



IN FOND MEMORY OF DIRECTOR SIR...

1ST November 1994, the winds of a 14 year old Gyan Bharati saw the advent of a new principal. What walked in was not just a person but an entire vision in itself. After working for the NCERT and a devoted 25 years of service in Mother's International, Mr. R.C. Shekhar or just Shekhar Sir as we have called him over the years, changed the course of education at our school. Generations of Gyan Bharati students fondly recall the no uniform pre- primary, the joy of no exams till P4, the concept of multiple readers, the no book culture; all according to Sir's principle of 'खेल-खेल में खुशी-खुशी में', and even how experiences bore a stark paradox to any other teaching methodology; be it our reviews or the fun of carrying school bags with simply the diary and not even pencil boxes in Nursery-KG, generations still owe a lot more to Sir. Shekhar Sir was an educationist, associated with Mirambika: a free progress school and also a member of the committee for evaluation of textbooks in different social sciences. He was also involved in the development of the curriculum for history. To some of you he may have been a strict disciplinarian, to some a cause of deep fear which eventually turned into respect, but yet to all he was a source of inspiration. Sir's memories of partition, the various anecdotes we have been privileged to hear and his interviews for the history projects reflect his deep involvement with the students. I remember my seniors recalling experiences where Shekhar Sir played a pivotal role in convincing parents to allow the child to go beyond academics as it was his core belief that a personality needs to be multifaceted. To Sir, the stage was a 'world', a place of growth. Knowledge in his eyes could be and should be learnt from the environment, try remembering the concept of 'Nature Walks'. 74 years after Sir's birth on 22nd December 1944, today on his birthday, we pay tribute to his relentless efforts to create the Gyan Bharati that we see today. In our journey from rank 10 to rank 7 to rank 2, Sir was the vision that guided us, our pillar of strength and support, a person who cheered us in our glory, scolded us at our mistakes, a person who anchored our edifice and built it on foundations of stone. As I conclude, I would like to quote Sir's words "An aimless life is a miserable life". So as you embark on your life's journey and move on with the clock of history, let Sir's words and actions guide you. Even though he may not be present amongst us, let him live in our hearts forever. A very happy birthday Sir, from all the students and teachers of Gyan Bharati, present here or from wherever they are.

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