

Obituary



Professor Dr. A K M Rafiqueuddin
(1949–2013)

Professor Dr. A K M Rafiqueuddin, one of the giants of medical profession of Bangladesh breathed his last on 18th October 2013, Friday at 9.30 PM in Popular Diagnostic Center and Hospitals of Dhaka. End of his era made a sudden fall of a star from the vast field of this noble profession.

Born in 1949 in Keraniganj of Dhaka, Professor Dr. A K M Rafiqueuddin reached the highest point of success by dint of his extraordinary merit, perseverance & dedication to the humanity. He passed SSC from West End High School in 1964, HSC from Jagannath College in 1966. After completing MBBS from Mymensingh Medical College in 1972, he earned MD from USA followed by FCPS (in 1980) and FACP. He started his career as a lecturer in physiology at Mymensingh Medical College.

He served in Rajshahi Medical College & Hospital for a long time from Asst. Prof to Professor (in 1988 he worked in Sylhet Medical college for about six months). Later he joined in Dhaka Medical College on 18.2.1998 and retired as Head of the department of Medicine on 18.12.2006. He was working as Head of the department of Medicine in Enam Medical College, Savar till the last days. In an impressive career of about three decades, he left an indelible mark as scientist, academic leader, and steward of the internal medicine profession. This dominant career theme brought his substantial national and international recognition because of his discoveries that led to policy directions through his involvement in numbers of professional associations.

Throughout his teaching life, he had 106 of his papers published, 99 being nationally and 7 internationally. He was the President of Bangladesh Society of Medicine, Association of Physicians of Bangladesh, Vice president of Bangladesh Rheumatology Society, and Chairman, Faculty of Medicine, BCPS, Joint Secretary, United Forum Against Tobacco (UFAT), Chairman, Non Communicable Disease Forum (NCD-F).

His wife is a Professor of Physiology now working in Enam Medical College. He left one son Dr. Tushar and one daughter Dr. Tonni.

Professor Dr. A K M Rafiqueuddin was diagnosed as Adrenal Carcinoma with metastasis about six months back and sought treatment from National Cancer Centre, Singapore. Early this month when his health condition became severe due to renal failure, he was admitted at Popular Medical College and Hospitals where he took his last breath.

At 64, Professor Dr. A K M Rafiqueuddin was as active and energetic as ever and heavily engaged in a wide spectrum of activities in multiple domains of health science and practice. A self made and humble personality, Prof. Rafiqueuddin will be ever remembered gratefully by the nation for his noble deeds and the lofty ideals he cherished in a country where selfless service, morality and ethics are increasingly becoming a rarity.