

*Obituary*

### Prof. M. Nayeb Ali– A Life Sketch

Professor M. Nayeb Ali (1924-2015) was a legendary physiologist, educationist, and researcher of Bangladesh who played great role in shaping and improving undergraduate medical education in this South Asian country. Prof. Ali was a brilliant student and secured a scholarship for study medical sciences in Calcutta Medical College. He passed MBBS Exam in 1949 with 2<sup>nd</sup> rank in the university. In 1955, Nayeb Ali was awarded a scholarship by the government of East Pakistan for postgraduate studies in the UK. He enrolled in the University of Edinburgh and completed his MSc degree in physiology in 1957. He started his early career as a medical officer and later he joined in teaching career as a demonstrator and subsequently as a lecturer, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor & Professor (1963). He had also served in Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre (JPMC) in Karachi as a professor in 1967. Besides teaching he supervised the research works of postgraduate students of physiology. He was also the Principal of Rangpur Medical College, Mymensingh Medical College and Sir Salimullah Medical College beside being attached to University of Dhaka. A passionate academician, Nayeb Ali revolutionized the way physiology was taught in the medical colleges of Bangladesh. It is he who introduced the question-answer programmes (QAP) in physiology tutorial classes.

Before, all classes were a one-way communication from the teacher to the student. He also introduced monthly system examinations which, together with the QAPs. Nayeb Ali authored a book on experimental physiology titled *Laboratory Manual of Medical Physiology*. Later he authored another book titled *Synopsis of Physiology*.

Nayeb Ali's main area of research interest was the activity and effects of neuroendocrine hormones of the posterior pituitary. This was shaped by his research on the effects of arginine and lysine vasopressin on the kidneys at the University of Edinburgh under the guidance of the legendary Prof. Mary Pickford, then a Reader of Physiology at the university, while he was a postgraduate student. Later, after he had returned to East Pakistan, he went on to research on the effects of oxytocin too. Another area which he worked on was the effects of norethisterone enantate in Bengali women. He authored or co-authored nine (or ten) scientific papers. This great scholar, medical educator and researcher died on June 19, 2015 at the age of ninety-two.

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