.T.D. in 1974.

He had been a member of the Govt. of India continuous medical education committee for a number of years and had visited the laboratories of medical colleges throughout India to give lectures on the laboratory aspects of S.T.D. as part of the Govt. of India program.

He was the secretary and correspondent of a school providing education to poor children. He was one of the founders of Sidhi Kamala Vinayakar Temple. Even at the age of 90, he met with politicians to solve community issues. What distinguishes him from other successful people is how he reached his lofty goals while maintaining his basic humanity, kindness and love for all the people who were associated with him and sought his help.

Dr. K. N. Gopalan lived a complete life and reached abode on 14th March 2015. We will miss him dearly; but every time you think of him, we will be reminded that he came down to our level and made us feel at home and feel his love.

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